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HOMETOWN THRIVE



MYRTLE BEACH + THE GRAND STRAND

Jim's Myrtle Beach Shortlist

Twenty worthwhile answers for food, nature, local landmarks, and rainy-day saves.

10 PLACES TO EAT + 10 THINGS TO DO

Curated by Jim Coffey II

Founder, Searchooli | Independent local guide

EAT 01

Sea Captain's House

Oceanfront coastal Southern seafood and signature she-crab soup.

seacaptains.com

EAT 02

Hook & Barrel

Polished, sustainability-minded seafood with an open-kitchen feel.

hookandbarrelrestaurant.com

EAT 03

Hot Fish Club

Historic Murrells Inlet flavor, seafood, lawn, and live music.

hotfishclub.com

EAT 04

Drunken Jack's

A MarshWalk classic for seafood, inlet views, and atmosphere.

drunkenjacks.com

EAT 05

Big Mike's Soul Food

Southern comfort food, hearty sides, and genuine local personality.

bigmikessoulfood.net

EAT 06

Johnny D's Waffles

Family-run breakfast and lunch known for waffles and benedicts.

johnnydswaffles.com

EAT 07

Croissants Bistro & Bakery

A polished but relaxed choice for brunch, bakery treats, and coffee.

croissants.net

EAT 08

Bistro 90

Independent north-end choice for steaks and special occasions.

bistro90.com

EAT 09

River City Cafe

Burgers and beach-casual personality for families and groups.

rivercitycafe.com

EAT 10

Kirk's 1890 Ice Cream Parlor

An old-fashioned dessert stop with decades of Myrtle Beach charm.

[Search the name in Maps](#)

DO 01

Huntington Beach State Park

Beach, maritime forest, salt marsh, birding, wildlife, and Atalaya.

southcarolinaparks.com/huntington-beach

DO 02

Myrtle Beach State Park

A calmer coast with a pier, maritime forest, and easy beach access.

southcarolinaparks.com/myrtle-beach

DO 03

Brookgreen Gardens

Sculpture, live oaks, botanical gardens, history, and wildlife.

brookgreen.org

DO 04

Murrells Inlet MarshWalk

Marsh views, food, music, boats, and a great sunset stroll.

marshwalk.com

DO 05

Boardwalk + SkyWheel

The classic oceanfront stroll, arcades, shops, and skyline view.

myrtlebeachboardwalk.org

DO 06

Ripley's Aquarium

A dependable rainy-day save with sharks, rays, and immersive exhibits.

ripleyaquariums.com/myrtlebeach

DO 07

WonderWorks

Hands-on science and indoor challenges in the upside-down building.

wonderworksonline.com/myrtle-beach

DO 08

Myrtle Beach Art Museum

A thoughtful, manageable cultural stop with changing exhibitions.

myrtlebeachartmuseum.org

DO 09

The Market Common

A walkable district for food, shopping, movies, and parks.

marketcommonmb.com

DO 10

Broadway at the Beach

Restaurants, attractions, shopping, and rainy-day backup plans.

broadwayatthebeach.com

A NOTE FROM JIM

My favorite answer is usually the quiet one.

I've been coming to Myrtle Beach for more than 25 years and living here for five. Give me the woods, the marsh, or an uncrowded stretch of coast. Use this guide as a strong starting point, then make the trip your own.

Own a local business?

Searchooli helps businesses improve how they appear in websites, Google, maps, reviews, and AI-generated answers.

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Independent local guide. No placement in this edition was purchased.

Check live hours, admission, and reservations before heading out. Updated July 2026.