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Daytona Beach Adventures On and Off the Beach

With its easy and abundant access to water Daytona Beach is like an aquatic playground. The Atlantic Ocean and the 23 miles of sandy beach is an obvious draw for visitors. However, there is so much more to explore in and around Daytona Beach with its rivers, swamps and marshes offering a glimpse into the natural and native wildlife Florida is famous for. There are several wonderful eco tour companies that offer guided trips.

Captain Corey Simmons takes visitors to see the wild and natural side of Florida with On the Hook Charters. Cruising down the Halifax River (the intracoastal waterway that runs through Daytona Beach) by boat you will most likely encounter bald eagles, ospreys, dolphins and if you are really lucky you may even catch a glimpse of a manatee or mother dolphins tossing fish to their newborns.

St. Johns River Eco Tours offer tours down this, the longest river in Florida. The river has a history that runs deep and your skipper will tell you many stories as you cruise along. No matter what time of year you visit the river has something unique to offer from turtles, gators and migratory birds.

If you are looking for something more energetic and going a little off grid Three Brothers Boards' Dolphin and Manatee Adventure tour take you on a stand-up paddle board or a two-three person kayak that will get you right up close to dolphins and manatees.

Head over to Ponce Inlet for an environmental adventure at the Marine Science Center. The whole family will enjoy the touch tanks where you can touch stingrays, hermit crabs, anemones, sea urchins and many others that inhabit local waters. Watch the team at the

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amazing sea turtle rehabilitation unit where you can see these lovely animals being treated. The Marine Science Center also rehabilitates seabirds, with more than 13,000 having been treated and those that recover are released back into their natural habitat. Next door to the Marine Science Center is the 175 foot Ponce Inlet Lighthouse, the tallest in Florida and second tallest in the USA. Discover 130 years of maritime history as you climb the 203 steps to get a bird's eye view of the area.

Daytona Beach is world renowned as the home of motor sports so if you have a 'need for speed' why not head over to the Daytona International Speedway for a high-octane adventure. Since the completion in 2016 of the \$400 million overhaul that transformed Daytona International Speedway into the world's only motorsports stadium visitors can get behind the wheel of an actual race car or be driven by a professional driver with the NASCAR Driving Experience. If high speed laps around the famous 2.5mile speedway is not your cup of tea then take a slower, 10mph, drive along the beach where some of the greatest land speed records were set.

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About the Daytona Beach Area

Discover the new Daytona Beach and its surrounding area, a resurging destination along Florida's East Coast comprising eight distinct communities. Recognized worldwide for its annual events including Bike Week, Biketoberfest®, the Rolex 24 At DAYTONA and the DAYTONA 500, Daytona Beach's famed heritage also claims the headquarters of LPGA and NASCAR -- and is home to Daytona International Speedway, the 'World Center of Racing.' With more than 12,000 beds, the destination boasts accommodations for all lifestyles and budgets from 4-star resorts, to hotels, B&Bs and everything in between. Ranked #1 in Travel Channel's 2017 "**Top 10 Attractions in Florida**, and one of TripAdvisor's 2016 "**10 Most Affordable Beach Vacations on Florida's East Coast**" and "**25 Most Popular Summer Vacation Rental Spots in the US.**" Visitors can enjoy experiences beyond the beach by choosing from a surprising list of outdoor adventures, family-friendly attractions, cultural venues and a colorful culinary scene. With 23 miles of world-famous beaches ideal for swimming and surfing, it is no surprise Daytona Beach was chosen as a **Best Florida Attraction and Best Spring Family Beach Break Destination** in the Top 10 Best Readers' Choice travel award contests sponsored by *USA TODAY*. To order a complimentary comprehensive Official Visitors Guide or book a stay, visit DaytonaBeach.com. For real-time updates, visit [Facebook.com/DaytonaBeach](https://www.facebook.com/DaytonaBeach) or [Twitter.com/DaytonaBeachFun](https://www.twitter.com/DaytonaBeachFun).

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