



Panama City Beach Announces New Developments On The Horizon -New Hotels, Upgrades & Attractions-

PANAMA CITY BEACH, Fla., January XX 2017 – At the end of a record-breaking year, with bed tax collections up over 13 percent for the fiscal year, [Visit Panama City Beach](#) is highlighting new plans for developments that will continue to enhance the destination. 2017 has seen hotel brands including Hilton Worldwide, Marriott International and InterContinental Hotels Group amongst others invest millions of dollars in accommodation upgrades and new projects in Panama City Beach. Further investment has added to the destination's growing reputation as a Gulf Coast hot spot for family vacations.

“We’re excited for all of the development coming to our destination in 2018 and beyond,” shares Visit Panama City Beach President and CEO Dan Rowe. “The plans for these new properties and attractions prove that we are moving into a bright future as we celebrate our position as a year-round destination.”

Below is an overview of new developments occurring in Panama City Beach:

- Opening in 2018, a 200-room **SpringHill Suites by Marriott** will include a lazy river and more family-friendly amenities. The beachfront property is poised to be a favorite for families as well as business travelers seeking a little fun and sun on the job.
- The St. Joe Company and InterMountain Management have announced a joint venture to develop a hotel in the extensive shopping and entertainment district of Pier Park. The current plan is for the property to be branded as a **TownePlace Suites** hotel.
- Spring 2018 will see the grand opening of **Skywheel**, an observation wheel that will rise more than 200 feet above the Gulf of Mexico. Located in Pier Park, this Ferris wheel-style attraction will give riders 360-degree panoramic views of Panama City Beach from the safety of a climate controlled, glass-enclosed gondola. At the bottom of the structure families will be able to enjoy a ropes course, three-story zip line, miniature golf course and refreshments.
- A world-class **Sports Park** has recently been given final approval and is slated to open in early 2019. This complex will include a number of rectangular and

multi-purpose sports fields, baseball diamonds, a vending row and a boardwalk where families can relax. Once completed it will be one of the largest complexes of its kind in the Southeast and a welcome home for all kinds of sports tournaments.

- **Paula Deen's Family Kitchen** is coming to Panama City Beach within the next year, providing mouthwatering cuisine from the First Lady of Southern Cooking. This 15,000 square foot building, located in Pier Park, will offer a variety of southern food and retail space for visitors to enjoy.

For more information on Panama City Beach visit www.visitpanamacitybeach.com.

For a collection of high res. images of Panama City Beach, please see below:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/k6323gkb0rskuye/AABHF1HVJJt-a67dpgLrw-ta?dl=0>

About Panama City Beach

Panama City Beach is situated on 27 miles of sugar-white sand beaches bordering clear, emerald-green waters where the Gulf of Mexico and St. Andrew Bay converge. With 320 days of sunshine annually and attractions such as St. Andrews State Park and Pier Park, the region has long been favored by travelers seeking an affordable beach vacation with year-round offerings for families, couples, groups and adventure-seekers. These include championship golf courses, spas, sporting events, award-winning dining and diverse recreational activities. In addition, Panama City Beach's Northwest Florida Beaches International Airport offers non-stop flights on Delta Airlines, Southwest Airlines and United Airlines. For more information, call 850-233-5070 or visit the official website of the Panama City Beach Convention and Visitors Bureau at <http://www.visitpanamacitybeach.com>. Live HD video of the world-famous beach is now available at <http://www.visitpanamacitybeach.com/webcam/>. Stay connected with Panama City Beach on Twitter ([@Visit_PCB](https://twitter.com/Visit_PCB)), Instagram ([@Visit_PCB](https://www.instagram.com/Visit_PCB)) and Facebook ([@Visit_PCB](https://www.facebook.com/Visit_PCB)).

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