GULF SHORES AND ORANGE BEACH, ALBAMA









These neighboring beaches manage to walk a happy line between kid friendly and happening. Gulf Shores and Orange Beach are very popular with families, who fill up those condos every summer, and with college students, who come to hang out with friends at local festivals and places such as Bahama Bob's, The Gulf, the Hangout, and Brick & Spoon.

DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA









The world's most famous beach" offers 23 miles of beach and is known for its sandcastle-building, surfing, and sunrises. Planning a getaway to family-friendly Daytona Beach is a snap when you know where to play and eat with the kids. There's plenty to do in addition to hanging out at the beach. Visit the Daytona International Speedway and take a tour or even drive the course. There are amusement park rides on the boardwalk and free summer concerts in the bandshell.

MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA









You're probably picturing the iconic boardwalk (still expanding), the SkyWheel (still lighting up the night), and—of course—The Bowery (still rocking after 70-plus years). Vacationers can enjoy these favorites along with new hotels and resorts as well as inventive restaurants and watering holes.

VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA









You're probably picturing the iconic boardwalk (still expanding), the SkyWheel (still lighting up the night), and—of course—The Bowery (still rocking after 70-plus years). Vacationers can enjoy these favorites along with new hotels and resorts as well as inventive restaurants and watering holes.

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH,









This low-key, uncrowded waterfront town, established in 1899, is a beach lover's heaven—lots of sand and surf, outdoor adventure, bikefriendly byways, fresh seafood, and perfect spots to relax and watch the sunset. Bonus: It's only 20-ish minutes from Wilmington, North Carolina, and halfway between New York and Florida.









