Fountain

Fountain is an unincorporated community in Bay County. Fountain acts as a microcosm of North Florida as a whole, in that it feels more like the south than the stereotypical Florida image of palm trees and beaches. There are lots of tall trees and most of the buildings are small homes or trailers. There is a main road that runs through the middle of the community with dirt roads that lead off to the residential areas. There are also many small Christian churches that scatter the area.

Lynn Haven

Lynn Haven is a residential town located along the coast of Florida’s panhandle. It contains all of the basic amenities you would expect in an average sized city, such as gas stations, fast food restaurants, and a Wal-Mart. It contains one elementary, middle, and high school. Its greatest claim to fame is a Presbyterian Church built in 1911, which was included in “A Guide to Florida’s Historic Architecture”.

Mexico Beach

Mexico Beach is a quiet vacation destination with many vacation homes lining its beaches. Most of its residents are seasonal with few people living there year round. It’s the perfect spot for those who want direct beach access and views, but do not want to stay in a large hotel. It is short drive to Panama City Beach’s attractions and shopping venues, but offers a more low key atmosphere.

Panama City

Panama City is the largest city between Tallahassee and Pensacola and should be distinguished from Panama City Beach, which is an entirely different city. Panama City is a working class, industrial city with a power plant and a paper manufacturer acting as the major employers. Panama City is also home to Tyndall Air Force Base and a US Naval Base. The city acts as a popular fishing and boating location for residents, given its close proximity to the gulf, but attracts fewer tourists than neighboring areas.

Panama City Beach

Panama City Beach, positioned along Florida’s gulf coast, has been called the “spring break capital of the world,” attracting tens of thousands of college and high school students every year. In the early 2000s, high-rise condominiums and larger homes replaced small houses and run down motels, boosting the city’s real estate market at the time. The City’s white sand beaches, shopping, and numerous tourist attractions attract more than just spring breakers. Visitors of all ages frequent the city year round.

Youngstown

Youngstown is an unincorporated community in Bay County. It is a mostly residential community with a few fast food restaurants and convenience stores. It’s close proximity to larger cities such as Panama City make it a good choice for those seeking a more secluded lifestyle, but also want to job opportunities of a larger city.

Apalachicola

Today Apalachicola is a charming, but quiet town located in the panhandle near the coast. However, it was once the third largest shipping port on the gulf coast. The over 900 historic sites and buildings give insight to what the city was like over a hundred years ago. Visitors looking to experience “old Florida” will enjoy staying in one of Apalachicola’s numerous bed and breakfasts as well as browsing the town’s quaint, old-fashioned shops. The charm and history of Apalachicola is hard to find anywhere else in Florida.

One of the largest aspects of Apalachicola’s economy is the oyster industry. Apalachicola Bay is one of the US’s largest estuaries and a source for much of the country’s seafood. However, in recent years the oyster population has drastically declined due to the dwindling stream of water coming from two rivers flowing from Georgia as well as overharvesting back in 2010 after the BP oil spill. This has had drastic negative consequences on Apalachicola’s $6 million seafood industry. Florida’s governor Rick Scott has asked to declare the area a fishing disaster.

Port Saint Joe

Port Saint Joe is a small, coastal town located in Florida’s panhandle along the emerald coast. Its white sand beaches and wooded shorelines provide the best of both worlds for nature lovers. Visitors can enjoy the city’s numerous nature trails, beaches, and seafood restaurants. Port Saint Joe is perfect for those looking for a quieter vacation with fewer tourist traps and tacky attractions. Port Saint Joe contains one elementary school and a joint middle high school for the city’s younger residents.

Eastpoint is a genuine fishing community located in Franklin County across the Bay between St George Island and Apalachicola. Eastpoint is considered a gateway to St George Island, a popular vacation destination. The Bridge connecting East Point with Apalachicola is the John Gorrie Memorial Bridge and then to reach St George Island, you drive across the St George Island Bridge. North of Eastpoint is the Apalachicola National Estuarine Research Reserve, a great place for hiking and other outdoor pursuits.