Salty Pelican Page Structure

Home

About Us

- Our Story
 - Behind the Wheel w/Captain Ron
 - A Floating Classroom w/Captain Emily

Contact Us

Private Tours

- Private Tours Overview
 - Tour Types: Private Tours
 - Small Groups: The Pelly-Can
 - Large Groups: The Dolpin Quest

Daily Departures

- Daily Departures Overview
 - Tour Types: Daily Departure

Disclosure:

- 1. Privacy Policy
- 2. Terms of Service
- 3. Waiver Policy Overview
- 4. Refund Policy
- 5. Cookie Policy
- 6. Accessibility Statement

Based on the provided project summary, I'll craft a more focused 2-hour emergency launch plan for Salty Pelican Boat Tours. ### 🚨 2-Hour Emergency Launch Plan #### Hour 1: Setup & Core Structure (0-60 min) **0-15 min: Domain & Template** 1. Start DNS changes in GoDaddy immediately CNAME: www → proxy-ssl.webflow.com A Record: @ → Webflow IPs 2. Clone BoatX template in Webflow Basic branding updates (logo, colors) **15-45 min: Critical Content** 1. Landing Page Priority Sections: - Hero with booking CTA - Two main vessels (Pelly-Can & Dolphin Quest) - Core booking options - Contact info **45-60 min: FareHarbor Integration** 1. Primary booking flows: Flow #1290102 (Private Charters - Small Groups) - Flow #1290100 (Custom Private Charter - Large Group) - Flow #1246877 (Daily Departures) Flow #1303114 (General Private Groups) #### Hour 2: Content & Launch (60-120 min) **60-90 min: Essential Content** 1. Core service descriptions: - Daily Departures - Private Charters 2. Basic contact information 3. Essential policies 4. Location & booking instructions **90-110 min: SEO & Testing** 1. Basic SEO implementation: ```html <title>Salty Pelican Boat Tours | Gulf Coast Adventures</title> <meta name="description" content="Experience Gulf Coast boat tours with Salty Pelican. Book</pre> private charters or daily departures for dolphin watching and sunset cruises in Gulfport."> 2. Mobile responsiveness check 3. Booking flow testing **110-120 min: Launch** 1. Final checks 2. Publish site 3. Verify DNS propagation 4. Test booking functionality

Priority Features for Launch

- 1. **Must-Have Elements:**
 - Booking buttons for all 4 FareHarbor flows
 - Contact information
 - Basic pricing
 - Vessel information

- Location details 2. **Defer Until Phase 2:** - Blog content - Detailed about pages - Gallery - Testimonials - Newsletter signup Would you like me to focus on any specific aspect of this plan? I can provide: 1. Detailed FareHarbor integration code 2. Specific page layouts 3. SEO meta tags 4. Content structure Let me know which part needs immediate attention. **Comprehensive Plan to Launch the Salty Pelican Website Using Webflow Template** ### **Objective:** Develop and launch a functional, visually appealing, and SEO-optimized website for Salty Pelican Boat Tours using the Webflow BoatX Travel Website Template. The initial launch will include a streamlined landing page, with further expansion into a fully functional homepage and additional pages upon the second publishing cycle. ### **Step 1: Preparation** 1. **Domain Setup:** - Access your GoDaddy account. - Navigate to the DNS settings of the domain (e.g., saltypelicanboattours.com). - Configure DNS settings: - **CNAME Record: ** - **Name/Host:** `www` - **Value/Points to:** `proxy-ssl.webflow.com` - **A Record: ** - **Name/Host:** `@` - **Value: ** Use Webflow's provided IP addresses. - Save and allow 24-48 hours for propagation. 2. **Webflow Account:** - Purchase the Webflow BoatX template. - Set up Webflow hosting linked to the GoDaddy domain. 3. **Content Compilation:** - Organize content from the provided documents: - WebPage Structure, FareHarbor embed codes, brand style guide, and blog content. - Finalize high-quality visuals (images, logos) and text. 4. **SEO Keyword Research:** - Use relevant keywords to attract users searching for boat tours:
- ### **Step 2: Create a Landing Page (Phase 1 Launch)**
- **Landing Page Structure:**

1. **Hero Section:**

- Feature a captivating image of The Dolphin Quest or The Pelly-Can on calm Gulf waters.

- Focus on integrating these into headers, meta descriptions, and content.

- Examples: "book boat tours Gulfport," "Gulf Coast private charters," "dolphin tours Tampa

- Tagline: "Discover Gulf Coast Adventures-Dolphins, Sunsets & Beyond!" - Prominent Call-to-Action: "Book Your Tour Today." 2. **Core Offerings Section:** - Highlight services: - **Daily Departures: ** Dolphin Fun Tour, Sunsets & Dolphins Tour, Shell Key Adventure. - **Private Charters: ** Small group tours (The Pelly-Can), large group events (The Dolphin Quest). - Include FareHarbor booking buttons. 3. **Testimonials Section:** - Showcase glowing reviews from past guests. 4. **CTA Section:** - Add a FareHarbor-integrated "Book Now" button. 5. **Footer Section:** - Include essential links: Privacy Policy, Contact Us, Terms of Service. ### **Step 3: Expand to Homepage (Phase 2 Launch) ** **Expanded Homepage Sections:** 1. **About Us:** - Highlight Captain Emily and Captain Rob. - Share their stories and passion for eco-tourism. 2. **Explore the Gulf Coast:** - Include visuals and descriptions of local marine life (dolphins, manatees, birds). 3. **Gallery:** - Display high-quality images of tours and local attractions. 4. **Blogs Section:** - Feature blog content like "A Floating Classroom" and "Behind the Wheel." 5. **Contact Us:** - Add a form for inquiries (Name, Email, Phone Number, Inquiry Type). 6. **Interactive Map: ** - Embed a Google Map pointing to Gulfport Municipal Marina. ### **Step 4: Optimize SEO** 1. **Metadata Optimization:** - Example landing page metadata: - **Title:** Book Gulf Coast Boat Tours | Salty Pelican - **Meta Description: ** Explore Gulfport's pristine waters with Salty Pelican Boat Tours. Book private charters or public tours today! 2. **Alt Text for Images: ** - Use descriptive keywords for all images. 3. **Internal Linking:**

- Link pages to blogs and service sections for better navigation.

- Add structured data to enhance search visibility for "LocalBusiness" and

4. **Schema Markup: **

"TouristAttraction."

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1. **Booking Buttons:**
   - Embed FareHarbor buttons for Private Charters and Daily Departures.
2. **Calendar Widgets:**
   - Integrate FareHarbor's calendar for streamlined bookings.
3. **Testing:**
   - Verify all embeds and links work seamlessly.
### **Step 6: Simplified Page Structure**
**Condensed Page Layout for Initial Launch:**
1. **Home:**
  - Hero Section
  - Core Offerings
   - Testimonials
   - Footer
2. **About Us: **
   - Team Bios (Emily and Rob)
   - Mission and Vision
3. **Private Tours & Daily Departures:**
   - Overview of services (combine Private Tours and Daily Departures into one page).
   - FareHarbor integration for booking.
4. **Contact & Policies:**
   - Contact Form
   - Key Policies (Privacy, Terms, Waiver, Refund).
### **Step 7: Final Testing & Publishing**
1. **Mobile Responsiveness:**
   - Confirm all elements adapt well on mobile devices.
2. **Cross-Browser Testing:**
   - Ensure compatibility across major browsers (Chrome, Safari, Edge, Firefox).
3. **DNS Check:**
   - Verify GoDaddy DNS settings are correctly configured for Webflow hosting.
4. **Launch Landing Page: **
   - Publish Phase 1 landing page.
   - Track performance using Google Analytics and Webflow's reporting tools.
### **Wireframe for Homepage:**
**Header:**
- Logo (top-left)
- Navigation Menu: Home | About Us | Tours | Contact
- CTA Button: Book Now
**Hero Section:**
- Full-width image with tagline: "Discover the Gulf Coast's Hidden Gems"
- Subheading: "Dolphins, Sunsets, and Memorable Adventures Await"
- CTA Button: Book a Tour
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Step 5: Implement FareHarbor Integration

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**Core Services:**
- Split Layout:
 - Image (left): The Dolphin Quest
 - Text (right): Private Charters, Daily Departures
  - FareHarbor Booking Button
**Wildlife Insights: **
- Grid with images and brief descriptions (Dolphins, Manatees, Birds).
**Gallery:**
- Interactive carousel featuring tour highlights.
**Testimonials:**
- Highlight 3-4 quotes from guests.
**Footer:**
- Contact Info | Social Links | Policies | Newsletter Signup
### **Conclusion:**
By condensing pages and leveraging Webflow's capabilities, the website can be launched
efficiently while maintaining high functionality. This structure prioritizes ease of navigation,
strong CTAs, and optimized SEO to drive bookings.
below is the first version draft of the improved version above
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Comprehensive Plan to Launch the Salty Pelican Website Using Webflow Template

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### **Objective:**
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Develop and launch a functional, visually appealing, and SEO-optimized website for Salty Pelican Boat Tours using the Webflow BoatX Travel Website Template. The initial launch will include a landing page, with further expansion into a fully functional homepage and additional pages upon the second publishing cycle.

Step 1: Preparation

1. **Domain Setup:**

- Access your GoDaddy account.
- Navigate to the DNS settings of the domain (e.g., saltypelicanboattours.com).
- Create a new CNAME record:
 - **Name/Host:** `www`
 - **Value/Points to:** `proxy-ssl.webflow.com`
- Set up an A record:
 - **Name/Host:** `@`
 - **Value: ** Webflow's IP addresses (find these in your Webflow hosting settings).
- Save changes and allow up to 24 hours for DNS propagation.

2. **Webflow Account: **

- Purchase and install the Webflow BoatX template.
- Set up hosting within Webflow for seamless integration with your GoDaddy domain.

3. **Gather Content:**

- Use the information from the provided files, including the WebPage Structure, FareHarbor embed codes, blogs, and brand style guide.
 - Extract relevant assets: images, logos, and text.

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4. **SEO Keyword Research: **
   - Use keywords from research aimed at driving traffic for booking boat tours:
     - Examples: "book boat tours Gulfport," "Gulf Coast private charters," "dolphin-watching
tours," "Tampa Bay boat tours."
### **Step 2: Create a Landing Page (Phase 1 Launch)**
**Page Sections:**
1. **Hero Section:**
   - Add an eye-catching banner with a high-quality image of The Dolphin Quest or The Pelly-Can.
   - Include a tagline: "Unforgettable Gulf Coast Adventures Await!"
   - Add a prominent Call-to-Action (CTA) button: "Book Your Tour Today."
2. **Tour Highlights Section:**
   - Showcase the main offerings:
     - **Daily Departures: ** Dolphin Fun Tour, Sunsets & Dolphins Tour, Shell Key Adventure.
     - **Private Charters: ** Small groups (The Pelly-Can), Large groups (The Dolphin Quest).
   - Add a FareHarbor booking button for each tour.
3. **Testimonials Section:**
   - Highlight key reviews from past guests.
4. **CTA Section:**
   - Include another CTA with FareHarbor integration: "Explore Tours & Book Now."
5. **Footer:**
   - Include essential links: Privacy Policy, Contact, Terms of Service.
### **Step 3: Expand to Homepage (Phase 2 Launch)**
**Additional Sections:**
1. **Meet the Crew:**
   - Introduce Captain Emily and Captain Rob with their bios.
   - Highlight their expertise and passion for creating memorable tours.
2. **Wildlife Insights: **
   - Showcase the Gulf Coast's unique marine life (e.g., dolphins, manatees, sea turtles).
3. **Gallery:**
   - Add high-quality images from tours.
4. **Blog Section: **
   - Feature excerpts from blogs like "A Floating Classroom" and "Behind the Wheel with Captain
Rob."
5. **Contact Us:**
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- Include a form with fields for Name, Email, Phone Number, and Inquiry Type.

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- Add an embedded Google Map pointing to Gulfport Municipal Marina.
### **Step 4: Integrate FareHarbor Embed Codes**
1. **Booking Buttons:**
   - Embed FareHarbor booking buttons for private charters and daily departures.
2. **Calendar Widgets:**
   - Use the FareHarbor calendar embeds for seamless booking access.
3. **Test Embed Functionality:**
   - Ensure all buttons and calendars redirect correctly to the booking platform.
### **Step 5: SEO Optimization**
1. **Metadata:**
   - Add title tags and meta descriptions for each page.
     - Example for the landing page:
       - **Title:** Book Gulf Coast Boat Tours | Salty Pelican Boat Tours
       - **Meta Description: ** Explore Gulfport's stunning waters with Salty Pelican Boat Tours.
Book private charters or daily departures today!
2. **Alt Text for Images:**
   - Include relevant keywords in image alt text.
3. **Internal Linking:**
   - Link blog content to relevant pages (e.g., link "A Floating Classroom" blog to the Daily
Departures page).
4. **Schema Markup: **
   - Add structured data for "LocalBusiness" and "TouristAttraction" to improve search
visibility.
### **Step 6: Testing and Publishing**
1. **Test Responsiveness:**
   - Ensure the site is mobile-friendly and adapts well to various screen sizes.
2. **Cross-Browser Testing:**
   - Test the site on Chrome, Safari, Firefox, and Edge.
3. **DNS Settings Check:**
   - Confirm GoDaddy DNS settings are properly pointing to Webflow's servers.
4. **Launch the Landing Page: **
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6. **Interactive Map:**

- Publish the site on Webflow.

Monitor traffic and performance through Google Analytics.

Step 7: Post-Launch Enhancements

- 1. **Expand Content:**
 - Add new pages (e.g., "About Us," "Private Tours," "Daily Departures").
- 2. **Marketing Integration:**
 - Set up email capture for newsletters.
 - Integrate with social media platforms for easy sharing.
- 3. **Ongoing SEO:**
 - Regularly update blogs and optimize pages based on analytics insights.

Conclusion:

By following this detailed plan, the Salty Pelican website will launch with a strong foundation, providing potential guests with an engaging and seamless experience while boosting bookings through effective design and integration.

make this more detailed and so it translated using up tot date in formation as of dec 2024 and then create a a wireframe types in a way that you write the entire homepage modeling sections from my resulme wireframes mixed with teh boatX webflow template. so i canp copy paste.

Blog Titles and Full Blogs:

Blog 1:

A Floating Classroom: Exploring Gulf Coast Ecosystems

Step aboard and join me, Captain Emily, as we embark on a journey of exploration and education along Florida's captivating Gulf Coast. As the onboard eco-educator for Salty Pelican Boat Tours, I'm here to guide you through the vibrant waters of Gulfport, St. Petersburg, and Tampa Bay, turning each tour into a floating classroom where you'll learn about marine life and ecosystem dynamics.

During our adventure, passengers transform from learners to teachers, sharing newfound knowledge with others. Whether you're marveling at playful dolphins during a Sunset & Dolphins Tour or exploring the intricate seagrass meadows and mangrove forests, each moment is an opportunity to deepen your understanding of our natural world and discover how to preserve it for future generations. Welcome aboard for a day on the water, where education and exploration go hand in hand!

If you come to join us for a tour, I'll be your guide as we navigate the stunning waters of Gulfport, St. Petersburg, and the Tampa Bay area. With a microphone in hand, I'm here to not only steer you through these incredible waterways but also to immerse you in the fascinating world of Florida's Gulf Coast marine life and ecosystems.

Every tour is a chance to share my passion for marine biology, conservation, and the incredible wildlife that calls this region home. Whether you're joining us on a tranquil Sunsets & Dolphins Tour or a lively Dolphin Quest Adventure, my goal is to leave you inspired by the beauty of our natural world and armed with knowledge about how we can protect it.

A Floating Classroom: Exploring Gulf Coast Ecosystems

As we set out on the water, I encourage you to look around and take in the vibrant landscapes surrounding us. From the shallow, life-filled bays to the vast open waters of the Gulf of Mexico, every part of this ecosystem plays a role in maintaining the health of Florida's marine environment.

The Seagrass Meadows Beneath Our Feet

Right now, as we glide through Boca Ciega Bay, we're passing over one of the most important habitats in the Gulf Coast region: seagrass meadows. These underwater meadows are often referred to as "nature's nurseries" because they provide a safe haven for juvenile fish, shrimp, crabs, and even baby sharks. Without these meadows, many species simply wouldn't survive their early stages of life.

Keep your eyes on the water—you might spot a green sea turtle grazing on the seagrass. These gentle reptiles play a crucial role in maintaining the health of the ecosystem, ensuring the seagrass doesn't grow too dense and block sunlight from reaching the ocean floor.

Mangrove Forests: The Guardians of the Shoreline

As we hug the coastline, notice the intricate root systems of the mangroves. These trees act as natural barriers, protecting the shoreline from erosion and storm surges. Mangroves are also a hot spot for biodiversity—look closely and you might see snowy egrets (Egretta thula) wading in the shallows or brown pelicans (Pelecanus occidentalis) perched in the branches, scanning the water for their next catch.

Mangroves are one of my favorite topics to discuss because they highlight the interconnectedness

of our ecosystem. These trees not only support birdlife but also provide shelter for fish, crabs, and even sea snakes. They are a reminder that every part of the Gulf Coast ecosystem is connected.

Open Gulf Waters: Where Dolphins Play

Now, as we venture into the open waters of the Gulf of Mexico, the excitement builds. This is where we often encounter our most charismatic residents: the bottlenose dolphins (Tursiops truncatus). With their playful leaps and curious behavior, dolphins are always a highlight of our tours. Did you know that dolphins are incredibly intelligent and social animals? They communicate using a series of clicks and whistles, and each dolphin has a unique sound, much like a human fingerprint.

I love sharing these insights as we watch these incredible animals in their natural habitat. Seeing their joy and energy never gets old, and it's always a thrill to answer guests' questions about their behaviors, diets, and social structures.

What Makes Each Tour Special

Every tour is different, and that's part of what makes my job so exciting. Here are a few of the unforgettable moments I've had while guiding guests through the Gulf Coast:

- 1. A Dolphin "Show" During Sunset
- One evening, during a Sunsets & Dolphins Tour, a pod of dolphins swam alongside the boat just as the sun was setting. The water turned gold, and the dolphins leapt out of the waves as if they were performing just for us. I grabbed the microphone and shared fun facts about dolphin behavior while the guests took photos, completely awestruck.
 - 2. Manatees Grazing in the Shallows
- During a private charter, we stopped near Shell Key Preserve and spotted three manatees calmly grazing on the seagrass. As I explained their role in the ecosystem and the challenges they face from boat strikes and habitat loss, the group watched in respectful silence, clearly moved by the sight.
 - A Birdwatcher's Dream
- On one eco-tour, we spotted over a dozen bird species in just an hour. From roseate spoonbills with their pink plumage to ospreys diving for fish, it was a birder's paradise. I love pointing out these birds to our guests and sharing their names, behaviors, and migratory patterns.

What You'll Learn on Our Tours

As an educator, I want every guest to walk away with not only great memories but also a deeper understanding of the Gulf Coast's ecosystems. Here's what you can expect to learn on a tour with me:

- Wildlife Facts: From the unique whistles of dolphins to the migratory habits of coastal birds, I love sharing the fascinating details about the species we encounter.
- Conservation Tips: Simple actions, like reducing plastic use or following nowake zones, can make a huge difference for marine life.
- Ecosystem Connections: Every habitat, from seagrass meadows to mangrove forests, plays a role in maintaining the health of the Gulf. Understanding these connections is key to protecting them.

Why I Do What I Do

What I love most about being an onboard educator is the chance to inspire others. It's not just about spotting dolphins or watching a beautiful sunset—it's about deepening our connection to nature and realizing that we all have a role to play in protecting it.

Last summer, I had a guest tell me that my tour changed the way they see the ocean. They said, "I always thought of the water as just a place to swim or fish, but now I realize it's a whole world full of life." Moments like that remind me why this work is so important.

Join Me for an Unforgettable Adventure

If you're ready to experience the magic of Florida's Gulf Coast, I'd love to welcome you aboard. Whether you're interested in learning about marine wildlife, celebrating a special occasion, or simply enjoying the natural beauty of the Gulf, our tours offer something for everyone.

Book your adventure today, and let's explore the waters together. I'll have the microphone ready

to share the stories of the incredible creatures and ecosystems that make this region so special.

Fair winds and calm seas, Captain Emily Eco-Tour Educator, Salty Pelican Boat Tours

Visit our website to book your tour and learn more about the unforgettable experiences waiting for you on Florida's Gulf Coast.

Blog 2:

Title: Navigating the Gulf Coast with Captain Rob: A Captain's View of Unforgettable Adventures

Ahoy, adventurers! I'm Captain Rob, the guy behind the wheel of Salty Pelican Boat Tours, steering you toward incredible memories on Florida's Gulf Coast. While my wife, Captain Emily, takes the mic and shares her wealth of knowledge about the region's ecosystems, I'm in the captain's chair, making sure we have a smooth ride, the best views, and a journey you'll never forget. From navigating Boca Ciega Bay to timing our trips for those picture-perfect Gulf sunsets, being at the helm of these tours is a privilege I cherish every day.

Today, I want to give you a glimpse into my world—what it's like to navigate these stunning waters, the unique moments that happen on the Gulf, and why I believe there's no better way to experience Florida's coastline than aboard The Pelly-Can or The Dolphin Quest.

The Magic of the Gulf Coast: A Captain's Perspective

If you've never explored the Gulf Coast from the water, you're in for a treat. This region is a boater's paradise, with calm bays, wide-open Gulf waters, and endless natural beauty. From my vantage point in the captain's chair, I get to witness it all—the playful pods of dolphins, the golden hues of a sunset over the Gulf, and the quiet magic of mangrove-lined shorelines.

Boca Ciega Bay: Where the Journey Begins

Our tours often start in the calm, protected waters of Boca Ciega Bay. It's the perfect spot to ease into the adventure, especially for families with young kids or first-time boaters. The bay is teeming with life: dolphins often fish near the mangroves, and you might catch a glimpse of manatees grazing along the shore. It's also a fantastic area to appreciate the beauty of Florida's natural habitats up close.

The Gulf of Mexico: Open Waters, Endless Horizons

Once we leave the bay and head into the Gulf of Mexico, everything changes. The vast, open water has a way of making you feel connected to the world in a whole new way. The salty breeze, the sound of waves against the hull, and the endless horizon—it's an experience that never loses its magic. This is where I get to show off some of my favorite spots, from secluded sandbars to dolphin hotspots. And let's not forget those iconic Gulf sunsets. Every evening, as the sun dips below the horizon and paints the sky in shades of gold and pink, I'm reminded why I love what I do.

Why I Love What I Do: The Captain's Experience

People often ask me what my favorite part of being a captain is. The answer is simple: it's all about the people and the moments we create together. Every group that steps aboard brings their own energy and story, and I consider it my mission to make their time on the water as memorable as possible.

Unforgettable Moments on the Water

One of my favorite memories happened just last summer. A couple celebrating their anniversary had booked a private sunset tour on The Pelly-Can. As we cruised through Boca Ciega Bay, dolphins began swimming alongside the boat, leaping and playing in the wake. The timing couldn't have been more perfect—the golden light of the setting sun, the dolphins' playful energy, and the couple's pure joy. It was one of those moments where everything aligned, and I felt lucky to be part of it.

Another highlight was a multi-generational family reunion aboard The Dolphin Quest. With 15 people onboard, ranging from toddlers to grandparents, it was a lively group. We spotted a manatee grazing near the mangroves, and later, a juvenile osprey swooped down right in front of the boat to catch a fish. The kids were thrilled, and even the grandparents said it was one of the best days they'd ever had. Moments like these are why I believe boating is the ultimate way to connect with nature and with each other.

What to Expect When You Sail with Us

When you book a tour with Salty Pelican Boat Tours, you're signing up for more than just a boat ride—you're getting a curated experience designed to showcase the best of the Gulf Coast. Here's what you can look forward to:

Safe, Smooth Sailing

Your safety is my top priority. From monitoring weather conditions to navigating shallow spots, I make sure every trip is smooth and stress-free. Our boats are well-maintained, and I always keep a watchful eye on the water to ensure everyone has a great time.

Wildlife Encounters

The Gulf Coast is home to an incredible array of marine life, and there's always something to see. From dolphins leaping in our wake to manatees grazing near the shore, every trip offers unique wildlife encounters.

Customized Adventures

Whether you're on a public eco-tour or a private charter, we can tailor the experience to suit your group. Want to stop at a secluded sandbar for swimming? No problem. Interested in snorkeling or fishing? Let us know, and we'll make it happen.

Breathtaking Scenery

From the mangrove-lined shores of Boca Ciega Bay to the open waters of the Gulf, the views are spectacular. And if you're on an evening tour, you're in for a sunset that will take your breath away.

What Makes Salty Pelican Boat Tours Special?

As a family-run business, Salty Pelican Boat Tours offers a level of care and personalization that larger operators simply can't match. Here's why we stand out:

- Two Distinct Vessels: The Pelly-Can is perfect for intimate groups of up to six, while The Dolphin Quest accommodates larger parties of up to 17. Each boat offers a unique experience tailored to your group.
- Expert Crew: With Emily's in-depth eco-knowledge and my years of navigation experience, we bring a blend of education, adventure, and hospitality to every tour.
- Eco-Friendly Practices: We're committed to protecting the Gulf Coast's delicate ecosystems. From respecting wildlife to following no-wake zones, we do our part to minimize our impact on the environment.

A Final Word from Captain Rob

Steering these boats isn't just a job—it's a passion. Every day, I'm reminded of how lucky I am to call the Gulf Coast my office and to share its beauty with so many wonderful people. Whether you're joining us for a dolphin-watching tour, a sunset cruise, or a private charter, I promise you'll leave with memories to last a lifetime.

So, what are you waiting for? Book your tour today and let's make some magic on the water.

Fair winds and calm seas, Captain Rob Salty Pelican Boat Tours

For another time:

10 blog categories

- 1. Marine Wildlife and Ecosystem Insights
- Explore the diverse marine life and ecosystems of the Gulf Coast, featuring dolphins, manatees, sea turtles, and bird species.
 - 2. Local Adventures and Hidden Gems
- Highlight unique destinations accessible by boat, such as Shell Key Preserve,
 Boca Ciega Bay, and secluded sandbars.
 - Tips for Planning the Perfect Boat Tour
- Provide guidance on what to pack, how to prepare, and what to expect for a smooth and enjoyable boating experience.
 - 4. Seasonal Boating Highlights
- Share insights into the best times of year to spot wildlife, enjoy Gulf sunsets, or experience seasonal events on the water.
 - 5. Sustainable Marine Tourism
- Discuss eco-friendly boating practices, the importance of conservation, and how Salty Pelican supports marine biodiversity.
 - Gulf Coast History and Culture
- Dive into the rich history, culture, and maritime heritage of Gulfport, St. Petersburg, and Tampa Bay.
 - 7. Celebrating Special Occasions on the Water
- Showcase how private charters can elevate celebrations such as weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, and corporate outings.
 - 8. Boating Safety and Education
- Offer tips and best practices for staying safe on the water, including life jacket usage, navigation tips, and weather preparedness.
 - 9. Customer Stories and Testimonials
- Share memorable experiences from past guests, highlighting the personal and unique nature of Salty Pelican tours.
 - 10. Photo Journals of Gulf Coast Adventures
- Feature stunning photography from recent tours, showcasing the beauty of the Gulf Coast, its wildlife, and happy passengers enjoying their journey.

Title: Marine Tourism and Biodiversity Preservation: An In-Depth Analysis of Salty Pelican Boat Tours' Operations in the Gulfport Ecosystem

Abstract

Marine tourism offers a significant intersection between recreational activity and environmental stewardship. Salty Pelican Boat Tours, a Gulfport-based maritime tourism provider, exemplifies this relationship by integrating educational, customizable, and ecologically mindful experiences into its offerings. Operating within the biodiverse waters of Florida's Gulf Coast, Salty Pelican Boat Tours uses its two vessels, The Pelly-Can and The Dolphin Quest, to bridge the gap between public engagement and marine conservation. This paper explores the operations of the company, the ecological importance of the waterways they traverse, and the implications of their offerings on local biodiversity and public awareness.

1. Introduction

Marine ecotourism plays a crucial role in promoting awareness about marine ecosystems, particularly in biodiverse regions such as Florida's Gulf Coast. Gulfport, a coastal city located in Pinellas County, serves as a gateway to significant waterways, including Boca Ciega Bay, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Clam Bayou Nature Preserve. These aquatic environments, rich in both flora and fauna, form the operational grounds for Salty Pelican Boat Tours.

This paper examines the tour offerings and operational framework of Salty Pelican Boat Tours, highlighting the vessels' capabilities, their alignment with marine tourism best practices, and their contributions to the preservation of local biodiversity.

2. Vessel Overview

Salty Pelican Boat Tours operates two distinct vessels tailored to different group sizes and purposes:

2.1 The Pelly-Can: Intimate Exploration

The Pelly-Can is a six-passenger vessel designed for private charters and small group experiences. The vessel caters specifically to guests seeking a personalized and intimate interaction with Gulfport's marine environment.

- Capacity: Accommodates up to six passengers.
- Functionality: The vessel is highly customizable, offering flexible itineraries to suit various interests, such as sunset cruises, wildlife observation, and secluded anchoring for leisure activities.
- Educational Opportunities: The intimate setting allows guides and captains to provide personalized insights into the region's biodiversity, including key species such as Tursiops truncatus (bottlenose dolphins) and Trichechus manatus latirostris (Florida manatees).
- Duration and Pricing: Tours range from 1 to 6 hours, with pricing starting at \$400 for short durations. Guests may tailor their experience further by bringing their own provisions.

2.2 The Dolphin Quest: Versatility and Capacity

The Dolphin Quest is a larger vessel capable of accommodating up to 17 passengers. Its dual-purpose design facilitates both private charters and public eco-tours.

- Capacity: Designed for a minimum of seven and a maximum of 17 guests.
- Tour Types: The vessel supports structured public tours, such as the Dolphin Fun Tour (1.5 hours) and the Shell Key Adventure (4 hours), as well as fully customizable private charters.
- Educational and Recreational Features: Guests may engage in activities such as snorkeling, wildlife observation, and marine photography.
- Pricing: Public tours are priced per passenger, while private charters start at \$1,200 for seven passengers, with incremental costs for additional guests.

3. Ecological Context

The operational waters of Salty Pelican Boat Tours include significant ecological regions, namely Boca Ciega Bay, the Clam Bayou Nature Preserve, and the Gulf of Mexico. These areas represent critical habitats for various marine and avian species and support intricate food webs that are vital to coastal health.

3.1 Boca Ciega Bay

Boca Ciega Bay serves as a semi-enclosed estuary characterized by brackish water, seagrass beds, and mangrove-lined shores. This habitat supports a diverse array of organisms:

- Mammals: Bottlenose dolphins are a frequent sight, and manatees are seasonal visitors.
- Birds: The bay is home to species such as Egretta caerulea (little blue herons), Pelecanus occidentalis (brown pelicans), and Pandion haliaetus (ospreys).
- Marine Life: Seagrass beds act as nurseries for juvenile fish, including economically important species like Centropomus undecimalis (snook) and Sciaenops ocellatus (red drum).

3.2 Shell Key Preserve

As part of the broader Gulf ecosystem, Shell Key Preserve features sandy beaches, salt marshes, and mangrove islands. It serves as a critical nesting ground for Chelonia mydas (green sea turtles) and an important stopover for migratory bird species such as Calidris canutus (red knots).

4. Impact of Tours on Biodiversity Awareness

By combining leisure and education, Salty Pelican Boat Tours fosters ecological consciousness among participants. Captains and guides provide interpretive information about the interconnectedness of Gulf Coast ecosystems, highlighting:

- The role of estuaries in nutrient cycling and fishery productivity.
- The impact of human activity on dolphin populations, including boat strikes and noise pollution.
- The significance of mangrove ecosystems in carbon sequestration and storm protection.

5. Operational Highlights

Salty Pelican Boat Tours distinguishes itself with several operational strengths:

- Personalization: Guests are encouraged to customize their itineraries, enhancing the educational and recreational value of each tour.
- Eco-Friendly Practices: The company emphasizes low-impact tourism by adhering to no-wake zones and minimizing disturbances to wildlife.
- Experienced Crew: Captains Rob and Emily bring a wealth of knowledge about the Gulf's ecosystems and ensure a safe, engaging experience for guests.

6. Challenges and Opportunities

Despite its success, Salty Pelican Boat Tours operates within a delicate ecological framework. The growing demand for marine tourism necessitates a balance between accessibility and conservation:

- Potential Challenges: Increased vessel traffic may contribute to habitat degradation and stress on marine fauna. Additionally, unpredictable weather patterns pose operational risks.
- Opportunities: The company is well-positioned to adopt further conservation measures, such as partnerships with marine research institutions and the implementation of citizen science programs during tours.

7. Conclusion

Salty Pelican Boat Tours exemplifies the potential of marine tourism to act as both a recreational and educational tool. By operating in the biodiverse waters of Gulfport, Florida, the company not only provides memorable experiences but also contributes to the growing awareness of marine conservation. As demand for eco-tourism rises, Salty Pelican's commitment to sustainable practices will play a pivotal role in preserving the Gulf Coast's ecological integrity.

References

- Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. (2024). State of the Gulf Ecosystem.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). (2024). Marine Mammal Conservation in Florida Waters.
- Great Florida Birding Trail. (2024). Boca Ciega Bay: A Haven for Avian Diversity.

This detailed account is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of Salty Pelican Boat Tours' operations and their ecological context. It positions the company as a model for responsible marine tourism while underscoring the importance of preserving Gulf Coast ecosystems.

10 blog categories

- 1. Marine Wildlife and Ecosystem Insights
- Explore the diverse marine life and ecosystems of the Gulf Coast, featuring dolphins, manatees, sea turtles, and bird species.
 - 2. Local Adventures and Hidden Gems
- Highlight unique destinations accessible by boat, such as Shell Key Preserve, Boca Ciega Bay, and secluded sandbars.
 - 3. Tips for Planning the Perfect Boat Tour
- Provide guidance on what to pack, how to prepare, and what to expect for a smooth and enjoyable boating experience.
 - 4. Seasonal Boating Highlights
- Share insights into the best times of year to spot wildlife, enjoy Gulf sunsets, or experience seasonal events on the water.
 - Sustainable Marine Tourism
- Discuss eco-friendly boating practices, the importance of conservation, and how Salty Pelican supports marine biodiversity.
 - Gulf Coast History and Culture
- Dive into the rich history, culture, and maritime heritage of Gulfport, St. Petersburg, and Tampa Bay.
 - 7. Celebrating Special Occasions on the Water
- Showcase how private charters can elevate celebrations such as weddings, anniversaries, birthdays, and corporate outings.
 - 8. Boating Safety and Education
- Offer tips and best practices for staying safe on the water, including life jacket usage, navigation tips, and weather preparedness.
 - 9. Customer Stories and Testimonials
- Share memorable experiences from past guests, highlighting the personal and unique nature of Salty Pelican tours.
 - 10. Photo Journals of Gulf Coast Adventures
- Feature stunning photography from recent tours, showcasing the beauty of the Gulf Coast, its wildlife, and happy passengers enjoying their journey.

Salty Pelican Boat Tours offers immersive experiences in the vibrant waters surrounding Gulfport, St. Petersburg, and Tampa, Florida. These areas are renowned for their rich marine ecosystems and scenic waterways, providing guests with unforgettable adventures.

Exploring the Waters

• Boca Ciega Bay: This estuary, bordered by Gulfport and St. Petersburg, connects to the Gulf of Mexico. It encompasses approximately 20,947 acres and is fed by the Clam Bayou estuary, creating a diverse aquatic environment.

- Clam Bayou Nature Preserve: Located at the southern tip of Pinellas County, this coastal estuary feeds into Boca Ciega Bay and serves as a vital habitat for various plant and animal species.
- Gulf of Mexico: Accessible through Boca Ciega Bay, the Gulf offers expansive waters teeming with marine life, making it ideal for extended tours and deep-sea adventures.

Marine Life Encounters

The interconnected waterways of Boca Ciega Bay, Clam Bayou, and the Gulf of Mexico host a plethora of marine species:

- Bottlenose Dolphins: Frequently observed in these waters, they are known for their playful behavior and often approach boats, delighting passengers.
- Manatees: These gentle giants are typically found in warmer months, grazing on seagrass beds in shallow areas.
- Sea Turtles: Several species, including loggerhead and green turtles, inhabit these waters, especially during nesting seasons.
- Bird Species: The region is a haven for birdwatchers, featuring species such as the Roseate Spoonbill, Great Blue Heron, and various pelicans. Boca Ciega Millennium Park, in particular, is recognized as part of the Great Florida Birding Trail.
- Fish Species: Anglers can encounter species like redfish, snook, and tarpon, which thrive in the bay's estuarine environment.

Environmental Significance

Boca Ciega Bay and its surrounding preserves play a crucial role in maintaining ecological balance:

- Habitat Diversity: The bay supports various habitats, including mangroves, seagrass beds, and salt marshes, which are essential for the life cycles of many marine organisms.
- Conservation Efforts: Areas like Clam Bayou Nature Preserve focus on protecting these ecosystems, offering educational opportunities about local flora and fauna.

Tour Highlights

Salty Pelican Boat Tours provides guests with opportunities to:

- Dolphin Watching: Experience the thrill of observing dolphins in their natural habitat, often seen frolicking near the boats.
- Birding Expeditions: Navigate through bird-rich areas, ideal for photography and bird enthusiasts.
- Eco-Tours: Learn about the local ecosystems, conservation efforts, and the importance of preserving these natural resources.
- Sunset Cruises: Enjoy breathtaking sunsets over the Gulf, accompanied by the sights and sounds of the evening wildlife.

By choosing Salty Pelican Boat Tours, guests not only embark on a memorable adventure but also gain a deeper appreciation for the unique marine environments of Florida's Gulf Coast.

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Salty Pelican Boat Tours offers unparalleled adventures on Florida's Gulf Coast, catering to diverse preferences with two distinct vessels: The Pelly-Can for intimate private charters and The Dolphin Quest, a versatile option for both private and public tours. From tranquil sunset cruises to thrilling wildlife explorations, Salty Pelican ensures each trip is memorable, personalized, and filled with stunning views of Gulfport, St. Petersburg, and Tampa.

Exploring the Waters of Gulfport, St. Petersburg, and Tampa

The region's waters are home to a rich tapestry of ecosystems and wildlife. These areas, including Boca Ciega Bay, Clam Bayou Nature Preserve, and the Gulf of Mexico, provide the perfect setting for scenic boat tours.

- Boca Ciega Bay: A vibrant estuary that connects to the Gulf of Mexico, spanning over 20,000 acres and teeming with marine life. The bay features calm waters, ideal for spotting dolphins, manatees, and diverse bird species like Roseate Spoonbills and Great Blue Herons.
- Clam Bayou Nature Preserve: A pristine estuary where mangroves and salt marshes create habitats for fish, crabs, and wading birds.
- Gulf of Mexico: Accessible through Boca Ciega Bay, the Gulf provides an expansive playground for longer tours, featuring sandy shores, coral reefs, and open waters perfect for snorkeling and wildlife encounters.

The Pelly-Can: Intimate Private Charters

Designed for small groups, this six-passenger vessel is perfect for couples, families, or friends seeking an exclusive, customizable adventure.

Key Features:

- Passenger Limit: Accommodates up to 6 guests for an intimate experience.
- Tour Options:
- Sunsets & Dolphins Tour: Witness playful dolphins and breathtaking sunsets on this tranquil 2-hour evening cruise.
- Custom Private Charters: Personalize your itinerary for sightseeing, wildlife spotting, or relaxation.
 - Customization:
 - Tailor routes, themes, and onboard amenities to your group's preferences.
- Complimentary light refreshments provided; guests can bring their own food and beverages for a bespoke experience.
 - Duration: Flexible, ranging from 1 to 6 hours.
- Pricing: Starts at \$400 for 1-2 hours, with additional charges for extended trips or specific requests.

The Dolphin Quest: Versatile Tours for Larger Groups

A larger, multi-purpose vessel, The Dolphin Quest is ideal for group outings, corporate events, and public eco-tours.

Key Features:

- Passenger Limit: Serves 7 to 17 guests, accommodating both private charters and public tours.
 - Tour Options:
- Dolphin Fun Tour: A 1.5-hour adventure through Boca Ciega Bay, perfect for spotting dolphins and learning about local ecosystems.
- Sunsets & Dolphins Tour: A 2-hour evening cruise featuring serene sunsets and active marine life.
- Shell Key Adventure: A 4-hour journey to the pristine Shell Key Preserve, offering opportunities for wildlife observation, beachcombing, and swimming.
- Private Charters: Tailored to group preferences, from dolphin watching to celebrations like birthdays and anniversaries.
 - Customization:
 - Onboard music, decorations, and personalized stops can be arranged.
- Activities such as snorkeling, wildlife photography, and celebratory events are supported.
 - Duration:
 - Public Tours: Typically 1.5 to 4 hours.
 - Private Charters: Flexible options from 3 to 8 hours.
 - Pricing:
 - Public Tours: Per-passenger pricing based on availability.
- Private Charters: Start at \$1,200 for 7 guests, with additional charges per person up to 17.

Marine Life and Scenic Highlights

The interconnected waterways are home to diverse marine species and scenic beauty, providing incredible photo opportunities and up-close wildlife encounters.

- Marine Life:
- Bottlenose Dolphins: Regularly seen frolicking near boats.
- Manatees: Gentle giants grazing in shallow waters during warmer months.
- Sea Turtles: Loggerhead and green turtles, especially during nesting seasons.
- Fish: Redfish, tarpon, and snook thrive in the estuarine environment.
- Birdlife:
- Watch for Roseate Spoonbills, Ospreys, and Pelicans, particularly in areas like Boca Ciega Millennium Park, part of the Great Florida Birding Trail.

Why Choose Salty Pelican Boat Tours?

- Personalized Experiences: Each tour is tailored to your group's preferences, ensuring a unique and memorable journey.
 - Expert Captains:
- Captain Rob: A seasoned navigator with an engaging personality and deep knowledge of the Gulf Coast's waters.
- Captain Emily: Known for her expertise in local wildlife and passion for educating guests about marine ecosystems.
 - Unparalleled Service:
 - Over 1,000 successful tours conducted with a 95% customer satisfaction rate.

8+ years of experience in crafting unforgettable boat adventures.

Booking Made Easy with FareHarbor

Salty Pelican's seamless integration with FareHarbor ensures secure and efficient booking for all tour types:

- 1. Private Charters for Small Groups:
- Flexible itineraries aboard The Pelly-Can.
- Book Online Now.
- 2. Custom Private Charters for Large Groups:
- Tailored adventures on The Dolphin Quest.
- Book Online Now.
- 3. Daily Departures:
- Public tours aboard The Dolphin Quest.
- Book Online Now.

FAQs

What Should I Bring?

• Comfortable clothing, sunscreen, hats, sunglasses, and cameras. Snacks and beverages are also welcome.

Can I Customize My Tour?

Yes, with options for specific routes, onboard music, and celebratory themes.

Cancellation Policies:

- Full refund for cancellations made 48+ hours in advance.
- Non-refundable for cancellations within 48 hours.
- Weather-related cancellations offer rescheduling or full refunds.

Contact and Location

- Location: Gulfport Municipal Marina, Gulfport, FL.
- Phone: [Insert Contact Information].
- Gallery: Showcasing stunning sunsets, playful dolphins, and happy guests enjoying their tours.

Salty Pelican Boat Tours isn't just a boat tour company—it's your gateway to exploring the beauty and wildlife of Florida's Gulf Coast. Whether you're looking for a serene private charter or an exciting public eco-tour, their expert team and thoughtfully crafted experiences ensure an unforgettable adventure on the water.

Here's an enriched version of the details with more information based on your screenshots and embeds:

Private Charters on The Pelly-Can

The Pelly-Can is designed for small groups seeking a personalized and intimate boating experience. Ideal for couples, families, or small gatherings, this vessel guarantees a private, customizable adventure.

Key Details

- Passenger Limit: Up to 6 guests.
- Tour Options:
- Sunsets & Dolphins Tour: Perfect for a serene evening exploring marine life and enjoying Florida's iconic sunsets.
- Custom Private Charters: Fully tailored to your group's interests, whether it's sightseeing, relaxing, or wildlife spotting.
 - Customization:
 - Routes, themes, and onboard amenities are flexible.
 - Complimentary light refreshments provided.
 - Guests can bring their own food or beverages for an elevated experience.
 - Duration: Flexible options ranging from 1 to 6 hours.
- Pricing: Starts at \$400 for 1-2 hours; additional charges for longer durations or customizations.

Daily Departures and Private Charters on The Dolphin Quest

The Dolphin Quest is built for versatility, accommodating both daily public tours and private charters. With a larger passenger capacity and additional amenities, this vessel is perfect for group events, corporate outings, or celebrations.

Key Details

- Passenger Limit: Minimum of 7 guests and a maximum of 17 guests.
- Tour Options:
- Daily Departures: Public eco-tours with fixed schedules, perfect for individuals or smaller groups joining others.
- Private Charters: Tailored for larger groups with exclusive access to the vessel.
 - Customization:
- Music, onboard decorations, and specific stops can be arranged for private charters.
 - Ideal for dolphin watching, snorkeling, or celebratory events.
 - Duration:
 - Public tours: Typically 2-3 hours.
 - Private charters: Flexible durations of 3-8 hours.
 - Pricing:
 - Daily tours: Per passenger pricing depending on availability.
- Private charters: \$1,200 base rate for 7 guests, with an additional charge per passenger up to 17.

FAQs

What should I bring?

Comfortable clothing, sunscreen, hats, and sunglasses are recommended. You're welcome to bring cameras, snacks, or beverages.

Can I customize my tour?

Absolutely! Both vessels offer route and activity flexibility, including stops for swimming, wildlife photography, or special celebrations.

- What are the cancellation policies?
- Cancellations 48+ hours before the tour receive a full refund.
- Cancellations within 48 hours are non-refundable.
- Weather-related cancellations allow rescheduling or full refunds.

Meet the Crew

Our captains are seasoned professionals passionate about the marine environment.

- Captain Rob: Brings years of expertise and an engaging personality, ensuring every tour is both safe and fun.
- Captain Emily: Known for her enthusiasm and knowledge of local wildlife, she enhances the educational aspect of each tour.

Fleet Highlights

- Pelly-Can: Perfect for intimate groups, offering flexible itineraries and a personal touch.
- Dolphin Quest: Designed for larger groups with spacious seating, shade, and onboard facilities, including restrooms and storage.

Why Choose Salty Pelican Boat Tours?

- Personalized Experiences: Tailored tours with unmatched flexibility and attention to detail.
 - Expert Crew: Passionate captains with a commitment to customer satisfaction.
- Unique Offerings: From tranquil sunset cruises to exhilarating dolphin encounters, every experience is unforgettable.
- Commitment to Excellence: Over 95% positive customer satisfaction and 7+ years of experience in creating lasting memories.

Let me know if there's anything else you'd like to expand on!

Salty Pelican Boat Tours in Gulfport, Florida, offers a variety of boating experiences tailored to different group sizes and preferences. Their booking system, powered by FareHarbor, provides

several options:

- 1. Private Charters for Small Groups
 - Booking Flow: Private Charter Small Groups
 - Booking Link: Book online now!
- Features: Designed for intimate gatherings, accommodating up to 6 guests. Offers customizable itineraries for personalized experiences.
- 2. Custom Private Charters for Large Groups
 - Booking Flow: Custom Private Charter Large Group
 - Booking Link: Book online now!
 - Features: Ideal for larger groups, accommodating between 7 and 17 guests.

Provides tailored experiences to meet specific group needs.

- 3. Daily Departures
 - Booking Flow: Daily Departures 17 Passenger Max
 - Booking Link: Book online now!
- Features: Regularly scheduled tours open to the public, with a maximum capacity of 17 passengers. Suitable for individuals, couples, or small groups.
- 4. Private Groups with Custom Requests
- Booking Flow: We Love Private Groups w/Custom Requests. We Accommodate Large &
 Small Groups
 - Booking Link: Book online now!
- Features: Caters to both large and small groups with specific requests, offering flexible and customizable tour options.

For detailed pricing information, it's recommended to visit the provided booking links or contact Salty Pelican Boat Tours directly, as rates may vary based on the chosen tour type, group size, and any additional customizations.