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ST. AUGUSTINE PONTE VEDRA
FLORIDA'S HISTORIC COAST®

Accolades Recognizing Florida's Historic Coast as a Great Destination!

St. Augustine, Fla. (October 2026) - In recent years Florida's Historic Coast visitor experiences have received great recognition. In addition to the destination's recognition, many local businesses here are recognized nationally for their exceptional offerings and customer service. Here is a list of some of the destination's overall impressive accolades:

USA Today 10 Best (October 2026) – St. Augustine Distillery Ranks #1 for Best Craft Distillery Tour, Best Craft Gin and Best Craft Rum, while City Gate Spirits ranked #2 Best Craft Specialty Spirit in the country for the 2026 Reder's Choice Awards.

Conde Nast Traveler – (October 2026) – St. Augustine named a Top 10 City in the Best Cities in the United States: 2026 Readers' Choice Awards.

Yahoo.com (October 2026) – Ranked #3 for its excellent shopping and a festival to get one into the festive spirit in the list of 8 best places to visit in the U.S. in November.

WorldAtlas (June 2026) – Named St. Augustine the No. 1 Coolest Southern U.S. Town for a Summer Vacation.

Pollstar Magazine (June 2026) - St. Augustine Amphitheatre ranked as #1 in the United States and #2 in the world for both Tickets Sold and Worldwide Gross Sales in the Mid-Year Top 50 Amphitheaters Report.

Garden & Gun (June/July 2026) – St. Augustine named among the top South's Best Music Towns: Where to Find Your Groove.

USA Today 10Best (June 2026) – St. Augustine ranked No. 3 on the list of the Most Walkable Cities to Visit in the U.S. Chosen by a panel of travel experts for its walkability and voted on by readers, the city offers an abundance of things to do, places to eat, and accommodations, all connected by pedestrian-friendly streets.

National Geographic (May 2026) – Small Towns USA by Brenna Darling – St. Augustine is featured as a Top 100 Must-See Getaway in the USA.

Southern Living (May 2026) - St. Augustine ranked #1 in Florida's Top 10 cities for a getaway any time of year.

Islands.com (May,2026) - Anastasia State Park ranked #3 out of 175 Florida State Parks, resulting from Google and Tripadvisor ratings.

Breznikar (April 2026)- St. Augustine named to the Florida's Top 10 hidden gems small towns perfect for a retreat Isit.

U.S. News & World Report (March 31, 2026) St. Augustine was ranked the #1 Best East Coast Vacation for 2026.

Islands.com (March 2026) - St. Augustine was recognized as one of the best Small Florida Towns to explore on a bike.

USA TODAY 10Best (March 2026) – The St. Augustine Celtic Music and Heritage Festival ranked as a Top 10 cultural festival across the country by readers and editors.

Southern Living (March 2026) - St. Augustine selected as the No.1 Best Small Town in the South and Ponte Vedra Beach was recognized as one of the Best Golf Destinations that offer Championship play and luxury resorts by Southern Living readers.

Billboard Magazine (February 2026) – St. Augustine Amphitheatre named "Top East Coast Amphitheatre" based on Boxscore data, along with venue reputation and notable past and upcoming performances.

U.S. News & World Report (December 2025) - St. Augustine, recognized as one of best places to visit in Florida, was named one of the Top 20 Best Small Towns to Visit in the USA for 2026.

World Atlas (November 2025) – St. Augustine named a Top 10 Best Florida Town for a Winter Getaway.

Newsweek (November 2025) St. Augustine's Nights of Lights makes the Top 10 list of Best Holiday Light Show.

MarketBeat (October 2025) Marketplace published their reader survey of what main streets around the country are best for fall shopping. St. Augustine's St. George Street took the #2 spot on the list of 125 streets.

ConventionSouth Magazine (October 2025) St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra & The Beaches VCB presented with a 2025 Readers' Choice Award for the sixth time.

Travel + Leisure (September & October 2025) St. Augustine is at the top of the list for T+L's Florida's Most Romantic Getaway Destinations for Couples, and the Florida destination choice for the Most Romantic Getaways in every state.

Conde Nast Traveler (October 2025) St. Augustine named one of the Top 10 Small Cities in U.S. for the Annual Reader's Choice Awards.

World Atlas (September 2025) – St. Augustine named one the 11 most Adorable Small Towns in Florida.

World Atlas (September 2025) – St. Augustine's St. George St. named one of the best Main Streets where Florida Comes Alive.

Avocadu.com (September 2025) Recognized St. Augustine and the #1 town in their list of the 11 "Quaint East Coast" towns to visit to take a "step back in time".

OTourlane (September 2025) Ranked St. Augustine the most charming old town among a list of 65 historic centers worldwide analyzed for age, affordability, and walkability.

Tidecharts/Instagram (August 2025) - Researchers at the tide forecasting platform Tideschart looked at Instagram hashtag data for the top rated 25 beaches across the United States, according to Tripadvisor's Travellers' Choice Awards. St. Augustine Beach takes the # 8 Spot in the country.

Pollstar Magazine (June 2025) – The St. Augustine Amphitheatre Ranks #2 in the US and #3 in the World for ticket sales for November 2024 – May 2025.

Travel & Leisure (May 2025) – At. Augustine Recognized as one of the Most European Cities in America for International Flair Close to Home.

North American Travel Journalist Association (March 2025) Visitors and Convention Bureau awarded Gold Award in the 33rd Annual North American Travel Journalists Awards Competition in the Creative Marketing Campaign category for Must-Do Experiences video series.

Southern Living (March 2025) – St. Augustine Beach was a reader-selected Top 10 Best Beach Town in the South.

The Manual.com (February 2025)- In a study revealing the best beach getaway for 2025 based on factors like affordability, local charm, hidden gem status, and ideal weather conditions, Vilano Beach was named the #5 beach destination in the U.S.

Booking.com (January 2025) – The oldest continuously occupied settlement in the United States was named the friendliest, or "most welcoming" destination for travelers in the U.S., and in the Top five of the World's Most Welcoming Cities for 2025.

WorldAtlas.com (January 2025) – St. Augustine named the #1 destination on the 2025 11 Best Florida Towns for a Weekend Trip.

Conventions South (December 2024) – St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra & The Beaches Visitors and Convention Bureau was awarded with the media group's Annual Readers' Choice Awards. Also recognized were Sawgrass Marriott Golf Resort & Spa, Guy Harvey Resort St. Augustine Beach, and Embassy Suites by Hilton St. Augustine Beach Oceanfront Resort.

Golf.com (December 2024) – Home of the Players Championship since 1982, the **TPC Stadium Course ranked the #2 golf course in Florida**

USA News & World Report (December 2024) On their Annual Best Vacations Ranking. US News & World Report listed St. Augustine as #15 on their list of the Best Small Towns to Visit in the USA in 2025, and #3 on their list of the Best Places to visit in Florida.

MSN.com (December 2024)- Using reviews from Tripadvisor, plus knowledge from their own expert team of travel writers, MSN ranked St. Augustine number one out of 30 of their favorite of Florida's Most Beautiful Town**s.**

TravelPulse.com (November 2024)- Recommended St. Augustine as the number 1 Best Holiday Travel Destination in Florida on their annual best holiday destinations in the USA.

WorldAtlas (August 2024) – St. Augustine listed as #1 on the list of the 10 Most Historic Small Towns to Visit on the Atlantic Coast.

LoveExploring (May 2024) – St. Augustine was named one of the world's most beautiful cities by editors of Love Exploring online travel magazine.

Southern Living (May 2024) – St. Augustine listed among the 20 Walkable Girlfriend Getaways That Exude Southern Charm.

Prestige Magazine (April 2024)- The PLAYERS Championship Golf Tournament which takes place at TPC Sawgrass at Ponte Vedra Beach was named #1 on the Magazine's list of 16 Most Prestigious Golf Tournaments in the Word.

Convention South Magazine (April 2024) – St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra / Florida's Historic Coast was selected by meeting planners to receive the 2023 Reader's Choice Award for exhibiting excellence creativity and professionalism in the meetings and conventions industry.

Miami Herald (April 2024) – Anastasia State Park in St. Augustine recognized as one of Florida's Hidden Treasures.

Cheapism (March 2024) – St. Augustine is listed in the Top Five of The Best Small Towns to Visit Across America.

Southern Living (March 2024) – South's Best Awards names St. Augustine The Best Small Town in Florida.

USA TODAY 10 Best – St. Augustine's Lincolnville Magazine made the #5 spot on Hidden gems: 10 best small-town museums across the U.S. list.

Conde Nast Traveler (January 2024) – Editors named Vilano Beach one of The Best Beach Detours from Orlando.

Travel & Leisure (January 2024) – St. Augustine recognized as one of the Top 24 (#9) camping destinations in the U.S., according to Campspot.com.

HGTV (December 2023) – Claims St. Augustine as the best small town in Florida to visit for Christmas.

Wealth of Geeks (December 2023) – St. Augustine listed among the Top 7 Southern Weekend Getaways To Escape the Winter Blues.

Explore.com (December 2023) – St. Augustine listed among the top of the 5 Best Places to Stay On Your Florida Vacation That Won't Break The Bank, According To Research

Conde Nast Traveler (November 2023) - St. Augustine named one of the Top 20 Cities in the U.S. that goes all out for the Holidays.

Church News and Casago Travel (November 2023) – National Shrine of our Lady of La Leche at Mission Nombre de Dios recognized as the most peaceful tourist spot in the United States.

Convention's South (October 2023) – St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra & The Beaches Visitors and Convention Bureau was awarded the Reader's Choice Award for Best Convention Bureau.

TravelNoire (October 2023) – Crescent Beach was named one of the 5 Best Beaches in Florida for Sun, Surf and Scenery, noted for a pristine Atlantic shoreline abutting wild natural settings.

Conde Nast Traveler (October 2023) – St. Augustine awarded the #7 spot in Reader's Choice Awards for Best Small City in the U.S.

New York Travel Guide (October 2023) – St. Augustine named the number three Most Romantic Small Town in the U.S.

Best Life (September 2023) – St. Augustine Among the Best for Cities With Most Beautiful Old Homes, ranking # 5 of 13.

National Geographic (September 2023) – St. Augustine included on the magazine's Adventures Everywhere section as one of seven beach destinations in "These U.S. beach towns are even better in the fall".

Southern Living (September 2023) – St. Augustine named the Best Beach town to retire to in the South.

TheTravel.com (June 2023) - St. Augustine Beach was named #7 by editors on the list of the Top 10 Prettiest Beaches in Florida.

TravelAwaits.com (June 2023) – Editors name St. Augustine as #4 on the list of 14 Friendliest Small Towns In The U.S.

USA Today 10 Best Awards (June 2023) – Readers voted Anastasia State Park, St. Augustine a Top 10 must visit beach in the south.

TheTravel.com (May 2023) – St. Augustine named one of the 10 Best Small Towns in the U.S. for a Perfect Summer Vacation

Budget Travel (May 2023) – The editors at Budget Travel named St. August as one of the Top 10 Coolest Small Towns in 2023.

Fodor's Travel (May 2023) – St. Augustine named as one of the 15 Most Romantic Small Towns Across the United States by Fodor's Travel editors.

Global Viewpoint (May 2023) – St. Augustine was named one of the 25 best hidden vacation spots in the U.S.

USA Today 10 Best (May 2023) – St. Augustine named among the Top 10 Most Walkable Cities in the U.S. (#5)

Woman's World (May 2023) - St. Augustine takes the #1 spot in the South's Eight Sweetest Cities.

USA Today Outdoorswire (April 2023) – Recognized for its exceptional skyline St. Augustine was named among the Top 16 outstanding urban kayaking destinations in the U.S.

TheTravel.com (April 2023) – St. Augustine among the top spots on the list of Small Towns In Florida That Break Away From Typical Tourist Spots.

USA Today 10 Best (April 2023) -St. Augustine was selected as the No.6 Best Small Coastal Town in the U.S. by USA Today 10 Best readers.

Town and Country Magazine (March 2023)- St. Augustine with its Spanish architecture and irresistible charm is named among the named one of The Best Small Towns in Florida Big on Charm.

Southern Living (March 2023) - South's Best Awards, featuring St. Augustine as the Best Small Town in the South

USA Today 10 Best (March 2023) – St. Augustine was named a Top 10 Small Town in the US by USA Today readers.

Tripadvisor (February 2023) – St. Augustine Beach was named to the #13 slot of the Top Beaches in the United States (#3 in Florida) on Tripadvisor 2023 Travelers Choice Awards.

Convention South (January 2023) – St. Augustine Ponte Vedra & The Beaches awarded 2022 Readers Choice Award for exhibiting excellence, creativity and professionalism in the meetings and convention industry.

Southern Living (January 2023) - St. Augustine takes the #2 spot the Florida Towns That Are Better In The Winter list.

Southern Living (August 2022) - St. Augustine recognized as the City with the Most Historical Homes in The U.S.

TheTravel.com (August 2022) - St. Augustine takes #5 spot on the list of Perfect East Coast Destinations for A Road Trip.

msn.com (August 2022)- St. Augustine is recognized as #3 of 30 Most Beautiful Small Towns and Cities in Florida.

BestLife (August 2022) - St. Augustine makes the list of The 10 Best U.S. Cities to Visit for History Buffs.

Lonely Planet (June 2022) – St. Augustine included on the list of the 10 Most stories places in the US to visit in 2022.

Livability (May 2022) – St. Augustine listed among the top six Historic Downtowns that are jumping - 6 Historic Downtowns You Must Visit.

USA Today 10 Best (April 2022) – St. Augustine Harbor named among the 10 Best Urban Paddle Trails in the U.S.

Trips to Discover (April 2022) – St. Augustine (Beach) named a Top 15 Best Family Beach Vacation in the U.S.

Southern Living (March 2022) - St. Augustine Ranked #5 out of 20 of The South's Best Beach Towns 2022.

TripAdvisor (February 2022) – St. Augustine Beach named #14 in Traveler's Choice Award for "Top 25 Beaches in the United States."

About Florida's Historic Coast

Florida's Historic Coast brings together centuries of history, 42 miles of Atlantic coastline and distinctive experiences in St. Augustine, Ponte Vedra and The Beaches. Located in Northeast Florida between Jacksonville and Daytona Beach, the destination encompasses St. Augustine, the nation's oldest city; the renowned golf and seaside communities of Ponte Vedra; and the communities of Hastings, Elkton and St. Johns. Visitors can explore historic landmarks, enjoy championship golf and outdoor adventures, discover local dining, arts and live music, or simply unwind by the ocean.

For travel information, visit FloridasHistoricCoast.com or call 1-800-653-2489. Follow Florida's Historic Coast on Instagram, Facebook and Threads.

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