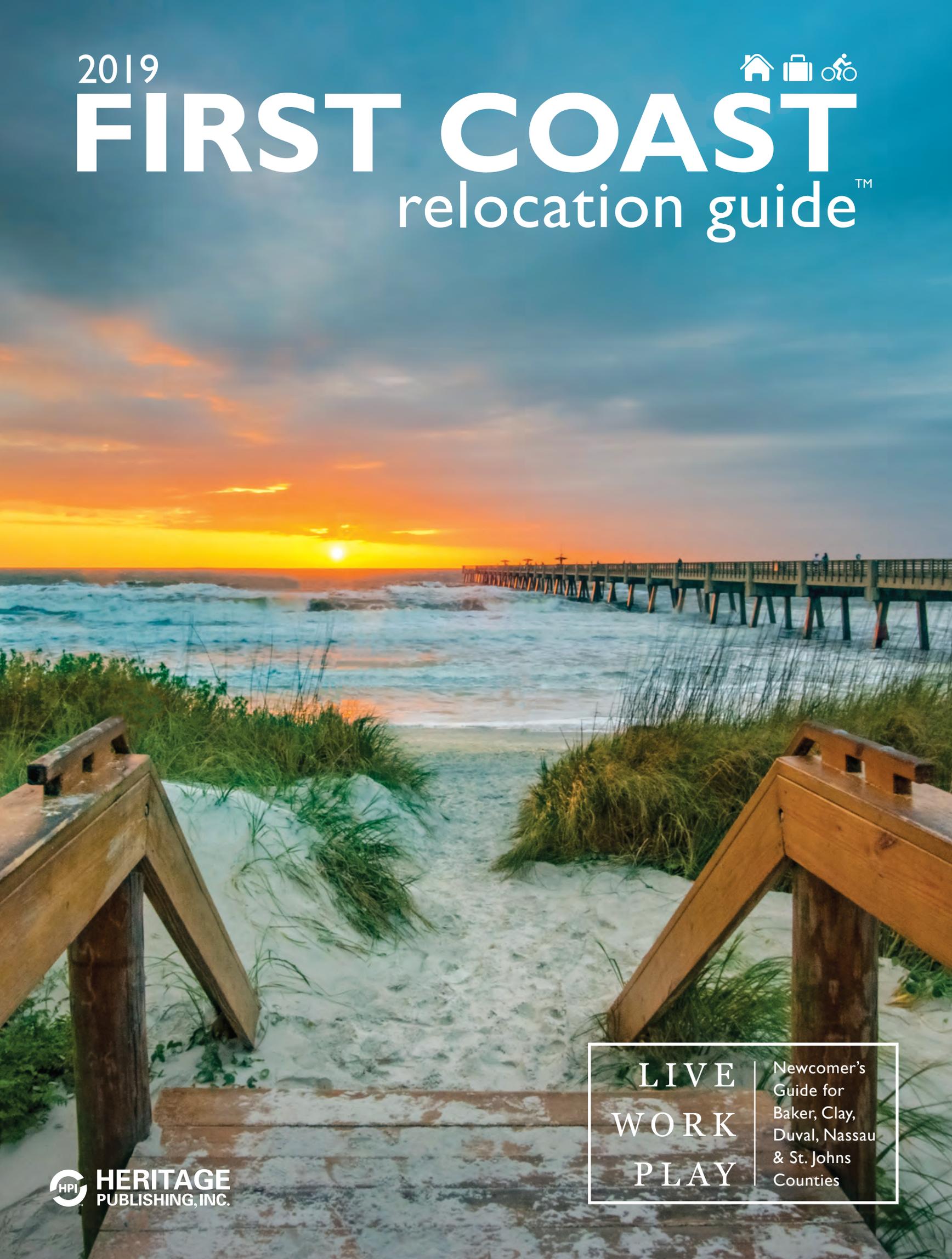


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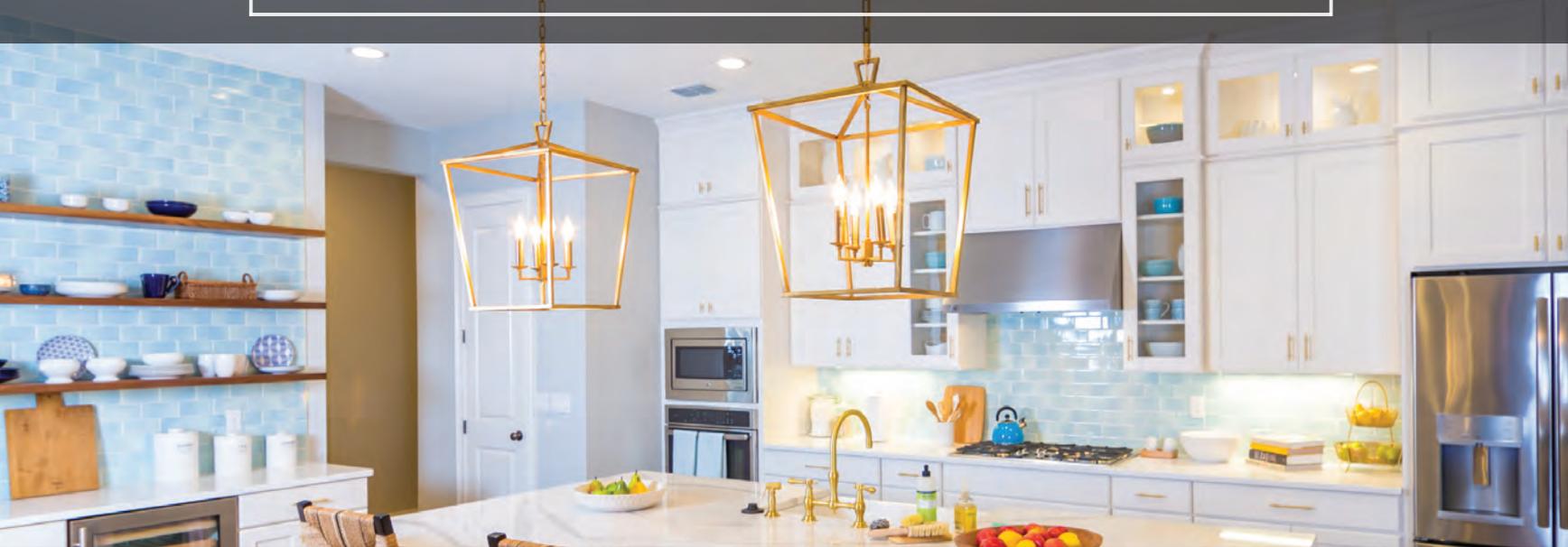
LIVE
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Newcomer's
Guide for
Baker, Clay,
Duval, Nassau
& St. Johns
Counties

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About This Guide

Welcome to the official 2019 *First Coast Relocation Guide*™, a comprehensive guide to assist you as you settle into your new home. This guide includes information to help you have a successful move to the area as well as ideas for what to do now that you are fortunate enough to call Florida's First Coast home.

As a Floridian, you'll be able to experience so much of the good life. Year-round enjoyable weather with miles of beaches and coastline; a large, urban park system that is second to none; some of the best health care facilities in the nation; an outstanding education system created to meet the needs of all types of learners; professional and semi-professional sporting events; and a vibrant art community with talent known the world over. The list could go on and on – to put it simply, Northeast Florida has it all!

To give you an idea of what we have been up to this past year, take a look around this publication – we have added to and expanded almost every aspect of this directory. The 2019 *First Coast Relocation Guide* not only features descriptions about neighborhoods and master-planned communities, it also contains information about apartment living, the current real estate market and even interior design tips. Pet-lovers can now find information on area dog parks and which beaches are pet-friendly, where to find a doggy day care to watch after your canine friend while you are at work and where to take a sick pet for unplanned visits after hours.

We provide comprehensive information on the major industries that drive the economy in Northeast Florida, including financial services, logistics and distribution, top employers and a breakdown of successful Jacksonville-area businesses. Additionally, we have expanded our focus on area businesses and added a lot of new content to provide you with the newest and most up-to-date happenings in the First Coast business sector. Discover why Northeast Florida is an economically sound region, with all the tools in place to grow your business, and why the region is one of the fastest growing in the U.S. Learn about the various transportation services around the First Coast, including nautical, aeronautical and rail, which make Northeast Florida a major logistics center.

The largest navy base in the Southeast, Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS JAX), is proud to call the First Coast home. With more than 23,000 military personnel at NAS JAX, the Navy has a strong presence in Northeast Florida. Also, in Duval County, Naval Station Mayport is home to the Navy's U.S. Fourth Fleet, the third-largest naval surface fleet concentration area in the country.

Finally, the last 50 pages or so are all about having fun and we really do have a lot of fun around here. The sky is the limit when it comes to entertainment in the region. You will have no problem finding a show at a comedy club, a Broadway performance, an action-packed festival or a professional sporting event. To satisfy your culinary cravings, you can sample some of the many eclectic fusions of flavors at award-winning eateries and locally crafted ales and brews ready to be enjoyed.

We hope the *First Coast Relocation Guide* helps you connect with all that's happening in Northeast Florida. But, above all, we hope the information contained in this guide makes your move to Florida's First Coast a smooth and pleasant experience.

Cordially,



Marzoug (Mark) Al-Amad
Founder, Publisher & President



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RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

December 2018

Dear Friends:

As Governor, I welcome you to Florida's First Coast. For years, families and business travelers have enjoyed Florida's beautiful beaches, world-class fishing and golf, numerous attractions, and our countless friendly businesses. We are glad you have chosen to make Florida your home.

As you settle in, I encourage you to see what we are doing to make our state the best place in the nation for business and job creation. Every day, I am fighting to make our state the best place to get a great job, receive a great education, and raise a family. We continue to work hard to cut taxes and burdensome regulations to encourage Florida's continued economic growth and new opportunities for our families.

In the seven years that I have served as Governor, we have consistently invested record funding in the priorities most important to Florida families. Our hard work for Florida families has made Florida a leader in job creation, education, transportation and environmental protection. We are investing historic amounts of funding in voluntary pre-kindergarten, K-12 schools, state colleges and universities to ensure every student has the opportunity to succeed in the Sunshine State.

Turning around Florida's economy would not have been possible without our unrelenting efforts to cut taxes and encourage business to thrive here in the Sunshine State. Since I took office, we have cut taxes 75 times saving Floridians more than \$7.5 billion, paid down \$9 billion in state debt and made government more efficient to save even more taxpayer money.

Florida's economy has seen incredible success, and we will keep fighting every day to secure Florida's future for every Florida family. Again, welcome, and know that you have my best wishes for your greatest success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott".

Rick Scott
Governor



Note from the Editor

Hello and welcome,

Growing up a military brat in the 80s and 90s, I moved around a lot – as in I went to 13 different schools before graduating high school. In fact, it often seemed that as soon as we were settled into our newest home it was time to start planning our move to the next duty station. During these moves, the one thing we never had was a readily available, comprehensive source of all the types of information that we needed with each new home. Thinking back on these times made me think, “How great it would have been to have access to something like the *First Coast Relocation Guide* during our many moves.”

Fast-forward many years later to when I was a newcomer to the Jacksonville area, and I stumbled upon this guide. The *First Coast Relocation Guide* is an invaluable source of information for everything from where to live to where to play and everything in between, and for almost two decades, this guide has been created annually as a way to introduce newcomers to Northeast Florida. Today, I am the editor of the *First Coast Relocation Guide* and I am committed to continuing to provide the newest and most up-to-date information each year.

Since moving here with my family, I have had the chance to really learn about what makes the First Coast such a great place to live. I touch on several of these things in an article on page 10, “10 Reasons the First Coast is the Best Coast,” and I invite you to take a look. More specifically, though, I think some of my best memories have been made while living here and discovering what Northeast Florida has to offer.

The first thing that comes to mind is we absolutely love the beach! Having spent many years up north, living so close to the ocean in a warm climate is a perk we don’t take lightly. At least three times a month, my family can be found loading up the car with towels, dogs, coolers and sand toys and heading to one of the many beaches surrounding us. From Neptune Beach to Vilano, it truly is a tropical paradise.

When we aren’t splashing in the water or attempting to master a boogie board, my family loves going out and finding a festival, farmer’s or art market, or even catching a professional ballet at the Florida Theatre—and then there are the sports! We have professional and minor league teams, and of course the Jacksonville Jaguars. What it comes down to is the First Coast is an amazing place to call home. You will never be bored, but at the same time you won’t be overwhelmed by big-city energy and can always find a place to relax and wind down.

Regardless of what brought you to Northeast Florida and no matter how long you plan to stay, we are so glad to have you. Welcome to our little corner of paradise ... and most importantly, welcome home. I hope to see you soon!

Wishing you the happiest of pursuits and discoveries,

Mindy K. Urueta
Editor-in-Chief



Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| About This Guide..... | 6 |
| Governor Letter..... | 7 |
| Note from the Editor..... | 8 |
| 10 Reasons the First Coast is the Best Coast..... | 10 |

LIVE • 13

| | |
|---|-----|
| Where to Hang Your Hat: | |
| Finding the Perfect Home..... | 14 |
| Area Neighborhood Map..... | 15 |
| Neighborhoods | |
| Baker County..... | 16 |
| Clay County..... | 17 |
| Duval County..... | 22 |
| Nassau County..... | 29 |
| St. Johns County..... | 32 |
| YMCA: Building a Healthy Mind, | |
| Body & Spirit..... | 37 |
| The Communities of Nocatee..... | 38 |
| Tamaya: Between the City and the Sea..... | 41 |
| Apartment Living..... | 42 |
| Local Housing Market Trends..... | 44 |
| Outdoor Living..... | 46 |
| Interior Design: Let's Start with Floors..... | 48 |
| First Things First: The 411 on the First Coast..... | 50 |
| Getting Settled..... | 51 |
| Internet & TV Resources..... | 55 |
| Libraries..... | 56 |
| Before the Big Move..... | 57 |
| Looking for Your Spiritual Home?..... | 57 |
| Good-to-Know Info..... | 58 |
| Doggy Day Cares..... | 59 |
| After Hours & 24-Hour | |
| Animal Hospitals..... | 59 |
| Real Estate Climate Check..... | 60 |
| County Tax Collectors..... | 61 |
| Weather Words to Remember: | |
| First Coast Weather Prep..... | 62 |
| Showing our Smarts: First Coast Education..... | 65 |
| Public Schools..... | 66 |
| Private Schools..... | 72 |
| Charter Schools..... | 76 |
| River City Science Academy..... | 77 |
| Programs for Learning Differences..... | 79 |
| First Coast Child Care Resources..... | 81 |
| Adult Education..... | 82 |
| Sunshine & Stethoscopes: | |
| Health Care on the First Coast..... | 84 |
| Hospitals..... | 89 |
| Freestanding Emergency Rooms..... | 90 |
| Hospitals Map..... | 92 |
| Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center..... | 93 |
| Health Insurance Companies..... | 95 |
| Just for Seniors | |
| 5 Reasons Why Seniors Love | |
| the First Coast..... | 97 |
| Assisted Living Facilities..... | 98 |
| Retirement Communities..... | 100 |
| Senior Centers..... | 101 |
| Skilled Nursing Facilities..... | 102 |

WORK • 103

| | |
|---|-----|
| NEFL: A Powerhouse in Business..... | 104 |
| Business on the First Coast is Booming!..... | 107 |
| Homegrown Companies: Businesses with | |
| Headquarters on the First Coast..... | 109 |
| Chambers of Commerce | |
| in the 5-County Region..... | 110 |
| Businesses by County..... | 110 |
| Top Employers on the First Coast..... | 111 |
| Honor, Courage, Commitment: | |
| Our Military..... | 114 |
| Naval Base Numbers..... | 117 |
| Banking & Mortgage Industry..... | 118 |
| Jacksonville: An Information | |
| Technology Leader..... | 121 |
| More Industries that are | |
| Making an Impact in Northeast Florida..... | 123 |
| The Ports that Keep the First Coast Moving..... | 124 |
| Full Speed Ahead: Transportation..... | 127 |
| Bridges of Northeast Florida..... | 130 |

PLAY • 132

| | |
|---|-----|
| When Land Meets Water: | |
| Beaches & Waterways..... | 134 |
| Beaches FYI..... | 136 |
| Beaches, Parks & Preserves Map..... | 137 |
| Wonderful Wilderness: | |
| State Parks & Preserves..... | 138 |
| First Coast Dog Parks..... | 140 |
| First Coast Throwback: | |
| Historical Sites & Museums..... | 141 |
| First Coast Art Scene: | |
| Art Museums & Events..... | 150 |
| For Your Entertainment..... | 152 |
| First Coast Fun: Attractions..... | 156 |
| Attractions, Entertainment | |
| & Historical Sites Maps | |
| Beaches..... | 158 |
| Downtown Jacksonville..... | 160 |
| Amelia Island..... | 161 |
| St. Augustine..... | 161 |
| Home Field Advantage: First Coast Sports..... | 162 |
| Walks, Runs & Rides..... | 164 |
| Golf Courses..... | 166 |
| Golf Courses Map..... | 167 |
| Shopping: First Coast Retail Therapy..... | 168 |
| First Coast Farmers Markets..... | 171 |
| Local Flavor: Dining..... | 172 |
| First Coast Coffee Shops..... | 175 |
| First Coast Food Trucks..... | 176 |
| Off the Clock: Nightlife..... | 177 |
| Microbreweries & Brew Pubs..... | 180 |
| Last Look at the First Coast..... | 181 |
| Index of Advertisers..... | 184 |

10

Reasons the First Coast
is the Best Coast

By Mindy K. Urueta

Named by *Time* magazine as one of the “10 Best Cities to Live in Right Now,” Jacksonville and the surrounding areas have it all! Our big city with a small-town feel has the best neighborhoods and schools, amazing beaches, entertainment for the whole family, the list goes on and on. Chances are, you’ve picked up the *First Coast Relocation Guide*

because you are either considering a move to the First Coast or you’ve already made the exciting decision to call the greater Jacksonville area home. Congratulations – you have made a great decision! We are sure you will love living here and to help get you settled, we’ve included a snapshot of reasons that make the First Coast the best place

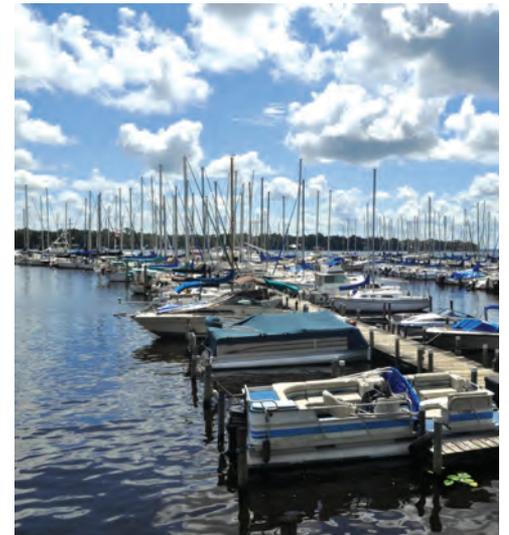
to call home. You can also find more detailed and comprehensive information on each of the five counties that make up our metro area as you explore the Live, Work and Play sections of this publication.

1 Neighborhoods



When it comes to choosing a neighborhood to call home on the First Coast, the options are near limitless. No matter where in our greater metro area you choose to settle down, you will still have easy access to all the entertainment and employment opportunities. With breathtaking coastlines and a small-town feel, Nassau County is made up of both beach and rural communities as well as master-planned Wildlight, a beautiful residential treasure in Florida’s low country. Jacksonville is divided into several different areas (Westside, Southside, Beaches, etc.), with each

having its own distinct personality and culture. Whether you are looking to immerse yourself in city living or want to find the perfect home along the coast, Jacksonville likely has the perfect neighborhood for you. Further south in St. Johns County, you will find beautiful neighborhoods, master-planned communities and A-rated schools. Blending centuries-old ambiance with modern shops and restaurants, the historic seaside community of St. Augustine is the perfect place to Live, Work and Play. Nearby Clay County has seen substantial growth in recent years and



offers a variety of beautiful neighborhoods and historic homes, shopping and dining, and a growing work sector. The centralized location of Clay County makes for a short drive no matter where on the First Coast you are headed. For rural living that maintains easy access to the region’s larger cities, Baker County just might be the perfect place for you. Steeped in history yet remaining in step with the advancements of today, Baker County offers a quiet, laid-back lifestyle close to many of the conveniences and entertainment venues of a big city nearby.

2 Education

No matter where you choose to live, the First Coast offers award-winning schools that are committed to providing the best education to Florida's children. Parents can opt for the learning style of their choice—public, private, charter, magnet, Montessori, schools for learning differences or home-schooling—while taking comfort that the Florida education system is constantly growing and changing to meet the educational, technological and safety needs of Florida families. Our schools have some of the best educators in the business and the tools necessary for each child to reach their full potential.



3 Business

Northeast Florida is home to a young, dynamic workforce that is on the cutting edge of technology and ranked by *Forbes* magazine as the No. 5 fastest growing city in America. *Money* magazine lists our area as one of the Top 40 Places for Business and Careers, and Datafox has ranked Jacksonville as the No. 2 Best City for Tech. Companies in Jacksonville are hiring as industries continue to grow and more companies

are choosing the River City as their location for relocating and setting up their headquarters. We are home to three Fortune 500 companies and more than 80 national or divisional headquarters. It is an exciting time to work on the First Coast, our growing city with a small-town feel, and we are so glad you are here.

4 Health Care

Now that you've chosen Northeast Florida as your new home, you will have access to some of the best health care providers in the country. Home to one of three Mayo Clinics in the nation, Jacksonville is also the proud location of the brand-new MD Anderson Cancer Center, medical giants Baptist Health, UF Health and St. Vincent's HealthCare, as well as Wolfson Children's Hospital and Nemours Children's Specialty Care. Being part of this metropolitan area also gives residents a direct path to specialists that many people have to drive across state lines to access. The First Coast is proud of our health care community and the professionals that care for our neighbors and friends.



5 Military

As one of the region's largest employers, the U.S. Navy has had a strong presence on the First Coast since the days of the second World War. Today, Naval Air Station Jacksonville is a multi-mission base hosting more than 100 tenant commands and is the largest Navy base in the Southeast. Since its formation, it has developed into what amounts to a small town, containing schools, a hospital, restaurants, churches, boat ramps, as well as gyms and a golf course. Aside from

offering the safe, welcoming environment of a suburban neighborhood, the NAS Jax community has a variety of free social and learning activities for its families. "Families really have everything on base," Cynthia Brannan, assistant community manager for NAS Jax, said. "From commissaries, Navy exchanges, post offices, laundromats, hair salons, car shops — there are just so many advantages. It's like its own small city here."

6 Beaches

When it comes to enjoying the sun and playing at the beach, you have unlimited possibilities on the First Coast. The miles of shoreline connecting the coastal communities in Northeast Florida offer a beach for every personality and style. There's pedestrian-friendly Jacksonville Beach and nearby Neptune and Atlantic beaches, with swimmers, surfers and people fishing and boating. Further down the coast you'll find the palm-fringed sands of Ponte Vedra Beach and Vilano Beach with plenty of opportunities to collect seashells and splash in the waves. Every day is beach day when you are lucky enough to call the First Coast home.



8 Sports

Whether you are a diehard football fan, a golf aficionado or a devoted fan of ice hockey, Northeast Florida has it all when it comes to sports and sporting events. Be a Jaguar fan and cheer our hometown team to victory at TIAA Bank Field, experience what is known as the "World's Largest Cocktail Party" at the annual Florida-Georgia game (an event everyone should experience at least once) or watch THE PLAYERS Championship in the spring – no matter the time of year, there's always a game to watch here on the First Coast.

7 Deep Historical Roots

Today's First Coast is shaped by the past, molded in the present and always looking forward to what's coming next. Fortunately, everything is documented and preserved in our many museums. Our growing art scene reflects the First Coast's creative atmosphere through the showcasing of museums, the intricate murals that line the city and the many privately owned galleries that house both modern works of art and historical masterpieces.



9 Shopping and Dining

As if the last eight amazing reasons aren't enough, the shopping and dining scene on the First Coast is second to none. Whether you are in the mood for a stroll through St. Augustine's historic district that is lined with shops and restaurants or if you'd rather meander through the air-conditioned halls of one of the indoor malls, retail therapy solutions abound with plenty of tasty food options no matter where on the First Coast you happen to be.



10 Entertainment

Finally, for a state far from the sparkling lights of Broadway in New York City, we are so fortunate to have the opportunity to see Broadway performances without traveling out of state. The River City offers a gateway to culture and a medley of activities that continue to delight patrons year after year. The Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts hosts The Artist Series, which has brought

Broadway greats to life here on the First Coast. For music lovers, the Jacksonville region is home to countless musical events, both large and small, and also features annual concerts and festivals. No matter what type of entertainment you're looking for – music, comedy or a theater performance – the First Coast most likely has it and it's sure to be a fun time for all.



In this Section

LIVE • 13

- 14 Where to Hang Your Hat:
Finding the Perfect Home
- 15 Neighborhoods
- 42 Apartment Living
- 44 Local Housing Market Trends
- 46 Outdoor Living
- 48 Interior Design: Let's Start with Floors
- 50 First Things First:
The 411 on the First Coast
- 51 Getting Settled
- 62 Weather Words to Remember:
First Coast Weather Prep
- 65 Showing our Smarts:
First Coast Education
- 84 Sunshine & Stethoscopes:
Health Care on the First Coast
- 97 Just for Seniors

LIVE

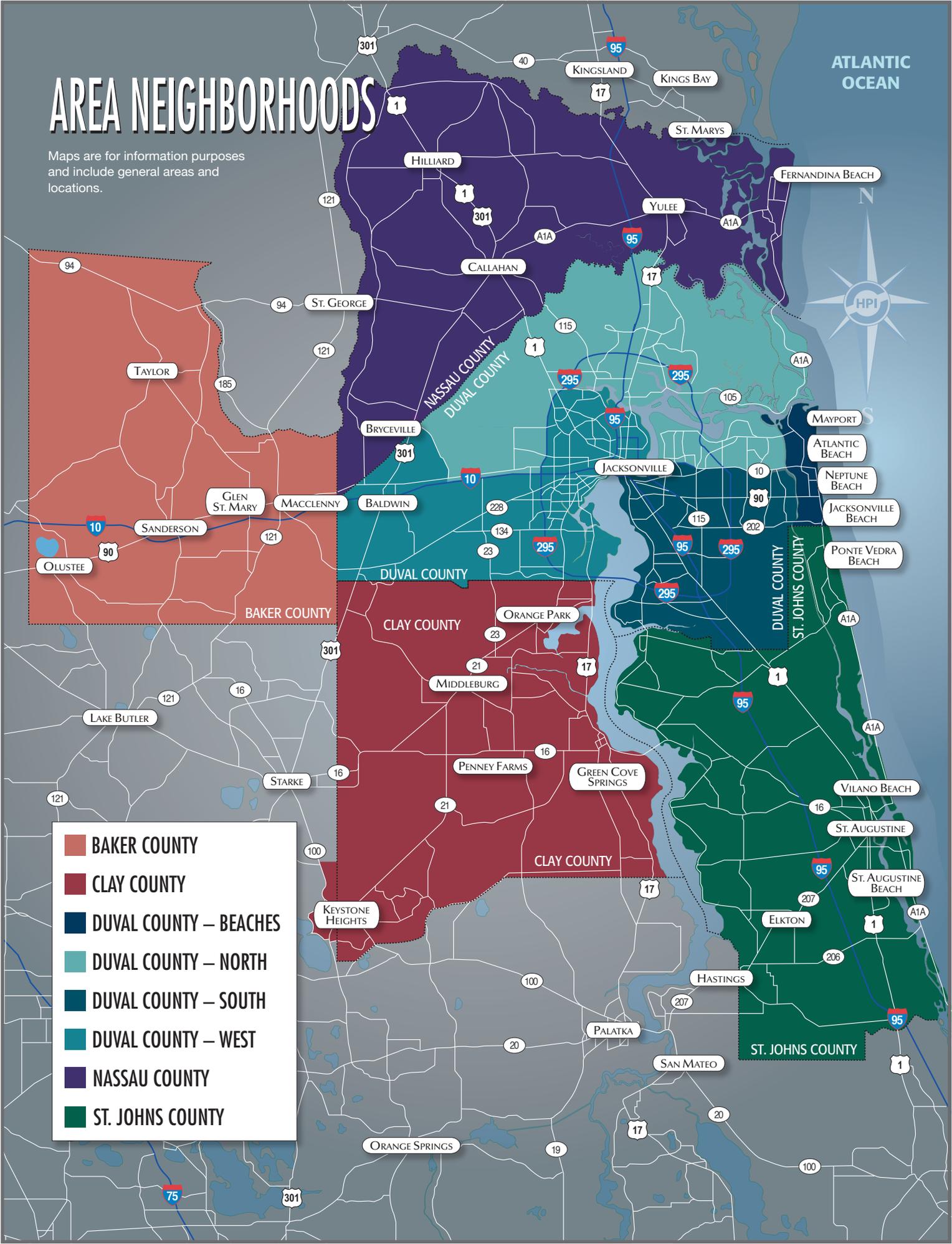
Where to Hang Your Hat: Finding the Perfect Home

With new master-planned communities, historical homes on tree-lined, cobbled streets, luxury condominiums and waterfront properties, navigating your way through the many neighborhoods that fill the First Coast can seem a daunting task. To alleviate that a bit, we have put together a brief description of the many different neighborhoods in the five-county region. No matter your preferences, there is sure to be the perfect place to settle in and make your own. If you are looking to live in a bustling city, near a relaxing beach, in quaint suburbs or even in a historically enriched neighborhood—the First Coast offers all that and more.



AREA NEIGHBORHOODS

Maps are for information purposes and include general areas and locations.



- BAKER COUNTY
- CLAY COUNTY
- DUVAL COUNTY – BEACHES
- DUVAL COUNTY – NORTH
- DUVAL COUNTY – SOUTH
- DUVAL COUNTY – WEST
- NASSAU COUNTY
- ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Baker County



Area:
589 square miles



Estimated Population:
28,283 (2018)

A small county situated a short 20 minute drive from downtown Jacksonville, Baker County has all the conveniences of big-city life with the small-town atmosphere that so many families crave. The region is a haven for outdoor activities with Osceola National Forest falling within the county's boundaries, offering opportunities for fishing, boating, water skiing and other outdoor activities.



Photo courtesy of Rivers Edge, Glen St. Mary

GLEN ST. MARY

As the winner of Florida's Outstanding Rural Community of the Year in 2004, the charm of this small, rural town in Baker County is evident when you first drive into town. Glen St. Mary has a population of approximately 420 within the town's limits, with additional residents finding their perfect home in the surrounding areas. If the hustle and bustle of city life tends to get you down, the charm of Glen St. Mary's small-town atmosphere might just be the perfect spot for you. Glen St. Mary offers family-friendly neighborhoods with single-family homes, larger properties with sprawling acreage and gated communities with all the modern amenities families need.

MACCLENNY

Macclenny is known for its small-town charm and family traditions. When looking for a home in this quaint, history-rich town, you will find a number of subdivisions that offer single-family homes and several apartment complexes. Residents and visitors alike enjoy visiting Heritage Park Village, where Florida's oldest wood frame/log building, the Burnsed Blockhouse, is located. The county seat of Baker County, Macclenny, was established in 1890, but had settlers as early as 1829. Unfortunately, in 1888, most of the population was killed in a yellow fever outbreak. Today, the town has a population of around 6,400 and is located 35 miles west of Jacksonville.

Clay County



Area:
644 square miles



Estimated Population:
212,230 (2018)

Conveniently located a short drive from both St. Augustine and Jacksonville, Clay County is a modern mix of family-friendly neighborhoods, meandering rural roads and up-and-coming communities. More than 200,000 people choose to call the region that makes up Orange Park, Middleburg, Fleming Island, Green Cove Springs and Keystone Heights home.

EAGLE LANDING AT OAKLEAF PLANTATION

Family-friendly and beautiful are perfect words to describe the sprawling subdivision that is Eagle Landing at Oakleaf Plantation. This resort-style community has an 18-hole championship golf course, shopping, A-rated schools and St. Vincent's Medical Center Clay County. Residents will find several neighborhoods with an abundance of amenities for people of all ages. A full-time staff organizes activities such as "dive-in" movies, summer camps, golf clinics and tennis leagues at the award-winning amenity complex. There is a full-size gymnasium with fitness center, Swim Park, golf clubhouse with pro shop, eight lighted Har-Tru tennis courts, a Kid's Club and a Village store with a café, candy store and more. Bordering the 24,000-acre Jennings State Forest where you can bike, hike and explore, Eagle Landing also allows golf cart access everywhere within the community, adding more convenience for those who call Eagle Landing home.

FLEMING ISLAND

One of the most impressive up-and-coming communities in Clay County, Fleming Island has it all. This thriving residential and commercial area has unique, planned neighborhoods that provide an abundance of centrally located amenities, some even within walking distance. On a daily basis, you will see residents walking dogs, jogging and zipping around on their golf carts. New shops and restaurants continue to pop up, bringing more convenience to people who choose to call Fleming Island home, as well as financial and business institutions that have essentially eliminated the need to travel to nearby Orange Park. Additionally, for nature buffs, Fleming Island is bursting with wildlife that can be enjoyed while exploring the many trails, paths and boat ramps located throughout the area.

GREEN COVE SPRINGS

The county seat of Clay County, Green Cove Springs is rich with history and hometown pride with residents proudly displaying "Cove Life" decals on their cars. With its quaint, small-town appeal, Green Cove Springs continues to honor the past while embracing the future. A number of older homes line the St. Johns River, and the town has seen the emergence of new housing developments within recent years. Magnolia Point, located at the edge of the town, boasts an 18-hole golf course with sprawling homes and has been steadily growing for more than a decade and is an ideal place to raise a family. Also of note, Green Cove Springs is widely known for its sulfur spring located in Spring Park, which is one of only about a dozen in Florida and is worth a visit no matter what neighborhood you choose to call your own.



Photo courtesy of Town of Orange Park

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS

The idyllic community of Keystone Heights is located in the southeast corner of Clay County and is known for its small-town feel of cozy cottages, luxurious estates and tree-lined streets. The many parks and sand bottom lakes add to the family-friendly appeal of Keystone Heights.

More than a century ago, the community of Keystone Heights was in a region known as Brooklyn, located along present-day SR 100. Back then, the area consisted of a large unpainted building called the Brooklyn Hotel; a combination general store and post office; and several small houses scattered about. Since that time, the area has seen substantial growth and has evolved into the beautiful lakeside community it is today.

The natural beauty of Keystone Heights can be enjoyed at Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park, Lake Santa Fe, Little Rain Lake Park, Melrose Heritage Park, Camp Keystone, or simply exploring the countryside.

Many residents of Keystone Heights take advantage of the easy access to major cities such as Jacksonville and Gainesville for work, choosing to live away from the hustle and bustle of a more populous area. The city is also home to many retirees who have chosen to settle down in this quaint community while enjoying all the beauty and relaxation Keystone Heights has to offer. Low crime rates, convenient amenities, natural landscape and sunny weather all work together to make Keystone Heights a great place to live in Clay County.



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OAKLEAF PLANTATION

Yet another community that seems to have it all is OakLeaf Plantation. Situated in Clay County, with a small area lying in Duval County, OakLeaf Plantation is a planned community with multiple village-style subdivisions, each with its own park ready to be explored. OakLeaf Plantation prides itself on being a place where you can live, work and play without leaving the community and recent growth definitely supports this claim. This family-oriented community provides more than 50 acres of recreation at its two athletic centers, which include baseball and soccer fields, tennis and basketball courts, and a water park. Also within OakLeaf Plantation is the OakLeaf Town Center, which contains various retailers and restaurants. Newcomers who choose this idyllic plantation as their home can choose from single-family homes, multi-family homes, and luxury condominiums and apartments.

ORANGE PARK

Convenient to Jacksonville yet maintaining a personality all its own, Orange Park lies in the northeastern section of Clay County, just south of Jacksonville's Westside community. No matter what type of home you are searching for, as the county's largest municipality, Orange Park offers potential residents a vast selection of housing options, as well as convenient access to I-295 and NAS Jacksonville. As you explore Orange Park, you will find a variety of homes to suit your individual needs. Homes vary from waterfront estates along the St. Johns River and Doctors Lake to new housing developments inland and rural homes on sprawls of land further to the west. Additionally, beautiful homes built in the 1970s and 1980s can be found in Orange Park, capturing the nostalgia and architectural lines of times past.

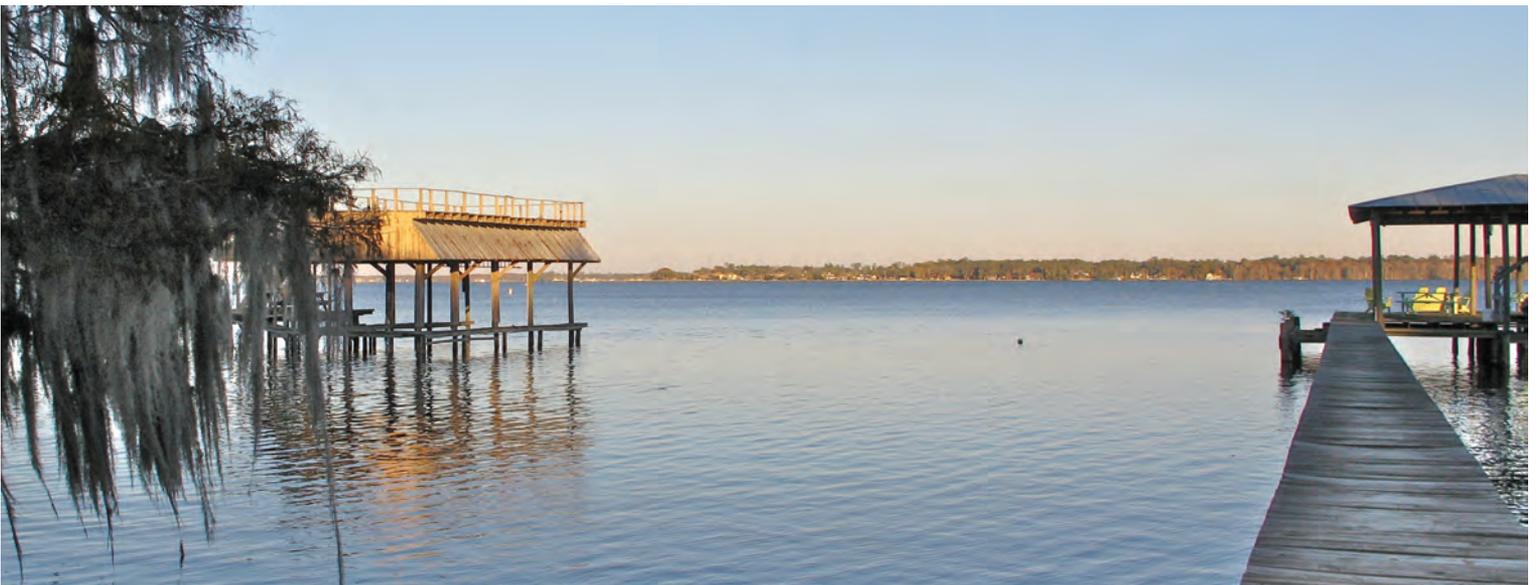
PENNEY FARMS

A small town south of Middleburg that is unlike any other, Penney Farms is home to the Penney Retirement Community, founded in 1926 by businessman James Cash (J.C.) Penney. Penney Retirement Community is a 192-acre beautiful retirement and independent-care community created for retired ministers in honor of Penney's minister father. Today, the community maintains its roots deep in history and is home to 29 different denominations of retired ministers, pastors, church workers and missionaries. More than 500 people reside in the community and partake in a variety of activities, amenities, clubs and volunteer opportunities. Those residing outside the retirement community live in single-family homes that surround the community.

MIDDLEBURG

Once known by the name Clark's Ferry and considered a rural area, Middleburg has rapidly grown into a suburban community south of Orange Park with a population topping 13,000. This unincorporated area is located in central Clay County near Black Creek, a tributary of the St. Johns River. Middleburg residents enjoy a rural setting and are close to Jennings State Forest, which offers visitors the chance to hike, bike, swim and observe the area's natural scenery. Middleburg's housing options include historic properties, condominiums, townhomes and single-family homes on spacious lots.

Photo courtesy of Fleming Island Waterfront Homes





**Northeast Florida
Builders Association**

103 Century 21 Drive – Suite 100 Jacksonville, Florida 32216-9256 Telephone: (904) 725-4355 Fax: (904) 721-3372
Email: nefbagen@nefba.com Website: www.nefba.com

As executive officer of the Northeast Florida Builders Association, I would like to welcome you to the First Coast—an area that not only offers an outstanding quality of life for residents, but one that also provides exciting new opportunities for business.

The First Coast is a relocation destination for several reasons. Our climate is sunny and mild year-round. We have miles of beautiful beaches, the largest urban park system in the U.S., premier golf courses, a generous diversity of arts and cultural events and an abundance of recreational opportunities. The area offers excellent schools, health care and affordable housing.

The Northeast Florida business community has many positive economic indicators on the horizon. Several banking institutions have headquarters and offices in Jacksonville, making it a powerful financial center. The Jacksonville Port Authority is expanding, drawing many international shipping companies to do business here. The transportation and distribution, manufacturing, health care and insurance industries are also growing.

We are poised to welcome new businesses to Northeast Florida and provide a quality of life matched by no other. We'll also roll out the "red carpet" for the military men and women who are assigned to serve at one of our three major regional military bases. We thank our service members for their sacrifices and desire to serve, and look forward to placing them in high quality housing.

As a new resident of Northeast Florida, your search for a home will be welcomed with diverse options. There is a tremendous variety of new home communities located throughout the eight-county area. There are family-oriented communities with indoor and outdoor amenities, luxury waterfront homes, maintenance-free condos and townhomes, golf course homes and even communities designed for horse lovers. Whether you are looking for a starter home or a luxury retirement home, First Coast builders have thousands of floor plans in every price range.

With a low cost of living and high quality of life, the First Coast has a lot to offer newcomers. The *First Coast Relocation Guide*[™] can help you search for the perfect community to live in and help you find your new home.

Welcome Home!

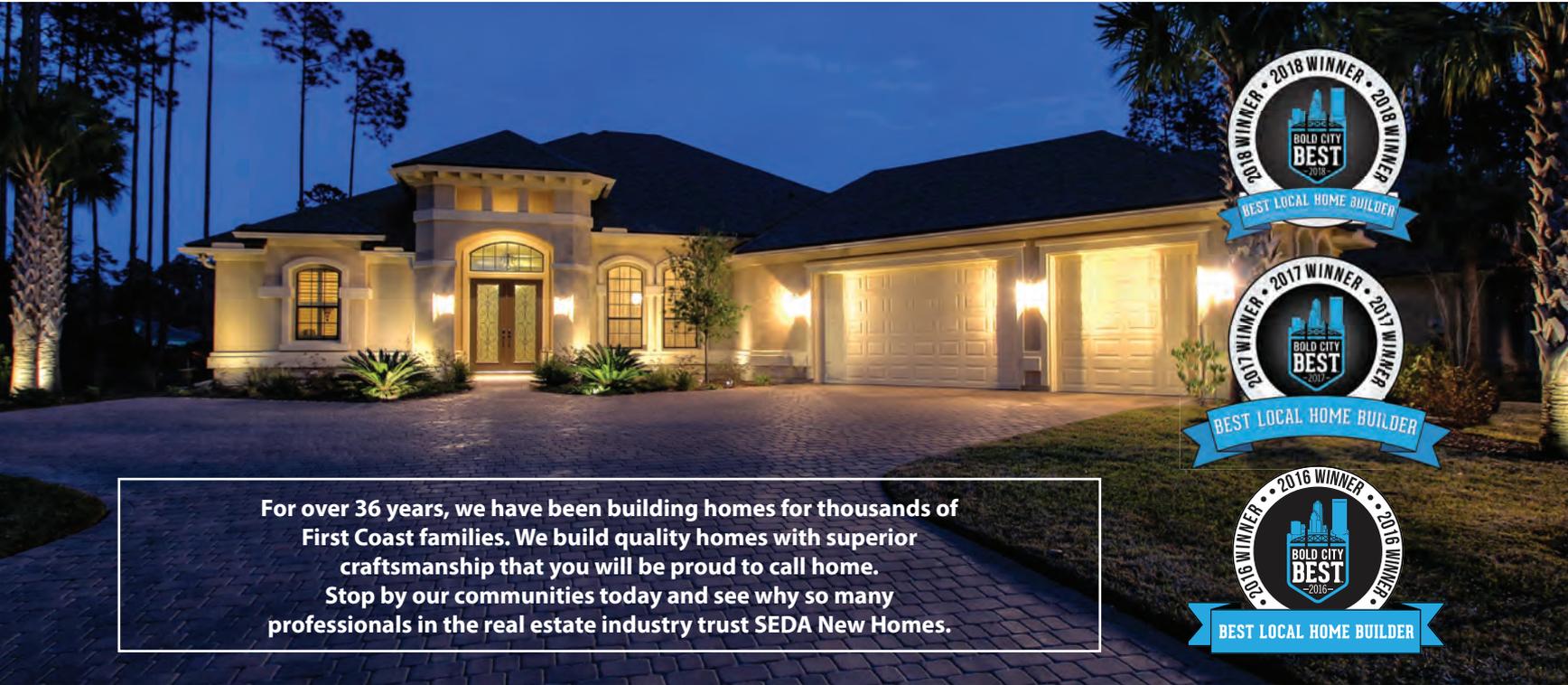
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bill Garrison". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Bill Garrison
Executive Officer, NEFBA

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LENNY CURRY
MAYOR



December 1, 2018

Dear Neighbor:

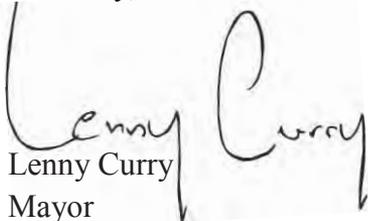
On behalf of our citizens, I thank you for choosing our corner of Northeast Florida. From my family to yours, it is my pleasure to offer a warm welcome to Jacksonville! As the largest city by land mass in the contiguous United States, our 840 square miles are as diverse and vibrant as our citizens.

I extend a special welcome to the brave men and women in uniform who are relocating to be stationed at one of the three major military installations here on the First Coast. Our city is proud to be home to many active-duty service members and more than 150,000 veterans, and you'll find that Jacksonville embraces its long military history and supports our community members who have faithfully served our country.

With the St. Johns River as our centerpiece, Jacksonville features a wealth of natural resources, including the largest urban parks system in the country with several waterfront access points and activities, and the longest shoreline in all of Florida. Other activities you may wish to explore with your family include visits to our award-winning zoo, unique arts and cultural offerings, and exciting sports and entertainment venues. And with our ever-growing downtown hub and bustling business environment, Jacksonville is an ideal place to live, work and play.

As you will see in the pages of this year's guide, Jacksonville is a very special place. Again, I thank you for choosing us and welcome you to your new home.

Sincerely,


Lenny Curry
Mayor



Duval County



Area:
918 square miles



Estimated Population:
937,934 (2018)

Home to the 20th largest school district in the U.S., Duval County is comprised of a variety of different neighborhood types ranging from historic to oceanside to planned communities. Take some time to explore the home of the Jacksonville Jaguars and discover some of the hidden treasures that are waiting for you.



Mayport

As the largest city in the U.S. by land mass, Jacksonville likely has more neighborhoods than most other areas and finding a place to begin your home search might seem daunting. Don't let the large size of Duval County scare you away. We have broken it down into the major areas and divided the county by Beaches, Northside, Southside and Westside for convenience. Within each larger area of map that makes up Duval County are dozens of smaller neighborhoods where you can surely find your niche and set down roots.

DUVAL BEACHES

BEACHES

Finding just one reason to love the Beaches of Jacksonville is nearly impossible. Whether it's your love of music, surf and sand or just a happy-go-lucky speed of life, the Beaches just might be the perfect place to call home. This beautiful, sun-swathed area is comprised of Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach and Mayport. These seaside municipalities offer an assortment of residential areas with a laid-back atmosphere. Jacksonville Beach has numerous clubs, bars and restaurants offering some of the best nightlife and entertainment in the area. Neptune Beach, the youngest and



Fort Caroline, photo by Justin Strosnider



smallest of the beach communities, encompasses 2.5 square miles between Atlantic Beach and Jacksonville Beach. Through strict growth management benchmarks, Neptune Beach maintains a tranquil standard of living for its residents. The heart of Neptune Beach and Atlantic Beach is the Beaches Town Center, which offers residents of both cities a variety of shopping and dining options. Atlantic Beach is mostly residential, with a majority of the developed areas being single-family homes. House hunters here will find a mix of properties in the neighborhoods, from '50s modern concrete block to shingled roofs and everything in between.

MAYPORT

For residents looking for a rural feel with affordable living and conservative values, Mayport likely has what you are looking for. One of the nation's oldest fishing villages, Mayport is located just north of Atlantic Beach. Residents of this coastal village have access to freshly caught seafood (especially Mayport shrimp—a culinary staple on the First Coast), boat ramps and the St. Johns River Ferry. Since 1948, residents and visitors alike have used the ferry to commute between Mayport and Fort George Island. Mayport offers many types of housing and apartments, which is convenient for military personnel and civilians who work at nearby Naval Station Mayport.

DUVAL NORTH

ARLINGTON/FORT CAROLINE

Arlington/Fort Caroline is a well-known military-friendly residential and commercial area of Jacksonville that is bordered by the St. Johns River to the west and north, the Intracoastal Waterway to the east and Atlantic Boulevard to the south. Residential options in Arlington/Fort Caroline include single- and multi-family developments, condominiums, townhomes, waterfront properties and golf communities. The community is home to the Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve and the Fort Caroline National Memorial, as well as Jacksonville University.

NORTHSIDE/OCEANWAY

For newcomers looking to stay close to the conveniences of city life, the Northside/Oceanway area is ideally located. This part of Jacksonville is one of the larger sections of the city and consists of neighborhoods north of the downtown area and a large portion of undeveloped land above the St. Johns River. Residents of the Northside enjoy living in close proximity of the Jacksonville International Airport, the city's Amtrak station, the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, and River City Marketplace. Oceanway covers the northern section of Duval County, stretching from U.S. 1 to the Atlantic Ocean and from the Duval/Nassau county line to the St. Johns and Trout



Jacksonville Beach, photo by Brad Biringier

rivers. Once a rural area, Oceanway has grown significantly since the early 1980s. New housing developments, neighborhoods and apartment complexes are increasingly emerging in Oceanway, along with new schools and River City Marketplace with over 50 outlets. Neighboring New Berlin and Yellow Bluff are among the fastest growing areas in the city of Jacksonville and have lots of room for families. Also on the Northside, the neighborhood of Panama Park was the original site of East Florida's first steam-powered sawmill in 1828 and also the Cummer Lumber Mill that was the city's largest employer for some time. Residential growth in the area was triggered by the sale of 200 50-acre lots, sold by George W. Clark, Sr. in 1910 and continues today with single-family homes, apartment complexes and condos.

DUVAL SOUTH

INTRACOASTAL

For house hunters who believe that bigger is not always better, the relatively small Intracoastal community continues to see an increase in residential and commercial development over recent years. Bordered by the Intracoastal Waterway on the east and Hodges Boulevard on the west, the Intracoastal area features a multitude of apartments, condominiums, retirement communities and subdivisions with the right home for families, retirees and singles. Residents enjoy accessibility to the beaches and Southside areas as well as major roadways, such as John Turner Butler Boulevard (JTB), Beach Boulevard and Atlantic Boulevard. Known as the community between the



NORTHEAST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

Hello new neighbor! The Northeast Florida Association of Realtors welcomes you to Florida's beautiful First Coast. We are delighted that you have chosen to become a part of our slice of Florida. Whether you prefer a bustling city like Jacksonville, or the slower pace and small-town ambience of Palatka, you will find that the communities in Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, Putnam and St. Johns counties offer something for everyone.

Our area features a strong economy, including an increasing foreign business presence. Employment opportunities abound, with health care, finance, insurance and the military being among Northeast Florida's major industries. Multiple area colleges, universities and business schools ready residents to successfully compete in our growing work force.

Entertainment choices are plentiful and diverse. Museums, a planetarium, Broadway shows, and many fairs and festivals mean there is always something to do. Miles of ocean beaches, the Intracoastal Waterway, the Timucuan Preserve and the mighty St. Johns River that runs through many Northeast Florida communities offer fishing, boating, kayaking, swimming and more water activities. Our area is also a golf destination of choice, and offers numerous golf courses. Spectator sports are well represented, including an NFL football team.

Now that you have chosen to reside in Northeast Florida, one of the most important decisions you will make is the purchase or rental of a home. Be it in an oceanfront relaxation location, a country club setting, a quaint historical neighborhood, or a riverfront high-rise with the latest in technological advances, Northeast Florida has it all.

Members of the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors are expressly qualified to help you find the home and community that is perfect for you. Realtors work hard to make buying your dream home a success. Realtors possess the required market knowledge, are familiar with the numerous details involved in a home purchase, are trained to handle the extensive paperwork, and so much more. Trust a Realtor to do the legwork and take advantage of their professionalism, expertise and commitment. After all, buying your home should be an exciting and pleasant experience. Use a Realtor to ensure that it is.

Once again, welcome to the neighborhood ... and make yourself at home.

William "Glenn" East
Chief Executive Officer, Northeast Florida Association of Realtors

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city and the sea, Tamaya is a new home community in Jacksonville. Tamaya offers homes ranging from 1,800 to 4,000 square feet along with Tuscan, Mediterranean and Spanish architectural styles. This one-of-a-kind custom-built home community offers lush landscaping, walking paths, crystal lakes and more than 500,000 square feet of commercial and retail space. With top-rated schools and new shopping in the works, these lakefront and conservation home sites stunning options for buyers. For more information on Tamaya, please see page 41.

MANDARIN

Once referred to as a “tropical paradise” by author Harriet Beecher Stowe, Mandarin is easily recognizable for its ancient oak trees draped in Spanish moss, expansive parks and more water views than any other area in Jacksonville. In addition to being enriched with nature and history, Mandarin continues to expand and grow into the 21st century. The area is bordered by the St. Johns River to the west, Philips Highway to the east, Julington Creek to the south and Beauclerc/San Jose to the north. Officially named Mandarin in 1830 for the area’s major crop—Mandarin oranges—the community became part of Jacksonville in 1968. Today, Mandarin is a convenient location that offers residents a selection of family-friendly housing. Beauclerc and San Jose are two older neighborhoods that lie between the San Marco/Miramar area and Mandarin. Most of the homes along Beauclerc Road are a mixture of architectural styles such as brick rambler homes and two-story contemporaries, creating a lively landscape of original homes. San Jose is a prime residential area with the majority of homes built in the 1950s and 1960s, with the exception of some new developments of single-family homes and condominiums.

SAN MARCO/MIRAMAR

As one of the most recognizable neighborhoods in the Jacksonville area, San Marco/Miramar area makes the perfect home for families, art lovers and historic mansions along the waterfront. Located south of downtown Jacksonville’s Southbank, west of Philips Highway and east of the St. Johns River, San Marco/Miramar is a diverse community where potential residents have an array of housing choices including small bungalows, riverfront mansions and brick apartment complexes. The San Marco Preservation Society ensures that the community’s historic properties are restored to their

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NORTHEAST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS

original splendor. San Marco Square is the center of the neighborhood and offers boutique shopping, and eclectic dining and entertainment. The heart of San Marco is marked by Balis Park and three sculpted lions guarding the town square and is a very walkable neighborhood, allowing for a less rigid lifestyle that is not car-dependent.



Houses in the San Marco neighborhood, photos by Stephanie Marty



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SOUTHSIDE/BAYMEADOWS

For a lot of newcomers, settling into and purchasing a home right off the bat is not the ideal plan. Southside/Baymeadows might be the perfect place for you to call home. The large region south of Arlington, north of St. Johns County, east of U.S. 1 and west of the Intracoastal community is commonly referred to as Southside. Not only does the Southside offer the largest grouping of apartment communities in Jacksonville—many new and quite luxurious, it also offers a variety of residential options such as single-family

homes and gated communities designed to meet most any housing need. Recreation, entertainment and shopping are all easily accessible to Southside residents. Florida Coastal School of Law, the University of North Florida and two campuses of Florida State College at Jacksonville are all located here. An ever-expanding neighborhood of Southside is Baymeadows. This neighborhood consists of the area that surrounds Baymeadows Road and is rich in culture and a broad variety of eateries and shops. It is also home to several corporate office parks, retail centers and residential communities.



Downtown Skyline

DUVAL WEST

DOWNTOWN/RIVERFRONT

When convenience is at the top of the list for new home requirements, Downtown and the Riverfront area has it all. Over the past few years, revitalization efforts in downtown Jacksonville have reinforced the area as an entertainment, business and cultural center. Residents of this bright downtown area are within walking distance of tasty restaurants, exciting entertainment venues, nightclubs and bars. River taxis are available to transport residents and visitors back and forth between the Northbank and Southbank of the St. Johns River. A variety of residential options are available for those seeking an urban lifestyle including riverfront condominiums, lofts and townhomes. Many of the loft apartments are found in renovated buildings dating back to the early 1920s and give off an authentically rustic urban feel that is hard to duplicate.

ORTEGA (pronounced Or-Tee-Guh)

The historic neighborhood of Ortega lies just south of Riverside and north of Naval Air Station Jacksonville, between the St. Johns and Ortega rivers. Originally an island, the area became a peninsula after a land bridge was built on the island's southern end. With its ancient live oak trees, waterfront mansions and a series of lovely parks, the historic homes and riverfront mansions in Ortega are diverse in architectural style with many reflecting the Mediterranean and Tudor Revival styles of the past. Old Ortega is east of Highway 17, with a section of the area listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Ortega Forest, a more recently developed area, is west of Highway 17 and features foliage and trees and a sense of community for newcomers looking to settle in the region.

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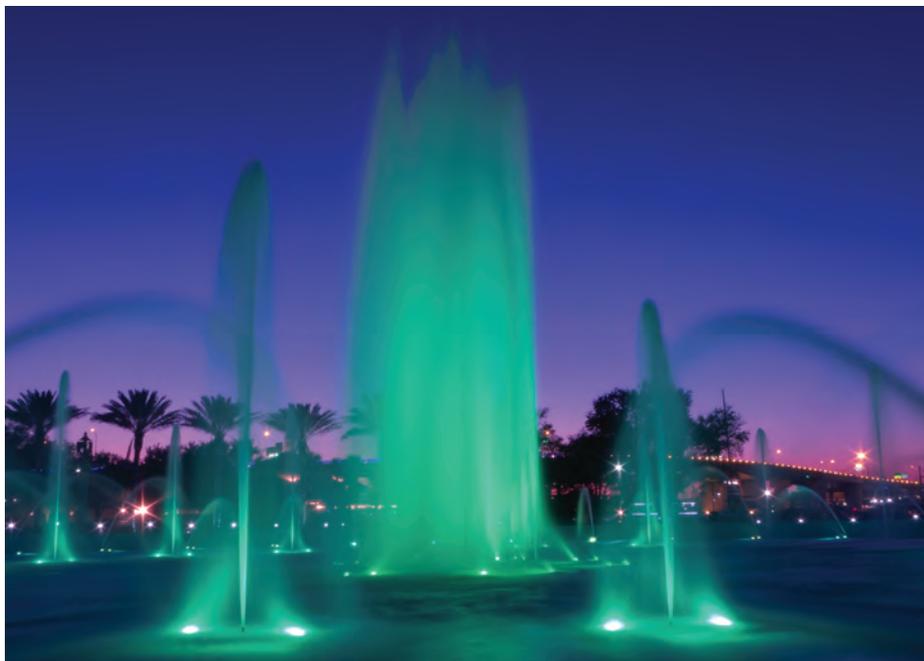
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The historic Riverside-Avondale area was named one of the 10 greatest neighborhoods in the United States in 2010.



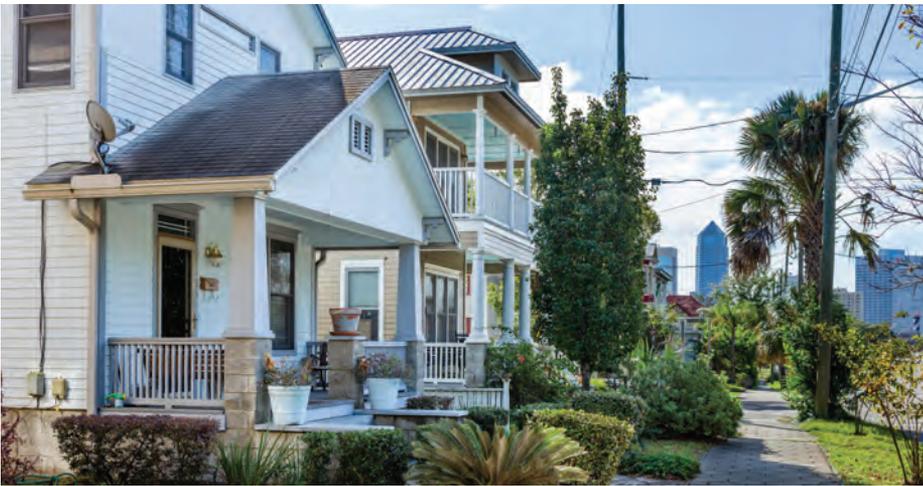
Friendship Fountain, photo courtesy of City of Jacksonville



San Marco Lions, photo by Brad Biringier



Brooklyn Riverside, photo by Stephanie Marty



Historic Springfield, photo courtesy of DailyFinance.com



Prairie-style quadplex apartment, photo courtesy of Riverside Avondale Preservation

RIVERSIDE/AVONDALE

Mixing Old World charm with modern conveniences, the Riverside/Avondale neighborhoods are filled with beautiful homes that each tell their own history. This Spanish-style, architecture-filled neighborhood is one of the largest Historic Districts in the Southeast. Riverside/Avondale is a charming urban neighborhood that showcases oak tree-lined streets and several parks showcasing the area's natural beauty. The American Planning Association, a community development organization, has called this area Jacksonville's hidden gem with its two historic districts listed on the National Register of Historic Places and a designated City of Jacksonville Historic District. A number of homes have been restored to keep the diverse architecture and history alive. This community also features brick quadruplexes and duplexes, as well as other multi-unit buildings, lending to its upscale feel. The Brooklyn Riverside is located in the heart of vibrant Jacksonville and boasts newly renovated luxury apartments that are defined by their spacious floor plans, luxurious amenities and convenient location. New residents take pleasure in exceptional interior features, unmatched amenity spaces and convenient access to all things in the Riverside neighborhood of Jacksonville. Brooklyn Riverside also offers parks, trails, local restaurants and retail shopping. Activities, entertainment and more make this apartment community the perfect home for many lifestyles.

SPRINGFIELD

Springfield is a diverse neighborhood that has experienced marked revitalization in recent years that has led to the city acting as a window into both the past and the present of the River City. Historic Springfield features many renovated prairie-style and Queen Anne homes, and the neighborhood's newer homes have the same popular, architectural-style features to be enjoyed for years to come.

Springfield was founded in 1869 as Jacksonville's first subdivision. The area is bordered to the west by Boulevard Street, to the east and north by railroad tracks and to the south by Hogan's Creek. Today, the area is filled with restored mansions, delicious restaurants, local shops and some of the city's oldest parks with majestic oaks providing shade.

WESTSIDE

For those searching for a quieter pace, the Westside of Duval County is a diverse area of smaller communities, which include the small, incorporated town of Baldwin; the semi-rural Marietta-Whitehouse area; and the neighborhoods of Normandy and Maxville. Because of its convenient location, many Westside residents are military personnel stationed at NAS Jacksonville, as well as employees at the expansive Cecil Commerce Center. Benefits that potential residents of the Westside will find include affordable housing and inexpensive property that complement that slower-paced lifestyle. For nature lovers, residents can enjoy the Westside's heavily wooded areas, which allow for hunting and other outdoor activities.

Nassau County



Area:
649 square miles



Estimated Population:
82,721 (2018)

Located in the northeastern corner of Florida, Nassau County is a unique combination of picturesque countryside and gorgeous beaches. With a strong military presence, master planned communities and a barrier island set in the Sea Island chain, Nassau County is a Florida treasure.

AMELIA ISLAND/FERNANDINA BEACH

Florida's northernmost barrier island and the pride of Nassau County, Amelia Island is located about 30 minutes north of downtown Jacksonville and just south of Cumberland Island, Georgia. This beautiful 13.5-mile island is as rich in history as it is in beautiful natural backdrops with eight national flags having flown over this stretch of land.

As the birthplace of the modern shrimping industry, Fernandina Beach continues to see shrimp boats departing the docks on a daily basis. Further embracing the legacy and history of the area is the 50-block historic seaside village of Fernandina Beach with classic Victorian architecture and the oldest saloon in Florida that calls Centre Street home.

Amelia Island is made up of many sought-after neighborhoods and communities, each with their own beauty and highlights. For nature lovers who appreciate luxury, Marsh Creek, Beach Walker and Beach Walker Villas offer a variety of homes, home sites and beach villas. Heron Oaks is another neighborhood, nestled among centuries-old live oaks in a quiet, secluded woodland overlooking area lakes. Golfers will have no trouble finding the views they crave at Lagoon Villas, located a short walk to the beach, the Beach Club and the Executive Conference Center. Spyglass Village, a community of spacious oceanfront villas, is located close to the new Ocean Clubhouse and has breathtaking views of the dunes and the ocean with convenient underground parking. For the more socially active lifestyle, Amelia Park is centrally located on Amelia Island and is near the beach, shopping, dining and downtown Fernandina Beach. With the convenience and beauty of the area, as well as the variety of home types available, Amelia Park is considered one of the most desirable locations to live. Ship Watch Villas, overlooking the fourth hole of the Ocean Links championship golf course, consists of two seven-story oceanfront buildings of luxurious condominiums. Additionally, beautiful, single-family homes are abundant in Amelia Island. North Hampton, located off Highway A1A on Amelia Concourse, boasts luxurious homes with amenities including a golf course, community pool, boat ramp, the Lofton Creek Outpost and much more.

In the words of Fernandina Beach Mayor Johnny Miller, "Fernandina Beach is a great community: warm neighbors, diverse restaurants, busy shops, sandy beaches and majestic trees. Every day begins with a glorious sunrise from the Atlantic Ocean and ends with a radiant sunset over the Amelia River. Welcome to the Island!"



Fairbanks House, Fernandina Beach, Wikimedia by Elyabe



Amelia Island

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WILDLIGHT

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Wildlight houses, photo courtesy of Wildlight

BRYCEVILLE

For newcomers searching for the serenity of country living with easy access to downtown, arts and culture, look no further than this unincorporated country oasis on the northern tip of Florida. Cary State Forest, one of the original Florida State Forests, is the epicenter of recreation in Bryceville. This vast woodland provides residents and visitors a variety of recreational activities including hiking, camping and horseback riding.

Bryceville has a small-town community feel with neighbors and businesses that make it a wonderful place to call home.

CALLAHAN

When rural living is the stuff your dreams are made of, look no further than this southwestern corner of Nassau County. Most residents are commuters that work in surrounding areas, such as Jacksonville. Potential residents will find single-family homes, large properties, duplexes and several subdivisions from which to choose. Many residents of Callahan spend their leisure time participating in various outdoor activities. For those who enjoy golfing, Deerfield Lakes Golf Club is a public, 18-hole course located within the town.

HILLIARD

With deep roots in agriculture, Hilliard is a small town that continues to have an active farming community today. Located in the northwestern section of Nassau County, the area was introduced to farming in 1909 when North Florida Fruit and Truck Farms began selling farmland. For newcomers to the region, residential options include single-family homes and apartments. Hilliard residents are very involved in their community, taking part in many of the local events. The town has numerous parks and recreational sites and is also home to the Jacksonville Air Route Traffic Control Center, which coordinates most commercial and civilian air traffic in the southeastern region.

WILDLIGHT

A surprising treasure nestled in Florida's low country, Wildlight is more than a development; it is an entire new community in the midst of what seems to be a natural playground. With distinctive, "come on in" style architecture with front porch living and a country flavor that can only be found in low country. Homes built to suit, new schools, shopping, dining and everything in between can be found in this new Florida gem. Wildlight is proud to move at a leisurely pace, giving time to enjoy the community, nature, family and friends through play-inspired living. "We've reimagined how we live and work so that play is in everything we do and part of every day," said Wildlight.

YULEE (Yoo-Lee)

As the largest unincorporated area of Nassau County, Yulee consists primarily of residential communities. The ever-growing community is west of Amelia Island and the Intracoastal Waterway with an abundance of housing options that include waterfront properties, planned communities, condominiums and apartments. Additionally, small business and service sectors are emerging throughout the area, with a major commercial presence along SR A1A. When it's time to relax, residents can enjoy hunting, fishing, golfing or just the peace and quiet of nature. Also located in Yulee is the conservation center, White Oak, which contains more than 7,400 acres of hardwood hammocks, pine forest and tidal wetlands.

Callahan, Wikimedia by Excel23



St. Johns County



Area:
822 square miles



Estimated Population:
243,812 (2018)

Rated the “healthiest county in Florida,” St. Johns County is also home to some of the best schools in the state. The county has experienced massive growth in recent years and is poised to continue this positive forward trend in the years to come.

DURBIN CROSSING

Durbin Crossing, a new community in St. Johns County, has been quickly expanding over the past year and Phase I is nearly complete. The next three phases will have a total of 2.4 million square feet of retail space, 2.8 million square feet of office space, 999 multi-family residential units, 350 hotel rooms, a Bass Pro Shop and a movie theatre with 12 screens.

HASTINGS

Dubbed the “Potato Capital of Florida,” Hastings—located just southwest of St. Augustine—is home to many commuters who work in St. Augustine, Jacksonville and Palatka while enjoying living in a rural community that has retained its rich agricultural history. For traveling, SR 207 is the main highway and connects Hastings with St. Augustine and Palatka. Since the expansion of SR 207, the town has seen an emergence of new development and offers farmsteads, single-family homes and subdivisions.

JULINGTON CREEK

Another of Northeast Florida’s gems, Julington Creek lies in the northwestern part of St. Johns County and encompasses 4,120 acres with more than 1,200 acres of nature preserves. Julington Creek offers a variety of residential options including townhouses, single-family homes, condominiums and luxury estates and is an easy drive to pretty much anywhere on the First Coast. For reference, Julington Creek is halfway between the historic city of St. Augustine and the excitement of downtown Jacksonville. Residents of this vibrant neighborhood enjoy an abundance of recreational amenities, including the Julington Creek Golf Club, an 18-hole golf course that meanders through wooded areas and around neighborhoods, more than 100 lakes and seven miles of bike and jogging trails.



St. Augustine



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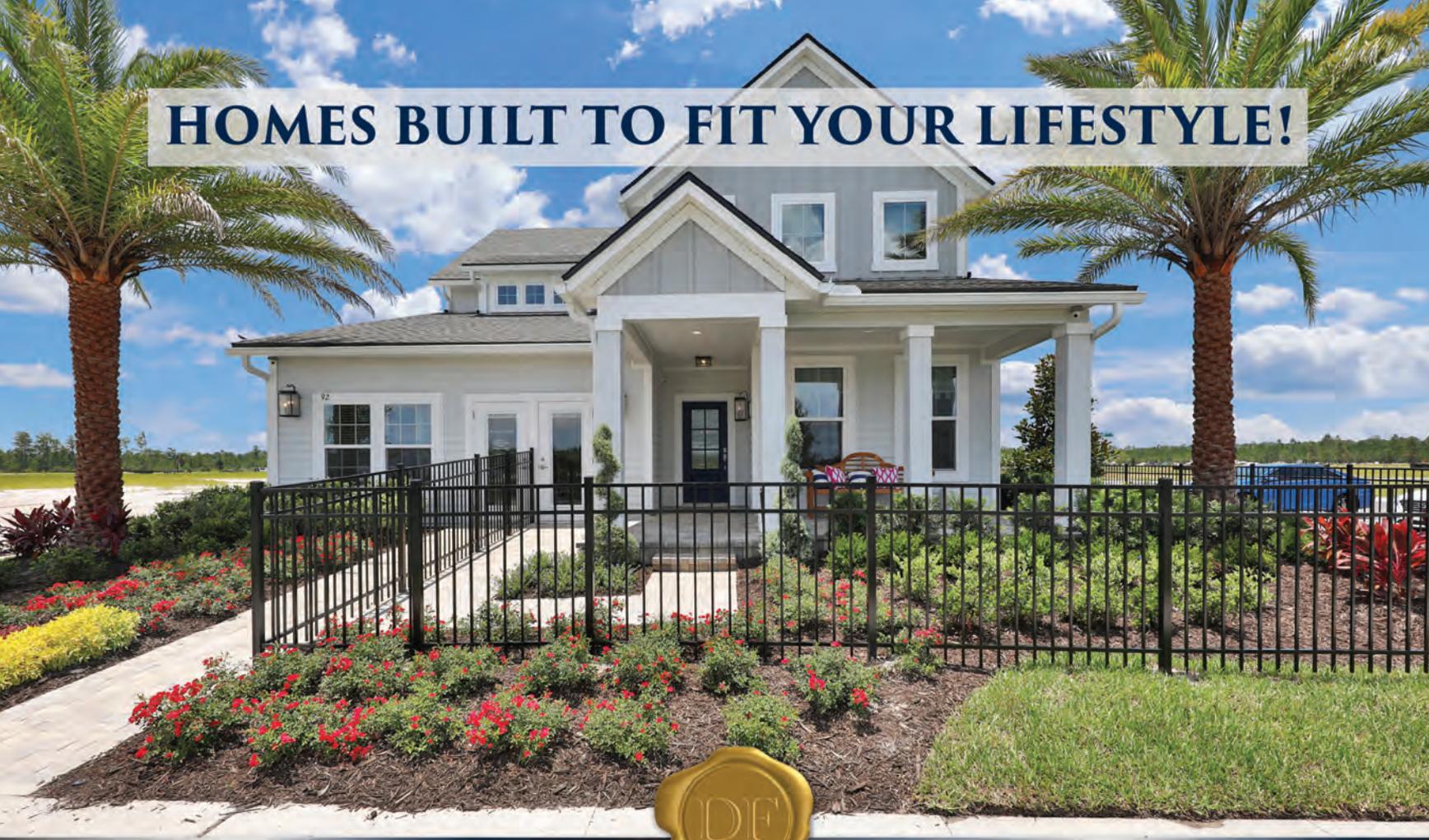
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NOCATEE

See an in-depth description of the Nocatee communities on page 38.

PONTE VEDRA BEACH

Named as one of *Coastal Living* magazine's "20 Best Places to Live on the Coast in 2018," Ponte Vedra Beach is "an Old Florida resort town with New Florida amenities." Located in the northeast corner of St. Johns County, Ponte Vedra Beach lies between the Atlantic Ocean and the Intracoastal Waterway. This seaside community offers a mix of housing such as resort living, oceanfront estates, exclusive neighborhoods, subdivisions and apartment complexes. Ponte Vedra Beach has a thriving commercial area with retail centers, upscale restaurants and office buildings. For the golf enthusiast, the community is home to some of the best golf courses around, including the famous TPC Sawgrass Stadium Course where THE PLAYERS Championship takes place. Ponte Vedra Beach is the headquarters of the PGA TOUR, the Champions Tour and the Association of Tennis Professionals.

ST. AUGUSTINE

St. Augustine was chosen as the overall best city in Florida to live in by *Money* magazine for 2018. One of the most positive aspects of St. Augustine is its walkability—which is particularly important considering the scarcity of parking in some places. *Money* said St. Augustine has an "average commute time of 18 minutes, with more than 14 percent of residents walking or biking to work regularly." As the nation's oldest city, St. Augustine offers a broad range of housing options that are steeped in history yet up-to-date with amenities. Single-family homes, oceanfront estates and condominiums, renovated homes near the historic section and planned communities make up this historical residential area. Residents of St. Augustine are able to enjoy history and nature simultaneously. The historic downtown area is a popular tourist destination because of its Spanish Colonial architecture, 19th century mansions and grand hotels (which now house a museum and private college), the Castillo de San Marcos and a variety of attractions and entertainment.

ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH

Breathtaking ocean views, concerts and events throughout the year, and salt water breezes all work together to make St. Augustine Beach an amazing place to call home. Also located near city limits is the legendary St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park. Recreational activities include fishing at the St. Johns County Ocean Pier and bird watching on the Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail at Anastasia State Park, located just north of the city.

SWITZERLAND/FRUIT COVE

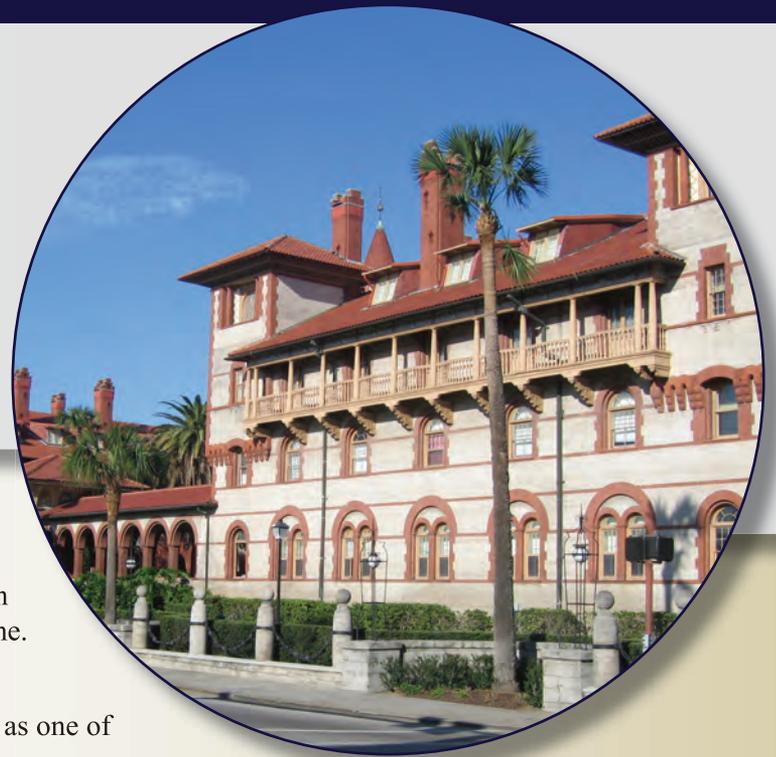
Communities that seem to have been created with families in mind make up Switzerland and Fruit Cove. The former is located just east of the St. Johns River and south of Mandarin with the latter lying south of Fruit Cove along the eastern bank of the St. Johns River. Recreational activities are abundant in this area with multiple parks and the William Bartram Scenic and Historic Highway's (SR 13) interconnected trail system – families will have no trouble finding ways to enjoy the great outdoors. These pastoral communities are great for anyone who wishes to enjoy the benefits of a country setting without sacrificing the convenience of being near the urban amenities of Jacksonville and St. Augustine.

THE NEIGHBORHOODS OF WORLD GOLF VILLAGE

Made up of multiple, ideally located communities, The Neighborhoods of World Golf Village are positioned between Jacksonville and St. Augustine, allowing easy access to both cities with all the benefits of living in one of these neighborhoods. This unique, luxurious residential community offers several different neighborhoods with custom estates, condominiums and townhomes. Residents enjoy the privacy of their intimate neighborhoods within a world-class vacation destination. The World Golf Village includes the World Golf Hall of Fame, an IMAX theater, restaurants and shops. In addition, more than 44 percent of the community has been left in its natural state as wildlife and environmental preserves, which allows residents to revel in the area's natural splendor.



Ponte Vedra Beach



The St. Augustine & St. Johns County Board of REALTORS® and Multiple Listing Service are happy to welcome you to beautiful St. Augustine and St. Johns County. You will soon discover why new residents have chosen this city as their new home.

St. Augustine offers many benefits and opportunities:

- *National Geographic Traveler Magazine* rated St. Augustine as one of the top 20 must see places in the world for 2013
- Recognized by FlipKey.com as one of the Best Travel Destinations of 2013
- In 2012, *CNN Money Magazine* listed St. Augustine as No. 9 out of 25 Best Places to Retire
- In 2012, *MarketWatch* listed St. Augustine as one of the 10 Best Places to Retire in the U.S.
- In 2010, *Smart Money* listed St. Augustine as one of nine Best New Places to Retire
- Active Economic Development by both the Chamber of Commerce and the St. Johns County government
- Dynamic business opportunities
- St. Johns County School District is recognized as the top school district in the state
- Home of the World Golf Hall of Fame and Museum
- Small town community with large town shopping and dining
- Fantastic weather
- Miles and miles of spectacular beaches
- World class golf, restaurants, museums and tourist attractions
- Flagler Hospital
- Flagler College
- Castillo De San Marcos National Monument (U.S. National Park)
- Fort Matanzas National Monument
- Marineland

Not only is St. Johns County a great place to visit, but it's the perfect place to live. You and your family can't go wrong with a home in St. Johns County.

Let our members, who are local experts, be your guide through the process of buying and selling real estate in the Nation's Oldest City and St. Johns County.

If you are thinking about buying or selling a home or business, please contact one of our Realtors® to help make your effort more successful. Visit our website www.stjohnsrealtors.com to select the Realtor® of your choice.

Respectfully,

Victor J. Raymos, RCE, ABR, CRS, AE/CEO

St. Augustine & St. Johns County Board of REALTORS® and Multiple Listing Service





ST. AUGUSTINE & ST. JOHNS COUNTY
BOARD OF REALTORS®
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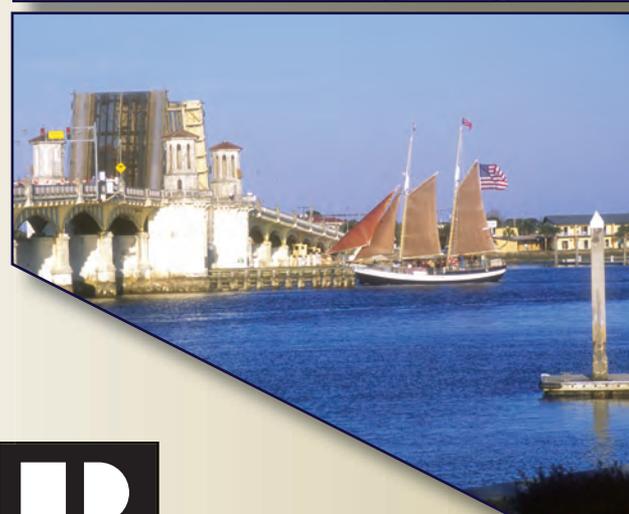
St. Johns County is home to the Nation's Oldest City, St. Augustine. *National Geographic Traveler Magazine* rated St. Augustine as one of the top 20 must see places in the world. The Society of American Travel Writers recently named St. Augustine as number four on the Top 10 Holiday Lights Sites.

Not only is St. Johns County a great place to visit, but it's the perfect place to live. With St. Johns County School District recognized as the top school district in the state of Florida and *CNN Money* naming the area "one of the best places to retire," you and your family can't go wrong with a home in St. Johns County.

Let our members, who are local experts, be your guide through the process of buying and selling real estate in the Nation's Oldest City and St. Johns County.

If you are thinking about buying or selling a home or business, please contact a Realtor® to help make your effort more successful.

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St. Augustine



St. Augustine is home to the narrowest street in the country. At just seven feet wide, Treasury Street connects the waterfront Bay Street to the Royal Spanish Treasury.



VILANO BEACH

A short drive northeast of St. Augustine is Vilano Beach, a pleasant seaside community that lies between the Atlantic Ocean and the Tolomato River. Vilano Beach is primarily a residential community with a number of small businesses. The Vilano Beach Fishing Pier is great for those who love to fish, and Surfside Park provides beach access, picnic shelters, restrooms and outdoor showers—everything the family needs for a day of fun in the sun.



Vilano Beach



Ponte Vedra Inn and Spa

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- › And so much more!

For a Better Us.



LEARN MORE AT FCYMCA.org

YMCA: Building a Healthy Mind, Body & Spirit

Welcome to the First Coast! We know you're going to love it here. While this is an exciting time for you and your family, settling into someplace new can be a challenge. The YMCA, affectionately termed "the Y," has called the First Coast home for more than 110 years. Since we first opened our doors in 1908, we have been committed to our cause of strengthening this community and advancing our mission of helping every neighbor achieve a balance of spirit, mind and body.

The Y is a place that offers health, hope and opportunity for all where people build relationships that further their sense of belonging and purpose.

- Parents find a safe, nurturing environment for their children to stay active, be engaged and learn positive values.
- Families come together to have fun and spend quality time with each other.
- Children and teens discover new skills and develop self-confidence while feeling accepted and supported.
- Adults connect with friends, pursue interests and learn how to live healthier.

Here on the First Coast, you'll find a Y near you with locations in Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns counties. We offer a variety of resources to promote your total wellness through group and personal training, nutrition services, weight loss and chronic disease prevention programs, family exercise classes, childcare while parents work out, sports and recreation leagues, and social activities. In addition, the Y supports the unique youth development journey of children and teens through programs like before- and after-school childcare, summer camp, swim lessons and swim team, youth sports, college prep, and leadership opportunities.

The Y is also committed to inspiring a spirit of service by uniting people from all walks of life to participate in and work for positive social change. It is only through the support of thousands of volunteers and donors that we are able to serve more people and transform more lives to deliver on our cause to strengthen community.

To learn more about how to get involved with the Y, give us a call at 904.265.1775, visit FCYMCA.org or stop by a Y near you to take a tour and pick up your complimentary Welcome to the Neighborhood gift. We'd love to get to know you!



The Communities of Nocatee

For newcomers looking for luxury combined with convenience, the master-planned communities of Nocatee offer something for everyone. Each of the village-like neighborhoods has its own personality, offering a variety of beautiful homes—single-family homes, luxury estate homes and townhouses—all built by some of Florida’s finest home builders.



Twenty Mile Village

Nocatee’s historic Twenty Mile community of homes is designed around Twenty Mile Park, which boasts a swimming pool, Waggin’ Tails Dog Park, nature trails and more. Twenty Mile is one of Nocatee’s most distinctive communities, with large oak trees, split-rail fencing and a rustic, old-Florida style. Twenty Mile includes The Outlook at Twenty Mile which offers a peaceful neighborhood with spacious lots; The Ranch at Twenty Mile with homes starting in the high \$500s from David Weekley and Dostie Homes; The Vista at Twenty Mile, a gated neighborhood of 44 homes featuring Spanish and Mission-style elevations built exclusively by The Pineapple Corporation; and The Hammock at Twenty Mile, a collection of nine private custom homes by local home-builder of the HGTV Smart Home, Glenn Layton Homes. The Junction at Twenty Mile is one of Nocatee’s newest neighborhoods located in the historic Twenty Mile area, with homes built by David Weekley and Dostie Homes. Floor plans range from 2,450 square feet to 3,500 square feet and are priced starting in the high \$400s. All homes are located in St. Johns County just west of the Intracoastal Waterway. One of the newest neighborhoods in Twenty Mile, The Colony at Twenty Mile features one- and two-story single-family homes ranging from 2,450 to 3,800 square feet of living space. David Weekley Homes,

Providence Homes and ICI Homes will offer new homes starting in the high \$300s. Another new neighborhood, The Settlement at Twenty Mile is a secured access neighborhood features one- and two-story single-family homes ranging from 2,100 to 2,900 square feet of living space. ICI Homes and Toll Brothers will offer new homes starting in the mid \$300s.

Starling at Nocatee

Ideally located across from Nocatee’s popular Splash Water Park, Starling at Nocatee is convenient to Nocatee’s Town Center and outstanding amenities. Residents can enjoy tranquil surroundings, picturesque landscapes and resort-style services. Offering Concierge Living, Assisted Living, and Memory Care, this dynamic community is the perfect place to pursue your passions and engage in a vibrant lifestyle. Starling at Nocatee offers three lifestyle options, each providing the appropriate care and services to match each resident’s capabilities and needs.

Daniel Park at Town Center

Daniel Park at Town Center offers buyers more than a house, they are selling homes inside the heart of Nocatee. With all Nocatee amenities within walking distance, Daniel Park is the perfect place to call home. Priced from the high \$200s, Daniel Park at Town Center features homes exclusively by David Weekley Homes ranging from 1,477 to 3,000 square feet.

Siena at Town Center

Siena at Town Center features single-family homes with a Mediterranean flair and tile roofs by ICI Homes. Joining Enclave, Addison Park and Lakeside in Nocatee’s Town Center, Siena is adding even more excitement and variety to these centrally located Town Center neighborhoods. All homes have Mediterranean or Tuscan-style elevations and start in the mid \$200s. There is a variety of new home designs that range from 1,474 to 3,082 square feet with unique features, like rear alley entry garages. Residents are just a short walk from Town Center retailers and all of Nocatee’s many recreational amenities.

Liberty Cove at Crosswater

From picturesque tree-lined streets to quaint white fences, large front porches and American flags flying proudly, Liberty Cove at Crosswater is a new neighborhood that will harken back to old-town America. David Weekley Homes, ICI Homes and Providence Homes will each offer quaint and charming floorplans throughout the 138 homesite community. Homes in Liberty Cove will range in size from 1,300 square feet to more than 2,300 square feet, and will be starting in the high \$200s. All homes will be located in St. Johns County, south of Nocatee Splash Waterpark and the coming-soon Nocatee Spray Park.



Del Webb Ponte Vedra

For anyone age 55 and better who has ever longed to live near the ocean, Del Webb proudly presents Del Webb Ponte Vedra at Nocatee. Located in the prestigious Ponte Vedra area between Jacksonville and St. Augustine, this is Florida at its best with active-adult living at its finest. Del Webb Ponte Vedra provides a gated community within the award-winning Nocatee master plan, conveniently located just minutes off the ocean but also near dining, shopping and recreation. Adjoining Del Webb Ponte Vedra is the Nocatee preserve, 2,400 wildly beautiful acres along the Intracoastal Waterway offering a variety of outdoor sites and activities. Del Webb Ponte Vedra encompasses over 1,014 coastal Florida acres. Gated and private, the community’s master plan envisions approximately 1,988 residences centered on the vast and vibrant array of amenities and recreational venues that are the hallmarks of the renowned Del Webb active adult lifestyle. Choose from a variety of home designs, ranging from 1,289 to 3,697 square feet.

Coastal Oaks

At Coastal Oaks, sweeping oak trees and peaceful nature preserves provide an exceptional setting for luxurious single-family estate homes, neo-traditional homes and estate homes. With a beautiful clubhouse and recreation complex at its heart, adults and children alike will find Coastal Oaks by Toll Brothers to be the kind of family neighborhood they've always dreamed of. "We're doing more than building luxury homes – we're creating a neighborhood that offers a unique lifestyle and fun activities for the entire family to enjoy," said Toll Brothers North Florida Division President Greg Netro. "At Coastal Oaks at Nocatee, it's easy for residents to meet new people and develop friendships with their neighbors." Netro added, "The community's lifestyle revolves around world-class amenities, including a private, 6,500-square-foot clubhouse with resort-style swimming pools, catering kitchen, and fully equipped fitness center. Coastal Oaks also features an 880-foot boardwalk that winds through a wooded ecosystem and has become an oasis for residents."

Tidewater at Nocatee

A new addition to the master planned community of Nocatee, Tidewater at Nocatee in Ponte Vedra offers three-story condominiums with two-car garages, a private amenity center, access to Nocatee Community Park and close proximity to Nocatee Town Center. These beautiful condominiums started selling at the end of 2017 from the low \$300s. Model homes opened mid-2018.



Rip Tide Slide, photo courtesy of Weichert Realty

Heritage Trace at Crosswater

Heritage Trace at Crosswater is a beautiful new quintessential neighborhood in the heart of Nocatee. This thoughtfully designed community features 188 homesites surrounded by preservation and breathtaking lake views. CalAtlantic Homes, David Weekley Homes, ICI Homes, Providence Homes and Riverside Homes each will offer unique and innovative floorplans, incorporating the Americana and nostalgic "Old Towne" theme. Homes in Heritage Trace will range in size from 1,900 square feet to more than 3,200 square feet, and will be starting in the low \$300s.

Timberland Ridge at Nocatee

Timberland Ridge will appeal to future homeowners seeking a more suburban neighborhood surrounded by beautiful preservation and water. The neighborhood's single-family homes by David Weekley Homes, ICI Homes and Providence Homes will offer new homes starting in the low \$300s. Home builders are offering one- and two-story single-family homes ranging from approximately 1,800 to 3,200 square feet of living space. Timberland Ridge is located in Duval County and within biking distance of Twenty Mile Park and Cypress Park.



Freedom Landing at Crosswater

Tucked away in breathtaking preservation, Freedom Landing at Crosswater is another new Nocatee neighborhood that boasts a stunning location. This St. Johns County community features 106 homesites, many backing up to preserve or lake. CalAtlantic Homes, David Weekley Homes, ICI Homes, Providence Homes and Riverside Homes each will offer unique and innovative floorplans, incorporating an Americana and nostalgic theme. Homes in Freedom Landing will range in size from 1,900 square feet to more than 3,200 square feet, and will be starting in the low \$300s.

Artisan Lakes

This 55 and better low-maintenance community is gated with its own private amenities which include: clubhouse, fitness center, demonstration kitchen, zero entry pool with infinity edge, two pickleball courts, two bocce ball courts, event lawn, putting green, swing arbor and pocket parks throughout. Artisan Lakes is a picturesque community made up of 196 homesites with a majority backing up to preserve, water or parks. Homeowners may select from 10 new single-story plans that were designed exclusively for Artisan Lakes in Nocatee. These homes come equipped with an oversized two-car garage and range from two to five bedrooms and 1,755 to 2,839 square feet. For those looking for even more space, an optional second floor can be added to any home design to allow for up to 1,246 additional square feet for a grand total of 4,085 square feet. With prices from the high \$200s, these homes appeal to a wide range of home buyers.

The Reserve at Nocatee

Coming soon to Nocatee, The Reserve at Nocatee Apartments will offer first-class one-, two-, and three-bedroom layouts with luxury amenities designed to enhance your life. Each kitchen will feature granite counter-tops, stainless steel appliances, modern 42-inch cabinetry and USB ports in the kitchen island for convenience. The community will have a clubhouse with state-of-the-art fitness facilities, a beach entry pool with a summer kitchen, a dog park with a dog wash, and a bike care facility.



Tamaya: Between the City and the Sea

Nestled between the City and the Sea, Tamaya is an ICI Homes master-planned community in the heart of Jacksonville that is all about location, location, location.

Centrally located in Jacksonville, *Forbes* magazine's No. 2 city that people most want to move to, Tamaya offers everything newcomers and established residents alike most want and need in a neighborhood. Being within a few minutes' drive to job sites, beaches, great schools, shopping and entertainment is only the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the convenience of making your home in Tamaya. All residents of this breathtaking community also have access to the many luxurious amenities including a 10,000-square-foot clubhouse that encompasses two pools and a cabana, an outdoor recreation area with tennis courts and an event lawn large enough for a multitude of activities. A recent addition includes a \$12 million cigar club that brings more luxury and relaxation to the desirable community. Additionally, the interior—professionally designed by some of the most respected designers in the

country—contains meeting and event space as well as a state-of-the-art 5,000-square-foot fitness room. "The amenity center is the physical and recreational centerpiece of this remarkable community," said David Haas, chief development officer at ICI Homes of Tamaya.

Currently, close to 300 families call Tamaya home, with more families flocking to take advantage of the custom homes built to suit any budget. While Bella Vista Phase I is closed and has no more homes available, Bella Vista Phase II is underway with six model homes from Florida's Custom Home Builder open daily. Boasting Spanish, Mediterranean and Tuscan designs, Tamaya homes offer the attention to detail and luxurious amenities Florida families are looking for in a community.

ICI Homes in Tamaya has been breaking standards and boundaries since their inception. Gone are the "rec room" stereotypes, and in their place, is a vast great room filled with light anchored by sculpted wooden ceiling beams and plush seating, beautiful furnishings and light-magnifying windows. A cabana

surrounds the competition-style pool with lap lanes and the free-form pool glistening in Florida's sunshine, with comfortable lounge chairs to host summertime get-togethers and parties. With a grand salon, pavilion, pools, a cigar bar and events going on almost every day, the community has added a second full-time lifestyle coordinator to organize the luxury lifestyle available at Tamaya.

This one-of-a-kind, custom-built home community is continuously growing and offers lush landscaping, walking paths, crystal lakes, a grand entrance and more than 500,000 square feet of commercial and retail space. Whether it's being six miles from the beach, five miles to the University of North Florida or six miles from the St. Johns Town Center shopping enclave, location is without a doubt a top reason for choosing Tamaya as your new home. ICI Homes, however, did not stop there. Their custom homes built at almost any budget, incomparable amenities and a sense of community makes Tamaya a Jacksonville gem that all newcomers simply must discover. Tamaya: a slice of paradise between the City and the Sea.

Apartment Living

With the continuous job growth in the Jacksonville area, the First Coast has seen an increase in apartment complexes and a decrease in vacancy rates. People coming from all over the world cannot get enough of the First Coast and it shows in the residential rental market. Renting apartments allows new residents to take a moment and get to know the vast area before committing to owning a home and, with multiple universities and colleges in the area, it gives future young adults a chance to live on their own off-campus and out of their parents' homes.

Since June 2017, 1,500 new construction units have been commissioned to keep up with the demand for apartment complexes. According to an early-2018 study conducted by Colliers International Group Inc., a global real estate service, there are over 73,000 existing multifamily units in Northeast Florida, 95.7 percent of which are filled. As with most things in life, the popularity of our area has brought on a 4.4 percent price increase for rental properties in the past year. According to *Forbes*, the median rent is \$1,345 and while the price may seem daunting, this is a vast difference from the higher prices found in other major cities in the country.



Benefits of Apartment Living

Everyone talks about the benefits of owning your own home, but often neglect the wonderful perks that come with renting apartments. Below are just some of the reasons many First Coast residents prefer renting to owning.

When it comes to apartments, residents are less likely to run into unsuspecting problems that can become costly, such as new A/C units, hurricane damage, etc. Most of the time when a problem does occur within the apartment, maintenance teams are required to take care of it.

Since the First Coast is known for their lush flora, it can become very pricy to maintain lawns and the plethora of exceptionally tall palm trees that appear everywhere. However, landscaping is a problem of the past for renters, giving them extra hours on the weekend to explore the beaches, malls or museums instead of having to mow lawns or trim their trees.

Most apartment complexes also come with a bunch of amenities, including gyms and pools, appliances, dog parks and playgrounds for the children. Membership gyms come with costly fees and often require a drive. For those who are

impulse athletes, having the gym facilities within walking distance help make it more likely that people will work out. Appliances such as washer and dryers, refrigerators and stoves are expensive. However, most apartment complexes come with their own large appliances, making that a smaller number of big purchases you have to make immediately after moving to a new city. When it comes to owning your own home, there's a chance a park or playground may not be within walking distance, making it more of a hassle to visit and spend outdoor time with loved ones.

The community that you become a part of just by living in an apartment is another major perk. It can be difficult making friends, but with apartments, potential friends are just down the hall. With such close proximity to neighbors, apartment residents can also feel more at ease knowing someone is just a few steps down a hallway. Many complexes also host monthly events to boost that sense of community.



Uptown at St. Johns, photo courtesy of Uptown



Downtown Jacksonville, photo by Stephanie Marty



Spyglass pool, photo courtesy of Spyglass

Picking the Right Neighborhood

Within the five counties of the First Coast there's no shortage of neighborhoods, meaning choosing where to live can seem a daunting task. Factors such as schools, work commutes, ocean views, dining and shopping can have a major influence on this decision. Luckily, our relocation guide provides well-researched information so you can choose the best neighborhood for your needs as stress-free as possible. For a better look at our beloved neighborhoods, head to page 14.

What Do You Need?

Beyond photo identification and proof of residency, there are a few things that are necessary for renters to have. Be sure to have these prepared when looking into rentals.

In order to rent, many complexes require renter's insurance, which in turn protects your property in the event of flooding, fires and hurricanes. There are a ton of companies that offer renter's insurance at low costs that are worth the peace of mind.

Proof of employment is another requirement. W-2s or the last few paystubs generally cover this prerequisite, but you should confer with the leasing office to see which one they prefer. Most of the time, it's a good idea keep a list of past addresses with landlord contact information on hand since many places require references for possible residents.

It is also important to remember that moving into an apartment comes with a few upfront fees, including administration, application, deposits, etc. For newcomers with pets, there may also be required deposits that can change depending on the type of pets. Some apartments also offer discounts for employees of certain companies and college students. These can lower the cost of deposits and, in some cases, eliminate them completely. Look online or ask the staff if these apply to you and your family.

Hopefully, the above information has helped you make the choice that's right for you, whether it's a house or apartment. Stress less and enjoy all the First Coast has to offer!

“According to an early-2018 study conducted by Colliers International Group Inc., a global real estate service, there are over 73,000 existing multifamily units in Northeast Florida, 95.7 percent of which are filled.”



Home near San Marco

Local Housing Market Trends

By Mindy K. Urueta

With an average of 221 days of sunshine, a booming job market and lower-than-average housing prices, it's easy to see why the First Coast is a great choice for relocating. The big question for many is whether it is better to rent or to own a home in today's housing market. To make this decision, it helps to know the current trends, interest rates and projections for the future of the market. Fortunately for Northeast Florida, there isn't a wrong decision to make, it's just a matter of finding the perfect place to call home.

Owning a home has always been considered an "American Dream." This remains true today, and with the abundance of neighborhoods from which to choose, finding the perfect home in today's market is a dream that can be fulfilled. In comparison with national standards, the First Coast remains an affordable housing market with an assortment of established neighborhoods, new master-planned communities, condominiums, gated neighborhoods, lakefront homes and even houses on or near the beach. The choices are limitless and each county in our region has something special to offer. From rural to city life, Northeast Florida has it all.

The less than great news—but not terrible news by any means—for purchasing a home is that interest rates were raised by the Federal Reserve three times by early December 2018, with whisperings of a fourth hike likely before the new year. Plans for an increase in rates has also been hinted at for 2019. While mortgage rates set by lenders are not required to match the Federal Reserve's set rate, *U.S. News & World Report* finds that they do often echo changes in the long run. As a result, today's market shows the chance for some consumers to take a step back, which in turn will slow the rise in home prices but increase the number of days homes are on the market. While some buyers could see the dollars added to their monthly housing bill as a hindrance, the clear majority of potential homebuyers are not pushed out of their purchase range by the slight increases in mortgage rates.

Homeownership is not the ideal solution for some people, especially when they are moving to a new area. Renting not only allows you to avoid the financial commitment that mortgaging a home requires, it also gives many newcomers the chance to get to know the various areas and neighborhoods as a renter before settling on a home to buy. Renters are currently benefitting from declining rental demand. The U.S. Census

Bureau reports the nationwide homeownership rate is at 64.4 percent at the end of 2018, which is up from 63 percent just two years earlier. Rising homeownership rates are good for renters, who will tend to have fewer fellow renters to compete with and may have more bargaining power when it comes to gross rent, concession, free months' rent or better amenities, according to the article cited earlier in *U.S. News & World Report*.

Jacksonville—dubbed the River City—encompasses a total of 874.6 square miles and offers a diverse choice of neighborhoods throughout Duval County to best fit your lifestyle. While the cost of living currently falls just above the national average, the city's housing market is actually 14 percent lower than the national average. Prospective buyers can, of course, expect cost fluctuations depending on their preferred neighborhood and type of residence. According to Redfin Corporation, the average sale price of a home in Duval County was \$195,000 at the end of 2018, up 17.5 percent since the previous year. The average sale price per square foot in Duval County is \$117, up 11.4 percent since last year. *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Jacksonville as the No. 44 Best Places to Live and as the No. 24 Best Places to Retire in the U.S. in 2018.

Newcomers looking to rent can expect to pay an average of \$1,006 for an apartment in Jacksonville, but prices vary based on the amenities offered. This is up 5.1 percent over the last year but remains affordable in comparison to other metro areas across the country.

Nearby Clay County remains a solid choice when looking at cost of living. The area continues to grow, adding more homes and businesses from Green Cove Springs through Orange Park and all the areas in between. Redfin Corporation reports that the average sale price of a home in Clay County was \$215,000 at the end of 2018, up 13.2 percent since the year before. The average sale price per square foot in Clay County is \$116, up 12.6 percent since last year. Rental properties in Clay County tend to run similarly to Duval County, coming in at \$956 as a monthly average.

Data released by Redfin Corporation regarding Baker County shows the average sale price of a home in Baker County was \$210,000 in late 2018, up 14.2 percent since a year prior. The average sale price per square foot in Baker County is \$118, up 14.6 percent since last year. Living in Baker County gives you rural relaxation and comfort while remaining a short drive to work and entertainment.

A bit further south is St. Johns County, where home prices are keeping pace with the rising prices seen across the county. Redfin Corporation released data reporting the average sale price of a home in St. Johns County was \$330,000 in late 2018, up 8.6 percent since the year before. The average sale price per square foot in St. Johns County is \$149, up 0.68 percent in the past year. There is no shortage of options for finding the perfect community in St. Johns County, as new developments and structures continue to build and add to the economic impact of the region. St. Johns County is in tandem with Duval and Clay counties on the rent scale with an average apartment rental cost at \$1,023 per month.

While national data was not available for Nassau County through Redfin Corporation, similar studies have found the median home price in Florida's northernmost county is \$256,700, which is slightly higher than the national average.

Despite increases that have been tracked regarding the cost of living in the region, the median cost to buy a home in Northeast Florida is still, for the most part, less expensive than the national average of \$222,800. The First Coast is significantly less expensive than Florida as a whole with the median listing price reported at \$294,900 for the state. According to Numbeo, a data-tracking service, the cost of living index in Jacksonville is one-third lower than other large metro areas, such as New York. The cost of living in Northeast Florida continues to remain affordable due to—and sometimes in spite of—a number of factors that include a solid job market, new construction and a steady flow of newcomers to the area. State income taxes, or lack thereof, are another factor that lends to the affordability of the



Wildlight aerial view, photo courtesy of Wildlight



Homes on the Intracoastal Waterway in Duval County



New construction in Clay County, photo by Mindy K. Urueta

First Coast. Florida is one of only seven states that doesn't have state income tax, which means more money in your pocket each paycheck.

The bottom line—despite a slight rise in interest rates—is that no matter where on the First Coast

you choose to settle down, recent data and trends continue to indicate purchasing a home as a sound investment for your future.

Statistics courtesy of Zillow, Redfin Corporation, Numbeo and RentCafe, 2018.



Outdoor Living

For those of us fortunate enough to call the Sunshine State home, we know that nothing beats an outdoor oasis in our own backyard filled with comfy chairs, a nice table or two, music playing and maybe even a fan circulating cool air after a long day.

Thirty years ago, for most of us, a backyard patio functioned in the simplest of ways. A few chairs, a grill and perhaps a citronella candle to ward off mosquitos and you had all you needed. Over the last few decades, the way American life has evolved to a more outdoor-oriented lifestyle with more robustly designed spaces. Like remodeling in general, there are local and regional nuances. For Floridians, outdoor enclosures top the list of desired improvements and we are fortunate to have some of the top professionals in the field in our area. Lifetime Enclosures here in Jacksonville has been the go-to source for turning homes into what feels like year-round vacation spots and extending your entertaining and living areas.

Because of the simpler trends of the past, many Florida homeowners already have an outdoor patio or lanai connected to their home. These outdated lanai and patio areas are great but can be limited in how and when they can be used, and in some ways can be a waste of space. To make

better use of that space, many homeowners are choosing to update their existing outdoor area by exploring screen enclosures, lanai conversions and patio covers or awnings. According to the latest LightStream Home Improvement Survey, 58 percent of Americans are ready to invest money into home improvement projects this year, with almost half of those surveyed intent on renovating their outdoor living space.

One benefit of an updated, enclosed outdoor area is the ability to enjoy your space all year round, and who doesn't want that flexibility? Whether it's sunny, rainy or windy outside, a lanai or patio enclosure provides a measure of control over the environment while still allowing you to enjoy the outdoors.

Additionally, enclosing your patio or lanai will allow you to have additional privacy and security while enjoying the beauty of the outdoors. Sitting outdoors in the elements watching the Florida sunset can be nice but watching a Florida sunset in comfort from inside a patio or lanai enclosure is, without a doubt, even better. The serenity of your natural surroundings can be enjoyed without having to feel exposed to your next-door neighbors as well as pesky mosquitos and other bugs that tend to dampen an enjoyable evening outside.

Speaking of pesky visitors, a patio enclosure does a great job of keeping out other critters such as birds, mice, snakes, wasps and any other animals that can put a damper on enjoying the outdoors. With a patio enclosure you can feel like you are outside without having to worry about any unwanted pests.

Another benefit of enclosing your outdoor patio area is the protection it provides for furniture and décor. An enclosure offers much needed protection from the elements in Florida. Rain, wind and the sun's harmful UV rays all work hard to destroy that expensive patio furniture leaving you with wet, sun-faded cushions that eventually start to smell of mildew or mold. An enclosed patio not only prevents a soggy or damp cushion while you enjoy your morning coffee, it also protects your belongings from animal droppings, dust, dirt and even pollen.

Still not sure where to begin in the quest to create a personal oasis in your very own backyard? Contact a professional—many of whom offer free estimates, such as Lifetime Enclosures—and get started on making your outdoor oasis dreams come true.

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Enclosures
INC.

LIFETIME

Flooring

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For more than 29 years, Lifetime Enclosures has been helping First Coast homeowners turn their home into a year-round vacation spot through our custom sunrooms, pool enclosures, lanais, patio covers and outdoor kitchens!

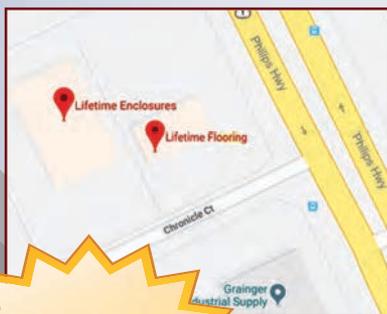
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Interior Design: Let's Start with Floors

Interior design trends can change as quickly as the weather, but one thing that is a constant is quality floors and surfaces. No matter your style or skill when it comes to decorating the interior of your home, the right base for your décor can make all the difference.

Let's begin with the most obvious – flooring. An attractive floor is the base of any beautifully designed room. A few things should be examined when choosing to install new floors. At the top of the list for many, lifestyle is an important consideration. For example, a home with children and pets running in and out, tracking dirt and fur may not find light-colored carpet to be the most practical choice. A family with a lot of foot traffic will likely find that selecting tile or wood flooring to be the most long-lasting. Hiring a professional to install your floors will help you decide what medium is best for you and give you access to a huge variety of the most appealing and high-quality flooring options on the market, including hardwoods, ceramic tile, stone, carpeting, area rugs, laminates and vinyl flooring.

For homeowners who have decided to renovate or update their interiors, it's a good idea to explore the pros and cons of different types of floors before settling on a final selection, whether hiring a professional or installing the flooring as a DIY. One type of flooring may be simple to install but is hard to clean. Another might be durable but more expensive. The guide below is designed to give homeowners some basic knowledge of different floor types and the advantages and disadvantages of each based on cost, durability, installation and ease of cleaning.

Ceramic or Porcelain Tile

Hard glazed squares typically made of ceramic or porcelain.

Pros: Strong, durable, with a wide variety of colors and designs, stain resistant, easy to replace sections if chipped or cracked, imperfections are hard to detect and is easily cleaned and sterilized.

Cons: Grout can attract stains and can be difficult to clean. Rigid, hard surface that is not always suitable for a comfortable living area (hint: adding attractive area rugs negates this con).

Floating Wood Tile

Composed of a synthetic material that simulates wood in appearance and is laminated.

Pros: Extremely simple installation with some brands having tongue and groove system for locking tiles into place and eliminating the need for adhesive. These tiles are stain-resistant, easy to replace, easy to clean and very hygienic.

Cons: Hard underfoot, can be slippery when wet and show scuff marks. (Some slip resistant layers are available to prevent the former.) Tiles are made of a synthetic material that cannot be sanded or refinished.

Carpet

Designed for warm, dry applications; composed of natural wool or synthetic materials such as polyester, nylon or polypropylene and comes in many styles.

Pros: Creates a comfortable atmosphere and acts as insulation to retain warm air in colder months. Carpet also acts as a noise dampener and can even improve air quality indoors by trapping pet dander and debris.



“No matter your style or skill when it comes to decorating the interior of your home, the right base for your décor can make all the difference.”

Cons: Can stain relatively easy when compared to other flooring options, can be difficult and costly to clean, can wear thin in high traffic areas over time.

Hardwood

Any flooring that is milled from a single piece of timber. Oak, walnut, maple and hickory are common types of wood used for flooring.

Pros: Extremely durable, hardwood floors can be sanded and refinished many times over their lifetime. Hardwood floors are also easy to clean, sturdy and wear-resistant. Offer a luxurious and earthy feel.

Cons: Can be on the pricier end of the flooring spectrum and can be labor intensive to install. Doesn't retain heat or dampen sound.

Bamboo

Much like hardwood flooring, bamboo is an ultra-durable option that is eco-friendly and a highly renewable option for flooring homes.

Pros: Easy to install and hypoallergenic with a natural sandy blond color much like beech wood. Bamboo is extremely durable and easy to clean.

Cons: The coloration of bamboo is vulnerable to sunlight and may fade over time. This type of flooring is also susceptible to water damage.

Stone

Flooring made with different types of natural rocks, often of limestone, granite, marble or slate.

Pros: Appearance typically improves with age and is easily the most durable of all flooring types. Stone also adds an earthy aesthetic to a home and has a timeless appeal.

Cons: Can be pricey and involve labor-intensive installation, can absorb some stains and dirt, and become very slippery when wet.

Vinyl

A fully synthetic polymer flooring option that is flexible and non-porous.

Pros: Inexpensive and easy to install, can be glued or nailed over a sub-flooring. Vinyl is durable and flexible, easy to clean and is highly water resistant.

Cons: The soft quality of vinyl flooring means sharp objects can easily gouge it, after which it is extremely difficult to repair.



First Things First: The 411 on First Coast

Emily Taber Public Library, Macclenny, photo by Ebyabe for Wikimedia



Congratulations on choosing the First Coast as your new home! With every move, as you get settled there are things that need taken care of and numbers that you need to have on hand. This can include everything from what your internet provider options are to whom to contact for utility services. This book is designed to provide you with much of the information you'll need to set up your new life. The following is a bit of information to help you with the what, where and why of it all.

Once you've selected the house or apartment that you are going to call home, it's time to figure out who provides power in your area and get those lights turned on. We have included a convenient list of utility service providers throughout the five-county region (please see page 51) – all you'll need to do is call. This list also includes garbage and recycling, natural gas, and water and sewage.

Speaking of calling, another service that you might want to have set up is a telephone. While not everyone still uses a landline phone, they continue to be useful for times that cell service is not available, or if you have a young child, they

can more easily access and use a landline phone in case of emergency. Often with cell phones, small children do not know how to unlock or open the phone, or even where the phone is, when an unexpected crisis occurs. During times of emergency, a landline can save lives.

The next step for newcomers as they get settled is typically setting up internet and cable or satellite television. Our metro area has a wide variety of service providers – simply call to find out who offers service in your new neighborhood. For a list of numbers, please see the side bar on page 55.

Equally important, and something that seems to make a move to a new area seem “real,” is updating your driver's license with your new address. Information on whom to call and where to go can be found on page 61, under county tax collector listings.

Once you've gotten these items checked off your to-do list, you will undoubtedly feel more settled and in control of your new environment. More information about each county can be found throughout this guide, such as taxes, library locations, schools in each county and important government numbers and web addresses.



*Did you know?
You must apply for a
Florida driver's license
within 30 days of
establishing residency
in Florida to avoid
fines and penalties.*



We hope you love your new home on the First Coast. We may be a bit biased, but we happen to think you've made a perfect choice of location for a happy life in which to Live, Work and Play. Enjoy!

Getting Settled

BAKER COUNTY

EMERGENCY CALL 911

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Police/Sheriff | |
| Baker County | 259-2861 |
| Fire/Rescue | |
| Baker County (Volunteer) | 259-2861 |
| Macclenny | 259-3331 |

GOVERNMENT LISTINGS

County
www.bakercountyfl.org
 Glen St. Mary
www.glenstmary.govoffice.com
 Macclenny
www.cityofmacclenny.com

UTILITY SERVICES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| County | |
| Electricity | |
| Clay Electric Cooperative (CEC) | 272-2456 |
| Florida Power & Light | 800-226-3545 |
| Okefenokee Rural Electric | 800-262-5131 |
| Garbage | |
| City of Macclenny | 259-6261 |
| Natural Gas | |
| TECO Peoples Gas | 739-1211 |
| Water & Sewer | |
| City of Macclenny | 259-6261 |

CLAY COUNTY

EMERGENCY CALL 911

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| Police/Sheriff | |
| Clay County | 264-6512 |
| Green Cove Springs | 297-7325 |
| Keystone Heights | 352-473-7211 |
| Middleburg | 213-6120 |
| Orange Park | 264-5555 |
| Fire/Rescue | |
| Clay County | 284-7703 |

GOVERNMENT LISTINGS

County
www.claycountygov.com
 Green Cove Springs
www.greencovesprings.com
 Keystone Heights
www.keystoneheights.us
 Orange Park
www.townoforangepark.com
 Penney Farms
www.penneyfarmsfl.govoffice2.com

UTILITY SERVICES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Fleming Island | |
| Electricity | |
| Clay Electric Cooperative (CEC) | 272-2456 |

| | |
|---|----------|
| Garbage & Recycling | |
| Advanced Disposal Services | 695-0500 |
| Water & Sewer | |
| Clay County Utility Authority | 272-5999 |
| Green Cove Springs | |
| Electricity | |
| City of Green Cove Springs | 297-7500 |
| Clay Electric Cooperative (CEC) | 272-2456 |
| Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) | 665-6000 |
| Garbage & Recycling | |
| City of Green Cove Springs | 297-7500 |
| Water & Sewer | |
| City of Green Cove Springs | 297-7500 |
| Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) | 665-6000 |

Keystone Heights

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Electricity | |
| Clay Electric Cooperative (CEC) | 352-473-8000 |
| Garbage & Recycling | |
| Advanced Disposal Services | 695-0500 |
| Water & Sewer | |
| Clay County Utility Authority | 272-5999 |

Middleburg

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Electricity | |
| Clay Electric Cooperative (CEC) | 272-2456 |
| Garbage & Recycling | |
| Advanced Disposal Services | 695-0500 |
| Natural Gas | |
| TECO Peoples Gas | 739-1211 |
| Water & Sewer | |
| Clay County Utility Authority | 272-5999 |

Orange Park

| | |
|---|----------|
| Electricity | |
| Clay Electric Cooperative (CEC) | 272-2456 |
| Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) | 665-6000 |
| Garbage & Recycling | |
| Advanced Disposal Services | 695-0500 |
| Natural Gas | |
| TECO Peoples Gas | 739-1211 |
| Water & Sewer | |
| Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) | 665-6000 |
| Town of Orange Park | 264-7411 |

Penney Farms

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Electricity | |
| Clay Electric Cooperative (CEC) | 272-2456 |
| Garbage & Recycling | |
| Town of Penney Farms | 529-9078 |
| Water & Sewer | |
| Penney Farms Water Utility | 529-9078 |



Clay County Fire Department Engine 24, photo courtesy of Pierce



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DUVAL COUNTY

EMERGENCY CALL 911

Police/Sheriff

Atlantic Beach/Neptune Beach 247-5859
 Jacksonville..... 630-0500
 Jacksonville Beach..... 270-1661

Fire/Rescue

Jacksonville..... 630-0529
 Jacksonville Beach..... 270-1661

GOVERNMENT LISTINGS

County

www.coj.net

Atlantic Beach

www.ci.atlantic-beach.fl.us

Jacksonville

www.coj.net

Jacksonville Beach

www.jacksonvillebeach.org

Neptune Beach

http://ci.neptune-beach.fl.us

UTILITY SERVICES

Atlantic Beach

Electricity

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) 665-6000

Garbage & Recycling

City of Atlantic Beach..... 247-5834

Natural Gas

TECO Peoples Gas 739-1211

Water & Sewer

City of Atlantic Beach..... 247-5816

Baldwin

Electricity, Water & Sewer

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) 665-6000

Jacksonville

Electricity, Water & Sewer

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) 665-6000

Garbage & Recycling

City of Jacksonville..... 630-2489

Natural Gas

TECO Peoples Gas 739-1211



Photo by Brad Biringer

Jacksonville Beach

- Electricity, Water & Sewer
- Beaches Energy Services 247-6241
- Garbage & Recycling
- City of Jacksonville Beach..... 247-6219
- Natural Gas
- TECO Peoples Gas 739-1211

Neptune Beach

- Electricity
- Beaches Energy Services 247-6241
- Garbage & Recycling
- Waste Pro of Florida, Inc..... 731-7288
- Natural Gas
- TECO Peoples Gas 739-1211
- Water & Sewer
- City of Neptune Beach 270-2400

NASSAU COUNTY

EMERGENCY CALL 911

Police/Sheriff

- Nassau County 225-5174
- Fernandina Beach.....277-7342

Fire/Rescue

- Nassau County 530-6600

GOVERNMENT LISTINGS

- County
- www.nassaucountyfl.com
- Callahan
- www.townofcallahan-fl.gov
- Fernandina Beach
- www.fbfl.us

UTILITY SERVICES

Amelia Island

- Electricity
- Florida Public Utilities 261-3663
- Garbage & Recycling
- Advanced Disposal..... 879-2301
- Water & Sewer
- Town of Callahan 879-3801

Callahan

- Electricity
- Florida Power & Light 800-226-3545
- Okefenokee Rural Electric..... 800-262-5131
- Garbage & Recycling
- Stateline Disposal 879-2301
- Water & Sewer
- Callahan Water Department..... 879-3801

Fernandina Beach

- Electricity
- Florida Public Utilities 261-3663
- Garbage & Recycling
- Advanced Disposal..... 879-2301
- Water & Sewer
- City of Fernandina Beach..... 310-3400

Hilliard

- Electricity
- Florida Power & Light 800-226-3545
- Okefenokee Rural Electric..... 800-262-5131

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Jacksonville, FL 32210



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WILDLIGHT

FLORIDA LOWCOUNTRY LIVING

wildlight.com

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Garbage & Recycling | |
| Advanced Disposal..... | 879-2301 |
| Water & Sewer | |
| Hilliard Water Department..... | 845-2711 |
| Yulee | |
| Electricity | |
| Florida Power & Light | 800-226-3545 |
| Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) | 665-6000 |
| Garbage & Recycling | |
| Advanced Disposal..... | 879-2301 |
| Water & Sewer | |
| Florida Power & Light | 800-226-3545 |
| Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) | 665-6000 |

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

EMERGENCY CALL 911

Police/Sheriff

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| St. Johns County..... | 824-8304 |
| Julington Creek..... | 209-2150 |
| Ponte Vedra Beach..... | 209-2215 |
| St. Augustine..... | 825-1074 |
| St. Augustine Beach..... | 471-3600 |

Fire/Rescue

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| St. Johns County..... | 209-1700 |
| St. Augustine..... | 825-1098 |

Nassau County Courthouse, photo courtesy of Nassau County



GOVERNMENT LISTINGS

County

www.co.st-johns.fl.us

Ponte Vedra Beach

www.pvmsd.org

St. Augustine

www.ci.st-augustine.fl.us

St. Augustine Beach

www.staugbch.com

UTILITY SERVICES

Hastings

Electricity

 Florida Power & Light

800-226-3545

 Garbage & Recycling

 Advanced Disposal Services..... 695-0500

Natural Gas

 TECO Peoples Gas

739-1211

Julington Creek

Electricity
 Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) 665-6000
 Garbage & Recycling
 Republic Services..... 825-0991
 Natural Gas
 TECO Peoples Gas 739-1211
 Water & Sewer
 St. Johns Service Company..... 209-2728

Ponte Vedra Beach

Electricity
 Beaches Energy Services 247-6241
 Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) 665-6000
 Garbage & Recycling
 Republic Services..... 825-0991
 Water & Sewer
 Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) 665-6000
 St. Johns Service Company..... 209-2728

St. Augustine

Electricity
 Florida Power & Light 800-226-3545
 Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) 665-6000
 Garbage & Recycling
 City of St. Augustine..... 825-1049
 Natural Gas
 TECO Peoples Gas 739-1211
 Water & Sewer
 City of St. Augustine..... 825-1037

St. Augustine Beach

Electricity
 Florida Power & Light 800-226-3545
 Garbage & Recycling
 City of St. Augustine Beach 471-1119
 Natural Gas
 TECO Peoples Gas 739-1211
 Water & Sewer
 St. Johns Utility Department..... 209-2700

Internet & TV Resources

BAKER COUNTY

CABLE & SATELLITE TELEVISION

Comcast 800-266-2278
 DIRECTV® 800-280-4388
 Dish Network..... 888-732-6401

INTERNET

Comcast 800-266-2278
 HughesNet..... 800-427-9565
 NEFCOM Internet..... 259-9991

CLAY COUNTY

CABLE & SATELLITE TELEVISION

Comcast 800-266-2278
 DIRECTV® 800-280-4388
 Dish Network..... 888-732-6401

INTERNET

AT&T 844-263-5181
 Comcast 877-870-4310
 HughesNet..... 800-427-9565

DUVAL COUNTY

CABLE & SATELLITE TELEVISION

Comcast 800-266-2278
 DIRECTV® 800-280-4388
 Dish Network..... 888-732-6401

INTERNET

AT&T 844-263-5181
 Comcast 877-870-4310
 HughesNet..... 800-427-9565

NASSAU COUNTY

CABLE & SATELLITE TELEVISION

Comcast 800-266-2278
 DIRECTV® 800-280-4388
 Dish Network..... 888-732-6401
 Windstream Communications..... 800-347-1991

INTERNET

AT&T 844-263-5181
 Comcast 800-266-2278
 HughesNet..... 800-427-9565
 Windstream Communications..... 800-347-1991

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

CABLE & SATELLITE TELEVISION

Comcast 800-266-2278
 DIRECTV® 800-280-4388
 Dish Network..... 888-732-6401
 Windstream Communications (Hastings)..... 800-347-1991

INTERNET

AT&T 844-263-5181
 Comcast 877-870-4310
 HughesNet..... 800-427-9565
 Windstream Communications (Hastings)..... 800-347-1991



Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine, photo courtesy of Getty Images

Libraries

BAKER COUNTY

Emily Taber Public Library (Macclenny)
14 W. McIver Ave. 259-6464

CLAY COUNTY

Green Cove Springs Library
403 Ferris St. 284-6315
Headquarters Library (Fleming Island)
1895 Town Center Blvd. 278-3720
Keystone Heights Library
175 Oriole St. 352-473-4286
Middleburg Clay-Hill Library
2245 Aster Ave. 541-5855
Orange Park Library
2054 Plainfield Ave. 278-4750

DUVAL COUNTY

Argyle Branch
7973 Old Middleburg Rd. S. 573-3164
Beaches Branch
600 3rd St. 241-1141
Bradham and Brooks Branch
1755 Edgewood Ave. W. 765-5402
Brentwood Branch
3725 N. Pearl St. 630-0924
Brown Eastside Branch
1390 Harrison St. 630-5466
Charles Webb Wesconnett Regional Branch
6887 103rd St. 778-7305
Dallas Graham Branch
2304 N. Myrtle Ave. 630-0922
Highlands Branch
1826 Dunn Ave. 757-7702
Main Library
303 N. Laura St. 630-2665
Mandarin Branch
3330 Kori Rd. 262-5201
Maxville Branch
8375 Maxville Blvd. 289-7563
Murray Hill Branch
918 Edgewood Ave. S. 384-2665
Pablo Creek Regional Branch
13295 Beach Blvd. 992-7101
Regency Square Branch
9900 Regency Square Blvd. 726-5142
San Marco Branch
1513 LaSalle St. 858-2907
South Mandarin Branch
12125 San Jose Blvd. 288-6385
Southeast Regional Branch
10599 Deerwood Park Blvd. 996-0325

Jacksonville Public Library, Downtown Jacksonville, photo courtesy of Wikimedia



Talking Books/Special Needs Library
303 N. Laura St. 630-1999
University Park Branch
3435 University Blvd. N. 630-1265
West Regional Branch
1425 Chaffee Rd. S. 693-1448
Westbrook Branch
2809 Commonwealth Ave. 384-7424
Willowbranch Branch
2875 Park St. 381-8490

NASSAU COUNTY

Bryceville
7280 Motes Rd. 266-9813
Fernandina Beach
25 N. 4th St. 277-7365
Yulee
76346 William Burgess Blvd. 548-4467

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Anastasia Island Branch
124 Sea Grove Main St. 209-3730
Bartram Trail Branch
60 Davis Pond Blvd. 827-6960
Hastings Branch
6195 S. Main St. 827-6970
Main Branch
1960 N. Ponce de Leon Blvd. 827-6940
Ponte Vedra Beach Branch
101 Library Blvd. 827-6950
Southeast Branch
6670 U.S. 1 S. 827-6900

Before the Big Move

Moving into a new home can be one of the more stressful things we do in life. There are so many details involved it can be easy to overlook a crucial task that is needed to easily settle into your new home. We've put together a list of our top 10 things to get squared away before moving day arrives to make things just a little bit easier.

1. Have your mail redirected

You can easily change your permanent address by visiting www.usps.com. This will help protect your personal information from falling into the wrong hands while also keeping you up-to-date with your mail communications.

2. Tell your banking institutions about the move

Contact each bank in advance to inform them of your new address and your moving date to ensure their records are up-to-date and nothing gets skewed during your move.

3. Get your new home insured

Whether you are renting or buying, it's worth protecting your possessions against loss or damage both during the move and afterwards. It's important to know that once you know the details of your new home, you can get insurance up to 30 days in advance and schedule it to start the day you pick up your keys.

4. Update your automobiles

To keep your car nice and legal, you'll need to update your driver's license and tags within the first 30 days of moving to your new home. You will also need to contact your auto insurance provider and update your information with them. The tediousness of these tasks pales in comparison to paying fines that may come your way if you fail to update your information. You can also update your voter registration at this time.

5. Take final meter readings

Remember to take water, gas and electricity meter readings at your property and notify your service providers before you move, to ensure you don't get billed for the next residents' usage. You can reference page 51 for a listing of local utility service providers if you're not sure whom to contact.

6. Cancel your internet and television service

In order to watch TV or surf the Web in your new home, you'll need to cancel or transfer your existing package. Many companies will allow you to take your current package with you at no extra cost when you move – provided they offer service in your new area.

7. Change address with delivery services

Before you move into your new home, it is important to cancel or change your delivery address for subscription services. This can include everything from monthly beauty boxes, magazine subscriptions and any auto-ship purchases you may have set up.

8. Close out local accounts

It is important to close out any current, local accounts you may have before you get settled in your new home. Double-check that you don't have any outstanding loans at the local library, cancel your gym membership so you don't continue to get billed long after you've found a new gym, etc.

9. Update your address with credit companies and accounts

Inform your credit card companies of your new address as soon as, or before, you move. This will prevent your cards from being temporarily frozen while your credit card company is trying to figure out who is using your credit card in Florida when as far as they know, you are located in, for example, Long Island.

10. Empty your refrigerator and freezer

To avoid wasting your food and money, make sure to use up all your frozen and fresh foods before you move. If you have anything left over, see if you have a neighbor or friend who might appreciate the extra food.

Looking for Your Spiritual Home?

The following are the main organizations for each denomination. Please call or check their website to find a place of worship that suits you.

11th Episcopal District of the AME Church

355-8262
101 E. Union St., Ste. 301, Jacksonville
www.11thdistrictamec.org

Bahá'í Community Center of Jacksonville

646-9813
5034 Greenland Rd., Jacksonville
www.bahaicomcenterjax.com

Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church

396-3026
1415 LaSalle St., Jacksonville
www.flumc2.org

Florida Jacksonville Mission of the Mormon Church

636-0604
8663 Baypine Rd., Ste. 102, Jacksonville

Hindu Society of North East Florida

268-7630
4968 Greenland Rd., Jacksonville
www.hsnef.org

Islamic Center of Northeast Florida

646-3462
2333 St. Johns Bluff Rd. S., Jacksonville
www.icnef.org

Jacksonville Friends Meeting

768-3648
1974 Willesdon Dr. E., Jacksonville
www.jacksonvillefriends.org

Jacksonville Zen Sangha Inc.

398-6905
2014 Perry Pl., Jacksonville
www.jaxzensangha.org

Jewish Federation of Jacksonville

448-5000
8505 San Jose Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jewishjacksonville.org

Karma Thegsum Chöling Jacksonville

357-0663
1258 S. McDuff Ave., Jacksonville
www.ktcjax.org

Maitreya Kadampa Buddhist Center

222-8531
85 Sailfish Dr., Atlantic Beach
www.meditationinjacksonville.org

Presbytery of St. Augustine

733-8277
1937 University Blvd. W., Jacksonville
www.staugpres.org



Estimated Population

| | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Median Age 36.1 | DUVAL COUNTY 937,934 | BAKER COUNTY 28,283 | Median Age 36.5 |
| Median Age 44.6 | NASSAU COUNTY 82,721 | CLAY COUNTY 212,230 | Median Age 39.4 |
| | ST. JOHNS COUNTY 243,812 | Median Age 42.9 | |

Good-to-Know Info

Number of Employees



| |
|---------------------------|
| BAKER COUNTY - 10,336 |
| CLAY COUNTY - 89,254 |
| DUVAL COUNTY - 439,862 |
| NASSAU COUNTY - 33,095 |
| ST. JOHNS COUNTY - 99,658 |

Car Insurance

The mandatory minimum coverage for a registered motor vehicle is a \$10,000 personal injury protection (PIP) policy and a \$10,000 property damage liability (PDL) policy. The minimum coverage applies to all vehicles registered in the state of Florida, even if the vehicle is inoperable.

Homestead Exemption

All legal Florida residents who own and reside on property are eligible for a homestead exemption up to \$50,000. This exemption applies to the first and third \$25,000 of the assessed value of the primary residence. The first \$25,000 applies to all property taxes, including school district taxes. The second exemption applies to assessed value over \$50,000 and only to non-school taxes. To apply for the exemption, residents should go to their local Property Appraiser's office between Jan. 1 and March 1 of the year the exemption is sought.



Median Household Income

| | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Poverty Rate 14.5% | DUVAL COUNTY \$51,980 | BAKER COUNTY \$53,327 | Poverty Rate 18.5% |
| Poverty Rate 10.3% | NASSAU COUNTY \$59,179 | CLAY COUNTY \$59,179 | Poverty Rate 10.2% |
| | ST. JOHNS COUNTY \$69,523 | Poverty Rate 8.98% | |

Motor Vehicles

Within 10 days of becoming a Florida resident, all motor vehicles in your possession must be registered and have a Florida license plate. You are considered a Florida resident when you have become employed, placed your child in public school or established residency in Florida.

Property Taxes

On the First Coast, property taxes are due in March and are considered delinquent as of April 1. Discounts are given for property taxes paid in advance. The maximum discount offered is 4 percent and applies to taxes paid in November. Late taxes are subject to penalty.

Median Property Value



| | Homeownership |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| BAKER COUNTY - \$108,600 | 79.3% |
| CLAY COUNTY - \$157,600 | 74.8% |
| DUVAL COUNTY - \$164,300 | 58.2% |
| NASSAU COUNTY - \$192,600 | 76.1% |
| ST. JOHNS COUNTY - \$259,900 | 76.1% |

Termite Protection Contract

Due to Florida's termite problem, it is required by law that a pest control company provides proof after a termite protection treatment is performed on new homes in the form of a contract. For new construction, this contract is valid for a year and can be renewed up to four additional years. If buying an older home, it is recommended, but not mandatory, to have a termite inspection and obtain a termite contract.

Doggy Day Cares



Dog at Dogpark photo by Kelly Smith

If you're going on vacation and need a place for your puppy to stay, rest assured there are many locations on the First Coast that will give them the star treatment.

Camp Bow Wow

8505 Baymeadows Rd., Jacksonville
732-9663
www.campbowwow.com

Dogtopia of Jacksonville at the Avenues

9365 Philips Hwy., Jacksonville
297-3247
www.dogtopia.com

Dogtown USA

11740 San Jose Blvd., Jacksonville
677-4435
6988 US 1 N., St. Augustine
347-2363
<http://dogtownresorts.com>

Happy Hound Dog Resorts

Beach
11000-15 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville
800-8800 ext. 2
Shirley
4603 Shirley Ave., Jacksonville
800-8800 ext. 1
www.happyhounddogresorts.com

Pet Paradise Resort

Bartram
14976 Walden Springs Way, Jacksonville
527-5335
Jacksonville Airport
14272 Pecan Park Rd., Jacksonville
741-0050
St. Augustine
125 Ponce Harbor Dr., St. Augustine
797-9770
University Blvd.
5140 University Blvd., Jacksonville
396-7529
www.petparadiseresort.com

Poochie's Swim and Play Park

21 Fountain Dr., Orange Park
272-4545
www.poochiespark.com

Unleash Fido

6824 Philips Pkwy. Dr. S., Jacksonville
574-4303
www.unleashfido.com

After Hours & 24-Hour Animal Hospitals

Animal Emergency of St. Johns

2505 Old Moultrie Rd., St. Augustine
794-5071
www.animalemergencyofstjohns.com

Baymeadows Animal Hospital

8505 Baymeadows Rd., Jacksonville
257-8517
www.baymeadowsanimalhospital.com

BluePearl Specialty + Emergency Pet Hospital

3444 Southside Blvd., Ste. 103, Jacksonville
642-5911
275 Corporate Way, Ste. 100, Orange Park
264-8281
<https://bluepearlvet.com>

Clay Humane

2230 Filmore St., Orange Park
276-7729
www.clayhumane.org

First Coast Veterinary Emergency

301 Jacksonville Dr., Jacksonville Beach
853-6310
<https://firstcoastveter.com>

St. Augustine Regional Veterinary

Emergency Center
2090 U.S. Hwy. 1 S.,
St. Augustine
797-5770
www.staugveter.com

Vet-I-Care Animal Hospital/Mandarin Pet Emergency

10635 Old St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville
268-0399/268-4118
www.vet-i-care.com
www.mandarinpetemergency.com





Real Estate Climate Check

By Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty

In 2018, home prices along with interest rates continued to rise, inventory was limited and homes sold rapidly. What is on the horizon? Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty is forecasting a bright future for real estate in 2019.

“We have seen robust appreciation in nearly every area over the past several years, and that does have to normalize at some point,” said President and CEO Christy Budnick, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty. “Given the job climate, the historically low interest rates and low

housing inventory levels, we believe the real estate market will continue to be very strong in 2019. We anticipate slightly lower levels of appreciation, ranging from 3 to 5 percent as compared to the 5 to 8 percent most areas in Northeast Florida have seen.”

The leadership at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty believes the market conditions in 2019 will be good for buyers and sellers alike. Based on industry data and trends, the company sees positive news ahead.

An increase in new-home construction

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty expects to see an increase in local new-home construction in 2019. More builder product in the market will help prospective buyers locate the right property. It may help some sellers who are thinking they would like to sell, but hesitant to do so because the buyer's market is so tight. With more homes in the market, there will be more available inventory for buyers.

Opportunities for both sellers and buyers

Current real estate market conditions are favorable to sellers. According to the Northeast Florida Association of Realtors' September, 2018 market report, the months' supply of inventory was 3.6 months, well below the five to six months considered a balanced market. With more builder product coming to the market, there will be slightly more inventory. However, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty believes limited inventory will continue to some extent in 2019.

Home prices will continue to rise

Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty anticipates that home-value appreciation will continue to rise in the 3 to 5 percent growth rate in 2019. The increase in home prices will continue to be driven by the inventory of homes for sale. With rising interest rates, buyers who may be priced out of the market by a rate hike are encouraged to begin the buying process. On an existing home, the process typically takes at least 60 to 90 days from finding the perfect home to closing. Prospective buyers can find a wide range of home choices throughout Northeast Florida.

“Our local neighborhoods offer tremendous appeal,” said Founder and Chairman Linda Sherrer, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty. “The Northeast Florida lifestyle offers something for everyone. Whether it's golfing, boating, spending time at the beach or enjoying entertainment and culture in the

urban core, Northeast Florida has something for everyone. Our neighborhoods offer a wide array of home choices and an incredible way of life.”

In addition to the area's leading Realtors, Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty can connect buyers and sellers with the best mortgage professionals, title company resources, relocation experts and more. For more information, contact Linda Lindenmoyer, Vice President of Relocation, at 904-672-4350 or at Relocation@FloridaNetworkRealty.com.

Please visit a Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty office to pick up a copy of the Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Florida Network Realty Relocation Guide today.

County Tax Collectors

BAKER COUNTY

Macclenny

32 N. 5th St.

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Driver's License | 259-6004 |
| Tag Office | 653-4525 |
| Tax Office | 653-4518 |

CLAY COUNTY

Bear Run Office

3245 Bear Run Blvd..... 541-5337

Green Cove Springs

477 Houston St..... 284-6320

Keystone Heights

7380 SR 100, Ste. 10 352-473-4899

Park Avenue Office

1518 Park Ave..... 269-1400

DUVAL COUNTY

Driver's License and Fast Title Service Only Branches

"One Call" Center..... 630-1916

Beach Branch

1505 Atlantic Blvd.

Cedar Hills Branch

3520-1 Blanding Blvd.

Commonwealth Branch

6672 Commonwealth Ave.

Gateway Branch

910 W. 44th St.

Hogan's Corner Branch

7120-15 Hogan Rd.

Kernan Branch

12220-102 Atlantic Blvd.

Mandarin Branch

10035 San Jose Blvd.

North Jax Branch

12961-210 N. Main St.

Yates (Downtown) Branch

231 E. Forsyth St.

NASSAU COUNTY

"One Call" Center..... 491-7400

Callahan Office

450077 SR 200, Ste. 13

Hilliard Office

15885 CR 108

Historic Courthouse (Fernandina Beach)

416 Centre St.

Main Office (Fernandina Beach)

86130 License Rd.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

"One Call" Center..... 209-2250

Dupont Center

6658 U.S. 1 S.

Hastings Branch

6195 S. Main St., Ste. E

Julington Creek Branch

725 Flora Branch Blvd.

Ponte Vedra Beach

5430 Palm Valley Rd.

St. Augustine (Main Office)

4030 Lewis Spdwy.



Downtown Jacksonville, photo by Monica Curros

Weather Words to Remember: First Coast Weather Prep

Photo by Patrice Ross for Visit Jacksonville



Now that the First Coast is your home, it's time to put away the tire chains and ice scrapers and break out the beach towels and sunblock. The region is home to gorgeous weather pretty much year-round with balmy ocean breezes and bright sunshine. While summers can be hot, winters are typically mild, and the region enjoys a median temperature in the mid-70s.

The area is known for its picturesque weather from November until April, with occasional showers during the summer. Unfortunately, this is not where our weather journey ends. The First Coast's humid subtropical climate can lead to some of nature's most powerful storms including hurricanes, lightning storms and occasional tornadoes. The following information details what new residents need to know and what to do when stormy skies approach.

Hurricanes are potentially dangerous storms that form over the ocean. Hurricane season is from the beginning of June to the end of November, and although they are most common during these months, hurricanes can form throughout the year. By nature, hurricanes are most threatening to coastlines, and as a peninsula, Florida has three. Typically, Northeast Florida receives fewer hurricanes than other parts of the state because it is the most western point on the U.S. Eastern Seaboard.

Weather Words to Remember:

Tropical Disturbance: originates in the tropics or subtropics and maintains an identity for 24 hours

Tropical Depression: maximum sustained wind speed of 38 mph

Tropical Storm: maximum sustained wind speeds of 39 to 73 mph

Hurricane: winds 74 mph and above

Hurricane Watch: hurricane conditions are possible within 48 hours in or near the watch area

Hurricane Warning: hurricane conditions are expected within 36 hours in or near the warning area

Hurricane Categories:

When it comes to determining the category of a hurricane, meteorologists use the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. Keep in mind that this categorization scale does not determine other hurricane related impacts such as storm surge, rainfall-induced floods or tornadoes. It does, however, help gauge the safety measures that must be taken to prepare before the hurricane makes landfall.

1: minimal; 74 to 95 mph winds

2: moderate; 96 to 110 mph winds

3: extensive; 111 to 129 mph winds

4: extreme; 130 to 156 mph winds

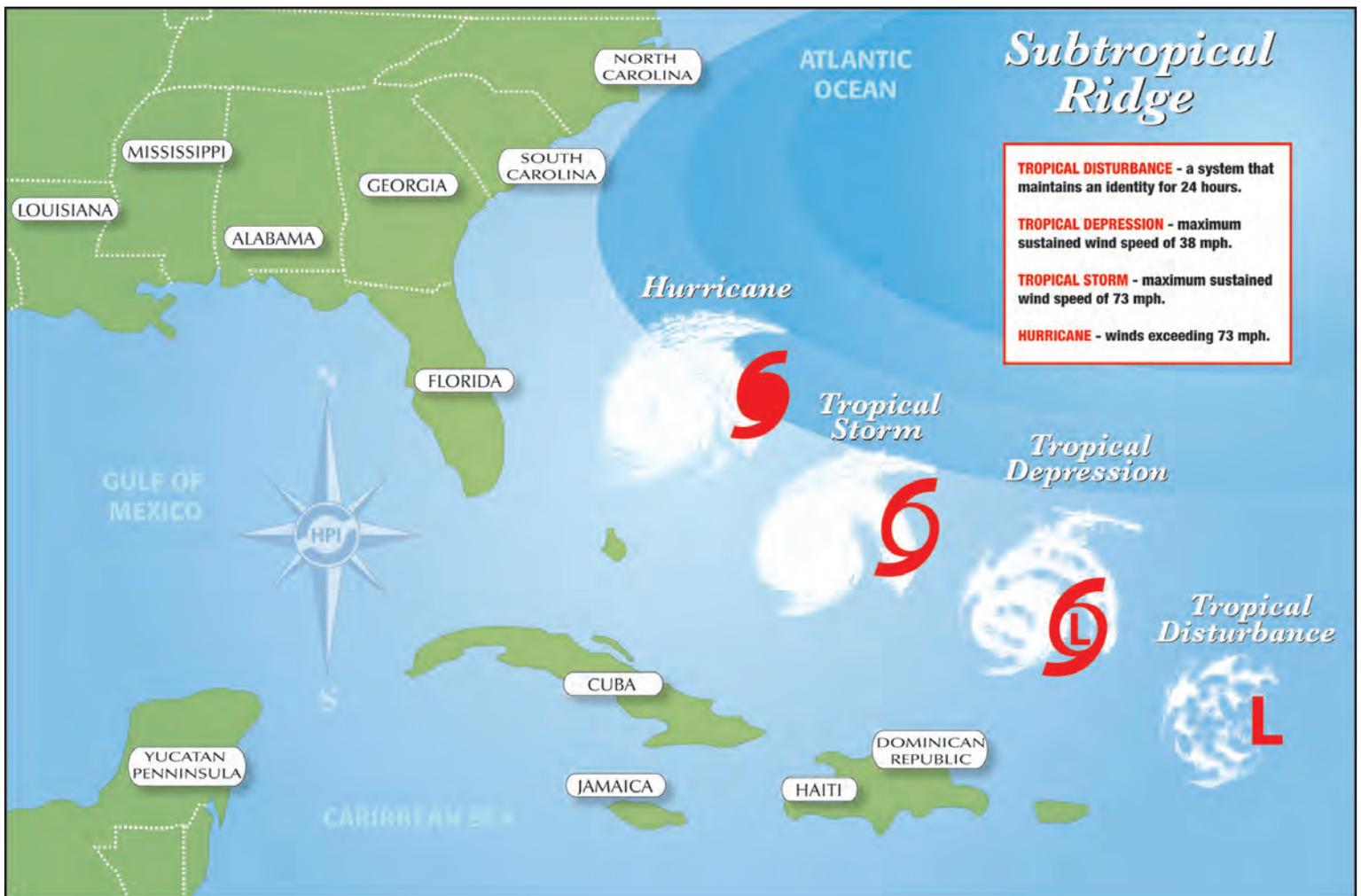
5: catastrophic; 157 mph and higher winds

Storm Preparations

Most natural disasters happen with little or no warning. Being prepared with emergency supplies and having a plan can help reduce the physical and emotional impact in the wake of a storm. Just as you prepare for your family, Northeast Florida counties provide an emergency management system to help the community.

Emergency Management

| | |
|------------------------|----------|
| Baker County | 259-6111 |
| Clay County | 284-7703 |
| Duval County | 255-3110 |
| Nassau County | 548-0900 |
| St. Johns County | 824-5550 |



Before a storm develops, it is important to have a plan in place. Assemble a disaster supply kit and keep it in a place that can be easily accessed in case of evacuation. Make sure that all members of your family know where the kit is stored. In the event of an evacuation, have enough food and water for at least three days and have fuel in your car's gas tank.

Highways and roads may be closed during evacuation, so plan out multiple travel routes. Make sure you stay informed during the storm. A National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio provides comprehensive 24-hour weather forecasts. The City of Jacksonville's website has a detailed map of storm surge zones and evacuation routes, if needed. Call the City of Jacksonville's Central Operations Department at 630-2489 or visit www.coj.net for more information.

Protect your home by boarding up windows and glass doors or installing hurricane shelters. Check your yard for any loose objects such as patio furniture, plants, toys and lawn tools. Any objects that are outdoors and not secured may fly away in high winds.

Call your local emergency management or planning/zoning office to find out if you live in a potential flood zone. If so, consider stocking up on sand bags to keep water out of your home.

**YOUR SOURCE FOR
IMPORTANT LOCAL UPDATES
WHEN EMERGENCIES STRIKE.**

Florida Public Radio
EPREN + wjct
Emergency Network

@FloridaStorms • wjct.org/weather

LIGHTNING

Lightning is a major threat during a thunderstorm. Its unpredictability increases the risk to individuals and property. In a severe thunderstorm, it is best to be inside a sturdy building. When indoors, do not handle any electrical equipment because lightning can follow a wire. Also avoid bathtubs, sinks and faucets with metal pipes. If caught outdoors and no structure is available, avoid open areas that have trees, towers, power or telephone lines, and metal objects such as wire fences, bicycles or golf clubs. If in a car, pull onto the shoulder of a road, away from any trees that may fall on the vehicle and avoid any flooded roadways.

TORNADOES

Northeast Florida’s tornadoes are not typically as powerful as the ones in the Midwest, but can still cause significant damage. Tornadoes can reach 300 mph with an average forward speed of 30 mph.

Watch the skies and stay tuned to weather radio or television for information. If a tornado warning occurs, take shelter immediately. When inside a building or home, stay inside a smaller inner room with no windows such as a bathroom or closet. Crouch low on the floor and cover your head with your hands.

Tornadoes can develop rapidly, so advanced warning isn’t always possible. Always be aware of severe weather in your area.

Weather Words to Remember:

Tornado Watch: tornadoes are possible in and near the watch area

Tornado Warning: tornado sighted or indicated on radar

Waterspout: tornado that forms over warm water

| Average High/Low Temperature (in Fahrenheit) | | |
|--|--------|----------------|
| High °F | Low °F | Month |
| 79 | 53 | December 2017 |
| 78 | 37 | January 2018 |
| 79 | 39 | February 2018 |
| 83 | 44 | March 2018 |
| 87 | 50 | April 2018 |
| 91 | 59 | May 2018 |
| 94 | 66 | June 2018 |
| 95 | 67 | July 2018 |
| 94 | 68 | August 2018 |
| 92 | 65 | September 2018 |
| 88 | 53 | October 2018 |
| 84 | 45 | November 2018 |

| 2018 Rainfall by Inches | |
|-------------------------|------|
| January 2018 | 3.69 |
| February 2018 | 3.15 |
| March 2018 | 3.93 |
| April 2018 | 3.14 |
| May 2018 | 3.48 |
| June 2018 | 5.37 |
| July 2018 | 5.97 |
| August 2018 | 6.87 |
| September 2018 | 7.90 |
| October 2018 | 3.86 |
| November 2018 | 2.34 |
| December 2018 | 2.64 |

Location, Location, Location...



Your real estate agent that lives, works, and plays in St. Johns County - everyday!



Kim Martin

Broker Associate

Proudly helping families in Jacksonville, St. Johns, and St. Augustine.

904.347.1775

FloridaHomeNeeds.com

KMartin@WatsonRealtyCorp.com



Your St. Johns County Relocation Specialist.

As a top-producing real estate agent and military wife living in the area for more than 25 years, I know the unique challenges that relocation presents. I have been partnering with customers for more than 15 years assisting them with all of their real estate needs with integrity and unmatched dedication.

St. Johns County has it all!

"A" rated school districts, homes to fit everyone's lifestyle and budget, and award-winning golf communities are just some of the reasons St. Johns County is so highly sought after with unprecedented growth. In fact, Nocatee, a new walkable town balancing work and recreation, is the 3rd best-selling community in America.

St. Johns County is conveniently nestled in between Jacksonville and St. Augustine, giving you easy access to city life, historical landmarks, beach-front living, and only a 2-hour drive to Disney World!

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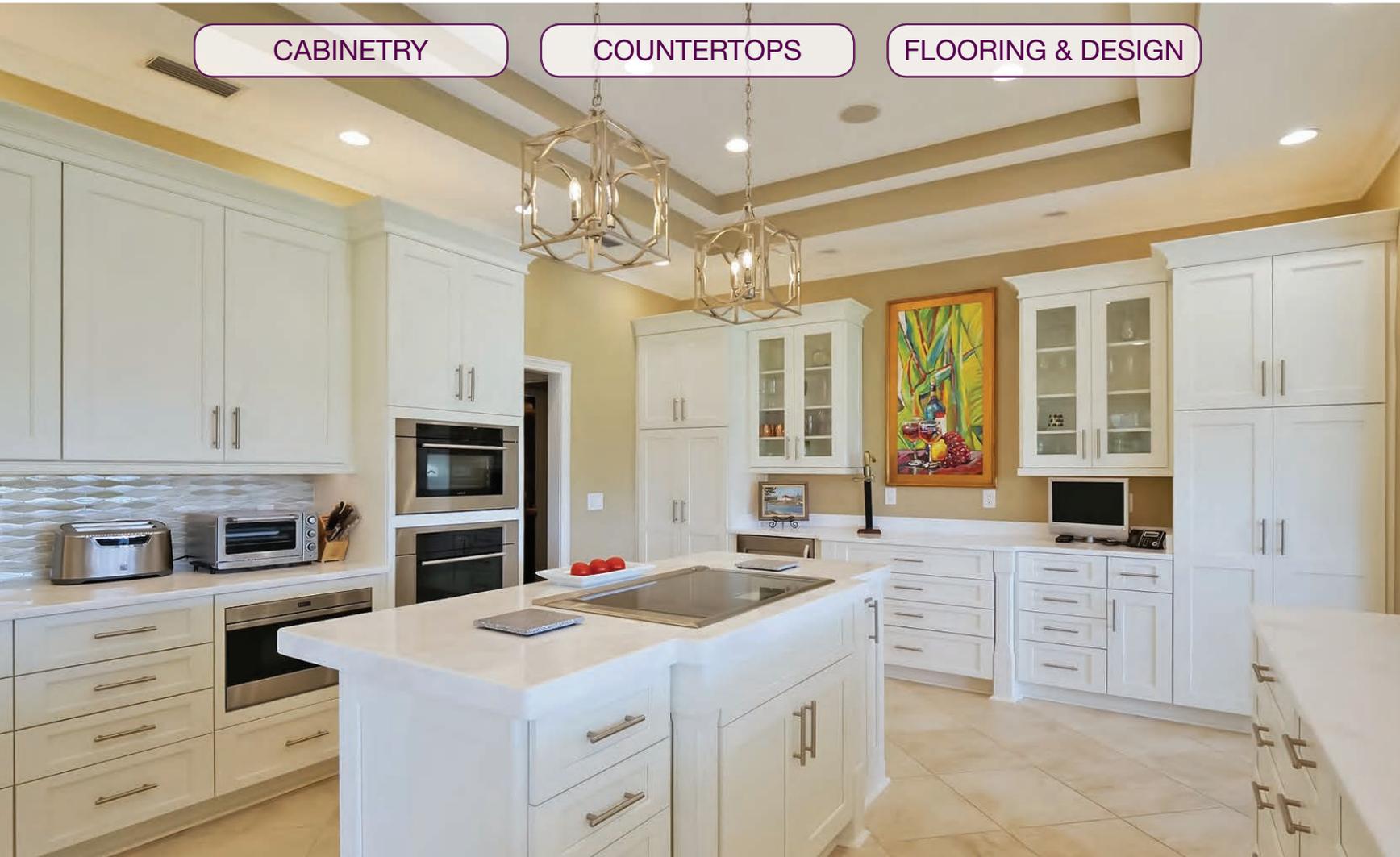


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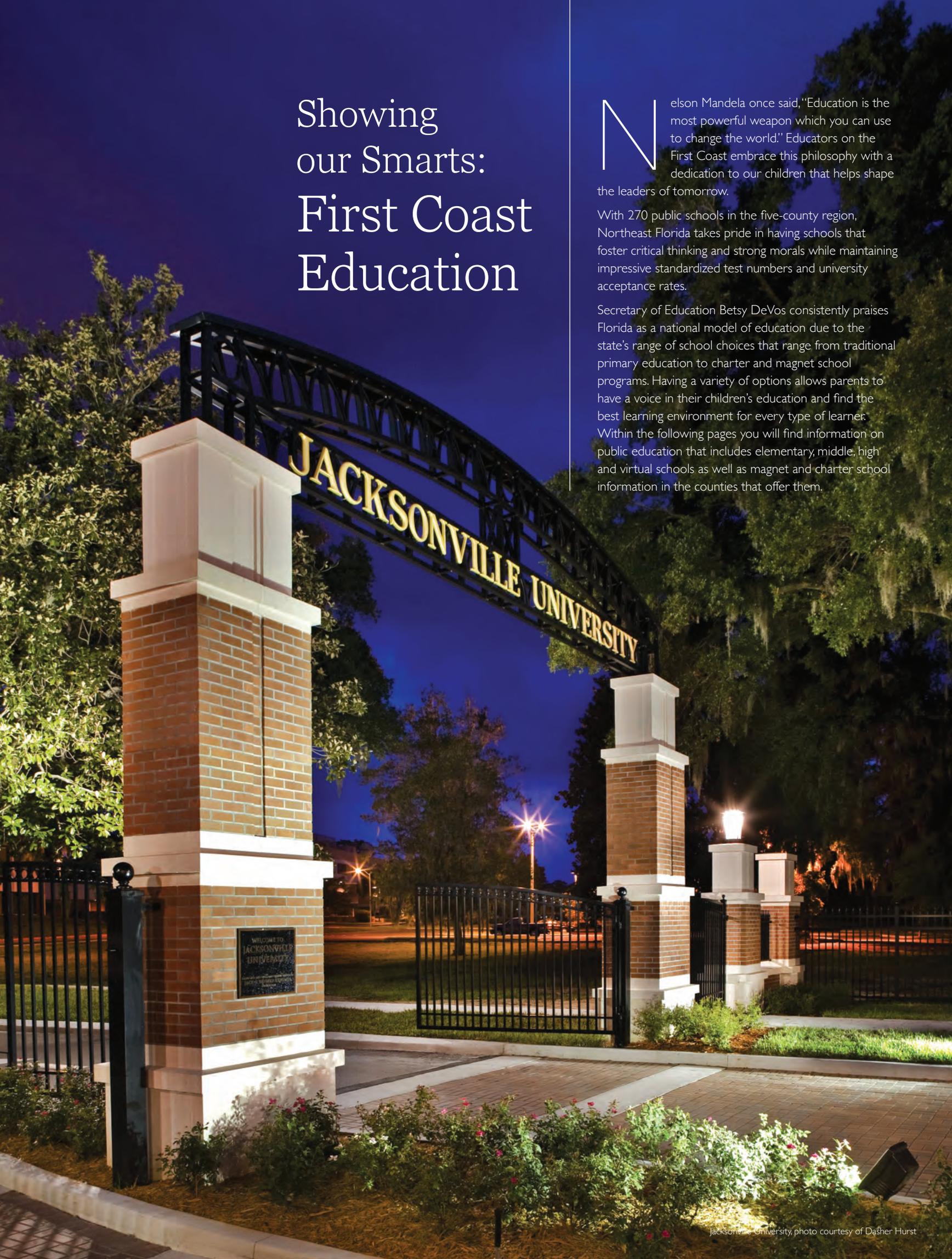
Woodsman, a long time provider to the area's top new home builders, has established itself as the 'one-stop-shop' for home remodeling customers as well. The Home Idea Center (on Beach Blvd.) showcases a full array of the latest cabinetry, countertops and flooring options in residential vignettes and displays.



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Showing our Smarts: First Coast Education

Nelson Mandela once said, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Educators on the First Coast embrace this philosophy with a dedication to our children that helps shape the leaders of tomorrow.

With 270 public schools in the five-county region, Northeast Florida takes pride in having schools that foster critical thinking and strong morals while maintaining impressive standardized test numbers and university acceptance rates.

Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos consistently praises Florida as a national model of education due to the state's range of school choices that range from traditional primary education to charter and magnet school programs. Having a variety of options allows parents to have a voice in their children's education and find the best learning environment for every type of learner. Within the following pages you will find information on public education that includes elementary, middle, high and virtual schools as well as magnet and charter school information in the counties that offer them.

Public Schools



Photo courtesy of Clay County District Schools

BAKER COUNTY

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Career and Adult Education | 259-0403 |
| Exceptional Student Education | 259-7825 |
| Family Service Center | 259-7871 |
| Nutritional Services | 259-4330 |
| Transportation Department..... | 259-2444 |

Elementary Schools

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| J. Franklyn Keller Intermediate | 259-4244 |
| Macclenny Elementary | 259-2551 |
| Westside Elementary | 259-2216 |

Middle Schools

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Baker County Middle | 259-2226 |
|---------------------------|----------|

As one of his first actions as Governor, Gov. Ron DeSantis issued an executive order on January 31, 2019, to eliminate Common Core from Florida's education curriculum.

High Schools

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Baker County High | 259-6286 |
|-------------------------|----------|

CLAY COUNTY

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

| | |
|---|----------|
| Adult and Community Education | 336-4450 |
| Exceptional Student Education | 336-6866 |
| Facility Planning and Construction..... | 336-6825 |
| Maintenance..... | 336-6831 |
| Operations | 336-6500 |
| School Food Services | 336-6855 |
| Transportation Department..... | 336-0001 |

Elementary Schools

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Argyle | 336-0375 |
| Bannerman Learning Center..... | 336-4975 |
| Charles E. Bennett | 336-0475 |
| Clay Hill | 336-0775 |
| Clay Virtual Academy..... | 336-9875 |
| Coppergate..... | 336-0675 |
| Discovery Oaks | 336-4275 |
| Doctors Inlet..... | 336-0975 |
| Fleming Island | 336-1075 |
| Grove Park..... | 336-1275 |
| Keystone Heights..... | 336-1375 |



The School District of Clay County exists to prepare lifelong learners for success in a global and competitive workplace and in acquiring applicable life skills. Our mission is to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to provide a public education experience that is motivating, challenging and rewarding for all children.



Clay County District Schools

Discovering Endless Possibilities



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| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Lake Asbury..... | 336-1525 |
| Lakeside | 336-1675 |
| McRae | 336-2125 |
| Middleburg | 336-1875 |
| Montclair | 336-1975 |
| Oakleaf Village | 336-2425 |
| Orange Park..... | 336-2275 |
| Paterson | 336-2575 |
| Plantation Oaks..... | 336-2775 |
| RideOut..... | 336-2875 |
| Ridgeview | 336-3075 |
| S. Bryan Jennings..... | 336-3175 |
| Shadowlawn | 336-3375 |
| Swimming Pen Creek..... | 336-3475 |
| Thunderbolt..... | 336-3675 |
| Tynes..... | 336-3850 |
| W.E. Cherry | 336-3975 |
| Wilkinson | 336-4075 |

Middle/Junior High Schools

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Bannerman Learning Center..... | 336-4975 |
| Clay Virtual Academy..... | 336-0775 |
| Green Cove Springs..... | 336-5175 |
| Keystone Heights..... | 336-7775 |
| Lake Asbury..... | 336-5375 |
| Lakeside | 336-5575 |
| Oakleaf | 336-5775 |
| Orange Park..... | 336-5975 |
| Wilkinson | 336-6175 |

High Schools

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Bannerman Learning Center..... | 336-4975 |
| Clay..... | 336-7175 |
| Clay Virtual Academy..... | 336-0775 |
| Fleming Island | 336-7500 |
| Keystone Heights..... | 336-7775 |
| Middleburg..... | 336-8075 |
| Oakleaf | 336-8375 |
| Orange Park..... | 336-8675 |
| Ridgeview | 336-8975 |



In 1979, Dr. Frances Barnett Kinne became the first woman to serve as president of a Floridian university. She led Jacksonville University as president for 10 years and then served as its chancellor from 1989 to 1994. In 2017, she celebrated her 100th birthday.



Photo courtesy of Clay County District Schools



Clay County District Schools

Clay County Schools is now an “A” district and is ranked eighth in the state! Under Superintendent Addison Davis’ leadership, Clay reached the highest graduation rate in the history of the county in 2017 at 88.4 percent. Students, teachers, staff, board members and leadership worked extremely hard to enhance the educational experience for all learners, and achieving this goal is a result of their focus and dedication.

In the 2017-2018 school year, the District launched several programs and services to assist families and students with overall health and wellness, including a Community Partnership School at Wilkinson Junior High, a district Bullying Hotline, and additional counselors and health professionals at school sites. The District’s focus on the emotional and mental health of students plays an important role in creating the most successful academic experience for children and youth.

Clay County also opened its newest school, Discovery Oaks Elementary, in August to accommodate the growing number of families and students in Oakleaf. The district designed the school with a focus on STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) to prepare students for the future. STEAM is integrated into all facets of the school including academics, music, physical education and extracurriculars. STEAM is a mindset that will help students become collaborative, real-world problem solvers inside and outside the classroom.

The District is continually adding innovative strategies and choice programs combined with the latest education technology to enhance learning. With Clay’s Career and Technical Education programs, junior high and high school students can earn industry certifications and embark on the road to success in a global and competitive workplace upon graduation. Clay now offers more opportunities for student achievement through a Montessori program at Swimming Pen Creek Elementary and more accelerated learning paths including the International Baccalaureate program and the Cambridge AICE and Pre-AICE programs.

Clay County continues to see exponential growth as new residents, businesses, builders, and military families move into the area. The District is planning to build seven new schools in the next 20 years to welcome incoming families and make certain every child has the best opportunity for a quality, rigorous, world-class education.

The District will continue to dedicate its efforts to enrich the academic experiences for all students and create a climate and culture that fosters collaboration, transparency and most importantly, a safe environment, as it strives to become a Top Five school district in the state!

DUVAL COUNTY

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

| | |
|--|----------|
| Communications..... | 390-2126 |
| Community Education..... | 858-6080 |
| Curriculum and Instruction | 390-2377 |
| Exceptional Education and Student Services | 348-7800 |
| Food Service | 732-5145 |
| Transportation Department..... | 858-6200 |

DUVAL-BEACHES

Elementary Schools

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Alimacani..... | 221-7101 |
| Atlantic Beach | 247-5924 |
| Axson, J. Allen..... | 992-3600 |
| Chets Creek..... | 992-6390 |
| Finegan, Joseph..... | 247-5996 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Jacksonville Beach..... | 247-5942 |
| Mayport | 247-5988 |
| Neptune Beach..... | 247-5954 |
| San Pablo | 247-5947 |
| Seabreeze | 247-5900 |

Middle Schools

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Fletcher, Duncan | 247-5929 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Mayport Coastal Sciences..... | 247-5977 |

High Schools

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Fletcher, Duncan | 247-5905 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Marine Science Center | 247-5973 |

DUVAL-NORTH

Elementary Schools

| | |
|---|----------|
| Abess Park | 220-1260 |
| Arlington..... | 745-4900 |
| Arlington Heights..... | 745-4923 |
| Biltmore | 693-7569 |
| Biscayne | 714-4650 |
| Brewer, Don | 745-4990 |
| Carver, George W..... | 924-3122 |
| Daniels, R.V. | 630-6872 |
| Dinsmore | 924-3126 |
| Evans, Saint Clair Academy | 924-3035 |
| Ford, John E. PreK-8 | 630-6540 |
| Fort Caroline | 745-4904 |
| Garden City | 924-3130 |
| Highlands | 696-8754 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Hull, Samuel A. | 924-3136 |
| Jefferson, Thomas | 693-7500 |
| King, Martin Luther | 924-3027 |
| Kite, Henry F. | 924-3031 |
| Lake Forest | 924-3024 |
| Lake Lucina | 745-4916 |
| Livingston, S.P..... | 630-6580 |
| Lone Star..... | 565-2711 |
| Mathis, Sallye B. | 924-3086 |
| Merrill Road | 745-4919 |
| Mount Herman Exceptional Student Center | 630-6740 |
| New Berlin..... | 714-4601 |
| Oceanway | 696-8762 |
| Parkwood Heights..... | 720-1670 |



| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Payne, Rufus E..... | 924-3020 |
| Pearson, Rutledge H..... | 924-3077 |
| Pine Estates..... | 696-8767 |
| Sabal Palm..... | 221-7169 |
| San Mateo..... | 696-8750 |
| Sheffield, Louis..... | 696-8758 |
| Tolbert, Susie E..... | 630-6860 |
| Waterleaf..... | 565-8000 |
| Woodland Acres..... | 720-1663 |

Middle Schools

| | |
|---|----------|
| Arlington..... | 720-1680 |
| Ford, John E. PreK-8..... | 630-6540 |
| Fort Caroline..... | 745-4927 |
| Highlands..... | 696-8771 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Landmark..... | 221-7125 |
| Mount Herman Exceptional Student Center..... | 630-6740 |
| Northwestern..... | 924-3100 |
| Oceanway..... | 714-4680 |
| Palm Avenue Exceptional Student Center..... | 693-7516 |
| Young Men's and Women's Leadership Schools at Eugene J. Butler..... | 630-6900 |

High Schools

| | |
|---|----------|
| First Coast..... | 757-0080 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Palm Avenue Exceptional Student Center..... | 693-7516 |
| Parker, Terry..... | 720-1650 |
| Paxon School for Advanced Studies..... | 693-7583 |

DUVAL-SOUTH

Elementary Schools

| | |
|--|----------|
| Bartram Springs..... | 260-5860 |
| Beaulclerc..... | 739-5226 |
| Brookview..... | 565-2720 |
| Crown Point..... | 260-5808 |
| Duval Virtual Instruction Academy..... | 390-2037 |
| Englewood..... | 739-5280 |
| Greenfield..... | 739-5249 |
| Greenland Pines..... | 260-5450 |
| Hendricks Avenue..... | 346-5610 |
| Hogan-Spring Glen..... | 720-1640 |
| Holiday Hill..... | 720-1676 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Kernan Trail..... | 220-1310 |
| Kings Trail..... | 739-5254 |
| Loretto..... | 260-5800 |
| Love Grove..... | 720-1645 |

| | |
|-------------------------|----------|
| Mandarin Oaks..... | 260-5820 |
| Pine Forest..... | 346-5600 |
| San Jose..... | 739-5260 |
| Southside Estates..... | 565-2706 |
| Spring Park..... | 346-5640 |
| Twin Lakes Academy..... | 538-0238 |
| Windy Hill..... | 565-2700 |

Middle Schools

| | |
|--|----------|
| Alden Road Exceptional Student Center..... | 565-2722 |
| duPont, Alfred I..... | 739-5200 |
| Duval Virtual Instruction Academy..... | 390-2037 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Kernan..... | 220-1350 |
| Landon..... | 346-5650 |
| Mandarin..... | 292-0555 |
| Southside..... | 739-5238 |
| Twin Lakes Academy..... | 538-0825 |

High Schools

| | |
|--|----------|
| Alden Road Exceptional Student Center..... | 565-2722 |
| Anderson, Douglas School of the Arts..... | 346-5620 |
| Atlantic Coast..... | 538-5120 |
| Duval Virtual Instruction Academy..... | 390-2037 |
| Englewood..... | 739-5212 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Mandarin..... | 260-3911 |
| Samuel W. Wolfson School for Advanced Studies..... | 739-5265 |
| Sandalwood..... | 646-5100 |

DUVAL-WEST

Elementary Schools

| | |
|---|----------|
| Bayview..... | 381-3920 |
| Brentwood..... | 630-6630 |
| Bridge to Success Academy at West Jacksonville..... | 630-6592 |
| Brown, Richard L..... | 630-6570 |
| Cedar Hills..... | 573-1050 |
| Central Riverside..... | 381-7495 |
| Chaffee Trail..... | 693-7510 |
| Chimney Lakes..... | 573-1100 |
| Crystal Springs..... | 693-7645 |
| Enterprise Learning Academy..... | 573-3260 |
| Fishweir..... | 381-3910 |
| GRASP Academy..... | 745-4909 |
| Gregory Drive..... | 573-1190 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Hyde Grove..... | 693-7562 |
| Hyde Park..... | 381-3950 |
| Jackson, Stonewall..... | 573-1020 |

**I
V
E**

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| Jacksonville Heights..... | 573-1120 |
| Jones, Mamie Agnes | 266-1214 |
| Long Branch..... | 630-6620 |
| Love, John | 630-6790 |
| Morgan, Annie R. | 381-3970 |
| Normandy Village..... | 693-7548 |
| North Shore..... | 924-3081 |
| Oak Hill Academy..... | 573-1030 |
| Ortega..... | 381-7460 |
| Pickett..... | 693-7555 |
| Pinedale..... | 381-7490 |
| Ramona Boulevard | 693-7576 |
| Reynolds Lane..... | 381-3960 |
| Robinson, Andrew A. | 630-6550 |
| Stockton, John N.C..... | 381-3955 |
| Tillis, Sadie T. | 573-1090 |
| Timucuan..... | 573-1130 |
| Upson, Ruth N. | 381-7485 |
| Venetia..... | 381-3990 |
| West Riverside | 381-3900 |
| Westview K-8 | 573-1082 |
| Whitehouse..... | 693-7542 |
| Woodson, Carter G. | 924-3004 |

Middle Schools

| | |
|--|----------|
| Baldwin Middle - High School..... | 266-1200 |
| Bridge to Success at West Jacksonville..... | 630-6592 |
| Darnell-Cookman..... | 630-6805 |
| Davis, Jefferson..... | 573-1060 |
| Gilbert, Matthew..... | 630-6700 |
| Grand Park Career Center | 630-6894 |
| GRASP Academy..... | 745-4909 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Johnson, James Weldon..... | 693-7600 |
| Kirby-Smith..... | 630-6600 |
| Lake Shore..... | 381-7440 |
| LaVilla School of the Arts | 633-6069 |
| Mattie V. Rutherford Alternative Education Center..... | 630-6782 |
| Ribault, Jean..... | 924-3062 |
| Stilwell, Joseph | 693-7523 |
| Stuart, J.E.B..... | 573-1000 |
| Westview K-8 | 573-1082 |

High Schools

| | |
|--|----------|
| Baldwin Middle-High School..... | 266-1200 |
| Bridge to Success at West Jacksonville..... | 630-6592 |
| Darnell-Cookman | 630-6805 |
| Grand Park Career Center | 630-6894 |
| Hospital Homebound..... | 381-3840 |
| Jackson, Andrew | 630-6950 |
| Lee, Robert E..... | 381-3930 |
| Mattie V. Rutherford Alternative Education Center..... | 630-6782 |
| Mount Herman Exceptional Student Center | 630-6740 |
| Peterson, Frank H. Academies of Technology | 573-1150 |
| Raines, William M..... | 924-3049 |
| Randolph, A. Philip Academies of Technology..... | 924-3011 |
| Ribault, Jean..... | 924-3092 |
| Stanton College Preparatory School..... | 630-6760 |
| Westside High School | 573-1170 |
| White, Edward H..... | 693-7620 |

NASSAU COUNTY

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

| | |
|--|----------|
| Administrative Services | 491-9906 |
| Adult Education & Drop Out Prevention..... | 548-1750 |
| Elementary Education | 491-9885 |
| Exceptional Student Education | 491-9881 |
| Food Services | 491-9924 |
| Transportation | 225-0127 |

Elementary Schools

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Bryceville | 266-9241 |
| Callahan | 879-2121 |
| Callahan Intermediate..... | 879-1114 |
| Emma Love Hardee | 491-7936 |
| Hilliard | 845-4471 |
| Nassau Virtual School..... | 277-9040 |
| Southside | 491-7941 |
| Yulee | 225-9711 |

Middle Schools

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Callahan | 879-3606 |
| Fernandina Beach..... | 491-7938 |
| Hilliard | 845-2171 |
| Nassau Virtual School..... | 866-339-8784 |
| Yulee | 225-5116 |



Photo courtesy of Stanton College Preparatory School

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High Schools

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Fernandina Beach..... | 261-5713 |
| Hilliard..... | 845-2171 |
| Nassau Virtual School..... | 866-339-8784 |
| West Nassau..... | 879-3461 |
| Yulee..... | 225-8641 |

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

FREQUENTLY CALLED NUMBERS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Career and Technical Education | 547-4870 |
| Exceptional Student Education | 547-7672 |
| Head Start | 547-8965 |
| School Services | 547-7583 |
| Transportation Department..... | 547-7810 |

Elementary Schools

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Cunningham Creek | 547-7860 |
| Durbin Creek..... | 547-3880 |
| Freedom Crossing Academy | 547-4230 |
| Hickory Creek..... | 547-7450 |
| John A. Crookshank..... | 547-7840 |
| Julington Creek..... | 547-7980 |
| Ketterlinus | 547-8540 |
| Liberty Pines Academy | 547-7900 |
| Mill Creek..... | 547-3720 |
| Ocean Palms..... | 547-3760 |
| Osceola | 547-3780 |
| Otis A. Mason..... | 547-8440 |
| Palencia | 547-4010 |
| Palm Valley Academy..... | 547-4201 |
| Patriot Oaks Academy..... | 547-4050 |
| Picolata Crossing | 547-4160 |

| | |
|---------------------------|----------|
| PVPV – Rawlings..... | 547-3820 |
| R.B. Hunt..... | 547-7960 |
| South Woods | 547-8610 |
| St. Johns Virtual | 547-8080 |
| Timberlin Creek | 547-7400 |
| Valley Ridge Academy..... | 547-4090 |
| W.D. Hartley..... | 547-8400 |
| Wards Creek..... | 547-8730 |
| Webster | 547-3860 |

Middle Schools

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Alice B. Landrum..... | 547-8410 |
| Fruit Cove | 547-7880 |
| Gamble Rogers..... | 547-8700 |
| Liberty Pines Academy | 547-7900 |
| Pacetti Bay | 547-8760 |
| Patriot Oaks Academy..... | 547-4050 |
| R.J. Murray..... | 547-8470 |
| Sebastian..... | 547-3840 |
| St. Johns Virtual | 547-8080 |
| Switzerland Point..... | 547-8650 |
| Valley Ridge Academy..... | 547-4090 |

High Schools

| | |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Allen D. Nease..... | 547-8300 |
| Bartram Trail..... | 547-8340 |
| Creekside..... | 547-7300 |
| Pedro Menendez | 547-8660 |
| Ponte Vedra | 547-7350 |
| St. Augustine | 547-8530 |
| St. Johns Technical..... | 547-8500 |
| St. Johns Virtual | 547-8080 |

Private Schools



Bolles Hall Courtyard

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Crossroads School | 625-6141 |
| www.crossroadsschools.com | |
| Faith Christian Academy | 276-1300 |
| www.fcaflorida.com | |
| Grace Episcopal Day School..... | 269-3718 |
| www.geds.net | |
| HighPoint Christian Academy | 272-7949 |
| www.highpointchristianacademy.net | |
| Keystone Christian Academy, Inc..... | 352-639-0684 |
| www.keystonechristianacademy.org | |
| Madeira Christian Academy..... | 291-1875 |
| Mound Street Christian Academy | 269-7248 |
| www.msca.academy.com | |
| Pinewood Christian Academy | 272-6408 |
| www.pcaknights.org | |
| Seven Bridges School | 269-7377 |
| www.sevenbridgesschool.org | |
| St. Johns Country Day School | 264-9572 |
| www.sjcds.net | |

DUVAL COUNTY

DUVAL-BEACHES

| | |
|--|----------|
| Beaches Chapel School..... | 241-4211 |
| www.beacheschapelschool.com | |
| Beaches Episcopal School..... | 246-2466 |
| www.beacheseπισcopschool.org | |
| Beaches School, The | 249-0905 |
| www.thebeachesschool.com | |
| Discovery Montessori School | 247-4577 |
| www.dmsonline.org | |
| Foundation Academy, The | 493-7300 |
| www.foundationacademy.com | |
| Montessori Tides School..... | 241-1139 |
| www.montessoritides.com | |
| New Leaf, School for Change | 246-9100 |
| www.newleafschool.com | |
| Noble School, The | 309-2154 |
| www.nobleschooljax.org | |
| Providence School | 223-5270 |
| www.prov.org | |
| ► See our ad page 74 | |
| St. Paul's Catholic School - Jacksonville Beach..... | 249-5934 |
| www.stpaulscatholicsschool.com | |

DUVAL-NORTH

| | |
|--|----------|
| Arlington Country Day School | 762-0123 |
| www.arlingtoncountrydayschoolfoundation.org | |
| Arlington Kindergarten | 743-4034 |
| www.arlingtonkindergarten.com | |
| Bethel Holiness Academy | 781-5400 |
| Chatman's Early Learning Christian Academy | 751-9803 |
| Christ The King Catholic School..... | 724-2954 |
| www.ctkcatholic.com | |
| Faith Academy | 714-0040 |
| Grace Lutheran School..... | 928-9136 |
| www.gracelutheraneagles.org | |

BAKER COUNTY

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| United Christian Academy | 259-1199 |
|--------------------------------|----------|

CLAY COUNTY

| | |
|--|----------|
| American Heritage Academy | 269-2405 |
| www.heritageministry.net | |
| Annunciation Catholic School | 282-0504 |
| www.annunciationcatholic.org | |
| Berean Christian Academy | 773-8404 |
| www.thebereanbaptistchurch.com | |
| Broach School, The | 298-3500 |
| www.broachschool.com | |
| Calvary Christian Academy | 282-0407 |
| www.calvarycares.net/CBC/Academy.html | |
| Center Academy - Orange Park | 276-3552 |
| www.centeracademy.com | |
| Christian Home Academy | 276-3339 |
| www.christianhomeacademy.info | |
| Citizen's High School | 276-1700 |
| www.citizenshighschool.com | |
| Congregational Holiness Church School | 529-1798 |



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Whitehurst Pre-K-5
Bartram 6-8
San Jose 9-12

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and Boarding for Grades 9-12
with 5- and 7-day options.



| | |
|--|----------|
| Harvest Christian Academy | 724-8223 |
| Holy Spirit Catholic School | 642-9165 |
| www.hscatholicschool.com | |
| Little Country School, The..... | 757-8200 |
| www.littlecountryschool.com | |
| Parsons Christian Academy | 745-4588 |
| Promise Land Academy..... | 268-2422 |
| www.promiselandschools.org | |
| Resurrection Parish Catholic School | 744-1266 |
| www.resurrectionschooljax.com | |
| St. Patrick's Catholic School | 768-6323 |
| www.stpatricksjacksonville.org | |
| Victory Christian Academy | 764-7781 |
| www.vcasoldiers.com | |

DUVAL-SOUTH

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| A Child's Place Montessori School - Southpoint | 733-5797 |
| www.achildsplace.info | |
| Academie de Montessori | 398-3830 |
| www.academie-de-montessori.org | |
| Al-Furqan Academy | 645-0810 |
| www.afa.icnef.org | |
| Assumption Catholic School | 398-1774 |
| www.assumptionjax.org | |
| Baymeadows Christian Academy..... | 733-3400 |
| www.bcjax.org | |
| Bishop Kenny High School | 398-7545 |
| www.bishopkenny.org | |

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| Blessed Trinity Catholic School | 641-6458 |
| www.blessedtrinitycatholicschool.org | |

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| Bolles School, The | 733-9292 |
| www.bolles.org | |

► See our ad this page

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| Broach School - Southside..... | 674-0900 |
| www.broachschool.com | |

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| Christ's Church Academy | 268-8667 |
| www.ccajax.org | |

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| Christian Heritage Academy | 733-4722 |
| www.chajax.org | |

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| Conservative Christian Academy..... | 268-7778 |
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| Cornerstone Christian School | 730-5500 |
| www.ccsjax.org | |

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| Episcopal School of Jacksonville | 396-5751 |
| www.esj.org | |

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| Father's Harbor Academy | 306-9579 |
| www.fathersharboracademy.com | |

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| Harvest Community School | 997-1882 |
| www.hcsjax.org | |

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| Holy Family Catholic School | 645-9875 |
| www.hfcatholicschool.com | |

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| Impact Christian Academy..... | 652-1441 |
| www.icajax.com | |

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| Jacksonville Adventist Academy | 268-2433 |
| www.jaxaa.org | |

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| Jacksonville Country Day School | 641-6644 |
| www.jcds.com | |

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| Martin J. Gottlieb Day School..... | 268-4200 |
| www.mjgds.org | |
| New Dimensions Learning Center | 739-1062 |
| www.ndlcjax.com | |
| San Jose Catholic School | 733-2313 |
| www.sanjosecatholicsschool.com | |
| San Jose Episcopal Day School | 733-0352 |
| www.sjeds.org | |
| ► See our ad page 75 | |
| St. Joseph Catholic School..... | 268-6688 |
| www.stjosephcs.org | |
| Torah Academy of Jacksonville | 268-7719 |
| www.torah-academy.com | |
| University Christian School | 737-6330 |
| www.ucjax.org | |

DUVAL-WEST

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| Argyle Christian Preschool & Kindergarten | 778-4838 |
| www.argylechristianpreschoolandkindergarten.org | |
| Bible Baptist Academy | 765-5111 |
| http://jacksonville.bible-baptist-church.us | |
| Bishop John J. Snyder High School..... | 771-1029 |
| www.bishopjohnj.org | |
| Broach School - Westside | 389-5106 |
| www.broachschool.com | |
| Cedar Creek Christian School | 781-9151 |
| www.ccbaptist.org | |

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| Cedar Hills Baptist Christian School | 772-0812 |
| www.chbcs.org | |
| Crossroads Schools..... | 652-1282 |
| www.crossroadsschools.com | |
| Eagle's View Academy | 786-1411 |
| www.evajax.com | |
| Ephesus Junior Academy | 765-3225 |
| www.ephesusjunioracademy.com | |
| Esprit de Corps Center for Learning | 924-2000 |
| www.edccenterforlearning.com | |
| First Baptist Academy of Jacksonville | 265-7474 |
| www.fbcjaxacademy.com | |
| First Coast Christian School | 777-3040 |
| www.fccsjax.org | |
| Geraldine Ransome Fields Christian Academy | 713-8260 |
| Good Shepherd School & Daycare | 768-1580 |
| Grace Christian Academy | 266-9532 |
| Guardian Catholic Schools | 765-6522 |
| www.guardiancatholicsschools.org | |
| Heart to Heart Christian Academy..... | 783-8631 |
| www.h2hacademy.com | |
| Jacksonville Christian Academy | 783-2818 |
| Joshua Christian Academy | 388-2227 |
| www.joshuachristian.org/JCA/jca | |

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| KidsPark | 683-4554 |
| www.kidspark.com | |
| Millennial Christian School | 772-6400 |
| www.celebratelearning.com | |
| New Beginnings Christian Academy | 786-3178 |
| www.nbca.nbccjax.org | |
| Old Plank Christian Academy | 783-6942 |
| www.oprbc.org | |
| Potter's House Christian Academy | |
| Elementary | 786-0028 |
| High School | 695-2837 |
| www.phcalions.org | |
| Riverside Presbyterian Day School | 353-5511 |
| www.rpds.com | |
| Sacred Heart Catholic School | 771-5800 |
| www.sacredheartcatholicjax.org | |
| St. Mark's Episcopal Day School | 388-2632 |
| www.stmarksdayschool.org | |
| St. Matthew's Catholic School | 387-4401 |
| http://stmatthewscs.com | |
| St. Paul's Catholic School - Riverside | 387-2841 |
| www.spsjax.org | |
| St. Pius V Parish School | 354-2613 |
| www.guardiancatholicschools.org | |
| Temple Christian Academy | 778-8655 |
| www.templechristian.net | |
| Trinity Christian Academy | 596-2400 |
| www.tcjax.org | |
| West Meadows Baptist Academy | 786-2711 |
| www.wmbcjax.org | |

NASSAU COUNTY

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| Amelia Island Montessori School | 261-6610 |
| www.ameliaislandmontessori.com | |
| Early Impressions @ Midtown | 206-4170 |
| www.earlyimpressionsfl.com | |
| Faith Christian Academy | 321-2137 |
| www.fcaangels.com | |
| Fernandina Beach Christian Academy | 491-5664 |
| www.fernandinachristianacademy.com | |
| Lighthouse Christian School Callahan | 507-6683 |
| www.lighthousechristianschool.net/callahan-campus | |
| Ogburn School, The | 491-6233 |
| www.ogburn.org | |
| Sonshine Christian Academy | 879-1260 |
| www.sonshinechristian.com | |
| St. Michael's Academy | 321-2102 |
| http://smacad.org | |

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ST. JOHNS COUNTY

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| Apex Christian Academy | 824-8114 |
| www.apexchristian.com | |
| Beacon of Hope Christian School | 797-6996 |
| www.beaconeagles.net | |
| Bolles School, The | 285-4658 |
| www.bolles.org | |
| ► See our ad page 73 | |
| Cathedral Parish School | 824-2861 |
| www.thecathedralparishschool.org | |
| Matanzas Christian Academy | 794-1623 |
| www.matanzasacademy.com | |
| Palmer Catholic Academy | 543-8515 |
| www.pcapvb.org | |
| San Juan Del Rio Catholic School | 287-8081 |
| www.sjdrparish.org | |
| St. John's Academy | 824-9224 |
| www.stjohnsacademy.com | |
| St. Johns Grammar School | 287-8760 |
| St. Joseph Academy Catholic High School | 824-0431 |
| www.sjaweb.org | |
| Turning Point Christian Academy | 824-0744 |
| www.tpcalvary.com | |
| Victory Preparatory School | 810-0535 |
| www.victoryprep.net | |



Charter Schools

Charter schools are tuition-free public schools of choice, but each charter school is governed independently. Unlike traditional public schools, every charter school must demonstrate success, or it will lose its charter.

CLAY COUNTY

- Clay Charter Academy 406-1607
www.claycharter.org
- St. Johns Classical Academy 458-8240
www.stjca.org

DUVAL COUNTY

DUVAL-BEACHES

- Florida Cyber Charter Academy@Duval 855-748-4737
www.flcca.k12.com
- Seaside Community Charter School Beaches 853-6287
<http://seasidebeaches.seasideconsortium.org>

DUVAL-NORTH

- Biscayne High School..... 301-4367
<http://biscaynehs.com>
- Florida Cyber Charter Academy@Duval 855-748-4737
www.flcca.k12.com
- Global Outreach Charter Academy..... 551-7104
www.goca.us
- Lone Star High School 725-5998
<https://jaxlonestarhs.com>
- Seacoast Charter Academy 562-4780
<http://seacoastcharteracademy.org>
- Somerset Academy Eagle Campus 551-3292
www.somersetacademy-jacksonville.org

DUVAL-SOUTH

- BridgePrep Academy of Duval 694-2660
<https://baduval.bridgeprepacademy.com>
- Duval Charter Scholars Academy 724-1536
www.duvalcharter.org
- Duval Charter School at Baymeadows..... 638-7947
www.baymeadowscharter.org
- Duval Charter School at Coastal 512-6757
www.coastalcharter.org
- Duval Charter at Flagler Center 899-1010
www.flaglercharter.org
- Duval Charter School at Mandarin..... 440-2901
www.mandarincharter.org

- Duval Charter School at Southside..... 423-5348
www.southsidecharter.org
- Florida Cyber Charter Academy@Duval 855-748-4737
www.flcca.k12.com
- River City Science Academy 855-8010
www.rivercityscience.org
▶ See our ad page 78
- San Jose Academy 425-1725
<http://sanjoseprep.org>
- Seaside Charter K-8 San Jose..... 619-3933
<http://seasidesanjose.seasideconsortium.org>

DUVAL-WEST

- Duval Charter School at Westside 421-0250
www.westsidecharter.org
- Florida Cyber Charter Academy@Duval 855-748-4737
www.flcca.k12.com
- KIPP Public Charter School 683-6643
www.kippjax.org
- MYcro School 783-3611
<http://mycroschool.org>
- SAL Tech..... 328-5001
<http://saltechjax.org>
- School of Success (SOS) Academy Charter Middle School 573-0880
www.schoolofsuccessjax.org
- Tiger Academy 309-6840
www.ymcatigeracademy.org
- Waverly Academy 647-8552
www.waverlyacademy.org
- Wayman Academy of the Arts 695-9995
www.waymanacademy.org

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

- Arc of the St. Johns, The 824-7249
www.arcsj.org
- St. Augustine Public Montessori School 342-5350
www.staugustinemontessori.com
- St. Johns Community Campus Charter School, The 209-6842
www.arcsj.org/communitycampus.html
- Therapeutic Learning Center 824-8932
www.arcsj.org/therapeuticlearningcenter.html



River City Science Academy Nurtures Academic Excellence

Since 2007, River City Science Academy (RCSA) has been at the vanguard of Duval County charter schools, offering a private school atmosphere in a tuition-free public school setting.

Living up to its reputation for nurturing academic achievement by challenging students to excel, RCSA is the first Duval County charter school to receive an "A" grade and to be named a high-performing charter school by the Florida Department of Education.

Among RCSA's many honors are full accreditation as a quality school by AdvancED (formerly the Council on Accreditation and School Improvement of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools) and recognition as a Florida service-learning leader school by Florida Learn & Serve.

Offering an innovative science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) curriculum focus, River City Science Academy serves over 2,500

students from kindergarten through 12th grade at four campuses across Jacksonville.

Collaborative learning Transcends the Classroom

"River City Science Academy provides an unrivaled, collaborative learning experience in a safe, secure, welcoming family environment," says Dr. Dogan Tozoglu, RCSA's executive director, who applies his degree in educational psychology and learning systems from Florida State University as well as experience as a program specialist in Leon County. "With freedom and flexibility to be creative, RCSA's dedicated staff believes learning goes beyond classroom walls," Dr. Tozoglu adds, noting that faculty members lead a full spectrum of extracurricular activities from sports to television production to robotics. Students have the opportunity to participate in trips as far as Washington, D.C. and New York and compete in numerous local, state and regional academic contests.

RCSA student academic teams have taken top honors in state and regional Science Olympiads. Recently, their Middle-High Science Olympiad team won the State Championship. This was the first time a team from Duval County and surrounding areas ever won the State competition. RCSA went on to represent the state of Florida in the national competition in Denver, CO. Upon return, the team received recognition from the City Council and Mayor Lenny Curry. RCSA also hosts competitions as well as signature public events such as the STEM & Health Expo. In addition, RCSA has produced winners in Academic WorldQuest, Math League, Math Counts and History Fair events.

Students are devoted to community service, giving back through the National Honor Society and Interact Club. Students participate annually in the PeaceJam conference at Florida State University where they are able to interact and learn from Nobel laureates.

RIVER CITY SCIENCE ACADEMY

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4 LOCATIONS

RCSA Elementary Enrolling K-8
7450 Beach Blvd.
(904) 855-8010 ext. 2

RCSA Middle-High Enrolling 6-12
7555 Beach Blvd.
(904) 855-8010 ext. 1

RCSA Mandarin Enrolling K-8
10911 Old St. Augustine Rd.
(904) 855-8010 ext. 4

RCSA Innovation Enrolling K-8
8313 Baycenter Rd.
(904) 855-8010 ext. 3

Apply online! or call today. 
www.rivercityscience.org



River City Science Academy (RCSA) is a tuition-free Duval County public charter school located in Jacksonville with a focus in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). RCSA is an A school and recognized as a high performing charter school by the FL Department of Education.



RCSA's Mission

To ensure all students reach their maximum potential in a diverse, structured, and nurturing environment and to prepare students for a future in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and math

RCSA's Vision

- To ensure that students become successful in their subsequent education and responsible and productive citizens in a rapidly changing world
- To apply innovative methods and interdisciplinary instruction and rigor, creating a stimulating and student-centered learning environment
- To model, educate and engage students in critical thinking and problem solving by teaching the whole child extending beyond the classroom
- To be a catalyst for change in STEM education
- To graduate every student college or career ready

As a key participant in the newly formed Northeast Florida Regional STEM2 Hub, River City Science Academy is accelerating growth of leading-edge initiatives and encouraging students throughout the region to choose STEM-oriented career paths.

RCSA students prepare for college and beyond

RCSA is committed to preparing its students for college and to become tomorrow's leaders in the world.

Beginning in sixth grade, students are eligible to take part in RCSA's college mentorship program (CMP). They are matched with a mentor who helps them navigate a path from middle school to the college of their choice.

Opportunities to earn college credits while at RCSA are available through Advance Placement (AP) classes and a dual enrollment program with Florida State College at Jacksonville.

“With freedom and flexibility to be creative, RCSA’s dedicated staff believes learning goes beyond classroom walls.”

With a graduation rate of over 95%, RCSA is pleased that many of its students earn college scholarships and gain admission to some of the nation’s most prestigious universities.

Application for enrollment at RCSA is open to all Duval County residents. Applications and information on school tours can be found online at www.rivercityscience.org. Parents may also call 904-855-8010 with questions, to schedule a tour or an opportunity to shadow current students.



Photos courtesy of River City Science Academy

RCSA Elementary
7450 Beach Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32216
(904) 855-8010 ext. 2
www.rcsaelementary.org

RCSA Middle-High
7565 Beach Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32216
(904) 855-8010 ext. 1
www.rcsamhs.org

RCSA Innovation
8313 Baycenter Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32216
(904) 855-8010 ext. 3
www.rcsainnovation.org

RCSA Mandarin
10911 Old St. Augustine Rd.
Jacksonville, FL 32257
(904) 855-8010 ext. 4
www.rcsamandarin.org

Programs for Learning Differences

No two children are exactly the same and these differences are often reflected in the way they learn and process information. To meet the varying educational needs of Northeast Florida's children, our education system includes schools and programs that address autism spectrum disorders, learning disabilities, the needs of hearing, speech or visually impaired children, and children who fall within the range of gifted who are learning at a more advanced rate. With the multitude of education opportunities, all students with different learning abilities on the First Coast are able to reach their full potential.



Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind, photo by Michael Rivera for Wikimedia

CLAY COUNTY

Lighthouse Christian School
 Middleburg 406-4866
 Orange Park..... 272-2524
www.lighthousechristianschool.net

Lighthouse Christian Schools focus on the children who learn a little differently. By utilizing small class sizes and individualized instructions, students are able to learn in a supportive environment. Many of the students who study here go on to attend higher learning institutions.

Seven Bridges School 269-7377
www.sevenbridgesschool.org

With classes of 10 students or less, Seven Bridges School fosters a warm and personal learning environment. The school welcomes students with average to above average intelligence whose education is suffering because of learning differences. The school offers a full range of classes and even offers electives such as fine art studies and computer technology.

The G.I.F.T.ed Learning Center, Inc. 460-4623
www.thegiftedlearningcenter.com

Focusing on the multitude of ways special needs and autistic children learn, The G.I.F.T.ed Learning Center offers unique classes and therapies, including Zumba and music and sensory therapy. Students also benefit from the individualized curriculums, one on one instruction, class projects and monthly field trips. Students will receive a Completion Certificate upon graduation.

DUVAL COUNTY

DUVAL-BEACHES

DePaul School of Northeast Florida 223-3391
www.depaulschool.com

Children with dyslexia between second and eighth grade have the opportunity attend DePaul School of Northeast Florida where the curriculums are slow-paced, repetitive and deliberate. With specialized curriculums for each student, DePaul focuses on not only educating students, but making school a fun and positive experience.

DUVAL-NORTH

Greenwood School..... 726-5000
www.greenwoodjax.org

Greenwood School focuses on the unique strengths, challenges and needs of each student who walks through their doors. Students living with ADHD, dyslexia, autism, and various other differences are welcome. The school offers a multitude of classes and extracurricular activities, including coding, graphic design, archery, fencing and zoology. Two-thirds of their graduates attend higher learning institutions.

Jericho School, The 744-5110
www.thejerichoschool.org

The Jericho School is a private nonprofit school for students with autism and other developmental disabilities. With the use of Applied Behavior Analysis, students receive comprehensive, individualized and science-based programs. Each student is also privy to one-to-one or two-to-one learning environments.

Lighthouse Christian School - Arlington 642-4043
www.lighthousechristianschool.net

Lighthouse Christian Schools focus on the children who learn a little differently. By utilizing small class sizes and individualized instructions, students are able to learn in a supportive environment. Many of the students who study here go on to attend higher learning institutions.

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The Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind is a fully accredited, tuition-free state public school and outreach center available to eligible Pre-K and K-12 students who are deaf/hard of hearing, blind/visually impaired, or deafblind.

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www.fsdbk12.org

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DUVAL-SOUTH

Alden Road Exceptional Student Center 565-2722

Alden Road focuses on creating a positive learning environment that will enable their students to become productive members of the community. The center believes that all students are capable of learning, regardless of learning differences, if they are given appropriate instruction.

Center Academy
Mandarin 448-1956
St. John's Bluff 645-5366
www.centeracademy.com

The Center Academy provides students with well-rounded, specialized programs that work with their learning differences instead of against them. The school also offers college preparatory curriculums, dual enrollment and summer programs at both of their locations.

Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech 880-9001
www.clarkeschool.org

Clarke schools for Hearing and Speech is a "listening and learning program," meaning that instead of teaching hard of hearing and deaf students sign language, students learn how to listen and speak auditorily. After learning these skills, many students can be mainstreamed into nonspecialized schools. Clarke schools also provides summer camp programs, mainstream services, educational evaluations and professional development opportunities.

Great Strides School 886-3228
www.greatstridesrehab.com

Great Strides is a comprehensive rehabilitation facility that provides physical, speech, music and occupational therapy, applied behavior analysis, psychological services, autism evaluations and social skills groups. The school works with the families of their students to create a coordinated care plan for each individual. The facility is home to sensory rooms, rooms for group activities, individual therapy rooms and large gross motor rooms.

Jacksonville School for Autism 732-4343
www.jsakids.org

The Jacksonville School for Autism follows three main concepts for their students: educate with "outside of the desk" thinking, engage partnerships between parents and teachers, and inspire students to prepare them for adulthood. The school is a K-12 educational center that also provides early childhood development, vocational and enrichment programs.

Lighthouse Christian School - Mandarin 288-0673
www.lighthousechristianschool.net

Lighthouse Christian Schools focus on the children who learn a little differently. By utilizing small class sizes and individualized instructions, students are able to learn in a supportive environment. Many of the students who study here go on to attend higher learning institutions.

Little Star Center 928-0112
www.littlestarjax.com

The Little Star Center functions as a private school and behavior therapy center focusing on the needs of children who are on the autism spectrum or have other developmental differences. The center offers full and part time school programs with class sizes no larger than three students per teacher. Beyond classes, the center also has before and after school care, after-school and in-home therapy and summer camp programs.

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charm define inviting homes. Where an active recreational and social program fill every day. All in the A-rated St. Johns County School District. shearwaterliving.com

100 Kayak Way, St. Augustine, FL 32092

Morning Star School 721-2144
www.morningstar-jax.org

Morning Star is the only special education school in the Diocese of St. Augustine. The school serves children from kindergarten to 12th grade. They offer a multitude of services including: individualized academic instruction, religious courses, physical education, music and art classes, speech and language services, behavior support, and pet therapy.

North Florida School of Special Education 724-8323
www.northfloridaschool.org

The North Florida School of Special Education serves children and adults who have intellectual and developmental differences. Their students range from 6 to 40 years old. Students between 22 and 40 have the opportunity to partake in the school's post graduate program. Other programs include: speech, occupational and physical therapy, vocational training, independent living instruction, job placement services, and horticulture and culinary arts.

DUVAL-WEST

Lighthouse Christian School
Northside 353-7062
Westside 854-4599
www.lighthousechristianschool.net

Lighthouse Christian Schools focus on the children who learn a little differently. By utilizing small class sizes and individualized instructions, students are able to learn in a supportive environment. Many of the students who study here go on to attend higher learning institutions.

Mt. Herman Exceptional Student Center 630-6740

The Mt. Herman Exceptional Student Center works with children who have severe disabilities. However, instead of focusing their teachings on the disabilities, the center chooses to focus on the abilities of the students, which helps foster growth in academics, communication, independent functioning and social skills.

Palm Avenue Exceptional Student Center 693-7516

Palm Avenue believes that "Together everyone achieves more," and with their highly trained staff and nurturing environment, students are able to become active members of the community. The center has numerous programs including academics, business, athletic, work and transition services.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

STATE EDUCATIONAL AGENCY

Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind 800-344-3732
www.fldb.k12.fl.us

► See our ad page 80

The Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind (FSDB) is the only school of its kind in the state of Florida. Students with hearing or visual impairments are offered unique learning programs that are based on the communication and accessibility needs of the child. FSDB offers classes from kindergarten all the way through 12th grade and a multitude of athletic, recreational, extracurricular and performing arts opportunities. Since the FSDB curriculum meets Florida high school graduation requirements, a majority of the students are able and choose to continue their educations at higher learning institutions.

First Coast Child Care Resources

One of the more stress-inducing aspects of a move can be finding the right child care for your little ones. The good news is that the First Coast has both private and state-funded child care options that have stimulating curriculums, qualified staff, good reputations and clean, safe facilities. Contact any of the following child care resources for information on providers and programs available in your community.

Child Care Aware of America

800-424-2246
Email: info@childcareaware.org
www.childcareaware.org/state/florida

Early Learning Coalition of Duval

208-2044
www.elcduval.org/child-care

Early Learning Coalition of North Florida

726-1516
<https://elcnorthflorida.org>

Episcopal Children's Services

726-1500
www.ecs4kids.org

Florida Association for Child Care

Management
1095 Military Trl., Ste. 8619, Jupiter
800-322-2603
www.faccm.org

Florida Association for the Education of Young Children

2807 Remington Green Cir., Tallahassee
754-999-0544
<https://flaeyc.org>

Florida Department of Children and Families

5920 Arlington Expy., Jacksonville
723-2000
www.myflfamilies.com

Florida Head Start Association

111 N. Gadsden St., Ste. 200, Tallahassee
850-694-6477
www.flheadstart.org

Office of Early Learning

866-357-3239
Email: CCRRHelp@oel.myflorida.com
www.floridaearlylearning.com

2018 FSCJ alumni, photo courtesy of FSCJ



Adult Education

CLAY COUNTY

HIGHER EDUCATION

Fortis College..... 269-7086
www.fortis.edu

PUBLIC/STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

St. Johns River State College..... 276-6800
www.sjrstate.edu

DUVAL-BEACHES

HIGHER EDUCATION

Saint Leo University 249-0911
www.saintleo.edu
Southern Illinois University NS Mayport..... 246-4549
www.ehs.siu.edu/wed

DUVAL-NORTH

HIGHER EDUCATION

Florida State College at Jacksonville - North Campus 766-6500
www.fscj.edu
Zoe University 743-6166
www.zoeuniversity.org

PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Jacksonville University 256-7811
www.ju.edu

PUBLIC/STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

Florida State College at Jacksonville - North Campus 766-6500
www.fscj.edu

DUVAL-SOUTH

HIGHER EDUCATION

Chamberlain College of Nursing..... 251-8110
www.chamberlain.edu
Conservative Theological University 262-8275
www.conservative.edu
DeVry University 367-4942
www.devry.edu
Florida Coastal School of Law..... 680-7700
www.fcsl.edu
Florida State College at Jacksonville
 Open Campus..... 997-2500
 South Campus 646-2111
www.fscj.edu
Jacksonville Theological Seminary 786-5383
www.jts.edu
Keiser University 296-3440
www.keiseruniversity.edu
Logos Christian College & Graduate Schools..... 800-776-0127
www.logos.edu
NOVA Southeastern University 245-8910
www.nova.edu/campuses/jacksonville/index.html

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|---|----------|
| Strayer University | 538-1000 |
| www.strayer.edu | |
| University of North Florida - The Graduate School | 620-1360 |
| www.unf.edu/graduateschool | |

PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

| | |
|--|----------|
| Columbia College - Jacksonville | 338-9150 |
| www.ccis.edu | |
| University of Phoenix..... | 636-6645 |
| www.phoenix.edu | |
| Webster University - Jacksonville..... | 268-3037 |
| www.webster.edu/jacksonville | |

PUBLIC/STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Florida State College at Jacksonville | |
| Open Campus..... | 997-2500 |
| South Campus..... | 646-2111 |
| www.fscj.edu | |
| University of North Florida | 620-1000 |
| www.unf.edu | |

DUVAL-WEST

HIGHER EDUCATION

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University | 579-3796 |
| www.erau.edu | |
| Florida State College at Jacksonville | |
| Downtown Campus..... | 633-8100 |
| Kent Campus..... | 381-3400 |
| www.fscj.edu | |
| Southern Illinois University - NAS Jacksonville | 771-4258 |
| www.ehs.siu.edu/wed | |
| Trinity Baptist College | 800-786-2206 |
| www.tbc.edu | |

PRIVATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

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|--|----------|
| Columbia College - NAS Jacksonville..... | 778-9769 |
| www.ccis.edu | |
| Edward Waters College..... | 470-8000 |
| www.ewc.edu | |
| Webster University - NAS Jacksonville..... | 779-7124 |
| www.webster.edu/jacksonville | |

PUBLIC/STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Florida State College at Jacksonville | |
| Downtown Campus..... | 633-8100 |
| Kent Campus..... | 381-3400 |
| www.fscj.edu | |

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

HIGHER EDUCATION

| | |
|---|----------|
| First Coast Technical College | 547-3282 |
| www.fctc.edu | |
| Flagler College | 819-6220 |
| www.flagler.edu | |
| Florida Aviation Career Training, Inc | 824-9401 |
| www.florida-aviation.com | |
| University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences | 826-0084 |
| www.usa.edu/StAugustine | |

PUBLIC/STATE COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| St. Johns River State College..... | 808-7400 |
| www.sjrstate.edu | |

The University of North Florida



UNF photo by Stephanie Marty

The University of North Florida (UNF) campus was first established in 1969 when 1,000 acres between downtown Jacksonville and Jacksonville Beach were set aside for development of the university.

“When the University of North Florida opened its doors in October 1972, it brought together a remarkable group of professors, administrators and staff, along with both young and older undergraduate and graduate students. Now thirty-five years later, more than 50,000 UNF alumni live and work in Jacksonville and the First Coast region. Town and gown have built close ties beneficial to the entire area.” – UNF

Florida State College at Jacksonville



Florida State College at Jacksonville breaking ground in the 1970s

Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) has been serving the First Coast community for more than 50 years and continues to rank among the top colleges and universities in Florida.

“Our students have just completed high school, the first in their family to go to college, working adults, single mothers or fathers going back to school, career changers and active-duty military or veterans looking to earn their degree. They are just like you. We understand and value the individual needs of our students and work together to develop the right path for each person.” – FSCJ



Mayo Clinic/Beaches Exterior- Aerial View

Wolfson Children's Hospital



Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center; photo by Stephanie Marty

Sunshine & Stethoscopes: Health Care on the First Coast

The First Coast is home to an abundance of wonderful health care facilities that provide world-class care and use cutting edge technology to better serve the area. The hospitals not only serve the residents of the First Coast, but also draw in patients from all over the country due to their unparalleled service.

Boasting the prestigious University of Florida name, **UF Health Jacksonville** is the First Coast's largest hospital. However, more than 3,300 staff members make the 603-bed facility feel like home. UF Health was recently awarded the 2019 Healthgrades Specialty Excellence Awards for their work in cranial neurosurgery and critical care. They have also been recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* for their diabetes and endocrinology, nephrology and orthopaedic work.

One of the newest additions to the First Coast health care industry, **UF Health North** has wasted no time making a name for themselves on the Northside. This location is a 92-bed hospital that covers 30 specialties, has all private rooms, 12 large birthing suites and two obstetric operating rooms. The facility also brings the first open MRI to the Northside and a 3-D digital breast tomosynthesis. In 2017, UF Health North was awarded two Patient Satisfaction 5-Star Awards for Overall Quality Care by PRC, an independent organization that measures patient satisfaction.

Jacksonville is home to three St. Vincent's HealthCare/Ascension facilities. St. Vincent's is a faith-based, not-for-profit health system that has served the First Coast since 1873 and is known for their compassion and state-of-the-art care.

The largest of the three is **St. Vincent's Medical Center Riverside**, known for their cancer and cardiovascular programs, which is the largest of its kind all the way from Atlanta to Orlando. The Riverside branch is also home to a spine institute that was named one of America's best hospitals for spinal surgery by Healthgrades. St. Vincent's Riverside was also named one of the Top 5 hospitals in knee replacements by Consumer Reports.

St. Vincent's Medical Center Southside was founded in 1873 as the oldest private hospital in Florida. For over 140 years, the Southside location has provided residents with state-of-the-art treatments for breast health, urgent care, primary care and imaging, and cancer services. The 309-bed facility is also home to the area's only all-private neonatal intensive care rooms. St. Vincent's Southside is the only community hospital in the Jacksonville area to receive the baby friendly designation from the World Health Organization and UNICEF.

St. Vincent's Healthcare also has a Clay County affiliate. **St. Vincent's Medical Center Clay County** is the first ICU unit in the state to use special ICU technology that allows patients to maintain constant digital surveillance to ensure safer emergency stays and fast physician reaction times. Recently, the Clay campus finished a \$33.1 million expansion that doubled the size to 106 beds and added maternity and women's services. They also have a freestanding ER that helps Clay County residents receive St. Vincent's level of care in emergency situations.

Baptist Health is a health system with four hospital locations along the First Coast whose name is synonymous with fantastic care. Their locations have been named Jacksonville's Most Preferred

Health Care Provider for over nearly 30 years by the National Research Corporation's Health Care Market Guide. Baptist Health has four ER locations, so no one has to go without Baptist emergency services no matter where they are.

The largest facility is **Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville**, that employs more than 800 physicians and houses 489 beds. This location was awarded The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval and American Heart Association/American Stroke Association's Heart-Check Mark for Advanced Certification for their Comprehensive Stroke Center. Baptist Jacksonville uses the most up-to-date technology including the robotic-assisted da Vinci™ Surgical System. Recently, this Baptist campus implanted Florida's first world's smallest pacemaker into one of their patients.

Their second location is **Baptist Medical Center South**, which originally opened to include southern Duval and northern St. Johns counties. The facility is currently expanding, upping the number of beds to 407. The new eight-story tower brings 138 new beds, enhanced cancer care and a new lab designed for diagnosing and treating heart conditions, additional labor and delivery suites, operating suites and imaging services. Baptist Medical Center South supports a holistic healing approach in order to cater to the emotional and



UF Health, photo by Monica Gutos



MD Anderson's commitment to those who have served in our nation's military earned a spot on the 2017 "Best for Vets" employer list.



spiritual needs of the patient. They are accredited by The Joint Commission for their Advanced Primary Stroke Center.

Baptist Medical Center Beaches is the third location in the Baptist Health family. Located in Jacksonville Beach, this Baptist Medical Center is one of the smaller facilities with only 146 beds and 500 employees. However, their size does not stop them from providing the world-class care that Baptist Health is known for in many different specialties, including behavioral health, brain and spine, geriatric, heart and vascular, primary and women's care, surgical and emergency services. Recently, Baptist Beaches opened their

new Surgical Pavilion, which houses high-tech equipment and seven iSuite operating rooms that utilize "smart" technology, such as in-light HD surgical cameras. The cameras offer different overhead views for the patient's surgical area and doctors can share live images with other specialists when a consult is necessary. These rooms allow surgeons to control the equipment by voice and touch activation.

Naval Hospital Jacksonville, photo courtesy of U.S. Dept. of the Navy



Flagler Hospital, photo courtesy of Flagler Hospital



Memorial Hospital Jacksonville, photo courtesy of Hughston



Located in Fernandina Beach, **Baptist Medical Center Nassau** is the smallest of the Baptist Health locations, with 62 beds and 180 physicians that are expertly trained in 24 different specialties. Baptist Nassau recently opened a new Sleep Center, which is equipped to evaluate a multitude of sleep disorders including sleep apnea, insomnia, narcolepsy, restless leg syndrome, night terrors, sleepwalking and REM sleep disorder.

Three years after the partnership between Baptist Health and MD Anderson was solidified, the **Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center's** 333,000 square foot expansion in San Marco has opened. The new space is located across the street from the original MD Anderson location and is connected by a pedestrian bridge. The new center provides a full range of services from their 10 cancer clinics. The older building is now used mostly for screening, prevention and counseling. With more than 50 providers committed to providing the excellent cancer care that MD Anderson is known for, the Jacksonville location is becoming a beacon of hope for the Southeast.

Memorial Hospital Jacksonville offers innovative solutions to their patients' medical problems, utilizing state-of-the-art technology like their robotic and minimally invasive procedures, da Vinci Robotic surgery and InReach Electromagnetic Navigation Bronchoscopy. Their 23,000-square-foot emergency room addition adds patient rooms, totaling 418 bed, and enables the hospital to expedite emergency services. Memorial also has three freestanding ERs on the First Coast for those unable to make it to the hospital, but still want the type of care Memorial is known for. With over 1,800 employees striving to make sure every patient receives excellent care, Memorial Hospital remains one of the top hospitals in the area.

As a full-service, acute care facility, **Orange Park Medical Center** is a beacon of hope for many in the Clay County area. The center believes in recognizing the intrinsic worth of every person, treating their patients with compassion and kindness, acting with honesty and fairness, and trust within the company among employees. The hospital has 317 inpatient beds with 170 of those within private rooms. For five years, Orange Park has been recognized as a Joint Commission Top Performer on Quality Measures, placing them within the top 4 percent of all hospitals for their performance using evidence-based clinical processes.

With only three locations in the country, Jacksonville and the surrounding areas are blessed to have a **Mayo Clinic** right in our backyard. Mayo Clinic is known for their world-class care and the extensive centers and programs that focus on treating a myriad of medical conditions with groundbreaking surgical procedures and in-depth medical research for every single patient that



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15255 Max Leggett Parkway, Jacksonville, FL 32218
North.UFHealthJax.org

UF Health accepts most major commercial insurance plans, including TRICARE.

walks through their doors. They focus on over 40 medical and surgical specialties including pediatrics, cancer, Alzheimer's disease and much more. As of December 2017, Mayo Clinic's Jacksonville location employs a total of 5,804 individuals who all work together to provide fantastic care.

Further south is **Flagler Hospital**, a 335-bed facility that employs nearly 300 highly trained physicians. It is recognized as a Primary Stroke Center, Accredited Sleep Center, and was noticed by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers for being one of the best facilities for breast cancer diagnosis and treatment. The facility has Centers of Excellence for bariatrics, heart, cancer, maternity, orthopaedic and sinus. In 2019, Flagler Hospital celebrates their 130th anniversary of caring for First Coast residents.

The First Coast is very privileged when it comes to pediatric care with **Wolfson Children's Hospital**, located in Downtown Jacksonville. The facility is ranked among the best children's hospital by *U.S. News & World Report*, which also draws in patients from all over the country. The Leapfrog Group named the Jacksonville location a Top Children's Hospital, which is one of the most competitive honors U.S. hospitals can receive. To provide this top care, Wolfson also partners with **Nemours Children's Specialty Care** and UF College of Medicine - Jacksonville to constantly evolve and learn in order to rise above other pediatric hospitals. With services such as surgery, radiology, cancer care, rehabilitation and medical imaging, Wolfson Children's Hospital can handle whatever might arise during their care of their many child patients.

Speaking of Nemours Children's Specialty Care, their pediatric gastroenterology and neurology programs are named among the best in the world by *U.S. News & World Report*. The facility has

done groundbreaking research and treatments of anemia, bone tumors, brain tumors, leukemia, hemophilia and lymphoma. Their numerous partnerships with other Jacksonville health care facilities helps all involved provide life-changing care for common and complex medical conditions covering 30 specialties. With more than 150 physicians caring for infants and children at Nemours, parents can rest assured that their children are in the best hands.

With a highly trained staff and 160 available beds, **Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital** is one of the leading facilities in Jacksonville for rehabilitation therapy, including physical and occupational therapy, physical medicine and rehabilitation nursing. The hospital is accredited by the Commission on the Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities in stroke, spinal cord injury, brain injury, pain, pediatrics and general medicine rehabilitation.

For those in need of mental health care, **Wekiva Springs** is the one of the go-to facilities in the Jacksonville area. They have been accredited and recognized by The Joint Commission as a "Top Performer on Key Quality Measures," a distinction they are very proud to hold. Wekiva Springs offers behavioral health and substance use treatment in both inpatient and outpatient programs that are accommodating to all their patients' needs.

First Coast residents who require long-term acute care for severe medical conditions are well taken care of at **Curahealth Jacksonville**. Formerly Specialty Hospital Jacksonville, Curahealth utilizes holistic care in conjunction with a personalized plan in their 107-bed facility. Achieving excellence in their areas of care, Curahealth Jacksonville is the perfect place for those needing acute attention in or around the Duval County area.

River Point Behavioral Health is an 84-bed treatment facility that focuses on mental health, substance use and dual diagnosis services. Their professionals are certified in a range of specialties, such as psychiatry, medicine, nursing, social services, education and activity therapy. This allows River Point to offer different types of care, including inpatient, education, partial hospitalization and intensive outpatient programs. River Point has received The Joint Commission's gold seal of approval for their quality of care.

No one wants to have a long-term stay at the hospital, but for those who find it necessary, **Kindred Hospital North Florida** is a great place to seek care. They have a unique set of skills that cater to long-term patients and acutely ill patients. Kindred Hospital offers critical and pulmonary care, complex wound and rehabilitation services, along with other much needed treatments at their 80-bed facility.

Ed Fraser Memorial Hospital is Baker County's only hospital, meaning the nearly 20 physicians have a lot of pressure to bring world-class health care to the area's residents. These physicians offer nine specialties including cardiology, family practice, general surgery, internal medicine, oncology, orthopaedic, pain management, plastic surgery and podiatry.

For military members, families and veterans, **Naval Hospital (NH) Jacksonville** is the Navy's third largest hospital with five branch health clinics across Florida and Georgia. The 2,400 active-duty and civilian staff does whatever it takes to deliver the highest quality, patient- and family-centered care. NH Jacksonville stands ready to support operational missions anytime, anywhere—from disaster relief to combat care.





Hospitals

BAKER COUNTY

Ed Fraser Memorial Hospital
159 N. Third St., Macclenny
259-3151
www.bcmedsvcs.com

CLAY COUNTY

Kindred Hospital North Florida
801 Oak St., Green Cove Springs
284-9230
www.khnorthflorida.com

Orange Park Medical Center
2001 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park
639-8500
www.orangeparkmedical.com

St. Vincent's Medical Center Clay County
1670 St. Vincent's Way, Middleburg
602-1000
www.jaxhealth.com

DUVAL-BEACHES

Baptist Medical Center Beaches
1350 13th Ave. S., Jacksonville Beach
627-2900
Physician Referral: 202-CARE (2273)
www.baptistjax.com

Mayo Clinic

4500 San Pablo Rd. S., Jacksonville
953-2000/Central Appointment Office: 953-2272
www.mayoclinic.org/jacksonville

DUVAL-NORTH

UF Health North
15255 Max Leggett Pkwy., Jacksonville
383-1000
www.north.ufhealthjax.org

DUVAL-SOUTH

Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville
800 Prudential Dr., Jacksonville
202-2000
www.baptistjax.com

Baptist Medical Center South
14550 Old St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville
271-6000
www.baptistjax.com

Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital
3599 University Blvd. S., Jacksonville
345-7600
www.brooksrehab.org

Curahealth Jacksonville
4901 Richard St., Jacksonville
425-0557
www.curahealth.com

Memorial Hospital Jacksonville

3625 University Blvd. S., Jacksonville
702-6111
www.memorialhospitaljax.com

Nemours Children's Specialty Care

807 Children's Way, Jacksonville
697-3600
www.nemours.org or www.kidshealth.org

River Point Behavioral Health

6300 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville
724-9202
www.riverpointbehavioral.com

St. Vincent's Medical Center Southside

4201 Belfort Rd., Jacksonville
296-3700
www.jaxhealth.com

Wekiva Springs

3947 Salisbury Rd., Jacksonville
296-3533
www.wekivacenter.com

Wolfson Children's Hospital

800 Prudential Dr., Jacksonville
202-8000
www.wolfsonchildrens.org

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- Excessive Hair Growth
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MICHAEL L. FREEMAN, M.D.* | KARI SPROUL VON GOEBEN, M.D.* | TERESA M. ERB, M.D.*

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2080 Child St., Jacksonville

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www.med.navy.mil/sites/navalhospitaljax

St. Vincent's Medical Center Riverside

1 Shircliff Way, Jacksonville

308-7300

www.jaxhealth.com

UF Health Jacksonville

655 W. 8th St., Jacksonville

244-0411

www.ufhealthjax.org

NASSAU COUNTY

Baptist Medical Center Nassau

1250 S. 18th St., Fernandina Beach

321-3500

www.baptistjax.com

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Flagler Hospital

400 Health Park Blvd., St. Augustine

819-5155

www.flaglerhospital.org



Orange Park Medical Center, photo courtesy of Doublebee Photo

CLAY COUNTY

Baptist Clay Medical Campus

Wolfson Children's Emergency Center

1771 Baptist Clay Dr., Fleming Island

516-1000

St. Vincent's Medical Center Clay

County Emergency Room

1670 St. Vincent's Way, Middleburg

602-1000

DUVAL-NORTH

Baptist Emergency Center at North

11250 Baptist Health Dr., Jacksonville

202-6905

Memorial Emergency Center - Atlantic

11850 Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville

998-5000

DUVAL-SOUTH

Baptist Emergency at Town Center

Wolfson Children's Hospital ER

4085 Town Center Pkwy., Jacksonville

202-6800

Memorial Emergency Center - Mandarin

10910 San Jose Blvd., Jacksonville

407-8500

DUVAL-WEST

Baptist Emergency Center

4061 Dunn Ave., Jacksonville

202-6905

Park West ER

6477 103rd St., Jacksonville

772-3300

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Memorial Emergency Center - Julington Creek

42 Doctors Village Dr., St. Johns

230-5000

For the most comprehensive healthcare information and directory listings in NEFL, please download a digital copy of the Jacksonville & Northeast Florida Healthcare Guide – the official guide of the Duval County Medical Society.
www.heritagepublishinginc.com





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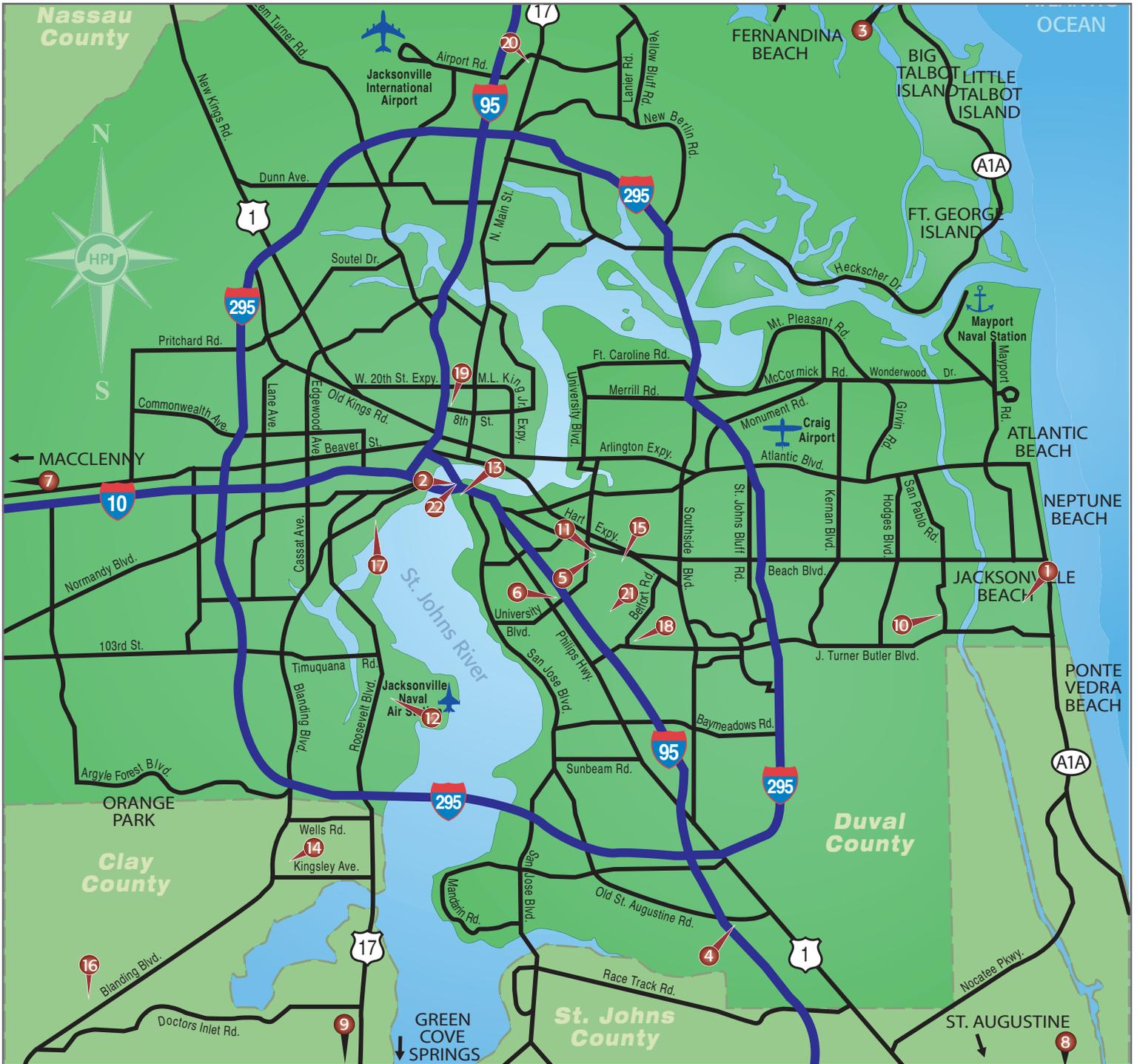
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HOSPITALS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Baptist Medical Center Beaches 2. Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville 3. Baptist Medical Center Nassau 4. Baptist Medical Center South 5. Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital 6. Curahealth of Jacksonville 7. Ed Fraser Memorial Hospital 8. Flagler Hospital 9. Kindred Hospital North Florida 10. Mayo Clinic Hospital | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Memorial Hospital Jacksonville 12. Naval Hospital Jacksonville 13. Nemours Children's Specialty Care 14. Orange Park Medical Center 15. River Point Behavioral Health 16. St. Vincent's Medical Center Clay County 17. St. Vincent's Medical Center Riverside 18. St. Vincent's Medical Center Southside 19. UF Health Jacksonville 20. UF Health North 21. Wekiva Springs 22. Wolfson Children's Hospital |
|--|---|



Photo by
Stephanie
Marty

Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center

Now that
you've moved
to Northeast
Florida, you're
close to leading
cancer care.

By Baptist MD Anderson
Cancer Center

To address the need for cancer care regionally, Baptist Health, the area's preferred health care provider, and MD Anderson Cancer Center, one of the world's most respected cancer centers, have created a destination that brings a new level of cancer care to our region.

Background

In 2014, MD Anderson sought a partner who had the infrastructure to best replicate their model and effect the most change in Northeast Florida. Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center opened in October 2015 as one of seven partners – and the only one in the Southeast – of MD Anderson Cancer Network®, a collaborative program of global health care systems focused on eradicating cancer through treatment, research, prevention and education.

The mission of Baptist MD Anderson is threefold: to replicate MD Anderson's evidence-based treatment and care protocols; to integrate clinical

services, guidelines, treatment pathways and clinical trials; and to ensure the best possible outcomes and experience for patients.

Designed with patients in mind

In September 2018, Baptist MD Anderson opened its new 330,000-square-foot outpatient facility in San Marco, on the campus of Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville. In addition, the center opened another location at Baptist Medical Center South, located at I-95 and Old St. Augustine Road, which offers select services including radiation oncology, medical oncology and infusion services.

The new facility was designed with input not only from the center's cancer experts but also from patients and families, to deliver the best possible patient-focused experience.

For example, the facility's expansive use of windows and terraces as well as green spaces all contribute to an uplifting, light-filled experience that feels more like a hotel than a medical facility. Original art is placed throughout the building, to contribute to a beautiful, healing environment.

The facility also features a dedicated, cancer-specialized Walgreens within the building to ensure patients receive their special prescriptions as quickly and conveniently as possible.

Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center, photo courtesy of Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center



Sculpture at Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center, photo by Stephanie Marty



Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center, photo courtesy of Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center

Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center's Boutique, photo by Stephanie Marty



In Baptist MD Anderson's Life Wellness Center, a retail shop that offers specialty products and services for cancer patients, patients can get mastectomy bra and prosthesis fittings. For those who experience hair loss during treatment, the center offers complimentary scalp treatments as well as wig fitting and styling.

Integrated, seamless patient-centered care

Baptist MD Anderson is organized into 10 cancer clinics, each treating specific cancer types. To ensure patient convenience, services are integrated and seamless, and cancer nurse navigators coordinate care.

To provide multidisciplinary support, Baptist MD Anderson teams specializing in the specific cancer types meet weekly for a tumor board review. Tumor board meetings allow cancer experts in different clinical areas to collaborate on each patient's unique case and identify the best treatment approach.

In addition to clinical expertise, Baptist MD Anderson offers a range of supportive services to address the needs of the entire person, not just their cancer. Addressing body, mind and spirit, these services include spiritual care, psychological counseling, nutrition, social services, massage, yoga, and art therapy, among others.

Bringing technology and research together

Baptist MD Anderson uses powerful and precise tools in the diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

For example, the center offers seamless access to state-of-the-art diagnostic tools such as the LumaGem[®] Molecular Breast Imaging (MBI) system, that helps identify cancer in patients with inconclusive mammograms or dense breast tissue.

In addition, Baptist MD Anderson experts use leading technology to treat all types of cancer. Immunotherapies and novel, targeted therapies are also available to patients, thanks to Baptist MD Anderson's expanded access to research expertise and clinical trials.

Benefitting our region

For cancer patients – who may need tests, appointments and medication regimens in both hospital and outpatient settings – the importance of accessing cancer treatment and care from a single, integrated location cannot be underscored enough. Baptist MD Anderson provides the full complement of effective multidisciplinary care in a one-stop, dedicated healing environment.

Local and regional cancer patients benefit from compassionate care, advanced technologies and leading-edge treatments without having to travel. Experts at Baptist MD Anderson in Jacksonville and MD Anderson in Houston collaborate to better serve our community's patients and their families.

Learn more

To schedule an appointment or for more information, call 1.844.632.2278 (1.844.MDA.BAPTIST) or visit BaptistMDAnderson.com.

Health Insurance Companies

Health insurance in the U.S. is something that everyone needs, yet it has evolved into something that very few understand due to changing legislation at a federal level. Affordable and comprehensive health insurance in Florida should not be confusing, uncertain or difficult to obtain. Sometimes it can feel as if the health insurance market is saturated with so many different insurance companies, insurance policies and features, making what should be a simple decision more of an ordeal than it needs to be.

There are approximately 50 health policies offered on the First Coast with different premiums, provider networks and plan benefits. When trying to decipher the “best option” via the internet, experts advise to remember price is only one of the three key components. Doing your research and weighing the pros and cons of different policies will help you decide on the right policy for you and your family. If after looking into companies on your own you still have questions, any one of the talented agents in our region will be able to guide you towards finding the ideal health insurance for you.



Aetna

Aetna is one of the nation’s leaders in health care, dental, pharmacy, group life and disability insurance, and employee benefits. Dedicated to helping people achieve health and financial security, Aetna puts information and helpful resources to work for its members to help them make better-informed decisions about their health

care. Aetna recently moved from Jacksonville’s Southbank to the newly named Gramercy Woods office park in Southside, moving the large employer from a downtown office tower to a suburban campus environment.



Assurant Health Insurance Company

Assurant Health Insurance Company, a leading provider of major medical and supplemental health plans, specializes in insurance for people who are self-employed or retired, or those who are waiting for new insurance coverage to begin. Assurant focuses on being flexible so that customers have a wide variety of providers from which to choose. Coverage is available outside of Florida as well, so during travel, trips or vacations, customers are still covered.

Avalon

Avalon offers simple, smart and practical insurance solutions including stop loss for employers; Medicare prescription drug plans and vision plans for groups and individuals; and Medicare supplement plans for individuals. Additionally, Avalon offers individuals the choice of a copay plan, health savings account plan or a high deductible plan. Each plan gives additional benefits to those who are healthy such as reimbursement for fitness centers and stress reducing therapies. They also offer an on-call nurse 24 hours a day who can help with medical concerns or insurance questions. This option alone can save subscribers money as many situations that can be addressed by phone save on both the copay and time away from work for a doctor’s appointment.



CIGNA Health Insurance Company

CIGNA Health Insurance Company has been around for more than 200 years. The company is licensed to sell insurance in Florida and consistently scores an “A” or “A-” from Standards and Poor’s independent rating company. CIGNA offers both individual and group plans and focuses on providing fast claim service and referral responses. Both individuals and groups can choose from an HMO, PPO, or POS plan.



Humana Inc.

Humana Inc., one of the nation’s leading health and well-being companies in the U.S., offers a wide range of health and wellness products and services that incorporate an integrated, holistic approach to health. Founded in 1961, Humana serves a broad range of clients, including families, individuals, military members and people with Medicare. According to Humana, their strategy integrates care delivery, the member experience, and clinical and consumer insights to encourage engagement, behavior change and wellness for the millions of people served across the country. Also of note, Aetna announced in 2015 that it would acquire Humana for \$37 billion, a deal which is expected to close this year.



Florida Blue

Headquartered in Jacksonville, Florida Blue is the oldest and largest health plan insurer in the state. In its primary health business, Florida Blue serves more than 4.3 million members, which represents a 30 percent share of the overall Florida health insurance market. In 2006, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Florida opened the first of our Florida Blue retail stores in Jacksonville and Pembroke Pines. The original stores were design to provide easier access to health care for people of Florida. Florida Blue currently has 11 Florida Blue retail centers in operation. Of their 11,500 employees, 10,500 of them are employed in Florida, making Florida Blue one of the state’s largest employers.

Florida Health Care Plan

Florida Health Care Plan has combined the conveniences of a large company with the personalized and caring service of a small-town group. The company prides itself on being a “one-stop shop” for all health care needs including labs, pharmacies, specialists and urgent care. Known throughout the community for their high quality of care, Florida Health Care Plan can help people find quality health care coupled with the convenience of all-inclusive facilities that address all types of health needs.

Thomas and Associates

Jacksonville-based Thomas and Associates has been providing health insurance to Floridians for almost 50 years. Since opening the agency in 1970, Thomas and Associates has been helping individuals, families and businesses with their insurance needs, including navigating the Affordable Care Act and the many laws that came with the legislation as well as the 49 health policies offered in Duval County.



UnitedHealthcare

Named “World’s Most Admired Company” in the insurance and managed care sector for six consecutive years by Fortune, UnitedHealthcare serves their clients through two distinct platforms. UnitedHealthcare, the health benefits platform, serves key markets and geographic regions with a broad range of health benefit products and services for both consumers and benefit sponsors. UnitedHealthcare serves people in employer-sponsored health plans, those enrolled in Medicare and Medicaid, as well as those who purchase their own health plans. The second platform, Optum, provides information and technology-enabled health services. According to UnitedHealthcare, Optum focuses on helping improve the health care system itself, including population health management, care delivery and improving the clinical and operating elements of the system.



Florida Blue conference center; photo courtesy of Volunteers in Medicine



WellCare Health Plans Inc.

Headquartered in Tampa, WellCare Health Plans Inc. focuses exclusively on providing government-sponsored managed care services, primarily through Medicaid, Medicare Advantage and Medicare Prescription Drug Plans, to families, children, seniors and individuals with complex medical needs. WellCare serves approximately 3.8 million members nationwide.

Just for Seniors

5

Reasons Why Seniors Love the First Coast

1

Money stretches just a bit further with no state income tax. Individual retirement accounts, private and public pensions, 401(k)s, and Social Security are free of in-state taxation.

2

An abundance of volunteer opportunities, including the Foster Grandparent Program, RSVP – one of the largest volunteer networks in the nation, Catholic charities, Seniors on a Mission, Inc., or one of the many top-caliber health care facilities in the region.

3

The affordable cost of living in the Sunshine State has beckoned retirees for decades, and it is easy to see why. A lower cost of living on a fixed income can make room for disposable income that wouldn't be there in more expensive areas.

4

A wide range of active adult communities exists in Northeast Florida. We have every type, style and price point to meet most any budget. For many, after years of managing a home, yard and all that entails, the idea of an amenity-rich community is a dream come true.

5

The weather! Yes, it is warm here, but honestly, Florida tends to get a bad rap when it comes to weather. In the summer months, the average high temperature is 81 degrees, while the annual low temperature remains a comfortable 60 degrees. For summer days that reach peak temperatures, early mornings that include walks, gardening and biking can be followed by mid-day errands, shopping, movies or work. For when it is just too hot to be outside for long periods of time.



Jazz Fest, photo of courtesy of COJ

Exciting Annual Senior Events!*



Senior Games, photo courtesy of COJ

Senior Expo twice a year with free admission and shuttle service

Located at the Morocco Shrine Center in May and the Prime F. Osborne III Convention Center in November.

City of Jacksonville's annual Fish-A-Thon
An exciting senior fishing tournament held annually at Hanna Park

Senior Prom

A memorable evening of music and friendship designed just for seniors

Forever Fit 50 & Beyond: Jacksonville Senior Games

Jacksonville senior games at various venues throughout the city

Holiday Festival for Seniors

A festive party that caters just to seniors each December

Safety and Security Seminars for Seniors

Learn techniques and tools to use to be safe both physically and when using technology

**Please visit COJ.net for more information on events or pick up a copy of the 2019-2020 Jacksonville Senior Services Directory at locations throughout the city.*



Assisted Living Facilities



Silver Creek, photo courtesy of Silver Creek

BAKER COUNTY

Clair Winston House, LLC, The..... 402-1079

CLAY COUNTY

Acacia Grove Assisted Living Facility, LLC..... 327-5584
 Allegro 677-8819
 Astoria Assisted Living Facility..... 541-4605
 Brookdale Orange Park..... 264-0207
 Canterfield of Clay County..... 203-6100
 Diamond ALF, LLC 863-3000
 Home Care Assisted Living, LLC..... 375-2718
 Middleburg Assisted Living Facility, Inc. 291-1632
 Park of the Palms, Inc. 352-473-6100
 Pine Crest Manor..... 272-2609
 Quality Care of Florida, Inc. 276-7274
 Queen of Angels ALF 264-9570
 Spring Gardens of Fleming Island, LLC..... 657-2240
 Spring Gardens of Orange Park, Inc. 276-1778

DUVAL COUNTY

DUVAL-BEACHES

Almost Home Beaches 249-3233
 Anthem Lakes 583-5399
 Ashford Court 285-8827
 Atria Park of San Pablo 821-9900
 Beach House Assisted Living & Memory Care 829-6479
 Cypress Village..... 233-6100
 Fleet Landing 246-9900
 HarborChase of Jacksonville..... 821-8030
 Windsor at San Pablo, The 928-3700

DUVAL-NORTH

A1 Care Systems Inc. 527-3391
 Anew Kings Way, LLC 608-1245
 Arlington Adult Residential Facility 725-6600
 Arlington Haven ALF..... 743-9069
 Barak House 353-1787
 Brookdale Atrium Way 724-4726
 Ft. Caroline Gardens, Inc. 743-3315
 Inn at Aging Grace, The..... 762-8259
 Just Like Home..... 743-7809
 L'Arche Jacksonville, Inc..... 721-5992
 Laurel Oaks 765-5227
 Lucas Caring Hands 766-0974
 North Point Community Residential Facility, Inc. 635-0346
 Peaches-NA-Basket Adult Services 766-4993
 Refine's House 379-2061
 Silver Shores Living, Inc. 683-1580
 Some Place Like Home, Inc. 744-8580
 Sweet Alice's Place, Inc..... 860-9621
 Trout River Assisted Living Facility 887-3931

DUVAL-SOUTH

Almost Home 292-9600
 Anam Parc 260-8343
 Anam Parc II 732-4545
 Arbor Terrace San Jose..... 601-3884
 Bartram Lakes Assisted Living 528-3500
 Brookdale Crown Point..... 288-8700
 Brookdale Mandarin 260-0800
 Brookdale Mandarin Central..... 880-4040

| | |
|--|----------|
| Brookdale Southpoint | 296-2384 |
| Brookdale Southside..... | 641-7501 |
| Camellia at Deerwood | 519-1034 |
| Deerwood Place | 642-7300 |
| Elmcroft of Timberlin Parc | 519-9300 |
| Hampton's Luxury Villas, Inc. | 232-8575 |
| HarborChase of Mandarin..... | 580-7676 |
| Heritage Crossings | 399-8999 |
| Inn at Cypress Village | 223-6100 |
| Mi Casa Adult Living Facility | 739-3927 |
| New Horizon Healthcare, Inc. | 379-5602 |
| Pinckney Estates Assisted Living, Inc..... | 226-1817 |
| Silver Treasures at Mandarin..... | 268-1959 |
| Some Place Like Home Inc. #2..... | 744-8580 |
| Starling at San Jose | 510-5482 |
| Sunrise of Jacksonville | 332-0774 |
| Taylor Home | 737-6777 |
| Taylor Manor | 636-0142 |
| Thrive at Deerwood, LLC | 513-6990 |
| Wyndham Lakes Jacksonville | 262-4600 |
| Watercrest of San Jose Assisted Living and Memory Care..... | 510-5482 |

DUVAL-WEST

| | |
|--|----------|
| A Home Sweet Home Assisted Living Facility of Jax, Inc. | 772-0651 |
| Ali Angel's Nest | 389-3192 |
| Arbor Terrace Ortega | 701-7227 |
| Autumn Village, Inc. | 384-7506 |
| Benton House at Oakleaf..... | 214-3442 |
| Bishop Christian Home, Inc..... | 355-9731 |
| Bridge of Hope ALF | 764-3600 |
| Brookdale Avondale..... | 389-5959 |
| Circle of Hope | 355-9840 |
| Classy Living | 619-5062 |
| Diversity Me | 233-1090 |
| EJ's Place, Inc..... | 766-3700 |
| EJ's Place, Inc. #2 | 317-8961 |
| Golden Retreat Shelter Care Center, Inc. | 764-2581 |
| Grace Home Living Facility, LLC | 673-7212 |
| Grand Mary's House | 768-8350 |
| GWK Home of Comfort, LLC | 695-2673 |
| GWK Home of Comfort, LLC II..... | 647-7370 |
| Ingleside Retirement Home | 381-0572 |
| Jack and Ellen's Place | 382-6109 |
| Kings House II | 894-6828 |
| Lafeta Family Home Care..... | 358-3933 |
| Mason House, LLC | 566-3721 |
| Mesa Haven, Inc. | 378-0117 |
| Myrtice Angels Senior Home Care, LLC | 355-9737 |
| Noble Gardens of Jacksonville, LLC | 374-2071 |
| Noble House Retirement of Jacksonville, LLC | 695-9605 |
| Paradise Retreat Assisted Living Facility, LLC | 551-5046 |
| Peabody ALF, Inc..... | 695-2967 |
| Peterson Assisted Living Facility | 356-3022 |
| Pleasant Living Facility..... | 353-0501 |
| Plymouth Home for Adults, Inc..... | 384-5796 |
| Porter's Adult Care, Inc..... | 381-8962 |
| Right Time, Right Place, LLC | 405-5767 |
| River Region Human Services | 899-6300 |
| Riverside Presbyterian House, Inc. | 388-9376 |
| Rosemarie's My Home Away From Home Corp..... | 655-0872 |
| Silver Treasures at Lane..... | 990-6001 |



Discover a
NEW OUTLOOK
on Senior Living

Looking for the best option for your loved one's care? Find everything you want and more at St. Augustine's top independent concierge living, assisted living and memory care community. More than a beautiful place to live, Silver Creek provides a brighter, more complete outlook on life. In addition to personalized assistance with daily activities such as medication management and meal preparation, you'll find innovative options that promote lifelong health and happiness coupled with superior services that assure your loved ones comfort and peace of mind.

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to schedule a tour today and
learn about our limited-time offers!



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Phone: 800-762-8034 | SilverCreekRetirement.com

**Independent Concierge Living - Assisted Living
Memory Care - Short-Term Stays**



Assisted Living Facility AL# 12928

Starling at Nocatee, photo courtesy of Nocatee



Retirement Communities

| | |
|--|----------|
| Some Place Like Home Inc. #3 | 744-8580 |
| Stephanie's Love and Care Facility | 388-7086 |
| Teresa ALF, Inc. | 549-5705 |
| Valiz's Place | 354-0026 |
| Watts Guardian Care, Inc. | 693-2276 |
| Windsor at Ortega, The | 353-9500 |

NASSAU COUNTY

| | |
|---|----------|
| Dayspring Senior Living, LLC | 845-2362 |
| Dayspring Village, Inc. | 845-7501 |
| Jane Adams House, The..... | 261-9494 |
| Osprey Village at Amelia Island Plantation..... | 277-8222 |
| Savannah Grand of Amelia Island..... | 321-0898 |

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Allegro | 417-8902 |
| Arbor Terrace Ponte Vedra LLC | 508-0422 |
| Brookdale St. Augustine..... | 794-9988 |
| Buckingham Smith Assisted Living Facility | 829-9315 |
| Coral Landing Assisted Living Residences..... | 794-2273 |
| Golden House Senior Living #1..... | 874-7165 |
| Legacy at St. Johns, The | 201-6999 |
| Loving Care Living Facility | 824-6616 |
| Palms at Ponte Vedra Assisted Living & Memory Care, The..... | 686-3700 |
| Pavilion at Bayview, The..... | 806-4708 |
| Riverside Cottages at The Shores | 342-2590 |
| Silver Creek St. Augustine, FL | 800-762-8034 |

www.silvercreekretirement.com

► See our ad page 99

| | |
|--|----------|
| Silver Treasures at St. Augustine | 470-9207 |
| Starling at Nocatee | 686-2000 |
| Stephens Memorial Home, Inc. | 797-0294 |
| Stratford, The | 273-1777 |
| Symphony at St. Augustine..... | 432-1640 |
| Westminster St. Augustine..... | 940-4800 |
| Westminster Woods on Julington Creek | 287-7300 |

Pick up a copy of the 2019-2020 Jacksonville Senior Services Directory at libraries throughout the city for more information for seniors.

CLAY COUNTY

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|
| Allegro at Fleming Island, The | 677-8819 |
| Brandon Place at Moosehaven | 278-1281 |
| Brookdale Orange Park..... | 264-0207 |
| Canterfield of Clay County | 203-6100 |
| Moosehaven Retirement Community | 278-1200 |

DUVAL COUNTY

DUVAL-BEACHES

| | |
|---|----------|
| Cypress Village..... | 223-6100 |
| Fleet Landing Retirement Community..... | 246-9900 |
| Hurley Apartments | 744-6022 |
| Pablo Hamlet | 241-5207 |
| Pablo Towers | 249-3866 |

DUVAL-NORTH

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Brookdale Atrium Way | 242-6493 |
| Riverton Tower | 743-5090 |

DUVAL-SOUTH

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Augustine Landing | 880-1116 |
| Brookdale Southside..... | 641-7501 |
| Camellia at Deerwood..... | 519-1034 |
| Coves at River Garden, The..... | 292-2683 |
| Jacksonville Townhouse Apartments | 399-5065 |
| Madison Manor | 721-9555 |
| Mount Carmel Gardens Apartments | 733-6696 |
| PSI Mandarin Center | 268-6511 |
| San Jose Apartments..... | 739-0555 |
| Sweetwater by Del Webb..... | 886-659-0640 |
| Taylor Residences | 636-0313 |
| Towers of Jacksonville, The | 398-3406 ext. 102 |
| Wyndham Lakes Jacksonville | 262-4600 |

DUVAL-WEST

| | |
|---|----------|
| Campus Towers | 354-7301 |
| Cathedral Residences Senior Community | 798-5360 |
| Cecil Pines Adult Living Community | 771-8839 |
| Florida Christian Apartments | 381-4800 |
| Marcis Pointe | 778-0030 |
| Meetinghouse at Collins Cove, The | 215-8686 |
| Morris Manor | 764-3252 |
| Riverside Park Apartments | 356-9884 |
| Riverside Presbyterian Apartments | 353-6111 |
| Riverside Presbyterian House..... | 388-9376 |
| Senior Citizen Village | 359-0907 |
| Stevens Duval Apartments | 358-8872 |
| Sundale Manor..... | 381-4817 |

Senior Centers

NASSAU COUNTY

Osprey Village at Amelia Island Plantation..... 277-8222

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Allegro 417-8902
 Brookdale St. Augustine..... 794-9988
 Glenmoor..... 940-4800
 Summer Breeze Apartments 797-1990
 Vicar's Landing 285-1055
 Westminster St. Augustine 940-4800
 Westminster Woods on Julington Creek 287-7300



Mount Carmel Gardens
 Apartments, photos courtesy
 of Fischer Studios, Inc.



BAKER COUNTY

Baker County Council on Aging..... 259-9318

CLAY COUNTY

Green Cove Springs Senior Center 284-5977
 Keystone Heights Senior Center 352-473-7121
 Middleburg/Weigel Senior Center 291-3520
 Orange Park Senior Center..... 269-4731

DUVAL COUNTY

DUVAL-BEACHES

Bennie Furlong Beaches Senior Center 241-3796
 Neptune Beach Senior Activity Center..... 270-1688

DUVAL-NORTH

Frances Padgett Arlington Senior Center 723-6142
 Jim Fortuna Senior Center 996-0211
 Leroy D. Clemons Senior Center 693-4918
 Oceanway Senior Center..... 696-4331

DUVAL-SOUTH

Mandarin Senior Center 262-7309
 Windy Hill Senior Center 565-2669

DUVAL-WEST

Charlie Joseph Senior Center 765-7522
 Clanzel Brown Community Center 764-8752
 Hammond Senior Center..... 786-8554
 J.S. Johnson Senior Center..... 630-0949
 Lane Wiley Senior Center 783-6589
 Lincoln Villa Senior Center..... 765-2654
 Longbranch Senior Center 630-0893
 Louis Dinah Senior Center 630-0728
 Mary L. Singleton Senior Center 630-0995
 Maxville Senior Center..... 289-7157
 Moncrief Senior Center 764-0330
 Riverview Senior Center 765-7511

NASSAU COUNTY

Fernandina Beach Senior Life Center 261-0701
 Hilliard Senior Life Center 845-3331

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Coastal Senior Community Center..... 209-3647
 Hastings Senior Center 729-9161
 Players Community Senior Center, The 280-3233
 River House Senior Center 209-3655
 Trout Creek Senior Center 522-1611

Skilled Nursing Facilities

BAKER COUNTY

| | |
|--|----------|
| Macclenny Nursing and Rehab Center | 259-4873 |
| W. Frank Wells Nursing Home | 259-6168 |

CLAY COUNTY

| | |
|--|----------|
| Consulate Healthcare of Orange Park | 269-8922 |
| Governor's Creek Health and Rehabilitation | 284-5606 |
| Heartland Health Care Center - Orange Park | 264-3912 |
| Isle Health & Rehabilitation Center..... | 541-3500 |
| Life Care Center at Wells Crossing | 264-1950 |
| Life Care Center of Orange Park | 272-2424 |
| Oak View Rehabilitation Center | 269-2610 |
| Pavilion for Health Care, The | 284-8578 |
| Signature Healthcare of Orange Park | 272-6194 |

DUVAL COUNTY

DUVAL-BEACHES

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|---|----------|
| Avanté Villa at Jacksonville Beach, Inc. | 249-7421 |
| Cypress Village..... | 223-6100 |
| Fleet Landing | 246-9900 |

DUVAL-NORTH

| | |
|--|----------|
| Brookdale Atrium Way | 724-4726 |
| Harts Harbor Health Care Center | 751-1834 |
| Jacksonville Nursing and Rehab Center | 766-2297 |
| Lakeside Nursing and Rehabilitation Center | 714-3793 |
| Lanier Terrace | 757-0600 |

DUVAL-SOUTH

| | |
|---|----------|
| Bartram Crossing..... | 528-3000 |
| Consulate Health Care of Jacksonville..... | 296-6800 |
| First Coast Health & Rehabilitation Center | 725-8044 |
| Heartland Health Care Center of South Jacksonville..... | 733-7440 |
| Life Care Center of Jacksonville | 332-4546 |
| Palm Garden of Jacksonville | 733-6954 |
| Regents Park of Jacksonville..... | 642-7300 |
| River Garden Hebrew Home for the Aged..... | 260-1818 |
| Riverwood Center | 721-0088 |
| San Jose Health and Rehabilitation Center | 739-0877 |
| Taylor Care Center | 731-8230 |
| Taylor Home | 737-6777 |
| Terrace of Jacksonville, The..... | 268-4953 |
| University Crossing..... | 345-8100 |
| Woodland Grove Health & Rehabilitation Center | 245-7620 |



Photo courtesy of River Garden

DUVAL-WEST

| | |
|--|----------|
| Cathedral Gerontology Center, Inc..... | 798-5300 |
| Cross Care Center | 772-1220 |
| Edgewood Nursing Center | 766-7436 |
| Fouraker Hills Rehab and Nursing Center..... | 786-8668 |
| Heartland Health Care Center - Jacksonville..... | 783-3749 |
| Park Ridge Nursing Center | 358-6711 |
| Signature Healthcare of Jacksonville | 786-7331 |
| St. Catherine Laboure Manor, Inc..... | 308-4700 |
| Summer Brook Health Care Center..... | 768-1506 |

NASSAU COUNTY

| | |
|--|----------|
| Life Care Center of Hilliard..... | 845-3988 |
| Quality Health of Fernandina Beach | 261-0771 |

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Clyde E. Lassen State Veterans Nursing Home..... | 940-2193 |
| Moultrie Creek Nursing and Rehab Center..... | 797-1800 |
| Ponce Therapy Care Center, The | 824-3311 |
| Samantha Wilson Care Center..... | 829-3475 |
| St. Augustine Health and Rehabilitation Center | 824-4479 |
| Vicar's Landing | 285-1055 |
| Westminster St. Augustine..... | 877-214-0962 |
| Westminster Woods on Julington Creek | 287-7300 |



In this Section

WORK • 103

- 104 NEFL: A Powerhouse in Business
- 107 Business on the First Coast is Booming!
- 109 Homegrown Companies: Businesses with Headquarters on the First Coast
- 110 Large Businesses by County
- 111 Top Employers on the First Coast
- 114 Honor, Courage & Commitment: Our Military
- 118 Banking & Mortgage Industry
- 121 Jacksonville: An Information Technology Leader
- 123 More Industries Making an Impact
- 124 The Ports that Keep the First Coast Moving
- 127 Full Speed Ahead: Transportation
- 130 Bridges of the First Coast

WORK

business.org
names Jacksonville the

No. 1 city

in Florida for
entrepreneurs and
start-ups.

NEFL: A Powerhouse in Business

“Most Up-&-Coming Cities in America”
(*Time* - 2017)

“The 10 Best Big Cities to Live in Right Now”
(*Money Magazine* - 2018)

Top U.S. logistics hub
(*Global Trade Magazine* - 2016)

“Best Cities for Job Seekers”
(*Indeed.com* - 2017)

“10 Hottest Real Estate Markets To Watch In 2017”
(*Trulia* - 2016)

Florida is a major gateway for merchandise trade between North America, Latin America, the Caribbean and other world regions. Over the last decade, the total value of Florida's merchandise trade has nearly doubled, reaching \$147.7 billion in 2017.

Establishing itself as a hub for young entrepreneurs, Jacksonville is drawing interest from all sorts of businesses. Data shows that 66 percent of private companies plan to increase their innovation spending, with 18 percent identifying this increase as significant. For years, privately and family-owned companies have understood that in order to stay competitive they must keep up with technological trends. In fact, private companies are increasingly looking to technology and innovation to help them meet a variety of critical objectives—including growth, cost-cutting, higher productivity and increased market share. This is not a luxury for private companies—it's a business imperative to propel into the future. Jacksonville is a growing and bustling market, making it an ideal city for companies to stay innovative.



Main Street Bridge, photo by Monica Gutos

Florida is home to nearly 60,000 exporting companies—second only to California. One out of every five of the nation's companies that export are located in Florida. – *U.S. Census Bureau, Foreign Trade Division*

Florida is an exporting powerhouse, accounting for \$70.2 billion in goods that were shipped from and through its borders in 2017. The state also ranked 8th in the U.S. in 2017 for exporting goods produced, or with significant value added, in Florida.

Since 2010, the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund—an economic development program initiated by former Governor Rick Scott—has increased Florida's success and financial prosperity. In its first year, the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund provided \$85 million for public infrastructure and job training projects that support growth and employment in Florida's diverse industries. In 2018-19, another \$85 million will be provided for public infrastructure and job training projects in Florida.

20 major banks, insurance and investment services firms on the *Forbes*' Global 500 List have operations in Jacksonville.

The talent needed to maintain momentum is here and, thanks to the Florida Job Growth Grant Fund, many companies in the region offer job training and continuing improvement opportunities, adding to the appeal of the city.

The Greater Jacksonville area's robust business climate offers wide appeal for both businesses and employees who relocate here. Florida ranks as the second-best state for business growth and Jacksonville was recently ranked No. 6 for local business population growth in Yelp's 2018 economic report.

Downtown Jacksonville, photo by Monica Gutos



Florida offers Sales and Use Tax Exemptions on the following:

- Machinery and equipment used by a new or expanding Florida business to manufacture, produce or process tangible personal property for sale
- Labor, parts and materials used in repair of and incorporated into machinery and equipment
- Electricity used in the manufacturing process
- Certain boiler fuels (including natural gas) used in the manufacturing process
- Semiconductor, defense and space technology-based industry transactions involving manufacturing equipment
- Machinery and equipment used predominantly in research and development
- Labor component of research and development expenditures
- Commercial space activity—launch vehicles, payloads and fuel, machinery and equipment for production of items used exclusively at Spaceport Florida
- Aircraft parts, modification, maintenance and repair, sale or lease of qualified aircraft
- Production companies engaged in Florida in the production of motion pictures, made for television motion pictures, television series, commercial music videos or sound recordings.

An undeniable business advantage for the First Coast is Florida's stable and highly favorable tax climate. Our progressive legislation ensures that Florida remains a worldwide hub for new and expanding businesses. Florida does not have:

- Corporate income tax on limited partnerships
- Corporate income tax on subchapter S-corporations
- State personal income tax guaranteed by constitutional provision
- Corporate franchise tax on capital stock
- State-level property tax assessed
- Property tax on business inventories
- Property tax on goods-in-transit for up to 180 days
- Sales and use tax on goods manufactured or produced in Florida for export outside the state
- Sales tax on purchases of raw materials incorporated in a final product for resale, including non-reusable containers or packaging
- Sales/use tax on co-generation of electricity

As of 2018, the median age in Northeast Florida is 36 years old – younger than all major cities in Florida. – *Visit Jacksonville*



SHRM Jacksonville Chapter #0011
PO Box 60155
Jacksonville, FL 32236

On behalf of the Human Resource Community and SHRM Jacksonville, welcome to the First Coast! SHRM Jacksonville is the local chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) which is located in the Washington DC area.

SHRM Jacksonville serves nearly 600 human resource professional in eight Northeast Florida counties. As the largest chapter in the state of Florida, SHRM Jacksonville has proudly served the First Coast for 61 years.

Our mission is *Advancing and Serving the First Coast Workforce*. We serve our members and community throughout the year by providing monthly meetings covering workplace and employment issues; offering scholarships to help individuals pursue a higher education in the HR field or obtain HR certifications; connecting employers and job seekers for HR related positions; and helping our members stay up-to-date with the regulatory changes impacting their organizations. We also host the SHRM Jacksonville Annual Regional Conference and Expo, bringing together speakers who are recognized as the best in their field, HR professionals and those serving the HR community for a two-day event every spring.

I would like to extend to you and your family a heartfelt welcome to the Jacksonville area. If you are interested in a career in the human resource field, have been an HR professional for years, or have been a member of another local SHRM chapter, we invite you to visit one of our monthly meetings. Please visit our website for more information on our chapter's next meeting: www.shrmjax.org.

Welcome to the First Coast!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Natasha M. Slaughter". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and "S".

Natasha M. Slaughter, SHRM-SCP, SPHR
2019 President
SHRM Jacksonville

Business on the First Coast is Booming!

Below are just a handful of expansions, new business and growth that the First Coast is experiencing. It's an exciting time to be in business!



Wayfair Inc.

Wayfair Inc., one of the world's largest online destinations for home goods, has chosen Jacksonville for a new 1 million-square-foot warehouse and distribution center. Located on the city's Westside at Alliance Florida at Cecil Commerce Center, a development of Dallas-based Hillwood, the Wayfair facility expects to employ 250 workers by the end of 2021. "This is a big win for our community and helps further establish Jacksonville as a significant player for retailers looking to efficiently reach customers in a fast-growing part of the country," JAXUSA President Aundra Wallace said. "Companies can get to 60 million people within an 8-hour drive and our interstate access, robust rail system and exceptional port make our city very attractive to businesses like Wayfair."

JinkoSolar

JinkoSolar, a Shanghai-based firm, is building an advanced solar manufacturing facility in Jacksonville and has signed a master solar module supply agreement with a U.S. counterparty to provide around 1.75 gigawatts of high-efficiency solar modules over three years.

Wawa Inc.

Wawa Inc. officially took up residence in Northeast Florida on Dec. 3 when it opened its first two convenience stores in Duval and Clay counties. Dozens more are expected to follow over the next few years. Wawa's first nine Northeast Florida stores will all be located in Duval and Clay counties. The company has reported that St. Johns County and Nassau County may also see new Wawa stores in the future.



Jacksonville Wawa, photo courtesy of Consolidated-Tomoka Land Co.

UPS

UPS is investing \$196 million to expand its Northwest Jacksonville distribution center with the addition of 375,753 square feet of shipping space, three loading wings and advanced automation technology with the expectation of processing 80,000 packages per hour.

Champion Brands

Jacksonville-based malt beverage distributor Champion Brands has broken ground on a 38,000-square-foot corporate headquarters on the city's Southside.

Burkhardt Distributing

Burkhardt Distributing, a fixture in St. Johns County since 1989, has opened a 113,000-square-foot headquarters and distribution center.

RaceTrac

Atlanta-based RaceTrac is adding its 20th Northeast Florida location.

Amazon

Mega online retailer Amazon has committed to Florida's Northeast in a big way with four new facilities to date. Two fulfillment centers opened here in Fall 2017, and close on their heels comes a 237,000-square-foot sortation center at Westside Industrial Park and, in north Jacksonville, a 63,000-square-foot facility where packages are sorted for last-mile delivery to customers.

VyStar Credit Union

VyStar Credit Union is making plans to relocate its corporate headquarters from suburban Jacksonville to a 23-story office tower downtown. VyStar is the nation's 17th largest credit union with nearly 1,400 employees and assets of more than \$7.6 billion.

Ernst & Young

Ernst & Young has opened a client services delivery center to provide technology, business process support and other services to its clients in the banking, insurance and asset management industries with the expectation of adding 450 employees by 2020.

LignoTech Florida

In June 2018, LignoTech Florida, a joint venture between the Norwegian bio-chemical firm Borregaard and U.S. specialty pulp manufacturer Rayonier Advanced Materials, began production of lignin products at a new facility adjacent to Rayonier's existing cellulose mill in Fernandina Beach. The lignin products produced at the new plant are designated for sale primarily to the construction industry.



Margaritaville Beach Hotel

Plans for an eight-story Jacksonville Beach Margaritaville Beach Hotel have been announced by developer Elite Hospitality Inc. The resort-style hotel will be located on 1.14 acres in Jacksonville Beach. The company has brought several hotel projects to First Coast beach communities, including two Hilton-brand hotels, one Courtyard by Marriott and the Castillo Real Resort Hotel in St. Augustine, as well as three hotels in Daytona Beach and one in Ormond Beach.

Rulon International

Rulon International is living the dream of success by expanding its corporate headquarters and manufacturing plant in St. Augustine. The company's growth will also add approximately 20 more manufacturing jobs, according to Jesse Reyes, marketing and advertising manager with Rulon.

HEALTH CARE EXPANSIONS



Bentley Motors

British automaker Bentley Motors announced it is coming to South Jacksonville in 2019, the first dealership for the company in the area and the seventh in Florida.



A new Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center opened this summer and St. Vincent's HealthCare began working on a new \$55 million facility in Riverside. Flagler Hospital and Baptist Hospital both began working on medical facilities in Nocatee. Baptist Health plans to build a comprehensive health campus on 12 acres of land it acquired in Nocatee – a master-planned community in Ponte Vedra Beach recently named the second fastest growing suburb in the U.S.

Genpact

The international digital delivery firm Genpact has begun providing residential mortgage loans processing, underwriting and closing services for financial institutions from its 37,000-square-foot office at Capital Plaza in suburban Jacksonville with an estimated 200 jobs expected.

John Kinsey

Twin Creeks developer John Kinsey plans to build a light industrial park on the southwest corner of County Road 210 and U.S. 1 in St. Johns County, with a portion of the 89-acre property allocated for a St. Johns County School District bus depot.

Durbin Park

Durbin Park in St. Johns County is in the process of becoming a massive shopping center that will include 700,000 square feet of retail space in just the first phase. Additionally, Cinemark plans to open a 12-screen movie theater at The Pavilion at Durbin Park by Fall 2019.

Mayo Clinic Jacksonville completed a "destination medical facility" in Jacksonville, partially funded with a \$20 million grant from the South Florida-based Harry T. Mangurian Jr. Foundation. "Jacksonville is becoming a destination for health care," said Dr. Robert Wharen, a longtime professor of neurology at Mayo. "There are new businesses coming here and research efforts that are being coordinated through Mayo, like the Jacksonville campus innovation building for lung transplants." Wharen said that Mayo serves more than 100,000 patients a year and employs 6,000 people. In the last three years, international patients have tripled.

Amazon fulfillment center, photo courtesy of Deremer Studios, LLC



Homegrown Companies: Businesses with Headquarters on the First Coast

| <u>Company</u> | <u>Industry</u> |
|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Acosta Sales and Marketing | Marketing |
| Atlantic Coast Financial | Financial Services |
| Bubba Burger | Food |
| Crowley Maritime | Transportation |
| CSX Corporation | Transportation |
| Dell Marine | Motorboats |
| Elkins Construction | Construction |
| Fanatics, Inc. | Retail |
| Fidelity National Financial | Financial Services |
| FIS | Financial Technology |
| Firehouse Subs | Food |
| Florida Blue | Insurance |
| Florida East Coast Railway | Transportation |
| Florida Coastal School of Law | Education |
| <i>Florida Times-Union</i> | Media |
| FRP Holdings | Transportation |
| Gate Petroleum | Conglomerate |
| Haskell Company | Construction |
| Interline Brands | Marketing |
| <i>Jacksonville Free Press</i> | Media |
| Jacksonville Jaguars | Sports Franchise |
| JEA | Utilities |
| Landstar System, Inc. | Transportation |
| Larry's Giant Subs | Food |
| Lender Processing Services | Information Technology |
| Mac Papers | Manufacturing |
| Metro Jacksonville | Media |
| MOBRO Marine, Inc. | Construction Equipment |
| One Call | Health Care |
| Rayonier | Real Estate |
| Rayonier Advanced Chemicals | Chemicals |
| Regency Centers | Real Estate |
| Reynolds, Smith & Hills | Construction |
| Ring Power | Construction Equipment |
| Sally Corporation | Manufacturing |
| Safariland | Manufacturing |

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Seward Trunk Co. | Manufacturing |
| Southeastern Grocers | Retail |
| Stein Mart | Retail |
| Stellar Group | Construction |
| Trailer Bridge | Transportation |
| Venus Swimwear | Apparel |
| VyStar Credit Union | Financial Services |
| Web.com | Internet |
| World Golf Village | Resort |
| USAussure | Insurance |

Nonprofit Companies Headquartered in the Region

| <u>Company</u> | <u>Industry</u> |
|---|------------------------|
| Baptist Health | Health Care |
| Clara White Mission | Homelessness |
| Edward Waters College | Education |
| Flagler College | Education |
| Florida Blue Cross | Insurance |
| Florida State College at Jacksonville | Education |
| HabiJax | Housing |
| Hubbard House | Domestic Abuse |
| Jacksonville University | Education |
| Jessie Ball duPont Fund | Charities |
| Jones College | Education |
| Lutheran Social Services NE Florida | Social Services |
| Nemours Foundation | Health Care |
| PGA Tour | Professional Sports |
| Second Harvest North Florida | Hunger |
| St. Vincent's HealthCare | Health Care |
| Sulzbacher Center | Homelessness |
| Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation | Childhood Cancer |
| UF Health at Jacksonville | Health Care |
| University of North Florida | Education |
| Wounded Warrior Project | Veteran Rehabilitation |

**First Coast U.S. Headquarters
of Foreign Corporations**

| <u>Company</u> | <u>Industry</u> |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Adecco Group North America..... | Staffing/Recruiting |
| Association of Tennis Professionals | Professional Sports |
| Buffet Group USA..... | Musical Instruments |
| Höegh Autoliners..... | Shipping |
| Survitec Group North America..... | Marine Safety and Survivability |
| Saft Batteries | Manufacturing |

Chambers of Commerce in the 5-County Region

Baker County Chamber of Commerce
www.bakerchamberfl.com

Clay County Chamber of Commerce
www.claychamber.com

JAX Chamber
www.myjaxchamber.com

Nassau County Chamber of Commerce
https://islandchamber.com

St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce
www.sjcchamber.com



Flagler College



Businesses by County

Large Employers by County

BAKER COUNTY

Walmart Distribution Center

CLAY COUNTY

Allergro
AT&T Services
Bestbet Orange Park
General RV Center
Life Care Centers
Orange Park Medical Center
Parallon
RaceTrac Petroleum
St. Vincent's Clay
Vac-Con, Inc.
Vallencourt Construction
Walmart

DUVAL COUNTY

Aetna
Ally Financial
AT&T
Bae Systems Southeast
Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Baptist Health
Black Knight, Inc.
Brooks Rehabilitation

Citi
Citizens Property Insurance
Comcast
CSX
Deutsche Bank
Fanatics
FIS
Flagler Hospital
Flightstar Aircraft Services
Florida Blue
GuideWell Source
Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Inc.
JP Morgan Chase & Co.
Mayo Clinic
McKesson
Memorial Hospital
Northrop Grumman
One Call
Southeastern Grocers
St. Vincent's HealthCare
TIAA Bank
UF Health
UPS
VyStar
Web.com
Wells Fargo

NASSAU COUNTY

Baptist Medical Center Nassau
Care Centers of Nassau
Omni Amelia Island Plantation, The
Rayonier Advanced Materials
Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island
River Valley Paper Company
WestRock

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Bayview Healthcare
Carlisle Interconnect Technologies
Flagler College
Flagler Hospital
Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind
Hydro Aluminum
Northrop Grumman
PGA TOUR
Ponte Vedra Inn & Club
Ring Power
Sawgrass Resort

**Large businesses were determined by number of employees. Baker, Clay, Nassau and St. Johns counties are limited to 250 and up. Duval County was limited to 1,000 employees and above.*

Photo courtesy of NAS Jax Air Show



Top Employers on the First Coast

1

Naval Air Station Jacksonville, the area's largest employer, has 19,500 employees and is one of the fastest growing Navy installations in the country. The base currently ranks as the largest Navy base in the Southeast and the third largest Navy base in the nation. Naval Air Station Jacksonville supports U.S. and allied forces specializing in anti-submarine warfare and training of the best aviators in the world.

P.O. Box 102
Jacksonville, FL 32212-0102
www.cnmc.navy.mil/jacksonville

2

Naval Station Mayport is another major Navy installation on the First Coast with 15,400 employees and is home to a busy seaport and air facility. Naval Station Mayport's mission is to sustain and enhance warfighter readiness. Also of note, the base is the proud home of the Navy's 4th Fleet, which was reactivated in 2008 after being deactivated for more than half a century.

P.O. Box 280112
Mayport, FL 32228-0112
www.cnmc.navy.mil/mayport

3

Duval County Public Schools, the region's third largest employer, is the 20th largest school district in the nation and the sixth largest district in Florida. With almost 12,000 employees, the school district is the largest civilian employer in Northeast Florida.

1701 Prudential Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32207
www.duvalschools.org

4

Baptist Health is comprised of five hospitals and the largest network of physician offices in the region. As an employer of 10,500 individuals, Baptist Health offers a full range of professional opportunities for advancement and innovation, while the company's executive leadership works closely with local boards to build on a legacy of community advocacy and stewardship on local levels.

800 Prudential Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32207
www.baptistjax.com

5

The **City of Jacksonville** is another of the area's largest employers and covers a large number of offices and departments that includes, but is not limited to, the Mayor's Office, City Council, Public Safety and Constitutional Officers. The City of Jacksonville employs 8,723 and is committed to the economic growth of the region and has formed strong partnerships throughout Duval, Clay, St. Johns and Nassau counties to further that commitment.

117 W. Duval St.
Jacksonville, FL 32202
www.coj.net

6

With 8,000 employees and more than 50 locations in Northeast Florida, **Bank of America Merrill Lynch** consistently stays at the top of the area's largest employer list. The bank was recently recognized for providing "An Outstanding Mobile Banking Experience" by J.D. Power, a leader in the world of ratings and reviews. The Bank of America Tower is a 42-floor skyscraper in downtown Jacksonville and is the tallest building in the Jacksonville skyline.

50 N. Laura St.
Jacksonville, FL 32202
www.bofam.com

7

Part of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, **Florida Blue** offers affordable health insurance to individuals, businesses and people covered by Medicare. The company's employee roster tops 7,000 individuals and continues to grow. Florida Blue strives to be a leader in the communities they serve, and continuously works to help people achieve better health.

4800 Deerwood Campus Pkwy.
Jacksonville, FL 32246
www.floridablue.com

8

Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville, one of only three Mayo Clinics in the nation, has 6,000 employees working hard to address the needs of patients while providing the seamless care and expertise that consistently ranks Mayo as one of the top hospitals in the U.S.

4500 San Pablo Rd. S.
Jacksonville, FL 32224
www.mayoclinic.org/jacksonville

9

Coming in at No. 9 on the largest employer list, **Southeastern Grocers** has 5,700 employees in the region and multiple locations of both Winn-Dixie and Harvey's grocery stores. The company is one of the largest conventional supermarket companies in the country and has 582 locations across seven states.

5050 Edgewood Ct.
Jacksonville, FL 32254
www.segrocers.com

10

Clay County District Schools is the second largest school district on the First Coast by employment numbers with 4,800 employees. The school district encompasses the entire county and consists of 26 elementary, six junior high and eight high schools.

900 Walnut St.
Green Cove Springs, FL 32043
www.oneclay.net

11

St. Johns County School District comes in as the 11th largest employer on the First Coast with more than 4,500 employees. The district is made up of 18 elementary, six K-8, seven middle schools, seven high schools, one technical college, two alternative schools, three charter schools and two juvenile justice facilities.

40 Orange St.
St. Augustine, FL 32084
www.stjohns.k12.fl.us

12

Headquartered in Jacksonville and coming as the second largest financial institution employer in the area, **Citigroup** has upwards of 5,000 employees on the First Coast after adding more than 500 new jobs in 2017. The company pioneered the first automatic teller machine (ATM) in 1977 and continues to bring new innovation to the financial world year after year.

14000 Citicards Way
Jacksonville, FL 32258
www.citigroup.com

13

JPMorgan Chase & Co. is one of the oldest financial institutions in the U.S. with a presence in over 100 markets. The company employs 3,900 on the First Coast and recently announced plans to open 35 new Florida branches over the next three years which will bring approximately 400 more jobs to the state, some of them in our region. The branches plan to hire personal bankers, financial advisors and mortgage and business banking specialists.

10151 Deerwood Park Blvd., Bldg. 400
Jacksonville, FL 32256
www.jpmorganchase.com

14

The **Jacksonville Sheriff's Office (JSO)** is one of the premier law enforcement agencies in the nation with approximately 3,800 employees; including nearly 2,000 law enforcement personnel. JSO offers employment opportunities as police officers, corrections officers, community service officers, police emergency communications officers and reserve officers.

501 E. Bay St.
Jacksonville, FL 32202
www.jaxsheriff.org

15

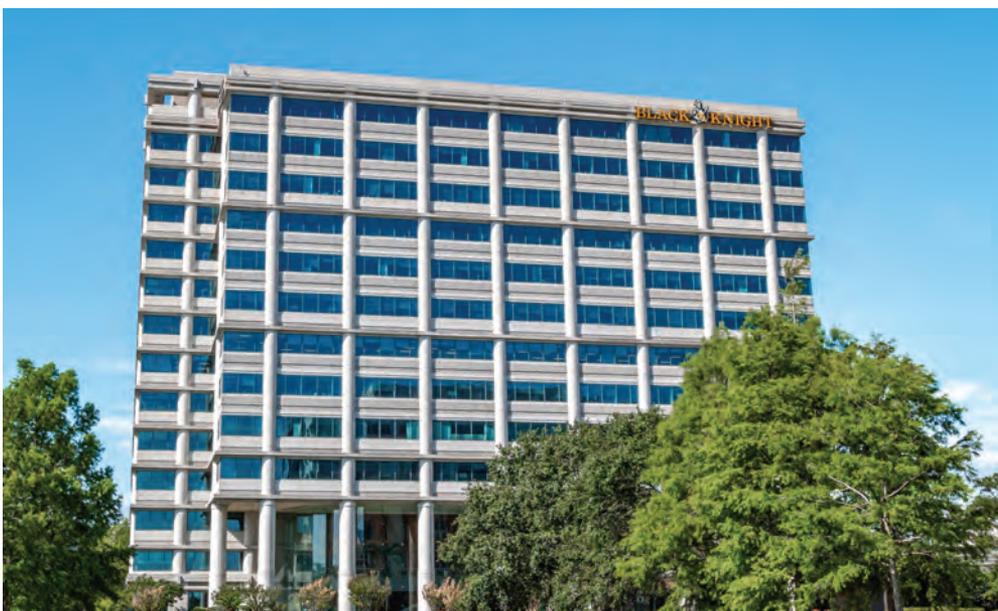
CSX Corporation, together with its subsidiaries based in Jacksonville, is one of the nation's leading transportation suppliers. The company's rail and intermodal businesses provide rail-based transportation services including traditional rail service and the transport of intermodal containers and trailers and employs upwards of 3,600 in the five-county region. Overall, the CSX Transportation network encompasses about 21,000 route miles of track in 23 states, the District of Columbia and the Canadian provinces of Ontario and Quebec.

500 Water St., 15th Fl.
Jacksonville, FL 32202
www.csx.com

16

UF Health is one of the most comprehensive academic health centers in the Southeast and encompasses the hospitals, physician practices, colleges, centers, institutes, programs and services across the First Coast. UF Health is a major employer with 3,600 staff in our region alone.

655 W. 8th St.
Jacksonville, FL 32209
www.ufhealthjax.org



Black Knight, Inc., photo courtesy of Black Knight, Inc.

17

Wells Fargo comes in at No. 17 on our Top Employers list with 3,500 employees on the First Coast. Positions at the bank include accounting and finance, customer service, legal, computer and IT, business operations, and bank tellers at dozens of locations throughout the region.

1 Independent Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32202
www.wellsfargo.com

18

For more than 100 years, **St. Vincent's HealthCare** has offered Jacksonville a legacy of excellent care and state-of-the-art technology, and it has offered healthcare professionals a chance to take part in rewarding careers in the industry. Today more than 3,000 people work with the health system locally, making St. Vincent's HealthCare the 18th largest employer in Northeast Florida.

1 Shircliff Way
Jacksonville, FL 32204
www.jaxhealth.com

19

AT&T proudly employs 2,600 employees in Northeast Florida in positions including corporate management, call centers, retail, sales, IT, technicians and government support. The company is well-known for its diverse culture, high level of workplace ethics and advancement opportunities.

10375 Centurion Pkwy. N.
Jacksonville, FL 32256
www.att.com

20

Black Knight Inc. is headquartered in Jacksonville and has 2,400 employees on the First Coast. The company is a provider of integrated technology, data and analytics solutions designed to automate business processes across the homeownership life cycle. Black Knight Inc. is known for their employee-centric culture and remains a great place to work year after year.

601 Riverside Ave.
Jacksonville, FL 32204
www.blackknightinc.com

21

UPS is a major employer on the First Coast with 2,300 employees locally. The company invests about \$565 million each year on training programs to help employees further their careers within the company. UPS is proud of its supportive culture, teamwork methodology and opportunities for advancement.

4255 James E. Casey Dr.
Jacksonville, FL 32219
www.ups.com

22

Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Inc. has been a staple in American business for more than 100 years. Today, the company maintains its status as a major employer with 2,000 employees in region. Employment opportunities span a broad range, from development strategy to retail sales to management.

7500 Centurion Pkwy.
Jacksonville, FL 32256
www.jnj.com

23

Flagler Hospital has consistently ranked among the nation's top 5 percent for its quality care for more than a decade and continues that tradition today. The hospital in St. Johns County employs 1,900 locally and has earned the Gold Seal of Approval™ from the Joint Commission for Primary Stroke Care Centers.

400 Health Park Blvd.
St. Augustine, FL 32086
www.flaglerhospital.org

24

With 1,800 employees, **Deutsche Bank** ranks as one of the region's top employers. The financial institution provides banking products and services such as private banking, business banking, insurance, investment, wealth management and loans.

5022 Gate Pkwy. S., Ste. 400
Jacksonville, FL 32256
www.db.com



Southeastern Grocers, photo by Kelly Smith

25

Memorial Hospital Memorial Health rounds out our list of top employers with just under 1,800 employees in the region. Memorial Hospital Jacksonville is a full-service emergency care facility that specializes in heart care and pediatric care and is known throughout the region for its StarRN Apprenticeship for new graduates.

3625 University Blvd. S.
Jacksonville, FL 32216
www.memorialhospitaljax.com

Honor,
Courage,
Commitment:
Our
Military

Naval Air Station Jacksonville

Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jacksonville) is a 2012 Presidential Navy Installation of Excellence Award winner, and the Commander, Naval Installations Command Installation Excellence Award winner for 2013. The air installation prides itself on being a premier installation for delivering effective, sustained and improved shore readiness to the forward deployed fleet, warfighters, their families and the civilian workforce. NAS Jacksonville is an operational headquarters for more than 110 tenant commands, including the Commander Patrol and Reconnaissance Wing Eleven, 14 VP, VR, HS and HSM operational and reserve squadrons. It is home to the largest squadron in the Navy—Patrol Squadron Thirty (VP-30). It provides P-3 specific training to pilots, naval flight officers and enlisted aircrew before reporting to the fleet. Major tenants aboard the base include Commander, Navy Region Southeast; Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast; Naval Hospital

Jacksonville; Naval Supply Fleet Logistics Center; and Fleet Readiness Center Southeast. The Fleet Readiness Center Southeast (FRCSE) performs refurbishment, repair and modification of aircraft, engines and aeronautical components in its mission to support the fleet, fighter and family.

As one of the most dynamic and diverse naval installations in the world, employing 23,000 personnel, NAS Jacksonville is a primary instrument of national security and its warfighters are a key component in conducting the core capabilities of the U.S. Navy's Maritime Strategy. NAS Jacksonville is the third largest naval installation in the country and the largest in the Southeast. It has an annual regional economic impact of \$2 billion. Located on nearly 4,000 acres along the beautiful St. Johns River, NAS Jacksonville also operates the Pinecastle Range Complex in the Ocala National Forest—the only Navy range on the East Coast where warfighters can deliver live ordnance—and the Naval Outlying Landing Field Whitehouse. Through the years, NAS Jacksonville personnel have been



An E-2C Hawkeye waits on the Naval Air Station Jacksonville flight line Oct. 11, 2018, to possibly assist with coordinating relief efforts in the Florida Panhandle region in the aftermath of Hurricane Michael

engaged globally while actively participating in the local communities within Northeast Florida, continuing their professional development and nurturing their families.

NAS Jacksonville personnel have a dynamic and flexible presence around the world, which contributes to the unique strengths of the U.S. Navy. Its sailors and civilian workforce play a pivotal role in ensuring the security, prosperity and vital interests of the U.S. and her allies. Focused directly on support to operational units, air station personnel work around the clock providing services to their home-based squadrons as well as supporting numerous detachments joint commands, government agencies and carrier readiness sustainment exercises. The NAS Jacksonville team continues to work in partnership with the City of Jacksonville, surrounding counties and local citizens to limit encroachment through compatible land use around Naval Outlying Landing Field Whitehouse and the Pinecastle Range Complex.

The crew of the Navy's newest littoral combat ship USS Wichita bring the ship to life during its commissioning ceremony at Naval Station Mayport, Jan. 12, 2019



Survivors of the USS Indianapolis meet with future crewmembers to share history at Naval Station Mayport, photo courtesy of the U.S. Dept. of the Navy

Naval Station Mayport

Naval Station Mayport (NS Mayport) is one of three major Navy installations in the Jacksonville area and was commissioned in 1942. Covering more than 3,400 acres, it is the third largest fleet concentration area in the continental United States. Currently, NS Mayport's harbor is capable of holding 34 ships and has an 8,000-foot runway that can handle any Department of Defense aircraft. The station's airfield is operated and maintained by NS Mayport's Air Operations Department and conducts more than 100,000 helicopter and fixed-wing flights each year. Military passenger flights are available through the air terminal, which processes about 13,000 passengers each year. The naval station has more than 70 tenant commands, six helicopter squadrons and 22 naval ships.

NS Mayport's location has given its home ported ships many opportunities to participate in both military operations and several other national interest projects. During the period from Oct. 21 to Nov. 22, 1962, the naval station was deeply involved in the "Cuban Missile Crisis." The Second Marine Division set up an advanced staging area on the station. NS Mayport provided logistic support to Naval Amphibious Units and to fleet support ships.

The new century finds NS Mayport thriving with activity and well positioned to serve as a vehicle for mission readiness. While the face of the base is familiar to many who have watched it grow for years, the infrastructure has evolved with, and anticipated, developments in technology, service and family needs.

According to Mayport history, "the more things change, the more they stay the same; so it goes for Naval Station Mayport." In 1959 the Main Gate to the base was moved to accommodate a growing base and improve security; in 2000 it was moved again for the same reasons. The golf course on base was opened in 1960 and underwent rehabilitation in 2000. In 1956, USS Franklin D. Roosevelt was home ported in Mayport; in 2000 USS Roosevelt brought the Roosevelt family name back to NS Mayport. In 1965, the Carrier Pier Snack Bar was opened; in March 2000, a new Single Sailor Center opened for the NS Mayport population of single Sailors. Named "Planet Mayport," it provides a computer/net surfing room, computer game area, large screen TV room, movie theater, laundromat, ATM, library and many other amenities. The base continues to rehabilitate and modernize its housing areas; its piers underwent renovation; and the Morale, Welfare and Recreation team continues to provide the base population with the best in entertainment, value and convenience.

NS Mayport covers 3,409 acres and is the third largest Naval Facility in the continental U.S. As a major Surface and Air Warfare organization, NS Mayport remains dedicated to providing "The Finest Service to the Finest Fleet."

Portions of this article courtesy of navy.mil.

The Ohio-class ballistic-missile submarine USS Maryland (SSBN 738) Gold crew returns to homeport at Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, following a strategic deterrence patrol

NS Mayport, photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Cameron M. Stoner



Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay

The Navy's \$1.3 billion Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay (NSB Kings Bay), located just 35 miles north of Jacksonville in Camden County, Georgia, is a part of the Jacksonville military community. The nearly 17,000-acre installation is the only Navy base on the East Coast capable of supporting the Trident II (D-5) Missile, an integral part of our nation's strategic deterrence program. Currently, the base berths eight Ohio-class submarines and employs more than 8,000 military and civilian personnel.

In its infancy, the base began as an Army post in the 1950s as land was acquired to build a military ocean terminal to ship ammunition in case of national emergency. At that time there was no immediate need for the installation, so it was placed in an inactive ready status.

Following the closure of its operational base at Rota, Spain, and reassignment to the East Coast of the U.S., the first Navy personnel arrived in the Kings Bay area in January 1978 and started preparations for the "orderly transfer of property" from the Army to the Navy. Naval Submarine Support Base Kings Bay was established in a developmental status July 1, 1978.

The base, now Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay, occupies the entire former Army terminal, as well as several thousand additional acres. Preparations for the arrival of the submarine squadron went forward in haste throughout the remainder of 1978 and into 1979. Kings Bay has been an operating submarine base since that day. Currently, the base is home to six Ballistic Missile Submarines and two Guided Missile Submarines.

U.S. Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville

The United States Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville is located on six acres of land, adjacent to NS Mayport. Sector Jacksonville is accountable for 40,000 square miles of ocean and inland waterways, including 190 miles of coastline from Kings Bay, Georgia to Port Malabar. All Coast Guard missions that fall into this area are Sector Jacksonville's responsibility. As the sub-office of the Coast Guard's 7th District Headquarters in Miami, the unit utilizes Multi-Mission Mayport and Security Detachment Mayport, as well as Station Ponce de Leon Inlet and Station Cape Canaveral to successfully cover this large area of responsibility.

Post-Sept. 11, 2001 legislative changes changed Coast Guard status from operating under the Department of Transportation to operating under the Department of Homeland Security. The Coast

Guard is considered a military service, because, during times of war or conflict, the President of the United States can transfer any or all assets of the Coast Guard to the Department of the Navy. In fact, this has been done in almost every single conflict that the U.S. have ever been involved in.

Located within Sector Jacksonville's Area of Responsibility (AOR) are five Department of Defense installations, U.S. Eastern Space and Missile Center, the Naval Ordnance Test Unit and Kennedy Space Center.

Sector Jacksonville is responsible for all Coast Guard missions in the Jacksonville Captain of the Port (COTP) zone and AOR, including Search and Rescue, Ports, Waterways and Coastal Security, Waterways Management, Maritime Homeland Security, Marine Science Activities, Aids to Navigation, and finally Command and Logistical Support.



The U.S. military has a very strong presence here on the First Coast with more than 50,000 Active Duty and civilian contractors stationed at the area's three naval bases. This flurry of activity brings the Navy's local economic impact to more than \$7 billion annually.



NAS JACKSONVILLE

Base Operations

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| Deployment/Mobilization | 542-7547 |
| NAS Jacksonville Main | 542-2338 |
| Quarterdeck | 542-2338 |

Base Support

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Commissary | 542-5311 |
| Housing Referral Office | 542-2996 |
| ID CARDS, DEERS and RAPID | 542-3633 |
| ID/CAC Card Processing | 542-1837 |
| Information & Referral Services | 542-5745 |
| Navy Exchange | 777-7286 |
| Post Office | 800-275-8777 |
| Recycling Center | 542-3113 |
| Single Sailor Accommodations (CQB) | 542-8195 |
| Temporary Lodging/Billeting | 542-3138 |

MWR (Morale, Welfare & Recreation Office)

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Allegheny & Sea King Parks | 542-2930 |
| Auto Skills Center | 542-3681 |
| Base Gym | 542-3239 |
| Bingo | 542-3900 |
| Bowling - Freedom Lanes | 542-3493 |
| Fisherman's & Mariner's Cove | 542-3260 |
| Fitness Source | 542-3518 |
| Golf Course | 542-3249 |
| Gymnasium & Indoor Pool | 542-2930 |
| Liberty Recreation Center | 542-1335 |
| Mulberry Cove Marina | 542-3260 |
| MWR Main Office | 542-3111 |
| Outdoor Pool | 542-3720 |
| Outdoor Recreation | 542-3260 |
| Retirement Services | 542-5790 |
| Sea Bat Park | 542-3260 |
| Tickets & Travel | 542-3318 |
| Youth Activities Center | 778-9772 |

NAVAL STATION MAYPORT

Base Operations

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Command Master Chief | 270-5688 |
| Command Master-at-Arms | 270-5940 |
| Commanding Officer | 270-5201 |
| Duty Officer | 270-5401 |
| Executive Officer | 270-5202 |
| Explosive Ordnance Disposal | 270-5412 |
| Harbor Operations | 270-5179 |
| Military Pay | 270-5571 |
| Naval Investigative Service | 270-5361 |
| Personal Property | 542-1000 |
| Personnel Support | 270-7614 x331 |
| Public Affairs Office | 270-6289 ext. 1011 through 1014 |
| Quarterdeck | 270-5401 |

Base Support

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Commissary | 249-7524 |
| ID Cards/DEERS | 270-7614 x300 |
| Navy Exchange Fleet Store | 242-3283 |
| Navy Exchange Mayport Road | 249-8883 |
| Office | 270-5730 |
| Recycling Center | 270-5095 |
| USO | 246-3481 |
| Vehicle Scale | 270-5095 |
| Vehicle Storage Compound | 270-7022 |
| Visitors Pass/Decals | 270-5585 |

MWR (Morale, Welfare & Recreation Office)

| | |
|---|----------|
| Auto Skills Center | 270-5392 |
| THE BEACON | |
| - Admin Office | 270-7198 |
| - The Loggerheads | 270-7205 |
| - Computer Cove | 270-7198 |
| Fleet Recreation | 270-5551 |
| Gymnasium | 270-5451 |
| Information, Tickets & Travel (ITT) | 270-5145 |
| Mayport Bowling Center | 270-5377 |
| Single Sailors | 270-7788 |
| MWR Main Office | 270-5228 |
| Ocean Breeze Conference Center | 270-5313 |
| Outdoor Adventures | 270-5221 |
| Personnel (MWR & NGIS) | 270-6061 |
| Pool | 270-5425 |
| Surfside Fitness Center | 270-5451 |
| Teen Center "Club Teen" | 246-0347 |
| Windy Harbor Golf Club | 270-5380 |
| Youth Activities Center (YAC) | 270-5680 |
| Youth Fitness Factory | 270-7134 |
| Youth Sports | 270-5680 |

NAVAL SUBMARINE BASE KINGS BAY

Base Operations

| | |
|--|--------------|
| After Hours Check-In | 912-573-2020 |
| Construction Battalion Maintenance | 912-573-3618 |
| Franklin Gate (contractors) | 912-573-8609 |
| Judge Advocate General | 912-573-4732 |
| Marine Corps Security Force | 912-573-2680 |
| Naval Fac. Engineering Command SE | 912-573-4600 |
| Naval Submarine Support Center | 912-573-0853 |
| Personnel Support Detachment | 912-573-6970 |
| Protocol | 912-573-2088 |
| Public Affairs | 912-573-4714 |
| Quarterdeck | 912-573-2020 |
| Stimson Gate | 912-573-1180 |
| Strategic Weapons Facility, Atlantic | 912-573-4109 |
| Submarine Group 10 | 912-573-3733 |
| Tours (Approved DoD Only) | 912-573-9155 |
| Trident Refit Facility | 912-573-3702 |
| Trident Training Facility | 912-573-3453 |

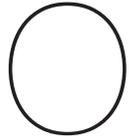
Base Support

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Commissary | 912-573-3310 |
| Conference Center | 912-573-4559 |
| Navy Exchange | 912-882-6098 |
| Post Office Kingsland | 912-729-3462 |
| Post Office On-Base | 912-882-5199 |
| Post Office St. Marys | 912-673-7700 |

MWR (Morale, Welfare & Recreation Office)

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| Bowling | 912-573-9492 |
| Fitness Complex | 912-573-3990 |
| Game Warden | 912-674-6817 |
| Golf Course: Trident Lakes | 912-573-8475 |
| Information, Tickets & Tours | 912-573-2289 |
| Liberty Office | 912-573-8999 |
| MWR Human Resources | 912-573-4583 |
| MWR Main Office | 912-573-2538 |
| Outdoor Adventures | 912-573-8103 |
| Pool | 912-573-3001 |
| Youth Center | 912-573-2380 |

Banking & Mortgage Industry



One of the most important decisions when moving to a new area is what financial service provider to choose for the inevitable banking and mortgage

needs that occur when you are settling into your new home. Newcomers to the First Coast can take advantage of the myriad options in the financial sector. With the city's growing reputation as a modern-day Wall Street, it's easy to see why global companies have chosen to call Northeast Florida home.

Most of the nation's leading financial and professional services companies have established large operations in Northeast Florida to take advantage of its global connectivity, experienced workforce and favorable business climate. The following companies encompass a great majority of what the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics calls the Financial, Insurance and Real Estate Industry here in the Northeast Florida. With a collective tally of more than 20,000 employees spread throughout the Jacksonville area, these companies provide a significant percent of the financial lifeline necessary for the city's continued growth.

121 Financial Credit Union, headquartered in Jacksonville, is a federally insured, state-chartered credit union with eight branches and assets of over \$400 million. Established in 1935, 121 Financial Credit Union offers a full range of financial services including car loans, checking, credit cards, home equity, investments, mortgages, personal loans, prepaid cards, savings and CDs. The local credit union prides themselves on knowing their customers by name, listening to their needs and working as a team to find solutions.

Experiencing notable growth in the past few years, Ameris Bancorp, the parent company of **Ameris Bank**, offers a broad range of financial services in Northeast Florida that include banking and mortgages. Andy Cheney, president and COO of Ameris Bank, said, "Our stronger presence in Northeast Florida is more convenient for our commercial, small business and personal account holders, and we welcome our new customers and team members." With the Jacksonville Bank acquisition, Ameris Bank is now the largest community bank by deposit market share in the Jacksonville market.

Bank of America is one of the world's largest financial institutions, serving individual consumers, small- and middle-market businesses and large

corporations with a full range of banking, investing, asset management and mortgage services. With more than 50 locations throughout Northeast Florida, Bank of America is among the nation's leading wealth management companies and is a global leader in corporate and investment banking and trading across a broad range of asset classes, serving corporations, governments, institutions and individuals. They provide business services, car loans, checking, credit cards, home equity, investments, mortgages, personal loans, and savings and CDs. The company has over 30 financial centers in the Jacksonville area that are ready to assist their customers.

Ranking among the top 20 largest U.S. commercial banks based on deposit market share, **BBVA Compass** is a leading banking franchise with locations throughout the area. Compass has been recognized as one of the nation's leading Small Business Administration (SBA) lenders, earning Lender of the Year honors in 2009 and 2010. Through three major business units – Corporate Banking, Retail Banking, and Wealth Management – BBVA Compass offers customers unique and industry-leading products and services with a focus on providing customers with financial solutions to fit their lives. These products and services include commercial and wholesale banking, treasury



Photo courtesy of VyStar

management, SBA loans, international services, merchant processing, retail banking services, consumer loans, mortgages, home equity lines and loans, credit cards, securities brokerage, mutual funds and annuities, financial counseling, wealth management, pension plan management and insurance.

Another Jacksonville-based industry leader, **Black Knight Inc.**, understands that great products must be equaled with great support. Their customers are involved in every aspect of their business model, from product priorities and future enhancements to all aspects of customer support. Black Knight Inc. is a premier business partner that lenders and servicers rely on to achieve their goals of homeownership and financial security.

Capital City Bank Group Inc. is one of the largest publicly traded financial holding companies headquartered in Florida and has approximately \$2.8 billion in assets. Capital City Bank provides a full range of banking services, including traditional deposit and credit services, mortgage banking, asset management, trust, merchant services, bankcards, data processing and securities brokerage services. Capital City Bank was founded in 1895 and now has 60 banking offices and 71 ATMs in Florida, Georgia and Alabama.

Since opening in 1999, **CBC National Bank** has been committed to putting their customers first. From day one, the vision for CBC has been to be a strong and growing regional financial institution where collective strengths and resources are shared and where local autonomy is exercised. The professionals at CBC National Bank are committed to fulfilling this vision by continually providing the best products and services to the communities they proudly serve.

Beginning in 1997 when it acquired AT&T's Universal Card business, **Citigroup** has operated a major credit card operations center in Jacksonville. From that time, the financial group has been growing and having a positive impact on the financial climate in Jacksonville. While providing customers with a wide range of financial services including mortgages, Citi is looking to grow the financial workforce to support its North American services. With the recent influx of 800 newly created jobs in late 2017, Citi's quota for North Florida employment now reaches 5,000 strong.

Jacksonville is home to **Deutsche Bank's** second largest office in the U.S. and represents the majority of the company's business and infrastructure functions. Deutsche Bank employs about 1,800 workers on the First Coast, including traders, bankers and wealth managers along with employees for information technology and compliance. These numbers are up from fewer than 100 employees in 2008. "Since coming to

TIAA Bank Plaza, photo courtesy of TIAA Bank



Jacksonville in 2008, Deutsche Bank has become an important player in one of our economy's fastest growing sectors – financial services. With the opening of this new facility, we are demonstrating Jacksonville's growing commitment to recruiting and supporting global leaders in the financial services industry. I am delighted to have Deutsche Bank continue their commitment to and presence in our city, bringing 350 new jobs to our citizens," Mayor Lenny Curry said. This expansion is the second in two years at Deutsche Bank's Jacksonville campus and comes just five years after the company's initial venture in the region.

With eight convenient locations in Northeast Florida, **Fidelity Bank** provides personal, business and wealth management financial services with their signature friendly customer service. Fidelity Bank has over 40 years of experience in personal and corporate financial services including consumer, commercial, construction, as well as mortgage lending, traditional deposit and other credit services.

Fifth Third Bank, with 11 locations in Northeast Florida, is driven as much by community outreach and involvement as they are servicing their customers' financial needs. In 2017, the bank helped feed over 1 million people in need, the employees donated more than 98,000 hours of community service and donated more than \$7 million to United Way through their Driving Change program. The bank provides personal, business, investment and wealth management financial services in a friendly and dependable way.

First Federal Bank of Florida, formerly CBC National Bank, has been in the home financing arena since 1962 and continues to be committed to making home financing fast, easy and affordable for their clients. In addition to traditional banking services, First Federal Bank provides a variety of programs, rates and term options to fit any budget. Banking services include checking, savings, debit cards and credit cards.

Florida Capital Bank offers a variety of banking and mortgage options. Following the trend of basing operations in Jacksonville, Florida Capital Bank recognizes that businesses are the backbone of our economy and our communities. Their goal is to deliver profitable growth through their employees by creating an atmosphere of “optimism, teamwork, creativity and resourcefulness that results in superior customer service in an ethical manner.”

Jacksonville-based **JPMorgan Chase** is at the forefront of this investment with 3,900 finance and mortgage jobs in Northeast Florida. Serving nearly half of America’s households with services including mortgages and personal banking, JPMorgan Chase is in the business of creating engaged, lifelong relationships. Following an unfortunate layoff of 130 workers in early 2015, the lender was able to rehire about 30 percent of those people by transferring them to other branches within the region.

Regions Financial Corporation, with locations throughout the region, is dedicated to making life better – better for their associates, their customers and their communities. With \$135 billion in assets, Regions is one of the nation’s largest full-service providers of consumer and commercial banking, trusts, securities brokerage, mortgage and insurance products and services. Recognized by the advisory firm Reputation Institute and

the *American Banker* magazine as having the best overall reputation among U.S. banks in 2016, Regions Bank maintains a strong presence in Northeast Florida.

It may come as a surprise that one of the major financial mortgage providers in Northeast Florida is also the state’s largest auto insurance company – **State Farm**. A company that stands on the motto “No one serves you better,” State Farm stems from a long legacy of passionate employees who lean fervently on the mission of being a Good Neighbor. When it comes to looking at the collective dreams of a community as well as an individual, State Farm is there to assist in making the right choices. While State Farm prides itself on being the country’s number one auto insurer, its financial services including that of mortgages are comparable to the previous mortgage heavy hitters listed above. Its 38 State Farm offices spread throughout the Jacksonville area emphasize the long-existing relationship with the River City and its 1,500 State Farm employees.

New York-based Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association (TIAA) acquired EverBank in Jacksonville and subsequently set up **TIAA Bank** headquarters in our fair city. The nationwide consumer and commercial bank has more than \$27.4 billion in total assets. Fortunately for our region, officials at TIAA have said the sale, which was finalized in June 2017, did not have

a significant impact on employment for those already working at EverBank offices. TIAA Bank currently employs 3,380 employees. It is the largest bank based in Florida by deposits and over 1,600 of their employees work in Jacksonville.

With more than 50 locations in Northeast Florida, **Wells Fargo** provides car loans, checking, credit cards, investment services, personal loans, savings and CDs, mortgages and more. Following a merger with Wachovia Bank, Wells Fargo has doubled in size, but their vision remains the same: To satisfy all their customers’ financial needs while helping them succeed financially. The national company with operations across the globe identifies itself as a community-based, diversified financial services company.

VyStar Credit Union, based in Jacksonville, is the 19th largest credit union in the nation, serving more than 500,000 members worldwide. VyStar currently has over \$8 billion in assets. This is significant because credit unions, which are member-owned financial cooperatives, are typically much smaller than community banks. The local credit union, however, is the second largest financial institution based in Jacksonville and has been in business for more than 62 years. Northeast Florida is one of the fastest-growing regions in the U.S. The area’s growth is made possible by a large and talented workforce, and by communities and government leaders who are dedicated to its economic development.



Dubbed a modern-day Wall Street, Jacksonville has established a powerful presence in the banking industry on both a national and international level.



SunTrust and Wells Fargo buildings in Downtown Jacksonville, photo by Monica Gutos

Jacksonville: An Information Technology Leader

When it comes to technology, the First Coast boasts a broad range of companies that includes independent software developers, corporate IT operations and telecommunications infrastructure for major financial firms, health care providers, insurers and global logistics companies. This diverse collection of entities makes up one of the fastest growing Information Technology (IT) sectors in the country. In fact, DataFox recently ranked Jacksonville No. 2 on its 2016 Best Cities for Tech list (outside of New York and California) due to the city's support of local entrepreneurs and startups, low cost of living, and a median age of 38.

Also making an impact on Northeast Florida's growth in the IT community is the city's new Network Access Point—the Jax NAP—which is attracting IT companies to the area and positioning Jacksonville as a main connection point along the network of subsea and terrestrial cables that move data due to its new Network Access Point—the telecom industry's version of a major hub airport or a Tier I-level routing site. As the only Network Access Point centrally located between Dallas, Atlanta and Miami, the Jax NAP provides a digital expressway that connects 32 countries and is made up of more than 10,000 miles of fiber cables. The Jax NAP benefits the telecom and data center industry by providing greater connectivity, conductivity, reliability and a lack of latency in trafficking large amounts of data.

According to JAXUSA, information technology employs more than 13,000 in the region in a wide range of occupations including computer programming, software design, and computer facilities management. With Jacksonville's talent pool growing more rapidly than the U.S. average, it is a great time to be employed in this field. It is no wonder that *Forbes* magazine continually ranks Jacksonville as one of the best cities for high-tech jobs. As businesses in Jacksonville grow, the need for quality IT follows suit. Companies with large information technology operations in Northeast Florida include Bank of America, Merrill Lynch, Florida Blue, CITI and Deutsche Bank.

Here are some of the leading IT employers on the First Coast:

AT&T

AT&T recently announced they are considering adding to the First Coast's job market by consolidating its call center operations in Syracuse, New York, to the existing call center in Orange Park. The company is the second largest provider of mobile telephone services and the largest provider of fixed telephone service. Additionally, AT&T is the largest telecommunications company in the world by revenue. As of 2017, it is also the 17th largest mobile telecommunications operator in the world, with over 130 million mobile customers. AT&T was ranked sixth on the 2015 rankings of the world's most valuable brands published by Millward Brown Optimor. AT&T employs 2,600 on the First Coast, with the possibility of up to 150 additional positions once the consolidation is complete.

Availity

A Jacksonville-based company, Availity is known for tackling the complexities of syncing and sharing data in real time between health plans and their provider networks nationwide. The homegrown company operates the largest real time information network in health care, delivering health information solutions to more than 200,000 physicians and providers of care, 1,000 hospitals, 1,300 health plans and 450 industry partners. As one of the leading health information networks in the country, Availity optimizes information exchange between multiple health care stakeholders through a single, secure network. Availity also offers health care providers, hospitals, and health systems revenue cycle and patient financial management solutions.

Black Knight, Inc., photo courtesy of Black Knight, Inc.



Beeline

Another Jacksonville native company, Beeline is an established leader in software solutions for sourcing and managing a company's extended workforce. Beeline, a strategic and independently operated business unit of Adecco Group, offers workforce solutions including a Vendor Management System and a Freelancer Management System which helps procurement, sourcing and human resources professionals optimize costs, reduce risks, and increase the value of their contingent labor programs.

Black Knight, Inc.

Headquartered in Jacksonville's Riverside neighborhood, Black Knight Inc. provides integrated technology, data and analytics for lenders and servicers in the mortgage and real estate industries looking to successfully manage the entire loan lifecycle. The company's understanding of regulatory and compliance issues complements the knowledge, technology and solutions they offer to help their clients achieve their business and personal goals.

C2C Solutions

Yet another local IT company with a nationwide reach, C2C Innovative Solutions Inc. has a national presence and a reputation for innovative and quality solutions to better serve the health

care industry. C2C Solutions has served as a Qualified Independent Contractor (QIC) for the Medicare program since the inception of the second-level appeal process in September 2004. Today, C2C is the QIC contractor for several QIC task orders.

CSX Technology

The CSX logo is one of the most recognizable images on Northeast Florida's roads. Operating as a subsidiary of CSX Corporation, CSX Technology develops information technology applications for railroad transportation and logistics. The company's products include ShipCSX, which facilitates freight scheduling, tracking, and monitoring. It also offers IT services for data resource management, system architecture and network management. The company was recently named as one of the Best Places to Work in IT.

Fanatics

One of the top online retailers of licensed sports apparel and merchandise is also headquartered in Jacksonville. Fanatics offers one of the largest collections of licensed sports apparel and fan gear out there. Officially, services include e-commerce and customer service, website platform development, secure shopping solutions, expertise in merchandising and fulfillment, advanced digital marketing, and complete design, licensing and manufacturing, but you'll more likely recognize them for being the company that changed the way fans purchase their favorite team merchandise. Fanatics operates more than 300 online and offline stores and currently powers the e-commerce sites of all major professional sports leagues (NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL, NASCAR, PGA, UFC), major media brands (NBC Sports, CBS Sports, FOX Sports) and over 150 collegiate and professional team properties.

FIS

Headquartered right here in Jacksonville, Fidelity Information Services (FIS) is the largest provider of banking and payment technologies. FIS assists financial companies with its payment processing and banking solutions, which include software and technology outsourcing. FIS serves more than 20,000 clients in over 130 countries. Their technology allows billions of transactions to take place each year that move over \$9 trillion around the world. FIS is a Fortune 500 company and is a member of Standard & Poor's 500® Index. FIS currently has nearly 1,100 employees in Duval County and employs more than 4,500 Floridians statewide. As a world leader in financial services technology, FIS is expanding its presence in Jacksonville and will be creating 250 new jobs.

Randrr

Randrr is a digital platform that connects potential employees with employers and is in the midst of hiring 200 additional employees in Jacksonville. In 2018, the company announced acquisition of the career-matchmaking site Anthology, which is dubbed by many as a mix between Tinder and LinkedIn, anonymously matching employers with already employed but on-the-hunt employees. *Jacksonville Business Journal* recognizes Randrr as the city's most innovative startup. "When deciding where to locate, we had a number of choices but Florida and the Jacksonville community embraced us with open arms. The depth and availability of the technical talent here is critically important to our company and will sustain our growth for years to come. We hope to be a part of making Jacksonville a world-class tech hotspot," said Randrr owner and CEO Terry Terhark.

Urban Mining

Founded in Jacksonville in 2010 by retired Navy Veteran Juan Carlos Villatoro, Urban Mining was created to address the growing global issue of hazardous electronic waste and the need for recycling in a technology-driven world. The company is changing the way electronics recycling occurs with a focus on environmental sustainability, transparent downstream management and attention to data security. "Our technology has global implications, but we think, and act, in a way that impacts our customers, employees and the communities we live in," said Urban Mining. "We generate STEM jobs, activate local remarketing programs to improve access to technology, support the Corporate Social Responsibility and IT goals of local businesses and stand up sustainability programs for the greater Northeast Florida region." Services cover a full range of IT asset management and disposition services, including Department of Defense-compliant data destruction, audited tracking, resale of assets with marketable value, and the complete tear-down of old electronics resulting in a net zero impact on landfills.

Web.com

Another leading provider of IT solutions, Jacksonville-based Web.com, provides a wide range of web services for small and medium-sized businesses, including website design, online marketing, e-commerce, web hosting and registering a domain name. Web.com also offers resources and advice to help businesses grow their online presence. Web.com has 3 million customers and employs 900 people in the Jacksonville area. The company was acquired by an affiliate of Siris Capital Group, LLC and continues to provide the same great service they have been known for since their founding in 1981.



CSX photo by Stephanie Marty

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More Industries that are Making an Impact in Northeast Florida

Health & Life Sciences

One in every six jobs in the region is in the health & life science sector. The First Coast is home to more than 20 high-profile health care facilities and a rapidly growing medical community. The industry has a \$25 million annual economic impact and includes one of only three Mayo Clinics, one of six Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center partnerships and UF Health Proton Therapy, one of the first Proton Therapy Cancer Treatment centers in the world.

Aviation & Aerospace

More than 6,000 people are currently employed in the aviation and aerospace industry and nearly 100 aviation-related companies that operate on the First Coast. The region's airports operate more than

85 non-stop flights and with our global accessibility and central location within the U.S. aviation corridor, drawing in companies like Boeing and Northrup Grumman.

Advanced Manufacturing

Jacksonville is one of the largest manufacturing regions in Florida, while Florida ranks among the nation's top 10 places for manufacturing. Big companies like GE Oil and Saft America take advantage of Northeast Florida's infrastructure, convenient location along the East Coast, competitive business climate and access to talent.

Education

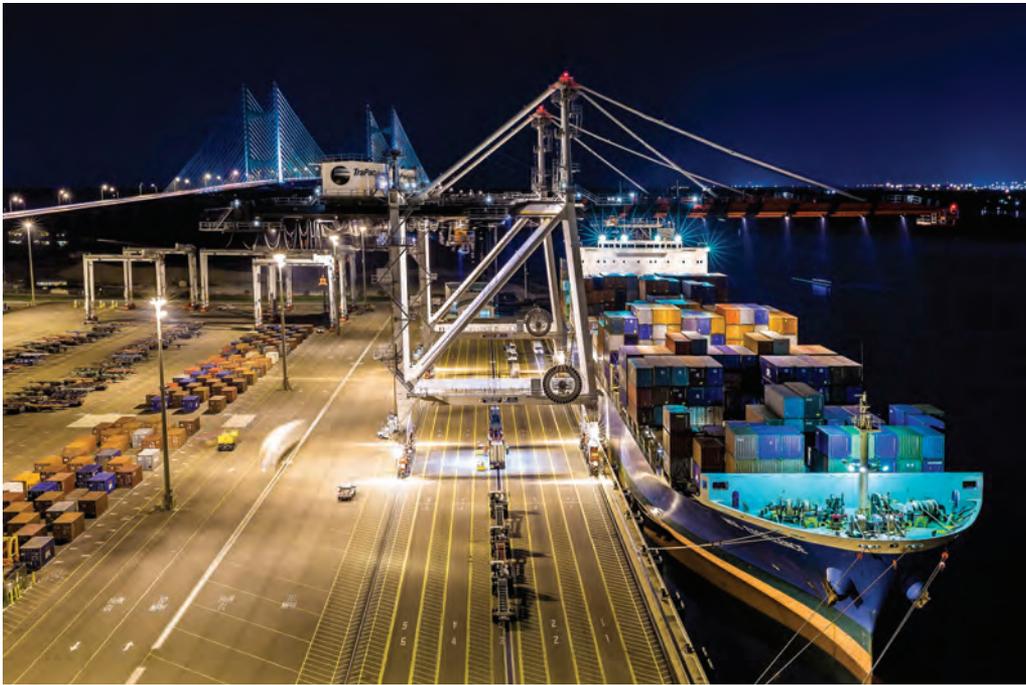
The five-county region employs nearly 23,000 in the education sector. Educators, human resources, administration, janitorial, transportation and nursing are just some of the jobs performed to provide quality educations to First Coast children and adults.

Insurance

The insurance industry in Northeast Florida is an impressive one. Spanning multiple types of insurance, including auto, homeowners, renters, health, long-term disability, term life, personal property and identity theft protection. No matter what type of insurance you need, chances are the First Coast has got you covered.

The Ports that Keep the First Coast Moving

JAXPORT terminal, photo courtesy of flaports.org



JAXPORT, photo courtesy of JAXPORT



JAXPORT, photo courtesy of JAXPORT



JAXPORT, photo by Brad Biringier

Jacksonville has become widely known as America's logistic center and reaps the benefits of being the westernmost city on the East Coast through providing same-day access to more than 61 million consumers. With a logistics infrastructure that includes rail, air, maritime and highway, products can be easily shipped anywhere in the world. As a core industry of Northeast Florida, logistics and distribution employs more than half a million Florida residents with a vast wholesale trade, and

transportation and logistics industry. Several major logistics companies have a presence in Florida, including CEVA Logistics, Coach Inc., Crowley Logistics Inc., Mediterranean Shipping Company and Landstar Systems Inc. As a gateway to the Western Hemisphere, Florida's logistics and distribution industry is continuing to grow with the Panama Canal expansion this past year and the many infrastructure developments in the works around the region.

The First Coast remains at the cutting edge of innovation and boasts the country's first fully fueled Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) container ship. This is buoyed by the region's strong public/private sector partnerships that foster the collaborative environment that causes our area to continue to thrive, grow and advance. The region's two deep-water ports, three major interstates, three major railroads and international airport system contributes to Jacksonville's ranking as one of the best cities for logistics infrastructure, as the city was named by *Global Trade Magazine*.

There are three tangible forces that drive the logistics and distribution business in Jacksonville. The first is Value Added Logistics Services (VALS). Florida offers a prime location for VALS, as well as a skilled multilingual workforce and competitive overall business costs. Firms benefit from Florida's multimodal transportation system, foreign trade zones and other competitive advantages. Second, as a major international trade center and a huge market in its own right, Florida has a robust wholesale trade and transportation sector. Florida offers easy access to global markets, plus the infrastructure to facilitate the needs of any wholesale trade and transportation provider. Finally, the Jacksonville market offers specialized logistics IT (information technology), which plays a crucial role in the industry. Our large IT cluster is home to a number of firms specializing in logistics IT and related areas such as transportation management, inventory control and homeland security applications.

The volume of big business in Northeast Florida requires a means to support the transport of products. Fortunately, the First Coast is blessed with a deep-water port boasting the widest shipping channel in the Southeast U.S.—a channel wide enough for two ships to pass at the same time. **JAXPORT** is a full-service, international trade seaport situated at the crossroads of the nation's rail and highway network. The port has three marine terminals that handles more than 8 million tons of cargo a year, including more than 650,000 vehicles and more containers than any other port complex in Florida.

JAXPORT

With more than 1.27 million cargo container units moved in fiscal year 2017-2018, JAXPORT has become Florida's busiest port authority. This represents a 23 percent increase in the annual volume of containers over the previous fiscal year at the port's terminals. JAXPORT owns, maintains and markets three cargo terminals and one passenger cruise terminal along the St. Johns River: Blount Island Marine Terminal, Dames Point Marine Terminal, Talleyrand Marine Terminal and the JAXPORT Cruise Terminal.

The largest gain in cargo shipments was for the Puerto Rico trade route in which JAXUSA reports that 737,000 container units were shipped between Jacksonville and Puerto Rico, an increase of 37 percent. A portion of shipments were for disaster relief to the territory following the aftermath of Hurricane Maria in late 2017. Additional gains were seen with the 11th year of consecutive growth for Asian-based cargo, having reached a total of 429,000 TEUs (20-foot equivalent units).

The **Blount Island Marine Terminal** has 7,094 linear feet of deep-water berth, is JAXPORT's largest marine facility and one of the largest vehicle import/export centers in the U.S. The newly rebuilt heavy lift cargo berth ranks as one of the nation's highest weight-bearing capacity docks, offering up to 1,800 pounds per square foot of load capacity.

Located 10 nautical miles from the Atlantic Ocean, **Dames Point Marine Terminal** is JAXPORT's newest marine facility with 5,002 linear feet of deep-water berths. The TraPac Container Terminal at Dames Point features new port infrastructure, including roadways, terminal buildings, two 1,200-foot berths and six New Panamax container cranes.

In the past 15 years, more than 2 million passengers have sailed from Jacksonville and the **JAXPORT Cruise Terminal**. More than 190,000 cruise passengers sailed from the JAXPORT cruise terminal in 2017 and the ships have an average 120 percent occupancy rate. With passengers traveling from all 50 states, the cruise industry has created an estimated 460 new jobs and more than \$67 million in new annual economic impact for Northeast Florida. JAXPORT is the proud home-port to the Carnival Elation, a 2,054-passenger cruise ship that replaced the Carnival Fascination, which is now home-ported in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The Elation offers four-day cruises to Freeport and Nassau in the Bahamas and five-day voyages to Nassau and the private Bahamian island of Half Moon Cay, making JAXPORT an ideal cruise departure location.

The final terminal that makes up JAXPORT, **Talleyrand Marine Terminal**, is located 21 nautical miles from the Atlantic Ocean on the St. Johns River with 4,780 linear feet of berthing space. The terminal handles containerized and breakbulk

cargoes, automobiles and liquid bulk commodities such as molasses and vegetable oils. Talleyrand's on-dock rail facilities are run by Talleyrand Terminal Railroad Inc., which provides direct switching service for Norfolk Southern and CSX rail lines. The terminal is only 25 minutes from Florida East Coast Railroad's intermodal ramp and is conveniently located within minutes of interstates I-95 and I-10.

Port of Fernandina

The **Port of Fernandina** provides terminal service to over 10 pulp and paper producers located throughout Florida and the Southeast. In addition, the port has expanded in providing steel export services to several steel mills in the Southeast. Because of the unique positioning of the Port of Fernandina, the Ocean, Highway & Port Authority (OHPA) is also developing partnerships with various lines to create a connection to interstate, rail and air services by which more goods and services can be delivered to more destinations around the globe.

The Port of Fernandina features a short entrance channel only 2.2 miles from the ocean with a channel draft of 36 feet mean low average (MLW) free of any overhead obstructions. The 850-foot turning basin is directly adjacent to the 1,200-linear foot pier. Tug services are available, but not required, weather permitting. Most vessels can transit from the sea buoy in one hour. Exports include forest products such as Kraft Liner Board and lumber; machinery, yachts and steel products. Imports handled at the Port of Fernandina include steel rebar and wire rod coils, hardwoods and oats. Additionally, the containerized commodities moving through the port are made up of consumer goods, building materials, plastics, beverages, frozen and chilled foods, and newsprint.



Port of Fernandina, photo courtesy of Amelia Island Tourist Development Council

LOGISTICS & DISTRIBUTION

CEVA Logistics is one of the world's leading non-asset-based supply chain management companies with industry-leading design and implementation solutions in both freight management and contract logistics. In 2013, CEVA Logistics opened its first Center of Logistics Excellence in Jacksonville. The center is designed to demonstrate 'real world' logistics innovation through supply chain optimization and enhanced visibility, integrated services and technology solutions to power supply chain efficiency and allows organizations to see supply chains in action.

Last year, CEVA brought in a new Senior Vice President Business Development – Contract Logistics, Stephen Dean. Dean is based at the Jacksonville location and has added 30 years of contract logistics experience and expertise. Speaking of his new role, Dean says, "CEVA is a major player on the international stage with a great reputation and I believe there is significant potential to further enhance our portfolio of services. My relocation to Jacksonville puts me at the heart of our sales and solutions teams in North America and I'm looking forward to developing our customer offering to further grow the business." According to CEVA, information technology plays a crucial role in helping customers achieve their supply chain objectives. The Center for Logistics Excellence showcases the CEVA Matrix™ platform, which optimizes best-in-class components from independent software vendors with proprietary CEVA components and expertise to deliver innovative customer solutions that support all aspects of the end-to-end supply chain.

Coach Inc. is the iconic label that spans fashion, fragrance and even pet accessories that we all know and love. What may come as a surprise to many is that every product the company produces comes through Jacksonville at their 850,000-square-foot distribution center. The center, located at the Jacksonville International Tradeport, has tripled in size since it opened in 1995, and there have been reports that the company's rapid growth in Asia may necessitate additional expansions in the future. The Jacksonville facility is the brand's only U.S. distribution center and more than 350 employees are responsible for shipping out hundreds of thousands, sometimes even millions, of orders every month. Jacksonville is the company's largest and main facility and is supported by two smaller distribution centers in Asia.

With two locations in Jacksonville, Crowley Maritime Corporation has a strong shipping and distribution presence in Northeast Florida. Crowley is the leading ocean cargo carrier



Crowley Maritime Corp., photo by Stephanie Marty



Jacksonville has the biggest deep-water port in the Southern U.S. and the second-biggest on the East Coast.



between the U.S. and Puerto Rico, the Eastern and Western Caribbean and Central America. According to Crowley, with frequent and timely sailings, and the proximity of the Caribbean Basin to the U.S., they are able to deliver "Speed to Market" for customers in need of liner shipping services. **Crowley Logistics Inc.** is a U.S.-owned and operated marine solutions, transportation and logistics company providing services in domestic and international markets through six operating lines of business: Puerto Rico/Caribbean liner services; Latin America liner services; logistics; marine contract solutions; deep sea petroleum transportation; and petroleum transportation, distribution and sales in Alaska. The company has a fundamental understanding that supply chains continue to operate within an increasingly complex and dynamic set of variables, the company is positioned as a worldwide partner offering flexible, scalable and agile logistics solutions. Crowley is known for being able to seamlessly handle most any logistics requirement by offering services that it has spent over 121 years perfecting.

Known for providing global services with local knowledge, **Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC)** is a world leader in global container shipping. MSC also provides an integrated network of road, rail and sea transport resources that stretches across the globe. As the world's second largest shipping company in terms of container vessel capacity, MSC has an established fleet of 480 container vessels with global sailing schedules covering 200 routes and calling at 315 ports, including JAXPORT.

Yet another industry leader based in Jacksonville, **Landstar Shipping** specializes in supply chain solutions and global and domestic transportation. The Landstar network is made up of independent agents and transportation capacity providers with various capabilities including logistics, engineering, analysis, design, shipping, brokerage and warehousing. Landstar is proudly known for their "safety-first culture" and has a 99 percent claim-free delivery rate. The company's accident frequency is well below the industry average, and according to Landstar, this is a direct result of their strict capacity requirements and innovative safety initiatives.

Full Speed Ahead: Transportation

ROADS

It can be a challenge finding your way around a new city but have no fear; we have all the information you need to make your journey around the First Coast an easy one. Jacksonville and the surrounding cities have many roads and highways that make it convenient for residents to get where they need to go, so long as they know the ropes. Say you need to get downtown by heading north on Philips Highway, but when the directions tell you to take U.S. 1, it can be confusing if you don't know that they are, in fact, one in the same. We outlined common alternative names for some of our major roadways to help ease your transition to your new city.

U.S. 1 also known as ... New Kings Road, Martin Luther King Jr. Parkway, Philips Highway and Dixie Highway

U.S. 17 also known as ... Main Street, Roosevelt Boulevard and Park Avenue

U.S. 90 also known as ... Beach Boulevard

State Road 10 also known as ... Atlantic Boulevard

State Road 13 also known as ... Hendricks Avenue and San Jose Boulevard

State Road 202 also known as ... JTB, John Turner Butler and Butler Boulevard

State Road A1A also known as ... State Road 200 and Third Street

I-295 East Beltway formerly known as ... State Road 9A

By car, downtown Jacksonville is:

40 minutes from Fernandina Beach/Amelia Island

50 minutes from historic St. Augustine

Two and a half hours from Orlando

Six hours from Atlanta

BRIDGES

On the First Coast, one of our claims to fame is the abundance of water surrounding nearly every aspect of life with the most notable being the St. Johns River; hence the nickname "the River City." Whether you're watching fireworks downtown or enjoying a glass of wine on a dock in Riverside, one thing remains constant, you will always have a bridge or two in your line of sight.

High above the Intracoastal Waterway, multiple bridges will allow you to travel seamlessly between the beaches and the mainland. The **Wonderwood Bridge** is an important piece of the transportation network connecting Jacksonville to Mayport. The bridge connects I-295 with Mayport near Naval Station Mayport. The **McCormick Bridge** is located on Beach Boulevard and will take you from the Southside to the beaches in a matter of minutes. There is also a bridge on J. Turner Butler spanning the Intracoastal that is the fastest way to travel from Philips Highway to Jacksonville, Atlantic, Neptune or Ponte Vedra beaches.

Like arcs from a fountain, seven major bridges rise high above the St. Johns in the Jacksonville area. From northeast to southwest they are: **Dames Point Bridge**, **Mathews Bridge**, **Hart Bridge**, **Main Street (John T. Alsop, Jr.) Bridge**, **Acosta Bridge**, **Fuller Warren Bridge (I-95)** and the **Buckman Bridge**. Additionally, the **Shands Bridge**, near Green Cove Springs, connects St. Johns County with Clay County, where you can almost always find a few fishermen casting a line over the side or tossing a cast net into the river.



I-95 in Jacksonville

North of Jacksonville, there are two ways to reach Amelia Island by car. The **Thomas J. Shave, Jr. Bridge** connects the north side of Amelia Island to the mainland and lands you in Nassau County. The Intracoastal Waterway Bridge is located on A1A; it crosses the Intracoastal Waterway and connects Amelia Island to Little Talbot Island by way of State Road A1A for a beautiful scenic drive along the Atlantic coastline. The bridge crosses the Nassau Sound at the southern end of the island and connects to Duval County.

The most well-known bridge in St. Johns County is the **Bridge of Lions**, which spans Matanzas Bay and connects St. Augustine's historic district to Anastasia Island. The majestic bridge received its name from the two marble lion statues that are perched at the base of the bridge. The lions are stunning replicas of those found in the Loggia dei Lanzi in Florence, Italy. The **Mickler O'Connell Bridge**, also known as the State Road 312 Bridge, is located near Flagler Hospital and crosses the Matanzas River into Anastasia Island. Another widely used bridge is the **Francis and Mary Usina Bridge**, where State Road A1A crosses the Tolomato River into the southern end of Vilano Beach. The **Palm Valley Bridge** offers a beautiful scenic ride over the Intracoastal connecting Nocatee Parkway to Palm Valley Road.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA)

www.jtafla.com

JTA is the independent state agency that provides public transportation services for Duval County. The agency is also in charge of mass transit service, along with designing and constructing highways and bridges around town. Their mission statement is "to improve Northeast Florida's economy, environment and quality of life by providing safe, reliable, efficient and sustainable multimodal transportation services and facilities."

Bus – JTA manages all bus services in the greater Jacksonville area, with buses traveling more than 45 fixed-routes around Duval County and beyond. The JTA website features updated information about each route daily, including a specific time for each stop, making it more convenient than ever to take public transportation.

Connexion (Paratransit) – The paratransit service offers door-to-door non-emergency transportation for disabled and disadvantaged individuals. JTA provides this service to supplement fixed bus routes around the city in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Riders on this line are unable to use the regular buses because of a disability and must be eligible for this service under the ADA guidelines.

Park-n-Ride – The Park-n-Ride service was created to make going downtown a breeze. No more worrying about paying to park then walking two miles to the venue. Sometimes our biggest worry about going downtown is finding a parking spot among concert-goers, or at a Jaguar game with over 40,000 in attendance. This coordinated JTA effort has designated lots around the city with express service to downtown Jacksonville. The Stadium Shuttle provides transportation to and from the stadium for major sporting events. There are now Park-n-Ride lots located all over Jacksonville and neighboring counties, including: AIA and Wonderwood, Armsdale, Baldwin, Clay County lot in Middleburg, Convention Center, Kings Avenue Garage, Marbon-off San Jose Boulevard, Monument Road, Philips Highway and JTB, and the newest addition—the Avenues Walk Park-n-Ride Center. These buses run continuously so whenever you're ready to leave, you will have a guaranteed ride back to your car.

ReadiRide – A completely new service offered by JTA, ReadiRide is an on-call service that provides affordable transportation to customers at the Beaches, the Highlands, Northside, Southeast and Southwest communities. The service is available Monday through Saturday 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., and you must call two hours in advance to reserve a car. The fee is only \$2 per person to be dropped off at any non-JTA bus stop and 50 cents to be dropped off at a JTA bus stop. You can use the MyJTA app for further convenience.

Skyway – The Skyway is a complementary automated train system flying high above traffic for convenient access around downtown Jacksonville. There are eight train stations to make life a little easier for commuters and visitors with trains departing every four minutes during peak hours (6 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.) and every eight minutes during off-peak hours. The Skyway also has special hours, running until 9:30 p.m., on the first Wednesday of each month for a convenient trip to Art Walk.

Regional Services – JTA partners with all neighboring counties to provide a seamless ride to your destination, even if that destination isn't in Duval County. This service offers you a convenient ride to any connecting transportation route across the First Coast region. In Baker County, the Wildcat Shuttle is operated by Baker Transit. Clay County connects through the Clay Regional Express, which is a JTA operation. Brought to you by JTA and NassauTRANSIT, Nassau County has a new operation called Nassau Express Select which offers commuters an executive-style ride back and forth from Nassau County to downtown Jacksonville. The Sunshine Bus Company is the bus line for St. Johns County and travels from St. Augustine to Jacksonville. For more information on inter-county bus lines please check the appropriate website:

Baker County: www.bakertransit.org

Clay County: www.jtafla.com

Nassau County:

www.jtafla.com/schedules/regional-services/nassau-express-select

St. Johns County: www.sunshinebus.net

Sunshine Bus Company

www.sunshinebus.net

The Sunshine Bus Company is St. Johns County's public transit and offers a deviated fixed route line with six different regular routes throughout the county. The system also offers the Circulator, which transfers commuters to East Palatka and an Express line that runs north and south all day. A paratransit door-to-door service is also available for those that need a wheelchair lift or extra assistance, provided by the St. Johns County Council on Aging. The website offers a trip planner for further convenience.

AERONAUTICAL

Jacksonville Aviation Authority (JAA) owns and operates most airports in Jacksonville including: Jacksonville International Airport, Cecil Airport, Jacksonville Executive at Craig Airport (JAXEX), and Herlong Recreational Airport. Additionally, there are three small airports located outside of Jacksonville's city limits.

Jacksonville International Airport

www.flyjax.com

With over 200 flights daily, Jacksonville International Airport (JAX) is Northeast Florida's only major airport and serves as the gateway to the First Coast region and neighboring areas, including Southeast Georgia. Only twelve miles from downtown Jacksonville, JAX is conveniently located for an easy journey to nearby business destinations throughout Jacksonville as well as vacation spots, including Jacksonville Beach, St. Augustine and Amelia Island. Airport amenities include free Wi-Fi, live music and an arts program. For the second year in a row, JAX has been recognized by the Airports Council International's Airport Service Quality Awards as number one in customer service (tying with Indianapolis International Airport) for all of North America, proving that your travels will be pleasant.

Cecil Airport

www.flyjacksonville.com/Home.aspx?SMP=Cecil

Located approximately 15 miles west of downtown Jacksonville, Cecil Airport is "the premier development site in the southeastern United States." The airport has easy access to air and rail connections as well as Jacksonville's deep-water port. Cecil Airport's facilities are ideally suited for aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul operations, as well as a variety of aviation-related industrial and commercial developments with plenty of room to grow. In addition, Cecil Airport is a Federal Aviation Administration licensed spaceport.

Herlong Airport

www.flyjacksonville.com/Home.aspx?SMP=HERLONG

Also located on Jacksonville's Westside, Herlong Recreational Airport (HEG) is used for sport and recreational flying activities including skydiving, helicopters, glider airplanes and more. This small-scale airport provides pilots with an opportunity to fuel up, play some billiards and chart their flights. Additional services include flight training, aircraft sales and maintenance.

Jacksonville Executive At Craig Airport

www.flyjacksonville.com/Home.aspx?SMP=JAXEX

Jacksonville Executive at Craig Airport (JAXEX) is a mid-sized corporate airport located on the Southside, conveniently situated between busy office parks and serene beaches. JAXEX provides convenient access to corporate travelers flying in and out of the city and offers a slew of services including flight training and an 18-hole golf course designed by Jack Nicklaus. With JAXEX serving as the business reliever airport for the region, JAX can focus primarily on commercial activity.

JTA Skyway San Marco Station



JAXEX, photo by Stephanie Marty





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To learn more about one or more of our clubs, please contact Sarah Small at 904.273.7735. Allow us to make *life more beautiful for you and yours.*



Fernandina Beach Municipal Airportwww.fbfl.us/airport

Three First Coast airports lie outside of Jacksonville. In Nassau County, the Fernandina Beach Municipal Airport (FBMA) serves Amelia Island and Fernandina Beach. The airport is located approximately three miles south of the downtown historic district of Fernandina Beach and less than two miles from Amelia Island's beaches, hotels, vacation rentals and resort accommodations. The airport is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and has three runways, all more than 5,000 feet in length. FBMA also offers convenient access to Jacksonville, approximately 25 miles to the south.

Keystone Heights Airportwww.keystoneairport.com

Keystone Heights Airport (42J) serves travelers in Clay and Bradford counties and is located 43 nautical miles southwest of Jacksonville International Airport. The airport has two runways.

Northeast Florida Regional Airportwww.flynf.com

Northeast Florida Regional Airport (KSG) or (UST) is located in St. Johns County, four miles north of St. Augustine. The facility is centered in a gateway market of 4.4 million passengers within a two-hour drive to the airport. The Northeast Florida Regional Airport is "the economic gateway to St. Johns County."

RAILROAD**Amtrak (Passenger)**www.amtrak.com

Amtrak provides passenger rail service in Jacksonville with a station near New Kings Road. The Amtrak station is open from 5:45 a.m. until 11:45 p.m. daily and provides rail service throughout the U.S.

NAUTICAL**Carnival Cruise Line**www.carnival.com

In 2018, Carnival Cruise Line celebrated 15 years departing from the JAXPORT Cruise Terminal, located just northwest of the Dames Point Bridge. If a tropical getaway fills your daydreams, that fantasy vacation is closer than ever. Situated right here in Jacksonville, you won't have any extra travel time to get on-board and set sail. You could leave your home and an hour later be embarking on a dream vacation, watching the city fade away in the distance with a Mai-Tai in hand. On the day of your cruise, parking opens at 10:30 a.m. and is monitored by JAXPORT security 24 hours a day, seven days a week, for your peace of mind.

St. Johns River Ferry/JTA Ferry<https://ferry.jtafla.com>

The St. Johns River Ferry, also known as the Mayport Ferry or the JTA Ferry, transports passengers and vehicles across the St. Johns River. The ferry service began in 1948 and was owned and operated by the state of Florida. Today, the St. Johns River Ferry is yet another integral piece of the JTA system with fares available on their website for further convenience. The ferry is a car and passenger boat that connects the north and south ends of Florida State Road A1A in Duval County, linking Mayport Village and Fort George Island via a scenic sail across the St. Johns River. The 0.9-mile voyage across the St. Johns River leaves every half hour from Mayport Village 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and 7 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. on weekends. The ferry departs every thirty minutes from Fort George Island Monday through Friday 6:15 a.m. until 7:15 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from 7:15 a.m. with the final departure at 8:45 p.m.

St. Johns River Taxi & Tourswww.jaxrivertaxi.com

St. Johns River Taxi & Tours provides transportation across the St. Johns River in beautiful downtown Jacksonville. Special services and hours are provided for Jaguars games and other downtown events, including concerts, basketball games, Monster Jam and more. The river taxi runs continuously every 30-35 minutes with stops at the Jacksonville Landing, Friendship Fountain, the Doubletree Hotel, the Lexington Hotel, Metro Park & the Arena dock.

511 Traveler Information System

The Florida Department of Transportation's (FDOT) Florida 511 Traveler Information System is the state's official source for traffic and travel information. Florida 511 provides toll-free, real-time information on crashes, construction, congestion, travel times, severe weather, AMBER Alerts and more.

There are **four** convenient ways to use Florida 511:

1

Download the free Florida 511 mobile app available on Google Play or Apple App Store

2

Visit FL511.com for interactive roadway maps showing traffic congestion and crashes, travel times and traffic camera views

3

Call 511 toll-free from any phone within Florida to hear about road conditions, to connect to airports and transit agencies, and to receive important alerts throughout the state

4

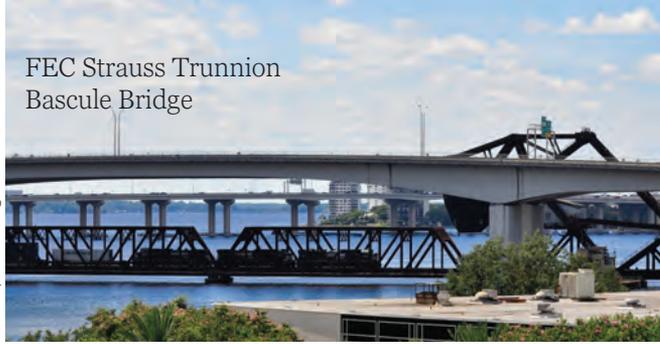
Follow one or more of their statewide, regional or roadway-specific feeds on Twitter (#FL511)



Connect. Know. Go.

FEC Strauss Trunion
Bascule Bridge

Photo by Brad Biringer



Originally silver, the Mathews Bridge was painted maroon in 1984 in honor of the city's U.S. Football League (USFL) franchise, the Jacksonville Bulls. A year later, the USFL folded, yet the bridge remains maroon today.

Isaiah David Hart Bridge

Photo by Brad Biringer



John E. Mathews Bridge



Photo by Stephanie Marty

St. Elmo W. Acosta Bridge



Photo by Stephanie Marty

Fuller Warren Bridge

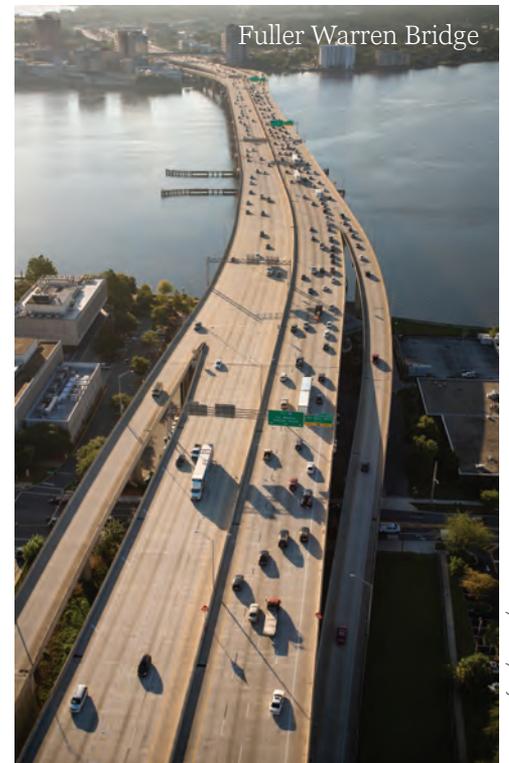


Photo courtesy of City of Jacksonville

The iconic green Hart Bridge opened in 1967 and is named after the city founder, Isaiah Hart.

The Riverside Arts Market is held weekly beneath the Fuller-Warren Bridge.

Henry Holland Buckman Bridge



Photo courtesy of Wikipedia

John T. Alsop Jr. Bridge
(Main Street)



Photo by Brad Biringier

Bridges of Northeast Florida

Bridge of Lions

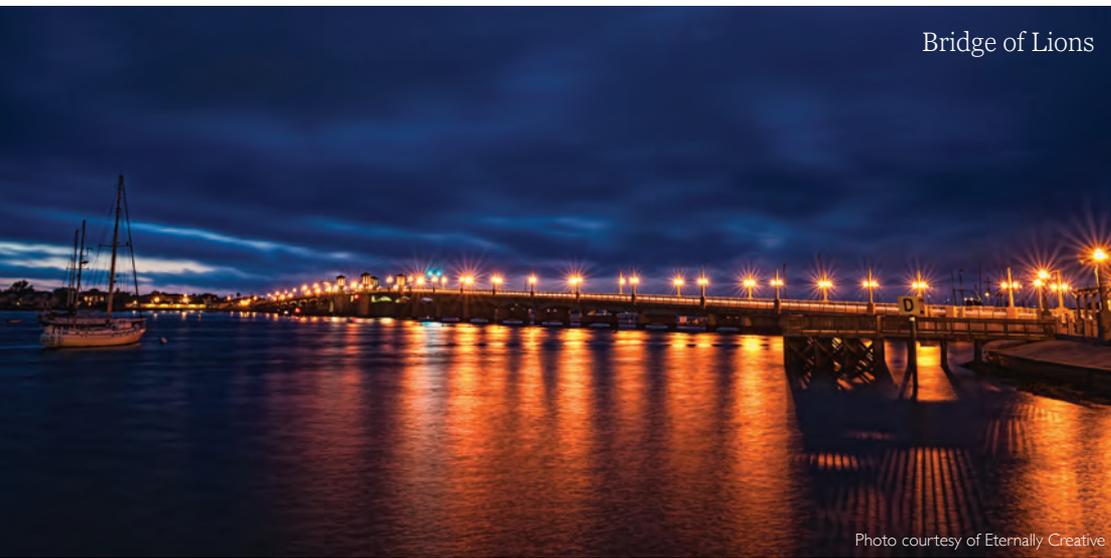


Photo courtesy of Eternally Creative

- John E. Mathews Bridge
- John T. Alsop Jr. Bridge (Main Street)
- St. Elmo W. Acosta Bridge
- Isaiah David Hart Bridge
- Dames Point Bridge
- FEC Strauss Trunnion Bascule Bridge
- Henry Holland Buckman Bridge
- Trout River Bridge
- Bridge of Lions Bascule Bridge
- Fuller Warren Bridge

More Bridges Throughout the Region

- Kingsley Creek RR Swing Bridge
- Wonderwood Bridge
- McCormick Bridge
- J. Turner Butler Intracoastal Bridge
- Palm Valley Bridge
- Francis & Mary Usina Bridge
- Thomas J. Shave, Jr. Bridge
- Intracoastal Waterway Bridge
- Shands Bridge

FEC Strauss
Trunnion
Bascule Bridge

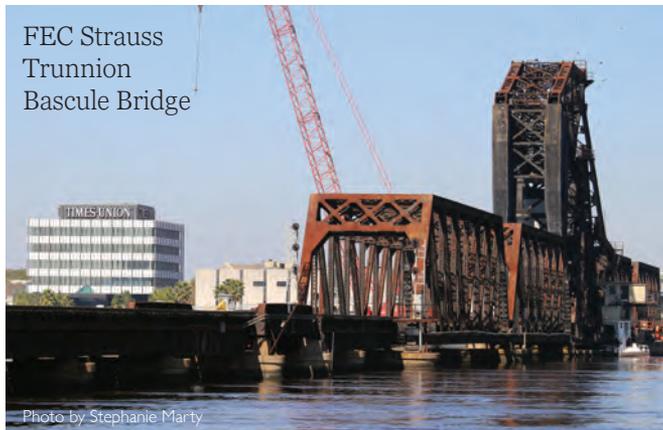


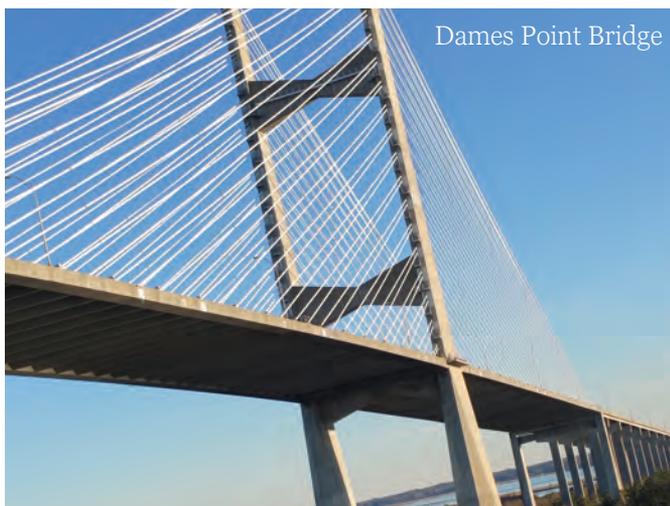
Photo by Stephanie Marty

Trout River Bridge



Photo by Ebyabe, courtesy of Wikimedia

Dames Point Bridge



At two miles long, the Dames Point Bridge is the longest concrete cable bridge in the U.S.

Photo by Stephanie Marty



In this Section

PLAY • 132

- 134 When Land Meets Water:
Beaches & Waterways
- 138 Wonderful Wilderness:
State Parks & Preserves
- 141 First Coast Throwback:
Historical Sites & Museums
- 150 First Coast Art Scene:
Art Museums & Events
- 152 For Your Entertainment
- 156 First Coast Fun: Attractions
- 162 Home Field Advantage:
First Coast Sports
- 168 Shopping:
First Coast Retail Therapy
- 172 Local Flavor: Dining
- 177 Off the Clock: Nightlife
- 181 Last Look at the First Coast

PLAY



The Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville welcomes you to Jacksonville!

As the local arts agency for Duval County, the Cultural Council provides an online hub for information on arts and culture. Check out our [facebook.com/moreartculture](https://www.facebook.com/moreartculture) page and [@MoreArtCulture](https://twitter.com/MoreArtCulture) Twitter feed and Instagram and learn more by visiting our website, www.culturalcouncil.org, where you will find:

- A calendar of arts and cultural events
- The Cultural Council blog, featuring profiles of Jacksonville creatives
- A listing of area cultural organizations and facilities with links to websites
- Weekly e-newsletter subscription sign-up

Other ways to engage include:

- Attending a Cultural Council event, such as the VyStar International Artist Speaker Series
- Taking a self-guided tour of Jacksonville's public art collection
- Getting to know the local artist community by attending the Every Single Artist Lounge, every second Tuesday at various locales, or Downtown's First Wednesday Art Walk
- Experiencing a wide range of arts and cultural offerings presented by non-profit arts and cultural organizations as well as private galleries and venues

From concerts to plays to performances to exhibitions to art classes and camps, there is something for everyone in Jax! Enjoy!

Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville, Inc.
300 Water St., Suite 201
Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 358-3600



When Land Meets Water: Beaches & Waterways

There's nothing quite like soaking up the sunshine and feeling the soft white sand between your toes while listening to the soothing waves crash on the shore. Here on the First Coast, we are fortunate to have access to many beaches and waterways to enjoy a beautiful day at the beach or on the water. In addition to beaches, there are also pristine marshes, flowing rivers and peaceful lakes for plenty of boating or fishing.

BEACHES

DUVAL COUNTY

Jacksonville Beach offers residents and visitors public beach access and nearby parking, making it an ideal spot for families, vacationers and surfers. Located between the towns of Neptune Beach and Ponte Vedra Beach, Jacksonville Beach is well known for its many annual events like the Beaches Parade and the Sea and Sky Spectacular Air Show, which brings together residents from all over the First Coast. There are also a number of beachside dining, nightlife and shops.

North of Jacksonville Beach is the charming beachside community of **Neptune Beach**. The beach's hard-packed sand is perfect for bike rides or just lounging on a beach chair. In the heart of Neptune Beach you'll find The Beaches Town Center, located where Atlantic Boulevard meets the ocean and connects Atlantic and Neptune beaches. The Beaches Town Center is the cultural hub of Atlantic and Neptune beaches, and hosts numerous events and offers a wide variety of upscale and trendy shops, restaurants and bars.

For a day of saltwater activities such as paddle boarding, kayaking, surfing or fishing, head to **Atlantic Beach**, the northernmost beach community in Duval County. North of Atlantic Beach is the historic fishing village of **Mayport**, which is located at the mouth of the St. Johns River and well known for its shrimping industry. From Mayport, cross the St. Johns River on the St. Johns River Ferry, one of the last remaining car ferries in Florida. The five-minute trip is a gateway to the unspoiled beaches of **Big Talbot Island** and **Little Talbot Island** state parks, **Kingsley Plantation** and **Fort George Island**. The area is a hot spot for boaters, beachgoers and eco-tourists, offering access to tidal marshes for bird watching, horseback riding and kayaking. A little south is **Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park**, which many locals say has the best surfing waves in Northeast Florida.

NASSAU COUNTY

Head further north and find **Amelia Island**, a barrier island with 13 miles of beautiful sandy, white beach. The coastal city of **Fernandina Beach** is located on Amelia Island. There, residents and visitors can take advantage of Fernandina's pristine beaches for a day full of sunbathing, beachcombing and even horseback riding. Travel south of Fernandina Beach to **American Beach**, which was originally established as a vacation destination for African-Americans during the time of racial segregation and was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2002. Also located on Amelia Island is **Peters Point Beachfront Park** where visitors can enjoy biking and jogging trails, picnic areas, and ocean boat access.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

St. Johns County is fortunate to have 40 miles of beautiful coastline. The coastal community of **Ponte Vedra Beach** is located along the northern portion of the county and has various convenient beach access points. In **South Ponte Vedra Beach**, the shore is beautifully lined with sand dunes and is a great spot for those looking for shark teeth and seashells. **Mickler's Landing** (pronounced Mike-lers) in Ponte Vedra is a popular beach destination for surfers and families. Visitors can even explore the beach on horseback.

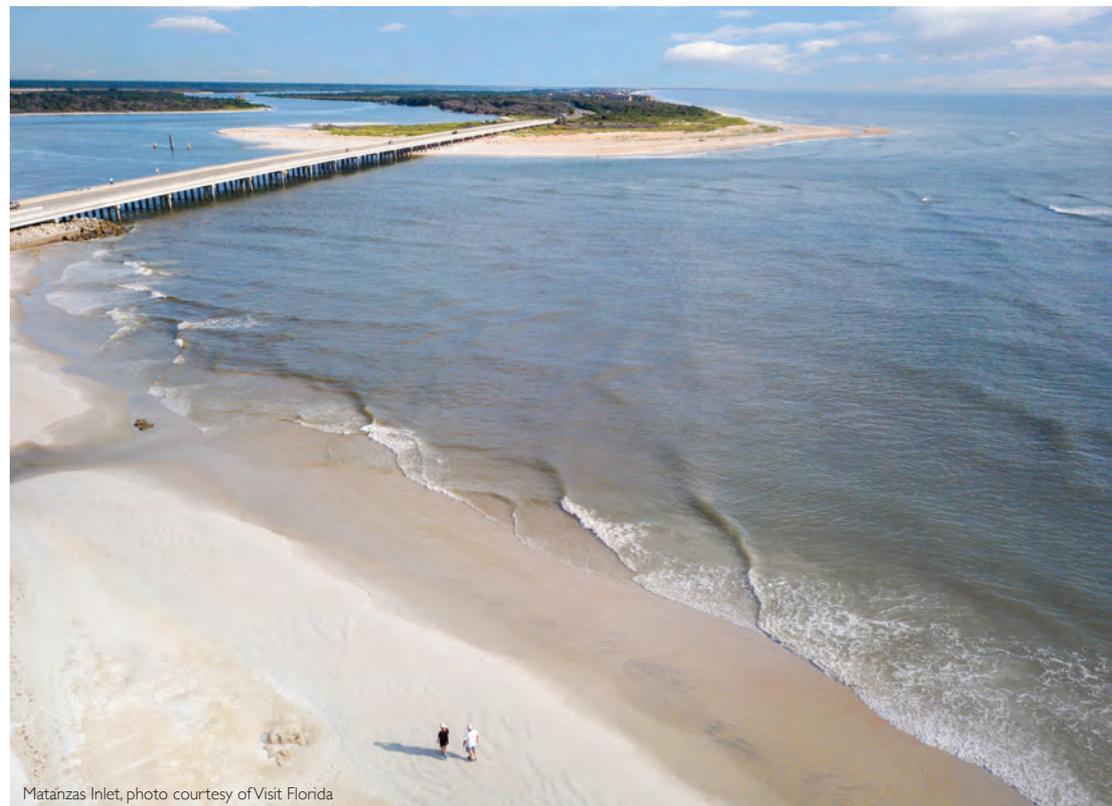
St. Augustine Beach is located in the historic city of St. Augustine and is home to the **St. Johns County Ocean Pier** that offers a visitor center, showers, a splash park and a pavilion. Also in St. Augustine are the quaint **Usina** and **Vilano** beaches, where visitors can enjoy beachcombing, wakeboarding and surfing. Vilano Beach, located on the north side of the Matanzas Inlet, has public restrooms, a dune walkover, covered picnic tables, showers and a popular Jet Ski launching spot. Located on Anastasia Island, **Crescent Beach** gets its name from the coastline's natural shape. The beach's hard-packed sand is perfect for horseback riding, bike rides and beach volleyball.

WATERWAYS

THE INTRACOASTAL

Dividing Jacksonville's southside region and the beaches communities, the **Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway** runs 40 miles through the First Coast and can be accessed by both commercial and recreational vessels. Perfect for boating and fishing lovers, the waterway's saltwater rivers, inlets, sounds and manmade canals are open to recreational vessels and provide opportunities to explore the many natural wonders the area has to offer. Residents can enjoy numerous water activities such as kayaking, paddle boarding, jet skiing, tubing, boating and more.

Jacksonville Beach walkway



Matanzas Inlet, photo courtesy of Visit Florida

Beaches FYI

American Beach, 530-6120

Dogs: Permitted on leash
Cars: Permitted in certain areas; non-residents need a pass

Atlantic Beach, 247-5828

Dogs: Permitted on leash
Cars: Not permitted

Crescent Beach, 209-0331

Dogs: Permitted on leash
Cars: Seasonally with pass

Fernandina Beach, 277-7300

Dogs: Permitted on leash
Cars: Permitted in certain areas; non-residents need a pass

Jacksonville Beach, 247-6236

Dogs: Permitted on leash anytime Oct. - March and before 9 a.m. and after 5 p.m. April - Sept.
Cars: Not permitted

Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park, 249-4700

Dogs: Permitted in certain areas; must be on a leash
Cars: Not permitted

Mickler's Beachfront Park, 209-0331

Dogs: Permitted on leash
Cars: Seasonally with pass

Neptune Beach, 270-2400

Dogs: Prohibited from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the summer months, and from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the winter months
Cars: Not permitted

Peters Point Beachfront Park, 530-6120

Dogs: Permitted on leash
Cars: Permitted in certain areas; non-residents need a pass

Ponte Vedra Beach, 209-0331

Dogs: Permitted on leash
Cars: Not permitted

St. Augustine Beach, 209-0331

Dogs: Permitted on leash
Cars: Seasonally with pass

Usina Beach, 209-0331

Dogs: Permitted on leash
Cars: Seasonally with pass

Vilano Beach, 209-0331

Dogs: Permitted on leash
Cars: Seasonally with pass

Photo courtesy of Amelia Island Tourist Development Council

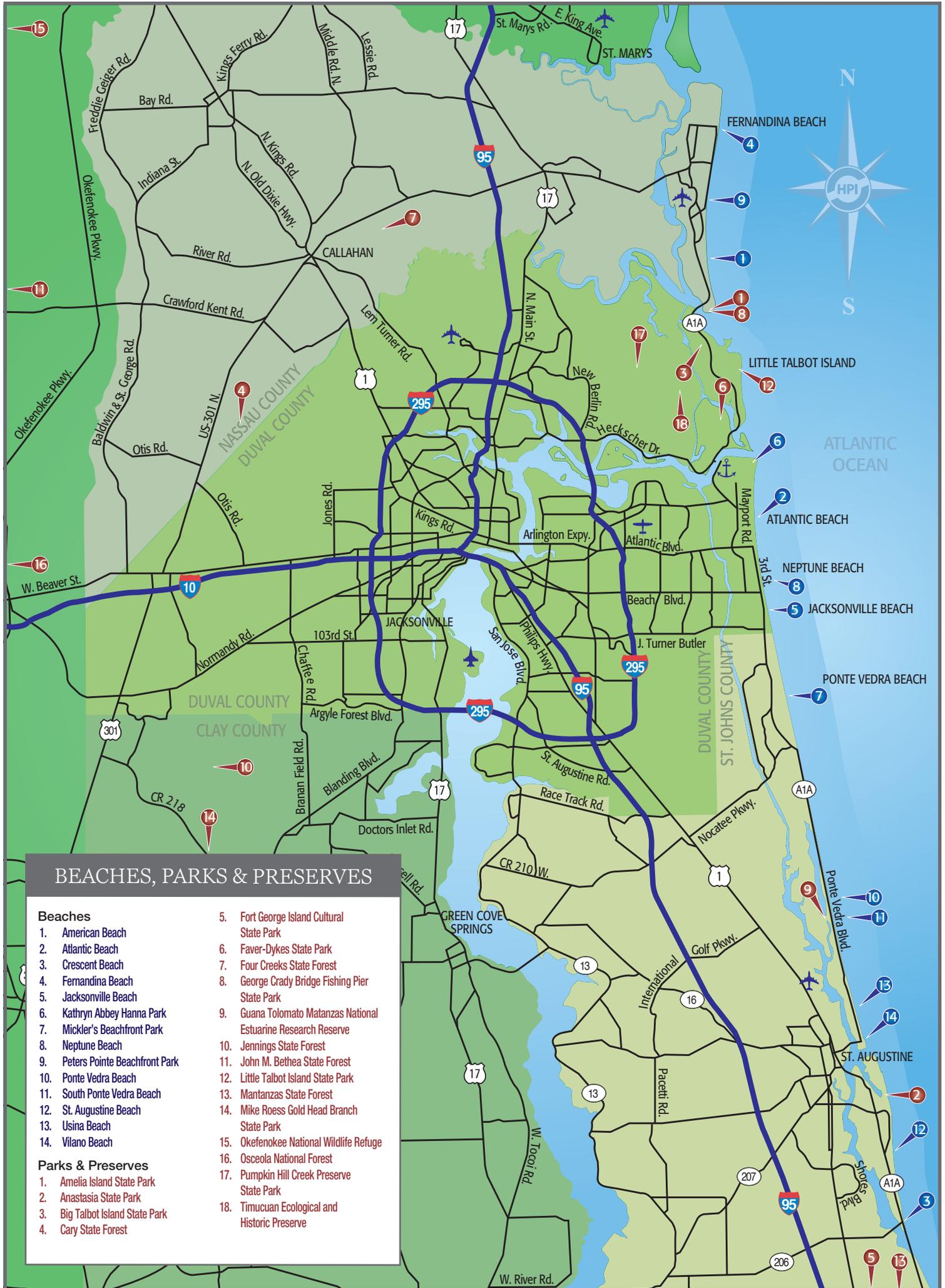


St. Augustine bayfront, photo credit Stacey Sather, courtesy of FloridasHistoricCoast.com

ST. JOHNS RIVER

Many rivers flow through the First Coast, but by far the largest and most iconic of them all is the **St. Johns River**. Spanning 310 miles from Indian River County to Mayport, the St. Johns River is a First Coast treasure. As the longest river in Florida and one of the few in the U.S. that flows north, residents and visitors can enjoy a variety of activities while spending a day by the lazy river. Boaters can enjoy fishing, sightseeing, riverside parks and even restaurants with boat docks. Take a stroll along the Riverwalk to take in the full beauty of the St. Johns. Many of our largest annual events take place on the river, such as fireworks for New Year's Eve and the Jacksonville Light Boat Parade.

Rivers in other areas of the First Coast provide a retreat for those who seek quiet camping and scenic boating. Visitors can find themselves surrounded by an abundance of natural wildlife where manatees or dolphins can be spotted. On **Amelia River**, boaters can take in the sights of historic sites such as Fort Clinch State Park. Down in St. Johns County, the **Tolomato** and **Guana** rivers surround Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve—believed to be where Ponce de León first staked his claim on Florida. Further south in St. Augustine, sail around the **Matanzas Bay and River** to see unparalleled views of landmarks like the Castillo de San Marcos, the Bridge of Lions and the St. Augustine Lighthouse.



BEACHES, PARKS & PRESERVES

Beaches

1. American Beach
2. Atlantic Beach
3. Crescent Beach
4. Fernandina Beach
5. Jacksonville Beach
6. Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park
7. Mickler's Beachfront Park
8. Neptune Beach
9. Peters Pointe Beachfront Park
10. Ponte Vedra Beach
11. South Ponte Vedra Beach
12. St. Augustine Beach
13. Usina Beach
14. Vilano Beach

Parks & Preserves

1. Amelia Island State Park
2. Anastasia State Park
3. Big Talbot Island State Park
4. Cary State Forest
5. Fort George Island Cultural State Park
6. Faver-Dykes State Park
7. Four Creeks State Forest
8. George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier State Park
9. Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve
10. Jennings State Forest
11. John M. Bethea State Forest
12. Little Talbot Island State Park
13. Mantanzas State Forest
14. Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park
15. Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge
16. Osceola National Forest
17. Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park
18. Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve

Wonderful Wilderness: State Parks & Preserves



Big Talbot Island, photo by Ryan Ketterman for Visit Jacksonville

The vibrant parks and preserves that the First Coast is blessed with protect and tell the story of our natural history. Northeast Florida's stunning landscapes and coastal lines combined with the extraordinary wildlife that can be found here make our parks a treasure to be cherished and protected for generations to come. With the largest urban park system in the country

encompassing more than 80,000 acres, our area is also fortunate to be home to many state parks, forests and a national preserve. Escape the hustle and bustle of city life by exploring all the First Coast wilderness has to offer. Kayak down a quiet creek, enjoy a peaceful picnic or hike through a trail in the woods. When it comes to outdoor activities there is certainly something for everyone.

BAKER COUNTY

As one of the world's largest intact freshwater ecosystems, the **Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge** encompasses almost 400,000 acres of cypress forest, marsh, lakes and islands. Native Americans called this region Okefenokee, meaning "land of the trembling Earth." Though the East Entrance of the refuge is technically in Georgia, this unique southern wilderness swamp spills over the border into Northeast Florida. Visitors can spot black bears, alligators, sandhill cranes and red-cockaded woodpeckers, in addition to more than 400 other animal species. Witness the vast refuge through a guided boat tour, or on foot using the park's winding boardwalks and trails, which feature observation towers and viewing platforms.

Further south, nearly 200,000 acres of forested woodlands and swamps await exploration in the **Osceola National Forest**. This Baker County treasure provides a wide range of recreational activities including camping, hiking, swimming, fishing, hunting and wildlife viewing. In northern Baker County you'll find the 37,735-acre **John M. Bethea State Forest**, which establishes a continuous wildlife corridor between the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge and the Osceola National Forest. Visitors can enjoy nearly three miles of riverfront along the St. Marys River to launch canoes. Small ponds are also sprinkled throughout the forest, perfect for serene fishing aside from the river. You may also spot black bears, river otters and bobcats.

CLAY COUNTY

Jennings State Forest in the northern section of Clay County features 25,301 acres of more than 15 different natural biological communities including flatwoods and forests. Rare plants such as Bartram's Ixia can be spotted. The forest's three hiking trails, horse trails and primitive campgrounds make Jennings State Forest a great place to get back to nature. The forest is open during daylight hours for hiking, bicycling, fishing, canoeing, horseback riding and wildlife viewing. Hunting and fishing are regulated and limited to defined dates. In Keystone Heights, **Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park** is located on 2,000 acres of rolling sandhills, marshes, ravines, lakes and scrub, and provides a peaceful habitat for a wide variety of wildlife. Nature enthusiasts can enjoy hiking and wildlife viewing along the park's trails and a 5.44-mile stretch of the Florida National Scenic Trail. Visitors can also swim, fish or spend a relaxing afternoon canoeing.

DUVAL BEACHES

Visitors to **Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park** can explore nearly 500 acres of Coastal Hammock forest with over 20 miles of hiking and mountain biking trails, campgrounds, and 1.5 miles of white sandy beaches, with multiple access points and home to Northeast Florida's premier surfing spot, The Poles. To escape the summer heat, children can enjoy the Kids Splash Park, open Memorial Day through Labor Day.

DUVAL-NORTH

Visitors can catch a glimpse of the original Florida beauty seen in the beaches, salt marshes and coastal maritime forests at **Amelia Island State Park**. Located off State Road A1A in Jacksonville, this park has become a favorite stop for horseback riders, as it is one of only a few locations on the East Coast that permits horseback riding on its beaches. The park is also a great spot for fishing, shelling and wildlife viewing. Visitors can access **George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier State Park** through Amelia Island State Park as well. This mile-long fishing bridge spans the Nassau Sound and provides pedestrians with access to one of the best fishing areas in Northeast Florida. Visitors can reel in a variety of fish, including whiting, jack, drum and tarpon. The bridge is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Further south find **Big Talbot Island State Park** off A1A. Primarily a nature preserve ideal for bird-watching and photography, this park provides an opportunity to explore a natural sea island preserve by boat or on foot. Set up a picnic at one of the park's pavilions or stroll down to Boneyard Beach, where visitors will see the eerie salt-washed skeletons of live oak and cedar trees that once grew on the shore. Neighboring Big Talbot is **Little Talbot Island State Park**. More than five miles of white, sandy beaches, desert-like dunes and undisturbed salt marshes make for an ideal retreat in northern Duval. Nature lovers can see river otters, marsh rabbits, bobcats and a variety of native and migratory birds in the park, which is one of the few remaining undeveloped barrier islands in Northeast Florida. The park features a full-facility campground, kayak rentals and guided paddle tours.

About three miles south of Little Talbot Island is **Fort George Island Cultural State Park**. Inhabited for over 5,000 years, the park was named for a fort built in 1736 to defend the southern flank of Georgia when it was a colony. Today, visitors can enjoy boating, fishing, off-road bicycling and hiking. The restored Ribault Club on the island, once an exclusive resort built in 1928, is now a visitor center with a space available for special events.



Hanna Park, photo courtesy of City of Jacksonville



Cannon at Yellow Bluff Historic State Park

To the west of Big and Little Talbot islands lies one of the largest contiguous areas of coastal uplands, **Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park**. The estuarine ecosystem protects the Nassau and St. Johns rivers and is abundant with wildlife. Visitors to Pumpkin Hill can find animals from the American alligator to the endangered wood stork. Equestrians, hikers and off-road bicyclists can explore five miles of multi-use trails that wind through the park. Pumpkin Hill's salt marsh is also a great place for visitors to launch kayaks for a serene afternoon on the water.

One of the last unspoiled coastal wetlands on the Atlantic Coast, **Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve** off Fort Caroline Road takes visitors on a journey that goes as far back as 6,000 years. Salt marshes, coastal dunes and hardwood hammocks are just as pristine as they were when the Timucuan tribe lived there. The preserve includes several facilities for visitors to explore in addition to its lush natural resources.

NASSAU COUNTY

Established as Florida's second state forest in 1937, **Cary State Forest** in Bryceville is known for its mature flatwoods, sandhill, basin marsh and spans 13,385 acres. Animals such as the gopher tortoise, gopher frog, Sherman's fox squirrel and wood stork call this forest home. Visitors can enjoy picnicking, bicycling, hiking, RV and primitive camping, wildlife viewing, horseback riding, environmental education, and hunting.

Named after the four water systems that course through its boundaries—Alligator (Mills), Thomas, Boggy and Plummer creeks—**Four Creeks State Forest** in Hilliard spans 10,959 acres. Residents can watch this natural treasure come to fruition as the Florida Forest Service carries out its five-year plan to establish a first-rate recreational system in the forest that will include trail systems and campgrounds. However, visitors can still hike, fish, kayak and bike throughout Four Creeks.

First Coast Dog Parks

More than half of all homes in the U.S. are blessed with a furry canine companion or two. In fact, the pet industry is one of the fastest-growing markets with over \$72 billion in sales last year. While it's always fun to spoil your loyal pet with toys and treats, there are still countless ways to enjoy your dogs without doling out a lot of cash. One of our favorites is a day at a local dog park with fresh air, room for your dog to run and plenty of opportunities for socializing in a pet-safe environment. We have provided a list of some of our favorite dog parks in the area. Please visit their websites for more information such as location, operating hours and rules for enjoying a day of play at the park.

Atlantic Beach Dog Park

www.coab.us/463/Atlantic-Beach-Dog-Park

Brew Hound Dog Park + Bar

www.brew-hound.com

Confederate Park Dog Park

www.coj.net/departments/parks-and-recreation/recreation-and-community-programming/parks/confederate-park

Deleon Shores Park

www.sjcf.us/Recreation/Parks/index.aspx

Dog Wood Park of Jacksonville

www.jaxdogs.com

Ed Austin Regional Dog Park

www.coj.net/departments/parks-and-recreation/recreation-and-community-programming/parks/ed-austin-regional-park.aspx

John Gorrie Dog Park of Riverside Park

www.coj.net/departments/parks-and-recreation.aspx

Kanine Social

www.kaninesocial.com

Paws Dog Park

www.jacksonvillebeach.org/residents/parks-recreation/community-parks/paws-dog-park

Poochies Swim and Play Park

www.poochiespark.com

Veterans Park

www.co.st-johns.fl.us/Recreation/Parks/Veterans.aspx

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Located halfway between Jacksonville and St. Augustine in Ponte Vedra Beach, the 73,352-acre **Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve** offers fishing, hunting, bird-watching and hiking. A protected area for a wide variety of fish and wildlife, the preserve features miles of scenic road through marshes, coastal xeric shrub and flatwoods available for hiking, biking and horseback riding.

Anastasia State Park in St. Augustine provides a unique look into the ingenuity that defied Spanish claims in the New World for more than 300 years. With more than four miles of pristine beach, a tidal salt marsh, and a maritime and upland hammock, visitors can search for seashells, hike a trail, set up a picnic, catch some waves (and rays), and more at this beach retreat. There is also a full-facility campground for those looking to stay a little longer. An archeological site where coquina rock was mined to create the nearby Castillo de San Marcos fortress is also in the park.

Matanzas State Forest in St. Augustine is part of a 16,000-acre continuous conservation corridor beginning with Moses Creek and continues south into Pellicer Creek Conservation Area and Flagler County's Princess Place Preserve. The forest is home to songbirds, wading marsh birds, bald eagles, deer, otters, turkeys, hogs and gopher tortoises. Visitors can enjoy horseback riding, hiking, bicycling, canoeing and fishing. Camping is also available at the Cedar Creek Campground. South of Matanzas State Forest is the tranquil **Faver-Dykes State Park**. Bordering Pellicer Creek, this park is a popular site for birdwatching. More than 100 species can be seen and heard during spring and fall migrations, including colorful wood warblers, eagles, falcons, wading birds, wood storks and herons. Other activities at the park include fishing, picnicking, nature walks and canoeing. A full-facility campground is also available for overnight stays.

Faver-Dykes State Park, photo courtesy of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection



Fort Clinch State Park at Fernandina Beach

Fort Clinch, photo by Daron Dean, courtesy of Visit Florida

First Coast Throwback: Historical Sites & Museums



The picturesque First Coast is composed of more than 90 miles of beaches along the Atlantic Coast and the St. Johns River. With more than 131 square miles of city, state and national parks, it's not difficult to find something to do on any given weekend. We suggest taking a deeper look at your new surroundings and learning about the rich history of Northeast Florida.

SHAPED BY DEEP ROOTS

Today, the picturesque region known as the First Coast has more than 90 miles of beaches along the Atlantic Coast and St. Johns River, and more than 131 square miles of city, state and national parks. However, before the arrival of Spanish conquistador Juan Ponce de León to the mainland in 1513 that would begin the First Coast we know today, the region was “terra

nullius” (no man’s land) and home to numerous indigenous tribes living in settlements by the region’s many waterways. In present day Atlantic Beach, archaeologists have excavated some of the oldest pottery in the U.S. from this period, some of which dates back to 2500 B.C., leading some scholars to believe the First Coast is the site of the first year-round indigenous settlements in North America. Ending this long history of debatably unclaimed land, the Spanish arrived in present

day Florida and took the land for Spain, battling to solidify its control; although the French Huguenots established a colony at Fort Caroline in 1564, they were soon ousted, and the territory was kept by the Spanish for more than 100 years thereafter.

Although Spain originally claimed control of the First Coast region, its domain was short lived, as it traded the land to Britain after its loss of the Seven Years' War. Under British domain, the land thrived in a way that it had not under the Spanish; the settlers built new public roads, cultivated crops such as sugar cane and indigo and fostered great economic growth. Such prosperity was short lived. After a waning period that diminished much of their resources, Britain traded the territory back to Spain, who eventually lost it to the U.S. in the Adams-Onís Treaty of 1819, in which they sold it for \$5 million in exchange for firmly established Western boundaries. From that point forward, the First Coast's shaky ownership stabilized; its period of being caught between struggling European powers, a developing U.S. and indigenous tribes desperately attempting to hold onto the land was over. The U.S. would keep possession of the land for the rest of its history.

Under American control, townships soon sprang up in Baker, Clay and Duval counties. In 1865 during reconstruction following the Civil War, Northeast Florida began to capitalize on its pristine beaches and warm weather. Marketing the First Coast as a premier winter destination, the area became a popular resort area for the rich and famous, ushering in a time of rapid economic growth known as the Gilded Age. The 20th century marked the boardwalk era at the area's beaches. Local merchants built dance pavilions, restaurants and other attractions to draw visitors and entertain residents. People from everywhere were drawn to Northeast Florida by its warm climate, exotic locations, excellent rail system and cheap labor.

Although the 20th century was a time of great wealth, the first World War marked an entirely new level of economic growth due to increased military presence. Since the late 19th century, harbor improvements had made the First Coast a major military and civilian deep-water port: a port that remains today as the largest in Florida and the source of a solid economic base fueled by a large military presence, tourism and employees in the service industry.

The "First Coast" was coined by the William Cook Agency in 1982 and is a double meaning that refers to the first European settlement (St. Augustine), as well as the area being the "first coast" travelers along the Atlantic seaboard encounter upon entering the state of Florida. The counties established include Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns. The major cities are Fernandina Beach, Jacksonville, Orange Park and St. Augustine. Today, these counties and the First Coast remain a part of this history: a byproduct of so much that occurred before their conception and an accumulation of all that came after.

BAKER COUNTY

Established in February 1861 on a segment of New River County (present-day Bradford), Baker County was named for Judge James McNair Baker, a Florida senator in the Confederate Congress and a judge of the Fourth Judicial District of Florida. Three years later, Union and Confederate armies clashed in a pine forest near Olustee in west Baker County. Shortly after the war, a young stockbroker from Chicago, George Taber, came to the Glen St. Mary area and entered the plant industry. In 1882, Taber began a partnership with Thomas Beath and formed the famed Glen St. Mary Nurseries Company, which is known for its horticultural developments, such as standardizing the varieties of oranges in the

state's citrus industry. In 1886, the county seat was moved from Sanderson to Darbyville, which was later named McClenny after C.B. McClenny, a major local timber salesman. The spelling was changed to Macclenny—lowercase second "c"—for unknown reasons, though it has been said that post office regulations forbade a city from having a capital letter in the middle of its name.

Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park

386-758-0400

5815 Battlefield Trail Rd., Olustee

www.floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/olustee-battlefield-historic-state-park

Every February, the Olustee Battlefield hosts reenactments to commemorate the largest Civil War battle in Florida. The Battle of Olustee was fought on Feb. 20, 1864 with more than 10,000 cavalry, infantry and artillery troops fighting for five hours. The end results were 2,807 casualties and a Union retreat to Jacksonville. Visitors can find educational signs along their one-mile trail detailing the events during this major battle.

Heritage Park Village

259-7275

102 S. Lowder St., Macclenny

heritagepark.cityofmacclenny.com

There's no better way to honor our Baker County ancestors than the 20 mini museums that make up the village. Dedicated to the history and traditions of those who came before us, the museums include a barber and blacksmith shop, jail, trading post and smoke house. While perusing the area, take in the early pioneer architecture, beautiful Serenity Gardens, or if the timing is right, attend one of the holiday events like Ghosts in the Oaks.

CLAY COUNTY

In 1790, Spain made a land grant to Zephaniah Kingsley, for the area now known as Orange Park, and to George Fleming, for the areas now known as Green Cove Springs and Fleming Island. During the 1800s, Kingsley and Fleming built plantations to grow oranges, sea-island cotton, corn, potatoes and peas. Due to conflict between the Spanish and American Patriots, these plantations were destroyed multiple times in devastating fires. Kingsley and his wife, Anna, moved to a plantation on Fort George Island. Fleming rebuilt and eventually left the plantation to his son, Lewis, in 1821.

Clay County was incorporated in 1858 and named after Henry Clay, a famous politician from Kentucky. Middleburg was selected as the first county seat, as it had been an established city since the 1820s. The county's largest town, Orange Park, was founded in 1877 by the Florida Winter Home and Improvement Company for the purpose of creating a Southern retreat and farming community. Since the area was marketed



Olustee Battlefield, photo courtesy of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection



Camp Blanding Museum and Memorial Park

DUVAL COUNTY

Before the Spanish decided to cede the territory in 1821 to the United States, Jacksonville was known as Cowford. In the late 1700s, the British built the King's Trail (now U.S. 1), a route that connected St. Augustine to Georgia. The settlement was the narrowest place along the trail to ford livestock across the St. Johns River, thereby earning the region the name "Cowford." In honor of former President Andrew Jackson's service as Florida territory's military governor, Cowford was renamed Jacksonville and officially incorporated in 1932.

After a period of accelerated post-war reconstruction, Jacksonville became a popular winter destination for the wealthy. Marketed as the "Winter City in a Summer Land," grand hotels surrounded Hemming Park in downtown and resorts popped up by the beach. On May 3, 1901, Jacksonville was devastated by the third largest metropolitan fire in the nation. Despite this tragedy, the aftermath led to a major reconstruction and architectural renaissance that brought the city together. More than 13,000 buildings were constructed between 1901 and 1912, with innovations such as the elevator and escalator making their Southern debut.

DUVAL BEACHES

Throughout its history, the region saw the struggle of control by Native Americans, European powers and a developing U.S. The Spanish were the first to settle in the Jacksonville Beach area, establishing missions from Mayport to St. Augustine. In the late 19th century, developers invested in railroads, hoping to develop the area into an oceanfront resort connected to Jacksonville by easy transportation. The town was named Ruby, after the first settlers' daughter, and then Pablo Beach, after San Pablo River.

The completion of Atlantic Boulevard in 1910 connected the beaches to south Jacksonville, creating a residential boom. Pablo Beach, which was incorporated in 1907, witnessed the start of the boardwalk era in 1915. Businessman Martin Williams, Sr. built dance pavilions, restaurants and other forms of entertainment on the boardwalk. With the community seeing prosperous growth, Pablo Beach was renamed Jacksonville Beach in 1925 and the town of Atlantic Beach was incorporated in 1926. Residents of a sparsely populated section of Jacksonville Beach voted to secede from the city due to an inadequate return of services for their taxes. As a result, on Aug. 11, 1931, the community of Neptune Beach became its own municipality.

in Northern states, the company placed parcels of land among the orange trees to increase sales. The town was incorporated in 1879 by a Special Act of the Florida Legislature. In the early 1920s, the city of Keystone Heights was founded by newcomers from Pennsylvania. The city acquired its name from Pennsylvania's nickname, Keystone State, and was incorporated in April 1925.

Black Heritage Museum

282-4168
Hunter-Douglas Park, 4393 Longmire Rd., Middleburg
www.claycountygov.com/departments/tourism/culture-recreation/museums

Located in a one-room schoolhouse, the Black Heritage Museum is dedicated to accurate portrayal of the lives of 19th century African-Americans who lived in Clay County. Follow the journey of early pioneer families all the way to present day through photographs and stories.

Camp Blanding Museum and Memorial Park

682-3196
5629 SR 16 W., Starke
www.campblanding-museum.org

Originally established in 1939 as a training facility for the National Guard, the post was used by the U.S. Army as a training and induction center and German prisoner of war compound. Camp Blanding is still used today as a training facility for the National Guard and Reserve units and is home to a large collection of U.S. and foreign weapons, WWII barracks, uniforms and other interesting artifacts that honor all branches of the U.S. military.

Clay County Historical Museum & Triangle

278-4780
915 Walnut St., Green Cove Springs
www.claycountygov.com/departments/tourism/culture-recreation/museums

Part of a historic trio called the Green Cove Spring's Historic Triangle, the museum highlights items used by 20th century Clay County residents, including personal letters and photographs, furniture, clothing, tools and more. This museum gives visitors a unique look at Clay County that they may not get elsewhere.

Middleburg Historical Museum

282-5357
3912 Section St., Middleburg
www.claycountygov.com/departments/tourism/culture-recreation/museums

Covering Clay County, and more specifically Middleburg, this museum uses local artifacts to tell the story of one of the First Coast's beloved towns and counties.

Military Museum of North Florida

410-0781
1 Bunker Ave., Green Cove Springs
www.themilitarymuseumofnorthflorida.com

Opened to honor the women and men who have served in our country's military, the museum features exhibits and an extensive military reference library and a living history library. World War II and Vietnam memorabilia dominate the displays, but the museum also includes fascinating exhibits from the Revolutionary War, World War I and the recent to modern day conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Beaches Museum & History Park
241-5657
381 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach
www.beachmuseum.org

The Beaches Museum & History Park takes visitors on a journey through the history of the cherished Beaches community through photographs, interactive exhibits and riveting personal accounts. Visitors can also see a 1911 steam locomotive, the Mayport Railway Depot and the Florida East Coast Foreman's House—all located in Pablo Historical Park, adjacent to the museum.

DUVAL-NORTH

Fort Caroline National Memorial
641-7155
12713 Fort Caroline Rd., Jacksonville
www.nps.gov/timu/learn/historyculture/foca.htm

In 1564, the French Huguenots established an ill-fated settlement at Fort Caroline that was eventually destroyed by the Spanish. This museum tells the tragic story of the settlement and its people. Interestingly enough, the first replica fort was destroyed by hurricane, mirroring the hurricane that ultimately sealed the fate of the Huguenots.

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park
251-2320
New Berlin Rd., Jacksonville
www.floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/yellow-bluff-fort-historic-state-park

Right at the mouth of the St. Johns River lays the site of a military installation that allowed access to the inland area during the Civil War. Despite not actually having a fort, this site was stocked with weapons. At its peak, 250 Union and Confederate troops called this site home. Visitors can enjoy a hike around this important encampment and imagine what it must have been like in the 1860s.

DUVAL SOUTH

Mandarin Museum & Historical Society
268-0784
11964 Mandarin Rd., Jacksonville
www.mandarinmuseum.net

Explore the captivating history of Mandarin, including an exhibit on author and abolitionist Harriet Beecher Stowe, who chose Mandarin as her winter home in 1867. Visitors can also see the Civil War steamship Maple Leaf exhibit while enjoying the beautiful Walter Jones Historical Park with several historic buildings and a riverfront boardwalk. Next to the museum

is the 1898 St. Joseph's Mission Schoolhouse for African-American Children, the only remaining one-room schoolhouse in Duval County.

Museum of Science & History (MOSH)
396-6674
1025 Museum Cir., Jacksonville
www.themosh.org

For First Coasters, visiting the MOSH is basically a rite of passage. The MOSH combines the science of nature and the history of the First Coast in an exciting atmosphere that has enthralled children and adults for years. The Bryan-Gooding Planetarium awes, the exhibits excite and all of the museum's programs educate. Learn about how the human body works with the interactive Health in Motion exhibit. KidSpace, designed for children ages 5 and under, features a treehouse and hands-on activities. Beyond their core exhibits, the museum also offers travelling exhibits and a bunch of events throughout the year for even more educational fun.

DUVAL WEST

Camp Milton Historic Preserve
630-2489
1225 Halsema Rd. N., Jacksonville
www.timucuanparks.org/camp-milton-preserve

Named after John Milton, Florida's governor during most of the war, the camp offers an educational center displaying Civil War artifacts and an authentic 1800s Florida farmstead. Visitors are also encouraged to watch the historic reenactments that present a look at the people who acted as the front line during the Civil War.

Clara White Museum, The
354-4162
613 W. Ashley St., Jacksonville
www.clarawhitemission.org/explore/museum

The courageous Clara White, a former slave, fed hungry neighbors out of her two-room Jacksonville home in the 1880s, starting what would become a full-fledged mission with the help of her daughter, Eartha. Eartha also established numerous charitable organizations to aid unwed mothers, orphans, alcoholics and many others. Take a visit to both Eartha White's home and the Clara White Mission, still in operation today.

Durkeeville Historical Society Museum
598-9567
1293 W. 19th St., Jacksonville
www.durkeevillehistoricalsociety.com

Durkeeville, a community located within the Westside, honors its past and present residents with this museum. Exhibits include historic photos and other materials that tell the deep history of African-Americans in Jacksonville and the Northeast Florida area.



Museum of Science and History (MOSH)



Having grown up in the area, I have a wealth of knowledge of Florida's First Coast. **St. Johns, Ponte Vedra, Nocatee, Atlantic Beach, Jacksonville Beach, San Marco, Mandarin,** and all surrounding Jacksonville areas. Contact me for your next move!

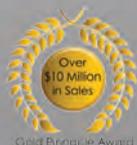


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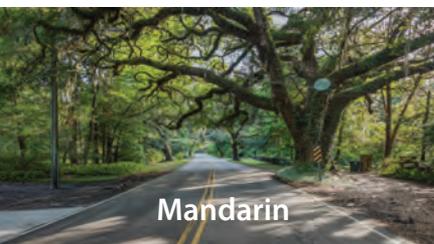


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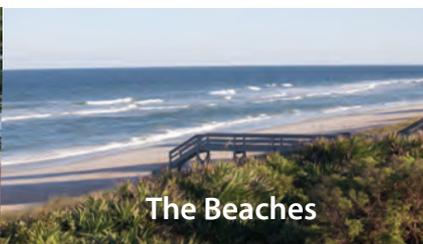
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Riverside/Avondale



The Beaches

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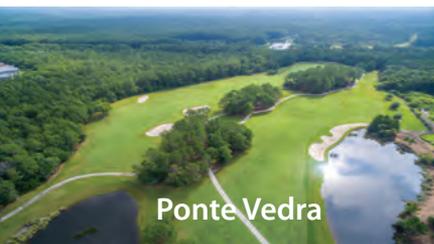


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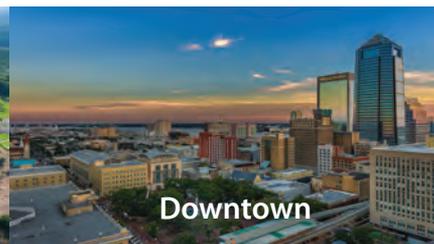
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Jacksonville Fire Museum, The

630-0618
1406 Gator Bowl Blvd., Jacksonville
www.coj.net/departments/fire-and-rescue/fire-museum

The Jacksonville Fire Museum is home to thousands of artifacts that pay tribute to Fire and Rescue efforts in Jacksonville and the state of Florida. At the museum, visitors can view photos from the Great Fire of 1901, which destroyed 2,368 buildings in the downtown area and left more than 10,000 people homeless. Visitors can also see a restored 1902 American LaFrance horse-drawn fire engine and a working 1926 American LaFrance fire engine. The museum proudly recognizes the brave men and women who gave their lives to save others. Currently, the museum is closed. However, all information concerning the re-opening can be found at the website above.

**Karpeles Manuscript Library
Jacksonville Museum**

356-2992
101 W. 1st St., Jacksonville
www.rain.org/~karpeles/jax.html

One of only a few Karpeles Museums in the nation, the Jacksonville location works to preserve historic writings and artwork. All of the locations together constitute the world's largest private holding of important original manuscripts and documents. Jacksonville's Karpeles Museum graciously offers free admission to support the local community and promote education.

Merrill House Museum

665-0064
315 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jaxhistory.org/merrill-museum-house-tours

Operated by the Jacksonville Historical Society, this museum depicts life in Jacksonville at the turn of the 20th century. Built in 1886, this fully furnished historical home features the gorgeous Queen Anne and Eastlake architecture styles. The home was originally built for James E. Merrill who started Merrill-Stevens Engineering Co., one of the largest shipbuilding companies in the Southern U.S.

Museum of Southern History, The

388-3574
4304 Herschel St., Jacksonville
www.museumsofthesouthernhistory.com

The Museum of Southern History displays portraits, flags, weapons, clothing, battle dioramas and more from pre-Revolutionary War to the War on Terror. Hear about events in detail, learn the differences in weaponry and view artifacts like a rare Lincoln-era 37-star Applegate flag. The museum's extensive research library is a helpful resource for those interested in historical family trees and the Civil War.

Fort Clinch, photo courtesy of Amelia Island Tourist Development Council



Historic train depot in Fernandina Beach, photo courtesy of Amelia Island Tourist Development Council

Ritz Theatre and Museum

807-2014
829 N. Davis St., Jacksonville
www.ritzjacksonville.com

When many free African-Americans settled in the LaVilla district, a thriving and artistically rich community emerged. The Ritz Theatre and Museum honors the era from the 1920s to the 1960s in LaVilla, a.k.a. the "Harlem of the South." The museum connects and celebrates African-American heritage through the stories of historical figures. Learn about Jacksonville-native brothers James Weldon Johnson and John Rosamond Johnson who wrote *Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing*, which is now referred to as the African-American National Anthem. The Ritz Theatre hosts celebrity performers and amateurs, who deliver smooth Blues, Jazz and R&B tunes as well as performances that feature storytelling and dancing.



Amelia Island pirate, photo courtesy of Amelia Island Tourist Development Council



Cannon at Fort Clinch, photo by Monica Gutos

Veterans Memorial Wall

630-2489

1145 E. Adams St., Jacksonville

www.coj.net/departments/military-and-veterans-affairs/jacksonville-veterans-memorial-wall

An outdoor memorial, the Veterans Memorial Wall honors more than 1,700 brave veterans from all military branches. The memorial was dedicated to local war heroes in November 1995 and is the largest of its kind honoring veterans in the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force, Coast Guard and Merchant Marines. The memorial covers fallen heroes from World War I all the way to the War on Terror, and sadly, new names are added each year.

NASSAU COUNTY

The French staked their claim on Amelia Island in 1562, and it wasn't until 1821 that the U.S. government took control of the region. During that time, Amelia Island was occupied by the British, the Confederacy, Patriots, a Scotsman and a Mexican pirate named Louis Aury, in addition to French and Spanish colonizers. The frequent identity changes led to Amelia Island's nickname, "Isle of 8 Flags." During the American Revolution, Florida remained loyal to the crown and Fernandina became home to English Loyalists that fled the northern colonies. On June 30, 1778, near present-day Callahan, British troops turned back a group of American militiamen in a skirmish at Alligator Creek.

Nassau County was officially established in 1824 and is rumored to be named after the Nassau Sound, part of the marshy topography defining the area. Great prosperity blessed the Fernandina area in the late 1800s and early 1900s, as a result of tourism and the start of the modern shrimping industry. In addition, the towns of Callahan, Yulee and Bryceville were established during this time due, in large part, to the success of the local railroad system and timber industry. In the late 1930s, A.L. Lewis, president of the Afro-American Insurance Company in Jacksonville, established American Beach on the southern end of Amelia Island. The beach became a prominent African-American resort area. From the 1930s into the 1960s, the Atlantic Coast Line and Seaboard Air Line Railroads rattled through Callahan, transporting travelers from the Florida peninsula to the Northeast. Seaboard used the remaining segment of the Florida Railroad in Callahan, which was eventually removed around 1974.

Amelia Island Lighthouse

310-3350

215 O'Hagan Ln., Fernandina Beach

www.fbfl.us/474/Amelia-Island-Lighthouse-Tour

Built in 1838, Florida's oldest lighthouse boasts a long and interesting heritage. Today, it stands as a cherished beacon and historic site, functioning by the upkeep of the Coast Guard. It is the only

lighthouse from the Territorial Period that has survived without major rebuilding. Tours leave from the Atlantic Recreation Center every first and third Wednesday of the month.

Amelia Island Museum of History

261-7378

233 S. 3rd St., Fernandina Beach

www.ameliamuseum.org

The Amelia Island Museum of History was Florida's first "spoken history museum," and still offers a variety of tours for all ages that highlight pieces of the area's journey. The museum covers Amelia Island's rich history. The area played a role in the first European settlements, the Civil War, the Florida railroad and much more.

American Beach Museum

510-7036

1600 Julia St., Fernandina Beach

www.americanbeachmuseum.org

American Beach was founded in 1935 by Afro-American Insurance Company president A.L. Lewis for during the Jim Crow era. American Beach Museum pays tribute to this historic site through photographs, text, artifacts and videography.

Fernandina Beach Shrimping Museum & Welcome Center

277-7234

17 S. Front St., Fernandina Beach

www.fbsmwc.org

Shrimp fans are invited to learn about the history of Fernandina Beach's lucrative shrimping industry in this one-of-a-kind museum dedicated to preserving, protecting and promoting the history of Amelia Island. Visitors will learn about net making, ship building, and the families that brought modern shrimping to Florida.

Fort Clinch State Park

277-7274

2601 Atlantic Ave., Fernandina Beach

www.floridastateparks.org/fortclinch

One of the best preserved Civil-War-era forts in the country, Fort Clinch State Park opened to the public in 1938 and is used for war reenactments, camping and hiking. Visitors can also take a walk through history and explore rooms, galleries and the grounds. Plan to visit on the first weekend of each month to see a soldier garrison fire cannons and demonstrate other battlefield skills. Soldiers were stationed at Fort Clinch during the Civil War, Spanish-American War and World War II.

Maritime Museum of Amelia Island

548-7504

115 S. 2nd St., Ste. B, Fernandina Beach

www.maritimemuseumai.org

At this quaint museum, discover artifacts like Spanish treasure from sunken ships. Visitors can also learn about Amelia Island's rich maritime history. Pirates, Spanish fleets, and shrimping and fishing history are only part of the plunder

the Maritime Museum has to boast—on a lucky day, the divers themselves might be around to tell a tale or two.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

In 1565, Spanish explorer Pedro Menéndez de Avilés founded St. Augustine, "The Nation's Oldest City," at the site of the Timucuan village, Seloy. Within a century, the city was attacked twice—in 1586, by English corsair Sir Francis Drake who burned the city down, and in 1668, by pirate Captain John Davis who killed 60 inhabitants. Even with these setbacks, the determined early settlers of St. Augustine stayed and rebuilt after each attack. St. Johns County was chartered in 1821, but American tycoon and railroad developer, Henry Flagler, is credited with transforming St. Augustine in the late 19th century. Flagler's cousin, Thomas Horace Hastings, established a plantation west of St. Augustine to grow winter vegetables for Flagler's resort hotels.

In 1914, an amazing discovery was made on the beaches in the northern section of St. Johns County. Engineers Henry Holland Buckman and George A. Pritchard found more than a dozen industrial minerals, including rutile and ilmenite—elements necessary for the production of titanium. The National Lead Company bought the land from the chemical engineers and named it Mineral City. The town played a crucial role in World War I as the country's leading producer of titanium. In 1928, Mineral City was renamed Ponte Vedra Beach.

Castillo de San Marcos National Monument

829-6506

1 S. Castillo Dr., St. Augustine

www.nps.gov/casa

One of the most iconic sites in St. Augustine, Castillo de San Marcos stands the test of time. Construction began in October 1672 on this seaside fort using coquina, a soft limestone of broken shells, to defend Spain's control in the New World. Commonly referred to as "the fort" by locals, Castillo de San Marcos is the oldest masonry fort in the U.S. The Castillo comes alive through a diverse range of programs including lectures, museum exhibits, historical weapons demonstrations, living history reenactments and special events. Volunteers are welcome for reenactments.

Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine

824-2806

38 Cathedral Pl., St. Augustine

www.thefirstparish.org

When Don Pedro Menéndez de Avilés landed in present day St. Augustine, a religious ceremony ensued in which Father Francisco López de Mendoza Grajales presented Menéndez with a cross to kiss. In a settlement with religion at its

core, Cathedral Basilica was built in the plaza to keep the city's spiritual origins alive and remember this occasion.

Colonial Quarter

342-2857
33 St. George St., St. Augustine
www.colonialquarter.com

The Colonial Quarter encompasses four time periods in St. Augustine's history: 16th century, 17th century, 18th century Spanish and 18th century British. Visitors can get a glimpse of daily life in colonial times through demonstrations and reenactments. Climb the 35-foot watchtower to get the view of a lifetime of the St. Augustine coastline and the Castillo de San Marcos.

Flagler's Legacy

823-3378
59 St. George St., St. Augustine
http://legacy.flagler.edu

One of the lavish hotels built by millionaire developer Henry Flagler was Hotel Ponce de León in 1887 (now Flagler College), which turned St. Augustine into a major resort town for the wealthy leisure traveler. Visitors will be awed by the beautiful Spanish Renaissance-style architecture of this National Historic Landmark. Tours of the college are available through Flagler's Legacy.

Fort Matanzas National Monument

471-0116
8635 A1A S., St. Augustine
www.nps.gov/foma

Constructed on the Matanzas Inlet to protect against the British, this well-preserved Spanish fort became a national monument in 1924. Explore the fort and park, watch reenactments and learn about the many battles fought at the Matanzas Inlet, including the slaughter of the French Huguenots. This 1565 battle earned the preserve its name, which luckily goes by the Spanish translation rather than Slaughters Inlet.

Fort Mose Historic State Park

823-2232
15 Fort Mose Trl., St. Augustine
www.floridastateparks.org/park/fort-mose

The first legally sanctioned free African settlement, Fort Mose was a sanctuary for escaping English slavery. Although there are no remains of the structure, visitors can still view the land where the settlement once stood. Visitors can walk down the sun-drenched boardwalk and imagine life in the 18th century. The museum in the park's visitor center educates visitors about the site's historical significance in the U.S.

Lightner Museum by Getty Images



Lightner Museum, photo by Monica Guitos



St. Augustine reenactor, photo by Daron Dean courtesy of Visit Florida



Ft. Mose reenactment, photo by Gary LeVelle, courtesy of FloridasHistoricCoast.com



St. Augustine, photo by Brad Biringer



Castillo de San Marcos, photo by Daron Dean, courtesy of Visit Florida



Mission Nombre de Dios, photo by Daron Dean, courtesy of Visit Florida



Castillo de San Marcos, photo by Lee Fields



Government House Museum

823-2212

48 King St., St. Augustine

www.staugustine.ufl.edu/govHouse.html

This classic Georgian-style stone mansion housed the residence and office of the colonial governors of Florida from 1598 to 1821, when the state was ceded to the U.S. government. Since then, the house has worn many hats, serving as a Civil War military hospital, a courthouse and a post office. Fittingly, the house currently serves as a museum for local historic artifacts and rotating exhibits covering its many uses.

Lightner Museum

824-2874

75 King St., St. Augustine

www.lightnermuseum.org

This stunning Spanish Renaissance-style resort was established by Henry Flagler in 1887 as the Hotel Alcazar. The museum is now home to beautiful relics of America's Gilded Age. Chicago publisher Otto C. Lightner opened the building as a museum in 1948 with his own collection of priceless memorabilia. The eclectic collection ranges from Tiffany glass to fine art paintings, furniture, sculptures and more.

Mission Nombre de Dios

824-2809

27 Ocean Ave., St. Augustine

www.missionandshrine.org

In 1565, Pedro Menéndez landed near this site and proclaimed it for Spain. Once docked, the Spanish began to build North America's oldest city. On these grounds, Father Lopez celebrated the first parish Mass and began to build the country's first mission. Visitors can explore historic sites, statues and shrines including the Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche.

Oldest House Museum Complex

824-2872

14 St. Francis St., St. Augustine

www.saintaugustinehistoricalsociety.org/oldest-house-museum-complex/

Also known as the Gonzalez-Alvarez House, this National Historic Landmark is the oldest surviving home from the Colonial Spanish period in Florida. Enjoy the home and the several other sites that are included with admission; among them are two museums, an ever-changing exhibit gallery, an ornamental garden and a museum store.

Oldest Wooden School House

824-0192

14 St. George St., St. Augustine

www.oldestwoodenschoolhouse.com

Dating back to the early 18th century, early Spanish settlers used wooden pegs and handmade nails to construct houses, including this one. However, the architecture isn't the only attraction. Inside the school house, an animatronic teacher and students tell guests about school days,

textbooks and writing instruments from long ago. After the presentation, “students” receive a diploma commemorating their visit.

Peña-Peck House, The
829-5064
143 St. George St., St. Augustine
www.penapecthouse.com

Constructed in the mid-1700s as the residence of the Spanish royal treasurer, The Peña-Peck House is not only revered for its first Spanish period architecture, but also for the crucial roles the home played during the first Spanish, British and second Spanish periods. Guided tours of the house are available.

Spanish Military Hospital Museum
342-7730
3 Aviles St., St. Augustine
www.spanishmilitaryhospital.com

As the name suggests, this site served as a hospital for the Spanish military during the 18th century. Today, the restored museum offers insight into 18th century hospital care. Visitors can also walk through the museum’s apothecary garden and get a taste of botanical history with the numerous herbs that made up 18th century medicine and are still used today.

St. Augustine History Museum
829-3800
167 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine
www.trolleytours.com/st-augustine/history-museum

Housed next to the St. Augustine Old Jail, the St. Augustine History Museum takes you through the evolution of St. Augustine under Spanish and British rule. Historical artifacts from time periods spanning 400 years are on display. Henry Flagler’s many contributions to the city are also documented and displayed in the museum.

St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum
829-0745
81 Lighthouse Ave., St. Augustine
www.staugustinelighthouse.com

In 1874, builders completed work on the lighthouse, which stands 165 feet above sea level. Adults and children taller than 44 inches can climb to the top, walk out on the observation deck and look into the lens room. A museum dedicated to the history of the lighthouse and its keepers is located in the keeper’s house. In 2009, St. Augustine Lighthouse Archaeological Maritime Program archaeologists discovered colonial-era shipwreck Storm Wreck a mile off the coast of St. Augustine. It is now one of the few underwater sites on the National Register of Historic Places.

St. Augustine Old Jail & Oldest Store Museum
829-3800
167 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine
www.trolleytours.com/st-augustine/oldest-store.asp

In addition to housing inmates, the old jail property in St. Augustine was the site of the sheriff’s home and an ominous set of gallows. Built by Henry Flagler in 1891, the jail has changed very little over more than a century. Visitors can step back in time to meet colorful characters and even attempt their own escape from the century-old penitentiary. Once you escape, visit the Oldest Store Museum, which re-creates the original St. Augustine general store from the turn of the century.

St. Augustine Pirate & Treasure Museum
877-467-5863
12 S. Castillo Dr., St. Augustine
www.thepiratemuseum.com

Discover riveting pirate history dating back more than 300 years and plunder through Pat Croce’s collection of pirate artifacts in the St. Augustine Pirate & Treasure Museum. This one-of-a-kind museum combines a gallery

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Jacksonville was named for General Andrew Jackson, the first military governor of Florida who, incidentally, never visited Jacksonville.



of more than 800 artifacts with fun and interactive features to create an exciting, educational experience.

St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine
829-8205
41 St. George St., St. Augustine
www.stphotios.com

The first colony of Greeks arrived in the New World in 1768. The St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine documents the lives of those colonists through historical documents, photographs and artifacts.

Villa Zorayda Museum
829-9887
83 King St., St. Augustine
www.villazorayda.com

For those drawn to luxury, take a day to visit this exorbitant former villa turned museum. Built in 1883 as the winter residence for Boston millionaire Franklin Smith, Villa Zorayda was the first building in St. Augustine to launch the Moorish Spanish revival of architecture that can be seen throughout the city today. Inspired by the Alhambra Palace in Granada, Spain, the villa contains luxurious interior details, historical antiques and the 2,400-year-old “Sacred Cat Rug” made from the hair of cats from ancient Egypt.

Ximenez-Fatio House Museum
829-3575
20 Aviles St., St. Augustine
www.ximenezfatiohouse.org

Authentic in both its architecture and the history it tells, the Ximenez-Fatio House Museum is a must-see stop among historical houses in St. Augustine. This home was built near the center of the original St. Augustine community and operated as an inn run by women who knew to capitalize on the enviable location. The house also includes a museum, where “every room has a story” and store.

First Coast Art Scene: Art Museums & Events

The First Coast's ever-growing art scene is bursting with creative expression and impactful artwork. Our area is rich with privately owned galleries and murals in addition to large museums that feature renowned international, national and local artists.

The Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) in downtown Jacksonville delights art novices and enthusiasts alike by bringing modern works

by the Masters to our community, as well as ingenious works by regional artists. The Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens in Jacksonville's historic Riverside neighborhood exhibits world class art dating all the way back from 2100 B.C. through the 21st century. Catch a glimpse of masterpieces by Winslow Homer, Peter Paul Rubens, Thomas Moran and Norman Rockwell in the museum's permanent collection.

Looking to purchase an original work of art for your new home? Fernandina Beach, Jacksonville and St. Augustine offer a wide range and number of galleries, or head to one of our many art walks each month to find one-of-a-kind creations.

It is no surprise that our area has inspired many artists and art enthusiasts, thus fostering a vibrant cultural experience. Let the First Coast become your muse as well!



Sculpture in Downtown Jacksonville, photo by Monica Gutos

DUVAL BEACHES

North Beaches Art Walk
610-4878
Beaches Town Center
Atlantic Blvd. and First St., Neptune Beach
www.nbaw.org

This seaside art walk held on the third Thursday of each month allows visitors to peruse expertly crafted artwork and crafts from over 55 participating local artists ranging from woodworkers to jewelry designers as soothing music fills the evening air.

DUVAL-NORTH

Alexander Brest Museum & Gallery
256-8000
Jacksonville University
2800 University Blvd. N., Phillips Fine Arts Bldg., Jacksonville
www.ju.edu/cfa

Spend an afternoon perusing a diverse collection of unique decorative arts in ceramics, paintings, carved ivory, prints and sculptures at this Jacksonville University museum. Their captivating displays transport visitors back to a time gone by where they can see stunning Boehm and Chinese porcelain, pre-Columbian artifacts and Tiffany glass, as well as works in various rotating exhibitions.

DUVAL SOUTH

Mandarin Art Festival
268-1622
Mandarin Community Club
12447 Mandarin Rd., Jacksonville
www.mandarinartfestival.org

Every Easter weekend the Mandarin art community comes together for this juried fine art festival where residents can view an array of work from outstanding artists. Founded in 1968, the Mandarin Art Festival is the longest running event of its kind in Northeast Florida and sees thousands of visitors year after year.

DUVAL WEST

CoRK Arts District
2689 Rosselle St., Jacksonville
<http://corkartsdistrict.com>

Short for the corner of Rosselle and King, the CoRK Arts District is more than meets the eye. The seemingly unused warehouses in this neighborhood might not look like much, but local artists have transformed them into something special. These underutilized spaces have been renovated into 80,000 square feet of art studios, galleries and production space. Though CoRK is not open to the public daily, visitors can attend one of the many community events or book an appointment.

Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens
356-6857
829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville
www.cummermuseum.org

As the largest fine arts museum in Northeast Florida, the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens contains nearly 5,000 works of art in its

Photo courtesy of MOCA

Photo courtesy of Mandarin Art Festival



permanent collection. Visitors can also meander through 2.5 picturesque acres of lush green gardens adorned with fountains, arbors and sculptures. The museum also offers exciting and educational activities for children and families through its Art Adventures and Art for Two programs. Join the museum on Tuesday evenings for delicious tapas on the patio while enjoying music from local musicians.

First Wednesday Art Walk
634-0303, ext. 222
Downtown Jacksonville
www.jacksonvilleartwalk.com

Every first Wednesday of the month, rain or shine, art enthusiasts and artists gather in downtown Jacksonville for this free art walk. Watch as downtown comes alive with artistic talent overflowing from more than 60 venues spanning 15 blocks. Headquartered in Hemming Park, other venues include galleries, restaurants, bars, museums and more.

Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA)
Jacksonville
366-6911
333 N. Laura St., Jacksonville
www.mocajacksonville.unf.edu

Visitors walking through MOCA Jacksonville's doors will immediately pause to gaze Project Atrium, which displays inventive art installations from emerging artists in its Haskell Atrium Gallery. Since 1924, MOCA has promoted modern visual arts in our community. Today, the museum contains nearly 1,000 pieces in its permanent gallery from renowned artists worldwide and is one of the largest contemporary art museums in the Southeast. MOCA hosts tours and events in addition to promoting local artists.

Riverside Arts Market
389-2449
715 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville
www.riversideavondale.org/ram-home

Riverside Arts Market remains "loyal to local" by bringing First Coast artists, artisans and farmers together in a creative hub held underneath the Fuller Warren Bridge every Saturday rain or shine. With a wide variety of vendors, themed days, special events and performers, there is always something new to see and taste at the bustling arts market by the river.

NASSAU COUNTY

Artrageous Artwalk
Downtown Fernandina Beach
www.islandart.org/artrageous-artwalk

Every second Saturday of each month take a self-guided tour through Amelia Island's upscale galleries and shops that feature a wide array of fine art mediums including photography, pottery, copper, metal, glass, water color, acrylic and oil. Many of the island's local, talented artists reflect the ease of island life in their artwork.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Crisp-Ellert Art Museum
826-8530
48 Sevilla St., St. Augustine
www.flagler.edu

This Flagler College museum displays artwork from local, national and international artists and hosts a number of public programs. Built to commemorate art patrons Dr. JoAnn Crisp-Ellert and her husband, Dr. Robert Ellert, this museum aims to foster an appreciation for contemporary artwork. Crisp-Ellert was a prolific painter and well-respected in the art community.

Cultural Center at Ponte Vedra Beach, The
280-0614
50 Executive Way, Ponte Vedra Beach
www.ccpvb.org

Through its engaging programs, events and family-friendly exhibits, The Cultural Center enriches the Ponte Vedra community. The Cultural Center has an 8,000-square-foot art gallery and studio facility that exhibits local artwork. Lectures, concerts, performances and classes in the visual and performing arts make the center a First Coast treasure. Due to exponential growth in recent years, the Cultural Center announced a plan to build a new 15,000-square-foot center on A1A.

First Friday Artwalk
832-779-2781
St. Augustine
www.artgalleriesofstaugustine.com/first-friday-artwalk

On the first Friday of each month jump on a free Artwalk Trolley and indulge in great exhibits, music and entertainment in the nation's oldest city. Meander through downtown St. Augustine and across the Bridge of Lions to Anastasia Island on this self-guided art walk. For the night owls, many events take place after hours at St. Augustine clubs, bars and restaurants.

St. Augustine Art Association
824-2310
22 Marine St., St. Augustine
www.staaa.org

Since 1924, the St. Augustine Art Association and has been bringing extraordinary art to the St. Johns County community. Located in the heart of the nation's oldest city, the art gallery displays juried exhibits from expert and emerging artists every month. The association also offers art classes, festivals and much more. The permanent collection consists primarily of local subjects painted by well-known artists from the 1930s to present day.



The Florida Theatre, photo by Stephanie Marty

For Your Entertainment



The Jacksonville Landing on the the river bank

Bursting with comedy, music, dance and theater performances, there is certainly no shortage of entertainment opportunities here on the First Coast. Whether you are looking to see a Broadway play or local community performance, there is always something to see for a night out on the town. Our top-notch performing arts venues such as the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts, Thrasher-Horne Center and Nathan H. Wilson Center for the Arts cater to every style and taste.

With recording artists such as Lynyrd Skynyrd, The Allman Brothers Band and 38 Special having roots in Jacksonville, the First Coast paved the way for the Southern Rock genre. And rock on we do! Head to venues such as Veterans Memorial Arena, Daily's Place or the St. Augustine Amphitheater for an unforgettable concert.

CLAY COUNTY

Orange Park Community Theatre
276-2599
2900 Moody Ave., Orange Park
www.opct.info

Since 1969, this charming all-volunteer community theater has brought popular musicals and dramas to Orange Park. Set in a former church, visitors today can see shows such as *One Toe in the Grave* and *The Music Man*. The nonprofit theater also offers classes, workshops and summer camps for children.

Thrasher-Horne Center
276-6815
283 College Dr., Orange Park
www.thcenter.org

A Clay County treasure, the Thrasher-Horne Center hosts a wide range of theater, dance and musical performances perfect for a date night or family outing. Whether it be a ballet, concert or musical, the Thrasher-Horne has something for everyone. The theater also boasts a 1,750-seat venue in addition to a 6,200-square-foot conference center.

DUVAL BEACHES

All Beaches Experimental Theatre
249-7177
544 Atlantic Blvd., Neptune Beach
www.abetheatre.com

This not-for-profit theater is proud to bring new and original plays to the Beaches community. With the goal of fostering new talent and encouraging involvement from both adults and children, the All Beaches Experimental Theatre offers workshops and volunteer opportunities.

Beaches Fine Arts Series
270-1771
416 12th Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach
www.beachesfinearts.org

For world-class musical and dance performances, look no further than the Beaches Fine Arts Series. From classical music to jazz and everything in between, the art series seeks to enrich the First Coast community with the power of music and art. Performances are free and most are held at St. Paul's by-the-Sea Church in Jacksonville Beach.

Players by the Sea
249-0289
106 6th St. N., Jacksonville Beach
www.playersbythesea.org

For more than 50 years, Players by the Sea has brought innovative theatrical performances to Jacksonville Beach. From Broadway musicals to contemporary plays, patrons can enjoy thought-provoking productions in two intimate performance spaces.

SeaWalk Pavilion
247-6157
75 1st St. N., Jacksonville Beach
www.jacksonvillebeach.org

For concerts, festivals, movie screenings and more, head to SeaWalk Pavilion in the heart of downtown Jacksonville Beach. The seaside outdoor amphitheater allows visitors to enjoy great entertainment among the cool sea breeze and beautiful ocean views.

DUVAL-NORTH

Linda Berry Stein College of Fine Arts
256-8000
2800 University Blvd. N., Jacksonville
www.ju.edu/cfa

Visitors to the Linda Berry Stein College of Fine Arts Performing Arts Series at Jacksonville University have the opportunity to enjoy a wide variety of world class dance performances, theatrical productions and concerts.

DUVAL SOUTH

Alhambra Theatre & Dining
641-1212
12000 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville
www.alhambrajax.com

For a dinner and show date night, look no further than Alhambra Theatre & Dining. The nation's longest continuously operating professional dinner theater, the Alhambra continues to delight audiences with excellent performances such as *The Little Mermaid*, *Mamma Mia!* and *Elf the Musical*.

Comedy Zone, The
292-4242
3130 Hartley Rd., Jacksonville
www.comedyzone.com

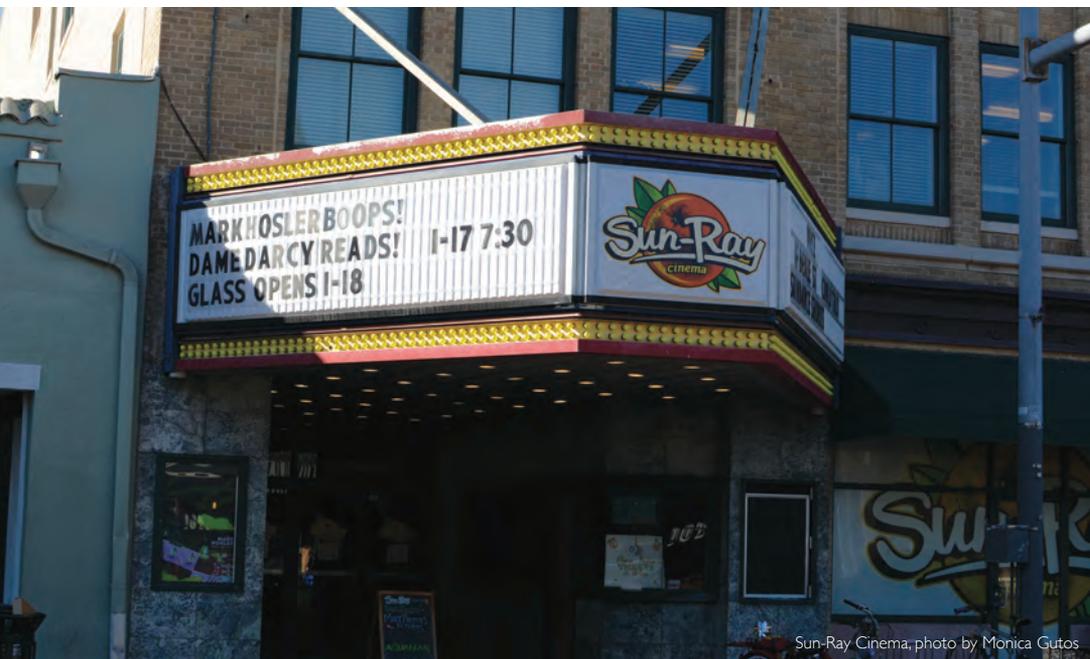
For a night of side-splitting laughter, gather friends and head to The Comedy Zone in Mandarin. The No. 1 spot for hilarious comedy, this comedy club features local and national comedians and entertainers each week.

Morocco Shrine
642-5200
3800 St. Johns Bluff Rd. S., Jacksonville
www.moroccoshrine.org

With numerous events like circuses, trade shows and exhibitions, Morocco Shrine offers family-friendly entertainment to the First Coast community.

Times-Union Center; photo courtesy of Visit Jacksonville





Sun-Ray Cinema, photo by Monica Gutos

Nathan H. Wilson Center for the Arts

646-2222

11901 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville

www.fscj.edu/campuses/south-campus/nathan-h-wilson-center-for-the-arts

Located at Florida State College at Jacksonville's South Campus, the Nathan H. Wilson Center for the Arts not only serves as a facility for students but as a performing and visual arts venue with immense community value. The center's performances include a variety of genres such as opera and dance, as well as multidisciplinary productions that fuse visual art, music, theater and the humanities.

Theatre Jacksonville

396-4425

2032 San Marco Blvd., Jacksonville

www.theatrejax.com

A cultural gem, Theatre Jacksonville is a little theater with a big voice. By bringing original and classic plays to the community, the theater seeks to broaden the community's cultural understanding. The volunteer-based theater was founded in 1919 and still stands in its original location 100 years later.

University of North Florida (UNF) Fine Arts Center

620-1895

1 UNF Dr., Bldg. 45, Jacksonville

www.unf.edu/fineartscenter

The Lazzara Performance Hall and Robinson Theater located at the UNF Fine Arts Center present enriching concerts, dance performances, dramas and operas from international, national and local artists and groups. The 1,300-seat Lazzara Performance Hall is the second largest stage in the area.

DUVAL WEST

Daily's Place

633-2000

1 Daily's Pl., Jacksonville

www.dailysplace.com

Jam out to your favorite band at downtown Jacksonville's newest concert venue. Connected to the south end of TIAA Bank Field, Daily's Place is a state-of-the-art amphitheater that can seat 5,500 concertgoers.

Florida Ballet

353-7518

300 E. State St., Ste. E, Jacksonville

www.floridaballet.org

This ballet company dazzles the First Coast with their classical ballet performances. Enjoy productions such as *Alice in Wonderland* and the annual presentation of *The Nutcracker*.

Florida Theatre

355-2787

128 E. Forsyth St., Ste. 300, Jacksonville

www.floridatheatre.com

Since 1927, Florida Theatre continues to bring unforgettable performances to the First Coast year after year. The theater hosts 200 events each year for every taste and age, including concerts, comedians, dance performances and more. As an example of 1920s fantasy architecture, the beautifully restored interior makes this local landmark a beloved treasure.

Friday Musicale

355-7584

645 Oak St., Jacksonville

www.fridaymusicale.com

The oldest musical organization in the state of Florida, Friday Musicale hosts a variety of fine musical concerts in an intimate setting free of charge. Founded in 1890 when Claudia L'Engle Adams began holding meetings for local musicians in her home, Friday Musicale continues to nurture musicians by offering children's programs and scholarships.

FSCJ Artist Series, The

632-5000

501 W. State St., Ste. 109, Jacksonville

www.artistseriesjax.org

First Coast residents can see exciting Broadway shows without ever having to travel to New York City. The FSCJ Artist Series is the First Coast's premier source for professional Broadway shows in addition to concerts, international dance, international opera, family and variety shows. Performances are held at the Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts and the Nathan H. Wilson Center for the Arts.

Jacksonville Landing, The

353-1188

2 W. Independent Dr., Jacksonville

www.jacksonvillelanding.com

The Jacksonville Landing is the go-to spot for year-round entertainment in downtown Jacksonville, hosting more than 600 events each year. Concerts and events in the center courtyard allow visitors to enjoy entertainment with views of the picturesque St. Johns River. Can't-miss events include Florida/Georgia Weekend celebrations, the annual Christmas Tree Lighting, New Year's Eve and TaxSlayer Gator Bowl celebrations, and more. There are also shows at Mavericks Live, located within the Landing in addition to a number of dining and shopping options.

Jacksonville Symphony

354-5547

300 Water St., Ste. 200, Jacksonville

www.jaxsymphony.org

The First Coast is proud to be home to one of the nation's top regional orchestras, the Jacksonville Symphony. For 70 years, the symphony has captivated audiences with a variety of performances from Mozart classics to the *Star Wars* movie scores.

Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena

630-3900

300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville

www.jaxarena.com

The ultimate destination for entertainment in Jacksonville, the Veterans Memorial Arena has it all. From concerts featuring popular recording artists to numerous sporting events, there is never a dull moment at this venue.

Metropolitan Park

630-3690
1410 Gator Bowl Blvd., Jacksonville
www.coj.net

This waterfront park located along the St. Johns River is the perfect venue for outdoor concerts and events. There are also playground and picnic areas for visitors to enjoy.

Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center

630-4000
1000 Water St., Jacksonville
www.primefosborn.com

Preserving the grand architecture of this historic former train terminal, the convention center provides a majestic setting for conventions, trade shows and more.

Riverside Fine Arts Association

389-6222
1100 Stockton St., Jacksonville
www.riversidefinearts.org

With a commitment to promoting diverse artistic expression, the Riverside Fine Arts Association features world-class musical performances like no other in Jacksonville. Genres such as classical, jazz, and world music from award-winning musicians are showcased in an intimate setting.

Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts

633-6110
300 Water St., Jacksonville
www.timesunioncenter.com

This riverfront performing arts center showcases some of the best entertainment on the First Coast. With three venues in one facility, the Times-Union Center is able to host Broadway shows, comedy shows, ballet, concerts, symphony orchestras and much more. In addition to the superlative performance venues, the center has 20,000 square feet of lobby and reception space to welcome patrons.

NASSAU COUNTY

Amelia Community Theatre

261-6749
207/209 Cedar St., Fernandina Beach
www.ameliacommunitytheatre.org

Located in the heart of the charming Fernandina Beach historic district, Amelia Community Theatre amuses audiences with their theatrical productions. Since 1981, the theater has produced several shows each year in addition to offering programs for children. Past performances include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Avenue Q* and *Grease*.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

EMMA Concert Association

797-2800
Lewis Auditorium at Flagler College
14 Granada St., St. Augustine
www.emmaconcerts.com

In partnership with Flagler College, this all-volunteer nonprofit association brings local and internationally renowned musical and dance entertainment to the beautiful city of St. Augustine. The EMMA Concert Association also hopes to foster the talent of the classical musicians of tomorrow by offering student scholarships and other community opportunities.

First Coast Opera

417-5555
St. Augustine
www.firstcoastopera.com

To experience the compelling beauty of the opera, First Coast Opera presents these astounding vocal performances in various locations around St. Augustine. The only opera company in the five-county area, the company entertains audiences and introduces opera to the community by cultivating the artistic skills of talented performers.

Jackie Knight's Comedy Club at the Corner Bar

461-8843
828 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine
www.thegypsycomedyclub.com

On Friday and Saturday nights, head to Jackie Knight's Comedy Club for a good laugh. Recognized by critics as the "Best Comedy Club in Florida," the club features live shows with nationally acclaimed comedians as well as local stand-up performers.

Limelight Theatre

825-1164
11 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine
www.limelight-theatre.org

The only year-round community theater in St. Augustine, the Limelight Theater entertains its visitors with engaging musicals, comedies, dramas, and family-friendly productions. For those interesting in becoming an actor themselves, Limelight offers improv and adult classes as well as children's programs through their KidzFACTory program.

Ponte Vedra Concert Hall

209-0399
1050 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach
www.pvconcerthall.com

Located in the heart of Ponte Vedra Beach along scenic A1A, First Coast residents have enjoyed seeing world-renowned musicians, movies, speakers and other performing artists at the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall. Open since 2011, the multi-purpose venue seats 450 guests and is available for conventions, wedding receptions and private recitals.

St. Augustine Amphitheatre

209-0367
1340C A1A S., St. Augustine
www.staugamphitheatre.com

St. Johns County's premier concert venue, the St. Augustine Amphitheater brings performances from chart-topping artists to the First Coast. Artists such as Bob Dylan, John Legend and Imagine Dragons have graced the stage. Built in 1965 to commemorate St. Augustine's 400th anniversary as the nation's oldest permanent European settlement, the amphitheater holds more than 4,000 guests.



St. Augustine Amphitheatre, photo by Michael Lagasse, courtesy of FloridaHistoricCoast.com.

First Coast Fun: Attractions



Photo courtesy of iFly Indoor Skydiving

At first glance, most people notice the Jacksonville area's alluring beaches and sparkling river, but the First Coast also has several attractions for a day of exciting adventures. Get up close and personal with safari animals at the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, tee off at Topgolf or sample a craft cocktail at the St. Augustine Distillery. With so many amazing attractions, it's no wonder many visitors to the First Coast want to become permanent residents. Come join in on the fun!

BAKER COUNTY

Baker County Fairgrounds
259-7314
5567 Lauremore Rd., Macclenny
www.bakercountyfair.com

Each year, the Baker County Fairgrounds hosts the highly anticipated Baker County Fair. This family-friendly event draws thousands of people and features livestock shows, petting zoos and pageants.

CLAY COUNTY

Clay County Fairgrounds
284-1615
2493 SR 16 W., Green Cove Springs
www.claycountyfair.org

The Clay County community showcases its agricultural roots at the Blue Ribbon Clay County Agricultural Fair, held each year in the spring at the Clay County Fairgrounds. With midway rides, livestock exhibits, concerts and even goat yoga, there is something for everyone. The facility also hosts equestrian shows, auctions, roping competitions and the Northeast Florida Scottish Games.



Baker County Fairground



Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, photo by Lee Fields

DUVAL BEACHES

Adventure Landing

567-7706
1944 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach
844-0192
4825 Blanding Blvd., Jacksonville
342-1177
2780 SR 16, St. Augustine
www.adventurelanding.com

Bring the entire family out for a day of fun at any of the three Jacksonville-area Adventure Landing locations. Test your skills at the batting cages, arcades, go-karts, laser tag, miniature golf and more. Splash around at the Shipwreck Island Waterpark at the Jacksonville Beach location, where there's a Pirate's Play Village and thrill slides, including a 35-foot-high half-pipe.

Mind Bender Escape Rooms

853-6192
1500 Beach Blvd., Ste. 212, Jacksonville Beach
www.mindbenderescaperooms.com

Gather a group of the best sleuths you know and head to Mind Bender Escape Rooms. Groups of 10 people or less must solve puzzles, clues and riddles in order to "escape" from the room before time runs out. Each escape room has a different theme with unique props and décor.

DUVAL-NORTH

Catty Shack Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary

757-3603
1860 Starratt Rd., Jacksonville
www.cattyshack.org

Take a walk on the wild side at the Catty Shack Ranch, where visitors can see tigers, lions, cougars and bobcats on one of their daytime tours or a nighttime feeding. Other animals such as horses, foxes and coatimundis also call the Catty Shack home. The nonprofit organization rescues these animals from dangerous situations and gives them a safe home.



Topgolf Jacksonville, photo by Michael Baxter, Baxter Imaging LLC, courtesy of Topgolf



The coati is part of the raccoon family!

Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens

757-4463
370 Zoo Pkwy., Jacksonville
www.jacksonvillezoo.org

Go on a safari right here in Jacksonville at our very own Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, a nonprofit organization and an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. With more than 2,000 rare and exotic animals, visitors can spot tigers, lions, zebras, elephants, and even feed a giraffe! The zoo is also home to 1,000 species of plants, boasting the largest botanical garden in Northeast Florida.

Tree Hill Nature Center

724-4646
7152 Lone Star Rd., Jacksonville
www.treehill.org

Located on 50 acres of preservation in the heart of Jacksonville's Arlington neighborhood, Tree Hill Nature Center is the perfect place to reconnect with nature. Visitors to the nature center can take advantage of environmental programs, hiking trails, a hands-on museum, animal exhibits and an annual butterfly festival.



IMAX Theater; photo courtesy of World Golf Hall of Fame



St. Augustine Distillery; photo courtesy of Visit Florida



BEACHES

Attractions

- 1. Adventure Landing
- 2. Mind Bender Escape Rooms

Entertainment Venues

- 3. Atlantic Beach Experimental Theatre
- 4. Beaches Fine Arts Series

5. Players by the Sea

- 6. Ponte Vedra Concert Hall
- 7. Seawalk Pavilion & Latham Plaza

Historical Sites & Museums

- 8. Beaches Museum & History Park

DUVAL SOUTH

Autobahn Indoor Speedway

602-8791
6601 Executive Park Ct. N., Jacksonville
www.autobahnspeed.com/locations/jacksonville-fl-indoor-go-karts

For those with a need for speed, look no further than the largest indoor karting facility in Florida, Autobahn Indoor Speedway. This 80,000-square-foot racetrack located on the Southside has two unique Grand Prix-style tracks, Monaco and Le Mans. The speedway's modern high-speed Italian karts reach speeds of 50 mph so racers can have the most exhilarating experience.

Bravoz Entertainment Center

300-0070
14985 Old St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville
www.bravoz.com

Bravos Entertainment Center offers the best of both worlds when it comes to fitness and fun. Jump into the foam pit, play laser tag, or jump around on the 12,000 square feet of trampoline space.

iFly Indoor Skydiving

712-3388
10579 Brightman Blvd., Jacksonville
www.iflyworld.com/jacksonville

Experience the exhilarating thrill of skydiving in a fun and safe environment. iFly's vertical wind tunnel technology simulates the feeling of skydiving without any planes, parachutes or jumping.

Topgolf Jacksonville

328-2002
10531 Brightman Blvd., Jacksonville
www.topgolf.com/us/jacksonville

Perfect for seasoned golfers or those who have never hit the links, Topgolf Jacksonville offers a new way to play. Located near the St. Johns Town Center, players tee off at their own bay and aim microchipped golf balls at targets to score points. Enjoy food and cocktails paired with a wide range of fun golfing games.

Velocity Air Sports

551-4035
7022 AC Skinner Pkwy., Ste. 200, Jacksonville
www.velocityairsports.com/jacksonville

Jump around on the largest trampoline park in Jacksonville at Velocity Air Sports, with 40,000 square feet of bouncy trampolines. This high-energy entertainment complex also includes Olympic size foam pits, high-wire slack lines, a flying trapeze, a ninja warrior obstacle course and a state-of-the-art arcade.



St. Augustine City Gates on
St. George Street, photo
courtesy of Visit Florida

DUVAL WEST

Diamond D Ranch

289-9331

5903-1 Solomon Rd., Jacksonville

www.diamonddranchinc.com

Family-owned and operated for more than six generations, Diamond D Ranch offers scenic horseback rides around the 500-acre ranch and along trails in the beautiful Jennings State Forest. Horse lovers and city slickers alike are sure to enjoy this equestrian experience.

Greater Jacksonville Fair & Expo Center

353-0535

510 Fairgrounds Pl., Jacksonville

www.jacksonvillefair.com

Each year, families flock to the fairgrounds in downtown Jacksonville for the Greater Jacksonville Agricultural Fair that features agricultural events, culinary contests, pet adoption events, rides and games.

Riverwalk

East of the Main Street Bridge, the Northbank Riverwalk stretches from I-95 at the Fuller Warren Bridge to Berkman Plaza. You'll find the Southbank Riverwalk beginning at the River City Brewing Company, just north of the Acosta Bridge, and extending east to the Peninsula Condos.

NASSAU COUNTY

Amelia Island Horseback Riding

753-1701

Peters Point Beach Front Park

4600 Peters Point Rd., Fernandina Beach

www.ameliahorsebackriding.com

Make memories that will last a lifetime with a horseback riding adventure along Amelia Island's sandy white beaches. Take a ride during the day, at sunrise or sunset. Perfect for a romantic date or family outing, owner Debbie Manser personalizes each horseback riding experience.

Northeast Florida Fairgrounds

879-4682

543378 US Hwy. 1, Callahan

www.neffair.org

For a day of games, food, livestock shows, talent shows and more, the Northeast Florida Fair in Callahan is a can't-miss family event. Catch a glimpse of animals people have been raising throughout the year, including cattle, sheep, horses, rabbits and hogs.

White Oak

225-3200

581705 White Oak Rd., Yulee

www.whiteoakwildlife.org

Come face-to-face with animals such as rhinoceroses, cheetahs, antelope, zebras, and the rare giraffe relative okapi at one of White Oak's expert-led conservation tours. Spanning 600 acres along the St. Marys River, White Oak is dedicated to wildlife breeding and research through its training facilities and conservation programs.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park

829-3168

11 Magnolia Ave., St. Augustine

www.fountainofyouthflorida.com

Come take a sip from this natural spring and hear the tale of Juan Ponce de León who came to the New World searching for the legendary Fountain of Youth in 1513. Park guests can also enjoy the beautiful gardens, a blacksmith exhibit, a Timucuan village and a planetarium.

Marineland Dolphin Adventure

471-1111

9600 Oceanshore Blvd., St. Augustine

www.marineland.net

The world's first oceanarium, St. Augustine's Marineland opened in 1938 and continues to excite guests to this day. Visitors can swim and interact with Atlantic bottlenose dolphins through several programs and packages. There are also hands-on exhibits and educational programs to inspire and connect guests with marine life.

Potter's Wax Museum

829-9056

31 Orange St., St. Augustine

www.potterswax.com

One of the most unique attractions in St. Augustine, visitors to the Potter's Wax Museum can browse more than 150 realistic wax representations of movie stars, athletes, musicians, authors, presidents and explorers. Potter's Wax Museum is America's first established wax museum.

Ripley's Believe It or Not!

824-1606

19 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine

www.ripleys.com/staugustine

If curiosity gets the best of you, head to Ripley's Believe It or Not! where there is no shortage of oddities. Showcasing Robert L. Ripley's collection of more than 800 bizarre artifacts, the "Odditorium" includes shrunken heads, a spinning vortex and a bone motorcycle.

San Sebastian Winery

826-1594

157 King St., St. Augustine

www.sansebastianwinery.com

Perfect for novice wine drinkers and connoisseurs alike, San Sebastian is one of Florida's premium wineries. Learn about the history of San Sebastian and winemaking on a wine-tasting tour of the 18,000-square-foot facility.

St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park

824-3337

999 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine

www.alligatorfarm.com

An exciting adventure awaits you at the Alligator Farm in St. Augustine. One of Florida's oldest continuously running attractions, the Alligator Farm is home to every species of crocodylian and numerous other animals. Maximo, a crocodile from Australia, is the largest animal in the park measuring more than 15 feet long and weighing 1,250 pounds. At Crocodile Crossing, guests can zip line across seven acres through the treetops above the park.

St. Augustine Aquarium
429-9777
2045 SR 16, St. Augustine
www.saaquarium.com

Spend an afternoon with stingrays, sharks, seahorses and other incredible aquatic creatures at the St. Augustine Aquarium. The aquarium offers Snorkel Adventure, where guests can experience animals in a natural reef environment, a zip line above the aquarium and through the trees, as well as other interactive activities and adventures.

St. Augustine Distillery
825-4962
112 Iberia St., St. Augustine
www.staugustinedistillery.com

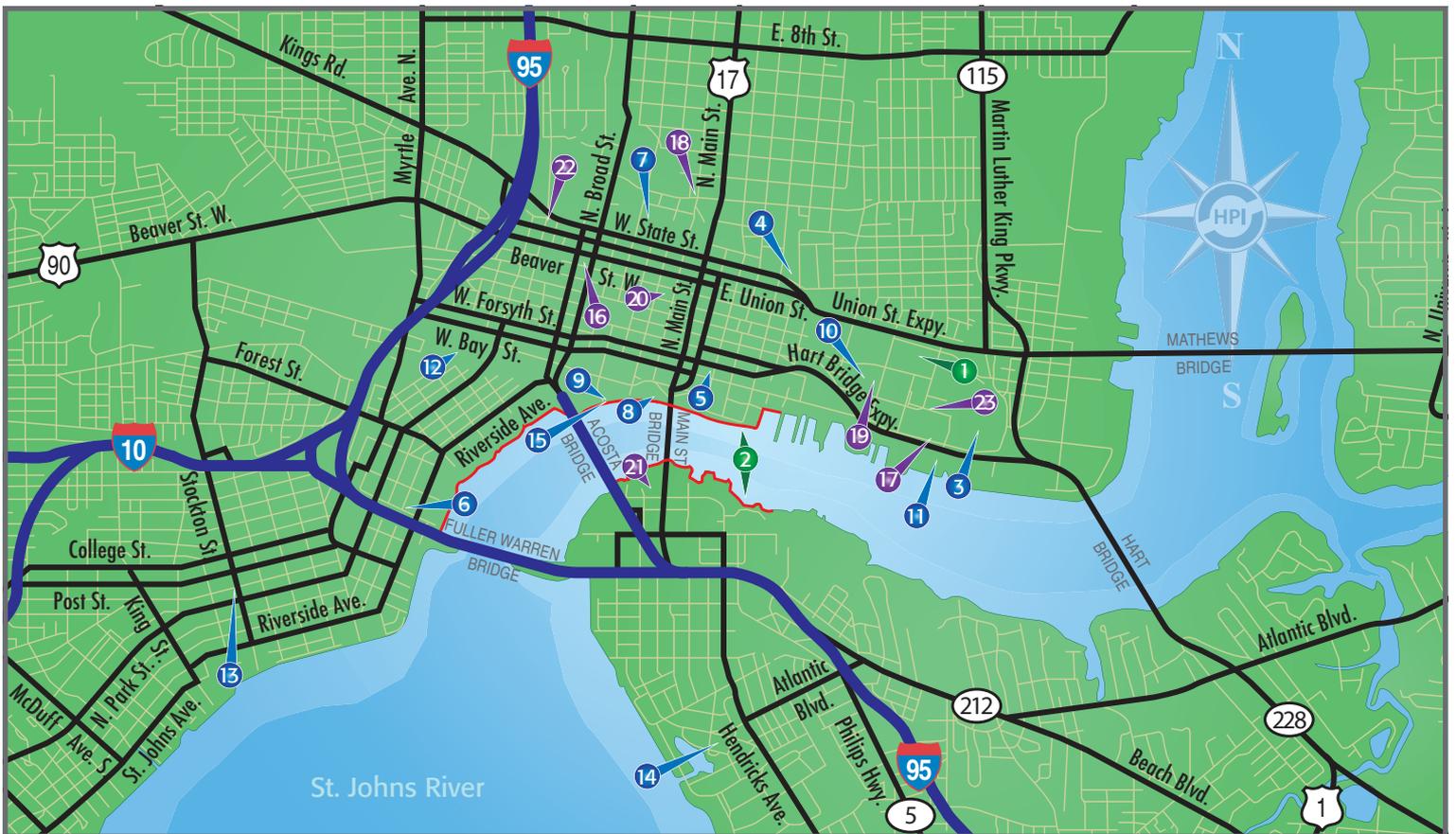
What once stood as an ice plant in the 1920s now houses the St. Augustine Distillery. The award-winning distillers there produce farm-to-bottle spirits such as Florida Cane Vodka, New World Gin and Florida Double Cask Bourbon. Take a tour to learn about the history of the distillery, and finish by watching spirits made from scratch with local ingredients and historic techniques. Take a stroll upstairs and step back into the historical period of the 20th century by visiting the Ice Plant on the second floor, where visitors can have a cocktail and a bite to eat.

St. George Street
St. Augustine

Walk through the Old City Gates at St. George Street and become transported back to colonial St. Augustine. Lined with historic homes from various periods, the thoroughfare is filled with unique shops, cafes, restaurants, boutiques, museums and more.

St. Johns County Fairgrounds
209-0332
5840 SR 207, Elkton
www.sjcfair.com/fairgrounds

The premier fairgrounds facility in Northeast Florida, the St. Johns County Fairgrounds hosts year-round events. The spacious location encompasses over 90 acres of land and hosts concerts, rodeos, disc golf, dog shows and horseshoe tournaments in addition to the annual St. Johns County Agricultural Fair.



DOWNTOWN JACKSONVILLE

Attractions

- 1. Greater Jacksonville Fair & Expo Center
- 2. Riverwalk

Entertainment Venues

- 3. Daily's Place
- 4. Florida Ballet
- 5. Florida Theatre
- 6. Friday Musicale
- 7. FSCJ Artist Series, The

8. Jacksonville Landing, The

- 9. Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra
- 10. Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena
- 11. Metropolitan Park
- 12. Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center
- 13. Riverside Fine Arts Association
- 14. Theatre Jacksonville
- 15. Times-Union Center for the Performing Arts

Historical Sites & Museums

- 16. Clara White Museum, The
- 17. Jacksonville Fire Museum, The
- 18. Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum
- 19. Merrill House Museum
- 20. Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA)
- 21. Museum of Science & History (MOSH)
- 22. Ritz Theatre and Museum
- 23. Veterans Memorial Wall



AMELIA ISLAND

Attractions

1. Amelia Island Horseback Riding

Entertainment Venues

2. Amelia Community Theatre

Historical Sites & Museums

3. Amelia Island Lighthouse

4. Amelia Island Museum of History

5. American Beach Museum
6. Fernandina Beach Shrimping Museum & Welcome Center
7. Fort Clinch State Park
8. Maritime Museum of Amelia Island

World Golf Hall of Fame and IMAX® Theater

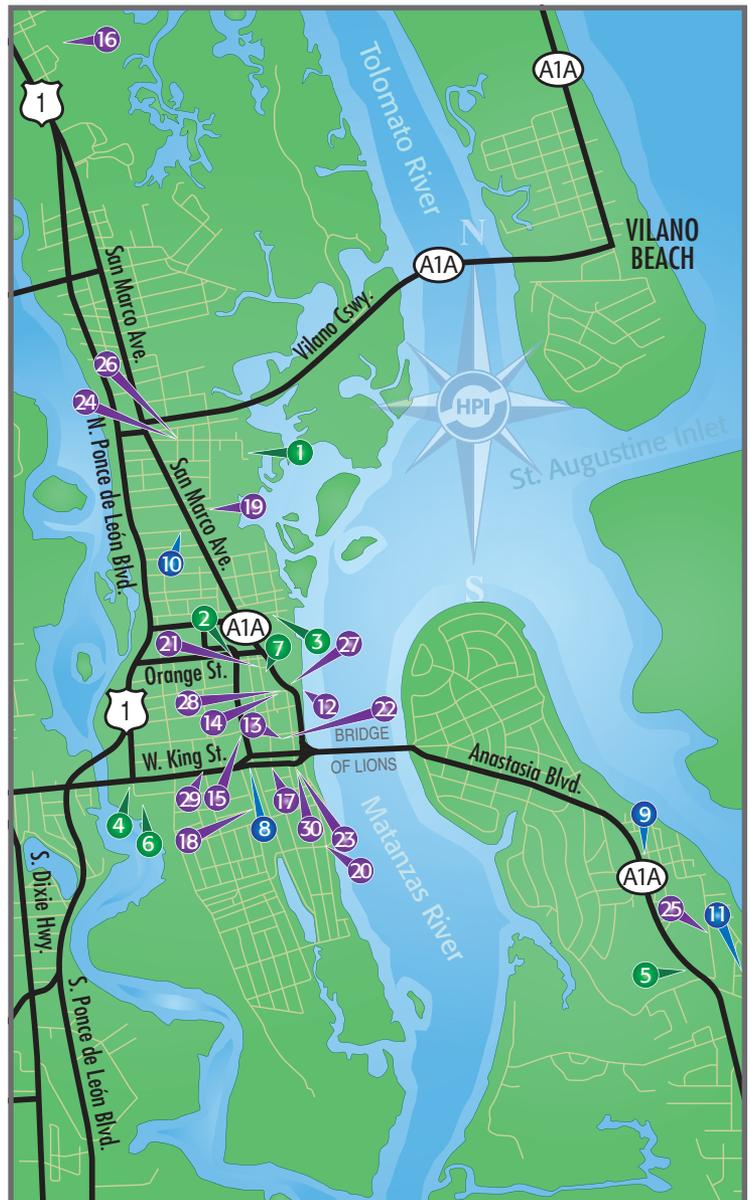
940-4133

1 World Golf Pl., St. Augustine

www.worldgolfhalloffame.org

www.worldgolfimax.com

Golf lovers and history aficionados can view artifacts and memorabilia from past players all the way to new hall-of-fame inductees at this museum located at World Golf Village. Guests can also test their golf skills with hands-on exhibits. Catch a movie at the IMAX Theater located in World Golf Village, which boasts a 3-D digital screen—the largest in North Florida.



ST. AUGUSTINE

Attractions

1. Fountain of Youth Archaeological Park
2. Potter's Wax Museum
3. Ripley's Believe It or Not!
4. San Sebastian Winery
5. St. Augustine Alligator Farm Zoological Park
6. St. Augustine Distillery
7. St. George Street

Entertainment Venues

8. Emma Concert Association
9. Jackie Knight's Comedy Club at the Corner Bar
10. Limelight Theatre
11. St. Augustine Amphitheatre

Historical Sites & Museums

12. Castillo de San Marcos National Monument
13. Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine

14. Colonial Quarter
15. Flagler's Legacy
16. Fort Mose Historic State Park
17. Government House Museum
18. Lightner Museum
19. Mission Nombre de Dios
20. Oldest House Museum Complex
21. Oldest Wooden School House
22. Peña-Peck House
23. Spanish Military Hospital Museum
24. St. Augustine History Museum
25. St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum
26. St. Augustine Old Jail & Oldest Store Museum
27. St. Augustine Pirate & Treasure Museum
28. St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine
29. Villa Zorayda Museum
30. Ximenez-Fatio House Museum

Home Field Advantage: First Coast Sports



The jaguar statue outside of TIAA Bank Field is 16 feet long and weighs in at a whopping 2,850 pounds!



There is no doubt that the First Coast is full of team spirit! Just head to TIAA Bank Field during a Jags game and you'll see tailgaters playing cornhole and hear fans yell out our rallying cry: "Duuuval!" Rich in sports tradition, our area hosts popular annual events such as the Florida-Georgia Classic, the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl and THE PLAYERS Championship. No matter the time of year, there's always a game to see. So whether you love professional or college sports, football, baseball, basketball, hockey, or all the above, the First Coast has a home team you can root for.



TIAA Bank Field, photo courtesy of TIAA Bank

Photo credit Rick Wilson/Jacksonville Jaguars

DUVAL BEACHES

Web.com Tour Championship

[Aug. 30 - Sept. 2, 2019]

252-9515

Atlantic Beach Country Club

1600 Selva Marina Dr., Atlantic Beach

www.webtourchampionship.com

Golf lovers from near and far can enjoy world-class golf in the beautiful Atlantic Beach community. Held at the Atlantic Beach Country Club, the Web.com Tour Championship identifies players who are ready to compete on golf's biggest stage.

DUVAL-NORTH

Florida State College at Jacksonville BlueWave

646-2205

4501 Capper Rd. (North Campus), Jacksonville

11901 Beach Blvd. (South Campus), Jacksonville

www.gobluewave.com

Students at Florida State College at Jacksonville have the opportunity to cheer on their own home team. With such a diverse program of intercollegiate sports, the college is proud to be part of the Mid-Florida Conference of the Florida College System Activities Association and the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament

[July 15-20, 2019]

251-3011

Jim King Park and Boat Ramp at Sisters Creek

8203 Heckscher Dr., Jacksonville

www.kingfishtournament.com

One of the largest kingfish tournaments in the Southeast, this tournament is a long-standing First Coast tradition and a great family event. More than just a fishing tournament, this week-long event includes activities such as a food festival, live entertainment, boat displays and a boutique, which features unique merchandise. There is also a Junior Angler Tournament for those under 15.

Jacksonville University Dolphins

256-7400

2800 University Blvd. N., Jacksonville

www.judolphins.com

The Jacksonville University Dolphins certainly make a splash on the field and court. The college has an impressive athletic department with 18 varsity teams in a wide range of sports for both men and women and compete in the ASUN Conference, Pioneer Football League and Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference.



DUVAL SOUTH

Jacksonville Armada Football Club

1 UNF Dr., Jacksonville

www.jacksonvillearmada.com

The First Coast has been cheering on the Jacksonville Armada since it was founded in 2015 as part of the North American Soccer League. Members of the passionate fan group Section 904 have exclusive access to events, discounted tickets and tailgates, and cheer on the team from a designated section. Catch a game at the University of North Florida Hodges Stadium.

Jacksonville Axemen Rugby League

1 UNF Dr., Jacksonville

www.jaxaxe.com

One of the most successful rugby league football clubs in the country, the Axemen bring hard hits to Jacksonville. Home games are played at the University of North Florida (UNF) soccer fields and draw an average of 2,500 fans per regular season game.

Jacksonville Ice & Sportsplex

399-3223

3605 Philips Hwy., Jacksonville

www.jaxiceandsportsplex.com

Though it doesn't get cold enough here to ice skate, First Coast residents can still practice their figure eight at the Jacksonville Ice & Sportsplex. The 100,000-square-foot facility offers a range of recreational activities and sports, and also houses

a regulation-size NHL ice rink for public skating, hockey and figure skating. The Sportsplex side of the facility offers six indoor courts and a 9,000-square-foot, multi-purpose turf arena.

Jacksonville Roller Derby

Skate Station Funworks Mandarin

3461 Kori Rd., Jacksonville

www.jacksonvillerollerderby.com

With a reputation for hitting hard and playing strong, the Jacksonville Roller Derby (JRD) is Jacksonville's first and only all-female, flat-track roller derby league. The league is comprised of more than 70 skaters among six different teams, including an all-star traveling team. JRD was accepted into the Women's Flat Track Derby Association in December 2010.

Kona Skatepark

725-8770

8739 Kona Ave., Jacksonville

www.konaskatepark.com

A refuge for skaters on the First Coast since 1977, Kona Skatepark holds the record for the longest surviving private skate park in the world. Kona is open to skaters of all levels seven days a week. The park hosts special events and tournaments where skateboarders can compete for prizes. Children who want to hone their skating skills can participate in the park's summer camps.

University of North Florida (UNF) Ospreys
620-2833
1 UNF Dr., Jacksonville
www.unfospreys.com

Jacksonville is proud to root for our very own UNF Ospreys. UNF students, also known as the “Swoop Squad,” cheer players on at games along with team mascot Ozzie the Osprey. The Ospreys compete in NCAA Division I athletics as a member of the Atlantic Sun Conference with various teams for both men and women.

DUVAL WEST

Edward Waters College (WC) Tigers
470-8000
1658 Kings Rd., Jacksonville
www.ewctigerpride.com

The Edward Waters College Tigers certainly show their fierceness during any given game. The Tigers participate in intercollegiate sports with membership in the National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics Division I Gulf Coast Athletic Conference.

Florida-Georgia Football Classic
[Nov. 2, 2019]
630-3690
TIAA Bank Field
1 TIAA Bank Field Dr., Jacksonville
www.flgajax.com

Known as the “World’s Largest Outdoor Cocktail Party,” this annual event showcases one of college football’s biggest rivalries—the Florida Gators and Georgia Bulldogs. Each year, fans flock to the famed RV City early in the week. Activities and events throughout the city lead up to the big game. The game has been played nearly every year since 1915, and has been held in Jacksonville since 1933.

Jacksonville Equestrian Center
255-4254
13611 Normandy Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jaxequestriancenter.com

The Jacksonville Equestrian Center on the Westside offers premier facilities for equine shows in addition to other amenities for sporting events. The center has a 150-foot by 300-foot indoor arena with a seating capacity of 3,700. There are miles of trails for hiking, biking, and, of course, horseback riding; an indoor Olympic size pool; a public 18-hole golf course; regulation softball fields and so much more.

Jacksonville Giants
355-6531
Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena
300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jacksonvillegiants.com

Year after the year, the Jacksonville Giants continue to crush the competition, having won the American Basketball Association (ABA) National Championships five times. The ABA is the largest professional basketball league and has grown to become the largest professional sports league in the world.

Jacksonville Icemen
602-7825
Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena
300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jacksonvilleicemen.com

The Jacksonville Icemen, NHL Affiliate of the Winnipeg Jets, dropped the puck on its inaugural season in 2017. Led by Head Coach Jason Christie, the hockey team plays home games at Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena and season tickets are available on their website. Formerly known as the Muskegon Fury, the Muskegon Lumberjacks and the Evansville Icemen, we are proud to have this topnotch team representing the First Coast.



Walks, Runs & Rides

26.2 With Donna the National Marathon to Finish Breast Cancer
www.breastcancermarathon.com

Join this national marathon to put an end to breast cancer. Including a half marathon and relay, proceeds from the event benefit The Donna Foundation and Mayo Clinic. The marathon is also a Boston Marathon qualifier.

Ameris Bank Jacksonville Marathon, Half Marathon & 5K
www.amerisbank.com/jacksonville-marathon

The oldest race in Jacksonville, this marathon carries on a racing tradition. Choose from a marathon, half-marathon or 5K. There is a six-hour course limit for this event. Runners can qualify for the next two annual Boston Marathons.

Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville Buddy Walk
www.dsaj.org

This annual one-mile walk benefits local and national organizations and programs to provide awareness and education and to help individuals with Down syndrome reach their full potential.

Fight for Air Climb
www.lung.org

Test your endurance by climbing up the stairs of a skyscraper in order to honor all those who are affected by lung disease. Funds from this event support the American Lung Association.

Gate River Run
www.1stplacesports.com

Join the First Coast for the largest 15K in the nation. Runners can choose to participate in the USA 15K Championship, a 5K or a one-mile Junior River Run.

Katie Ride for Life
www.katiecoples.org

This inspirational event in Amelia Island raises funds and awareness for organ donation. The cycling and walking events offer courses of varying distances on the island.

Light the Night Walk
www.lightthenight.org/ncfl

Walkers light the night with illuminated balloons to honor those touched by cancer. This Leukemia & Lymphoma Society event raises funds for lifesaving cancer treatments and research.

McKenzie’s Run
www.mckenzie’srun.org

Support local and global efforts to help children and youth recognize their full potential by joining in on this annual 5K and fun run that benefits the McKenzie Noelle Wilson Foundation.

Never Quit 5K and 10K
www.neverquitnever.com

This Jacksonville Beach event was created to educate the community on avoiding brain bleeds, stroke and heart disease through healthy life choices and always having a “never quit” attitude.

Walk For Wishes
www.wish.org

This family-friendly fundraiser celebrates the more than 300,000 wishes have already been granted by Make-A-Wish Foundation, while raising funds for future wishes.

2019 SEASON TICKETS



KIDS



ARE



FREE



GET FREE
2019 JACKSONVILLE SHARKS
KIDS SEASON TICKETS
WITH THE PURCHASE OF
ADULT SEASON TICKETS!
*VALID FOR KIDS 14 & UNDER

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NOW**

904.621.0700

**OR VISIT
JAXSHARKS.COM**

Jacksonville Jaguars

633-2000
TIAA Bank Field
1 TIAA Bank Field Dr., Jacksonville
www.jaguars.com

For more than two decades, First Coast football fans have celebrated the Jacksonville Jaguars. The Jaguars are the 30th NFL franchise team and are part of the AFC South Division. Home games are played at TIAA Bank Field. Catch Jags fans take over nearby parking lots to grill up some grub and get hyped for the big game. Since their inception, the Jaguars have made seven playoff appearances and have clinched three division championships.

Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp

358-2846
Baseball Grounds of Jacksonville
301 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jaxshrimp.com

Perfect for fans young and old, Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp games are a great opportunity to enjoy America's pastime. Every Friday night home game features a dazzling firework display and there are exciting holiday celebrations for Memorial Day and the 4th of July. The Jumbo Shrimp are a Minor League Baseball team and the class Double-A affiliate of the Miami Marlins.

Jacksonville Sharks

621-0700
Jacksonville Veterans Memorial Arena
300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jaxsharks.com

Watch the National Arena League's Jacksonville Sharks chomp down on the competition. Grab a seat in the Shark Pit for a front row view of the action. In 2017, the Sharks won the NAL Championship. The team was previously a member of the Arena Football League from 2010 to 2016 and won the championship of their division in the first four seasons of their existence.

Mug Race

[May 4, 2019]
264-4094
The Rudder Club of Jacksonville
8533 Malaga Ave., Jacksonville
www.rudderclub.com

Watch as the beautiful St. Johns River transforms into a race track for sailboats. Hosted by the Rudder Club of Jacksonville, the Mug Race is the world's longest river race and a tradition on the First Coast. Boats race from Palatka to Jacksonville along 38 nautical miles of the St. Johns River.

TaxSlayer Gator Bowl

798-1700
TIAA Bank Field
1 TIAA Bank Field Dr., Jacksonville
www.taxslayergatorbowl.com

Downtown Jacksonville hosts this annual college football game that has been a First Coast tradition for more than 70 years. The TaxSlayer Gator Bowl is one of the oldest college football bowl games and was the first to be nationally televised.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

THE PLAYERS Championship

[March 12-17, 2019]
273-3235
Stadium Course, TPC Sawgrass
110 Championship Way, Ponte Vedra Beach
www.tpc.com/sawgrass-the-players-championship

Whether you're an avid golf fan or just want to enjoy the festivities, THE PLAYERS Championship is a can't-miss event. Offering a beautiful course and attracting the best in professional golf, The Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass has been the site of THE PLAYERS since 1982. The tournament is one of the most anticipated on the PGA TOUR and boasts the largest purse and the strongest field.

Golf Courses

Public Courses

CLAY COUNTY

- 1. Country Club of Orange Park..... 276-7664
- 2. Eagle Harbor Golf Club 269-9300
- 3. Eagle Landing Golf Club..... 291-5600
- 4. Golf Club at Fleming Island 269-1440
- 5. Magnolia Point Golf & Country Club..... 269-9276

DUVAL-BEACHES

- 6. Jacksonville Beach Golf Club..... 247-6184
- 7. Windsor Parke Golf Club..... 223-4653
- 8. Windy Harbor Golf Club 270-5328

DUVAL-NORTH

- 9. Blue Sky Golf Club..... 446-2899
- 10. Queen's Harbour Yacht & Country Club 220-2118

DUVAL-SOUTH

- 11. GolfPlex 620-2050

DUVAL-WEST

- 12. Bent Creek Golf Course 779-0800
- 13. Brentwood Golf Course 924-0401
- 14. Fiddler's Green at Cecil Field 778-5245
- 15. Hyde Park Golf Club 786-5410

NASSAU COUNTY

- 16. Amelia River Golf Club..... 491-8500
- 17. Deerfield Lakes Golf & Country Club 879-1210
- 18. Fernandina Beach Golf Club..... 310-3175
- 19. Golf Club at North Hampton, The 548-0000
- 20. White Oak Plantation 225-3218

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

- 21. Cimarrón Golf Club..... 287-2000
- 22. Golf Club at South Hampton, The 287-7529
- 23. Julington Creek Golf Club..... 606-8899
- 24. Oak Bridge Club at Sawgrass, The..... 285-5552
- 25. Palm Valley Golf Club 824-9279
- 26. Royal St. Augustine Golf and Country Club 824-4653
- 27. St. Augustine Shores Golf Club 794-4653
- 28. St. Johns Golf & Country Club 940-3200
- 29. St. Johns Golf Club 209-0350
- 30. TPC Sawgrass (Dye's Valley)..... 273-3235
- 31. TPC Sawgrass (The Players Stadium)..... 273-3235
- 32. World Golf Village (King & Bear)..... 940-6088
- 33. World Golf Village (Slammer & Squire)..... 940-6088

Private Courses

CLAY COUNTY

- 1. Penney Farms Retirement Community Golf Course 284-5994

DUVAL-BEACHES

- 2. Atlantic Beach Country Club..... 372-2222
- 3. Pablo Creek Golf Club 992-6900

DUVAL-NORTH

- 4. Hidden Hills Country Club..... 641-8121

DUVAL-SOUTH

- 5. Deercreek Country Club 363-1604
- 6. Deerwood Country Club..... 641-6100
- 7. Glen Kernan Golf & Country Club..... 646-1116
- 8. Jacksonville Golf & Country Club 223-5555
- 9. San Jose Country Club..... 733-2020

DUVAL-WEST

- 10. NAS Jacksonville Golf Club 542-3249
- 11. Timuquana Country Club 388-2664

NASSAU COUNTY

- 12. Amelia National Golf & Country Club 652-0660
- 13. Golf Club of Amelia Island 277-0012
- 14. Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort (Long Point)..... 261-6161
- 15. Omni Amelia Island Plantation Resort (Oak Marsh)..... 261-6161

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

- 16. Marsh Creek Country Club 461-1101
- 17. Marsh Landing Country Club..... 285-6514
- 18. Palencia Club, The..... 599-9040
- 19. Plantation at Ponte Vedra Beach, The 543-2999
- 20. Ponte Vedra Inn & Club (Lagoon) 888-839-9145
- 21. Ponte Vedra Inn & Club (Ocean) 888-839-9145
- 22. Sawgrass Country Club 273-3700



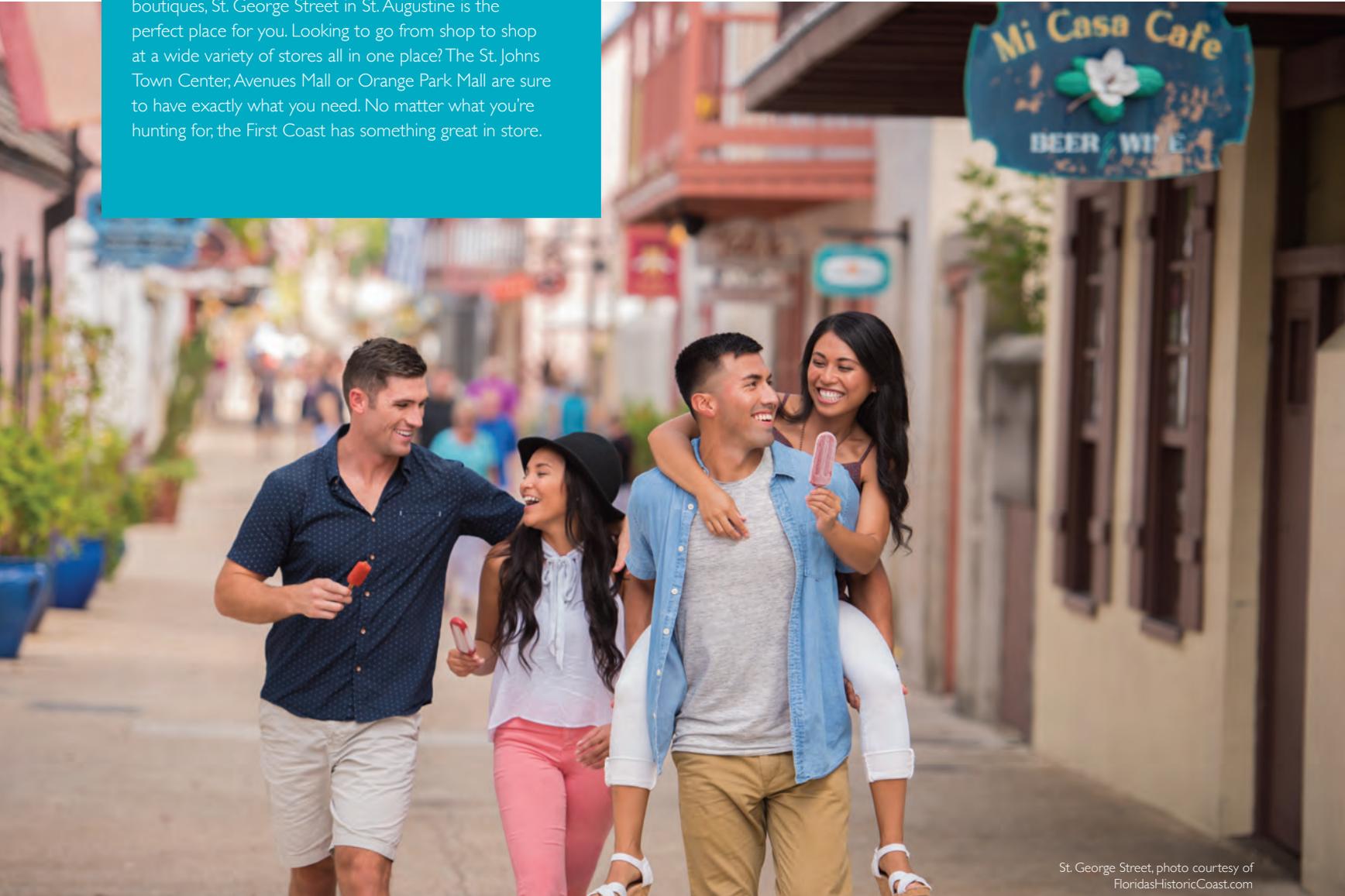
The 13th hole at Sawgrass, photo courtesy of TPC Sawgrass

Shops in
5 Points, photo
by Monica Gutos



Shopping: First Coast Retail Therapy

Take a day to do some retail therapy at one of our many shopping centers on the First Coast. Whether you're looking for a trendy boutique, antique shop or your favorite department store, the First Coast shopping scene has everything you want and more. For those who wish to spend the day in a historic area full of unique boutiques, St. George Street in St. Augustine is the perfect place for you. Looking to go from shop to shop at a wide variety of stores all in one place? The St. Johns Town Center, Avenues Mall or Orange Park Mall are sure to have exactly what you need. No matter what you're hunting for, the First Coast has something great in store.



St. George Street, photo courtesy of
FloridasHistoricCoast.com

Orange Park Mall



The Avenues Mall, photo by SIMON PROPERTY GROUP, L.P.



CLAY COUNTY

Amazing shopping centers are just around the corner for Clay County residents, so no need to travel far. Shoppers in the area have plenty of options, such as the Orange Park Mall and other individual stores and shopping plazas. You can also conveniently travel to other areas of the First Coast for all your shopping needs.

Fleming Island Shopping Centers

Nestled in the charming Fleming Island community are several growing shopping centers and stores in the area, such as Target, Artsy Abode, Justice, Kirkland's, Kohl's, Sweetwood Books of Fleming Island, Fresh Market and more. Nearby dining options for hungry shoppers include Panera, MOJO Smokehouse, Maple Street Biscuit Company and Mellow Mushroom.

Orange Park Mall

1910 Wells Rd., Orange Park
www.orangeparkmall.com

Head to Orange Park Mall to shop 'til you drop at the retail destination's 120 stores. You can find the perfect outfit at the mall's Cotton On, Francesca's, Hollister Co., Old Navy or Zumiez. Find everything you need and more at department stores such as JCPenney, Belk or Dillard's. Famished shoppers can dine at a selection of eateries in the food court or catch a flick at the AMC Orange Park 24 Theatre. Book lovers will be pleased to see the giant Books-a-Million adjacent to the movie theater.

DUVAL COUNTY

Truly a shopper's paradise, fashionable clothing, unique accessories and high-tech gadgets are always within reach in Duval. Whether you're by the beaches, or in North, South or West Duval, everyone's shopping needs can be taken care of with the vast array of shopping malls and plazas.

DUVAL BEACHES

Beaches Town Center

Atlantic Blvd. and First St., Neptune Beach
www.beachestowncenter.com

Take a seaside stroll and enjoy the salty breeze while perusing the shops and boutiques at Beaches Town Center. Located in the heart of Atlantic and Neptune beaches, the shopping center offers The BookMark, Bali Cargo Company, Fig & Willow, Jaffi's, Jax Surf & Paddle and Red Daisy, just to name a few. After you've worked up an appetite, take a break from the shops and enjoy restaurants such as Ocean 60, Joseph's Pizza and, for dessert, Whit's Frozen Custard.

DUVAL-NORTH

River City Marketplace

I-95 and Airport Rd., Jacksonville

Conveniently located near Jacksonville International Airport, River City Marketplace is the largest shopping complex in North Duval and attracts shoppers from all over the First Coast. With a Charming Charlie, Marshall's, Best Buy, Bed Bath & Beyond, Ulta Beauty, Old Navy and other major stores, the marketplace provides North Duval residents with a shopping hub like no other.

DUVAL SOUTH

Avenues, The

10300 Southside Blvd., Jacksonville
www.simon.com/mall/the-avenues

Everyone can get their retail fix at Northeast Florida's premier indoor shopping mall, The Avenues. No matter rain or shine, this shopping spot will surely delight. With several anchor stores including Belk, Dillard's and JCPenney in addition to stylish shops such as Artsy Abode, Lush, Forever 21, H&M and LOFT, your perfect ensemble awaits.

Ikea

7801 Gate Pkwy., Jacksonville
www.ikea.com

In 2017, Jacksonville's Ikea made headlines by becoming the first Northeast Florida location of the Scandinavian furniture retailer. Noted for its stylish and amazingly affordable ready-to-assemble furniture, kitchen appliances, home accessories, and Swedish meatballs, Ikea has been the world's largest furniture retailer since at least 2008. The 290,000-square-foot facility is located off Gate Parkway and Interstate 295, just a short drive from the St. Johns Town Center.

Louis Vuitton at the St. Johns Town Center, photo by Monica Gutos



Tory Burch at the St. Johns Town Center, photo by Monica Gutos



Markets at Town Center, The

4865 Town Center Pkwy., Jacksonville
www.marketsattowncenter.com

Not to be outdone by the St. Johns Town Center, The Markets at Town Center is home to several wonderful retailers including Nordstrom Rack, Kirkland's, Palmetto Moon, Ulta Beauty, REI and more. There are also upscale restaurants to finish off a day of shopping, including Brio Tuscan Grill and Cooper's Hawk Winery & Restaurant or more fast casual spots such as BurgerFi and Bento Cafe.

San Marco Square

San Marco Blvd. and Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville

For shopping, dining and a bit of entertainment too, San Marco Square has something amazing for you. Home to some of Jacksonville's best one-of-a-kind boutiques, residents and visitors alike can visit local shops such as The Write Touch, Underwood Jewelers, Heyday!, Rosie True and Beau Outfitters. Dining includes Taverna, Maple Street Biscuit Company, Beach Diner San Marco and more. San Marco is home to Theatre Jacksonville, a volunteer community theater founded in 1919, and San Marco Theatre, a local theater that serves food, beer and wine to moviegoers.

St. Johns Town Center

4663 River City Dr., Jacksonville
www.simon.com/mall/st-johns-town-center

The St. Johns Town Center is a premier retail destination and a First Coast gem. This open-air shopping center attracts shoppers from all over and has something for every need and budget. With an Artsy Abode, Kendra Scott and Coach, everyone can find the perfect accessory to finish their look. For a great ensemble, check out Anthropologie, J. Crew, Free People, Express or Madewell. Shoppers can also find upscale

boutiques such as Lilly Pulitzer, Tory Burch, Louis Vuitton, and Tiffany & Co. The Town Center is anchored by department stores Dillard's and Nordstrom. The Strand at the Town Center is a new development along Town Center Parkway that includes Best Buy, PGA TOUR Superstore, 2nd & Charles and more.

DUVAL WEST

Five Points

Park St., Margaret St. and Lomax St., Jacksonville
www.5pointsjax.com

In this trendy shopping district in the bohemian Five Points neighborhood in Riverside you'll find hip threads, funky accessories, or something for your four-legged friends at stores like Edge City, Bark on Park, Jane Doe Boutique, Wolfgang and 5 Points Vintage. The area also has several restaurants such as Corner Taco and Derby on Park. Formerly Five Points Theatre and Riverside Theatre, Sun-Ray Cinema was the first in the area to show "talking films." Today, the theater features independent films and classics.

Oakleaf Town Center

9625-9751 Crosshill Blvd., Jacksonville

A convenient retail hub for the communities of West Duval and Orange Park, Oakleaf Town Center has everything shoppers can need close to home. Find stores such as Famous Footwear, Ulta Beauty, Lucy's Gift Boutique, Target, HomeGoods, Kohl's, Pier 1 and much more.

Shoppes of Avondale, The

St. Johns Ave., Jacksonville
www.shoppesofavondale.com

Take a stroll along the friendly, tree-lined St. Johns Avenue in historic Avondale while perusing the locally owned stores at The Shoppes of Avondale. Eye-wear, children's toys and clothing,

art, décor, wine, desserts and antiques are among the many shopping choices available. Avondale's unique stores include Hooshang Oriental Rugs, Willies for Kids, Ellie Bing and others. The area also features some First Coast-favorite dining options like Brick Restaurant, Biscottis, Mellow Mushroom and Mojo no. 4.

NASSAU COUNTY

Nassau County is home to two fabulous shopping areas, Centre Street and The Shops of Amelia Island Plantation. For those living in or visiting Amelia Island and Fernandina Beach, meander through the local boutiques and shops to find unique pieces either for your home or closet.

Centre Street

Centre St., Fernandina Beach

Take a walk down Centre Street in the beautiful historic district of Fernandina Beach and you'll discover small, quaint boutiques, antique shops and delectable eateries. Stores include Lemongrass, The Book Loft, Twisted Sisters, Pearl Boutique and Eight Flags Antique Market and more. Dine at Brett's Waterway Cafe, Le Clos, 29 South or Amelia Tavern.

Shops of Amelia Island Plantation, The

39 Beach Lagoon Rd., Amelia Island
www.omnihotels.com/hotels/amelia-island-plantation

Located in the beautiful Omni Amelia Island Plantation, The Shops of Amelia Island Plantation offer upscale stores and salons to tantalize your every taste. Some options are Amelia's Signature Shop, Monkey Barrel of Amelia, The Queen Bee, J. McLaughlin, and Chico's. All are on the grounds at the Plantation, a short walk for guests and residents.

Photo by Simon Property Group



Photo courtesy of Amelia Island Tourist Development Council



First Coast Farmers Markets

For handmade crafts and fresh hand-picked produce look no further than the numerous farmers markets in Northeast Florida.

Ancient Oaks Arts & Farmers Market

12447 Mandarin Rd.
Every First and third Sunday
from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Beaches Green Market

Jarboe Park, 1408 5th St., Neptune Beach
Saturdays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Fernandina Beach Market Place

N. 7th St., Fernandina Beach
Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Jacksonville Farmers Market

1810 W. Beaver St., Jacksonville
Open daily from dawn to 6 p.m.

Nocatee Farmers Market

120 Marketside Ave., Ponte Vedra
Third Saturday of the month
from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Orange Park Farmers Market

2042 Park Ave., Orange Park
First and third Sunday of every month
from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

St. Augustine Amphitheatre Farmers Market

1340 A1A S., St. Augustine
Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.



Nocatee Farmers Market, photo by Nocatee

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Your shopping adventure awaits in St. Johns County with plenty of shopping centers to choose from. Whether you're in Ponte Vedra Beach or St. Augustine, finding somewhere to buy unique clothing and decorations, or the everyday essentials, is easy as pie.

Nocatee Town Center

120 Marketside Ave., Ponte Vedra
www.nocatee.com/town-center

Just minutes from Nocatee's charming neighborhood villages lies the Nocatee Town Center, with many popular stores and restaurants just a short walk or bike ride away from residential homes. Stores include Artsy Abode, Gwen Berlin, Coastal Wine Market and Woof Gang Bakery. Grab a bite at M Shack, Pieology or South Kitchen.

Pavilion at Durbin Park

Race Track Rd. and SR 9B, St. Johns

One of the largest development projects in northern St. Johns County, Pavilion at Durbin Park will provide convenient shopping opportunities that St. Johns County residents will delight in. The pavilion's Walmart will eventually be joined by shops such as Burlington, Dollar Tree, Five Below, Petco, Bass Pro Shop, in addition to a 12-screen Cinemark movie theater. Restaurants will include Keke's Breakfast Café, Kazu Sushi Burrito, Salsa's Mexican Restaurant and more. Phase I will be complete in Spring 2019.

Sawgrass Village

215 Tourside Dr., Ponte Vedra Beach
www.sawgrassvillagepvb.com

Shoppers at Sawgrass Village can bask in the sun while browsing through the lakefront outdoor shopping center. With one-of-a-kind boutiques and upscale stores such as A'propos Boutique, Bluemercury, Lemon Twist Boutique, Marcia's

Place, Pineapple Post and Village Jeweler, Sawgrass Village is like no other.

St. Augustine Outlets

500 Outlet Mall Blvd., St. Augustine
www.staugoutlets.com

From handbags to home goods, St. Augustine Outlets compete with the best shopping venues in Northeast Florida by carrying some of the best designer names available at a fraction of the cost. Located at State Road 16 and Interstate 95, the outlets feature 75 brand name stores such as Cole Haan, Dooney & Bourke, Guess, H&M, Hugo Boss, LOFT Outlet, Lucky Brand, Michael Kors, Sunglass Hut, Saks Fifth Avenue Off 5th and Talbots.

St. Augustine Premium Outlets

2700 SR 16, St. Augustine
www.premiumoutlets.com/staugustine

If you are looking to score a great deal on name brands, St. Augustine Premium Outlets is the spot for you. Located on State Road 16 off of Interstate 95, just 30 minutes south of Jacksonville, shoppers can find a collection of 85 outlet stores including Adidas, Bose, Brooks Brothers, Coach, Gymboree Outlet, Harry & David, J. Crew Factory, Kate Spade New York, Levi's Outlet Store, Nike Factory Store, Puma, White House Black Market and many more. The mall even has a Tesla Supercharger Station.

St. George Street

St. George St., St. Augustine

Shoppers will find many treasures along these historic cobblestone streets located in the center of St. Augustine's historic district. St. George Street is a thoroughfare only open to pedestrian traffic and stretches about four blocks. There are many unique shops such as Earthbound Trading Co., Silver Feather Jewelry and Gifts, Red Pineapple, Fresh Produce, Serenity Blue, The Panama Hat Company of St. Augustine or any of the other small shops.



Dining al fresco in St. Augustine, photo credit SARAHANNAY, courtesy of FloridasHistoricCoast.com



Dining in St. Augustine, photo courtesy of Visit Florida

Local Flavor: Dining

Whether you are looking to sample a dish from a faraway land or just want to chow down on some comfort food, our dining scene will surely satisfy your cravings. From Peruvian cuisine to barbecue favorites, the First Coast has it all. One of the many benefits of being a coastal community is, of course, the endless amount of fresh seafood, with many restaurants serving up shrimp from the Mayport area. For diners looking to grab a quick lunch or dinner on the go, check out our list of food trucks on page 176. Whatever type of cuisine you're hungry for, the First Coast is always serving up some scrumptious local flavor.

FIRST COAST EATERIES ALL OVER

Since the First Coast is so vast, many of our local restaurants expand to multiple areas. So no matter where you are, you can always enjoy great food. For mouthwatering barbecue such as brisket, pulled pork, burnt ends and St. Louis ribs, head to **4 Rivers** in the Baymeadows and Orange Park neighborhoods. **Timoti's Seafood Shak** in Fernandina Beach, Five Points and Nocatee dishes up fish tacos, lobster rolls and more. Featured on Guy Fieri's *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives*, **Metro Diner** offers scrumptious creations for breakfast, lunch and dinner at several locations throughout the First Coast. Indulge in their famous fried chicken and waffles or try classic diner dishes such as meatloaf, pot pie, pot roast, sandwiches and burgers. With locations spanning from Jacksonville Beach to St. Augustine, the First Coast's own **Maple Street Biscuit Company** offers flaky biscuits with a twist. Craving fresh tacos, burritos and guac? **Burrito Gallery** has got you covered with their "JaxMex" offerings at their Jacksonville Beach, Riverside and Downtown locations. For juicy burgers and delectable milkshakes, check out locally owned **M Shack**, with locations in Riverside,

Town Center, Atlantic Beach and Nocatee. If you're in Jacksonville Beach, Mandarin, San Marco or Fleming Island, you can taste authentic Neapolitan pizza at **V Pizza**, where they cook pizza in a 1,000 degree wood-fired oven. For a taste of popular street foods served in Asia, check out **Hawkers Asian Street Fare** in Five Points and Neptune Beach.

CLAY COUNTY

The Fleming Island neighborhood in Clay County has numerous restaurants and eateries for residents to choose from. After a day of golfing, head to **Talons** at Eagle Harbor. A perfect spot to grab lunch or dinner with family and friends, Talons offers scrumptious appetizers, salads, sandwiches and more. For soulful barbecue and blues music, look no further than **MOJO Smoke House**. Chow down on their famous onion rings, North Carolina pork sandwich, smoked chicken nachos or Texas hot links. Also in Fleming Island, **Just A Pinch Cafe and Catering** serves up Southern comfort food with "just a pinch" of Hawaiian flavor. Indulge in Hawaiian French toast, Macadamia nut waffles or cheesecake lumpia.

Orange Park's **Grumpy's Restaurant** has been serving up award-winning American and Southern-style diner dishes for more than 18 years. Sample their cinnamon roll pancakes, crab cake eggs benedict or breakfast burger. Perfect for a romantic date or professional business meeting, **The Hilltop Club** in Orange Park offers a luxurious dining experience for any special occasion. The Hilltop Club not only provides a five-star menu, but gorgeous views of the garden that encompasses the First Coast's natural beauty. In Middleburg, **Spice** infuses flavors from around the world in their dishes. Find everything from currywurst and pork belly skewers to fish and chips and chicken korma.

DUVAL BEACHES

For a coastal dining experience, the Beaches area offers numerous waterfront spots to make for an unforgettable meal. For those looking to sample seafood fresh from the ocean, stop by **Safe Harbor Seafood Market & Restaurant** in Mayport. Patrons can also browse the market for freshly caught lobster, shrimp, mussels, clams, scallops, tuna and more. There is also another location in Jacksonville Beach where diners can taste

delicious seafood while enjoying majestic views of the marsh. **Marker 32** near Jacksonville Beach gives visitors gorgeous views of the Intracoastal Waterway in a fine dining setting, with a menu featuring seared scallops, wood grilled Atlantic salmon and Key lime cheesecake. After a long day at the beach, head to **TacoLu** in Jacksonville Beach for margaritas and bold flavored tacos such as the bangin' shrimp and carne royal.

For a taste of new American cuisine, **Restaurant Doro** is a stylish eatery in Neptune Beach that offers a seasonal menu of Southeastern wild seafood, organic poultry and humanely raised meat. **Sliders Oyster Bar** has been serving the Neptune Beach community amazing seafood for more than 30 years. With dishes like bacon wrapped scallops, seafood gumbo and crab cake melt, it's no wonder patrons keep coming back for more. Over in Atlantic Beach, **Ceviche Jax** is a hidden gem that serves up Peruvian cuisine in a laid-back atmosphere. Sample a wide variety of ceviche in addition to classic Peruvian dishes such as arroz chaufa de pollo and lomo saltado. Also in Atlantic Beach, **Coop 303** serves up farm-to-table Southern inspired dishes. Share a plate of loaded tots, try the chicken and waffles or shrimp and grits, and finish your meal off with their apple fritters.

DUVAL NORTH

For those dining on the Northside, check out **Celestia's Coastal Cuisine**, where vibrant flavors are apparent in everything they make. Combining seafood and soul food, you'll find dishes such as fried okra, shrimp and grits, and southern fried catfish. Over at River City Marketplace, **Green Papaya** incorporates different Asian cooking styles to provide customers with unique flavors. Taste their mango chicken, Pad Thai or General Tso's chicken. More than a steakhouse, the **Millhouse Steakhouse** offers diners options such as bacon wrapped sea scallops, chicken parmesan, pan seared grouper, in addition to numerous mouthwatering steaks.

DUVAL SOUTH

On Jacksonville's Southside is **Gilbert's Social**, where you can experience celebrity chef Kenny Gilbert's sophisticated take on Southern cuisine. Menu items include a strawberry watermelon salad, southern ramen and, of course, mac n' cheese. Also on the Southside, **Ill Forks** perfectly embodies fine dining with their USDA Prime select cuts of steak, fresh seafood and local favorites like lobster risotto. For a tasty treat to help beat the Florida heat, **Five f(x) Ice Cream & Taiyaki** on Baymeadows Road serves up a wide variety of ice cream such as lavender, kiwi and mint chocolate, in addition to the Japanese fish-shaped cake, taiyaki.



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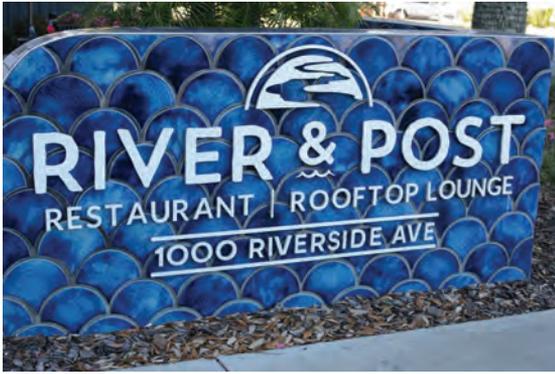
If you're at the St. Johns Town Center, there are many dining options to choose from after a day full of shopping. For those looking for unique cuisine among chain restaurants, **Moxie Kitchen and Cocktails** offers delicious dishes such as fried chicken with waffle pudding and pepper jelly, seared scallops with three-cheese grits or the rainbow trout. The Strand at the St. Johns Town Center includes an array of upscale and casual restaurants such as **Fogo de Chão**, **Cheddar's Scratch Kitchen**, **Chuy's**, **Firebirds Wood Fired Grill** and more.



Bistro AIX



Burrito Gallery in Riverside, photo by Monica Gudos



River & Post, photo by Monica Gutos



Prohibition Kitchen, photo courtesy of FloridasHistoricCoast.com



Maple Street Biscuit Company, photo by Monica Gutos



Timotis Seafood Shak in 5 Points, photo by Monica Gutos

In the trendy San Marco neighborhood, there are a number of restaurants and eateries for foodies to enjoy. Start off your day with an artisan doughnut from **Good Dough** where you'll find creations such as butterscotch bacon doughnut, peanut butter sriracha doughnut and even a fried chicken "doughwich." There is also a location at the St. Johns Town Center. Head to **Bistro AIX** for a menu inspired by French and Mediterranean cuisines. Great for a romantic date, **Taverna** serves handcrafted Italian eats along with curated wine and craft cocktails. For great barbecue in a laid-back setting, **The Bearded Pig** offers dishes such as jalapeño poppers, pulled pork and their own version of poutine. There's also a beer garden where diners can catch a football game. A San Marco gem, **bb's Restaurant & Bar** offers an award-winning wine list, an innovative menu and delectable house-made desserts in an eclectic yet chic atmosphere.

In the Julington Creek neighborhood, **Blackstone Grille** offers a fusion of global flavors. Inspired by Chef Charles Wang's travels, the menu features curry beef empanadas, grilled Thai steak and sesame pepper crusted ahi tuna. Over in Mandarin, **The Tree Steakhouse** has been a Jacksonville tradition for almost 50 years and offers delicious entrees grilled over an open flame.

DUVAL WEST

If you're in the downtown Jacksonville, Riverside or the Westside neighborhoods looking for a place to grab some grub, there are endless options for every palette. **Cowford Chophouse** on Bay Street features a locally sourced menu of steaks and seafood. Visit their rooftop bar for craft cocktails and breathtaking views of the Main Street Bridge. The modern **MLG Jacksonville** in Downtown brings their own interpretation to American cuisine. Dishes such as lobster roll, mac n' steak and chocolate chip cookie skillet will tantalize

anyone's taste buds. Popular Jacksonville food truck **The Happy Grilled Cheese** also serves up specialty grilled cheeses at their brick-and-mortar location downtown. **Uptown Kitchen & Bar** in the Springfield neighborhood is a southern-style diner with a number of meat- and dairy-free options. Try the shrimp bruschetta, vegan tempeh Rueben or stuffed pork chop.

River & Post Restaurant and Rooftop Bar in the Riverside neighborhood boasts unparalleled views of the city and St. Johns River alongside an upscale-casual dining experience with a locally sourced menu. In Jacksonville's Avondale neighborhood, swing by **South Kitchen and Spirits** for comfort food favorites such as chicken pot pie, Cuban sandwich and loaded pulled pork in addition to craft cocktails. Rustic French bistro **Orsay** in Avondale is the perfect spot to bring that special someone. Share a charcuterie board, sample the duck breast or filet mignon and finish off the meal with vanilla bean creme brulee, or a



The Collector Well Bar photo courtesy of FloridaHistoricCoast.com

colorful macaron. In the mood for Tex-Mex? Head over to **El Jefe** in Murray Hill where you can find street corn, tacos al pastor and a wide variety of enchiladas.

NASSAU COUNTY

If you're looking for exceptional food in a laid-back setting, find your way to **29 South** in Fernandina Beach. Try unique mashups such as their lobster corn dog, pulled pork spring rolls or falafel burger. For dessert, sample their Chocolate Soufflé Disaster with butter pecan ice cream. Located within The Ritz-Carlton, **Salt** brings fine dining to visitors and residents of Fernandina Beach and Amelia Island. Enjoy their signature steak and eggs dish, which is a beef tenderloin served on a 250 million-year-old Himalayan salt block. Meaning "a little something extra" in Louisiana French Creole, **Lagniappe Restaurant** serves up a French Creole menu with flair. Try the poutine, po' boy sandwich and crab cakes. Tucked away from the hustle and bustle, **Pogo's Kitchen** adds its own flair to southern cuisine by serving up dishes such as honey nut squash bisque, pan seared halibut and roasted mushroom stroganoff. Also in Fernandina Beach, **Gilbert's Underground Kitchen** gives visitors a taste of Florida with their Mayport shrimp and grits, alligator ribs and Fernandina Beach hot chicken.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Stunning St. Johns County has many beachside and upscale restaurants that encompass the great food the First Coast has to offer. Family-owned **Caffe Andiamo** in Ponte Vedra Beach serves up authentic yet contemporary Italian cuisine using the freshest ingredients. **Aqua Grill** will surely have something to satisfy any palette, with diverse multi-ethnic menu. Enjoy eggplant parmesan, Cantonese-style whole American red snapper and wasabi pea-crusted Hawaiian tuna. For a polished neighborhood hangout spot, gather friends and family at **Nona Blue Modern Tavern** for blue cheese kettle chips, meatloaf sliders and BLT grilled



In 1953, a restaurant called Insta-Burger opened at 7146 Beach Boulevard. Inside, a special oven called the Insta-Broiler could cook 400 patties an hour. Despite its supercharged output, business dwindled until new owners brought the restaurant and renamed it Burger King.



cheeses. Near Vilano Beach is **Cap's on the Water** where visitors can enjoy sunset views while eating fresh seafood. In Nocatee, **Treyler Park** is anything but ordinary. Located a rustically chic setting, this eatery combines ingredients in a unique way to create dishes such as PB&J wings, chicken and pancake tacos, and a grilled apple pie sandwich.

Farther south in St. Johns County, the nation's oldest city has selection of outstanding restaurants. Located in the heart of downtown St. Augustine, **Michael's Tasting Room** is an elegant restaurant with a focus on Spanish inspired cuisine. For a relaxing brunch, pull up a chair at **The Blue Hen Cafe**. At this vintage-inspired eatery you will find corned beef hash, buttermilk chicken biscuits with homemade peach butter and a pulled pork Cuban sandwich. On St. George Street, hungry diners can find small plates and craft burgers at vintage gastropub **Prohibition Kitchen**. After a day of historical sightseeing, stop by **Catch 27** where the chefs serve delectable southern style seafood dishes in a casual atmosphere, such as ceviche, lobster mac n' cheese, and fish or shrimp tacos.

First Coast Coffee Shops

Whether you need a coffee on the go or want to sit down and savor a latte, the First Coast has numerous trendy coffee shops and cafes.

Amelia Island Coffee

207 Centre St., Fernandina Beach
www.ameliainlandcoffee.com

Bold Bean Coffee Roasters

869 Stockton St., Ste. 1, Jacksonville
1905 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville
2400 S. 3rd St., Ste. 200, Jacksonville Beach
www.boldbeancoffee.com

Breezy Coffee Shop

235 8th Ave. S., Jacksonville Beach

Coffee Grinder, The

9834 Old Baymeadows Rd., Jacksonville
www.thecoffeegrinderjax.com

Kookaburra Coffee, The

24 Cathedral Pl., St. Augustine
1835 US Hwy. 1 S., St. Augustine
647 A1A Beach Blvd., St. Augustine
76 Dockside Dr., Ste. 104, St. Augustine
www.thekookaburracoffee.com

Sippers Coffeeshouse

7643 Gate Pkwy., Ste. 101, Jacksonville
www.facebook.com/sipperscoffeeshouse

Southern Grounds

1671 Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville
200 1st St., Neptune Beach
www.southerngrounds.com

Urban Bean Coffeehouse Cafe, The

2023 Park Ave., Orange Park
www.theurbanbeancoffeehouse.com

Urban Grind Coffee Company

45 W. Bay St., Jacksonville
www.urbangrind.coffee

Vagabond Coffee Co.

223 N. Hogan St., Jacksonville
934 Edgewood Ave. S., Jacksonville
www.vagabondcoffee.com



First Coast Food Trucks



Mother Truckin' Pizza, photo by Betsy Dailo

The tastiest trend in the U.S. is food trucks. The First Coast is no exception, and has been a front runner in this new type of food service. With more than 100 trucks rolling on the First Coast, food trucks have come a long way, now serving fresh, locally grown fare for every foodie. Enjoy fresh breakfast, lunch, dinner and dessert with the First Coast food trucks. Below are several food trucks that only make up a small portion of the list. Check out their websites to find their locations and menus. For more information about the food truck scene, visit the Food Truck Finder's Facebook or their website, www.foodtruckfinderusa.com.

BREAKFAST/COFFEE

Back to the Grind Café offers a full espresso bar for those in need of a coffee fix. For non-coffee lovers, they also serve all-natural smoothies and fruit parfaits. If you happen to come across the truck later in the day, check out their ice cream floats and milkshakes. Find a full menu and weekly locations at www.backtothegrindmobilecafe.com.

Check out **Chaunie's Coffee & Such** for coffee in many different forms. Along with typical types of coffee, Chaunie's also offers a cold brew popsicle, Vietnamese coffee and affogato, which is a double shot of espresso poured over two scoops of vanilla ice cream. They also offer homemade pastries as the perfect addition to any drink order. Check out the full menu at www.chauniescoffee.com.

LUNCH/DINNER

Named one of Jacksonville's Top 5 burger joints by Jacksonville Restaurant Reviews, **Cackylacky's** is a "gourmet hillbilly" food truck. Their food is made from scratch using local

products when possible. Their menu includes the several signature burgers on top of the classic burgers. For non-burger customers, they also offer a variety of sandwiches and hot dogs. More information is located at www.facebook.com/cackylackys.

For award-winning seafood, the **Island Girl Seafood** truck serves all sorts of delicious gourmet fare. Their coconut shrimp with a Creole marmalade has won Best Shrimp for five years at the St. Augustine Lions Seafood Festival. They also serve fried seafood platters, deep fried brussels sprouts and "lobsticles," a fried coconut lobster tail on a stick. Find the full menu and schedule at www.islandgirlseafood.com.

Potatoes are a staple of many dishes, but it's not often that it's used as the main course. **Mr. Potato Spread** creates delicious baked potatoes intended to fill up the hungriest of stomachs. Some of their unique combinations include the shrimp fajita pot, sweet potato veggie pot, crab pot potato and the cheesesteak pot. For a better look at their baked potatoes and other dishes, head to www.mrpotatospread.com.

Serving not only clever puns, the **PIE95 Pizza** truck offers gourmet pizza options that patrons normally find at brick and mortars. The truck is outfitted with a wood burning oven, which gives their pizza a crisp crust with unique flavor that pairs wonderfully with the use of fresh, local ingredients. More information about this truck can be found at www.facebook.com/pg/pie95pizza.

It's not often that Jacksonville sees a Dutch influence in their food, but **Van D's Dutch Delights** is working to change that one stropwafle at a time. Along with the delicious

dessert, Van D's also serves burgers, chicken sandwiches and strips, salads and milkshakes. The menu and their weekly schedule can be found at www.facebook.com/vandsdutchdelights.

Viva Mi Familia is a new Mexican fusion food truck that makes all their food from scratch. The truck serves tacos, burritos, quesadillas and a slew of appetizers. Viva Mi Familia also offers a Pequeños Traviesos (kid's menu) for the little niños. Their menu and locations can be found at www.facebook.com/vivamifamiliajax.

Wurstbusters is the only German food truck on the First Coast. Their menu includes authentic homemade food such as schnitzel, spaetzle, bratwurst and sauerkraut. There are even a few unique takes on the traditional food, like schnitzel tacos. Take a look at their full menu at www.wurstbusters.com.

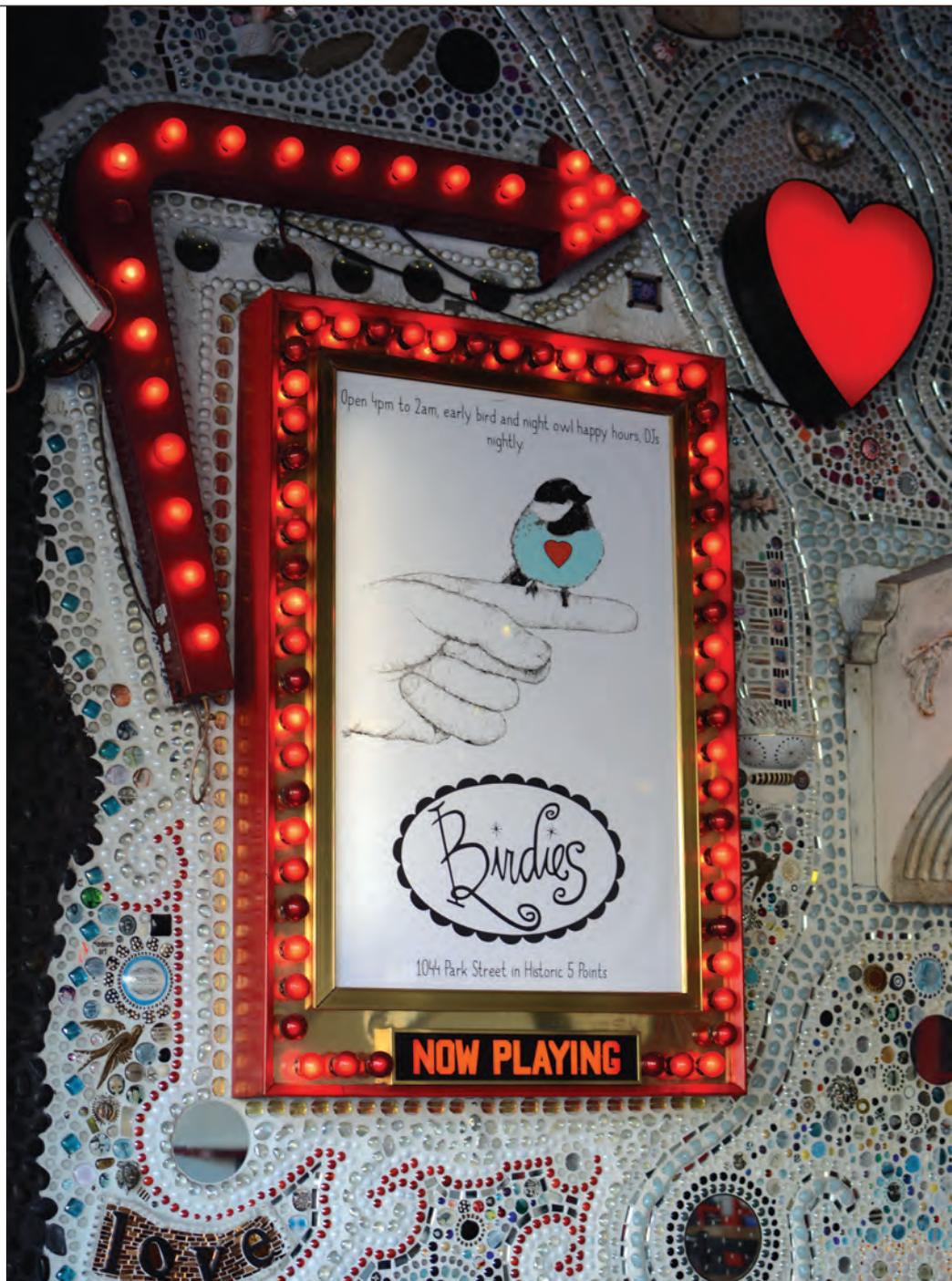
DESSERTS/SNACKS

For those looking for different frozen options in one place, the **Frozen Sweets Truck** is just the truck for that. Their menu consists of shaved ice, Italian ice, taco sundaes, dirty brownie sundaes and so much more! For a complete list of menu items and location, check out their website www.frozensweetstruck.com.

Utilizing the power of liquid nitrogen, **Nitrogen Creamery** provides customers not only with delicious ice cream, but also a unique experience. Using nitrogen in the creation process produces a smoother variety of ice cream. The creamery offers numerous combinations of ice cream flavors, such as orange creamsicle, honey cinnamon, cotton candy and cookie butter, and mix-ins, plus milkshakes and smoothies. Information about their menu and location is at www.nitrogencreameryjax.com.

Off the Clock: Nightlife

Here on the First Coast, we're proud of our outdoor activities and plethora of museums and attractions, but what sometimes goes overlooked is our nightlife, which is brimming with unique experiences and quality locally brewed beer and craft cocktails. Whether you want a relaxed night with some food and good music or are looking for a little more excitement, the First Coast has the place for you.



Birdies in 5 Points, photo by Monica Gutos

CLAY COUNTY

For small-city charm, look no further than Clay County nightlife where myriad bars welcome you with open arms and make you feel like you've been a regular for years. Featuring delicious meals and healthy competition, **The Corner Pocket** is the perfect place for billiards fans to take a shot (the kind of shot is up to you) and enjoy some company. If you're in Fleming Island, check out **Mercury Moon Grille & Bar** where you can find

live music and can't-miss food and drink specials. Find your own place where everybody knows your name and stop in at **Cheers Park Avenue** in Orange Park. With live music, DJs and specials throughout the week, Cheers is a perfect place to meet new friends. For a more family-friendly vibe, head to **Mellow Mushroom** for a slice of gourmet pizza (or one of their other fantastic dishes) and draughts or specialty drinks.

DUVAL BEACHES

Possibly the area with the highest population of nightlife options, the Beaches is the perfect spot for bar hopping or just relaxing with an ocean view and Mai Tai. Voted No. 1 Beach Bar in *VOID Magazine*, **The Lemon Bar** is a beautiful bar. Try their signature Lemon Bar Freeze or any other of their specialty drinks to fully immerse yourself in the paradise that is Neptune Beach. For a taste of Jax Beach tradition, sit and have a



Photo by Stephanie Marty



Pete's Bar photo credit to Folio Weekly

beer at Pete's Bar, which has been around since 1933. In Atlantic Beach, you can find **Ragtime Tavern** where craft beers, parties and locals are in abundance. A local favorite, **Yench's Irish Pub** offers traditional Irish food, drinks and an experience you'll never forget. Next door is the tiki bar **Flask & Cannon**, also known as the "South Pacific of the First Coast." Flask & Cannon is home to numerous rum-based drinks and types of rum from over 20 countries.

If a club-like bar is more your style, check out **The Pier Cantina & Sandbar**. At night, The Pier has live music downstairs and some of the hottest DJs on the second floor. For your convenience, there are full-service bars on both levels. For even more music, take a night to visit **The Ritz**, where DJs spin nightly and happy hour goes until 8 p.m. Beer connoisseurs and amateurs alike will love **Hoptinger Bier Garden & Sausage House** which features 60 taps of carefully selected craft beer. There are also locations in St. Augustine and Five

Points. Pair that with their Bavarian-inspired pub fare for a unique experience. Also by the beach is **The Shim Sham Room** where you can find an expansive patio bar and a dance area located upstairs. Last, but certainly not least, is **The Brix Taphouse**. They have 32 different draughts on tap, signature cocktails and live local musicians gracing their stage.

DUVAL SOUTH

In the beloved San Marco area, residents have a bunch of choices for nightly fun. The previously mentioned Flask & Cannon's sister bar **Sidecar** focuses on locally sourced ingredients to produce tasty cocktails, which of course include the classic sidecar, and feature drinks from all over the world. **The Grape & Grain Exchange** is a popular spot for happy hour drinks with friends or shopping for that special bottle of wine to bring happy hour home with you. While there, find the secret passage behind a bookshelf for their speakeasy, **The Parlour**, to drink like they did in 1920s. On the Southside we have North Florida's oldest and largest biker bar, **The Bayard Rooster**, where live music, buckets of beer and pool games are found. For those who want to include their furry friend in their night on the town, check out pet-friendly **Bottlenose Brewing** for a taste of local brews, Trivia Tuesday and Ladies' Night on Wednesdays. Ping pong tables aren't just for drinking games on the Southside. At **SMASH** patrons are invited to use one of their 11 ping pong tables while eating farm-fresh food and drinking from one of their two bars. While you're waiting for your turn, there are 24 flat screens for your viewing pleasure.

DUVAL WEST

Our thriving downtown is full of eclectic restaurants and bars that make each night an adventure. Whether it's drinks on a rooftop overlooking the St. Johns River or sampling a local brew after dinner, downtown has some of the largest beer selections in the area. Known as the entertainment hub of downtown Jacksonville, The Elbow is home to many bars, restaurants and venues. First up is **The Hourglass Pub & Coffee Shop** where the beer is cold, the coffee is hot and the classic coin-op arcade is open. For a bit of history paired with cocktails, check out **Dos Gatos**, the original cocktail lounge that serves the exciting Orange Jalapeño Margarita. They

“The First Coast is brimming with late night hot spots to dance and play the night away.”

also have a location in St. Augustine. Go out for a night of handcrafted cocktails, trivia and swing dancing at **The Volstead**, a speakeasy-style bar named after the very act that enacted prohibition in 1919.

In the Riverside area, take a stroll into **Dahlia’s Pour House**, which features a rotating wine bar that includes 18 wines on tap, 85 draughts and events galore. **Beer:30** is a “craft beer emporium” that has two locations, one in Riverside and one in San Marco. With an ever-changing selection of brews, each visit is a new experience. An extension of the Riverside Beer:30, **Keg & Coin** is an adult take on arcades. With games from the 80s, 90s and staples like skee-ball, this bar really hits you with nostalgia. Relive the glory days of arcade games while sharing a drink with friends at this wonderfully nerdy addition to the First Coast.

Drinking and dancing are a staple at **The 11 ft**, where the good times don’t end, even if the night does. Walk into **Birdies**, where the walls are covered in local, buyable art and the alcohol is flowing. With plenty of options to choose from, including over 20 options of draft beer and over 50 different bourbons, whiskey and scotch, no one is left out at Birdies. Located in the up-and-coming Murray Hill, **the flamingo** is a new bar that often hosts events such as comedy shows, record nights where a DJ spins punk vinyls, and all-day happy hour on Mondays. Located in a newly renovated bowling alley on the Westside, **The Phoenix Bar & Bowling** offers four full bars, 12 bowling lanes, karaoke and a truly unique experience. The Phoenix opened late last year and has received fantastic reviews from locals.

NASSAU COUNTY

Amelia Island may not be known for its wild nightlife, but there are a few gems that make up the bar scene that are worth a visit. The **Palace Saloon** is the oldest saloon in Florida and the last tavern to close during Prohibition. Hang out and listen to one of the ghost stories while sipping on a tasty drink. Within the saloon is **Sheffield’s at the Palace**, an upscale lounge featuring classic cocktails and live music. For an intimate night on the town, **11 cal’s** offers secluded spots perfect for conversation and people-watching. In Fernandina Beach, head to **Café Karibo** for a mix of upscale pub grub and drinks to appease your taste buds.



The Tini Martini Bar

Also in the area right across the street from the beach, **Hammerhead Beach Bar** is a Fernandina favorite. Since 1986, Hammerhead has provided locals and tourists alike with a fantastic view and equally amazing drinks.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

St. Augustine is full of history and it comes as no surprise that its bars do, too. **Scarlett O’Hara’s** is on the National Directory of Haunted Places due to the spooky ghost bar hidden upstairs. For over 35 years, Scarlett’s has been known as a local gem and “The Best Neighborhood Bar” for over eight years. For a little less ghost activity, check out **Ice Plant**, a refurbished ice plant that serves drinks like the “New World Gin & Tonic” and the “Florida Mule.” By incorporating heirloom sugar cane into their drink specials, Ice Plant tips their hats to Florida’s long history with sugar cane. With a 20th century vibe, Ice Plant mixes tradition and trends. Rich in history and dedicated to having fun, **TradeWinds Lounge** is a St. Augustine tradition dating back more than 70 years. They offer up live music, open mic nights, happy hour and the possibility of a friendly

ghost visit from the former TradeWinds owner, Duke, as he stops by to check on things on this side of the realm. Truly embracing their name, **Odd Birds** is a bar that specializes in “odd bites and cocktails.” Odd Birds believes that cocktail-making is an art and their masterpieces speak for themselves. With drinks featuring French macarons and full jalapeños, the bar is a must-visit for anyone looking for a memorable night. The **Tini Martini Bar**, located at the Casablanca Inn, has an unparalleled list of martinis for their patrons to try. If martinis aren’t your thing, they also have a list of vintage wines, single malt Scotches and beer available.

No matter where you are on the First Coast, the nightlife is always in full swing. Beer lovers, wine buffs and sweet drink sippers have countless places to go at the end of a busy day or on the weekends for a bit of fun. Take time for yourself, get to know your new home and visit any number of these local spots and celebrate your life living on the coast.

Microbreweries and Brew Pubs



Pinglehead Beer Flight, photo by Stephen Kubiak, courtesy of Visit Jacksonville

For craft beer enthusiasts, the First Coast is overflowing with local microbreweries serving up innovative beer creations. From Fernandina Beach to St. Augustine and everywhere in between, there is a craft brewery just around the corner where you can gather with friends for a night to unwind.

BAKER COUNTY

Crooked Rooster Brewery
1478 S. 6th St., Macclenny
653-2337
www.crookedroosterbrewery.com

CLAY COUNTY

Brewer's Pizza/Pinglehead Brewing Company
14B Blanding Blvd., Orange Park
276-5159
www.brewerspizzacom
www.pinglehead.com

DUVAL COUNTY

Aardwolf Brewing Company
1461 Hendricks Ave., Jacksonville
301-0755
www.aardwolfbrewing.com

Atlantic Beach Brewing Company
725 Atlantic Blvd., Units 3 & 15, Atlantic Beach
372-4116
www.atlanticbeachbrewingcompany.com

Bold City Brewery
109 E. Bay St., Jacksonville
503-7682
2670-7 Rosselle St., Jacksonville
379-6551
www.boldcitybrewery.com

Engine 15 Brewing Co.
633 Myrtle Ave. N., Jacksonville
551-9429
1500 Beach Blvd., Ste. 217, Jacksonville Beach
249-2337
<http://engine15.com>

Green Room Brewing
228 3rd St. N., Jacksonville Beach
201-9283
www.greenroombrewing.com

Hyperion Brewing Co.
1740 N. Main St., Jacksonville
518-5131
www.hyperionbrewing.com

Intuition Ale Works
929 E. Bay St., Jacksonville
683-7720
www.intuitionaleworks.com

Main & Six Brewing Company
1636 N. Main St., Jacksonville
374-4750
www.mainandsixbrewing.com

Reve Brewing
1237 Mayport Rd., Atlantic Beach
www.revebrewing.com

Ruby Beach Brewing
131 1st Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach
372-0727
www.rubybeachbrewing.com

Southern Swells Brewing Co.
1312 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach
372-9289
www.southernswells.com

Tabula Rasa Brewing
2385 Corbett St., Jacksonville
353-1523
<https://tabularasa.beer>

Veterans United Craft Brewery
8999 Western Way, Ste. 104, Jacksonville
253-3326
www.vubrew.com

Wicked Barley Brewing Company
4100 Baymeadows Rd., Jacksonville
379-7077
www.wickedbarley.com

NASSAU COUNTY

Amelia Island Brewing Company
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310-6088
www.theameliatavern.com/aibc

Mocama Brewing Company
629 S. 8th St., Fernandina Beach
www.mocama.com

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Ancient City Brewing
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429-9654
www.ancientcitybrewing.com

Bog Brewing Company
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www.bogbrewery.com

Dog Rose Brewing Co.
77 Bridge St., St. Augustine
217-3355
www.dogrosebrewing.com

Old Coast Ales Brewery
300 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine
484-7705
www.oldcoastales.com



Engine 15 Brewing Co., photo courtesy of Visit Florida



Last Look at the First Coast

Blessed with year-round gorgeous weather, stunning beaches and a thriving culture, we are delighted to call the First Coast home.

With everything from riverfront neighborhoods to rural farming communities, newcomers to the First Coast can find the exact lifestyle that suits them best. The First Coast is truly the perfect place to live, work and play. As a hub for cultural activities, festivals and sporting events, there is always a celebration going on, whether you're up in Fernandina Beach, in downtown Jacksonville, Orange Park or St. Augustine.

Our many music festivals such as Springing The Blues Festival, Jacksonville Jazz Festival, Welcome to Rockville and The Great Atlantic Country Music Festival continue to propel the First Coast as a musical destination. The holiday season is always a special time here as well, with celebrations throughout the area such as St. Augustine's Nights of Lights celebration, the Jacksonville Lightboat Parade and Deck the Chairs in Jacksonville Beach. No matter where you are on the First Coast, you'll find plenty of festive gatherings where people come together to indulge in delicious food, watch electrifying entertainment and partake in pure fun. We are thrilled to call you our neighbor. Now it's time to celebrate!

BAKER COUNTY

Battle of Olustee

February
www.battleofolustee.org

Watch the cavalry come in as the sound of cannons and smell of gun smoke fills the air at the Battle of Olustee reenactment. Each year hundreds of reenactors and spectators gather at Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park for this event in remembrance of Florida's largest Civil War battle fought on Feb. 20, 1864. The weekend also includes guest speakers and a Civil War-era parade.

CLAY COUNTY

Northeast Florida Scottish Games & Festival

February
www.neflgames.com

Enjoy "a wee bit o' Scotland" at this festival that celebrates Scottish heritage with traditional cuisine, music and Highland games. Events such as whisky tastings and the Kirkin' of the Tartan ceremony lead up to the festival.

Carrie Clarke Day

March/April
www.townoforangepark.com

Honoring one of Orange Park's pioneers, Carrie Clarke Day is a daylong festival that transports visitors back in time to the late 1800s. Reenactments featuring Mrs. Clarke and her husband, William, show what life was like back in the day. Festivalgoers can also enjoy tours of the beautiful Clarke House, hay rides, live music and more.

Clay County Watermelon Fest

June
www.claycountyfest.com

This annual family event features arts and crafts, bounce houses, live entertainment and, of course, tons of watermelon served ice cold or grilled. Join the watermelon eating contests or seed spitting contests for some friendly competition.

Town of Orange Park Fall Festival, photo courtesy of the Town of Orange Park



World of Nations celebration, photo courtesy of City of Jacksonville



Town of Orange Park Fall Festival

October
www.opfallfestival.com

This highly anticipated two-day event is Clay County's oldest and largest arts and crafts festival. Since 1982, the Fall Festival has brought joy to the Orange Park community and now features more than 200 artists and vendors in addition to local entertainment on two stages. Grab everything from barbecue and local seafood to funnel cakes and turkey legs at the festival's 30-plus food vendors. For the children, the festival has pony rides, bounce houses and a Kids Zone.

DUVAL COUNTY

Community First Seawalk Music Festival

February
www.communityfirstseawalkmusicfest.com

Held at the Seawalk Pavilion in Jacksonville Beach, this family-friendly music festival by the sea celebrates the First Coast's diverse music scene. Festivalgoers can also taste and experience scrumptious food from local vendors and mobile eateries.

World of Nations Celebration

February
www.specialevents.coj.net

This annual celebration of the First Coast's diversity allows visitors to enjoy the sights, sounds and tastes from countries all over. Each year in Metropolitan Park, World of Nations features authentic food, arts and crafts, music, dance, and exhibitions to showcase the beauty of different cultures throughout the world.



Downtown's annual weekend-long Jacksonville Jazz Festival is the second-biggest jazz festival in the U.S.



Opening of the Beaches

April
www.jacksonvillebeach.org

For more than 70 years, the Jacksonville Beach community kicks off the warmer months with a festive parade. Hundreds of spectators line up to see classic cars, marching bands and floats galore. The celebration also includes an annual sandcastle competition.

Springing The Blues Festival

April
www.springingtheblues.com

One of the top music events on the First Coast, this three-day festival by the ocean features local and regional blues artists. From humble beginnings in 1990 when the first Springing The Blues was a small gathering at the old Jacksonville Beach Flag Pavilion, today more than 125,000 fans come to enjoy the music, food and vendors.

Welcome to Rockville

May
www.welcometorockvillefestival.com

Music lovers young and old get the opportunity to rock out each Spring at Metropolitan Park. Over 50 of the biggest names in rock 'n' roll will grace the stage and put on a headbanging show.

Jacksonville Jazz Festival

May
www.jacksonvillejazzfest.com

This Jacksonville tradition features a weekend of smooth jazz and has grown into one of the largest jazz festivals in the country. Amateur and renowned jazz artists perform at two outdoor stages in downtown Jacksonville. The weekend also includes a jazz marketplace, piano competition and delicious food.

The Great Atlantic Country Music Festival

June
www.greatatlanticfestival.com

Join in on Jacksonville Beach's enduring tradition of great live music and fabulous seafood at this free outdoor music festival. Enjoy performances from country bands, numerous food vendors, a surf contest, festival marketplace and rides and games for the entire family.

Jacksonville Light Boat Parade

November
www.specialevents.coj.net

More than 200,000 First Coast residents and visitors watch boats adorned with festive lights float along the north and south banks of the St. John River at this annual celebration. The evening culminates with a dazzling fireworks show to kick off the holiday season.

Dickens on Centre, photo courtesy of Visit The USA



Rhythm & Ribs, photo courtesy of Rhythm & Ribs



Deck The Chairs

November/December
www.deckthechairs.org

Each holiday season, this cheerful display lights up Jacksonville Beach. Local artists use twinkling lights to decorate more than 40 lifeguard chairs from The American Red Cross. There are also numerous events and activities for families and children to get into the holiday spirit.

NASSAU COUNTY

Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival

January through April
www.ameliachambermusic.org

This music festival showcases world-class artists who perform classical music in intimate and historic settings on Amelia Island. The festival is dedicated to bringing a wide variety of chamber music at the highest level to the Fernandina Beach community.

Amelia Island Concours d'Elegance

March
www.ameliaconcours.org

The perfect event for car aficionados, this legendary event showcases rare, vintage and classic automobiles as well as driving experiences, awards and a silent auction. Held at the Ritz-Carlton in Amelia Island and the Golf Club of Amelia Island, this event is now in its third decade and continues to be one of the world's top automotive events.

Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival

May
www.shrimpfestival.com

Indulge in the best shrimp the First Coast has to offer and celebrate Amelia Island's unique history at this weekend-long event. The festival includes

the annual Pirate Parade, Blessing of the Fleet, a boat decoration contest, a 5K run, live music, arts, crafts and tons of delectable shrimp.

Dickens on Centre

December

This street festival transforms historic downtown Fernandina Beach into a Victoria-era wonderland reminiscent of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. Costumed characters, holiday entertainment, Christmas carolers, and festive food and drink make for a perfect holiday event the whole family will enjoy.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Saint Augustine Film Festival

January
www.staugfilmfest.com

Featuring more than 40 films from all over the world, this film festival in the nation's oldest city showcases a variety of foreign and independent films and thought-provoking documentaries. Venues include Flagler College, Corazon Cinema & Cafe and the St. Augustine Distillery.

St. Augustine Spanish Wine Festival

February
www.spanishwinefestival.com

The three-day Spanish Wine Festival celebrates St. Augustine's proud Spanish heritage through food, entertainment and plenty of wine. Festivalgoers can enjoy a wide variety of events that showcase the many facets of Spanish influence on St. Augustine's culinary scene.

St. Augustine Lions Seafood Festival

March
www.lionsfestival.com

The largest festival in the St. Augustine area features delectable seafood fresh from the ocean. Chow down on dishes such as crab cakes, seafood jambalaya, lobster mac n' cheese and coconut shrimp. Each year, more than 20,000 people gather to enjoy live music, arts and crafts, food, and nonstop fun.

Rhythm & Ribs

April
www.rhythmandribs.net

If you're looking for great music and award-winning barbecue, mark this annual festival on your calendar. Voted St. Augustine's "Best Festival" for 12 years, Rhythm & Ribs features live music from local and regional musicians, children's activities and mouthwatering barbecue.

St. Augustine Art and Craft Festival

November
www.staugustineartfestival.com

This popular juried art fair showcases one-of-a-kind creations from 150 national and regional artists. Peruse paintings, pottery, jewelry, sculpture, woodworks, glass and other unique fine art. In addition to artwork, visitors to the festival can enjoy international food, live music, crafts and children's activities.

Nights of Lights

November through February
www.floridashistoriccoast.com/nights-lights

More than 2 million sparkling, white lights bring joy to historic St. Augustine at this city-wide holiday light display. This beloved tradition includes special events such as parades, carriage tours, art walks and holiday concerts.

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