



SOUTH CAROLINA

ADMIN COMMITTEE Florty County

Promoting the Horry County as a Premiere Year-round Destination

Karen Riordan

June 2022



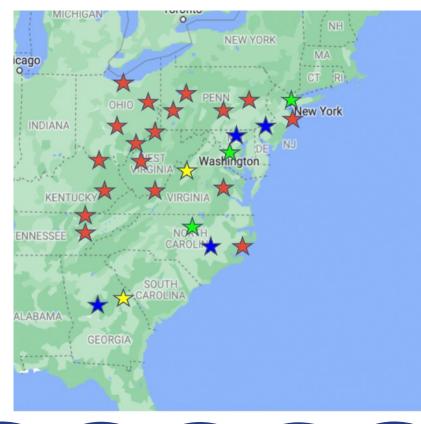
2022 Campaign Theme

People at **The Beach** just beach better. You know why? Because they beach at the Grand Strand. Get to know how we do things at The Beach, **where everyone knows** they can celebrate their best self.



Key Markets

Additional marketing reach regional, national and international audiences. All markets will be evaluated and refined seasonally based on latest available data.



Atlanta Augusta Baltimore Bluefield/Beckley/Oak Hill Buffalo Charleston/Huntington Charlotte Cincinnati Columbus, OH Greensboro/High Point Harrisburg/Lancaster Johnstown/Altoona Knoxville Lexington New York Parkersburg Philadelphia

Pittsburgh Raleigh/Durham Richmond/Petersburg Roanoke/Lynchburg Tri-Cities- TN,VA Washington, DC Wheeling/Steubenville Wilkes Barre/Scranton Youngstown <u>Flight Markets:</u> Chicago Dallas Detroit Minneapolis

2021 Accolades & Awards

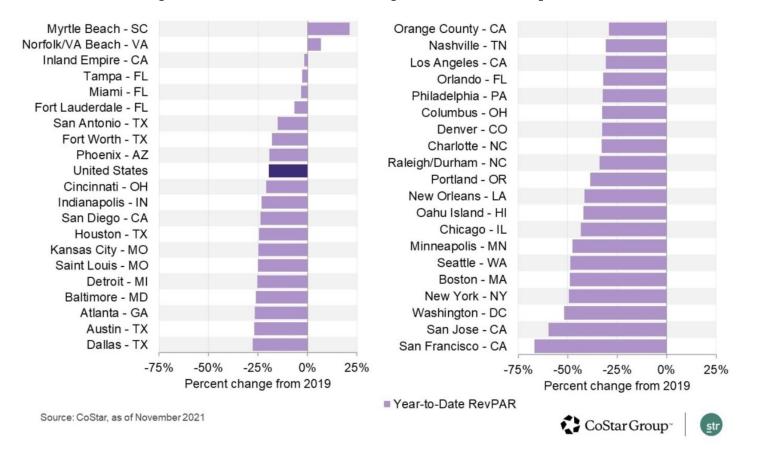
- #1 Destination for June Domestic Searches TripAdvisor
- 3rd Most Popular Summer Destination TripAdvisor
- 3rd Destination for May Domestic Searches TripAdvisor
- 3rd Most Popular Destination for Memorial Day Weekend TripTik
- 8th US Destination by Traffic in Sept YTD TripAdvisor
- 4th Most Popular Labor Day Weekend Destination TripAdvisor
- 4th Most Popular Fall Destination TripAdvisor
- 7th Most Popular Thanksgiving Week Destination Expedia
- 10 Best Romantic Food Destinations Eat This, Not That!
- 2021 Travelers' Choice Award TripAdvisor
- Best Integrated Marketing Campaign US Travel ESTO
- 10 Go-To Destinations for Fall Camping TravelPulse

- America's Best Beach Towns for 2021 Travel Pulse
- Top 10 Summer Destinations Flight Data
- 15 Best Affordable Beach Vacations in America Reader's Digest
- Best Value Vacation Home Locations in US True Median
- 4th Top Destination for March Trivago
- One of Top 25 Festive Christmas Town for the Holidays Travel + Leisure
- Best Dog Friendly Beaches in the US Travel Awaits
- Top 25 Beaches in US TripAdvisor
- 10 Best Summer Vacations in US for Families USA Today 10BEST
- Best Small Airport USA Today
- Best Places to Retire in South Carolina US News and World Report
- 10 Autism-Friendly Family Vacation Spots USA Today

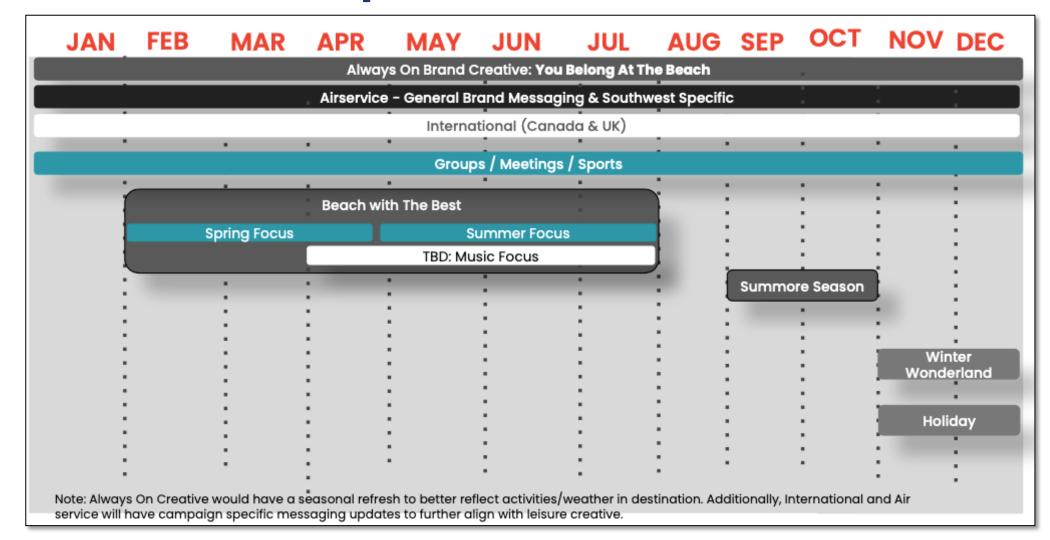
Destination Marketing Achievements

- Consistently broke ADR & Occupancy records for the market
- Successfully introduced the new brand
- Grew our internal marketing team
- We were the #1 market in the country for hotel revenue recovery!

Hotel Performance Recovery Across Top Markets



2022 Campaign Messaging Calendar



2022 *Horry County* PUBLICITY





Carolina Forest

Just west of Myrtle Beach, this masterplanned community offers some great golfing, dining and shopping

VISIT MYRTLE BEACH HOMEPAGE FEATURE

- All Communities are prominently featured on the Visit Myrtle Beach website homepage with a destination feature, events, deals and stories throughout the year.
- VisitMyrtleBeach.com had over **8.5M** site visitors in 2021 and the homepage had **1.3M** pageviews

Target Promotions



THE HOME OF THE SHAG

The nine-mile-long beach community of North Myrtle Beach continues to thrive, almost 50 years after its inception. In 1968, four existing communities - Cherry Grove, Windy Hill, Ocean Drive Beach and Cressent Beach — were combined to form the city. Prominent annual festivals celebrate everything from St. Patrick's Day to the end of summer.

North Myrtle Beach is also the birthplace of the Shag dance, which became the official state dance of South Carolina in 1984. Strains of beach music can be heard in the Ocean Drive section nearly every night as those who love the Shag dance the night away.

The entertainment doesn't stop with the Shag, The Alabama Theatre dazzles crowds with nightly shows. Just down the road from the charming downtown area, Duplin Winery offers entertainment for adults and locally crafted muscadine wine.

You'll love the beach town vibe of this community, which is home to Barefoot Landing and a wide variety of restaurants, entertainment, and shopping options.

Local's Tip

The many restaurants of Barefoot Landing — including LuLu's & Crooked Hammock Brewery — host live music on the weekend all year long. Visit the website for a full schedule of entertainment at www.bflanding.com.

North Myrtle Beach

- Community Editorial Visitor Guides/Web Page on VMB.com
- Community Video on VMB.com
- Events Promoted thru Social annually such as St. Patrick's Day Festival, Music on Main, Great Christmas Light Show
- Paid Social
- Various Blog Posts
- Inclusion in Eblasts



TAKE A STEP BACK IN TIME

Founded in 1732, Conway is one of the oldest towns in South Carolina, with all the charm and grace of a historic southern community. Oak tree-lined streets run through the picturesque historic district, inviting visitors to stay and explore.

The Conway Riverwalk, set along the beautiful Waccamaw River, offers visitors a picturesque tour of the river town.

A visit to the recently renovated Horry County Museum, which includes a beautiful aquarium, is a perfect way to spend a day trip away from the beach.

The charming downtown area is also steeped in historic architecture that has been carefully renovated to house unique shops, a thriving art community and remarkable restaurants.

The city is home to a number of popular community events, including the annual Riverfest along the Waccamaw and the Convex Chost Walk.

Conway

- Community Editorial Visitor Guides/Web Page on VMB.com
- Community Video on VMB.com
- Events Promoted thru Social Channels such as Rivertown Music Fest, Rivertown Wine-Around, Grooving on the Green, Gullah Geechee Community Day

Local's Tip

All over downtown Conway,

you can find great "hidden"

spots such as the train mural

Burroughs riverboat mural, the

garden walk, Coastal Carolina's

"Teal Alley" and the "flood

markers" which show how high

in Kingston Park, the F.G.

- Paid Social
- Various Blog Posts
- Inclusion in Eblasts



A PICTURESQUE FISHING TOWN

On the north end of the Grand Strand, the fishing community of Little River is the oldest of the 14 communities. Little River is one of those places where life moves slowly, offering a relaxing, laid-back destination.

Deep-see fishing charters leave at sunrise, taking anglers to some of the best fishing spots on the coast. Shorter fishing and party boat cruises are also available, such as Cruisin Tikis, where you can board your very own tik hut for a sunset cruise.

Enjoy fresh seafood that comes off fishing boats throughout the day and is served up at many quality restaurants.

Each May, Little River celebrates a local delicacy with their world-famous Blue Crab Festival, and in October, they host their popular ShrimpFest. As you can see, it's all about the seafood in Little River.

Little River

- Community Editorial Visitor Guides/Web Page on VMB.com
- Community Video on VMB.com
- Events Promoted thru Social Channels, including Blue Crab and Shrimp Fests, Sounds of Summer
- Paid Social
- Various Blog Posts
- Inclusion in Eblasts



AN ABUNDANCE OF SOUTHERN CHARM AWAITS

Located in the northern end of the Myrtle Beach area and just a short drive inland, Loris began as a railroad town serving the lumber industry in the late 1880s.

Loris is also the birthplace of chicken bog, a traditional southern dish consisting of rice, chicken, sausage and spices. In celebration of this scrumptious dish, the community hosts the annual Loris Bog·Off Festival each year which draws thousands to the area.

Additionally, a revitalized downtown offers shopping, dining and a local farmers market with a feast of fresh produce and home baked goods.



Local's Tip Take your time to enjoy the area's Southern charm and check out the Loris Farmers Market for locally grown produce and goods right from the rich Grand Strand roil

Loris

- Community Editorial Visitor Guides/Web Page on VMB.com
- Community Video on VMB.com
- Events Promoted thru Social Channels, such as the Bog Off
- Various Blog Posts
- Inclusion in Eblasts

VMB ADMIN COMMITTEE HORRY COUNTY UPDATE 2022



an evening trip on The Big

M casino boat. Who knows

what you might win!

ikis, where you vuise. Local's tip If you're feeling lucky, head down to the Little River Waterfront to take

Target Promotions



A SMALL TOWN WITH A BIG HEART

Founded more than a century ago, the small town of Aynor is located 35 miles inland, not far from Conway.

Celebrated for its friendliness, the community is referred to as the "Little Golden Town."

September brings the famed Harvest Hoedown Festival to Aynor, where agricultural living is celebrated with food, games, music and fun for the entire family.

Walk through downtown Aynor to discover several locally owned shops, with plenty of friendly smiles.



Local's Tip When you visit, make sure you take your picture stunning nod to the town's past.

Aynor

- Community Editorial Visitor ٠ Guides/Web Page on VMB.com
- Community Video on VMB.com ٠
- **Events Promoted thru Social Channels** such as Harvest Hoe Down
- Various Blog Posts
- Inclusion in Eblasts



PEACEFUL AND BEAUTIFUL

Between Myrtle Beach and Conway on Highway 501, the relatively new community of Carolina Forest is located along the west side of the Intracoastal Waterway.

Primarily a residential area, almost half of this masterplanned community has been set aside for conservation

Along the corridor that spans U.S. 501, you'll find some great shopping opportunities including Tanger Outlets and car enthusiasts will love the Wheels of Yesteryear Museum. enjoy a trip to Horry County

Bike & Run Park (also known Dining here includes a number of great options including as "The Hulk"), a 7 mile trail places serving everything from sushi and steaks to burritos that twists and turns across and burgers. 72 acres of land, nestled

You can also find several golf courses and recreation centers, between Carolina Forest and along with a beautiful concentration of pine trees and hardwood forests

Carolina Forest

- Community Editorial Visitor ٠ Guide/Web Page on VMB.com
- Community Video on VMB.com
- **Events Promoted thru Scoial** Channels: The Hulk Fall Race Series
- Various Blog Posts ٠

Local's Tip

Myrtle Beach.

Outdoor enthusiasts will

Inclusion in Eblasts .



EXPLORE THIS WILD, HISTORIC AREA

Socastee is located just west of the Myrtle Beach International Airport, between Route 17 and the Waccamaw National Wildlife Refuge.

Historic Socastee is home to one of 10 swing bridges in the state. Built in 1935, the bridge still swing: on a regular schedule. The town also boasts a historic district that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places for the post-Civil War preservation.

For a unique journey on the Intracoastal Waterway, hop on a jet ski with Island Adventure Watersports for a back country tour. You can also play a round of disc golf at Socastee Recreation Park or enjoy of few rounds of fun, friendly paintball or airsoft combat nearby.

Local's Tip

Next to the historic swing bridge, along the Intracoastal Waterway you'll find one of the area's best burger spots, River City Cafe. If you're feeling brave try the "Kitchen Sink" or the "OMG " burger platters.

Socastee

- Community Editorial Visitor Guides/Web Page on VMB.com
- Community Video on VMB.com
- **Events Promoted thru Social** Channels
- Various Blog Posts
- Inclusion in Eblasts



ENJOY NATURE. SEAFOOD AND RELAXATION

Local's Tip

Across the road from

Brookgreen is Huntington

Beach State Park where

alligators and other wildlife.

You can also take a hike, go

on a Segway tour, enjoy the

beach or explore Atalaya

Castle.

you can discover birds,

The fishing village of Murrells Inlet was once the hiding spot of the infamous pirate Blackbeard. Today, it's an outdoorsman's dream

No matter your boating preference, there is an experience for every hobby. Start your day kayaking at sunrise or head out for a daylong, chartered deep sea fishing excursion.

A town known as the "seafood capital of South Carolina", you know a delicious meal awaits after a fun-filled day. The popular MarshWalk comes alive after dark, with live music streaming from several waterfront establishments that offer spectacular marsh views. Beautiful waterfront dining and live entertainment aren't the only things Murrells Inlet has to offer.

Those interested in art and history will be thrilled to discover Brookgreen Gardens, a national historic landmark showcasing the world's largest collection of outdoor American sculpture.

Murrells Inlet

- Community Editorial Visitor Guides/Web Page on VMB.com
- Community Video on VMB.com
- **Events Promoted thru Social** Channels such as Taste of the Marsh Walk
- Various Blog Posts
- Inclusion in Eblasts

Target Promotions





A TOWN WHERE QUALITY TIME COMES EASY

Incorporated in 1964, Surfside Beach has long been known throughout the Grand Strand as a "family beach." For a game of tennis, bocce, shuffleboard and much more, you don't have to look further than the town's seven public parks.

Surfside's pristine beaches are cleaned daily and supervised by

lifeguards and police, giving families peace of mind while their

There are several beach access points that offer showers,

Local's Tip

Be sure to visit the area around Surfside Beach Pier, which has dining options ranging from pizza and burgers to seafood and steaks, as well as several hangouts and shopping spots. Though the pier is currently being rebuilt, there's plenty to do nearby.

restrooms and accessible ramps for persons with disabilities. In 2016, the Surfside Beach town council signed a proclamation to make Surfside Beach the first autism-friendly travel destination, further establishing their reputation as a

Surfside Beach

beach for all families.

children play on the beach.

- Community Editorial Visitor Guides/Web Page on VMB.com
- Community Video on VMB.com
- Events Promoted thru Social Channels such as the annual BBQ Festival
- Various Blog Posts
- Inclusion in Eblasts



Horry County Museum

805 Main Street Conway, SC 29526 Location: Conway

Visit Website





The Horry County Museum and L.W. Paul History Farm in Conway focus on the history, pre-history, and natural history of Horry County, South Carolina, and educate through exhibits, outreach programs, and events. The Freshwater Aquarium featured on "Tanked" details aquatic life in local rivers and lakes and the L.W. Paul History Farm recreates life on a family farm between 1900 and 1955.





Horry County Museum

- Community Editorial –Web Page on VMB.com
- Inclusion in Blog Posts on VMB.Com
- Video on VMB.com front page
- Events Promoted thru Social Channels Various Blog Posts

A Local's Look

What do the Myrtle Beach locals love? Find out here!



Explore Things To Do and more A Local's Look videos on YouTube.

Myrtle Beach Invitational

November 18, 19 & 21, 2021

- Held at the HTC Center ٠
- Eight (8) Participating Team •
- Hosted by ESPN Events ٠
- Games Aired on ESPN Network of Channels ٠

Tweet ←

#MarchOn | #Kaizen

ndiana State Basketbal @IndStRasketbal





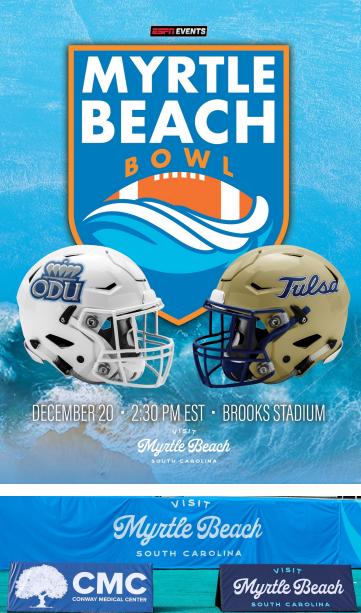


Myrtle Beach Bowl

Monday, December 20th 2021, at 2:30 PM

- 2021 Viewership: 939,000
- 2021 Economic Impact: \$3.85 Million
- 2021 Attendance: 6,557









Myrtle Beach Bowl Game · 11/19/21 ···· Our partner, @MyMyrtleBeach is your source for all things #beach, golf, dining, shopping and attractions along the #GrandStrand. Contact them today to start planning your vacation. Limits #MyrtleBeach

VisitMyrtleBeach.com



Digital Marketing

Horry County Community Promotion

- Purpose Awareness of the individual communities that make up Horry County, Their Attributes and offerings including events, attractions, and individual offerings to draw visitors to all areas of the county, including Horry County Museum.
- Description- Campaign includes Paid Search, Paid Social, and native display.

Campgrounds Promotion

- Purpose- Camping/RV advertising to drive business year-round, but especially during shoulder season.
- Description- Various means of distribution including video, internet advertising, PR, social media, direct mail as well as content deployment on VisitMyrtleBeach.com



There's an art to life in Conway, one of South Carolina's most storied towns. Come see the Conway Riverwalk and more.



visitmyrtlebeach.com Go Beyond The Beach Visit Historic Conway



When it comes to fun, we're on a roll. Come see what's happening in 14 neighborhoods on the Grand Strand.



visitmyrtlebeach.com
Do More at The Beach
Explore Conway and More



Go with the flow, fish like a pro or grab a bite in scenic Little River – the oldest of 14 communities on the Grand Strand.



visitmyrtlebeach.com Go Beyond The Beach Explore Little River



Want beautiful views, starry nights and unforgettable memories? It all comes together when you camp in Myrtle Beach.



visitmyrtlebeach.com Camp at The Beach Fun Is in Our Nature



Visit Myrtle Beach. Soutl

Pack up your family and friends for an escape to

The Beach - 60 miles perfect for RV trips or

Carolina 📿

campsite excursions.

onsored ·

••• X

visitmyrtlebeach.com Go Wild at The Beach Discover Our Campgrounds



Make a getaway to The Beach, where endless shopping, dining and entertainment meet 60 miles of beautiful, sun-soaked sand.



visitmyrtlebeach.com **Do More at The Beach** Discover North Myrtle Be.. ••• X

Digital Newsletter

- 234K Subscribers
- Horry County Communities included in Upcoming Events, Blog Mentions, Fun Facts and **Community Spotlights**



Upcoming Events









Groovin On The Green

World Famous Blue **Crab Festival**



Community Spotlight: Surfside Beach

Just to the south of Myrtle Beach, you will find Surfside Beach, known as the "family beach" in the Grand Strand. Surfside Beach was the first town to be certified as autism-friendly, taking a pledge to learn and assist families who travel with persons of sensory-processing disabilities. Surfside's clean beaches are also supervised by lifeguards for an extra pair of eyes while your children are swimming in the waves. From community golf cart parades to quaint neighborhood restaurants, you will feel right at home in Surfside Beach!





COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: LORIS

Located in the northern end of the Myrtle Beach area and just a short drive inland, Loris began as a railroad town serving the lumbe industry in the late 1880s. Loris is also the birthplace of chicken bog, a traditional Southern dish consisting of rice, chicken, sausage, and spices. In celebration of this scrumptious dish, the community hosts the annual Loris Bog-Off Festival each year which draws thousands to the area. This year the Bog-Off Festival will be held on October 16, 2021.





15 Instagram-Worthy Locations

s all about the 'gram these days! Capture the perfect picture or selfie at these 15 pots around the Grand Strand.

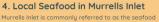




Little hands and hearts can connect through art to create beautiful thinas.



Our area is a very popular spring break destination fo families with school-aged children.



capital of South Carolina – and for good reason.

5. 5 Things To Do With Longer Days

There are so many activities at The Beach for you and your family to enjoy now that the days are longer and warmer weather has arrived

MORE FROM THE BLOG >

Upcoming Events



Military Appreciation Days Parade

The Beach celebrates Memorial Day weekend with events including the Military Appreciation Days Parade at the Market Common district





June 18 - September 24 The World of Frida

Conway Riverfest

ALL EVENTS >

hyrtlebeach.com/event/military-appreciation-days-parade/18718/



Community Spotlight: Litchfield Beach

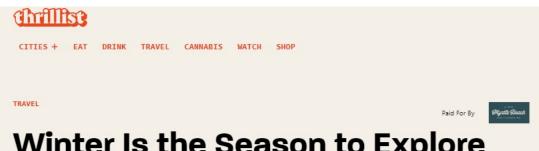
One of the quieter beaches on the Grand Strand, Litchfield Beach, SC is the perfect place for a relaxing vacation. Litchfield is nestled between Huntington Beach State Park and Pawleys Island and consists of several golf courses, quiet neighborhoods, and wide sprawling beaches



National Publications

Articles were included in such publications as:

- Southern Living
- Matador
- Travel & Leisure



Winter Is the Season to Explore Myrtle Beach with Fewer Visitors

Discover enchanting gardens, oceanfront dining, and Saturday night shag dancing on the Grand Strand.

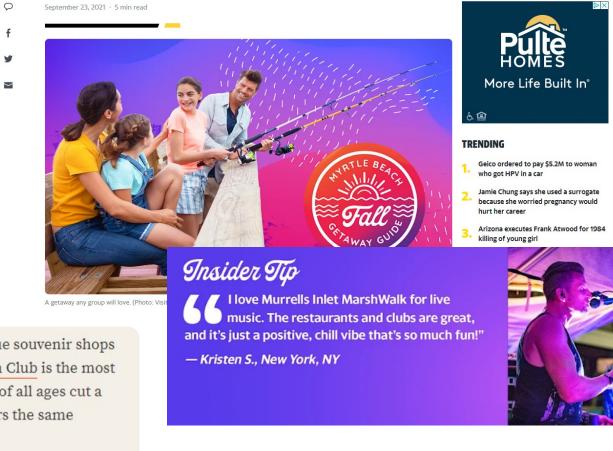
By <u>Stratton Lawrence</u> Published on 11/18/2021 at 9:39 AM

> Less flashy but quietly charming is North Myrtle Beach's Main Street, where unique souvenir shops and tasty seafood shacks share space with historic dance clubs. Fat Harold's Beach Club is the most impressive, especially on weekends when they host dance competitions. Dancers of all ages cut a rug together to classic tunes until the wee hours. Duck's just across the street offers the same throwback vibe, with live bands keeping the dance floor loose.

throwback vibe, with live bands keeping the dance floor loose

YAHOO CREATIVE STUDIOS

3 Myrtle Beach itineraries for romance, friends or family fun



Marketing Component	Project	Purpose	Description	Amount
Print Media	Magazine/ Inserts	Print Advertisements to help influence travel to the area, targeting prospective leisure and group travelers.	Targeted messaging and placement to augment online and broadcast components.	\$97,276.60
Online Media	Internet/ Web	Display ads and videos to inspire multiple audience segments to visit the destination.	Online ads in key markets to inspire travel experiences afforded along our 60 miles of beaches.	\$753,893.68
Broadcast Media	Television	Inspire prospective guests to choose the area as their vacation selection.	Targeting consumers in more than 80 key markets through inspirational travel experiences afforded along our 60 miles of beaches.	\$243,191.51
Air Service Adv	Digital	Display ads and videos in non-stop air servicce markets to build awareness of nonstop flights to inspire audience segments to visit the destination.	Online ads complementing 30 TV markets and all non-stop air service markets. Remarketing ads tied to visitmyrtlebeach.com	\$121,595.76
Local Community Promotion	Various	Awareness of the individual communities that make up Horry County, their attributes and offerings including events, attractions and individual offerings to draw visitors to all areas of the county. Including Horry County Museum.	Develop and create specific community content to distribute across multiple media platforms. Content can include: videos, display, public relations, social media, direct mail as well as on VistMyrtleBeach.com	\$150,000
Campground Promotion	Various	Camping/RV advertising to drive business year-round, but especially during shoulder season.	Various means of distribution will be utilized including video, internet advertising, public relations, social media, direct mail as well as content deployment on VistMyrtleBeach.com	\$125,000
County Directed Expenditure	TBD	Advertising and Promotion to develop and increase overnight tourist attendance	Tourism advertising and promotion TBD	\$78,471.45
Total Planned Expenditure				1,569,429.00



Myrtle Beach

SOUTH CAROLINA

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!

Questions?