

# GALVESTON ISLAND, TEXAS

**G**alveston Island blends coastal charm, Victorian architecture, and incredible history with fresh Gulf seafood and Seawall strolls—here's the latest for your clients' next Texas getaway.

## WHAT'S NEW

- Cruise Boost: [Royal Caribbean's](#) \$125 million terminal powers the nation's fourth-busiest cruise port.
- Hotel Glow-Ups: [Grand Galvez](#), [The Tremont House](#), and [Hilton Galveston Island Resort](#) newly renovated.
- Restored Retreat: [The Mansard House](#), an adults-only stay, shines thanks to [Restoring Galveston's](#) Ashley and Michael Cordray.
- Bay [Queen Riverboat](#) paddlewheeler experience launches from the Historic Harbor, offering day cruises, happy hour sunset tours and private charters.
- The iconic [Tremont House Rooftop Bar](#) opens after a complete renovation, offering stunning unobstructed panoramic views from the ocean to the harbor.
- Awards abound, including a MICHELIN Key awarded to Luxury Bed & Breakfast [Carr Mansion](#) as well as a James Beard Award bestowed upon [Gaido's Seafood Restaurant](#), known for its fresh Gulf seafood and legendary dining status.
- Galveston Island featured: [Matador Network](#), the Guide to Adventure; entire episode of "Cheat Meal" television program; and episode of "PhotowalksTV with Jefferson Graham"

## COMING SOON

- [MSC Cruises](#) breaks ground on all-new \$150 million terminal at [Galveston Wharves](#) – cruises to set sail November 2025.
- More Cruise News: Disney Cruise Line to begin sailing from Galveston year-round in 2027
- [Battleship Texas](#), a veteran of WWI and WWII and the world's last surviving dreadnought battleship, will be permanently docked at Pier 15 after a complete transformation into a modern, compelling and technologically-advanced museum.





Moody Gardens



Scallywag Air



Bishop's Palace



The Bryan Museum



Trolley



Birding Paradise

# THINGS TO DO

Average Stay: 3 Nights

## FAMILY-FRIENDLY ATTRACTIONS

- Seek thrills and amusements at the [Galveston Island Historic Pleasure Pier](#) midway and [Schlitterbahn Waterpark](#).
- Discover 242 acres of nature, **marine life** and world class accommodations at [Moody Gardens](#).
- Hop aboard the U.S.'s only immersive [Rainforest Café](#) river adventure ride boating experience.
- Try hands-on learning at **20+ island museums**, including the [Galveston Children's Museum](#).

## CULINARY ADVENTURE

- Dive into Galveston Island's culinary landscape, featuring **fresh seafood**, Tex-Mex fare, southern comfort food and beyond.
- Experience **waterfront dining** with picturesque waterfront views of the Gulf of Mexico and [Galveston Historic Harbor](#).
- Sample local specialties, like seafood gumbo, seafood boils and popular Gulf oysters.
- Indulge in craft cocktails and sweet treats at the island's newest culinary spots: [The Fancy](#), [Sugar & Rye](#), [MarMo Café & Lounge](#) and [Vida Agave](#).

## HISTORICAL TREASURES

- Discover the island's stunning **architectural heritage**, from **Victorian mansions** and historic cemetery and **ghost tours** to historic homes like 1892 [Bishop's Palace](#) and [Moody Mansion](#).
- Explore historic museums like the [Galveston Naval Museum](#), [The Bryan Museum](#), [Galveston Historic Seaport Museum](#) featuring the 1877 Tall Ship [ELISSA](#) and more.

## LIVE MUSIC & THEMED ENTERTAINMENT

- Beach cowboys, hold on tight for mechanical bull riding and country western dancing at [Buckshot Saloon](#).
- Cast away to [Pineapple Parlor](#), the tiki speakeasy serving up exotic cocktails with whimsical island vibes.
- Sing along at [23rd St. Piano Bar](#) and get into the groove with live jazz at [The Steakhouse at The San Luis Resort](#).

## ARTS & CULTURE

- Discover the island's vibrant arts community through **galleries**, **museums** and live-entertainment venues.
- View local and regional artists' contemporary work at [Galveston Arts Center](#).
- Stroll the many art galleries of **Postoffice Street** in charming downtown.
- Catch live performances and **music festivals** showcasing diverse talents at [The Grand 1894 Opera House](#) and [Island East-End Theatre Company](#).

## BEACH GETAWAYS

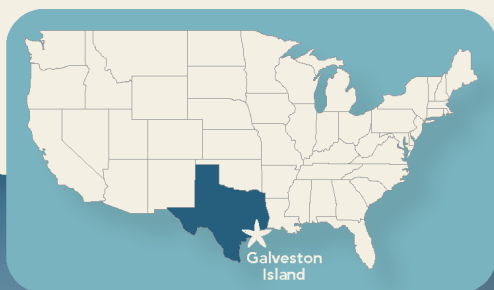
- Relax on Galveston's beautiful 32 miles of beaches, featuring warm Gulf waters with soft sand and rolling waves.
- Engage in **watersport activities** like [surfing](#), [stand-up paddleboarding \(SUP\)](#) and [kayaking](#). Enjoy many beachfront amenities, including **beachside dining**, live music and beach volleyball.
- Take in stunning **waterfront sunsets** and create lasting coastal memories.

## NATURE & WILDLIFE

- Experience the island's **diverse ecosystem**, including marshes, wetlands and coastal prairies.
- Spot migratory birds, dolphins, fish and many other wildlife by boat with a guided eco-tour from [Artist Boat](#).
- Book a **private fishing charter** to catch local Texas red snapper and tuna.
- Cruise Galveston Historic Harbor with [Baywatch Dolphin Tours](#) and discover the marine life native to **Southeast Texas**.

## FROM GALVESTON ISLAND

<b>IAH Airport</b> 71 miles	<b>Downtown Houston</b> 47 miles	<b>HOU Airport</b> 40 miles	<b>NASA</b> 32 miles
<b>Austin</b> 216 miles	<b>San Antonio</b> 250 miles	<b>Dallas</b> 289 miles	<b>Fort Worth</b> 312 miles
			<b>New Orleans</b> 369 miles



## LET'S CRUISE – PORT OF GALVESTON

- Galveston Island is home to the fourth-busiest cruise port in the United States, including six cruise lines: **Royal Caribbean**, **Norwegian**, **Disney**, **Princess**, **Carnival**, **MSC Cruises** (sailing November 2025) and **Regent Seven Seas Cruises** (sailing 2026)
- Royal Caribbean's new \$125 million terminal is home to some of the largest cruise ships in the cruise line's fleet. **Carnival Cruise Lines'** newest new-build ship in the fleet, Excel-class *Jubilee*, set sail from Galveston in December 2023.
- Avoid traffic delays and extend your cruise vacation by **arriving early – or staying late**. Take time to discover Galveston's beautiful natural resources, rich history and delectable fresh gulf seafood. The cruise terminal is just steps away from Galveston's **Historic Downtown District**.



## LUXURY TRAVEL

- Upscale **AAA-rated hotels**, including **Grand Galvez Hotel & Spa**, **The San Luis Resort**, **Moody Gardens Hotel** and **The Tremont House**. MICHELIN Key-awarded **Carr Mansion** takes the prize as bed and breakfast extraordinaire.
- Revel in luxury in one-of-five 800 square foot private bungalows at **The Villas** at the iconic San Luis Resort. Guests have the option to upgrade their travel arrangements and arrive via luxury helicopter, limousine or Bentley.
- Unwind at the luxurious **Grand Galvez Hotel and Spa** with a poolside cabana, spa treatments or lavish Sunday brunch.
- Galveston Island has more than 4,000 **vacation rentals** to choose from, including **multi-million-dollar homes** featuring beachfront views, sparkling swimming pools and gourmet kitchens with **private chefs** by request.



ARToberFEST



Dickens on The Strand



Mardi Gras! Galveston

## ANNUAL EVENTS

### SPRING

March - May

The Grand Kids Festival  
FeatherFest Birding and  
Nature Photography Festival  
Galveston Steampunk  
Festival  
RailFest: Model Train Rally  
Historic Homes Tour

#### AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

High 75° F | Low 65° F  
24° C | 18° C

### SUMMER

June - August

Sandcastle Lessons  
Galveston Island Revue  
Weekend  
Juneteenth Celebrations  
World Ocean Day  
July 4th Festivities

#### AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

High 85° F | Low 79° F  
29° C | 26° C

### FALL

September - November

Galveston Island Wine  
Festival  
AIA Sandcastle Competition  
Island Oktoberfest  
ARToberFEST  
Galveston Island Shrimp  
Festival  
Lone Star Motorcycle Rally

#### AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

High 78° F | Low 67° F  
26° C | 19° C

### WINTER

December - February

Holiday in the Gardens  
The Polar Express Train Ride  
Dickens on The Strand  
Holiday Performances at The  
Grand 1894 Opera House  
Galveston Museum Day  
Mardi Gras! Galveston

#### AVERAGE TEMPERATURES

High 62° F | Low 50° F  
17° C | 10° C

## RESOURCES & SUPPORT

TOP INTERNATIONAL MARKETS: CANADA, MEXICO & U.K.

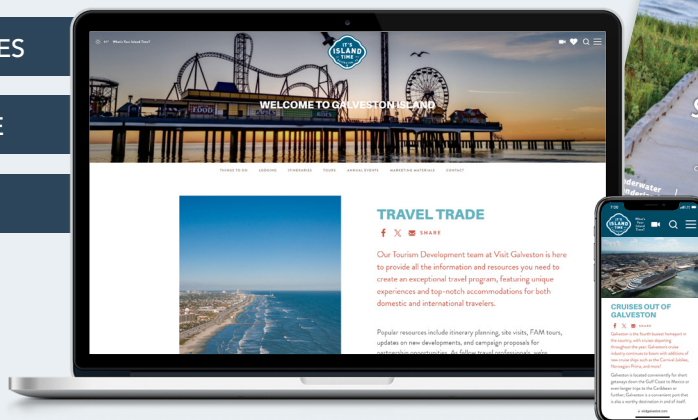
MARKETING TOOLS (IMAGE & VIDEO LIBRARY)

SPEAKING POINTS FOR TRAVEL PROFESSIONALS

GROUP WELCOME AMENITIES

STEP-ON GUIDES AVAILABLE

ITINERARY PLANNING



Visit  
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