ANNUAL EVENTS Beach Life 365



Events are added all the time. Check **VisitVirginiaBeach.com** for the latest updates. All events are subject to change.

January

WHALES & WILDLIFE: VIRGINIA AQUARIUM SEA ADVENTURE virginiaaquarium.com (757) 385-0300

RUDEE TOURS: WINTER WILDLIFE CRUISES rudeetours.com (757) 425-3400

February

POLAR PLUNGE polarplunge.com (757) 962-1575

VIRGINIA BEACH RESTAURANT WEEK dineinvb.com vbrestaurantweek.com (757) 422-4420

April

VIRGINIA ARTS FESTIVAL vafest.org (757) 282-2800

HISTORIC GARDEN WEEK TOUR vagardenweek.org

EAST COAST SHE CRAB SOUP CLASSIC beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF(7873) Nay ATLANTIC COAST KITE FESTIVAL beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF(7873)

BEACH MUSIC CRUISE-IN beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF(7873)

PIRATE PARTY ON THE BEACH beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF(7873)

VIRGINIA INTERNATIONAL PAN FESTIVAL beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF(7873)

NEPTUNE'S SPRING WINE TASTING neptunefestival.com (757) 498-0215

PUNGO STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL pungostrawberryfestival.info (757) 721-6001

SALUTE TO SUMMER beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF(7873)

MONSTERS ON THE BEACH beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF(7873)

June

PATRIOTIC FESTIVAL: A CELEBRATION OF OUR MILITARY patrioticfestival.com (757) 486-7744

BOARDWALK ART SHOW & FESTIVAL virginiamoca.org (757) 425-0000

NORTH AMERICAN SAND SOCCER CHAMPIONSHIPS sandsoccer.com (757) 368-4600

LATIN FEST beachstreetusa.com (757) 385 -SURF(7873) **YNOT WEDNESDAYS?** sandlercenter.org (757) 385-ARTS

SANDSTOCK: A TRIBUTE TO ROCK & ROLL beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF(7873)

July

FAMILY GREAT ADVENTURE SERIES beachstreetusa.com (757) 385 -SURF(7873)

STARS & STRIPES EXPLOSION beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF(7873)

CHALK THE WALK ARTSPLOSION beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF(7873)

YNOT WEDNESDAYS? sandlercenter.org (757) 385-ARTS

August

CANADA WEEKS VisitVirginiaBeach.com (888) 627-5243

EAST COAST SURFING CHAMPIONSHIP & BEACH SPORTS FESTIVAL surfecsc.com

FAMILY GREAT ADVENTURE SERIES beachstreetusa.com (757) 385 -SURF(7873)

FUNKFEST / AFRICANA beachstreetusa.com (757) 385 -SURF (7873)

YNOT WEDNESDAYS? sandlercenter.org (757) 385-ARTS

September

AMERICAN MUSIC FESTIVAL beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF(7873)

ARTISANS IN THE PARK vbgov.com (757) 385-2990

CANADA WEEKS VisitVirginiaBeach.com (888) 627-5243

NEPTUNE'S FALL WINE FESTIVAL neptunefestival.com (757) 498-0215

NEPTUNE FESTIVAL BOARDWALK WEEKEND neptunefestival.com (757) 498-0215

October

VB RESTAURANT WEEK dineinvb.com vbrestaurantweek.com (757) 422-4420

CANADA WEEKS VisitVirginiaBeach.com (888) 627-5243

COLUMBUS DAY SOCCER TOURNAMENT soccercomplex.org (757) 368-4600 beachfc.com (757) 689-2154

CRAFT BEER FESTIVAL beachstreetusa.com (757) 385 -SURF (7873)



HALLOWEEN TOWN & TREAT vabeachtowncenter.com (757) 385-2787

November

MCDONALD'S HOLIDAY LIGHTS ATTHE BEACH beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF (7873)

December

HOLIDAY PARADE ATTHE BEACH beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF (7873)

LAST NIGHT ON THE TOWN lastnightonthetown.com (757) 490-7812

MCDONALD'S HOLIDAY LIGHTS ATTHE BEACH beachstreetusa.com (757) 385-SURF (7873)

WHALES & WILDLIFE: VIRGINIA AQUARIUM SEA ADVENTURE virginiaaquarium.com (757) 385-0300

RUDEE TOURS: WINTER WILDLIFE CRUISES rudeetours.com (757) 425-3400



When you stay in Virginia Beach, all of Coastal Virginia is your oyster. That means you're just a short drive away from amazing family attractions and historic destinations that make your beach vacation one for the ages.

See Coastal Virginia listings on page 64-65 and online at VisitVirginiaBeach.com.

NEARBY NORFOLK

Virginia Beach shares more than a border with the neighboring harbor town of Norfolk; we share a love of the water and how it connects us to great adventures. As home to Naval Station Norfolk, the world's largest naval installation, Norfolk has a storied past and a vibrant local arts scene. Whether you're exploring walk-able downtown Norfolk's eclectic food scene and high-end shopping or taking advantage of cultural events and destinations like the Chrysler Museum of Art and Norfolk Botanical Gardens, you get the sense of a city that's constantly evolving. Ever-present is its nautical heritage, which you can explore on a visit to Nauticus and the Battleship Wisconsin or onboard a variety of river cruises. Sports lovers can root for the home team throughout the year as the Norfolk Tides take the diamond and Norfolk Admirals take the ice to enthusiastic crowds each season.



TIME TRAVEL & OTHER THRILLS

From Virginia Beach, you can travel over 400 years in just about an hour. No, not by supersonic light-speed highway, but on a day trip to experience another time in some of the nation's most historic settings. The settlers who first landed in Virginia Beach in 1607 traveled up the James River to create America's first permanent English colony in **Jamestown**. Today, you can walk through the reconstructed settlement to get an idea of what it took to survive during Pocahontas' time. In nearby **Colonial Williamsburg**, you'll experience the pre-Revolution America through a living history area that's world-renowned for authentic detail. Shopping and dining are just as charming, thanks to cobblestone streets, gracious hospitality and stylish goods inspired by colonial life.

Though there is a certain refinement to the colonial style, it's not all elegance and candlelight around here. Williamsburg is also known for delivering high adrenaline, fun-loving excitement, thanks to **Busch Gardens Williamsburg** and **Water Country USA**. Splashy rides, world-class roller coasters and entertaining shows bring the thrills all summer, while Busch Gardens' popular Howl-O-Scream and Christmas Town events offer familyfriendly reasons to visit after summer ends.



VIRGINIA'S EASTERN SHORE

How many times in your life will you experience one of the Wonders of the World? On a day trip to the Eastern Shore, you'll do it twice in one day when you cross the **Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel**, designated one of the Seven Engineering Wonders of the Modern World in 1965. You'll realize that the honor still holds up when you travel more than 17 miles of bridges and tunnels, descending below the waves and rising again to feel that you're driving in the middle of the ocean.

Once you reach the other side, you'll be treated to the rarified quiet of the **Eastern Shore** communities, where farm life and coastal life have conspired to keep tradition strong. Whether you only go as far as Cape Charles for small town charm, play a round of golf or travel north to where the wild ponies roam on Chincoteague Island, you'll discover how diverse Coastal Virginia can be.





CHILDREN'S MUSEUM OF VIRGINIA

Take a side trip for interactive play with the littlest ones on a visit to the **Children's Museum of Virginia** in nearby Portsmouth. Giant bubbles and being in charge of the wheels on the bus are favorite exhibits for the toddlers. The extensive antique toy and train collection is a major draw for kids of all ages.

WALLOPS ISLAND

You're fascinated by suborbital research programs, whether you know it or not. What you do know is that rockets are cool. **Wallops Island** on Virginia's Eastern Shore is where NASA regularly launches rockets that play a critical role in gathering data and testing technology for the scientific community. In addition to launch viewing opportunities, the NASA Wallops Island Visitor Center offers public programs to inspire and inform your inner space enthusiast.

MARINERS MUSEUM

Artifacts and vessels will have you dreaming of the high seas at the **Mariners Museum & Park** in Newport News. From a Titanic life vest to rare ship's figurehead carvings, the romantic lore of the sea is well represented here. Handcrafted ship models and full size small crafts keep it real with beautiful details and precision. Make it an authentic history trip by viewing the USS Monitor exhibition and traveling back to Virginia Beach by way of the Monitor-Merrimac Bridge Tunnel, crossing through the waters where the Civil War ironclad battle took place more than 150 years ago.