

# EVERY DAY A NEW DISCOVERY

# WALTON COUNTY'S BEST DINING, ENTERTAINMENT, SHOPPING & MORE DECRETATION COUNTY 2024

PERFECT IN WALTON COUNTY 2024

Perfect takes on many shapes and sizes. From cocktails, events and locally owned boutiques to restaurants, small shops, and outdoor adventures, perfect is a feeling that resonates in your heart.

Perfect is also a place, embodied by the diversity of the destination that is Walton County - from South Walton's 16 beach neighborhoods with sugar-white sand and turquoise water to the incredible historic treasures and pastoral landscapes beyond the Choctawhatchee Bay. But the heart of our Walton County communities are the people, places, and activities we celebrate.

The Perfect in Walton County Awards give locals and visitors a chance to shine a spotlight on their favorites.

From locally owned boutiques and art galleries to award-winning restaurants, one-of-a-kind events and talented musicians, Walton County is home to a variety of amazing experiences.

PerfectInWaltonCounty.com

WALTON COUNTY TOURISM





#### **DEFUNIAK SPRINGS IN 2023**





# 200 YEARS of preservation and tradition

With Walton County approaching its bicentennial year in 2024, there's no better time to reflect on the rich history of this incredible destination and how it has evolved over the years while staying true to the unique founding spirit.

It all starts with the sugar-white sand, of course. Over millions of years, particles of quartz weathered away from the Appalachian Mountains and were refined as they journeyed along rivers to the Gulf of Mexico. Here, they formed the substance of South Walton's stunning beaches – a true focal point of our local landscape.

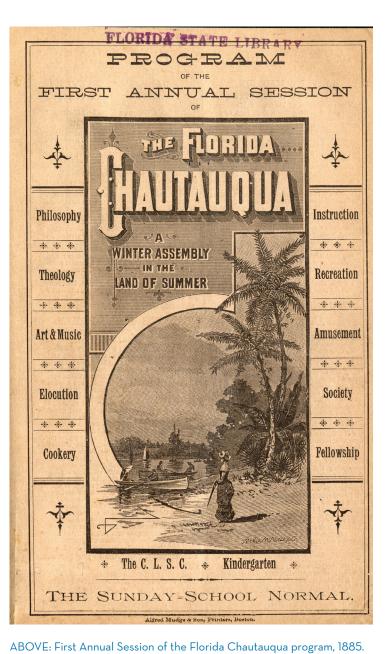
Though the surrounding communities have a much briefer history, they are marked by milestones that are just as worthy of celebrating as those grains of sand. From the earliest residents to the rise of New Urbanism, the incredible variety

of influences here is a big part of what makes this such a special area to live and visit. Walton County has benefited from the diverse traditions of the early Native Americans and Spanish, French and English settlers, among others. Elements of all these cultures are still reflected in our local municipalities today.

In the 1700s and 1800s, Native American tribes such as the Muscogee, Creek and Euchee Indians inhabited the surrounding land. Today, the Muscogee Nation of Walton County is based in the town of Bruce. This includes a historic schoolhouse that is filled with crafts and work of the tribe's elders.



ABOVE: Landing at Freeport on Fourmile Creek - Walton County, Fla. circa 1900. State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory. Located about one mile from LaGrange Bayou, three miles from Choctawhatchee Bay.



Walton County was officially founded on December 29, 1824. It was named for Col. George Walton Jr., son of a signer of the Declaration of Independence and secretary of the Florida Territory from 1821 to 1826. The area was originally comprised of more than 2,900 square miles that covered parts of Okaloosa, Washington and Holmes counties. The first census in 1830 tallied a head count of just 1,207 residents.

The county initially thrived north of the Choctawhatchee Bay. Since the early days, farming has remained one of the primary occupations of local residents. However, waterways and later railways continued to bring more development to the area.

Founded in 1880, DeFuniak Springs would become the county seat. Its historical presence - including the remnants of the community's original Chautauqua Assembly - is still on full display in the ornamental homes and buildings along Main Street and around Circle Drive.

Grayton Beach later became the first community established in South Walton. Named after Army Major Charles T. Gray, it was founded in the mid-188Os. Despite sustaining damage in the great hurricane of 1926, the beach neighborhood's largest home at the time (built in 1890) still remains standing today.



ABOVE: Loading timber on the Choctawhatchee Bay. 1928. State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory.

Beyond all its historical and cultural charm, Walton County is also home to natural elements that continue to stand the test of time. Explore preserved forests of scrub oaks and pines. Dive into crystal-clear, spring-fed swimming holes like Morrison Springs. Paddle across rare coastal dune lakes, only found elsewhere in far-flung locales such as New Zealand, Australia and Madagascar.

On the cusp of its 200th birthday, Walton County's present-day personality reflects equal parts adventure, refinement and beauty. Perhaps its most important ongoing legacy is the effect it has on so many lives – creating lasting memories for residents and visitors alike. It always feels new because there's never a shortage of things to see and experience. So, make it a point this coming year to discover something about this place you never knew existed. That's the best birthday gift you can give to a place that has offered so much.



ABOVE: Mansion at Eden Gardens - Point Washington, Fla. circa 1920. State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory. The mansion belonged to William Henry Wesley and Katie Strickland Wesley.

State Archives of Florida, Florida Memory. BELOW: Seventh hole green - DeFuniak Springs, Fla. circa 1920. State Archives



#### **BEST BOUTIQUE VACATION RENTAL COMPANY <50 UNITS**

# PERFECT ACCOMMODATIONS STAY AT 30A VACATION RENTALS, Diamond

Stay at 3OA Vacation Rentals, a premier vacation rentals boutique property management company, offers homeowners a truly exceptional experience.

With a commitment to excellence, we provide personalized care, meticulous property maintenance, innovative marketing strategies, transparent financial reporting, and a dedicated team that ensures your property is not just a house but a thriving investment. Join us today and discover the difference of partnering with Stay at 30A Vacation Rentals.

13123 E Emerald Coast Parkway Ste. B-118 (850) 329-5050 stayat30avacationrentals.com

# PERFECT ACCOMMODATIONS OVERSEE, Diamond

When people contact us regarding a vacation rental, they want real answers, from local pros. Knowing the details and sharing our expertise is what keeps this process smooth and worry-free.

Bring the whole family. Or if you just need a quick weekend getaway, we've got homes of every size, all along the beautiful 30A.

With complete dedication and transparency, we make things as perfect as possible during your stay. Forgot something? No worries. Have a question? Text us. We're at your service, our door is always open.

At Oversee, our family manages, your family unwinds.

1231 County Rd 283 S (888) 29O-3489 oversee.us



GRAYT 30A VACATIONS, INC., Platinum

316 S County Hwy 83, Unit D (844) 941-1213 grayt30avacations.com



4045 E County Hwy 30A (850) 586-2978 yourfriendatthebeach.com



**30A BEACH GIRLS,** Platinum

2048 W County Hwy 30A (850) 849-7455 30A-beachgirls.com



360 BLUE, Gold

790 N County Hwy 393, #3B (800) 554-9522 360blue.com

### **BEST RENTAL MANAGEMENT COMPANY >50 UNITS**

# **BEST HOTEL/RESORT**



#### PERFECT ACCOMMODATIONS

#### THE PEARL HOTEL, Diamond

Located in Rosemary Beach, The Pearl Hotel takes top honors as South Walton's "Best Hotel."

This 55-room boutique hotel has received praises near and far, being honored with a AAA Four Diamond rating, a Four Star rating from Forbes Travel Guide and a bevy of Reader's Choice honors from Conde Nast Traveler. Each room at The Pearl, an upscale retreat, offers its own private balcony with views of the Gulf of Mexico or the West Indiesinspired architecture of Rosemary Beach.

In addition to the award-winning on site restaurant, Havana Beach Bar & Grill, and the rooftop Havana Beach Rooftop Lounge, guests are within walking distance to a variety of local restaurants and boutiques.

63 Main St (850) 588-2881 thepearlrb.com



# **BEST ART GALLERY/STUDIO**

#### PERFECT ACTIVITY

#### THE BLUE GIRAFFE, Diamond

Need a dose of happy? You'll get it at The Blue Giraffe. This mother/daughter owned gallery has established itself over the past twelve years as the place to shop for gorgeous art and one-of-a-kind gifts. They are honored to represent many local and regional awardwinning artists who partner exclusively with them to showcase their special creations. If you need help choosing the perfect artwork for your home and you want it installed, they offer onsite Art Consulting services. They also love to be Personal Shoppers by helping you select unique and meaningful gifts. The Blue Giraffe's tagline is "Art & Gifts with Heart" and it is perfect for them.

13123 E Emerald Coast Pkwy, Ste E (850) 326-5939 bluegiraffe3Oa.com



WATERCOLOR INN & RESORT, Platinum

34 Goldenrod Cir (850) 534-5000 watercolorresort.com



#### HOTEL EFFIE, Gold

1 Grand Sandestin Blvd (850) 351-3000 hoteleffie.com



JUSTIN GAFFREY GALLERY, Platinum

21 Blue Gulf Dr (703) 380-1940 justingaffrey.com



& MODUS ART GALLERY, Gold

ESTELLE STUDIO: 902 Hwy 20, Ste 106 (850) 787-1020 estellestudioandgallery.com MODUS: 39 Logan Ln, Ste 9 (850) 714-7997 modusphotography.com

# **BEST EVENT**

# **BEST GOLF COURSE**



#### PERFECT ACTIVITY

#### **30A SONGWRITERS FESTIVAL,** Diamond

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Music helps keep the beat here in South Walton. In addition to nightly live performances, South Walton becomes the epicenter of music during the annual 3OA Songwriters Festival.

Some of the most recognizable singers and songwriters share their stories on the stages of South Walton's restaurants, music venues and bars. You'll see names like Tanya Tucker, Shawn Mullins and John Prine. The 3OA Songwriters Festival is a local favorite that also brings in thousands of visitors each year, earning it top honors for the Perfect Awards' "Best Event" category.

(850) 622-5970 30asongwritersfestival.com



#### PERFECT ACTIVITY

#### SANTA ROSA GOLF & BEACH CLUB, Diamond

Awarded Honorable Mention in Golf Inc. Magazine's "2022 Renovation of the Year" awards, Santa Rosa Golf & Beach Club has an impeccable 18hole championship golf course, an award-winning waterfront restaurant and a private beach and pool club to soak up the Florida sunshine all year long.

334 Golf Club Dr (850) 267-2229 santarosaclub.com



SOUTH WALTON BEACHES WINE AND FOOD FESTIVAL, Platinum

> (850) 837-3099 sowalwine.com



#### EMERALD COAST BLUE MARLIN CLASSIC

(850) 267-6365 fishecbc.com



#### CAMP CREEK GOLF CLUB, Platinum

684 Fazio Dr (850) 231-7601 watersoundclub.com



RAVEN GOLF CLUB, Gold

1199 Troon Dr N (850) 267-8155 sandestin.com

# **BEST KIDS ATTRACTION**

# **BEST NATURE LOCALE**

# <image>

#### PERFECT ACTIVITY

#### THE VILLAGE OF BAYTOWNE WHARF, Diamond

Located along the shores of the Choctawhatchee Bay in Northwest Florida, The Village of Baytowne Wharf features an array of boutiques, eateries, galleries and nightlife -- not to mention a jam-packed schedule of outdoor festivals and special events for the entire family. This spectacular setting, all within the gates of Sandestin Golf and Beach Resort, is the perfect spot to spend a vibrant afternoon, evening, week, vacation, or you can be one of the lucky few who frequently experiences Baytowne Wharf through home ownership.

9300 Baytowne Wharf Blvd (850) 267-8180 baytownewharf.com



#### **PERFECT ACTIVITY**

#### **GRAYTON BEACH STATE PARK,** Diamond

South Walton is home to four state parks and a state forest. Immersing yourself in nature is easy here. From hiking and biking to camping and enjoying the beach, there's no better spot than Grayton Beach State Park.

The nearly 2,000-acre park has a mile of sugar-white sand beach, four miles of hiking and biking trails, and a variety of cabins and campsites where you can enjoy a night under the stars, all while surrounded by scrub oaks and magnolias. The adjoining Western Lake offers plenty of recreational opportunities from kayaking and paddle boarding to fishing. Grayton Beach State Park was hailed as the "Best Beach in the U.S." by Dr. Stephen Leatherman, aka Dr. Beach, in 2020.

357 Main Park Rd (850) 267-8300 floridastateparks.org/graytonbeach



THE BIG CHILL, Platinum

24 Hub Ln (850) 213-0782 thebigchill.com



WILD SEA TURTLE WEDNESDAY/ SOUTH WALTON TURTLE WATCH, Gold

> 755 Grand Blvd, Ste B-105 (850) 865-4503 southwaltonturtlewatch.org



EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK, Platinum

181 Eden Gardens Rd (850) 267-8320 floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/ eden-gardens-state-park



TOPSAIL HILL PRESERVE STATE PARK, Gold

7525 W County Hwy 30A (850) 267-8330 floridastateparks.org/parks-and-trails/topsail-hillpreserve-state-park

## **BEST RETAILER**

# **BEST SHOPPING AREA**



#### PERFECT ACTIVITY

#### SHOP ON 30A, Diamond

Experience Seaside and Grayton Beach's Best-Kept Secret: your ultimate style and gift destination! Our locally owned women's and men's lifestyle boutique and gift shop caters to all age groups, offering a diverse range of styles and prices. Visit us on your vacation for a shopping experience like no other.

57 Uptown Grayton Cir (850) 231-0146 focusseaside.com



#### PERFECT ACTIVITY

#### **GRAND BOULEVARD,** *Diamond*

Grand Boulevard at Sandestin is a destination, and when you arrive, it's exactly where you want to be. Exclusive local boutiques and eateries along with nationally recognized brands line Grand Boulevard. The merging of nearby and nationwide sets the collection of retailers apart. The mixeduse property is home to more than 50 retail shops, 14 restaurants and eateries, as well as three hotels, a cinema and more than 30 professional offices. Here, you can shop, dine, play and stay. Since its beginnings in 2007, Grand Boulevard has been a place that vacationers and locals both frequent. For the parent ducking the sunlit beach to take kids to the movies, a business owner connecting with new clients over dinner or a solo shopper on a mission for the ideal gift, the destination works and works well.

585 Grand Blvd (850) 837-3099 grandboulevard.com



**INDIGO WATERCOLOR,** *Platinum* 

6 Watercolor Blvd S, Ste 101 (850) 534-0134 indigowatercolor.com



5 Main St, Ste 3A 12805 US Hwy 98, Ste S-101 (850) 231-0433 (850) 692-6884 wearwillow.com



121 Central Sq

(850) 231-6106

seasidefl.com



SILVER SANDS PREMIUM OUTLETS, Gold

10562 Emerald Coast Pkwy (850) 654-9771 premiumoutlets.com/outlet/silver-sands

# **BEST TENNIS FACILITY**

# **BEST BREAKFAST**

#### PERFECT ACTIVITY

#### **ROSEMARY BEACH RACQUET CLUB,** Diamond

Rosemary Beach is a tennis lover's paradise. Our staff is friendly, knowledgeable, and ready to assist you with great instruction, new equipment, and the latest in tennis fashion. We can even help you find a match! We maintain our eight clay courts in top condition, and four of them are lighted for evening play. Restroom and shower facilities are available on the premises, along with a viewing deck for observation of matches and tennis programs. We are open to the public. Call for rates and court availability!

235 E Water St (850) 278-2061 rosemarybeach.com/rosemary\_beach\_racquet\_ club.aspx



#### PERFECT FOOD & DRINKS DONUT HOLE, Diamond

Open for breakfast, lunch and dinner, the Donut Hole is a South Walton favorite. The eatery is known for scratch-made donuts, pastries, and pies, as well as a full menu of savory eats like omelets, pancakes, sandwiches, salads and burgers.

With a name like Donut Hole, you know the donuts are what bring in the crowds. From traditional glazed or raspberry-filled donuts to the red velvet, chocolate peanut butter and Dutch crumb varieties, there are endless opportunities to find a favorite. Donut Hole is also known for its key lime pies, which are made fresh daily.

Santa Rosa Beach: 6745 US Hwy 98 West (850) 267-3239

Inlet Beach: 12983 US Hwy 98 East (850) 213-3127



SANDESTIN TENNIS CENTER, Platinum

53 Bayside Tennis Ct (850) 267-7060 sandestin.com/things-to-do/tennis

WATERCOLOR TENNIS BY MATCHPOINT RESORTS, Gold

976 Western Lake Dr (850) 400-3696 matchpointresorts.com/watercolortennis



#### BLACK BEAR BREAD CO., Platinum

Grayton Beach:

. 26 Logan Ln, Unit G

(850) 213-4528

Miramar Beach: 325 Grand Blvd, Ste 100 2 (850) 706-1300 Seaside: 2311 County Hwy 30A (850) 738-6771



CRACKINGS, Gold

51 Uptown Grayton Cir (850) 231-7835 crackingsfl.com

# **BEST CASUAL DINING**

# **BEST COFFEE HOUSE**



#### **PERFECT FOOD & DRINKS**

#### SHUNK GULLEY OYSTER BAR, Diamond

Named after the legendary fishing reef off our coast, Shunk Gulley Oyster Bar is your favorite laid back seafood and casual fare restaurant on 30A, offering classic coastal cuisine and genuine southern hospitality. There is live music happening daily overlooking the Gulf of Mexico and a love for everything local here, as they bring only the freshest, locally caught and sourced seafood to their diners' plates.

Serving Shunk Gulley's signature bushwackers and the coldest local brews, they are known as the premier place to watch sports on 30A. Voted Best Casual Dining in South Walton four years in a row and voted Best Oysters and Best Grouper Sandwich on the Emerald Coast consecutively, you don't want to miss out on including this hot spot on your MUST DO List while on 30A.

1875 S Hwy 393 (850) 622-2733 shunkgulley.com



#### **PERFECT FOOD & DRINKS**

#### BLACK BEAR BREAD CO., Diamond

There's no better way to start your morning than a hot cup of Joe or a perfectly crafted iced coffee.

Black Bear Bread Co. is a neighborhood bakery, coffee shop and all-day seasonal café created by chef/proprietor Phil McDonald and proprietor Dave Rauschkolb. The eatery features fresh baked breads and pastries, as well as coffee from Stumptown Coffee Roasters.

Grand Boulevard: 325 Grand Blvd, Ste 100

Seaside: 2311 E County Hwy 30A (850) 738-6771

26 Logan Ln, Unit G (850) 213-4528

blackbearbreadco.com



THE BAY, Platinum

24215 US Hwy 331 S (850) 622-2291 baysouthwalton.com



24200 US Hwy 331 (850) 622-8110 northbeach.social



17 Uptown Grayton Cir (850) 231-3302

25 Central Sa

(850) 213-1965

AMAVIDA COFFEE ROASTERS. Gold

amavida.com

104 N Barrett Sg #1A

badasscoffee.com

1708 Scenic Gulf Dr

(850) 424-7804

(850) 213-1965

18

(850) 706-1300 Grayton Beach:

# **BEST CRAFT BEER/SPIRITS SELECTION**



#### **PERFECT FOOD & DRINKS**

#### GROWLER GARAGE 30A, Diamond

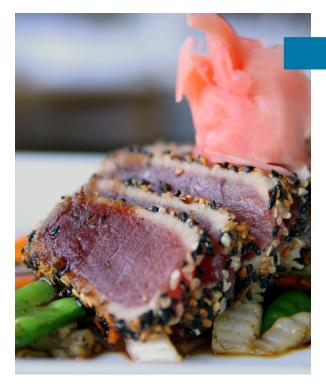
Located directly across the street from Ed Walline Regional Beach Access, with a beautiful Gulf view, Growler Garage offers 45 taps with craft beers and wine. Grab it to go for the beach or enjoy it on the outdoor patio!

Stop in and browse custom painted surfboards, guitars and motorcycles. Don't forget to pick out a branded growler- perfect for holding your favorite beer. Apparel and gift cards are available as well.

Visit Growler Garage 30A on Facebook or at GrowlerGarage30A.com for current beer selections and hours.

Cheers!

4368 W County Hwy 30A, Ste 101 (850) 660-1965 growlergarage30a.com



# **BEST FINE DINING**

#### PERFECT FOOD & DRINKS

#### CAFÉ THIRTY-A, Diamond

Café Thirty-A is a casual fine-dining restaurant in Seagrove, featuring a contemporary eclectic menu, fine wines, and exciting martinis. Known for fabulous food, impeccable service and gracious hospitality Café Thirty-A is a favorite in South Walton and has been consistently delicious since 1995. The restaurant is open daily for dinner at 4:30 and reservations are required.

3899 E County Hwy 30A (850) 231-2166 cafethirtya.com



IDYLL HOUNDS BREWING COMPANY, Platinum

845 Serenoa Rd (850) 231-1138 idyllhoundsbrewingcompany.com

#### THE CRAFT BAR, Gold

655 Grand Blvd (850) 608-6226 thecraftbarfl.com/grand-boulevard



THE VUE ON 30A, Platinum

4801 W County Hwy 30A (850) 267-2305 vueon30a.net



#### SEAGAR'S PRIME STEAKS & SEAFOOD, Gold

4000 S Sandestin Blvd (850) 622-1500 seagars.com

# **BEST HAPPY HOUR**

# **BEST LUNCH**



#### **PERFECT FOOD & DRINKS**

#### HURRICANE OYSTER BAR & GRILL, Diamond

The name says it all! This funky, Grayton Beach joint is the self-proclaimed "Pearl of 30A." Their menu has everything the storm blew in. For starters, try the Fried Oyster Nachos topped with Chipotle Creme and Pico de Gallo. Then, travel around the globe at Hurricane Oyster Bar with their raw oyster options, including Mexican, Japanese, German or the World Tour - all of the above!

37 Logan Ln (850) 231-0787 hurricaneoyster.com



#### **PERFECT FOOD & DRINKS**

#### CHANTICLEER EATERY, Diamond

The motto at Chanticleer Eatery is "Food Worth Crowing About," and the voters in the annual Perfect in Walton County awards couldn't agree more, as the Grayton Beach restaurant took home top honors in the "Best Lunch" category. With locally made art lining the wall, as well as indoor and outdoor seating, this casual eatery is the perfect place to grab lunch. In fact, their lunch menu is available from 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Start off with the triple pork nachos, Chanticleer caprese or creole crab claws to warm up your taste buds before diving into any number of fresh salads, jambalaya, shrimp and grits, the "Not Yo' Mama's Chicken & Rice" or the roasted veggie pasta. And don't forget one of Chanticleer's famous cookies on your way out.

55 Clayton Ln (850) 213-9065 chanticleereatery.com



#### **GREAT SOUTHERN CAFE,** *Platinum*

83 Central Sq (850) 231-7327 thegreatsoutherncafe.com



#### 2260 W County Hwy 30A (850) 744-0040 bluemabel.com



SHUNK GULLEY OYSTER BAR, Platinum

1875 S County Hwy 393 (850) 622-2733 shunkgulley.com



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SOUTH OF PHILLY 30A, Gold

1598 S County Hwy 393 (850) 622-1055 southofphilly30a.com

## **BEST PERSONAL CHEF/CATERING SERVICE**

# **BEST SWEET TREATS**



#### **PERFECT FOOD & DRINKS**

#### **GRAYTON BEACH CATERING AND EVENTS,** Diamond

From wedding ceremonies and receptions, to small family beach boils and bonfires, we can make your next big event or relaxing night on the beach one to remember.

We are conveniently located in Grayton Beach, Fla., and can cater events anywhere along Scenic Highway 30A or anywhere in South Walton or the surrounding areas.

Owned by Cheri and her son, Donald, Grayton Beach Catering and Events is a company that specializes in catering, weddings, beach boils, and all kinds of other great food and events.

2303 US Hwy 98 W, Ste B (850) 231-1090 gbcevents.com

#### **PERFECT FOOD & DRINKS**

#### BLUE MOUNTAIN BAKERY, Diamond

Blue Mountain Bakery is located on Highway 30A right in Blue Mountain Beach. The bakery is known for its high quality and delicious baked goods as well as breakfast and lunch menu items. Eighty-five percent of the ingredients they use are certified organic and they offer a variety of gluten-free options to choose from. Whether you need a breakfast frittata, cupcakes for a birthday, or a gorgeous wedding cake, Blue Mountain Bakery is your one-stop local shop.

2217 W County Hwy 30A, Ste E (850) 267-0400 bluemountainbakery.com



SWIFTLY CATERED, Platinum

90 Wrm Cir #10 (850) 972-0850 swiftlycatered.com



116 MC Davis Blvd. Ste 104 (850) 502-7406 bluemagnoliacatering.com



**PECAN JACK'S ICE CREAMERY** AND CANDY KITCHEN, Platinum

4368 W Co Hwy 30A 4771 E County Hwy 30A (850) 622-0011

pecanjacks.com

(850) 622-0011



SWEET HENRIETTA'S. Gold

170 Serenoa Rd (850) 420-4566 sweethenriettas.com

# **BEST WINE SELECTION**



#### **PERFECT FOOD & DRINKS**

#### WINE BAR/WINE WORLD, Diamond

Enjoy casual fine dining at The Wine Bar featuring chef-prepared dishes paired with the most awarded wine list on the Emerald Coast. Browse the impressive selection of wine, gifts, and gourmet foods available to take home from Wine World. Two locations in South Walton: Grand Boulevard and WaterColor.

1735 E County Hwy 3OA (850) 231-1323 thewinebar.com

# **BEST BEACH/EVENT SERVICES PROVIDER**



#### PERFECT SERVICES

#### LA DOLCE VITA, Diamond

#### Looking for family fun and adventure?

At La Dolce Vita, we offer daily and weekly beach chair and bicycle rentals for the 3OA, Sandestin, and Miramar Beach areas.

We also offer half-day or full-day kayak and standup paddle board rentals for exploring the beautiful Gulf of Mexico and half hour or hourly Jetski and pontoon rentals.

Give us a call or book online to enhance your beach vacation experience!

(850) 424-6444 Idvbeach.com



VIN'TIJ FOOD & WINE, Platinum

500 Grand Blvd (850) 650-9820 vintij.com



SEAGARS PRIME STEAKS & SEAFOOD, Gold

> 4000 S Sandestin Blvd (850) 622-1500 seagars.com



**30A BLAZE BEACH BONFIRES,** Platinum

(850) 733-0302 30ablaze.com



**30A BEACH BOYZ, Gold** 

(850) 849-2888 30abeachboyz.com

# **BEST FISHING CHARTER**



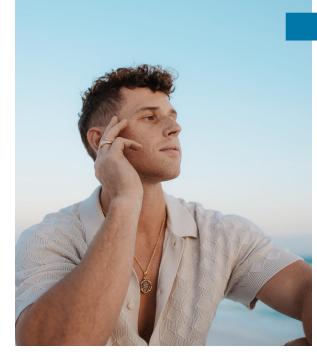
#### **PERFECT SERVICES**

#### REEL 30A, Diamond

Reel 30A specializes in surf fishing, so there's no need to hop on a charter boat, as the team will outfit you and your friends or family with all the equipment you need to reel in the big one at a convenient location. A variety of packages are available to suit your needs, from three-day packages to two-hour private lessons. No matter how you choose to fish, Reel 30A will help make your visit to South Walton memorable.

(850) 687-6063 reel30a.com

# **BEST LOCAL MUSICIAN/BAND**



#### **PERFECT SERVICES**

#### JARED HERZOG, Diamond

Jared Herzog is a 25 year-old born and raised local artist to the area. You can find him playing all of your favorite music up and down the coast of Florida and beyond!

jaredherzogmusic.live



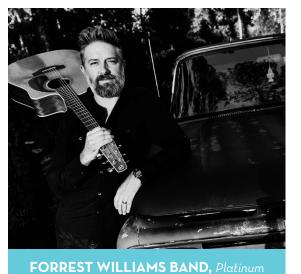
FLORIDA BOY ADVENTURES, Platinum

(850) 499-4473 floridaboyadventures.com



CHOCTAWHATCHEE BAY FISHING CHARTERS, Gold

(850) 543-8303 choctawhatcheebayfishingcharters.com



facebook.com/theforrestwilliamsband forrestwilliamsband.com



DREAD CLAMPITT, Gold

facebook.com/dreadclampittband

# **BEST OUTDOOR ACTIVITY COMPANY**

# **BEST PHOTOGRAPHER**



#### PERFECT SERVICES

#### YOLO BOARD + BIKE, Diamond

If adventure is on your mind, look no further than YOLO Board, a brand born in South Walton. From standup paddleboards to bikes, both pedal-powered and electric, YOLO has become synonymous with outdoor adventure in South Walton. You can paddle along the coastal dune lakes or on the Gulf of Mexico, or you can grab a bike and pedal your way through more than 200 miles of hiking and biking trails in the state parks, state forest or along the Timpoochee Trail. The YOLO brand breathes outdoor adventure and South Walton is the perfect place to enjoy that lifestyle.

11610 US Hwy 98 W (850) 424-6852 yoloboard.com



#### **PERFECT SERVICES**

#### MODUS PHOTOGRAPHY, Diamond

Modus Photo gallery in Grayton Beach is excited to feature the recently launched Chandler Williams Fine Art Collection. The local landscape art gallery that offers custom prints to custom framing now offers limited fine art photographs for the collectors.

Book your appointment today or stop by!

39 Logan Ln, Ste #9 (850) 714-7997 modusphotography.com



**30A BLAZE BEACH BONFIRES,** Platinum

(850) 733-0302 30ablaze.com



#### **30A BEACH BOYZ,** Gold

274 Serenoa Rd (850) 849-2888 30abeachboyz.com



#### MOON CREEK STUDIOS, Platinum

1414 Co Rd 283 S (850) 231-0102 mooncreek.com



SARAH LYNN PHOTOGRAPHY, Gold

(801) 857-5148 photographybysarahlynn.com

## **BEST SPA/SALON**

# **BEST LIVE MUSIC VENUE**



#### PERFECT SERVICES

#### SERENITY BY THE SEA SPA, Diamond

Pamper yourself in style at the Serenity by the sea Spa, located within the Hilton Sandestin Beach Golf Resort & Spa.

If you're looking to relax while on vacation, spend quality time with your bridal party or just need a little pick me up after a long week, the staff at Serenity by the sea Spa has just what the doctor ordered. Treat yourself to a variety of spa services, such as massages, a full-service salon, pedicures or a facial. Serenity by the sea has been recognized by both USA Today's "10 Best" and Conde Nast Traveler, so you know the services are top notch. Find your perfect way to relax at South Walton's "Best Spa."

4000 S Sandestin Blvd (850) 622-9595 serenitybytheseaspa.com



#### **PERFECT VENUES**

#### THE RED BAR, Diamond

If you love tapping your toes along with some of South Walton's most beloved musicians, a stop at The Red Bar in Grayton Beach is a must. This funky hangout is just as well known for its live music scene as it is for its funky décor and laid-back vibe. The Red Bar Jazz Band plays Tuesday through Saturday from 5:30-9 p.m. Dread Clampitt takes the stage each Sunday, playing two sets that showcase their bluegrass, jazz, and rock 'n' roll influences.

Visiting in the summer? Don't miss DJ Vladi, who has been a staple of The Red Bar stage for years. No matter when you're here, great tunes are never hard to find at The Red Bar.

70 Hotz Ave (850) 231-1008 theredbar.com



SPA PEARL, Platinum

63 Main St (850) 460-9041 thepearlrb.com



#### LOVE SALON 30A, Gold

29 Village Blvd, B1O2 274 Serenoa Rd, Ste 1-D (850) 583-0639 (850) 583-0639 lovesalons.us



NORTH BEACH SOCIAL, Platinum

24200 US Hwy 3315 (850) 622-8110 northbeach.com



AJ'S GRAYTON BEACH, Gold

63 DeFuniak St (850) 231-4102 ajsgrayton.com

## **BEST MEETING/CONFERENCE SPACE**

## **BEST WEDDING VENUE**

#### **PERFECT VENUES**

#### HILTON SANDESTIN BEACH GOLF RESORT AND SPA, Diamond



For meetings that surround attendees with luxury and indulgence not often experienced during business travel, the Hilton Sandestin Beach truly has it all. In addition to being the largest full-service beachfront resort hotel along Northwest Florida's Gulf Coast - with 590 guest accommodations - the Hilton Sandestin Beach boasts spacious meeting and banquet facilities with more than 40,700 square feet of meeting space. Thanks to a \$35 million renovation, you can now enjoy expanded deck areas overlooking the Gulf's sugar-white sand beaches and emerald-green waters, a new beachside restaurant and bar, remodeled meeting spaces and amenities, and much more. In fact, there's so much to discover, you'll need more than one meeting to experience it all.

4000 S Sandestin Blvd (850) 267-9500 hiltonsandestinbeach.com



#### **PERFECT VENUES**

#### THE CHAPEL AT SEASIDE, Diamond

Designed by architect Scott Merrill, The Chapel at Seaside has served as an architectural landmark in the Seaside community for almost 20 years. The 68foot bell tower marks the highest point in Seaside and serves as a beacon of spiritual unity throughout the community.

Over the years it has become a highly sought-after venue for destination weddings. Identified as one of the South's Most Beautiful Chapels by "Southern Living" magazine, the simple sophistication of the Chapel's interior makes the perfect backdrop for timeless memories.

582 Forest St (850) 633-3392 thechapelatseaside.com



#### HOTEL EFFIE SANDESTIN, Platinum

1 Grand Sandestin Blvd (833) 873-3343 hoteleffie.com



(850) 267-8888 sandestin.com



4801 W County Hwy 30A (850) 267-2305 vueon30a.net



WATERCOLOR INN & RESORT, Gold

34 Goldenrod Cir (850) 534-5000 watercolorresort.com



# WALTON COUNTY TOURISM





#### A BETTER BEACH EXPERIENCE

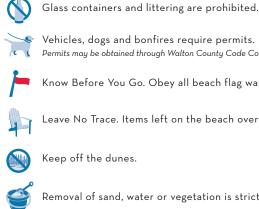
Walton County Tourism is committed to protecting all our beachgoers -

from tourists to turtles. In the past year, we spent almost \$4 million on beach improvements and maintained a program that pays for more than 50 lifeguards. We also sent nearly 7.3 million texts last year on surf conditions from marine pests to dangerous rip currents. Learn more to improve your next visit.



#### Beach Safety in South Walton

For a complete guide on Walton County's beach rules, visit **BeachSafety.com** 

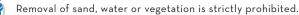


Vehicles, dogs and bonfires require permits. Permits may be obtained through Walton County Code Compliance, (850) 622-0000.



Leave No Trace. Items left on the beach overnight will be discarded.

Keep off the dunes.



Sea turtle nesting season is May 1 through October 31. you find an injured, sick or dead sea turtle, or to report someone disturbing a sea turtle nest, please call the Walton County Sheriff's Office, (850) 267-2000.



# **KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**

#### TEXT SAFETY TO 31279 FOR SURF CONDITIONS

# **BEACH FLAGS**



**DOUBLE RED FLAGS** WATER CLOSED TO PUBLIC\*



**RED FLAG-** HIGH HAZARD High Surf and/or Strong Currents



YELLOW FLAG- MEDIUM HAZARD Moderate Surf and/or Currents



**GREEN FLAG-** LOW HAZARD Calm Conditions, Exercise Caution



**PURPLE FLAG-** STINGING MARINE LIFE Man O' War, Jellyfish, Stingrays

\*Entering the Gulf during double red flag conditions can result in a \$500 fine and criminal charges.

