

RELOCATION GUIDE TO

NORTHEAST FLORIDA



2025
FIRST COAST
relocation guide™

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



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- Edwards Creek EstatesOne-Acre Homesites
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- Sandy Pointe Preserve.....From the \$600s..... 904-829-5041
- Sandy Ridge.....From the \$500s.....904-491-1955
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- Creekside.....Coming Soon.....904-491-1955
- Buckhead.....Coming Soon.....904-237-5844

Build on Your Lot.....904-333-0934





Welcome to the First Coast Relocation Guide™!



We are thrilled that you have decided to call the First Coast home! For more than two decades, this guide has helped introduce newcomers such as yourself to the area. With this relocation guide, you hold a wide range of resources to help you acquaint yourself with your new home. The First Coast is by far the best place to Live, Work and Play. The area is filled with benefits for everyone. We have beautiful weather year-round, gorgeous beaches and highly rated healthcare facilities, among the many other aspects that the First Coast has to offer. Over the years, our area has seen great growth in population, with people relocating from all over. With that in mind, the First Coast has worked hard to expand work opportunities, neighborhoods and healthcare options to keep up with the demand. It's not all work here though.

The First Coast hosts a number of events throughout the year. Between the multiple sports teams, annual events, concerts, shows and several other entertainment opportunities, residents have the chance to experience all sorts of fun on the First Coast.

In the Live section, you will find information on the numerous neighborhoods and master-planned communities, broken down by county, to help you find the perfect neighborhood. The five counties on the First Coast are Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns. Potential renters will find a comprehensive apartment living section with information on the current market. Pet owners can find information on local dog parks, pet-friendly beaches and adoptions in our pet section.

The Work section highlights the First Coast's foremost industries, including information technology, logistics and distribution, healthcare and finance. We also highlight the area's top employers. In this section, you will find information on transportation options and all major roads and highways in the area. The First Coast is also notable for its strong military presence. Many active-duty military and veterans call the area home. Naval Station Mayport is home to the Navy's Fourth Fleet and the third-largest naval surface fleet concentration area in the nation. Naval Air Station Jacksonville is the largest navy base in the Southeast region.

Having fun on the First Coast is a breeze! With our Play section, residents can find a myriad of different ways to spend their free time. Catch a show at one of the many theaters or cheer on one of the local sports teams. For those who want to spend time in the great outdoors, the First Coast is made up of miles of coastline and has the largest urban park system in the nation. The First Coast is also home to diverse dining options that range from charming cafes to five-star restaurants.

We are so excited that you have chosen the First Coast as your home! We hope the *First Coast Relocation Guide™* helps you discover everything that makes the First Coast such an amazing place to Live, Work and Play!



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



RON DESANTIS
GOVERNOR

Dear Friends:

Welcome to Northeast Florida! First Lady Casey DeSantis and I are glad you have chosen the Sunshine State as your home. We are confident you and your family will enjoy the natural beauty and charm that make Florida's First Coast unique.

Over the past three years we have seen so many Americans choose to move to Florida because they know that when so many other states were locking people down, in Florida we lifted people up. In Florida, your children have a right to go to school in person, your individual liberties are protected, our environment is thriving, and our law enforcement have our support to keep you safe.

During my time as Governor, we have invested millions to raise the minimum K-12 teacher salary and we have increased salaries for veteran teachers and other instructional personnel, ensuring that we can recruit and retain top teacher talent. During the 2020-2021 school year, every kid in Florida had access to in-person education. To thank Florida's educators who showed up for their students, we also provided \$1,000 bonuses to all teachers and principals in the state. I also signed the Parents' Bill of Rights, which gives parents the vested authority to make decisions about their children's education, upbringing, and health.

We are also keeping your communities safe in Florida by supporting our law enforcement officers and first responders. The Combatting Public Disorder Act, which I signed into law, makes it clear that rioting and civil unrest will not be tolerated in Florida. I also gave \$1,000 bonuses to our law enforcement officers and first responders to thank them for getting out and going to work every day because you can't keep communities safe on Zoom. In the upcoming Legislative Session, we are planning to pass a police recruitment bill to bring more law enforcement officers to Florida.

Florida has no income tax and the lowest per-capita tax burden of any state in the nation, our economy continues to outperform the rest of the country, we continue to invest in our infrastructure, and we have invested more than any administration in history in the conservation of our beautiful environment. We're glad you're here. Welcome to the Sunshine State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ron DeSantis".

Ron DeSantis
Governor

From the Editor



Nights of Lights, photo courtesy of FloridaHistoricCoast.com

Welcome to the First Coast! I feel so fortunate to live in Northeast Florida, and I hope you will too. Encompassing Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns counties, the First Coast has everything residents could ever want in a hometown. Here, you'll find gorgeous beaches, rural farmlands, quiet suburbs and trendy urban areas. Over the years I have seen this beloved region grow into a leading destination for business, healthcare, sports, entertainment, shopping, dining and more. With so many newcomers relocating here, residential and commercial developments continue to pop up all over the First Coast.

The first thing you may notice about Northeast Florida is just how vast it is. With so many different neighborhoods here, there is always something new to discover, even for a longtime resident like me. Whether you are looking for a day out with the family or a night on the town, there is something for everyone.

The First Coast is the ultimate playground. If you love to enjoy the great outdoors like I do, there are plenty of places to hike, camp, fish and simply get some fresh air. Visit one of our many local nature centers or preserves for a chance to get up close and personal with native wildlife and plants. Jacksonville also boasts the largest urban park system in the entire country.

With 22 miles of beaches, there are endless opportunities to soak up the sun and feel the sand between your toes in Nassau, Duval and St. Johns counties.

One of my favorite spots on the First Coast is the historic city of St. Augustine. Bursting with history, St. Augustine is known as the "Nation's Oldest City." It features iconic Spanish colonial architecture, charming cobblestone streets, historical landmarks and museums.

There is no shortage of great food here on the First Coast! With everything from hole-in-the-wall eateries to elegant bistros, First Coast restaurants are always serving up delectable dishes. If you're a seafood lover like me, you'll delight in the abundance of fresh Mayport shrimp this coastal region has to offer.

Whenever I need some retail therapy, Jacksonville's premier outdoor mall, the St. Johns Town Center, fits the bill. In St. Johns County, the ever-expanding Pavilion at Durbin Park is on its way to becoming the largest shopping destination in Northeast Florida. I also love the many one-of-a-kind shops and boutiques throughout the First Coast in neighborhoods such as San Marco, Avondale, Riverside, Fernandina Beach, Ponte Vedra Beach and St. Augustine.

The First Coast also has many opportunities to have fun as a family! Catch a sporting event or concert in downtown Jacksonville. Get up close and personal with exotic animals at the Jacksonville Zoo or Catty Shack. Visit the Museum of Science and History and learn about the coastal creatures of Northeast Florida.

Even though the First Coast has transformed so much over the years, it still has a welcoming small-town atmosphere. Friendly neighbors and tight-knit communities make our region the best place to settle down.

I am so excited to call you my neighbor!

Monica Fields

Lead Editor



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

DONNA DEEGAN
MAYOR

CITY HALL SUITE 400
117 W. DUVAL STREET
JACKSONVILLE, FL 32202

Dear Neighbor,

As Mayor of Jacksonville, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our incredible city. Whether you're arriving for new opportunities, a fresh start, or to enjoy our unparalleled quality of life, I'm confident you'll find Jacksonville to be a community unlike any other.

Spanning over 840 square miles, Jacksonville is the largest city by land mass in the contiguous United States. But what truly makes us special is the energy, diversity, and spirit of our people. With the majestic St. Johns River winding through our heart and over 22 miles of pristine beaches, our natural beauty is second to none. Our urban parks system, the largest in the country, offers endless opportunities for outdoor recreation, from hiking and kayaking to family picnics under live oaks.



We're a city on the rise – a hub of innovation, growth, and creativity. Jacksonville is home to a booming fintech sector, renowned healthcare facilities, and a flourishing arts and culture scene. Sports enthusiasts can enjoy professional teams like the Jacksonville Jaguars, Jumbo Shrimp baseball, and our vibrant college athletics. Plus, our investments in infrastructure, riverfront revitalization, and small business support ensure Jacksonville remains an exciting place to live, work, and play.

Jacksonville is also a city that honors its roots. With three major military installations and a proud history of service, we are one of the nation's most military- and veteran-friendly communities. Our neighborhoods reflect this spirit – welcoming, resilient, and full of character – making it an ideal place for families, professionals, and retirees alike.

As you explore this guide and get to know our city, I hope you'll discover the same sense of belonging and possibility that we cherish here. It's an honor to serve as your mayor, and I welcome you to be part of our community. Together, we'll keep building a brighter future for Jacksonville – and for you.

Welcome home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Donna Deegan".

Donna Deegan
Mayor

10 Reasons Why We Love Living on The First Coast!

There is no doubt that the First Coast is the best place to Live, Work and Play! With the largest city by area in the nation, the Jacksonville and Northeast Florida area has a friendly, small-town feel with big-city advantages. Our community continues to attract young professionals, families and retirees alike. Here are just a few of the many reasons why we love the First Coast!



1

Seven Pines, photo by Monica Fields

Friendly Neighborhoods

The First Coast has a wide selection of neighborhoods, each with its own unique characteristics. Whether you are looking for a luxury apartment, rural farmhouse, coastal cottage, historic bungalow, a new build in a planned community or a downtown loft, your new home awaits you. The neighborhoods here offer a variety of styles for all budgets. For a list of our First Coast neighborhoods, flip to page 14.

FSCJ Downtown Campus, photo courtesy of FSCJ



2

Extraordinary Education

Parents on the First Coast can find a variety of education options for their children with our many award-winning schools. The First Coast offers public, private, charter and magnet schools, as well as schools for learning differences. Institutions of higher education such as Jacksonville University, Florida State College at Jacksonville, University of North Florida and Flagler College are also located here. On page 52, you'll find more information on First Coast education.

Baptist MD Anderson, photo courtesy of Baptist Health



Exceptional Healthcare

The First Coast is one of the top destinations in the nation for healthcare, with some of the best providers and hospitals here in our own backyard. One of three Mayo Clinics and an MD Anderson Cancer Center, as well as Ascension St. Vincent's, Baptist Health and UF Health all call the First Coast home. Residents also have access to top-notch children's healthcare with Nemours Children's Health and Wolfson Children's Hospital. For more information on healthcare, visit page 68.

Vibrant Seniors

The First Coast is home to a vivacious senior community, and it is no wonder why! The area is bursting with active adult and retirement communities that offer the best in resort-style living. Seniors here also enjoy our many senior centers, programs and events. For more reasons why the First Coast is a wonderful place for seniors, visit page 75.

Photo by Monica Fields



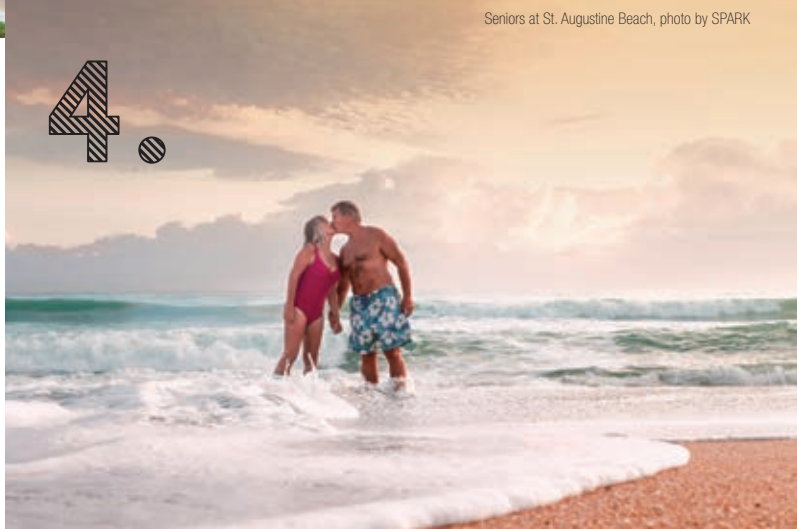
5

Bustling Business

The First Coast is home to three Fortune 500 companies and 150 national, regional and divisional company headquarters. Whether you are interested in a career in information technology, logistics, finance, healthcare or the military, the First Coast is a great place to work and do business. Go to page 79 to find out more about First Coast businesses.



NS Mayport, photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Brandon J. Vinson



Seniors at St. Augustine Beach, photo by SPARK

Mighty Military

The robust military presence on the First Coast has a significant impact on the region by employing active-duty, reserve and civilian men and women. The First Coast is home to Naval Air Station Jacksonville, the largest Navy base in the Southeast. Naval Station Mayport is north of Atlantic Beach and home to the Navy's Fourth Fleet. In Southeast Georgia, Kings Bay Naval Submarine Base is about 45 minutes from Jacksonville. Camp Blanding Joint Training Center and Marine Corps Blount Island Command are also on the First Coast. Turn to page 93 for more information on our military.

7.

Beautiful Beaches

Did you know that the First Coast has more than 1,100 miles of shoreline and 22 miles of beaches? Water lovers here enjoy the many opportunities to surf, swim or kayak. With more than 60 species of fish, the waterways are a fisherman's dream come true. Our beaches are the perfect spot for a relaxing day and fun in the sun. To find the perfect beach near you, visit page 104.



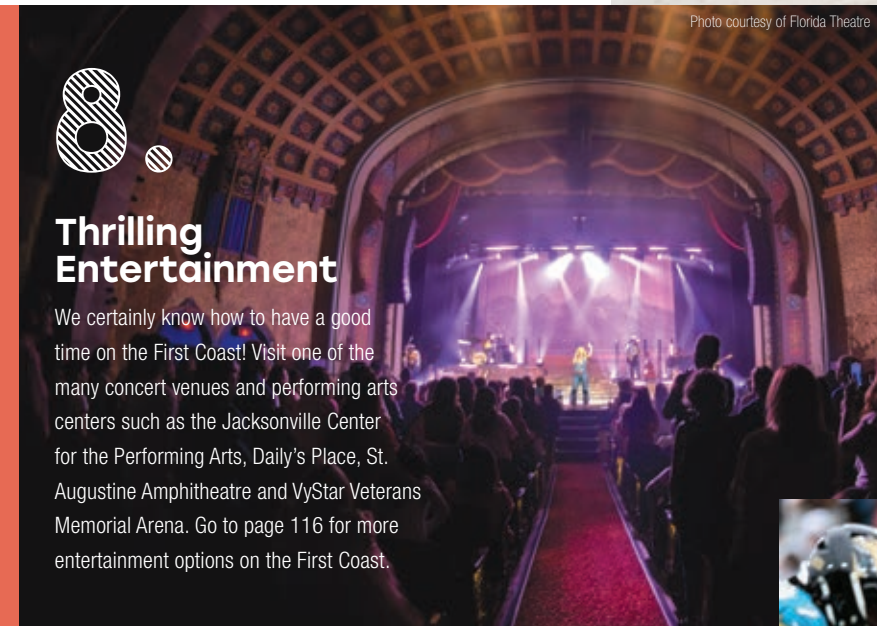
Amelia Island, photo by CycleHere Media

8.

Thrilling Entertainment

We certainly know how to have a good time on the First Coast! Visit one of the many concert venues and performing arts centers such as the Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts, Daily's Place, St. Augustine Amphitheatre and VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena. Go to page 116 for more entertainment options on the First Coast.

Photo courtesy of Florida Theatre



9.

Year-Round Sports

Here on the First Coast, we enjoy sports all year round! Head over to EverBank Stadium to cheer on the Jacksonville Jaguars. At the VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, you can catch a Jacksonville Icemen hockey game and may even get to meet their mascot, Fang! Grab some popcorn and enjoy a Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp baseball game at the VyStar Ballpark. Other annual sports events on the First Coast include THE PLAYERS Championship, the Florida-Georgia game and the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl. See our Sports section on page 121 for all the great teams in our area.



Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Jaguars

10.

Splendid Shopping

The First Coast has a wide variety of options for shoppers. As a premier shopping destination, the St. Johns Town Center has more than 175 retailers. For unique, upscale and trendy boutiques check out our historic neighborhoods and beach communities. Flip to our shopping section on page 127 for more information.



St. Johns Town Center, photo by Monica Fields

We put together this publication to be your go-to guide for discovering the First Coast. We love calling this place home and are excited for you to explore your new home and city. Soon you'll also see why the First Coast is the best place to Live, Work and Play!

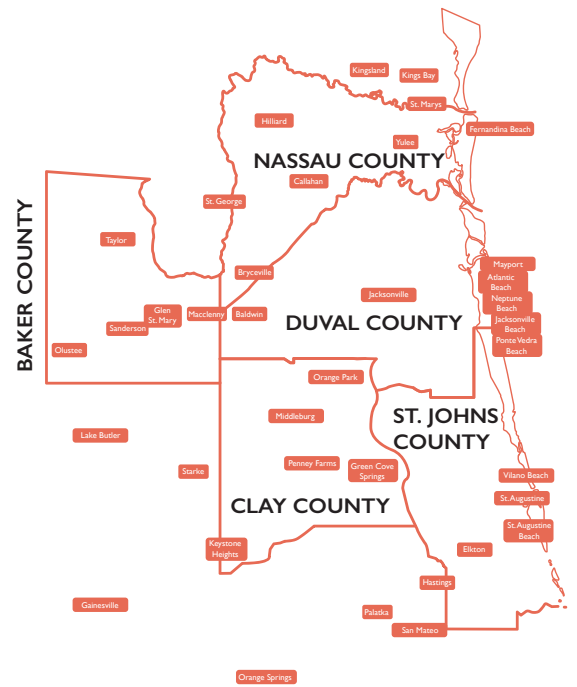


Live

In the Live Section, you'll find all the essential information for day-to-day living on the First Coast.

Home Sweet Home: First Coast Neighborhoods

The First Coast is blessed with a wide variety of neighborhoods and communities for newcomers to choose from. Whether you're on the hunt for a house in the country, a beachside cottage, a new home in a master-planned community, a charming historic home or a high-rise condominium in downtown Jacksonville, the First Coast has it all!



To help you become more familiar with this expansive region, we have put together descriptions of each neighborhood within the five First Coast counties: Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau and St. Johns.





BAKER COUNTY

Those who call Baker County home enjoy the area's charming country atmosphere in addition to the perks of being near the city. Downtown Jacksonville is a quick 30-minute drive, giving residents the ability to easily commute into town. Florida's natural beauty is preserved here through the county's lush woodlands and swamps that give residents endless opportunities to explore the outdoors.



Estimated
Population:
29,882 (2025)*



Area:
589 square miles

*Source: Office of Economic and Demographic Research

GLEN ST. MARY/MACCLENNY

If country life is calling your name, **Glen St. Mary** and **Macclenny** could be the perfect places to call home. Whether you are looking for a single-family home, gated community or even a property with sprawling acreage, Glen St. Mary is an idyllic town. The city of Macclenny stands as the county seat of Baker County. The city has a population of about 7,300 residents and is 35 miles from Jacksonville and six miles from the Georgia border. This city provides residents with subdivisions that offer single-family homes, apartment complexes and townhomes.



Olustee Battlefield - Historic State Park, photo by CycleHere Media



Doctors Lake, photo by Diana Ferguson

CLAY COUNTY

Southwest of Jacksonville and west of historic St. Augustine, Clay County is a diverse mixture of suburban neighborhoods and up-and-coming communities. The area is a popular destination for nature lovers due to its scenic trails, immense wildlife and bountiful waterways.



Estimated
Population:
237,339 (2025)*



Area:
644 square miles

*Source: Office of Economic and Demographic Research

FLEMING ISLAND

This thriving community continues to attract newcomers year after year. **Fleming Island** is home to major housing developments, including Eagle Harbor, Fleming Island Plantation and Pace Island.

Residents also enjoy access to a bustling commercial area filled with shopping centers, entertainment and restaurants. Black Creek Park, located on the south side of Fleming Island, borders Black Creek, and is full of nature trails for both hikers and bikers.

GREEN COVE SPRINGS

Originally established in 1854 as White Sulfur Springs, **Green Cove Springs** is a friendly city filled with rich history. Many historic homes can be found along the St. Johns River. Recently, the city has seen new

housing developments pop up as the population grows.

Granary Park is a new 290-acre master-planned community in Green Cove Springs that consists of 771 single-family homesites. Located among green farmlands and rolling hills, the family-friendly community offers residents a variety of high-end amenities including a resort-inspired clubhouse, an oasis-style pool and a fitness studio.

Governors Park will be a new 3,300-acre master-planned community in Green Cove Springs from south Florida-based developer BTI Partners. The developer plans to build 4,000 single-family homes and 2,000 multi-family units, as well as an 18-hole golf course. The first



Fleming Island Plantation, photo by Diana Ferguson



Green Cove Springs City Hall building, photo by Diana Ferguson

phase, known as Governors Park South, will consist of 401 homes across 235 acres.

Hyland Trail in Green Cove Springs is a new 750-acre master-planned community with approximately 1,500 residential single-family homesites. The neighborhood offers its residents access to a wide range of amenities, such as a clubhouse, fitness center, resort-style pool, playground, multipurpose athletic field, pickleball courts, nature trails and more.

Located near Lake Asbury, **Lakes at Bella Lago** offers 370 single-family homes with scenic views and modern designs. The stunning new lakeside community is ideal for families and individuals alike. Residents can enjoy the community's resort-style pool, clubhouse, walking trails and playground.

KEYSTONE HEIGHTS

The lakeside city of **Keystone Heights** is full of old-town charm. Prospective residents will find tree-lined streets, cozy cottages, single-family homes and plenty of undeveloped land in this area located in the southwest corner of Clay County.

OAKLEAF PLANTATION

Oakleaf Plantation is a 6,400-acre family-oriented planned community with multiple village-style subdivisions situated in Clay County, with a small area falling into Duval County. The plantation offers newcomers single- and multi-family homes, luxury condominiums and apartments.

ORANGE PARK

Located in the northeastern section of Clay County, **Orange Park** offers all the advantages of big city living with a small-town pace of life. Housing options include everything from waterfront estates along the St. Johns River and Doctors Lake to new developments inland. The town is home to a variety of shopping areas, fine dining and live entertainment. Residents also have close access to I-295 and NAS Jacksonville.

MIDDLEBURG

Located near Black Creek in central Clay County, **Middleburg** has rapidly grown into a charming suburb that still retains its country roots. Residents have many housing options, including single-family homes and apartments.

“Fleming Island was named the No. 4 best Florida suburb to buy a house in 2024, according to Niche.”

Penney Farms, photo courtesy of Explore Clay



River Road Orange Park, photo courtesy of Explore Clay

Homes in Green Cove Springs, photo by Annaleasa Winter





DUVAL COUNTY

From a bustling downtown to quiet suburbs, Duval County has an abundance of neighborhoods for everyone. Since the county is so vast (Jacksonville being the largest city by area in the contiguous U.S.), we divided it into four sections: Beaches, North, South and West.



Estimated
Population:
1,043,160 (2025)*



Area:
918 square miles

*Source: Office of Economic and Demographic Research

DUVAL-BEACHES

The Beaches area is a vibrant yet laid back community and popular spot for newcomers. It encompasses Atlantic Beach, Neptune Beach, Jacksonville Beach and Mayport. **Atlantic Beach** is mainly a residential area filled with single-family homes. Residents here can take advantage of the numerous walking and biking trails, as well as community parks and many outdoor events throughout the year. **Neptune Beach** is the smallest beach community in Duval County, covering only 2.5 square miles. It has a tranquil feel with quiet subdivisions full of charming bungalows.

Jacksonville Beach is a vibrant community filled with trendy shops and restaurants as well as some of the best nightlife and entertainment the First Coast has to offer. Potential residents can choose from single-family homes, beachfront condos, apartments and more. Known for its delicious shrimp, the fishing village of **Mayport** is one of the oldest in the nation. Mayport is located just north of Atlantic Beach and has a variety of single-family homes and apartments. Many residents of Mayport are military personnel and civilians who work at Naval Station Mayport.



Jacksonville Beach, photo by Felix Mizionnikov, courtesy of Shutterstock



Homes in North Jacksonville, photo by Ramunas Bruzas, courtesy of Shutterstock

DUVAL-NORTH

ARLINGTON/FORT CAROLINE

First settled by Europeans in 1564, the **Arlington/Fort Caroline** area is rich in history. The area is bordered by the St. Johns River to the west and north, the Intracoastal Waterway to the east and finally Atlantic Boulevard to the south. The area offers single- and multi-family homes, condominiums, townhomes, waterfront properties and even homes in picturesque golf communities.

NORTHSIDE/OCEANWAY

The **Northside** consists of neighborhoods north of downtown Jacksonville as well as undeveloped land above the St. Johns River. This area offers quick access to the Jacksonville International Airport, the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens and River City Marketplace—a bustling retail area with various stores and restaurants. **Oceanway** stretches from U.S. 1 to the Atlantic Ocean and then moves to the Duval/Nassau County line through the Trout River and St. Johns River. These neighborhoods offer townhomes, apartment complexes and many housing developments.



Jacksonville Beach, photo by CycleHere Media

Tidewater is a new community on Jacksonville's Northside that offers homes surrounded by large oak trees and stunning water views. Homes here feature coastal, craftsman, vernacular and farmhouse architectural styles. Amenities include a basketball court, resort-style pool, playground and fitness center.

“Jacksonville is the 4th fastest growing city in the country, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.”

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San Marco, photo by Kevin Winkler Photography, courtesy of Shutterstock



DUVAL-SOUTH

INTRACOASTAL WEST

The **Intracoastal West** neighborhood is located west of the Intracoastal Waterway and north of John Turner Butler Boulevard (JTB), along Kernan Boulevard. Choose from apartments, condominiums, subdivisions and retirement communities, all nestled along the Intracoastal. The area offers nearby shopping and restaurants, as well as access to the Intracoastal Waterway.

The master-planned community **Tamaya** is nestled between the city and the sea. It offers homes with Tuscan, Mediterranean and Spanish architectural styles. To learn more about Tamaya, please see page 22.

MANDARIN

Mandarin is a historic neighborhood located in the southern part of Jacksonville. Once the home of famous author Harriet Beecher Stowe,

this area was named for the major crop of the area: Mandarin oranges. The two smaller neighborhoods of **Beauclerc** and **San Jose** border Mandarin. Beauclerc has a variety of brick and rambler homes with some two-story contemporary floorplans. San Jose has many homes built in the 1950s and 1960s, but also has some recent developments.

SAN MARCO

Just south of downtown Jacksonville's Southbank lies the popular historic neighborhood of **San Marco**. This area has unique boutiques, coffee shops, restaurants, art galleries, trendy cocktail bars and breweries. In the center of San Marco is the beautiful tree-lined San Marco Square, home to the Three Lions Fountain sculpture. The neighborhood offers apartments, townhouses, small bungalows, riverfront mansions and condos.

SOUTHSIDE/BAYMEADOWS

Those looking for the largest variety of housing choices should consider the **Southside/Baymeadows** area, which has single-family homes, luxury apartments, condominiums, townhomes and gated communities. There are many options for shopping and dining, including the Avenues Mall, located in the heart of the area. There are also corporate office parks, retail centers and various residential communities.

Located near I-295 and Butler Boulevard, **Seven Pines** is a new master-planned community that spans 1,000 acres. For more information see page 23.

The master-planned community, **eTown**, is located off 9B in southern Duval County. This neighborhood offers single-family homes, townhomes, apartments and many retail spots. With a focus on eco-friendly living, eTown homes are designed with sustainability and energy efficiency in mind. Recharge, the community's five-acre amenity center, includes a resort-style pool with zero entry, adjoining lap pool, high-tech fitness center with an outdoor yoga lawn, rooftop patio, playground, event lawn and a dog park. For those looking to catch some waves, eTown is planning to build a new surf park powered by wave-generating technology that is expected to open in late 2027.

From the developers of Nocatee and eTown, **EverRange** is a new master-planned community coming to southeast Duval County. For more information see page 23.

TOWN CENTER

The ever-expanding area around the St. Johns Town Center is home to many luxury apartments, townhomes and condominiums. Residents in this neighborhood are within walking distance to the best shopping Jacksonville has to offer. The area also has exciting entertainment and amazing restaurants. With the University of North Florida down the road, many college students choose to call this area home.

DUVAL-WEST

DOWNTOWN

Those looking for metropolitan living can find lofts, townhomes and riverfront condominiums in **Downtown**. Many loft apartments are found in renovated buildings dating back to the early 1920s. Residents living Downtown are within walking distance to several bars, nightclubs and restaurants. Downtown is also the epicenter for entertainment, business and culture on the First Coast, with public art, museums, festivals, concerts and sporting events.

RIVERSIDE/AVONDALE

The **Riverside/Avondale** neighborhoods are full of vibrant



Avondale, photo by Lynne Neuman, courtesy of Shutterstock



Historic Riverside building, photo by Lynne Neuman, courtesy of Shutterstock

“**Jacksonville has been named one of the top 10 best cities for veterans by *Newsweek*.**”

culture and historic charm. Strolling through the neighborhoods, residents will find a mix of restaurants, cafes, boutiques, antique shops, art galleries, nightclubs and bars. Many of the homes on the area's tree-lined streets have been restored to keep original architecture. Riverside/Avondale has brick quadruplexes and duplexes as well as large historic homes and small bungalows.

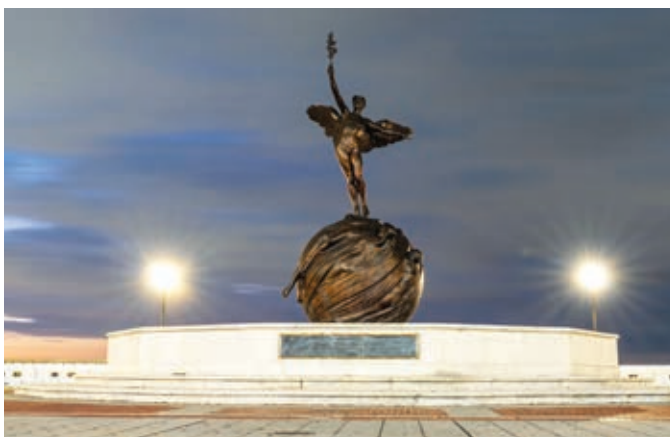
SPRINGFIELD

Founded in 1869, **Springfield** is the city's oldest neighborhood. This diverse community has been undergoing much revitalization, with many mansions and bungalows being restored to their former glory. The

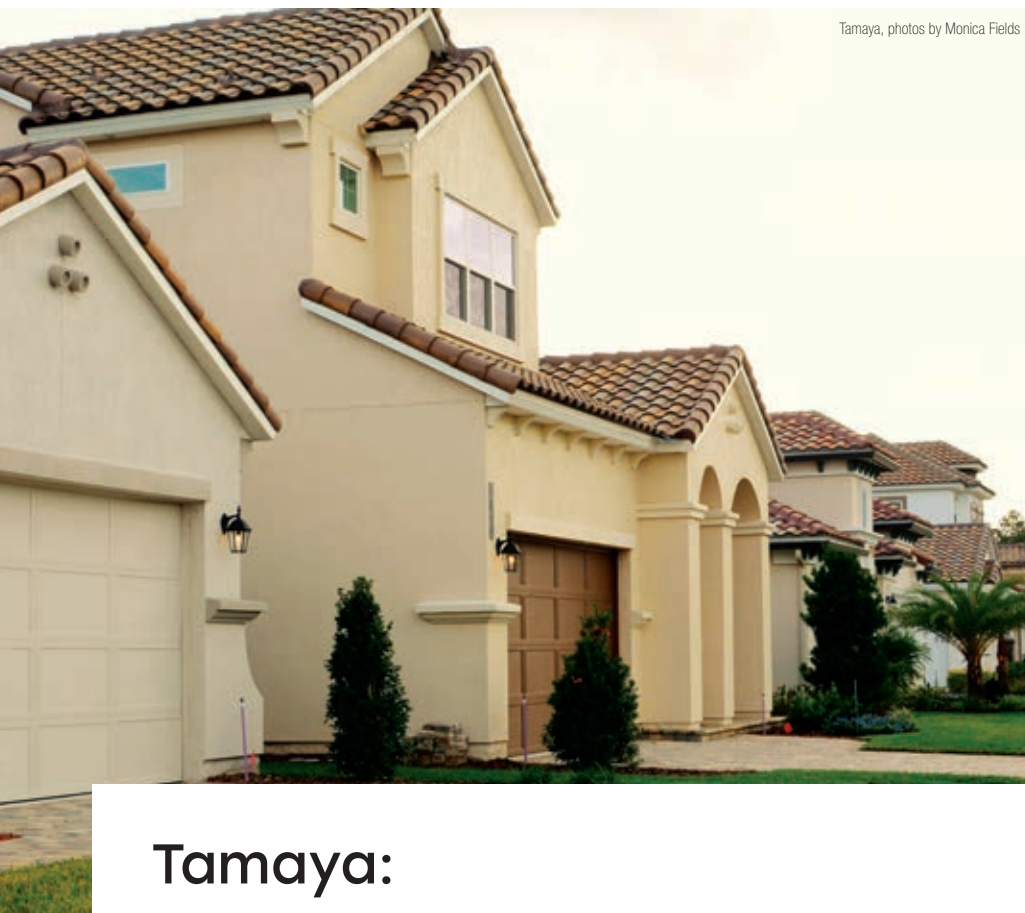
area has many locally owned stores, coffee shops, restaurants and public art.

WESTSIDE

Tudor-style homes, wooden framed houses and waterfront mansions can be found on Jacksonville's **Westside**. This area is made up of smaller communities including Baldwin, Maxville, Marietta, Whitehouse and Normandy. The historic Ortega neighborhood is south of Riverside and filled with historic homes, peaceful parks and ancient live oak trees. Many residents of the Westside are military personnel due to the proximity of Naval Air Station Jacksonville.



Memorial Park in Riverside, photo by Frame Craft 8, courtesy of Shutterstock



Tamaya: A Paradise Between the City and the Sea

Ideally located between the bustling city and the relaxing sea, Tamaya is a premier master-planned community from ICI Homes. You will find this gated community in Jacksonville's quaint Intracoastal neighborhood on Beach Boulevard nestled between Kernan and Hodges boulevards. Potential homebuyers can choose from lakefront or conservation homes.

The community offers everything newcomers and residents alike could ever want in a neighborhood. You'll find great shopping, restaurants, fine dining, entertainment and more right in your own backyard. It's a quick drive to Mayo Clinic, six miles from Jacksonville Beach and close to top-rated schools.

It is also close to highways such as JTB and I-295, making commuting a breeze.

Tamaya has many opportunities for residents to enjoy time outdoors. In addition to its lush landscaping, Tamaya offers walking and hiking paths, picturesque lakes and much more. Located nearby is the University of North Florida, which offers many walking paths and trails as well. Tamaya's 10,000-square-foot Resident's Club also gives residents a place to unwind and relax. Its cabana and lounge chairs make for the perfect spot

for get-togethers and parties. Residents can also enjoy two resort-style pools: an exquisite zero-entry pool and a competition-style pool with lap lanes.

The community also has a 5,000-square-foot fitness center equipped with treadmills, ellipticals and weight machines. The Har-Tru tennis courts, basketball court, playground and event lawn allow for endless activities. Additional amenities include a cigar club that boasts sculptured wooden ceiling beams, luxury seating, windows that provide a breathtaking view of the community and top-of-the-line furnishings.

Residents enjoy the ease of access to stores with the Tamaya Market right outside the neighborhood. The shopping center is home to Sprouts, an organic and health food grocery store, Shipley Do-Nuts, the DRIPBaR health spa, and Green Papaya Thai and Sushi. Tamaya Market also has a bank, a golf cart store, a bubble tea shop and plans to grow with more businesses in the future.

The homes available in Tamaya range from 1,800 to 4,000-plus square feet and begin in the upper \$500s. The community's builder, ICI Homes, brings the perfect combination of Tuscan, Mediterranean and Spanish architectural styles together for a unique, exclusive community. The Point at Tamaya is a luxury apartment complex offering spacious one-, two- and three-bedroom options. Grand Living at Tamaya is a senior living community that has independent living, assisted living and memory care.

Tamaya offers so much when looking to choose a new neighborhood. Whether you are looking for entertainment, shopping, a trip to the beach or excellent schools, Tamaya is the perfect place for you to call home. These custom-built homes and state-of-the-art amenities make Tamaya a great place for families to grow on the First Coast.

When you discover Tamaya, you will see that this piece of paradise is a true gem nestled between the city and the sea.



Seven Pines: Closer to Nature

Built on the land of a former timber farm, Seven Pines is an idyllic community where residents can enjoy the beauty of nature. Spanning 1,000 acres, this peaceful haven is home to majestic trees, peaceful parks and glistening lakes.

The Seven Pines name derives from the seven Skinner sons who inherited their family's land. The Skinner family owned about 50,000 acres on the southside of Jacksonville, which they used for various purposes. Eventually the land became a place for family celebrations, hunting expeditions and simply spending time with one another. Seven Pines looks to continue that legacy of gathering with this new neighborhood. Many homes in Seven Pines feature front porches to foster neighborly connections. Here, neighbors can build a strong sense of community.



Seven Pines, photo by Monica Fields

Centrally located near I-295 and Butler Boulevard, Seven Pines allows easy access to major shopping centers, beaches, downtown Jacksonville and the airport. The community will offer 1,600 single-family homes, apartments and commercial and retail space once fully complete. Homes in Seven Pines are masterfully built by ICI Homes and David Weekley Homes. For those looking to rent, Woodside at Seven Pines offers luxury studio, one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments and townhomes.

Residents have exclusive access to a 34-acre park with a beautiful lake. Residents are also able to use canoes and kayaks provided by the community. Outdoor lovers can enjoy walking and biking

trails circling the lake. Other amenities include a 7,900-square-foot clubhouse, fitness center, community pools, parks, playgrounds and more.

Seven Pines will soon be home to a village center, filled with shops, restaurants and even a farmer's market. The village center will also be home to exciting social gatherings such as concerts, happy hours and s'mores roasts over the fire pit.

Seven Pines has even been named one of the top five master-planned communities in the nation by the National Association of Home Builders, and it is no wonder why. When you live in Seven Pines there are endless opportunities to make memories and find adventure.



Photo courtesy of Unsplash

EverRange: The Laid-back Lifestyle

EverRange is an upcoming master-planned community in southeast Duval County from the developers of Nocatee and eTown, PARC Group. Spanning roughly 1,000 acres, the master site plan shows approximately 1,500 residences, including more than 1,100 residential homes and almost 300 apartments. Nestled between Nocatee and eTown off of US 1/Philips Highway, the community will have a "charming rustic modern ambience."

Plans for The Grove at EverRange, the community's amenity center, include a welcome center, North House Pavilion, Lakeside Pavilion, family pool with lap lanes and a multipurpose lawn. Residents will also have access to a playground, eight pickleball courts with shelters, dog parks and a fishing pond. While future plans include EverRange's own town center, it will also be connected seamlessly to The Exchange at eTown, offering a world of shopping, dining and entertainment options.

Residents can enjoy the Old Florida charm of rustling palms and fragrant pines, with 50 percent of the property remaining untouched. A collection of parks will allow for child-friendly retreats, yoga sessions, picnics or simply unwinding among the local flora and fauna. For those who want to explore, the shaded nature trails will allow you to develop a deeper connection with the land. There will also be EV trails winding throughout the neighborhood, allowing a convenient and eco-conscious way to explore the beauty of EverRange.

With builders Toll Brothers and Dream Finders already announced, PARC Group anticipates construction on neighborhoods to begin in the second half of 2025 and the first ones to open in 2026.

At EverRange, you can trade the big city life for a "more laid-back suburban dream and an unhurried pace."



NORTHEAST FLORIDA ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

Welcome To The First Coast

As the voice of real estate for the region, the Northeast Florida Association of REALTORS® (NEFAR) is delighted to welcome you to the First Coast. We know you won't be sorry about your decision to relocate to this area of the Sunshine State. Our region offers many miles of sandy beaches within a vast six-county area that is divided by a mighty river and anchored by the rapidly growing urban landscape of Jacksonville, Florida's largest city and the largest metropolitan area – land-wise – in the nation.

When you live in Northeast Florida, you reside in a place many consider to be a vacation paradise. “Why go somewhere when you already are somewhere?” people often say after moving to the region. Along with warm temperatures and sunny skies, our region is a world-class destination when it comes to eclectic museums, world-renowned street art, freshwater and saltwater fishing, surfing, coastal and ethnic cuisine, craft breweries, and sports abound, both professional and recreational. Jacksonville is home to the NFL's Jaguars while nearby Ponte Vedra is the hometown for both PGA golf and the world tour headquarters of the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP).

Surrounding Jacksonville's urban landscape, which includes the largest park system in the United States, are several colleges and universities as well as the headquarters of some of the nation's top companies. With a strong economy and an increasing foreign business presence, employment opportunities abound. Northeast Florida is also a hub for the healthcare, finance, and insurance industries as well as a military center that employs 17,000 active-duty personnel and civilians. Residents from regions throughout the United States are lured to Northeast Florida due to its affordability, low property taxes, and the absence of a state income tax.

Yes, when it comes to housing, Northeast Florida has it all – oceanfront mansions, waterfront cottages, country-club communities, quaint historic homes, riverfront high-rises, and oceanfront condominiums, all with the latest technological advances.

As a newcomer to Florida's First Coast, we suggest you utilize the expertise of a REALTOR®, and that is where the Northeast Florida Association of REALTORS® can help. With our membership of over 12,000 real estate professionals, it is easy to find a housing specialist with proficiency, negotiation skills, connections, ethics, and sales experience to assist you in finding your dream home. To view thousands of properties currently for sale or rent, please visit us at www.NEFAR.realtor.

So, welcome to the neighborhood, and let our REALTORS® help you as you make yourself at home.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Glenn East".

William Glenn East
Chief Executive Officer
Northeast Florida Association of REALTORS®

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The Northeast Florida Association of Realtors is the region's largest professional association, representing more than 12,000 members who work in all facets of the real estate industry including residential and commercial sales and property management. It serves the public through support of community affairs programs and seeks to protect private property rights. The Northeast Florida Multiple Listing Service is a wholly owned subsidiary of NEFAR. NEFAR is headquartered in Jacksonville, with satellite Service Centers in Orange Park, Jacksonville Beach, and Palatka.

Home in Fernandina Beach, photo by Pipas Imagery, courtesy of Shutterstock



NASSAU COUNTY

Beautiful coastlines, top-rated schools and new neighborhood options in stunning communities are many of the reasons Nassau County is one of the fastest-growing counties in the nation. As the eastern gateway to Florida, the county is full of friendly neighbors, unique shops and various restaurants. The many neighborhoods here are close to beaches, meadows, rivers and farms, making this a great home for everyone.



Estimated
Population:
99,151 (2025)*



Area:
726 square miles

*Source: Office of Economic and Demographic Research



Fairbanks House, photo courtesy of Ameliainland.com

AMELIA ISLAND/ FERNANDINA BEACH

Amelia Island is a popular vacation spot known for its golf courses, luxury resorts and stunning beaches. A quick 30-minute drive from Jacksonville, Amelia Island is the northernmost barrier island in Florida and is located on the Georgia border. This beautiful 13.5-mile island is rich in history with eight national flags having flown over the island, giving it the nickname of the Isle of Eight Flags.

Residents can enjoy easy living in many desirable neighborhoods and communities in **Fernandina Beach**, including a visit to the oldest saloon in Florida. Whether you are looking for a sprawling estate, cozy home or large piece of land, this city offers living options for all wants and needs.

Amelia National is a master-planned golf community in Fernandina Beach with luxury and resort-style amenities. Residents have access to an 18-hole Tom Fazio golf course as well as a state-of-the-art fitness center with spa, pool, a new lighted tennis court facility and a French provincial-style country club.

CALLAHAN

The rural town of **Callahan** is located in southwestern Nassau County. Those looking to relocate here will find multiple options, including spacious properties, single-family homes or a home in a subdivision. With numerous outdoor activities available for residents, many spend time hiking, fishing, biking or enjoying local golf courses.

HILLIARD

Hilliard is a quaint, family-oriented town in northwestern Nassau County known for its aviation, timber and agricultural industries. Housing options include single-family homes and apartments. Purchasing undeveloped land is also an option for those looking to build a custom home.

YULEE

The growing community of **Yulee** is west of Amelia Island and the Intracoastal Waterway in the largest unincorporated area of Nassau County. It consists primarily of residential options with planned communities, waterfront properties, apartments and condominiums.

“Amelia Island was voted the No. 2 best island by *Travel + Leisure Magazine*.”

Tucked away from the hustle and bustle of the big city, the community of **Wildlight** in Yulee is proud to embrace low country living. The neighborhood offers beautiful homes that have open interiors full of natural light and sprawling front porches. Wildlight has four neighborhoods to choose from: Del Webb Wildlight, Forest Park, Founder’s Park and

Hawthorn Park. Those who wish to rent can choose from apartments in The Lofts and The Exchange or townhome and single-family home rentals in Hamlet Wildlight. The community has preserved half of its acreage for hiking, biking trails and parks. Amenities such as a community outdoor pool and events are available to residents.



New homes in Yulee, photo by Javier Cruz Acosta, courtesy of Shutterstock



Downtown Fernandina Beach, photo by Deremer Studios, courtesy of AmeliaIsland.com

Tributary: Life on the Water

Opened in 2020, Tributary is one of the First Coast’s newest master-planned communities. Developed by GreenPointe Holdings, LLC, the 1,550-acre neighborhood offers approximately 3,200 single-family homes, townhomes and multi-family units. Built by David Weekley Homes, DreamFinders Homes, Lennar and Richmond American Homes, homes at Tributary are priced from the \$300s. Located just two exits north of the Jacksonville International Airport and River City Marketplace and just west of the historic town of Fernandina and the white sand beaches of Amelia Island, this Community Development District offers convenient access to shopping, dining and entertainment.

Residents can take advantage of The Lookout, Tributary’s lakefront amenity center featuring a 5,400-square-foot resort-style pool and sundeck, state-of-the-art fitness center, Adventure Zone tot-lot, pickleball courts and various entertainment areas. Your furry friends can enjoy the Pawsome Dog Park, designed just for them. The dedicated lifestyle director can help with family events, food trucks, yoga classes, outdoor activities and more.

Enjoy a naturally inspired lifestyle amongst the natural waterways and majestic evergreen forests in a setting where outdoor enjoyment takes priority. The new 40-acre Tributary Regional Park, just steps from Tributary, provides a variety

Photo by Deremer Studios, courtesy of AmeliaIsland.com



of ways to enjoy the outdoors, including baseball and multipurpose recreational fields, a children’s playground and plenty of green spaces. The Landing at Boggy Creek leads to the Nassau River and ultimately the Atlantic Ocean for

a variety of boating, kayaking and fishing opportunities. With miles of trails connecting the community, green spaces and pocket parks, this community preserves the land’s heritage while embracing the future.



Dear New Residents,

Welcome to the timeless charm and vibrant community of St. Augustine and St. Johns County! On behalf of the St. Augustine & St. Johns County Board of REALTORS®, it is my great pleasure to extend our warmest greetings as you embark on this exciting new chapter in our remarkable region.

St. Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City, is a place where rich history meets modern vitality. Nestled within St. Johns County, our area offers a unique blend of cultural heritage and contemporary amenities, catering to a wide range of interests and lifestyles. From the cobbled streets of our historic downtown to the pristine coastline stretching for miles, you'll find a tapestry of experiences waiting to be explored.

As you settle into your new home, you'll discover that our community is a harmonious blend of small-town warmth and the conveniences of a larger city. Our esteemed St. Johns County School District is continually recognized for its academic excellence, making it an ideal place for families. Additionally, our region has earned accolades from reputable sources such as *National Geographic Traveler Magazine* and *CNN Money*, highlighting its appeal as a desirable destination to live, work and retire.

To help you navigate your new surroundings and find the perfect place to call home, our knowledgeable REALTORS® are here to assist you. Whether you're looking to purchase or sell a home or business, our dedicated professionals are ready to support and guide you through the process, ensuring a smooth and successful transition into our community.

I encourage you to visit our website at sasjcrealtors.com to explore the range of real estate opportunities available and connect with a REALTOR® who can provide personalized assistance tailored to your needs.

Once again, welcome to St. Augustine and St. Johns County. We are thrilled to have you join our community and are committed to making your transition as seamless and rewarding as possible. Should you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeanette", is positioned above the typed name.

Jeanette Langford, RCE

Chief Executive Officer

St. Augustine & St. Johns County Board of REALTORS®



ST. JOHNS COUNTY

With a rich history and many diverse communities, St. Johns County is one of the two original counties first established in the state. The area has developed greatly over the years with many people moving to the area due to the excellent schools, gorgeous beaches, golf courses and shopping.



Estimated Population:
304,567 (2025)*



Area:
822 square miles

*Source: Office of Economic and Demographic Research

NORTHERN ST. JOHNS

St. Johns County is known for the new neighborhoods and developments that are popping up. The area's top-ranked schools and growing businesses continue to attract newcomers. Both **Switzerland** and **Fruit Cove** are located east

of the St. Johns River and south of Mandarin. This area is perfect for those wishing to enjoy a country setting with the convenience of having amenities around the corner. There are a variety of parks, historical sites and trails for both hiking and biking in the area. **Julington Creek**

has many residential communities with luxury estates, single-family homes, townhouses and condominiums.

Nocatee is a premier master-planned community in northern St. Johns County. For an in-depth description of everything the community has to offer, see page 30.

The **Durbin Crossing** community is full of sprawling residential homes and covers more than 2,000 acres. The schools are A-rated, and some of the best parks and golf courses are nearby. Residents can take advantage of the neighborhood's two amenity centers, enjoy hiking at nature preserves and other various activities.

The master-planned community of **SilverLeaf** is located between County Road 210 and State Road 16. Comprised of 11,000 acres, the

community is zoned for more than 16,300 homes and 2.9 million square feet of mixed-use and commercial space. SilverLeaf is made up of several neighborhoods in a wide range of sizes, price points and styles for both individuals and families. Amenities in the area include dog parks, tennis and pickleball courts, pools and more than 4,350 acres of conservation land.

The master-planned community **Shearwater** is located in the heart northern St. Johns County. Residents here can take advantage of the community's nature trails, kayak launch, resort-style lagoon, a lazy river, tennis courts and an exclusive fitness center.

RiverTown is a quaint waterfront community along the St. Johns River that is made up of several unique



Homes in St. Johns, photo by Picas Imagery, courtesy of Shutterstock

neighborhoods, including one for residents 55 and over. A variety of amenities are available, including a boardwalk, waterfront dining, a playground, waterfront amphitheater, kayak launch and riverfront hiking trails.

Set around an expansive 43-acre lake, the **Beacon Lake** community offers numerous high-end amenities, homes with coastal-inspired architecture and proximity to top-rated public schools. Once fully complete, Beacon Lake will have 1,280 single-family homes and 196 townhomes on 630 acres, 358 acres of which are allocated for a nature preserve.

Beachwalk in northern St. Johns County gives its residents the resort lifestyle with many top-of-the-line amenities and architecture inspired by the West Indies. Residents can enjoy swimming, paddleboarding, kayaking, fishing and more at the community's 14-acre crystal lagoon complete with a white sandy beach. Additional Beachwalk amenities include a 24-hour fitness center, dog splash park, swim-up bar, beach club, dining, putting course and tennis courts.

A new master-planned community has begun construction in northwest St. Johns. **The Landings at Saint Johns** will offer stunning single-family homes and extraordinary amenities. Expected to open this year, the community will have 761 home sites for an active adult community and 588 home sites for families of all ages. More than 50 acres of The Landings has been set aside for preservation and 15 acres for parks.

PONTE VEDRA BEACH

Ponte Vedra Beach is located in the northeast corner of St. Johns County between the Intracoastal Waterway and the Atlantic Ocean. This gorgeous area has a wide variety of neighborhoods and homes to

Home in Ponte Vedra Beach, photo by Pipas Imagery, courtesy of Shutterstock



choose from, including oceanfront estates, exclusive neighborhoods, condominiums and apartments. The area is also home to many upscale restaurants and shopping. Some of the best golf courses in the nation are in Ponte Vedra Beach, including TPC Sawgrass Stadium Course where THE PLAYERS Championship is held every year.

ST. AUGUSTINE

The city of **St. Augustine** was founded in 1565 and is full of rich history. Residents can explore different historic sites like the Castillo De San Marcos National Monument, the Lightner Museum, the Old Jail, and St. Augustine Lighthouse and Maritime Museum. St. Augustine has planned communities, oceanfront homes, historic homes, condominiums and apartments to choose from.

TrailMark is a tranquil master-planned community in St. Augustine offering single-family homes with a variety of spacious floor plans. Perfect for outdoor lovers, residents can take advantage of the community's lakeside pavilion, resort-style swimming pool, natural oak hammocks and upscale amenities.

ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH

Known for its beautiful beaches and ocean views, **St. Augustine Beach** has many living options for those who



Aviles Street in St. Augustine, photo by Kelly Pizzo

St. Augustine, photo courtesy of Unsplash

love the coastal lifestyle. Residents can peruse the white beaches or enjoy the Great Florida Birding and Wildlife Trail at Anastasia State Park. There are many residential communities, townhouses and condominium options in this area.

VILANO BEACH

Northeast of St. Augustine is the pleasant seaside community of **Vilano Beach**. This residential community is nestled between the Atlantic Ocean and Tolomato River and offers many activities including fishing, beachcombing and birdwatching.

“St. Johns has been named the No. 1 Best County for Florida Families, according to Niche.”

The Communities of Nocatee

Nocatee is an award-winning community nestled between Jacksonville and St. Augustine in Ponte Vedra. It has many village-like neighborhoods that include condominiums, townhouses, luxury estate homes, single-family homes and neighborhoods for residents 55 and older. The community is minutes from gorgeous beaches, golf courses, restaurants, shopping and some of the top-rated schools in the state.



Splash Water Park



Woodland Park at Nocatee

Woodland Park at Nocatee is an intimate neighborhood located on Palm Valley Road, directly west of the Austin Park neighborhood. It features 65 townhomes by Providence Homes that range from approximately 1,421 to 1,884 square feet and start from the low \$400s. Woodland Park residents also have access to Nocatee's wide range of amenities.

feet and larger, Del Webb Nocatee offers a variety of coastal, craftsman style and traditional villas and homes from the mid \$400s. With multiple entertainment options, this 55-plus adult community is perfect for those who are ready to have fun. The onsite Lifestyle Director is available for event planning, clubs and classes for all Del Webb residents. Residents also have access to a fitness center, pickleball and tennis courts, and a swimming pool with lap lanes.



Crosswinds at Nocatee

Crosswinds at Nocatee is one of the final opportunities to purchase a newly constructed home in a Nocatee neighborhood. It offers multi-generational living through single-family homes and villas. Villas by David Weekley Homes and Toll Brothers start from the high \$400s and range from approximately 1,635 to 2,450 square feet. Single-family

homes by David Weekley Homes, Providence Homes, and Riverside Homes start from the high \$400s and range from approximately 1,690 to 2,550 square feet. Crosswinds is located at the northeast intersection of Pine Island Road and Crosswater Parkway. Homes are within walking distance from Pine Island Academy, the new K-8 St. Johns County school.



West End at Town Center

Located just a short walk from Nocatee's shops, restaurants and Splash Water Park is West End at Town Center. The townhome and villa community provides multi-generational living with a perfect blend of modern convenience and a sense of community. Townhomes by ICI Homes start from the high \$400s and range from approximately 1,635 to 1,877 square feet of living space. West End also offers one- and

two-story villas by Dostie Homes and Toll Brothers that start from the mid \$500s and range between 1,786 to 2,450 square feet.



Seabrook Village

Seabrook Village offers a variety of floorplans that range from 1,570 to 2,900 square feet and start in the low \$500s. Builders include David Weekley Homes, Dostie Homes, ICI Homes, Providence Homes, Toll Brothers and Riverside Homes. The second phase of Seabrook Village includes 207 homesites. Seabrook Village is surrounded by Seabrook Park, a new amenity center that includes a pool, dog park and playground.



Del Webb Nocatee

As the first community in the nation to release 12 Next Gen floorplans ranging from 1,529 to 3,361 square



Reflections at Seabrook

Reflections at Seabrook is the final Nocatee neighborhood with approximately 214 homesites and offers a variety of floorplans ranging from 1,570 to 3,296 square feet. New homes by David Weekley Homes, Dostie Homes, ICI Homes, Providence Homes, Riverside Homes and Toll Brothers start from the low \$500s. Reflections at Seabrook is home to Reflections Park and close to Seabrook Park, a new amenity center featuring a pool, dog park and playground.



Palm Crest at Seabrook

Palm Crest at Seabrook features 100 homesites in the heart of the Seabrook Village neighborhood. Homes by Dostie Homes range from 2,616 to 3,145 square feet and start at \$1 million. Palm Crest is within walking distance from the newest Nocatee amenity center, Seabrook Park. The park features a pool, dog park and playground.



Coral Ridge at Seabrook

Coral Ridge at Seabrook in the Seabrook collection of communities at Nocatee features approximately 182 estate-sized homes by David Weekley Homes and ICI Homes. Homes range from 2,813 to 4,800 square feet and start at \$1.1 million.

Coral Ridge at Seabrook is a short golf cart or bike ride away from all the amenities at the new Seabrook Park.



River Landing at Twenty Mile

River Landing is an exclusive, picturesque neighborhood nestled within the Twenty Mile community alongside the scenic Intracoastal Waterway. This neighborhood gives residents the opportunity to design and build their custom luxury dream home on a preserve site. Preserve homesites start from the mid \$500s, with total homesite and home packages valuing \$1.8 million and up.



The Reserve

The Reserve is a luxury apartment community with one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments with top-of-the-line amenities. The clubhouse has fitness facilities, a beach entry pool and a dog park. Individual apartments come with stainless steel appliances, granite countertops and contemporary cabinetry complete with USB ports in the kitchen island.

Atwater

Atwater is an upscale apartment community located minutes from Ponte Vedra's gorgeous beaches. With one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments as well as resort-style amenities, this community gives luxury and comfort to all residents. The wellness program and on-site management services provide maintenance-free living. With little stress, it is easy to enjoy the

neighborhood with features such as the fitness club, swim club, community events and more.



Bainbridge Ponte Vedra

Bainbridge Ponte Vedra at Nocatee is a luxury apartment community just 30 minutes south of Jacksonville and 45 minutes north of historic St. Augustine. Bainbridge offers one-, two-, and three-bedroom apartments that feature high-end apartment finishes such as luxury plank style flooring, elegant kitchens with white shaker cabinets, quartz countertops, designer pendant lighting and more. Residents also have access to numerous amenities including a club-level fitness center, a heated resort-style pool and community garden, as well as private individual and group offices for remote work.



Cadence at Nocatee

Cadence at Nocatee is a 291-unit apartment community that delivers hospitality-level service to residents through onsite concierge services, event programming and resort-style amenities. Residents have access to a luxurious zero-entry pool, an outdoor social kitchen, pet spa, large clubhouse, business center, library and over 1,500 square feet of fitness space, including a yoga studio and weight training equipment. The community also features a variety of green spaces, including a fitness and outdoor movie lawn, outdoor game area for ping pong and cornhole and a dog park. Each apartment features nine-foot ceilings, vinyl plank flooring, carpet in bedrooms and closets, granite countertops in the kitchen

and bathrooms and stainless-steel appliances.



Starling at Nocatee

For seniors looking for an energetic lifestyle, Starling at Nocatee is the perfect place to call home. Offering independent living, assisted living and memory care, this resort-style community allows for personalized care for each resident. The community is close to Nocatee's Town Center with ample shops and restaurants.

Rise at Nocatee

Rise at Nocatee is a 55-plus active adult community where residents enjoy a catered living experience. The apartment complex offers one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments outfitted with high-end amenities and features. This social, independent and friendly community has amenities geared towards the active adult lifestyle, including a resort-style pool, fitness center and resident lounge.

Fleet Landing at Nocatee

Fleet Landing is bringing a new resort-style retirement community to Nocatee that will offer exceptional amenities and elegant surroundings, all within one of the most well-designed communities in the country. Dining, fitness and social gatherings will all be within strolling distance, and residents will be a quick bike or golf cart ride away from all the shops and attractions of Nocatee. As Nocatee's newest community, Fleet Landing at Nocatee will feature independent living apartments and homes of varying sizes, making it possible for more people to enjoy luxury living and excellent on-site health services. Fleet Landing at Nocatee is currently in its early stages and construction timeline has not yet been finalized.



Home Sales Comparison

In today's market, moving to a new city can be very stressful with the cost of homes varying from place to place. The National Association of Realtors has reported that Jacksonville is on the list of the most affordable cities in the country. To give you an idea of how Jacksonville compares to other metro areas, here is the current median price of a home in cities across the U.S.

Affordable First Coast

With a set budget in mind, picking the perfect neighborhood can be a walk in the park! Below you can find the median prices of homes on the First Coast to help find your new home.

Ponte Vedra Beach
\$874,105

Jacksonville Beach
\$620,977

Fernandina Beach
\$606,859

San Marco
\$483,227

St. Augustine
\$452,042

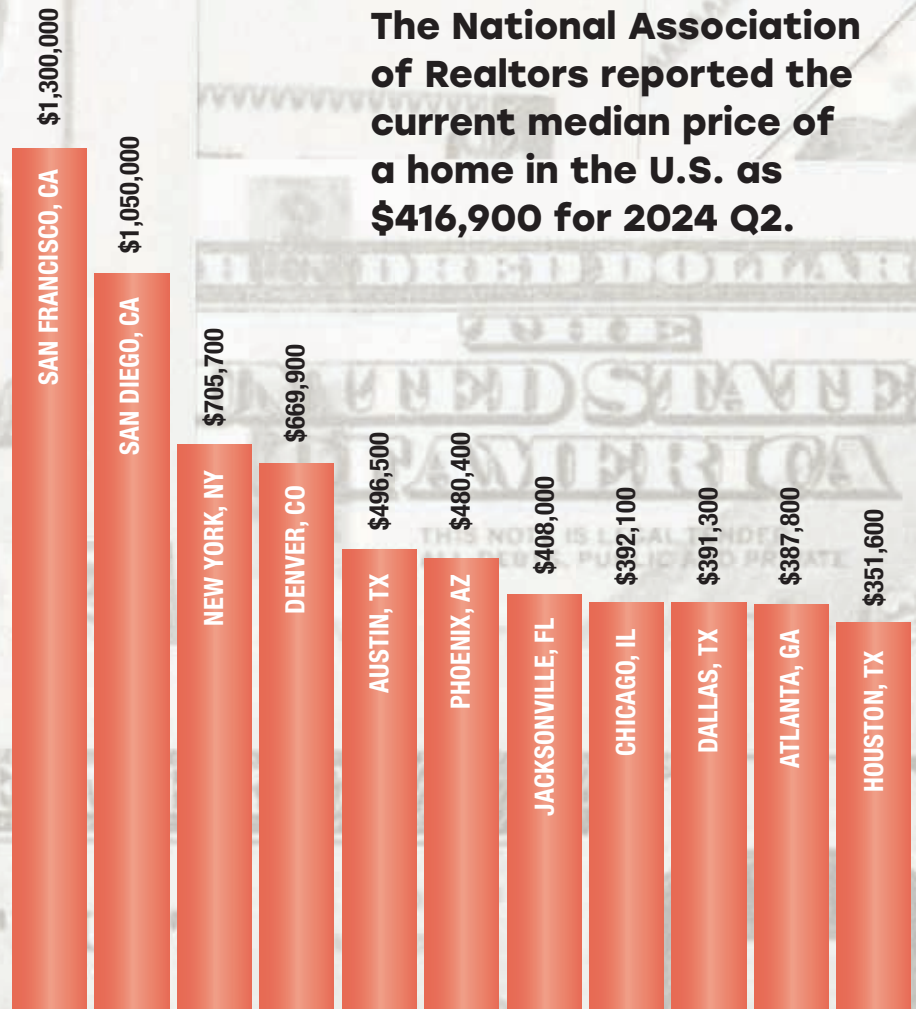
Green Cove Springs
\$344,548

Orange Park
\$322,660

Macclenny
\$299,432

Source: www.zillow.com/home-values

The National Association of Realtors reported the current median price of a home in the U.S. as **\$416,900 for 2024 Q2.**



Source: www.nar.realtor/research-and-statistics/research-reports/local-market-reports



ST. AUGUSTINE IS ONE OF THE TOP 20 MUST SEE PLACES IN THE WORLD



Welcome to St. Johns County:

Unveiling the Timeless Allure of St. Augustine, the Nation's Oldest City

St. Johns County proudly encompasses the historic gem that is St. Augustine, renowned as the Nation's Oldest City. Embraced by global acclaim, St. Augustine has earned its place as a must-see destination, consistently securing a spot among the top 20 in the world, a distinction lauded by *National Geographic Traveler Magazine*. Adding to its charm, the Society of American Travel Writers recently celebrated St. Augustine as the fourth among the Top 10 Holiday Lights Sites, showcasing the city's enchanting festive ambience and cultural richness.

Beyond its status as a sought-after destination, St. Johns County stands as an idyllic place to establish roots. At its heart lies the St. Johns County School District, a bastion of academic excellence recognized as the foremost district in Florida. Coupled with this, *CNN Money* has bestowed upon this region the distinction of being "one of the best places to retire," cementing its appeal to families and retirees alike.

Navigating the complexities of real estate within the Nation's Oldest City and St. Johns County is best accomplished with the expertise of our distinguished members, possessing an intricate understanding of the local real estate landscape. Let their insight and professionalism guide you through the intricate process of buying and selling real estate, ensuring a seamless and informed journey for you and your family.

Should your aspirations involve acquiring or selling a residential or commercial property, we invite you to engage with a REALTOR® to enhance the success of your endeavor. Visit our website at sasjcrealtors.com to carefully select the REALTOR® most suited to cater to your unique needs.



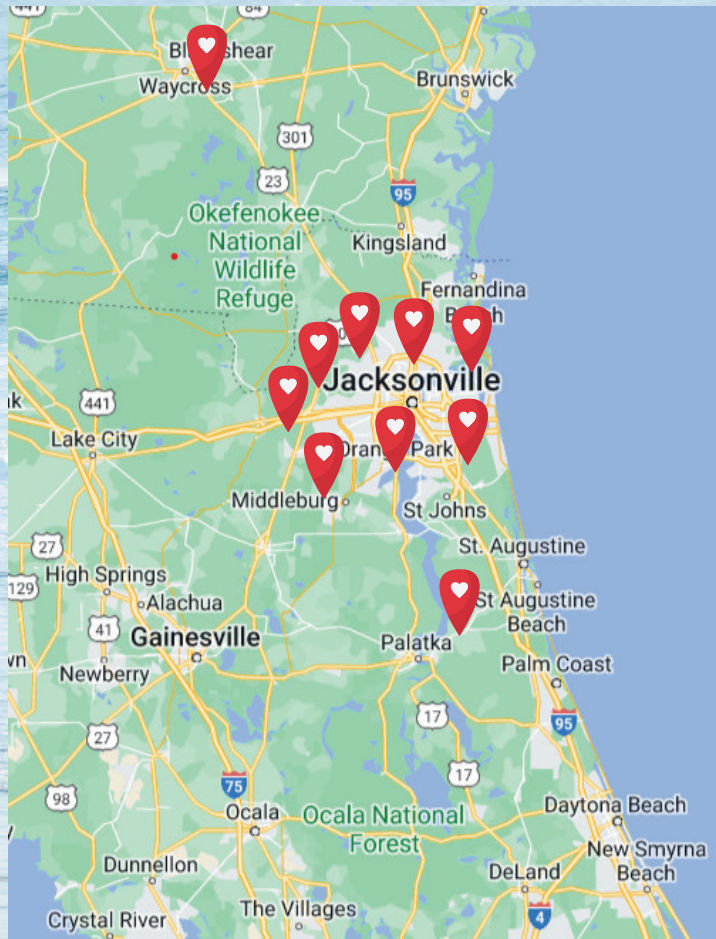


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JACKSONVILLE BEACH OFFICE: 905 Beach Blvd
UNIVERSITY BLVD OFFICE: 3627 University Blvd S, Ste. 435
MANDARIN/BARTRAM OFFICE: 115 Bartram Oaks Walk, Ste. 104 Fruit Cove, FL
NORTHSIDE OFFICE: 3890 Dunn Ave, Ste 203
WESTSIDE OFFICE: 5851 Timuquana Rd, Ste 204
FLEMING ISLAND OFFICE: 1681 Eagle Harbor Pkwy East, Ste B
PALATKA OFFICE/OUTPATIENT CATHETERIZATION LAB: 205 Zeagler Dr, Ste 101
WAYCROSS GEORGIA OFFICE: 501 Riverside Drive

Bang for Your Buck

First Coast neighborhoods and communities offer an array of homebuying options that meet any budget. Below are some developments in the First Coast area that may be perfect for you!



CLAY COUNTY

Eagle Harbor
\$400s - \$1.6 million
Fleming Island

Granary Park
\$300s - \$400s
Green Cove Springs

Hyland Trail
\$300s - \$500s
Green Cove Springs

Lakes at Bella Lago
\$400s - \$500s
Green Cove Springs

DUVAL COUNTY

eTown
\$300s - \$1.5 million
Southside

Tamaya
\$500s - \$1.2 million
Intracoastal

Tidewater
\$500s - \$900s
Northside

Seven Pines
\$500s - \$1.2 million
Southside

NASSAU COUNTY

Amelia National
\$500s - \$800s
Fernandina Beach

Amelia Park
\$500s - \$1 million
Fernandina Beach

Tributary
\$300s - \$400s
Yulee

Wildlight
\$300s - \$700s
Yulee

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Beachwalk
\$400s - \$1 million
St. Johns

Durbin Crossing
\$300s - \$1.1 million
St. Johns

Nocatee
\$400s - \$4 million
Ponte Vedra

RiverTown
\$200s - \$1 million
St. Johns

Shearwater
\$300s - \$700s
St. Augustine

SilverLeaf
\$400s - \$1.2 million
St. Johns

***As of November 2024. Housing prices may fluctuate pending current housing market, and new home site availability may vary. Please check with builders and your realtor for availability.



Seven Pines, photo by Monica Fields



Tamaya, photo by Monica Fields

Getting Settled: The 411 on the First Coast



BAKER COUNTY

Baker County

www.bakercountyfl.org

Glen St. Mary

www.glenstmary.govoffice.com

Macclenny

www.cityofmacclenny.com

Fire/Rescue

Baker County (Volunteer)

www.bakercountyfl.org

Macclenny

www.cityofmacclenny.com

Police/Sheriff

Baker County Sheriff's Office

www.bakercountysheriffsoffice.com

UTILITY SERVICES

Electricity

Clay Electric Cooperative (CEC)

www.clayelectric.com

Florida Power & Light

www.fpl.com

Okefenokee Rural Electric Membership Corporation (OREMC)

www.oremc.com

Garbage

City of Macclenny

www.cityofmacclenny.com/departments.html

Natural Gas

TECO Peoples Gas

www.peoplesgas.com

Water & Sewer

City of Macclenny

www.cityofmacclenny.com/departments.html

CLAY COUNTY

Clay County

www.claycountygov.com

Green Cove Springs

www.greencovesprings.com

Keystone Heights

www.keystoneheights.us

Orange Park

www.townoforangepark.com

Fire/Rescue

Clay County Fire Rescue

www.claycountygov.com/community/fire-rescue

Police/Sheriff

Clay County Sheriff's Office

www.claysheriff.com

Green Cove Springs Police Department

www.greencovesprings.com/236/Police

Orange Park Police Department

www.townoforangepark.com/p/residents/police

UTILITY SERVICES

Electricity

City of Green Cove Springs

www.greencovesprings.com/213/Electric

Clay Electric Cooperative (CEC) (Fleming Island, Green Cove Springs, Keystone Heights, Middleburg, Orange Park, Penney Farms)

www.clayelectric.com

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) (Green Cove Springs, Orange Park)

www.jea.com



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Garbage & Recycling

City of Green Cove Springs

www.greencovesprings.com/249/Public-Works

FCC Environmental Services (Fleming Island, Keystone Heights, Middleburg, Orange Park)

<https://fccenvironmental.com/clay-county/>

Republic Services (Penney Farms)

www.republicservices.com

WM (Orange Park)

www.wm.com

Natural Gas

TECO Peoples Gas (Middleburg, Orange Park)

www.peoplesgas.com

Water & Sewer

Clay County Utility Authority (Fleming Island, Keystone Heights, Middleburg, Orange Park)

www.clayutility.org

City of Green Cove Springs

www.greencovesprings.com/279/Water-Wastewater-Division

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) (Green Cove Springs, Orange Park)

www.jea.com

Town of Orange Park

www.townoforangepark.com/p/residents/utility-services

DUVAL COUNTY

Duval County/Jacksonville

www.jacksonville.gov

Atlantic Beach

www.coab.us

Jacksonville Beach

www.jacksonvillebeach.org

Neptune Beach

www.nbfl.gov

Fire/Rescue

Jacksonville Fire and Rescue Department

www.myjfrd.com

Jacksonville Beach Fire Department

www.jacksonvillebeach.org/214/fire-marshals-office

Police/Sheriff

Atlantic Beach Police Department

www.coab.us/25/Police

Jacksonville Sheriff’s Office

www.jaxsheriff.org

Jacksonville Beach Police Department

www.jacksonvillebeach.org/436/police-department

Neptune Beach Police Department

www.nbfl.gov/police-department

UTILITY SERVICES

Electricity

Beaches Energy Services (Neptune Beach)

www.beachesenergy.com

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) (Atlantic Beach)

www.jea.com

Electricity, Water & Sewer

Beaches Energy Services (Jacksonville Beach)

www.beachesenergy.com

JFRD, photo courtesy of COJ





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3760 Kori Road | Jacksonville, FL 32257 | 262-0197

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) (Baldwin, Jacksonville)
www.jea.com

Garbage & Recycling

City of Atlantic Beach
www.coab.us/15/Public-Works

City of Jacksonville
www.jacksonville.gov/departments/public-works

City of Jacksonville Beach
www.jacksonvillebeach.org/297/public-works

Waste Pro of Florida, Inc. (Neptune Beach)
www.nbfl.gov/waste-recycling

Natural Gas

TECO Peoples Gas (Atlantic Beach, Jacksonville, Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach)
www.peoplesgas.com

Water & Sewer

City of Atlantic Beach
www.coab.us/14/Public-Utilities

City of Neptune Beach
www.nbfl.gov/finance-utilities/pages/utilities



NASSAU COUNTY

Nassau County
www.nassaucountyfl.com

Callahan
www.townofcallahan-fl.gov

Fernandina Beach
www.fbfl.us

Fire/Rescue
Nassau County Fire Rescue
www.nassaucountyfl.com/122/Fire-Rescue

Police/Sheriff

Fernandina Beach Police Department
www.fbfl.us/109/Police

Nassau County Sheriff's Office
<http://nassauso.com>

UTILITY SERVICES

Electricity

Florida Power & Light (Callahan, Hilliard, Yulee)
www.fpl.com

Florida Public Utilities (Amelia Island, Fernandina Beach)
www.fpuc.com

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) (Yulee)
www.jea.com

Okefenoke Rural Electric Membership Corporation (OREMC) (Callahan, Hilliard)
www.oremc.com

Garbage & Recycling

Meridian Waste (Callahan)
www.meridianwaste.com

WM (Amelia Island, Fernandina Beach, Hilliard, Yulee)
www.wm.com

Water & Sewer

City of Fernandina Beach
www.fbfl.us/114/Utilities

JEA (Yulee)
www.jea.com

Hilliard Water Department
www.townofhilliard.com/publicworks/page/water-sewer

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) (Yulee)
www.jea.com

Town of Callahan
www.townofcallahan-fl.gov/water-wastewater-sanitation

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

St. Johns County
www.sjcfll.us

Ponte Vedra Beach
www.pvmsd.org

St. Augustine
www.citystaug.com

St. Augustine Beach
www.staugbch.com

Fire/Rescue

St. Johns County Fire Rescue
www.sjcf.us/departments/fire-rescue/

St. Augustine Fire Department
www.citystaug.com/1129/Fire-Department

Police/Sheriff

St. Augustine Beach Police
www.sabpd.org

St. Augustine Police Department
www.citystaug.com/241/Police-Department

St. Johns County Sheriff's Office
www.sjso.org

UTILITY SERVICES

Electricity

Beaches Energy Services (Ponte Vedra Beach)
www.beachesenergy.com

Florida Power & Light (Hastings, St. Augustine, St. Augustine Beach)
www.fpl.com

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) (Julington Creek, Ponte Vedra Beach, St. Augustine)
www.jea.com

Garbage & Recycling

City of St. Augustine
www.citystaug.com/518/Trash-Recycling

City of St. Augustine Beach
www.staugbch.com/publicworks/page/sanitation

Republic Services (Julington Creek, Ponte Vedra Beach)
www.republicservices.com

WM (Hastings)
www.wm.com

Natural Gas

TECO Peoples Gas (Hastings, Julington Creek, St. Augustine, St. Augustine Beach)
www.peoplesgas.com

Water & Sewer

City of St. Augustine
www.citystaug.com/529/Utilities

Jacksonville Electric Authority (JEA) (Julington Creek, Ponte Vedra Beach)
www.jea.com

St. Johns Utility Department (Ponte Vedra Beach, St. Augustine Beach)
www.sjcf.us/departments/utility-department/

INTERNET & TV PROVIDERS

Cable & Satellite Television

Comcast (Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, St. Johns)
www.xfinity.com

DIRECTV® (Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, St. Johns)
www.directv.com

Dish Network (Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, St. Johns)
www.dish.com

Windstream Communications (Nassau, St. Johns)
www.windstream.com

Internet

AT&T (Clay, Duval, Nassau, St. Johns)
www.att.com

Comcast (Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, St. Johns)
www.xfinity.com

HughesNet (Baker, Clay, Duval, Nassau, St. Johns)
www.hughesnet.com

IQ Fiber (Clay, Duval)
www.iqfiber.com

NEFCOM Internet (Baker)
www.nefcom.net

Windstream Communications (Nassau, Hastings)
www.windstream.com



Fleming Island Public Library, photo by Dana Ferguson

First Coast Libraries

Our area libraries are not only a great resource for books, but many offer programs, children's activities, book festivals and a wide variety of enriching classes. Libraries are also a great place to volunteer!

Baker County

Emily Taber Public Library
www.newriverlibrary.org/etpl

Clay County

Clay County Public Library
www.claycountygov.com/community/library

Duval County/City of Jacksonville

Jacksonville Public Library
www.jaxpubliclibrary.org

Nassau County

Nassau County Public Library
www.nassaureads.com

St. Johns County

St. Johns County Public Library System
www.sjcpls.org

Good-to-Know Info

While exploring a new place to live is exciting and fun, relocating also comes with a lot of state-specific regulations to be navigated. If you're not only new to the First Coast but the state of Florida as well, check out this list of good-to-know information for car and homeowners.

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. Visit www.flhsmv.gov/insurance for any further info.

Driver's License and Motor Vehicles

Within 10 days of becoming employed, placing a child in public school or establishing residency in Florida, vehicles registered out of state are required to be registered in Florida and have a Florida license plate, a registration certificate and a registration decal. You must apply for a Florida driver's license within 30 days of establishing residency in Florida to avoid fines and penalties. Visit www.flhsmv.gov for more info.

Property Taxes and Homestead Exemption

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. Legal Florida residents who own and reside on property are eligible for a homestead exemption up to \$50,000. The first \$25,000 applies to all property taxes, including school district taxes. The additional exemption up to \$25,000 applies to the assessed value between \$50,000 and \$75,000 and only to non-school taxes. Florida's Amendment 5 went into effect this year and will give homeowners a tax break by adjusting part of your homestead exemption according to inflation.

To be eligible, you must own and occupy your home as your permanent residence on January 1. The deadline to file is March 1. To apply for the exemption, go to your local Property Appraiser's office. See our list of tax collector's offices on this page.

Termite Protection

First Coast homeowners need to be aware of the potential damage caused by termites, which are common throughout the state of Florida. Since your homeowner's insurance does not cover damage caused by termites, hiring a licensed pest control company to inspect and treat your home is recommended. To receive proper treatment, it's important to properly identify the type of termite that could possibly be infesting your home.

The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) regulates and licenses Florida's pest control industry. FDACS is authorized by law to conduct investigations to determine if any documented violations of the Florida Structural Pest Control Act (Chapter 482, Florida Statutes) or the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act have occurred. For more information, visit www.fdacs.gov/Consumer-Resources/Health-and-Safety/Protect-Your-Home-from-Pests.

First Coast Tax Collector's Offices

Baker County

32 N. 5th St., Macclenny
www.bakertaxcollector.com

Clay County

477 Houston St., Green Cove Springs
www.claycountytax.com

Duval County

231 E. Forsyth St., Jacksonville
<https://taxcollector.coj.net>

Nassau County

86130 License Rd.,
Fernandina Beach
www.nassautaxes.com

St. Johns County

4030 Lewis Speedway,
St. Augustine
www.sjctax.us



Volunteer Opportunities

The First Coast is also home to several chapters of prominent service clubs and organizations such as Kiwanis International, Lions Club International, Knights of Columbus, Rotary Club and the Junior League of Jacksonville. Hospitals and clinics such as UF Health, Mayo Clinic, Baptist Health, Nemours and Wolfson also welcome volunteers. Below are some resources to help you find a volunteer opportunity near you. Also see our list of animal shelters on page 49.

AARP

<https://local.aarp.org/jacksonville-fl/volunteering>

American Red Cross

North Florida Region
www.redcross.org/local/florida/north-florida/volunteer.html

Catholic Charities Jacksonville

www.ccbjax.org

Nonprofit Center of

Northeast Florida
www.nonprofitctr.org

United Way of Northeast Florida

www.unitedwaynefl.org

Volunteer Florida

www.volunteerflorida.org

Volunteer Match

www.volunteermatch.org

The First Coast by Numbers



Median Property Value

and percentage of Homeownership

BAKER COUNTY

\$281,990

79.8%

CLAY COUNTY

\$346,000

76.6%

DUVAL COUNTY

\$315,067

57.6%

NASSAU COUNTY

\$441,240

82.6%

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

\$510,042

82.4%



Median Household Income

BAKER COUNTY

\$67,872

Poverty Rate
12.8%

CLAY COUNTY

\$82,242

Poverty Rate
8.8%

DUVAL COUNTY

\$65,579

Poverty Rate
13.9%

NASSAU COUNTY

\$84,085

Poverty Rate
6.8%

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

\$100,020

Poverty Rate
5.9%



Total Employment

and percentage of Persons Age 25+ With a Bachelor's Degree or Higher

BAKER COUNTY

6,156

14.1%

CLAY COUNTY

45,941

27.6%

DUVAL COUNTY

495,479

32.2%

NASSAU COUNTY

21,488

32%

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

77,518

47.4%



Estimated Population

BAKER COUNTY

28,368

Male: 51.3% Female: 48.7%

CLAY COUNTY

232,439

Male: 49.4% Female: 50.6%

DUVAL COUNTY

1,030,822

Male: 48.5% Female: 51.5%

NASSAU COUNTY

101,501

Male: 49.4% Female: 50.6%

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

320,110

Male: 49.1% Female: 50.9%

Sources:

www.census.gov/quickfacts - https://datausa.io - www.rockethomes.com/real-estate-trends

Looking for Your Spiritual Home?

To help you find a religious community in your new hometown, we've compiled the following list of main organizations for several different religions and denominations on the First Coast. Visit their website to find a place of worship that is the right fit for you.

11th Episcopal District of the AME Church
www.ame11th.org

Bahá'í Community Center of Jacksonville
www.jaxbahai.org

Buckman Bridge Unitarian Universalist Church
www.bbuuc.org

Diocese of St. Augustine
www.dosafl.com

Episcopal Diocese of Florida, The
www.diocesefl.org

Florida Baptist Convention
www.flbaptist.org

Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church, The
www.flumc.org

Florida Jacksonville Mission of the Mormon Church
www.mymission.com/lds-missions/florida-jacksonville-mission

Hindu Society of North East Florida
www.hsnef.org

Islamic Center of Northeast Florida
www.icnef.org

Jacksonville Quaker Worship Group at the Beach
www.jacksonvillefriends.org

Jewish Federation & Foundation of Northeast Florida
www.jewishjacksonville.org

Karma Thegsum Chöling Jacksonville
www.ktcjax.org

Maitreya Kadampa Buddhist Center
www.meditationinjacksonville.org

Presbytery of St. Augustine
www.staugpres.org



Memorial Presbyterian Church, photo courtesy of Unsplash

Driving Stats



Downtown Jacksonville, photo by Kosoff, courtesy of Shutterstock

Miles from Downtown Jacksonville to Other Major Florida Cities

- Daytona Beach - 89
- Fort Lauderdale - 326
- Fort Myers - 299
- Gainesville - 72
- Key West - 503
- Miami - 344
- Naples - 334
- Orlando - 141
- Pensacola - 359
- Sarasota - 253
- St. Petersburg - 223
- Tallahassee - 164
- Tampa - 201
- West Palm Beach - 284

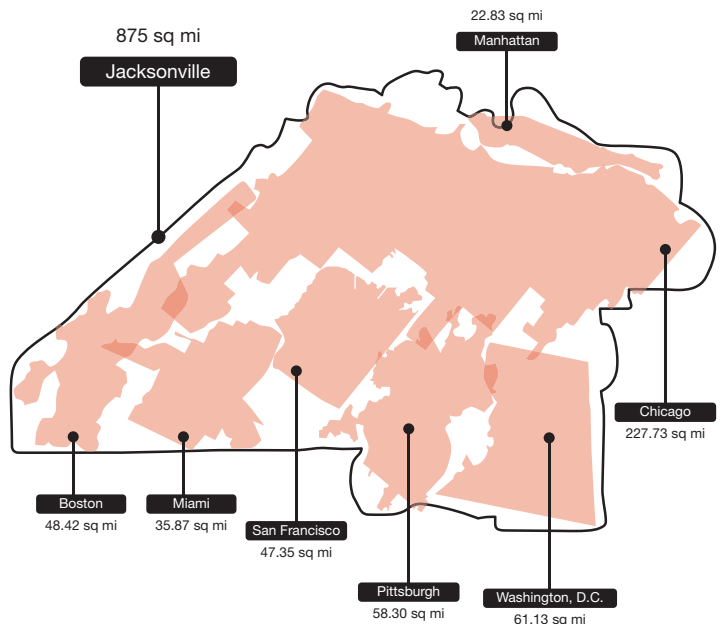
Commute Times to Downtown Jacksonville in Minutes

- Amelia Island - 41-45
- Arlington - 11-15
- Atlantic Beach/Jacksonville Beach - 36-40
- Baymeadows - 21-25
- Callahan - 31-35
- Fernandina Beach - 36-40
- Fleming Island - 36-40
- Green Cove Springs - 56-60
- Intracoastal - 26-35
- Julington Creek/Fruit Cove - 41-45
- Macclenny - 41-45
- Mandarin - 31-35
- Mayport - 46-50
- Middleburg - 41-45
- Orange Park - 41-45
- Ponte Vedra Beach - 36-45
- Riverside - 6-10
- San Marco - 6-10
- Southside - 16-20
- St. Augustine - 31-50
- World Golf Village - 36-40
- Yulee - 41-45

Miles from Downtown Jacksonville to Other Major Cities in the Southeast

- Atlanta, GA - 346
- Baltimore, MD - 744
- Birmingham, AL - 492
- Charleston, SC - 239
- Charlotte, NC - 385
- Louisville, KY - 766
- Memphis, TN - 730
- Nashville, TN - 595
- New Orleans, LA - 547
- Richmond, VA - 599
- Savannah, GA - 139
- Washington, D.C. - 706

How many major U.S. cities can you fit in Jacksonville?



Downtown Jacksonville, photo by Monica Fields



The Park at Via Veneto, photo courtesy of Blue Roc Premier Properties

First Coast Apartment Living

According to MMG's market snapshot, Jacksonville's rental market recorded strong rental demand through Q3 2024, with a net absorption of 5,638 units through the first three quarters of the year. The recent decline in construction starts is projected to support a gradual recovery of rental rates and occupancy rates leading into next year, with rent growth forecasted to rise above 2 percent by mid-2025.

The Southside submarket remains the leading region for apartment development on the First Coast, with 4,100 units opening their doors in the past year alone.

Advantages of Apartment Living

Throughout the First Coast there are many apartment options available that check all the boxes on your wants and needs list. You will find apartment complexes with studios, one-, two-, three- and even some

four-bedroom apartments that can accommodate single renters, couples, roommates and even families.

Below are some of the reasons why many First Coast residents have decided to rent an apartment versus buying a home. There are many benefits to owning your own home, but there are also many advantages to apartment living.

Price: One of the many benefits of living in an apartment is the financial aspect of renting. With many apartments, it's possible that rent may be more affordable than a mortgage. You also don't have to worry about additional costs such as homeowners' association fees, property taxes, homeowners' insurance and down payments. Most of the time, utility costs are lower due to the size of the unit.

Maintenance: When you live in an apartment, you no longer need to worry about fixing a broken dishwasher or leaky roof! Repairs and maintenance are covered by

The First Coast is a wonderful place for those looking to rent an apartment. The amazing weather, beach access and bustling city with job opportunities are all reasons that newcomers are moving to the area. Jacksonville is the 10th largest U.S. city, with more than 1 million residents, according to JAXUSA Partnership. With this substantial population, the residential rental market has expanded greatly. New apartment complexes are constantly being built and are filling up fast!

landlords or property managers. This is especially convenient for those who aren't very handy. Apartments also include landscaping maintenance, so you won't need to be out in the Florida heat mowing a lawn or pulling weeds. This gives you time to relax and enjoy your free time!

Amenities: Most apartment complexes on the First Coast offer their residents a wide range of amenities such as gyms, playgrounds, dog parks, game rooms, recreational areas, valet trash service and more. Many apartments also have resort-style swimming pools with cabanas and outdoor grills. Certain apartments have high-end finishes such as stainless-steel appliances, hardwood floors and granite countertops. While it is possible to have these additions in a home, the financial aspect can take a toll on your budget.

Safety: Apartment complexes take numerous measures to ensure their residents' safety. Most are gated and require a passcode to enter,



The Park at Via Veneto, photo courtesy of Blue Roc Premier Properties



Ready to Lease?

APARTMENT FEATURES

- Vaulted Ceilings*
- Private Balcony or Patio
- Breakfast Bar
- Fully Equipped Kitchen
- Ornamental Chair Rails
- 2 Inch Faux Wood Blinds
- Walk-in Closets
- Designer Ceiling Fans with Light Fixture
- Additional Outside Storage
- Full-Size Washer/Dryer Connections*

* In select units

COMMUNITY SERVICES

- 24-Hour Guaranteed Emergency Maintenance
- Caring On-Site Management
- Online Rent Payment Available
- Planned Social Activities

COMMUNITY AMENITIES

- Picnic Areas
- Scenic Lakeside Jogging Trails
- On-Site Laundry Centers
- Car Care Center
- Pet-Friendly Bark Park
- Two Sparkling Swimming Pools
- Designer Clubhouse
- 24/7 Fitness Center
- Tennis Court
- BBQ Grills
- Resident Internet Cafe

**Disclaimer: Not all features and amenities available at all locations. Please call for details.*



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www.TheParkatMarbella.com



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Phone: (904) 731-3470

www.TheParkatAnzio.com



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www.TheParkatAvellino.com





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www.TheParkatMilazzo.com



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Blue Roc Premier Properties, LLC, a leading real estate management company, provides property management services across the state of Florida. Behind every Blue Roc community, you'll find a team of motivated management and maintenance professionals committed to Blue Roc's high standards of excellence. Our determined professionals are what create that special sense of community... the warmth and graciousness that make an apartment a true home. We welcome you to the Blue Roc lifestyle of luxurious living and friendly, attentive management service.



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Phone: (904) 645-9770

www.TheParkatPotenza.com



www.BlueRocPremier.com

“Whether you are looking to live in a friendly suburb, a historic neighborhood, a beachside community or in the bucolic countryside, the First Coast’s five counties have the right neighborhood for you.”



The Park at Anzio Apartment Homes, photo courtesy of Blue Roc Premier Properties

which provides additional security and peace of mind. There may even be a security guard monitoring the complex. The abundance of close neighbors can also provide a stronger sense of security. They are more likely to notice something wrong or out of the ordinary. This makes apartment living perfect for the elderly and those living alone.

Location: When you’re looking to buy a house, your options are limited to the number of homes available in the neighborhood you want to live in. With apartments, there are often multiple complexes to choose from in any given neighborhood. If you want to live closer to your job or your child’s school, it’s much easier to find a nearby apartment complex. Many apartment developers also choose to build in areas where there are already



The Park at Potenza, photo courtesy of Blue Roc Premier Properties

several grocery stores, shops, bars and restaurants.

Community: With many neighbors nearby, it can be easy to develop a sense of community and grow connections in an apartment complex. Many apartments have community events like pool parties, food truck nights, barbecues, holiday

celebrations and more. These are great opportunities for newcomers to meet neighbors and make friends.

Flexibility: Apartments allow newcomers to get to know the area before committing to buying a home. Some complexes even allow residents to sign short-term leases. This can be helpful to those exploring a new area, or even those who may be in town for a short-term reason such as placement for work. You can also relocate much easier, whether it’s for a new job, a new relationship or to be closer to family. Renting gives you the opportunity to move when you see fit.

Finding Your Perfect Neighborhood

Choosing where you want to live can take some time and consideration while you explore the many neighborhoods the First Coast has to offer. Whether you are looking to live in a friendly suburb, a historic neighborhood, a beachside community or in the bucolic countryside, the First Coast’s five

distance. In downtown Jacksonville, there are many different apartments with views of the river and downtown skyline.

Nothing embodies the Florida lifestyle quite like being able to walk out of your apartment and feel the sand between your toes. Jacksonville Beach, Atlantic Beach, Fernandina Beach and St. Augustine are all perfect coastal communities with a vast selection of apartments for those who want to live close to the ocean.

The Southside/Baymeadows and St. Johns Town Center areas are home to several new apartment complexes that give residents access to some of the best shopping and dining options in Jacksonville. With the University of North Florida and Florida State College at Jacksonville located in these neighborhoods, many college students choose to live in this area.

For more in-depth information on our First Coast neighborhoods, check out page 14 for the many available options.

Preparing for Your New Apartment

When you’re on the hunt for an apartment, it’s best to start by touring complexes. Many apartments offer virtual tours on their websites as well as in-person tours. It’s easiest to reach out to the complex beforehand to set an appointment for a tour with the apartment’s leasing office or landlord. Many apartment complexes won’t allow potential renters to tour without a valid form of ID, so make sure you have that available when visiting the complex.

Before moving in, it’s important to find out what an apartment complex requires for potential renters to begin the leasing process. The complex will have renters fill out an application and may require proof of income or employment. This could mean providing previous paystubs or your most current W-2. Many apartments

counties have the right neighborhood for you.

For those looking for an area filled with history, the Riverside and Avondale neighborhoods are some of the oldest in Jacksonville. These neighborhoods are home to numerous shopping and dining options within walking or biking

The Waterford at Mandarin

- 1, 2, & 3 Bedrooms
- Pet-Friendly
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- Cyber Cafe
- Pet-Friendly
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- Decorator Pendant Lights
- Fitness Center
- Children's Playground
- Gourmet Kitchens

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JACKSONVILLE, FL 32216

require renters to meet specific income requirements to live in the complex. Some apartments ask for the previous landlord's contact information to complete a background check. While not always required, some complexes require a renter's insurance policy, which can cover you in case of a flood, fire or hurricane.

If you decide to bring your furry friend along with you, do your research to make sure it is a pet-friendly community. Renting does require upfront costs such as application, deposit and pet fees. Ask if there are any discounts or specials for active-duty military, students or employees working for major area companies.

Senior Apartment Options

The First Coast is home to a multitude of apartment complexes for those 55 and older. Seniors will find upscale, luxury apartments

geared toward their age group in neighborhoods all over Northeast Florida, including Nocatee, eTown, Glen Kernan, Tamaya, Jacksonville Beach and more.

Many 55-plus apartments have amenities specifically designed for seniors in mind, including spacious rooms, heated pools, yoga studios, media libraries, clubhouses and resident lounges. Some even offer opportunities to explore new hobbies by offering lifestyle directors, community gardens, craft rooms and more.

For more information on 55-plus apartments, pick up a copy of the *Jacksonville Senior Services Directory* at your local library or senior center, or visit

www.heritagepublishinginc.com.

First Coast Apartment Association

The First Coast Apartment Association (FCAA) aims to serve the apartment industry through education, legislation and professional networking. It is the fourth largest apartment association in Florida and continues to grow in both members and services. The FCAA provides credential and certification programs as well as a wide array of workshops and seminars on topics like leasing, marketing, landlord tenant law, fair housing, maintenance, technology and more. The FCAA also provides legislative advocacy on local, state and national levels. For more information visit www.fcaonline.com.

Florida Apartment Association Apartment Stats for the Jacksonville MSA

Apartment Vacancy	13.3%
Construction Starts	2,215
Under Construction	5,393
Delivered Units	7,456
Effective Rent Per Unit	\$1,477
Apartment Unit Inventory	122,385

*As of December 2024

Due to historic levels of multifamily housing construction in the Jacksonville MSA, vacancy rates have almost tripled since 2021, according to projections from CoStar, the Florida Apartment Association's third-party real estate data company. Rent growth is expected to remain subdued in the coming months with an influx of new units being delivered leading to the already increased vacancy. Although construction starts have slowed, the additional supply coming online soon will likely dampen any expected rent increases as apartment demand is still expected to remain similar to 2024 levels.

Your Backyard Retreat: Outdoor Living at Its Finest

The First Coast's warm weather beckons all residents to play outside! With the well-known physical and mental health benefits of spending time immersed in the great outdoors, it's no surprise that people have been enjoying their outdoor living spaces more than ever before. "Backyarding"—taking activities associated with the indoors into outside settings—has even become a trend, one that's here to stay. For those looking to relax, entertain, grill or garden, having your own backyard retreat is a must.

Creating a backyard oasis is a great way to extend your living and entertaining areas. Unexceptional backyards with stackable plastic chairs, a grill and some colorful flowers blooming on the side of the deck are a thing of the past. Now, loaded decks with an outdoor living room, comfy chairs, twinkling party lights, a full kitchen, bar, island, firepit and even televisions are found throughout the First Coast. There is a wide range of material options for outdoor furniture, including wrought iron, cast iron, aluminum or even traditional wood. Synthetic weatherproof patio furniture with durable fabrics is available to stand up to the elements if your furniture is not kept under a cover or a patio enclosure or lanai. Adding a lanai, patio cover, awning or screen enclosure can protect your furniture from direct exposure to sun and rain. It can even provide some privacy from neighbors.

Homeowners can turn simple living spaces into their favorite part of the home by bringing the indoors outside. With more than 33 years of experience and over 15,000 satisfied customers, Lifetime Enclosures in Jacksonville is one of the First Coast's premier sources for renovating their outdoor space with lanais, outdoor kitchens, sunrooms, screen enclosures and more.

When planning your outdoor living room, think about creating different spaces. Envisioning furniture placement for the sitting area will help with building a deck or patio large enough to accommodate your wants. Families may even want to create a kids' outdoor playroom complete with a playset and even a garden.

An outdoor kitchen is a practical and luxurious way to expand your home's entertainment space, while also increasing the value of your home. When designing your outdoor kitchen, be sure to consider the right appliances for your needs. Features such as side burners, griddles, warming drawers, pizza ovens, smokers, sinks and refrigerators are important decisions. Don't forget lighting so you can enjoy your space even after the sun goes down.

Planting various flowers, plants and shrubs can add splashes of color as well. Many people choose plants that provide food and shelter for pollinators like birds, bees and butterflies. From a simple herb garden in a planter to a small patch of tomatoes, peppers or other easy-to-grow veggies, gardening can be a fun and rewarding use of outdoor space. Hardscape areas are a good option to spruce up the space for some backyards. Edging hardscape areas with ground covers and low-growing plants can soften the edges and bring more color and life to the area.

Whether it's for relaxation, entertainment or play, your yard is an extension of your indoor living space, so make it as warm and inviting as you do your home. All aspects of home improvement require planning and time, so enlist a professional such as Lifetime Enclosures to make your vision and plan into reality. With free estimates, these professionals can turn your outdoor space into your own personal retreat.

Home in Fleming Island, photo by Pipas Imagery, courtesy of Shutterstock

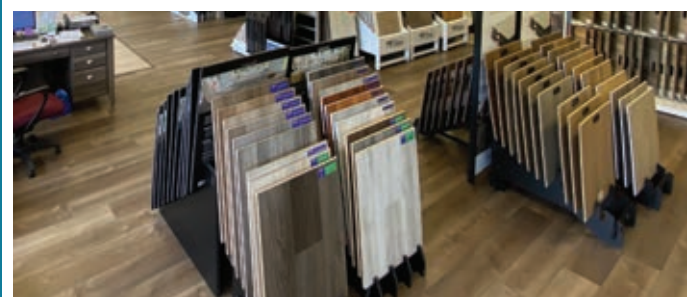


“Homeowners can turn simple living spaces into their favorite part of the home by bringing the indoors outside.”

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- POOL ENCLOSURES
- SUNROOMS
- PATIO COVERS
- AWNINGS



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LifetimeFlooringJax.com



Playing Ruff

It's time to hit the beach to spend some time with your new furry friend! Check out one of the First Coast's local dog parks and pet-friendly beaches.

Dog Parks

Atlantic Beach Dog Park

Atlantic Beach
www.coab.us/463/Atlantic-Beach-Dog-Park

Davis Park

Ponte Vedra Beach
www.sjcfi.us/parks_trails/davis-park

Deleon Shores Park

Ponte Vedra
www.sjcfi.us/parks_trails/deleon-shores-park

Ed Austin Regional Dog Park

Arlington
www.jacksonville.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation

Joe Pomar Park

St. Augustine
www.sjcfi.us/parks_trails/joe-pomar-park

John Gorrie Dog Park at Riverside Park

Riverside
<https://riversideavondale.org/john-gorrie-dog-park>

Leonard Abess Park

Arlington
www.jacksonville.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation

Nocatee Community Park

Ponte Vedra
www.sjcfi.us/parks_trails/nocatee-community-park

Oceanway Park

Oceanway
www.jacksonville.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation

Orange Park Dog Park

Orange Park
www.townoforangepark.com/p/residents/parks/dog-park

Poochie's Park

Orange Park
<https://poochiespark.com/>

Ron Parker Park

St. Augustine
www.sjcfi.us/parks_trails/ron-parker-park

Springfield Park Dog Park

Springfield
www.jacksonville.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation



Orange Park Dog Park, photo by Diana Ferguson

Tillie K. Fowler Regional Park

Westside
www.jacksonville.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation

Treaty Park

St. Augustine
www.sjcfi.us/parks_trails/treaty-park

Veterans Park Dog Park

St. Johns
www.sjcfi.us/parks_trails/veterans-park

Pet-Friendly Beaches

American Beach

Must be leashed

Atlantic Beach

Must be leashed unless both pet and owner are in the water

Crescent Beach

Must be leashed

Fernandina Beach

Must be leashed

Jacksonville Beach

Must be leashed
April 1 to Sept. 30 - dogs not permitted between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Oct. 1 to March 31 - dogs permitted any time

Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park

Must be leashed
Permitted in designated areas

Mayport Beach

Must be leashed
Dogs permitted daily until dusk

Mickler's Beachfront Park

Must be leashed

Neptune Beach

Must be leashed
Dogs permitted between 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. year-round

Peters Point Beachfront Park

Must be leashed

Ponte Vedra Beach

Must be leashed

St. Augustine Beach

Must be leashed

Usina Beach

Must be leashed

Vilano Beach

Must be leashed

Animal Shelters

Animal Care and Protective Services

www.jacksonville.gov/departments/neighborhoods/animal-care-protective-services

Ayla's Acres No-Kill Animal Rescue

www.aylasacres.org

Baker County Animal Control

www.bakercountyfl.org/animals.php

Clay County Animal Services

www.claycountygov.com/community/animal-services/adoption

Clay County Humane Society

www.clayhumane.org

Froggy's Cat Rescue

www.froggyscatrescue.com

Jacksonville Humane Society

www.jaxhumane.org

Nassau County Animal Services

www.nassaucountyfl.com/845/Animal-Services

Nassau Humane Society

www.nassauhumane.org

S.A.F.E. Pet Rescue, Inc.

www.safe-pet-rescue-fl.com

St. Augustine Humane Society

www.staughumane.org

St. Johns County Animal Control

www.sjcfil.us/departments/animal-control

Wags & Whiskers Pet Rescue, Inc.

www.wwpetrescue.org

Pet Adoption Locations and Events

The First Coast is a great place to find the perfect pet! With pet adoption events, local shelters and veterinary services throughout the area, you're bound to find your new furry best friend!

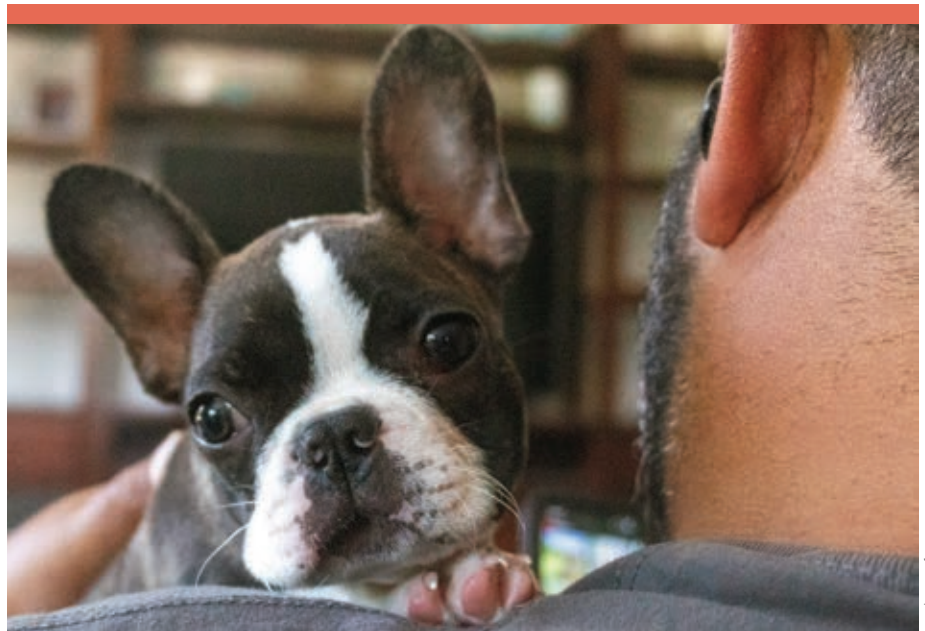


Photo courtesy of Unsplash

Wildlife Rehabilitation Programs

Local wildlife is an important part of our area, especially with the abundance of parks and preserves on the First Coast. For those seeking a unique opportunity, consider volunteering at a wildlife rehabilitation center to help native wildlife such as opossums, squirrels, raccoons and foxes. There are several places on the First Coast where people can volunteer and even foster orphaned and injured wildlife. Remember not to interact with wildlife without guidance from a local wildlife rehabilitation center. These rehabilitations are run by licensed professionals who have extensive experience handling wildlife.

Ark Wildlife Care and Sanctuary, Inc., The

www.thearkwildlifecareandsanctuary.com

Ark Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation, Inc., The

www.thearkrescue.org

Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission

<https://myfwc.com/get-involved/volunteer/regional-programs/ne-region>

Sea Turtle Hospital at Whitney Laboratory

www.whitney.ufl.edu/conservation--sea-turtle-hospital

Wildlife Rescue Coalition of Northeast Florida

www.wildlifecoalition.com

Photo courtesy of Unsplash



Adoption Events

First Coast No More Homeless Pets

MEGA Adoption Event

Three times a year

www.fcnmhp.org

Petco Love Statewide

Mega Adoption Event

www.megaadoptflorida.com

PetSmart Charities National

Adoption Week

www.petsmartcharities.org/adopt-a-pet/adoption-events

Many shelters are full and are looking for

fosters. This is a great way to test out the waters and provide temporary care for pets in need while they wait to be placed in their forever home.

Grab Your Sunglasses!

First Coast Weather

The First Coast is home to beautiful weather where residents can enjoy blue skies and beach days almost all year long. With this picture-perfect weather from November until April, residents may still need to grab an umbrella with some rain showers appearing during the summer. The winters are mild with temperatures ranging from the mid-40s to the mid-60s. Some early risers may find a sprinkling of frost on the ground during the winter. Summer rays illuminate over Florida, offering temperatures that range from the mid-70s in the evenings to mid-to-high 90s in the daytime. Nevertheless, rain or sunshine, there is always something fun to do here on the First Coast!



Sunny day in Jacksonville Beach, photo by Naya Dadara, courtesy of Shutterstock

Suit Up! Ways to Cool Down This Summer

- The First Coast's 60-plus miles of beaches and waterways include 50 public boat ramps.
- There are more than 30 public pools located throughout the First Coast, including the Cecil Aquatic Center.
- Kayak on the St. Johns River, at Hanna Park or on Amelia Island.
- Visit splash parks at Sunshine Playground, Hanna Park, Wiley Road Playground, Losco Regional Park, Abess Park, the Jacksonville Zoo, the St. Johns County Pier and many more.
- Beat the heat at Shipwreck Island Water Park, featuring four waterslides, a wave pool, lazy river, Hydro Halfpipe, Splash Cove and Pirate's Play Village.

Rain, Rain, Go Away!

- Bounce the day away at an indoor trampoline park. Check out our list on page 120.
- Shop for the latest trends at our indoor malls, including the Avenues Mall and Orange Park Mall.
- With 38 libraries throughout the First Coast, check out some books from your local branch.
- Visit museums like the Museum of Science & History, Museum of Contemporary Art and the Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens.

AVERAGE HIGH/LOW TEMPERATURE

MONTH	HIGH	LOW
January	63.5°F	47.8°F
February	67.5°F	51.4°F
March	73.2°F	55.6°F
April	80.1°F	62.4°F
May	85.5°F	68.0°F
June	90.1°F	73.9°F
July	91.4°F	75.4°F
August	90.4°F	74.2°F
September	86.9°F	73.8°F
October	80.8°F	62.8°F
November	72.0°F	51.5°F
December	67.5°F	46.7°F

AVERAGE RAINFALL BY INCHES

MONTH	INCHES
January	2.3
February	2.7
March	2.9
April	3.0
May	4.2
June	6.1
July	6.7
August	7.1
September	6.4
October	2.7
November	2.1
December	2.5

Weather Prep

Storm Preparations

Being prepared with emergency supplies and a plan can help reduce the stress of an oncoming storm. Assemble a disaster supply kit, including a first aid kit and at least a three-day supply of food and water, and keep it in an easily accessible place. Items such as flashlights and a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) weather radio are helpful to stay up to date on comprehensive 24-hour weather forecasts. Keep a full tank of gas and plan multiple travel routes out of the area. Besides learning your evacuation zone, keep in mind that if an evacuation does occur, highways, bridges and roads may close.

Protect your home by boarding up glass doors or windows with plywood or installing hurricane shutters. Collect any loose objects from the yard, as they are a hazard and could fly away during high winds. The local emergency management or planning/zoning office can alert you if you live in a potential flood zone and give suggestions for additional preparation, such as getting sandbags to prevent water from getting into your house.

HURRICANES

Hurricane season begins in June and lasts until the end of November and, although most common during those months, hurricanes can form throughout the year. With three peninsulas, Florida gets the brunt of the storms on its coastlines, which are most threatened by these storms. As the most western point on the U.S. Eastern Seaboard, Northeast Florida receives fewer hurricanes than other parts of the state.

Weather Terms to Know:

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.

Tropical Depression: maximum sustained wind speed of 38 mph.

Tropical Disturbance:

originates in the tropics or subtropics and maintains an identity for 24 hours.

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

Hurricane Categories:

The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale is used by meteorologists to define a hurricane's category and determine safety measures that residents should take for hurricane preparation or even evacuation. This categorization scale doesn't determine other possible hurricane-related effects such as storm surge, tornadoes or flooding due to the increase of rain.

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

YOUR SOURCE FOR IMPORTANT LOCAL UPDATES WHEN EMERGENCIES STRIKE.

Florida Public Radio
WPREN + WJCT | PUBLIC MEDIA
Emergency Network

@FloridaStorms • wjct.org/weather

Local and State Resources

Baker County: www.bakercountysheriffsoffice.com/emergency-management

Clay County: www.claycountygov.com/community/emergency-management

Duval County/City of Jacksonville: www.jaxready.com

Nassau County: www.onenassau.com

St. Johns County: www.sjcfcl.us/departments/emergency-mgmt

Florida Division of Emergency Management: www.floridadisaster.org

TORNADOES

Compared to the Midwest, tornadoes on the First Coast aren't nearly as strong but can still cause significant damage. Tornadoes can reach 300 mph with an average forward speed of 30 mph. If a tornado warning is issued, take shelter indoors away from the storm. When inside a building or home, stay away from windows in an inner room such as a bathroom or closet. Crouch low to the ground and cover your head with your hands. Stay aware of severe weather in the area, as tornadoes can develop quickly, and advanced warning isn't always possible.

Weather Terms to Know:

Tornado Warning: tornado sighted or indicated on radar.

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

Waterspout: tornado that forms over warm water.

Education

BAKER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



www.bakerk12.org
 904-259-6251
 270 South Blvd. E., Macclenny
 Superintendent Wyatt Milton
 904-259-0401
john.milton@bakerk12.org
 Baker County prides itself on “building champions inside and outside of the classroom.” The school district consists of 10 schools. The district’s students compete in many academic and athletic competitions statewide, nationwide and even internationally. Baker County also has the Baker County Adult Education Center, which provides those looking to further their education with working skills ranging from Phlebotomy training to CNA training.

CLAY COUNTY DISTRICT SCHOOLS



www.oneclay.net
 904-336-6500
 900 Walnut St.,
 Green Cove Springs
 Superintendent David Broskie
 904-284-6510
david.broskie@myoneclay.net
 Clay County Schools have an important vision to prepare lifelong learners for success in a global and competitive workplace and in acquiring applicable life skills. It was one of only 10 districts in Florida named an Academically High-Performing School District for the 2023-24 school year. This school year, 50 public schools serve more than 39,000 students.

DUVAL COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



<https://dcps.duvalschools.org>
 904-390-2000
 1701 Prudential Dr., Jacksonville
 Superintendent Dr. Christopher Bernier | 904-390-2115
bernierc@duvalschools.org
 Duval County Public Schools (DCPS) is the sixth biggest school district in Florida. The district offers Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE), International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced Placement (AP) courses and dual enrollment courses. DCPS serves more than 129,000 students. Each day, faculty and staff work together to make sure “that every student is inspired and prepared for success in college or a career, and life.” Duval County ranked as a B district for the 2023-24 school year.

NASSAU COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



www.nassau.k12.fl.us
 904-491-9900
 1201 Atlantic Ave.,
 Fernandina Beach
 Superintendent Dr. Kathy Burns
 904-491-9902
burnska@nassau.k12.fl.us
 The Nassau County School District aims to help build a strong educational foundation throughout each child’s educational career. The school district was ranked an A district for the 2023-24 school year and is ranked No. 8 by Niche for Best School Districts in Florida. The county offers AP courses, as well as numerous extracurricular activities.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



www.stjohns.k12.fl.us
 40 Orange St., St. Augustine
 904-547-7500
 Superintendent Tim Forson
 904-547-7502
tim.forson@stjohns.k12.fl.us
 The St. Johns County School District is one of the top districts in Florida and was rated No. 3 by Niche. The county offers AP, IB, AICE and Advanced Via Individual Determination programs for their students. The district is part of the CHARACTER COUNTS! effort, which works to instill positive character traits in their students, including trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

“Three First Coast school districts are ranked on Niche’s 2025 Best School Districts in Florida list: St. Johns County at No. 3, Clay County at No. 4 and Nassau County at No. 8.”

Total Number of Students **237,554**

BAKER COUNTY	CLAY COUNTY	DUVAL COUNTY	NASSAU COUNTY	ST. JOHNS COUNTY
4,929	39,351	129,094	12,746	51,434

Total Number of Public Schools **311**

BAKER COUNTY	CLAY COUNTY	DUVAL COUNTY	NASSAU COUNTY	ST. JOHNS COUNTY
10	50	185	20	46

*According to the Florida Department of Education as of 10/22/2024



Private Schools

BAKER COUNTY

- Atrium School..... 561-247-5726
www.atriumschool.org
- Black Hawks Institute of Higher Education 307-622-9431
www.bhowellness.org
- ELA Academy 904-282-3522
www.elaaschool.org
- Faith Baptist Academy 904-259-3230
www.facebook.com/FaithBaptistAcademyPatriots/

CLAY COUNTY

- Annunciation Catholic School..... 904-282-0504
www.annunciationcatholic.org
- Atrium School..... 561-247-5726
www.atriumschool.org
- Berean Christian Academy 904-773-8404
www.bccanes.org
- Black Creek Christian School 904-282-4033
<https://blackcreekonline.com/black-creek-christian-school.html>
- Black Hawks Institute of Higher Education 307-622-9431
www.bhowellness.org
- Calvary Christian Academy..... 904-282-2068
www.calvarycares.net/calvary-christian-academy

- Centerpoint Christian Academy 904-291-1875
www.centerpointchristianacademy.weebly.com
- Christian Home Academy 904-276-3339
www.christianhomeacademy.info
- Citizens High School 800-736-4723
www.citizenshighschool.com
- Differentiated Learning Center 904-637-1400
www.dlcprivateschool.com
- ELA Academy 904-282-3522
www.elaaschool.org
- E.V. Turner Preparatory Academy 904-990-3423
<https://drjbrandice.wixsite.com/turnerprep>
- Faith Christian Academy..... 904-276-1300
www.fcaflorida.com
- Grace Episcopal Day School 904-269-3718
www.geds.net
- Haile Academy of Higher Learning..... 904-881-8524
www.haileacademy.com
- Heritage Christian Academy 904-343-1561
www.hbcacademy.org
- HighPoint Christian Academy 904-272-7949
- Morningstar Christian School 352-473-3159

Private Schools

Pinewood Christian Academy.....	904-272-6408	Bethel Holiness Academy.....	904-781-5400
www.pcaknights.org		Black Hawks Institute of Higher Education.....	307-622-9431
Primrose School.....	904-278-6886	www.bhowellness.org	
www.primroseschools.com		Chatman's Early Learning Christian Academy.....	904-751-9803
Seamark Ranch School, Inc.....	904-531-7080	Christ The King Catholic School.....	904-724-2954
www.seamarkranch.com/the-school		www.ctkschooljax.com	
Seven Bridges School.....	904-269-7377	East Pointe Christian Academy	
www.sevenbridgesschool.org		& Preschool.....	904-641-8323 ext. 104
Springs Academy, Inc.....	904-531-9669	www.epcajax.com	
St. Johns Country Day School.....	904-264-9572	ELA Academy.....	904-282-3522
www.sjcds.net		www.elaaschool.org	

DUVAL COUNTY
DUVAL-BEACHES

Atrium School.....	561-247-5726	E.V. Turner Preparatory Academy.....	904-990-3423
www.atrumschool.org		https://drjbrandice.wixsite.com/turnerprep	
Beaches Chapel School.....	904-241-4211	Faith Academy.....	904-714-0040
www.beacheschapelschool.com		www.faithacademyow.com	
Black Hawks Institute of Higher Education.....	307-622-9431	Grace Lutheran School.....	904-928-9136
www.bhowellness.org		www.gracelutheraneagles.org	
Discovery School.....	904-247-4577	Holy Spirit Catholic School.....	904-642-9165
www.dmsonline.org		www.hscatholicsschool.com	
ELA Academy.....	904-282-3522	Hopewell Christian Academy.....	904-288-9700
www.elaaschool.org		https://hopewellchristianacademy.org/	
Episcopal School of Jacksonville Beaches.....	904-246-2466	Little Country School, The.....	904-757-8200
www.esj.org		www.littlecountryschool.com	
E.V. Turner Preparatory Academy.....	904-990-3423	Parsons Christian Academy.....	904-745-4588
https://drjbrandice.wixsite.com/turnerprep		www.pclions.org	
Foundation Academy, The.....	904-493-7300	Resurrection Catholic School.....	904-744-1266
www.foundationacademy.com		www.resurrectionschooljax.com	
Montessori Tides School.....	904-241-1139	St. Patrick Catholic School.....	904-768-6323
www.montessoritides.com		www.stpatrickjacksonville.org	
New Leaf, School for Change.....	904-246-9100	Victory Christian Academy.....	904-764-7781
www.newleafschool.com		https://vcasoldiers.com/	
St. Paul's Catholic School			
- Jacksonville Beach.....	904-249-5934		
www.stpaulscatholicsschool.com			

DUVAL-SOUTH

A Child's Place Montessori School			
- Southpoint.....			904-733-5797
Academie de Montessori.....			904-398-3830
www.academie-de-montessori.org			
Al-Furqan Academy.....			904-645-0810
www.afa.icnef.org			
Assumption Catholic School.....			904-398-1774
www.assumptionjax.org			
Atrium School.....			561-247-5726
www.atrumschool.org			

DUVAL-NORTH

Alexander Preparatory Academy.....	904-419-3427
www.alexanderprepacademy.org	
Arlington Kindergarten.....	904-743-4034
www.arlingtonkindergarten.com	
Atrium School.....	561-247-5726
www.atrumschool.org	

Where Innovation Meets Opportunities

The Bolles School is an independent, coeducational day and boarding school founded in 1933 that is home to more than 1,765 students on four campuses. This school year, the opening of the Frank R. Sanchez & Hope and Dana E. Fender Center for Innovation (Sanchez Fender CFI) on the Bolles Upper School San Jose Campus marked a historic moment for the School. The three-story, 47,000-square-foot building now houses Bolles' science, math and technology programs, as well as expansive areas for advanced courses in robotics, computer programming, information technology, engineering and design.

"The Sanchez Fender CFI is a remarkable blend of art and engineering, designed to enhance the educational experiences within its walls," said Bolles President and Head of School Tyler Hodges. "It fosters collaborative, hands-on learning, encourages academic exploration with inspiring faculty and provides students with opportunities to experiment and gain practical experience—all aimed at helping them reach their highest potential and serve our community and beyond."

At Bolles, innovation is not just about state-of-the-art facilities; it's also about fostering a diverse and inclusive community that enriches the learning experience. The School is proud of its globally diverse students who represent 75 different countries and speak 22 languages. Boarding students in the Resident Life Program also hail from 29 countries and 12 states, adding their unique experiences to the day student body's culturally robust environment.

Academically, Bolles offers courses in five world languages and 30 Advanced Placement courses. Expert faculty members fan the flames of curiosity and guide students of all ages on a journey to explore their interests, discover their passions and reach for their dreams. Bolles also has its own Anatomage Table, the world's first and only virtual dissection table used by medical schools and universities around the globe.

At The Bolles School, students receive more than a world-class education—they gain the tools to thrive in a fast-paced, ever-changing world that is increasingly interconnected. In an academic environment that embraces cutting-edge technology and innovative teaching methods, Bolles students from Pre-K through Grade 12 are encouraged to pursue their passions and develop the skills necessary to lead in the future.



The School's comprehensive fine and performing arts program provides courses in drama, dance, visual arts, chorus, music and band. Among middle and upper school students, 70 percent enrolled in fine and performing arts classes this year, while 100 percent of lower school students are involved in art, music and theater instruction.

The School's athletic successes are known worldwide with 25 sports in middle school and upper school. Bolles Swimming has been represented at every Olympics since 1972, with

a total of 67 Bolles students, former students and Bolles Sharks competing over the years. Bolles' Olympic history now includes 15 medalists, winning a total of 36 medals including 21 gold.

At Bolles, students experience an *All Things Possible* approach to learning, which opens their eyes to the limitless opportunities before them. With a foundation in courage, integrity and compassion, students focus on the future and know how to be successful as they progress into college and life.



Private Schools

Baymeadows Christian Academy 904-733-3400 www.bbcjx.org	Holy Family Catholic School..... 904-645-9875 www.hfcatholicsschool.com
Bishop Kenny High School 904-398-7545 www.bishopkenny.org	Impact Christian Academy..... 904-652-1441 www.icajax.com
Black Hawks Institute of Higher Education 307-622-9431 www.bhowellness.org	Jacksonville Country Day School..... 904-641-6644 www.jcnds.com
Blessed Trinity Catholic School 904-641-6458 www.blessedtrinitycatholicsschool.org	LifePoint Academy of Seventh-Day Adventists 904-268-2433 www.lifepointacademy.com
Bolles School, The..... 904-733-9292 www.bolles.org ► see our Inside Front Cover	Martin J. Gottlieb Day School..... 904-268-4200 www.dubowgottlieb.org
Builders of the Faith Preschool & Academy 904-772-0277 www.buildersofthefaith.com	My Academy 904-980-8337 www.myacademyjax.com
Center Academy - Jacksonville Julington Creek..... 904-448-1956 www.centeracademy.com/locations/julington-creek - Jacksonville St. Johns Bluff 904-645-5366 www.centeracademy.com/locations/jacksonville-fl-st-johns-bluff	New Dimensions Learning Center..... 904-736-7962 www.ndlcjax.com
CES Academy 904-254-6428 www.ces-schools.net/jacksonville	Pablo Academy 904-412-3362 www.pabloacademy.org
Christ's Church Academy 904-268-8667 www.ccajax.org	Providence School..... 904-223-5270 www.prov.org ► see our ad page 57
Christian Heritage Academy 904-733-4722 www.chajax.org	SAMi Academy Science and Math Institute 904-573-0883 www.samiacademy.com
Cornerstone Christian School..... 904-730-5500 www.csjax.org	San Jose Catholic School..... 904-733-2313 www.sanjosecatholicsschool.com
Covenant School of Jacksonville, The 904-265-7474 www.wearecovenant.org	San Jose Episcopal Day School 904-733-0352 www.sjeds.org
ELA Academy 904-282-3522 www.elaaschool.org	Seacoast Christian Academy..... 904-722-1738 www.scajax.org
Episcopal School of Jacksonville..... 904-396-5751 www.esj.org	St. Joseph Catholic School 904-268-6688 www.stjosephcs.org
E.V. Turner Preparatory Academy 904-990-3423 https://drjbrandice.wixsite.com/turnerprep	Temple College Preparatory..... 904-598-0078 www.templecollegeprep.com
Faith First Preschool..... 904-672-7723 www.faithfirstpreschool.com	Torah Academy of Jacksonville..... 904-268-7719 www.torah-academy.com
Father's H.a.r.b.o.r. Academy..... 904-306-9579 www.fathersharboracademy.com	University Christian School..... 904-737-6330 www.ucsjax.com
Guidepost Montessori 904-385-8222 www.guidepostmontessori.com/schools/baymeadows-jacksonville-fl	DUVAL-WEST
Harvest Community School 904-997-1882 www.hcsjax.org	Academy of Excellence, The..... 904-779-0177 www.theaoejax.com
	America's Little Leaders Junior Academy 904-240-1864 https://alljra.org
	Argyle Christian Preschool & Kindergarten 904-778-4838 www.myacpk.com
	Arise Institute 904-330-4440 https://sites.google.com/view/ariseholistic

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and minds.

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SCHOOL

Boldly Christian. Unquestionably Academic.

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Preschool through High School

904.223.5270 | prov.org
2701 Hodges Blvd. Jacksonville, FL 32224

Ark Academy 904-410-0339 www.arkacademy.education	Chatman's Academy..... 904-237-5617 www.facebook.com/ChatmansAcademy
Atrium School..... 561-247-5726 www.atriumschool.org	Destiny Preparatory Academy 904-403-8585 www.destinyprepacademy.com
Austin Christian Vocational Academy 904-647-5065 www.austinwarriors.org	Eagle's View Academy..... 904-786-1411 www.evajax.com
Bible Baptist Academy 904-765-5111 www.biblebaptistacademy.wordpress.com	ELA Academy 904-282-3522 www.elaaschool.org
Bishop John J. Snyder High School 904-771-1029 www.bishopsnyder.org	Emmanuel Coastal Academy 904-233-5496 www.emmanuelcoastalacademy.org
Black Hawks Institute of Higher Education 307-622-9431 www.bhowellness.org	Ephesus Junior Academy 904-765-3225 www.ephesusjunioracademy.org
Cedar Creek Christian School 904-781-9151 www.cccsjax.org	Episcopal School of Jacksonville - St. Mark's..... 904-388-2632 www.esj.org
Cedar Hills Baptist Christian School..... 904-772-0812 www.chbcs.org	Esprit de Corps Center for Learning 904-924-2000 www.edccenterforlearning.com
CES Academy 904-254-6428 www.ces-schools.net	E.V. Turner Preparatory Academy 904-990-3423 https://drjbrandice.wixsite.com/turnerprep
Changing Lives Christian Academy 904-425-4494 www.facebook.com/clcjax	Fields of Art Christian Academy 904-713-8260 www.fieldsofartchristianacademy.com

Private Schools

First Coast Christian School 904-777-3040
www.fccsjax.org

Good Shepherd Christian Academy 904-768-1580
www.facebook.com/GSChristianAcademy/

Grace Christian Academy 904-266-9532
www.gbcbaldwin.org/grace-christian-academy

Guardian Catholic School 904-765-6522
www.guardiancatholic.com

Heart to Heart Christian Academy 904-783-8631
www.h2hacademy.com

Icon Preparatory School 904-552-1005
www.jacksonville.iconprep.org

Jackson Preparatory Academy 904-518-5534
www.jacksonprepacademicsopa.org

Jacksonville Christian Academy 904-783-2818
www.jcajacksonville.org

Joshua Christian Academy 904-388-2227
www.jcacademy.org

Millennial Christian School 904-772-6400
www.millcs.org

New Beginnings Christian Center 904-786-3178
www.nbccjax.org

North Florida Educational Institute
 North Campus 904-764-0084
 West Campus 904-574-8059
www.nfei.org

Old Plank Christian Academy 904-783-4888
www.oldplankca.com

Potter's House Christian Academy
 Elementary 904-786-0028
 High School 904-695-2837
www.phcalions.org

Riverside Presbyterian Day School..... 904-353-3459
www.rpds.com
► see our ad page 2

Sacred Heart Catholic School..... 904-771-5800
www.shcsjax.com

St. Matthew's Catholic School..... 904-387-4401
www.stmatthewscs.com

St. Paul's Catholic School - Riverside..... 904-387-2841
www.spsjax.org

Striving for Excellence Academy 904-719-9445
www.strivingforexcellenceacademy.org

Temple Christian Academy 904-778-8655
www.templechristian.net

Trinity Christian Academy 904-596-2460
www.tcajax.org

West Meadows Baptist Academy 904-786-2711
www.wmbcjax.org/academy

Zarephath Academy 904-632-1330
www.zcajax.org

NASSAU COUNTY

Amelia Island Montessori School..... 904-261-6610
www.ameliaislandmontessori.com

Atrium School..... 561-247-5726
www.atriumschool.org

Black Hawks Institute of Higher Education 307-622-9431
www.bhowellness.org

Early Impressions
 - @ Blackrock..... 904-310-9730
 - @ Midtown..... 904-206-4170
www.earlyimpressionsfl.com

ELA Academy 904-282-3522
www.elaaschool.org

Faith Christian Academy..... 904-321-2137
www.fcaangels.com

Fernandina Beach Christian Academy 904-491-5664
www.fernandinachristianacademy.com

Ogburn School, The 904-491-6233
www.ogburn.org

Sonshine Christian Academy 904-879-1260
www.sonshinechristian.com

St. Michael Academy..... 904-321-2102
<https://smacad.org/>



Grove Park Elementary School, photo by Diana Ferguson

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Apex Christian Academy	904-824-8114	Matanzas Christian Academy	904-794-1623
www.apexchristian.com		www.matanzasacademy.com	
Ark Christian Academy	904-810-2005	Moultrie Montessori School	904-826-0216
www.arkchristianacademystaug.org		www.moultriemontessori.com	
Atrium School	561-247-5726	Palmer Catholic Academy	904-543-8515
www.atriumschool.org		www.pcapvb.org	
Beacon of Hope Christian School	904-797-6996	Pioneer School, The	904-209-5891
www.beaconeagles.net		www.staugustinepioneer.com	
Black Hawks Institute of Higher Education	307-622-9431	San Juan Del Rio Catholic School	904-287-0519
www.bhowellness.org		www.sjdrparish.org	
Bolles School, The	904-733-9292	St. John's Academy	904-824-9224
www.bolles.org		www.stjohnsacademy.com	
► see our Inside Front Cover		St. Joseph Academy Catholic High School	904-824-0431
Cathedral Parish School	904-824-2861	www.sjaweb.org	
www.thecathedralparishschool.org		Turning Point Christian Academy	904-824-0744
Collage Day School	904-900-1439	www.tpchristianacademy.com	
www.collagedayschool.org		Veritas Classical School	904-810-1050
ELA Academy	904-282-3522	www.veritasclassicalschool.com	
www.elaaschool.org		Victory Preparatory School	904-810-0535
Island Prep	904-547-2996	www.victoryprep.net	
www.islandprep.com			

First Coast Early Learning and Voluntary Prekindergarten Resources

Florida was one of the first states in the country to offer free prekindergarten to all 4-year-olds, regardless of family income. Since the program began in 2005-06, more than 2.6 million children have benefited from the Voluntary Prekindergarten Education Program (VPK). According to the Florida Department of Education, children who attend VPK are more prepared for kindergarten than children who do not. The VPK Specialized Educational Services Program is available for families who have age-eligible children with disabilities.

First Coast parents have a wide range of options available from private, public and faith-based providers, as well as specialized instructional services providers. Below is a list of resources to help get you started on your search for the best early learning options for your children.

Early Learning Coalition of Duval
www.elcduval.org

Early Learning Coalition
of North Florida
www.elcnorthflorida.org

Florida Association for the Education
of Young Children
www.flaeyc.org

Florida Department of Education
Division of Early Learning
www.fldoe.org/schools/early-learning

Florida Head Start Association
www.flheadstart.org



Charter Schools

CLAY COUNTY

- Clay Charter Academy 904-406-1607
www.claycharter.org
- Florida Cyber Charter Academy @ Clay 855-748-4737
https://flcca.k12.com/
- St. Johns Classical Academy 904-458-8240
www.stjca.org

DUVAL COUNTY DUVAL-BEACHES

- Florida Cyber Charter Academy @ Duval 855-748-4737
https://flcca.k12.com/
- Seaside Charter Beaches 844-973-2743
www.seasidecharter.org

DUVAL-NORTH

- Biscayne MYcroSchool..... 904-301-4367
www.biscaynehs.com
- Florida Cyber Charter Academy @ Duval 855-748-4737
https://flcca.k12.com/
- Global Outreach Charter Academy 904-551-7104
https://glacademy.us/
- Lone Star High School..... 904-725-5998
www.jaxlonestarhs.com

- Seacoast Charter Academy 904-562-4780
www.seacoastcharteracademy.org
- Seaside Charter North 844-973-2743
www.seasidecharter.org
- Somerset Academy Eagle Campus..... 904-503-0661
www.somersetjax.com

DUVAL-SOUTH

- Bold City Education - San Jose Academy 904-425-1723
www.boldcityed.org
- BridgePrep Academy of Duval 904-694-2660
www.bridgeprepduval.com
- Cornerstone Classical Academy 904-481-8163
www.cornerstoneclassical.org
- Duval Charter Scholars Academy 904-724-1536
www.duvalcharter.org
- Duval Charter School at Baymeadows..... 904-271-4127
www.baymeadowscharter.org
- Duval Charter School at Coastal..... 904-512-6757
www.coastalcharter.org
- Duval Charter School at Flagler Center..... 904-899-1010
www.flaglercharter.org
- Duval Charter School at Mandarin 904-440-2901
www.mandarincharter.org

- Duval Charter School at Southside 904-423-5348
www.southsidecharter.org
- Florida Cyber Charter Academy @ Duval 855-748-4737
https://flcca.k12.com/
- IDEA River Bluff 904-821-7580
www.ideapublicschools.org/our-schools/idea-river-bluff/
- River City Science Academy 904-855-8010
www.rivercityscience.org
- Seaside Charter Mandarin 844-973-2743
www.seasidecharter.org

DUVAL-WEST

- Becoming Collegiate Academy 904-619-2461
www.becomingschools.org
- Duval Charter School at Westside 904-421-0250
www.westsidecharter.org
- Duval MYcro School 904-783-3611
- Florida Cyber Charter Academy @ Duval 855-748-4737
https://flcca.k12.com/
- IDEA Bassett 904-821-7717
www.ideapublicschools.org/our-schools/idea-bassett/
- Jacksonville Classical Academy 904-288-7732
www.jaxclassical.org
- KIPP Public Charter School 904-683-6643
www.kippjax.org
- School of Success Academy
Charter Middle School 904-573-0880
www.schoolofsuccessacademy.org
- Tiger Academy 904-309-6840
https://ymcatigeracademy.org/
- Wayman Academy of the Arts 904-695-9995
www.waymanacademy.org

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

- St. Augustine Public Montessori School 904-342-5350
www.stamontessori.org
- St. Johns Community Campus
Charter School, The 904-824-7249
www.arcsj.org/services/community-campus/
- Therapeutic Learning Center 904-824-8932
www.arcsj.org/tlc/

First Coast Childcare Resources

Finding the right childcare doesn't need to be stressful. The First Coast has plenty of state-funded and private childcare options with stimulating curriculums, trained staff and safe facilities.

Child Care Aware of America
www.childcareaware.org/state/florida-6/

Episcopal Children's Services
www.ecs4kids.org

Florida Association for Child Care Management
www.faccm.org

Florida Department of Children and Families
www.myflfamilies.com

Resources for Stay-at-Home Parents

The First Coast is full of resources for stay-at-home parents, whether it's a support group or early learning tools so you can prepare your kids for school.

Circle of Parents
www.circleofparents.org

Division of Early Learning
www.fldoe.org/schools/early-learning/

Healthy Families Florida
www.healthyfamiliesfla.org

Parent Academy
https://dcps.duvalschools.org/o/dcps/page/parent-academy



Programs for Learning Differences



Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind, photo by Michael Rivera, courtesy of Wikimedia Commons

CLAY COUNTY

Broach School Orange Park

www.broachschool.com

For more than 50 years, the Broach School has helped students with special needs such as anxiety, ADHD, specific learning disabilities, developmental disabilities, autism spectrum disabilities, and more.

Lighthouse Christian School Middleburg, Orange Park

www.lighthousechristianschool.net

Lighthouse Christian School offers smaller class sizes and individualized lessons to help students who may learn differently grow. Many of their students are able to go on to higher learning institutions.

Seven Bridges School

www.sevenbridgesschool.org

Seven Bridges School caters to students with average to above-average intelligence who have differences in learning styles. They offer a wide range of subjects, electives and extracurriculars.

DUVAL COUNTY

DUVAL-NORTH

Greenwood School904-726-5000

www.greenwoodjax.org

Greenwood School provides a challenging and supportive education to middle and high school students with learning differences. Through adaptive, multisensory instruction in a positive, safe and secure environment, students develop the knowledge and skills necessary to achieve their highest potential in the classroom and beyond.

Jericho School, The

www.thejerichoschool.org

This private, nonprofit school offers a variety of individual and classroom programs for students with autism and other developmental disabilities based on Applied Behavior Analysis and analysis of verbal behavior.

Lighthouse Christian School

Arlington, Northside

www.lighthousechristianschool.net

The Lighthouse Christian School offers smaller class sizes and individualized lessons to help students who may learn differently grow. Many of their students are able to go on to higher learning institutions.

DUVAL-SOUTH

Alden Road Exceptional Student Center

<https://dcps.duvalschools.org/o/aresc>

Alden Road focuses on creating a positive learning environment that promotes self-advocacy, self-determination and self-esteem. The student center uses a variety of curriculums to meet the students' needs.

Broach School

South

www.broachschool.com

For more than 50 years, the Broach School has helped students with special needs such as anxiety, ADHD, specific learning disabilities, developmental disabilities, autism spectrum disabilities and more.

Center Academy

St. Johns Bluff

www.centeracademy.com

This private school offers a multitude of specialized programs for students grades four through 12 with learning differences. The school utilizes small classroom sizes so teachers can accommodate students' individual needs and learning styles.

Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech

www.clarkeschools.org/florida/

The Clarke Schools for Hearing and Speech offers programs and resources for children ranging from infants to school age who are deaf or hard of hearing. The school also offers support for the families of their students.

DePaul School of Northeast Florida

www.depaulschool.com

The DePaul School of Northeast Florida works with students between second and eighth grade who have dyslexia. The school utilizes a multisensory, Orton-Gillingham approach to address their students' needs.

Great Strides School

www.h2health.com/great-strides-pediatrics-school/

Great Strides School is part of Great Strides Rehabilitation and offers Applied Behavior Analysis and several types of therapy including occupational, speech, physical and music. Their class sizes are small, making it easier for the teachers to follow an individualized curriculum.

Jacksonville School for Autism

www.jsakids.org

Using an “outside of the desk” method, this school works to prepare students with autism for adulthood through early childhood development, vocational and enrichment programs.

Lighthouse Christian School

Mandarin

www.lighthousechristianschool.net

The Lighthouse Christian School offers smaller class sizes and individualized lessons to help students who may learn differently grow. Many of their students are able to go on to higher learning institutions.

Little Star Center

<https://littlestarjax.com>

The Little Star Center aims to prepare students with autism for the future using individual and group instruction, as well as social skills training.

Mainspring Academy

www.mainspringacademy.org

Mainspring Academy offers a specialized education for students aged 5 through 22 with intellectual and developmental differences. The school also offers art, fitness and music enrichment classes, as well as extracurriculars.

Morning Star School

www.morningstar-jax.org

Since 1956, Morning Star School has served children with learning differences using differentiated educational strategies to work with students based on their individual needs. The school also offers courses in religion, speech and language, physical education, art and music.

North Florida School of Special Education

www.northfloridaschool.org

The North Florida School of Special Education serves children and adults from ages 6 to 22 who have intellectual and developmental differences. The school offers a comprehensive academic program for students, as well as postgraduate programs including vocational training, internships and more.

DUVAL-WEST

Broach School

Westside

www.broachschool.com

For more than 50 years, the Broach School has helped students with special needs such as anxiety, ADHD, specific learning disabilities, developmental disabilities, autism spectrum disabilities and more.

Lighthouse Christian School

Dinsmore, Westside

www.lighthousechristianschool.net

The Lighthouse Christian School offers smaller class sizes and individualized lessons to help students who may learn differently grow. Many of their students are able to go on to higher learning institutions.

Mount Herman Exceptional Student Center

<https://dcps.duvalschools.org/o/hesc>

The Mount Herman Exceptional Student Center works with students who have intellectual disabilities from ages 3 to 21. The school focuses on the student’s abilities to encourage growth in academics, communication, independent functioning and social skills.

Palm Avenue Exceptional Student Center

<https://dcps.duvalschools.org/o/phes>

Palm Avenue challenges their students and helps them obtain the skills necessary to lead independent and active lives using enriching and educational real-life experiences.

NASSAU COUNTY

Lighthouse Christian School

Callahan

www.lighthousechristianschool.net

The Lighthouse Christian School offers smaller class sizes and individualized lessons to help students who may learn differently grow. Many of their students are able to go on to higher learning institutions.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Broach School

Ponte Vedra

www.broachschool.com

For more than 50 years, the Broach School has helped students with special needs such as anxiety, ADHD, specific learning disabilities, developmental disabilities, autism spectrum disabilities and more.

Center Academy

Julington Creek

www.centeracademy.com

This private school offers a multitude of specialized programs for students grades four through 12 with learning differences. The school utilizes small classroom sizes so teachers can accommodate students’ individual needs and learning styles.

Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind

www.fsdbk12.org

The only school of its kind in the state of Florida, this school serves students with hearing and visual impairments. Fully accredited and tuition-free, it offers K-12th grade classes on campus, as well as a Pre-K early learning center.





Flagler College, photo courtesy of Unsplash

Adult Education

Here on the First Coast, those looking to continue their education beyond high school are fortunate to have several options to comb through to find the perfect program. Whether you're looking to train for a career in aviation or pursue your PhD, there's something here for you!

Conservative Theological University **www.conservative.edu**

The Conservative Theological University was established in 1982, is certified by the Council of Private Colleges of America and is a member of the Florida Council of Private Colleges. They offer degrees ranging from associates to PhDs that focus on Biblical education.

Edward Waters University **www.ew.edu**

Founded in 1866, Edward Waters University (EWU) is the first Historically Black College in the state of Florida. There are seven bachelor's degree programs to choose from, including Science and Mathematics, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Business Administration, Communications and Criminal Justice. There are also three master's degree programs: Cybersecurity, Education Policy and Advocacy and Public Administration.

First Coast Technical College **www.fctc.edu**

First Coast Technical College (FCTC) aims to provide career, technical and adult education to meet the changing needs of students and businesses as well as the workforce. With two campuses in St. Augustine, the college offers a variety of programs, including Agriculture, Health Sciences, Hospitality and Tourism, Human Services, Law and Applied Cybersecurity.

Flagler College **www.flagler.edu**

For more than 50 years, the former Hotel Ponce de León has offered an exceptional education "through a challenging, inclusive, and supportive academic community" in the oldest city in the nation, St. Augustine. The college offers 44 majors for a bachelor's degree, two pre-professional programs and two master's degree programs.

Florida Aviation Career Training, Inc. **www.florida-aviation.com**

The Florida Aviation Career Training, Inc. (FACT) is a great choice for those new to aviation, as well as seasoned pilots. Experienced instructors work with students to provide one-on-one personalized training to focus on an individual's needs. The school prepares students to pass the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) exams.

Florida State College at Jacksonville **www.fscj.edu**

Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) has eight campuses throughout Duval and Nassau counties. The campuses offer associate degrees, bachelor's degrees, technical certificates and more. Degrees include Human Services, Behavioral Sciences, Engineering and Mathematics, Technology, Science, Manufacturing and Construction, Public Safety, Health Sciences, Education, Arts and Communication, Business and Design.

Jacksonville Theological Seminary

www.jts.edu

For over 30 years, the Jacksonville Theological Seminary has offered graduate degrees in religious studies for both education and training in ministry work. Several areas of study include Theology, Religious Education, Biblical Studies, Divinity and more.

Jacksonville University

www.ju.edu

Located on the banks of the St. Johns River, Jacksonville University (JU) is a small private college that recently debuted on the *Forbes* America's Top 500 Colleges list. The university has more than 100 majors and minors within their four colleges. The university recently opened the new College of Law campus in downtown Jacksonville.

Logos University

www.logos.edu

Logos University is an online and distance learning institution that urges its students to become leaders in the community and churches. The university offers associate degrees, bachelor's degrees and certificates in a variety of religious studies.

St. Johns River State College

www.sjrstate.edu

Founded in 1958, St. Johns River State College has locations in three areas of the First Coast: Orange Park, Palatka and St. Augustine. The college provides education for those 16 and older and allows high school students to receive college credit with the early college program. The college is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) and offers bachelor's and associate degrees, as well as various certificates.

Trinity Baptist College

www.tbc.edu

Trinity Baptist College has provided students with a Christian-based education for more than 40 years. The focus of the college is to prepare students for ministry work, but also offers general and professional studies, liberal arts and graduate studies. The college partners with Trinity Christian Academy and Trinity Baptist Church to give students local opportunities.

FSCJ Downtown, photo by Monica Fields



FSCJ Downtown, photo by Monica Fields



St. Johns River State College, photo by Darna Ferguson



FSCJ North Campus, photo courtesy of FSCJ

University of North Florida

www.unf.edu

The University of North Florida (UNF) offers a variety of degrees within six colleges, including the College of Education and Human Services, the College of Computing, Engineering and Construction, the College of Arts and Science, the Coggin College of Business, the Brooks College of Health and the Hicks Honor College. UNF has been ranked as a Top Public Institute and a Best Graduate School by *U.S. News & World Report*.

University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences

www.usa.edu

The University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences offers degrees from the College of Health Sciences and Administration, the School of Nursing and the College of Rehabilitation Science. Their courses utilize cutting-edge technology and hands-on experience to best prepare their students for their future.



As the president of the Duval County Medical Society (DCMS), Florida's oldest professional organization for physicians, I want to personally welcome you to the First Coast. With a mission of "helping physicians care for the health of our community," our physician members strive to make a difference in the neighborhoods where we live and work.

If you've recently moved to the area and are looking for a new team of physicians to care for you and your family, we encourage you to visit our website at dcmsonline.org and select "Find a Physician" on our homepage. Your search will find doctors who joined the DCMS to actively contribute to the overall health and quality of life in Duval County. In recent years, DCMS members have helped coordinate free vaccination programs for our neighbors without health insurance and provided medical care to those in need through outreach programs such as WeCareJax and Volunteers in Medicine.

Many DCMS members work locally, in Tallahassee and in Washington, D.C. to advocate for healthcare legislation that benefits both physicians and patients. We have members serving in leadership positions of many other professional organizations on a state and national level, as well as past presidents of the Florida Medical Association, American Medical Association and World Medical Association!

If you're a physician moving to the area, I look forward to meeting you in person and working with you professionally. I encourage you to visit our website to learn more about what our organization is doing in our community and beyond. Below are just a few reasons to join the DCMS and get involved:

- Professional Advancement & Resources: Stay ahead in the field of medicine with access to continuous learning and educational opportunities.
- Networking & Collaboration: Build relationships with fellow physicians and healthcare professionals through a variety of networking events. DCMS fosters a supportive community where you can share knowledge and receive guidance to help navigate the challenges of your medical career.
- Advocacy & Influence: Be part of a collective voice advocating for healthcare policies that matter. DCMS represents the interests of physicians and their patients, working tirelessly to shape healthcare legislation and create a positive impact on the healthcare landscape.
- Community Engagement: DCMS organizes outreach programs and awareness campaigns, allowing you to contribute to and enhance the well-being of the local population.
- We're Here For You: Through the DCMS Foundation, our LifeBridge: Physician Wellness Program provides a voluntary and confidential resource for you to connect with a counselor experienced in addressing physician burnout and emotional stress. DCMS members also have access to our LifeBridge counselors for career and life coaching!

As you can see, there is a lot happening at the Duval County Medical Society — more than I can capture in this brief letter. Once again, welcome to Jacksonville, the First Coast, and hopefully soon, to the DCMS community. Please feel free to reach out to me or the DCMS staff if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Ali Kasraeian, M.D., M.H.A., F.A.C.S.
2024/2025 President
Duval County Medical Society

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First Coast Medicine: A Healthcare Destination

The First Coast offers residents some of the greatest healthcare facilities in the U.S. with world-class hospitals, cutting-edge technologies and well-trained and dedicated providers. The medical care on the First Coast is so well known that it brings in national and international visitors.

Baptist Medical Center Clay, photo courtesy of Baptist Health



BAKER COUNTY

Ed Fraser Memorial Hospital

Offering “big city resources in a small town hospital,” Ed Fraser Memorial Hospital and their team of healthcare professionals utilizes state-of-the-art technology to provide care to Baker County. Visitors in need of routine checkups and sick visits also have access to the Baker Rural Health Clinic and Dopson Family Medical Center located on the hospital campus.

CLAY COUNTY

Ascension St. Vincent’s Clay County Hospital

Ascension St. Vincent’s has been recognized as one of the top hospital systems in the country. Their

full-service, 134-bed Clay County hospital offers emergency care, surgical care, heart and vascular services, lung care, cancer services and more.

They have been named as one of America’s Best Maternity Hospitals by *Newsweek* in 2024 for their Family Birth Place.

Baptist Medical Center Clay

Fleming Island is home to Baptist Medical Center Clay, a full-service hospital that offers cancer care, cardiology services, minimally invasive surgery and many more services. *U.S. News & World Report* named Baptist Medical Center Clay as No. 4 in Children’s Specialties in the U.S. and No. 5 overall in Florida hospitals.

HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital

HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital is one of the top hospitals in the area and has been nominated for numerous awards, including America’s 50 Best Hospitals for Surgical Care and Vascular Surgery by Healthgrades. It is comprised of 433 inpatient beds, 40 intensive care unit beds, nine labor, delivery and recovery room suites and a Level II neonatal intensive care unit.

Kindred Hospital North Florida

With 73 beds, Kindred Hospital North Florida offers specialized care for patients who may need long-term care or those who have experienced an acute injury or illness. Their acute rehabilitation unit is comprised of 14 beds and is designed to serve patients who have acute injuries or debilitating illnesses.

DUVAL-BEACHES

Baptist Medical Center Beaches

Just minutes from the beach, Baptist Medical Center Beaches offers the only 24/7 emergency services in the area and is home to advanced medical and surgical care. There, patients have access to the state-of-the-art surgical pavilion and the luxurious Labor and Delivery Center. *U.S. News & World Report* has recognized the hospital as a High Performance Hospital.

Mayo Clinic

Jacksonville’s Mayo Clinic is one of three in the U.S. It has consistently been recognized as the No. 1 hospital in Florida and No. 1 in Jacksonville by *U.S. News & World Report*. Mayo Clinic patients have access to cutting-edge technology and world-class medical teams. The hospital provides care in numerous specialties and is known for their cancer treatment, cardiovascular care and transplant medicine services.

DUVAL-NORTH

UF Health North

Located in north Jacksonville, this medical campus features an inpatient hospital, an adult and pediatric emergency room, and state-of-the-art labor and delivery suites. UF Health North is also home to more than 30 specialty services and recently opened a new patient tower that includes six floors and 124 patient rooms.

UF Health Rehabilitation Hospital - North

This 48-bed inpatient rehabilitation hospital located within UF Health North provides individualized and

comprehensive rehabilitation care for adult patients with a variety of diagnoses. Rehabilitation services include hand therapy, lymphedema therapy, oncology rehabilitation services, orthopaedic and sports medicine rehabilitation, pelvic floor physical therapy, and more.

DUVAL-SOUTH

Ascension St. Vincent’s Southside Hospital

Since 1873, Ascension St. Vincent’s Southside Hospital has been serving patients from across the First Coast and country. The hospital offers many services, including the Performance Orthopedics and Spine Specialty Hospital, heart and vascular services, the Family Birth Place, a Level II NICU and a 24/7 emergency department. The hospital was named a Best Regional Hospital by *U.S. News & World Report* for 2024-25.

Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville

Ranked as No. 5 in Florida and No. 13 in the Southeast for Best Regional Hospitals by *U.S. News & World Report*, Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville is known for their high levels of care, top-rated doctors and cutting-edge technology. It is home to the Baptist Heart Hospital, the only freestanding hospital for heart and vascular care in the area, as well as the Baptist MD Anderson Cancer Center, which offers clinical trials, state-of-the-art technology, targeted therapies and precision oncology.

Baptist Medical Center South

Baptist Medical Center South is ranked No. 11 in Florida by *U.S. News & World Report*. The hospital is home to a pediatric Wolfson Children’s emergency room, stroke center, surgery center, imaging, an adult emergency room, wound center and more. A leader in minimally invasive procedures, they have resort-like amenities and access to world-class technology.



Village Square at Fleming Island Plantation, photo by Diana Ferguson

“The medical care on the First Coast is so well known that it brings in national and international visitors.”

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Jacksonville, FL 32221
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Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital

Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital is comprised of two campuses, University and Bartram. Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital is ranked No. 16 in the nation by *U.S. News & World Report*. The hospital is also CARF-accredited in stroke, spinal cord injury, pediatrics, pain, general rehabilitation and brain injury. The University Campus is a 160-bed hospital that provides top rehabilitation care for patients needing different types of therapy, including physical, occupational and cognitive rehabilitation. The Bartram Campus has 60 beds and offers many services for orthopaedic conditions, brain injuries, non-traumatic spinal cord injuries, stroke and medically complex conditions.

Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Jacksonville

This 50-bed inpatient rehabilitation hospital offers speech, occupational and physical therapy services, as well as 24-hour care. The hospital specializes in, but is not limited to, neurological, orthopaedic, stroke and spinal cord injury rehabilitation.

HCA Florida Memorial Hospital

For more than 55 years, HCA Florida Memorial Hospital has served the First Coast. It is a 454-bed, full-service, acute care medical facility. It is home to an accredited Chest Pain Center, Bone and Joint Center, certified Stroke Center and the Special Beginnings maternity center.

Nemours Children’s Health

Working with Wolfson Children’s Hospital, UF Health and Mayo Clinic, Nemours helps provide children with life-changing care. The main campus connects via skybridge to Wolfson’s and provides Nemours with ORs and inpatient units. It has a nationally accredited Cystic Fibrosis Care Center and has been recognized for their cancer program and neurology and neurosurgery program.

PAM Health Specialty Hospital of Jacksonville

PAM Health is a long-term acute care hospital that provides personalized clinical and medical services for patients who may require a longer recovery time. The hospital offers services for behavioral health, stroke, wound care and many more.

Reunion Rehabilitation Hospital Jacksonville

Patients at Reunion Rehabilitation are offered an individualized care plan that includes results-oriented therapies. Rehabilitation services include care for brain injuries, orthopaedic injuries, strokes, amputation and other various ailments. The campus also includes amenities such as high-tech therapy gyms and an outdoor courtyard for relaxing and therapy purposes.

River Point Behavioral Health

River Point Behavioral Health treats mental health and substance abuse problems using multiple types of therapy through inpatient, outpatient and partial hospitalization programs. The hospital offers services for both children and adults.

Wekiva Springs Center

Wekiva Springs Center offers outpatient and inpatient services for mental health and substance abuse programs for adults and seniors. Medical professionals utilize personalized care plans to help patients achieve stability and promote long-term recovery.

Wolfson Children’s Hospital

Wolfson Children’s Hospital is the only full-service tertiary hospital for children in the area. The hospital works closely with Mayo Clinic, Nemours Children’s Health and University of Florida College of Medicine Jacksonville to provide the best resources and care to patients. The hospital is also part of Baptist Health. Wolfson is continually ranked among America’s Best Children’s Hospitals by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Wolfson Children’s Hospital, photo courtesy of Wikimedia

DUVAL-WEST

Ascension St. Vincent’s Riverside Hospital

Since 1916, Jacksonville has been home to Ascension St. Vincent’s Riverside Hospital. In 2024, Ascension St. Vincent’s was named one of the top 15 health systems in the country by *Forbes*. The hospital offers many services for patients that include cardiovascular, lung and brain and spine care. It also has a 24/7 emergency department.

Naval Hospital Jacksonville

Active-duty personnel, veterans, retired military members and their families can find service at Naval Hospital Jacksonville. The military hospital provides a variety of services including primary care, mental health care, dental care, preventative care, as well as urgent and emergency care. It has consistently received The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® for Hospital Accreditation.

North Florida Rehabilitation Hospital

A new addition to the First Coast, the North Florida Rehabilitation Hospital is a 50-bed inpatient acute rehabilitation hospital that offers specialized treatment to patients who may be recovering from stroke, brain injury, spinal cord injury, neurological conditions, amputations and orthopaedic injury.



Brooks Rehabilitation Bartram Campus, photo courtesy of PR Newswire



“Wolfson Children’s Hospital is the only full-service tertiary hospital for children in the area. The hospital works closely with Mayo Clinic, Nemours Children’s Health and University of Florida College of Medicine Jacksonville.”

UF Health Jacksonville

Affiliated with the University of Florida, UF Health Jacksonville is the region's premier academic health center. Collectively, UF Health physicians offer more than 100 advanced specialty and subspecialty services. This full-service hospital is also home to the area's only Level I adult and pediatric trauma center, as well as a Level III neonatal intensive care unit, an adult and pediatric emergency room and a Chest Pain Center.

NASSAU COUNTY

Baptist Medical Center Nassau

Nassau County's only hospital, Baptist Medical Center Nassau, is known for its cutting-edge technology and its wide range of services. The hospital has providers specializing in 29 different areas who are able to offer a full spectrum of care for their patients. The hospital provides care for the First Coast as well as southeast Georgia.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Ascension St. Vincent's St. Johns County Hospital

The St. Johns Ascension location is a Primary Stroke Center backed by leading cardiovascular, orthopaedic and surgical specialists, and offers a wide range of services for patients, including cancer care, cardiology care, obstetric and gynecological care, neurology care and more.

Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of St. Augustine

This 40-bed rehabilitation hospital offers neurological, orthopaedic, stroke and spinal cord injury rehabilitation, among others. Patients have access to private rooms, a courtyard and advanced rehabilitation technologies. It is accredited by The Joint Commission.

UF Health Flagler Hospital

Located in St. Augustine, UF Health Flagler Hospital has been named among America's 50 Best hospitals. The 335-bed hospital has also earned the Gold Seal of Approval™ from The Joint Commission for primary stroke care centers, national accreditation for its total hip and total knee replacement programs, accreditation from the American College of Surgeons' Commission on Cancer, and Center of Excellence designation for its bariatric surgery center.

VA Healthcare on the First Coast

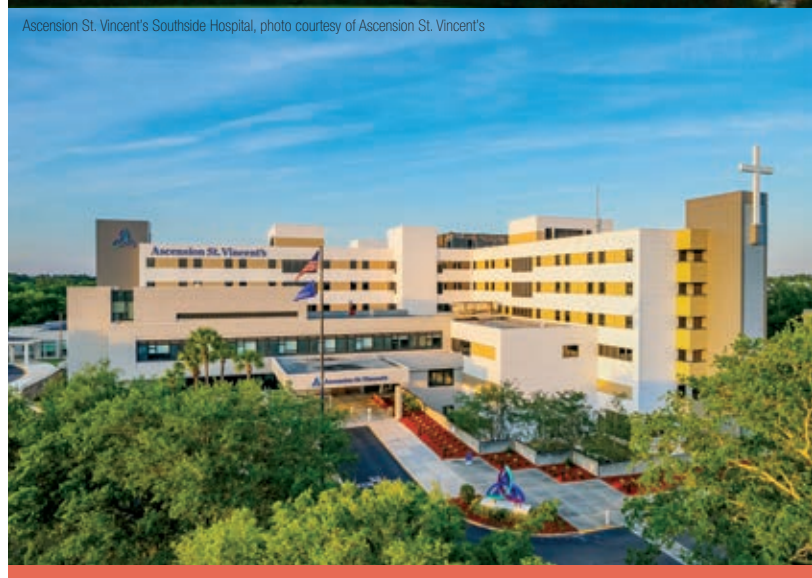
Last year, the North Florida/South Florida Veterans Health System opened the Jacksonville North VA Clinic. This facility is equipped with state-of-the-art technology and offers laboratory and pathology services, mental health care, physical medicine and rehabilitation, various therapies, primary care and others. There are also programs for PTSD, substance abuse and social work.



Photo courtesy of Nemours Children's Health Jacksonville



HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital, photo by Diana Ferguson



Ascension St. Vincent's Southside Hospital, photo courtesy of Ascension St. Vincent's

First Coast Hospitals



Baptist Medical Center Clay, photo by Diana Ferguson

BAKER COUNTY

Ed Fraser Memorial Hospital

159 N. 3rd St., Macclenny
www.edfraserhospital.com

Northeast Florida State Hospital

7487 S. SR 121, Macclenny
www.myiffamilies.com/services/samh/treatment-services/northeast-florida-state-hospital

CLAY COUNTY

Ascension St. Vincent's Clay County Hospital

1670 St. Vincent's Way, Middleburg
<https://healthcare.ascension.org>

Baptist Medical Center Clay

1771 Baptist Clay Dr., Fleming Island
www.baptistjax.com

Kindred Hospital North Florida

801 Oak St., Green Cove Springs
www.kindredhospitals.com

HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital

2001 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park
www.hcafloridahealthcare.com

DUVAL-BEACHES

Baptist Medical Center Beaches

1350 13th Ave. S., Jacksonville Beach
www.baptistjax.com

Mayo Clinic

4500 San Pablo Rd. S., Jacksonville
www.mayoclinic.org

DUVAL-NORTH

UF Health North

15255 Max Leggett Pkwy., Jacksonville
<https://north.ufhealthjax.org>

UF Health Rehabilitation Hospital - North

15255 Max Leggett Pkwy., 2nd & 3rd Fls., Jacksonville
<https://rehabhospitals.ufhealth.org>

DUVAL-SOUTH

Ascension St. Vincent's Southside Hospital

4201 Belfort Rd., Jacksonville
<https://healthcare.ascension.org>

Baptist Medical Center Jacksonville

800 Prudential Dr., Jacksonville
www.baptistjax.com

Baptist Medical Center South

14550 Old St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville
www.baptistjax.com

Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital - Bartram Campus

6400 Brooks Bartram Dr., Jacksonville
www.brooksrehab.org

Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital - University Campus

3599 University Blvd. S., Jacksonville
www.brooksrehab.org

Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Jacksonville

11595 Burnt Mill Rd., Jacksonville
<https://encompasshealth.com>

HCA Florida Memorial Hospital

3625 University Blvd. S., Jacksonville
www.hcafloridahealthcare.com

Nemours Children's Health

807 Children's Way, Jacksonville
www.nemours.org

PAM Health Specialty Hospital of Jacksonville

4901 Richard St., Jacksonville
www.pamhealth.com

Reunion Rehabilitation Hospital Jacksonville

12645 Salina Dr., Jacksonville
www.reunionrehabhospital.com

River Point Behavioral Health

6300 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville
www.riverpointbehavioral.com

Wekiva Springs Center

3947 Salisbury Rd., Jacksonville
www.wekivacenter.com

Wolfson Children's Hospital

800 Prudential Dr., Jacksonville
www.wolfsonchildrens.com

DUVAL-WEST

Ascension St. Vincent's Riverside Hospital

1 Shircliff Way, Jacksonville
<https://healthcare.ascension.org>

Naval Hospital Jacksonville

2080 Child St., Jacksonville
<https://jacksonville.tricare.mil>

North Florida

Rehabilitation Hospital

7775 Volunteer Way, Jacksonville
www.northfloridarehabhospital.com

UF Health Jacksonville

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

NASSAU COUNTY

Baptist Medical Center Nassau

1250 S. 18th St., Fernandina Beach
www.baptistjax.com

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Ascension St. Vincent's St. Johns County Hospital

205 Trinity Way, St. Johns
www.healthcare.ascension.org

Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of St. Augustine

65 Silver Ln., St. Augustine
<https://encompasshealth.com>

UF Health Flagler Hospital

400 Health Park Blvd., St. Augustine
<https://stjohns.ufhealth.org>



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- 800-556-5620** • 220 Northside Dr., Valdosta, GA
- 800-556-5620** • Medical Plaza 3025 Shrine Rd., Ste. 190, Brunswick, GA

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1301-26 Monument Rd., Jacksonville (904) 725-7117

Freestanding Emergency Rooms

CLAY COUNTY

- Baptist & Wolfson Clay
Emergency Room**
1771 Baptist Clay Dr., Fleming Island
- HCA Florida Middleburg
Emergency**
2562 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg

DUVAL-NORTH

- Ascension St. Vincent's Emergency
Care - Arlington**
9820 Hutchinson Park Dr.,
Jacksonville

- Baptist & Wolfson North
Emergency Room**
11250 Baptist Health Dr.,
Jacksonville

- HCA Florida Atlantic Emergency**
11850 Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville

- UF Health Emergency & Urgent
Care Center - New Kings**
11277 New Kings Rd., Jacksonville

DUVAL-SOUTH

- Baptist & Wolfson Town Center
Emergency Room**
4085 Town Center Pkwy.,
Jacksonville

- HCA Florida Mandarin Emergency**
10910 San Jose Blvd., Jacksonville

- UF Health Emergency & Urgent
Care Center - Baymeadows**
11251 Lamb Tail Ln., Jacksonville

DUVAL-WEST

- Ascension St. Vincent's Emergency
Care - Westside**
8083 Parramore Rd., Jacksonville

- Baptist & Wolfson Oakleaf
Emergency Room**
9868 Family Pl., Jacksonville

- HCA Florida Normandy Park
Emergency**
5773 Normandy Blvd., Jacksonville

- HCA Florida Park West Emergency**
6477 103rd St., Jacksonville

- UF Health Emergency & Urgent
Care Center - Lane Avenue**
888 Lane Ave. S., Jacksonville

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

- HCA Florida Julington Creek
Emergency**
42 Doctors Village Dr., St. Johns



UF Health North, photo courtesy of UF Health



Baptist ER & Imaging Center at Nassau Crossing, photo courtesy of Baptist Health

Healthcare on the First Coast is Flourishing!

The First Coast is experiencing a growth in economic and job opportunities that is unprecedented. These circumstances have set the stage for the healthcare industry to expand and thrive in a multitude of ways. As there is an increase in homeowners and residents within the area, the need for healthcare expansion to cater to a larger community is growing. Currently, there are a variety of developmental projects underway. This includes new hospitals, clinics and rehabilitation sites, along with healthcare industry collaborations, expanding facilities and new available treatment plans.

Acadia Healthcare

Acadia Healthcare is planning to build a new two-story, 144-bed behavioral hospital in St. Augustine. Located on 6 acres at CR 210 and I-95, the project is expected to be finished by the fourth quarter of 2025. Acadia Healthcare is a Tennessee-based behavioral healthcare service provider that offers inpatient, outpatient, detoxification and residential treatment.

Baptist Health

Baptist Health continues to grow and expand its presence on the First Coast. The health system recently opened the Baptist Emergency and Imaging Center at Nassau Crossing. The new center offers vital healthcare services to Yulee, Callahan and Hilliard residents. The ER features an adjoining imaging center for adults and children that offers X-rays, ultrasounds, CT scans, mammography and bone density screenings. The emergency and imaging center is the first facility to open on the new 56,588-square-foot Baptist Nassau Crossing Medical Campus. Once fully complete, the campus will offer primary care and behavioral health services and will be home to specialty physician offices, the Borland Groover Medical Office and Nassau Crossing Endoscopy Center.

Baptist Health plans to develop a medical campus in the Silverleaf community of St. Johns County. The proposed 118,000-square-foot project includes a freestanding 24/7 Baptist/Wolfson Children's Emergency Center, office space, a helipad for air ambulance services and space for future expansions. The campus is expected to open early in 2026. Baptist is also planning to build a two-story, 50,000-square-foot medical office building off Stillwood Pines Boulevard in Seven Pines.

North Florida Rehabilitation Hospital

The new \$48 million North Florida Rehabilitation Hospital is now open in west Jacksonville. Located at southwest Normandy Boulevard and Interstate 295, the 50-bed, 60,000-square-foot inpatient facility is the region's first free-standing inpatient rehabilitation hospital west of the St. Johns River. The rehab hospital is architecturally designed to create a therapeutic environment for patients and is equipped with cutting-edge amenities and adaptive units, including a 12-bed brain injury unit, multidisciplinary therapy gymnasiums, a specialized daily living activities suite and outdoor courtyards designed to promote patient mobility.

UF Health

To serve the healthcare needs of the growing North Jacksonville and Southeast Georgia communities, UF Health North has opened a new \$140 million, 124-room patient tower. The hospital tower includes six floors, two of which are dedicated to patients needing acute physical therapy. Two additional patient floors will be used for acute care, and one floor will be used primarily for ancillary services.

UF Health has broken ground at UF Health Durbin Park, a 42.5-acre health and wellness campus that will expand the healthcare options for residents in northeast St. Johns County. The project's first phase will include a full-service 150-bed hospital with a focus on orthopaedics, neurosurgery, cardiovascular medicine and women's services. The campus will also be home to a medical office building and an ambulatory surgery center. The project is expected to bring 2,000 new jobs to the area. Once fully complete, the 395,000-square-foot hospital will include acute, intensive and emergency care; operating rooms; and an imaging suite and hybrid labs for interventional procedures. The hospital is expecting to start treating patients by late 2025.



10 Reasons the First Coast is the Best Place for Seniors!

1 ● Retirement-worthy weather!

One of the main things we're famous for here on the First Coast is our beautiful weather all year long. Seniors can enjoy the outdoors year-round with our sunny summers and mild winters.

2 ● The affordability!

A major draw for potential residents is the First Coast's low cost of living. The area is below the national average. Public and private pensions, individual retirement accounts, 401(k)s and Social Security have no state taxation or state income tax.

3 ● Healthcare!

The First Coast has some of the best healthcare facilities in the region. It is home to Baptist Health, HCA Florida Healthcare, UF Health Jacksonville, Ascension St. Vincent's and Mayo Clinic. There are also VA clinics in Jacksonville and St. Augustine.

4 ● Vibrant adult communities!

Seniors can choose from several different types of adult communities based on their needs, wants and budgets. Many offer resort-style amenities and recreational options.

5 ● Senior centers!

Stay active and social at one of the several senior centers in the region. They offer classes, events, meals and more. You can find a list of senior centers on page 76.

6 ● Volunteer opportunities!

Connect with the community and help others by volunteering. The First Coast has several programs and organizations that welcome senior involvement, including the Foster Grandparents Program, Catholic Charities, Seniors on a Mission Inc. and RSVP.

7 ● Gorgeous parks!

Seniors who love the outdoors have endless opportunities to explore on the First Coast. Jacksonville is home to the largest urban park system in the country, and the region has several gorgeous state parks that are ready to be discovered.

8 ● Attractions!

There's no room for boredom on the First Coast. Many of the attractions here offer senior discounts, including the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens and the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens.

9 ● Sports!

Sports are a big part of the First Coast, and seniors can enjoy watching anything from NFL football to minor league hockey. The First Coast is also home to several golf courses and hosts THE PLAYERS Championship at TPC Sawgrass.

10 ● Our location!

The First Coast has a prime location within driving range of hot spots like Daytona Beach, the Gulf Coast and Orlando. If you're wanting to go a little farther, then the Jacksonville International Airport can fly you to nearly anywhere in the world!

First Coast Senior Centers



Bennie Furlong Senior Center, photo courtesy of COJ

- Jim Fortuna Senior Center..... 904-255-6844
- Leroy D. Clemons Senior Center 904-255-6737
- Oceanway Senior Center..... 904-255-6855

DUVAL-SOUTH

- Mandarin Senior Center 904-255-6750
- Southside Community Center 904-255-6940

DUVAL-WEST

- Carvill Senior Center..... 904-255-6650
- Charlie T. Joseph Senior Center 904-255-6822
- J.S. Johnson Senior Center 904-255-6755
- Lane Wiley Senior Center 904-255-6644
- Lincoln Villa Senior Center..... 904-255-6811
- Long Branch Senior Center 904-255-6790
- Louis Dinah Senior Center..... 904-255-6800
- Mary L. Singleton Senior Center 904-255-6666
- Maxville Senior Center 904-255-6744
- Riverview Senior Center 904-255-6797

NASSAU COUNTY

- Janice Ancrum Senior Life Center... 904-261-0701
- Westside Senior Life Center 904-845-3331

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

- Coastal Community Center..... 904-209-3636
- Council on Aging Center at
UF Health Nocatee 904-819-3234
- Hastings Senior Center 904-209-3694
- PLAYERS Community
Senior Center, THE..... 904-209-3659
- River House 904-209-3655
- Trout Creek Senior Center 904-209-3658

Exciting Annual Senior Events!

The City of Jacksonville hosts several events throughout the year for seniors. Up-to-date information can be found at www.jacksonville.gov, the City of Jacksonville Senior Services Division Facebook page or by calling 904-255-5667.



Senior Events, photo courtesy of COJ

Bash at the Ball Field

Seniors can enjoy a day out and a Jumbo Shrimp baseball game. Admission to the game and a traditional ballpark meal is free.

Beach Ball

Kick off summer at the Beach Ball! Seniors can enjoy a catered meal and dance to the DJ's music.

Fish-A-Thon

The annual Fish-A-Thon is held at Hanna Park and includes games, contests and more. Awards are given to seniors for catching the largest and smallest fish, most fish, prettiest fish and ugliest fish.

Forever Fit 50 & Beyond:

Jacksonville Senior Games

Those 50 and older can come together and celebrate fitness. Seniors can compete in many games and events at several venues throughout Jacksonville.

Holiday Festival for Seniors

Seniors can ring in the holiday season with dinner, dancing and entertainment at the Prime Osborn Convention Center.

Safety and Security Seminar for Seniors

Seniors are given tools and information that help keep them protected from fraud and scams.

Senior Expo

Twice a year, the City of Jacksonville hosts the two-day expo where seniors can acquire information on programs and resources that are available in the area. They also offer free health screenings.

Senior Prom

Held at the Prime Osborn Convention Center, the Senior Prom has been a First Coast staple for over 30 years. Seniors can enjoy live music, dinner, dancing and even door prizes.

Walk for Senior Wellness

Take a scenic one-mile walk along the downtown Southbank Riverwalk to celebrate senior fitness and wellness. Lunch is offered afterwards.

BAKER COUNTY

- Baker County Council on Aging
Friendship Center 904-259-2223

CLAY COUNTY

- Clayton & Mildred Revels
Senior Center 904-284-3134
- Keystone Heights Senior Center..... 352-473-7121
- Middleburg Senior Center 904-291-3520
- Orange Park Senior Center..... 904-269-4731

DUVAL COUNTY

DUVAL-BEACHES

- Bennie Furlong Beaches
Senior Center 904-255-6730
- Neptune Beach Senior
Activity Center 904-749-0068

DUVAL-NORTH

- Frances Padgett Arlington
Senior Center 904-255-6733

Pickleball on the First Coast

Seniors love pickleball! This mix of tennis, badminton and ping pong is a fantastic way to keep in shape and stay social. Below are First Coast pickleball resources.

Jax Pickleball Store
www.jaxpickleballstore.com

North Florida Pickleball
www.northfloridapickleball.com

Pickle Garden at the Yards, The
www.playtheyards.com/pickleball

USA Pickleball Association
www.usapa.org

Assisted Living Facilities

Assisted living facilities are a great long-term care option for seniors able to live independently. Seniors who need help with daily activities but don't require intensive care may be best suited for an assisted living facility. Multiple levels of care can be provided depending on these needs. Staff members are trained to assist residents with tasks such as bathing, cooking, dressing, taking medication, shopping and more. Many of the facilities are structured like apartment buildings with a shared common space where many host social and recreational activities.

Skilled Nursing Facilities

Seniors in need of round-the-clock medical care may be best suited for skilled nursing facilities. These facilities are equipped to offer treatment from registered nurses, therapy services from physical, occupational or speech therapists, plus a physician on staff to supervise the patients' care. The facilities also offer short-term services for people recovering from an injury or illness, or long-term services requiring more

intensive care. Memory care facilities, a type of skilled nursing facility, specialize in caring for seniors with Alzheimer's, dementia and other memory-related issues.

Retirement Communities

Retirement communities are best for seniors who can live independently and don't require assistance with daily tasks from staff members. These communities include active adult communities, independent living communities and 55-plus communities. There are many different types of housing options like apartments, condos and single-family homes. Several communities will have amenities like gyms, pools, golf courses, transportation and food options on site. Some may also include housekeeping and meal prep services if needed.

For a comprehensive list of these facilities and communities, check out the Jacksonville Senior Services Directory at www.heritagepublishinginc.com or pick up a copy in person at your local library or senior center.

A Place to Call Home: Choosing the Right Senior Living Option

There are many living options for seniors moving to the First Coast, but it's important to know which option is the best fit for your specific needs. Deciding on living arrangements can feel overwhelming, but knowing the differences between each type is a good place to start. Take the time to tour different communities or facilities and ask about what services are provided and any extra costs.

Senior residents have several living options on the First Coast, no matter their specific needs. While deciding on the exact living arrangement can be overwhelming, a breakdown of the types of options can be found on this page to ease some of those feelings.



Work

In the Work Section, see what makes the First Coast such a great place to work and do business.



Northeast Florida Businesses: A Driving Force of The Economy

Jacksonville ranks as one of the best places for both careers and businesses while boasting three Fortune 500 companies, five Fortune 1000 companies and a labor force of more than 864,000. The city ranks No. 4 as the best large city to start a business according to WalletHub, while MoneyGeek ranked Jacksonville No. 3 as the best city for job seekers in 2024. Jacksonville has also been named the No. 2 best job market according to *The Wall Street Journal*. According to SEC data, Jacksonville was the No. 1 major city for corporate relocations from 2022 to 2023.

Nearly 20 major banks, insurance and investment service firms on the Fortune Global 500 list have operations on the First Coast. With considerable growth as a financial focal point, this region has become a financial powerhouse.

Florida's tax environment is favorable for both businesses and individuals alike.

Florida Offers Sales and Use Tax Exemptions on:

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

Florida does not have:

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



Downtown Jacksonville, photo courtesy of JAX Chamber

With more than 150 corporate, regional and divisional headquarters operating in the area, the First Coast draws many different business sectors from all over. One of the fastest-growing areas for businesses in the country, the First Coast is an affordable option for businesses as there are no taxes on corporate franchises, inventory or personal income. The average commute time of 26 minutes, which is less than any other major city, is another desirable reason to do business in Northeast Florida. Jacksonville International Airport offers more than 90 non-stop daily flights and connections to every major city in the world.

Affordable Construction and Real Estate on the First Coast

Construction costs are 14 percent lower than the U.S. average, and the cost to lease industrial space is \$10.35 per square foot, which is below most major metro areas.

Business is Booming on the First Coast!

Surrounded by deep-water ports and a skilled workforce, it is easy to see why each year more businesses decide to call the First Coast home. Many companies choose to expand their reach here and even relocate. Below are a few businesses that have contributed to the area's significant growth.



Primark, photo courtesy of COJ

Anderson-Dubose Chooses Jacksonville for its Southeast Expansion

Leading food service distributor Anderson-DuBose Company is investing \$60 million in a new cold and dry foods storage facility located in northwest Jacksonville to serve more than 300 McDonald's restaurants in the Southeast. Known as Project Bobcat, the new facility will create 109 high-quality jobs. Construction is scheduled to finish around September 2025.

"By expanding our footprint into Jacksonville, we can better meet the burgeoning demand for cold and dry food service storage in the Southeast and revolutionize distribution support operations for our valued customers," Anderson-DuBose Chief Operating Officer Mike Boddy said in a JAXUSA news release. "Anderson-DuBose appreciates Norfolk Southern's commitment to this joint growth opportunity for both of our companies."



Holon, photo courtesy of COJ

DHL Supply Chain Logistics and Distribution Center in North Jacksonville

Leader in contract logistics DHL Supply Chain plans to build a 600,000-square-foot facility in north Jacksonville that will create at least 100 new jobs by the end of 2025. DHL Supply Chain will invest \$64 million in the building and equipment for the new facility.

"We welcome DHL Supply Chain and thank them for choosing Jacksonville. Their new facility and the 100 jobs that will be created to support it are a reflection of our reputation as America's Logistics Center," Jacksonville Mayor Donna Deegan said in a JAXUSA news release. "We are proud to have the world's leading contract logistics provider expand its operations in our fast-growing city."

Hermeus Selects Jacksonville for New Hypersonic Aircraft Testing Facility

Atlanta-based high-tech aircraft developer Hermeus plans to open a new hypersonic engine testing facility at Cecil Airport on Jacksonville's Westside. Named HEAT (High Enthalpy Air-Breathing Test Facility), the facility will be Hermeus' largest and most technologically advanced test site to date and will become a national asset for hypersonic testing.

The new testing facility will evaluate hypersonic aircraft engines that will allow for transatlantic travel. These

hypersonic aircraft engines can reach five times the speed of sound and have the potential to offer a 90-minute flight from New York to London. Hermeus has invested \$130 million in the project and will bring in a total of 100 new high-wage jobs to the area by 2028.

Hermeus' Jacksonville site will be the company's fifth in the country for engine development and will include two engine test cells, an office building and a hush house (a noise-suppressed facility used for testing aircraft systems). "We're getting bigger, but we needed space to do that," said Glenn Case, Co-founder and Chief Technologist of Hermeus in a JAXUSA news release. "Florida was the right place to do it." Hermeus broke ground on the project in September 2024.

HOLON Autonomous Shuttle Manufacturing Facility in Jacksonville

HOLON, a leading manufacturer of autonomous electric shuttles, is launching its first production plant for autonomous movers in Jacksonville. With a goal to revolutionize shared mobility and sustainable transportation, HOLON is poised to transform the future of transportation with a new facility in the Northside. HOLON's mission for the plant is to deliver inclusive, emission-free and sustainable passenger transportation, all while addressing urban traffic challenges, climate



change and demographic shifts. The approximately 500,000-square-foot facility is expected to open in 2026.

Primark Jacksonville Distribution Center

International clothing retailer Primark recently opened a new distribution center in north Jacksonville that comprises over 550,000 square feet of warehouse space. Primark plans to import cargo through the JAXPORT since the international trade seaport is strategically located within a one-day truck drive of nearly 100 million U.S. consumers. Through the opening of its new distribution center, Primark, in partnership with DHL and JZI, has created jobs for and invested in the Jacksonville community.

Publix Pharmaceutical Facility Coming to St. Johns County

Publix plans to establish an innovative pharmaceutical manufacturing facility in St. Johns County that will add approximately 115 jobs by the end of 2026 and 400 by the end of 2034. Anticipated to be operational in 2026, this \$145 million state-of-the-art central fill pharmaceutical facility will be located within the industrial park of Legend Point Logistics Crossing in St. Johns.

The central fill facility will process up to 500,000 orders per week and eventually reach 1 million per week. The facility’s employees will assemble made-to-order prescriptions that are dispensed at Publix pharmacies after raw materials are unpacked and processed into salable form.



Downtown Jacksonville, photo courtesy of JAX Chamber

First Coast U.S. Headquarters of Foreign Corporations

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| Adecco Group North America
<i>Staffing/Recruiting</i> | City Facilities Management
<i>Refrigeration Facilities Management</i> | Medius
<i>Software</i> |
| Association of Tennis Professionals
<i>Professional Sports</i> | Höegh Autoliners
<i>Shipping</i> | Saft Batteries
<i>Manufacturing</i> |
| Buffet Crampon USA
<i>Musical Instruments</i> | KLS Martin
<i>Manufacturing</i> | |



Downtown, photo by Monica Fields

Chambers of Commerce in the 5-County Region

- Baker County Chamber of Commerce
20 E. Macclenny Ave., Macclenny
www.bakerchamberfl.com
- Clay County Chamber of Commerce
2042 Park Ave., Ste. 111, Orange Park
www.claychamber.com
- JAX Chamber
3 Independent Dr., Jacksonville
<https://jaxchamber.com>
- Nassau County Chamber of Commerce
961687 Gateway Blvd., Ste. 101-G, Fernandina Beach
www.islandchamber.com
- St. Johns County Chamber of Commerce
100 Southpark Blvd., St. Augustine
www.sjcchamber.com

Homegrown Companies

Home to three Fortune 500 and five Fortune 1000 company headquarters, the First Coast is the perfect place for businesses. More than 150 companies have decided to make the First Coast their home with regional, divisional or corporate headquarters located right here!

2G Energy, Inc. <i>Energy Conversion</i>	Astadia <i>IT Consulting</i>
Acosta Sales and Marketing <i>Marketing</i>	AT&T <i>Telecommunications</i>
Advantus Corp. <i>Manufacturing</i>	Atrium Windows and Doors of Florida <i>Manufacturing</i>
AGX Freight <i>Transportation</i>	Avallity <i>Healthcare Technology</i>
A.J. Johns, Inc. <i>Construction</i>	Baker Distributing Company <i>Distribution</i>
All Florida Safety Institute <i>Driving School</i>	Baptist Health <i>Health System</i>
Allstate <i>Insurance</i>	Beaver Street Fisheries, Inc. <i>Wholesale Distribution</i>
Alternate Energy Technologies, LLC <i>Manufacturing</i>	Beeline <i>IT</i>
Amports <i>Automotive Services</i>	Brightway Insurance <i>Insurance Services</i>
APL Logistics Warehouse Services <i>Distribution</i>	Brooks Rehabilitation <i>Healthcare</i>
APR Energy <i>Energy Supplier</i>	Bubba Foods <i>Food</i>
ArdentX <i>Logistics</i>	Burkhardt Sales and Services <i>Wholesaler</i>
Ash Properties <i>Commercial Real Estate</i>	Cain & Boltman, Inc. <i>Logistics</i>



Capital Markets Cooperative <i>Financial Consulting</i>	ERC <i>Collections Agency</i>
Carlisle Interconnect Technologies <i>Manufacturing</i>	EverBank <i>Banking and Mortgage</i>
CEVA Logistics <i>Logistics</i>	Famous Amos Restaurant <i>Restaurant</i>
Circle K South Atlantic <i>Gas Stations</i>	Fanatics, Inc. <i>Retail</i>
Citizens Property Insurance <i>Insurance</i>	Fidelity National Financial <i>Financial Services</i>
City Facilities Management Holdings <i>Facilities Management</i>	Fidus Construction <i>Construction</i>
Concealment Express <i>Manufacturing</i>	Finxact <i>Banking Software</i>
Community First Credit Union <i>Banking Services</i>	Firehouse Subs <i>Restaurant</i>
Craig/is Ltd. <i>Insurance Services</i>	First Professionals Insurance <i>Insurance</i>
Crowley Maritime <i>Transportation</i>	FIS <i>Financial Technology</i>
Crucial Care <i>Urgent Care Centers</i>	Flagler <i>Property Development</i>
CSI Companies <i>Staffing Services</i>	Florida Army National Guard <i>Military</i>
CSX Corporation <i>Transportation</i>	Florida Blue <i>Health Insurance</i>
D.R. Horton <i>Home Builders</i>	Forcura <i>Software</i>
David Dobbs Enterprises <i>Manufacturing</i>	Formativ Health <i>Healthcare Management</i>
Dream Finders Homes <i>Home Builders</i>	Fortegra <i>Insurance</i>
Drummond <i>Marketing</i>	Gate Petroleum <i>Petroleum Products</i>
Duos Technologies <i>IT Services</i>	GEE Group <i>Staffing Solutions</i>
Dun & Bradstreet <i>IT Services</i>	Genplant <i>Energy Services</i>
Duval Motor Company <i>Auto Sales</i>	Global Access Corp. <i>ATM Solutions</i>
Early Upgrade <i>Electronics</i>	Greenshades Software <i>Software Development</i>
Elkins Construction <i>Construction</i>	GuideWell <i>Medicare Administration</i>
Emtec, Inc. <i>IT Services</i>	Haskell <i>Construction</i>
Encore Development <i>IT Services</i>	HC Brands <i>Manufacturing</i>

EverBank, photo by Monica Fields



Healogics
Wound Care Services

Home Depot Pro, The
Wholesale Distribution

iDeal Aluminum Products
Manufacturing

iVenture
IT Services

Iluka Resource
Manufacturing

International Baler Corporation
Manufacturing

ISF
IT Services

JinkoSolar
Manufacturing

Johnson & Johnson Vision
Optical Products

Kitchens Seafood
Seafood Processor

KLS Martin USA
Manufacturing

Landstar System, Inc.
Transportation

Larry's Giant Subs
Restaurant

Liberty Landscape Supply
Landscaping

Lift Power
Wholesale Industrial Products

Logistic Services International
Aviation Training

Mac Papers and Packaging
Manufacturing

Magellan Transport Logistics
Logistics

Main Street America Group, The
Insurance

McKesson
Medical Supplies

Medtronic
Manufacturing

Meridian Technologies
IT Services

Miller Electric Company
Electrical Contractor

MOBRO Marine, Inc.
Construction Equipment

NAQ Global
Manufacturing

Nateen
Manufacturing

Natural Life Collections
Wholesales

Nemours Foundation
Nonprofit

Newfold Digital
Internet Design Services

NGA Human Resources
Consulting Services

Nivel Parts & Manufacturing
Manufacturing

One Call
Workers Compensation Services

Optimum Healthcare IT
Healthcare IT

Patriot Rail Company
Logistics and Distribution

Perdue Office Interiors
Furniture

Persown
Healthcare

Pilot Pen Corporation of America
Manufacturing

PGA Tour
Professional Sports

PGA Tour Entertainment
Video Production

PRI Productions
Special Events Production

Q-PAC
Manufacturing

RailPros
Training Services

Rayonier, Inc.
Land Management

Redwire
Space Conglomerate

Regency Centers
Real Estate

Reynolds, Smith & Hills
Construction

Revalize
Supply Chain Technology

Riley Gear
Manufacturing

RF-Smart
Software Development

Ring Power
Construction Equipment

RISE: A Real Estate Company
Residential Real Estate

Roadway Worker Training
Rail Industry Services

Rogers Towers, PA
Law Firm

Ronco Group
Manufacturing

Rubix Foods
Food Services

Rulon International
Manufacturing

RYAM
Chemical Products

Safariland
Manufacturing

Saft America
Manufacturing

Sally Dark Rides
Manufacturing

Scott McRae Automotive Group
Auto Dealership

SEMCO Southeastern Metals
Manufacturing

Southeastern Grocers
Grocery Distribution

Standard Pacific Homes
Home Builders

Stellar
Construction

Suddath
Relocation Services

Swisher International Group, Inc.
Manufacturing

Total Distribution, Inc.
Logistics

Tote Maritime
Transportation and Distribution

Trailer Bridge
Transportation

Treace Medical Concepts
Surgical Treatment Development

Unison Industries
Manufacturing

US Assure
Insurance

VAC-CON
Manufacturing

Vacation Rental Pros
Vacation Home Rentals

Venus Swimwear
Apparel

Village Bread
Bakery

Vulcan Materials Company
Construction Aggregates

VyStar Credit Union
Financial Services

W & O Supply, Inc.
Shipping

W.W. Gay Mechanical Contractor, Inc.
Mechanical Contracting

Wells Fargo
Banking and Financial Services

Wounded Warrior Project
Veteran Rehabilitation

Zimmer Biomet CMF and Thoracic
Manufacturing



Photo courtesy of Publix



Photo courtesy of Florida Blue

Businesses By County

Large Employers by County

- Johnson & Johnson Vision
- JPMorgan Chase
- Landstar
- Mac Papers
- Mayo Clinic
- McKesson
- Miller Electric Company
- Nemours Children's Health
- One Call
- Prudential Financial
- Publix Jacksonville Warehouse
- Remedy Intelligent Staffing
- Southeastern Grocers
- Swisher International Group, Inc.
- UF Health
- UPS
- VyStar Credit Union
- Wells Fargo
- W.W. Gay Mechanical Contractor, Inc.

NASSAU COUNTY

- Baptist Medical Center Nassau
- Omni Amelia Island Resort
- Rayonier Advanced Materials
- Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island
- WestRock

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

- Carlisle Interconnect Technologies
- D.R. Horton
- Flagler College
- Florida School for the Deaf & the Blind
- Hydro Extrusion
- KeHE Distributors
- Northrop Grumman
- PGA TOUR
- Ponte Vedra Inn & Club
- Ring Power
- Sawgrass Resort Marriott
- UF Health St. Johns
- Vicar's Landing
- Westminster Woods on Julington Creek

BAKER COUNTY

- Baker County Medical Services
- Macclenny Nursing and Rehabilitation Center
- Swift Transportation
- Walmart
- Walmart Distribution Center

CLAY COUNTY

- Andromeda Systems, Inc.
- Applied Business Solutions
- Ascension St. Vincent's Clay
- AT&T
- Bestbet Orange Park
- Clay Electric Cooperative, Inc.
- HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital
- Home Depot
- General RV
- Kelly Services
- Kindred Hospitals East
- Lowe's

- Parallon
- Paychex PEO
- Pegasus Technologies
- Publix Supermarkets
- Vac-Con, Inc.
- Vallencourt Construction
- Walmart
- Winn-Dixie

DUVAL COUNTY

- Aetna
- Allegis Group
- Ally Financial
- Amazon
- Ascension St. Vincent's
- AT&T
- Bank of America
- Baptist Health
- Brooks Rehabilitation
- Citi
- Citizens Property Insurance

- Coggin Automotive Group
- Comcast
- Contemporary Services Corporation
- Crowley
- CSX Corporation
- Deutsche Bank
- Fanatics
- Fidelity Investments
- Fidelity National Financial
- FIS
- Fleet Readiness Center Southeast
- Flightstar Aircraft Services
- Florida Blue
- GAI Consultants, Inc.
- GATE Petroleum
- GCA Services Group, Inc.
- GuideWell
- Haskell
- HCA Florida Memorial Hospital
- Intercontinental Exchange

Money, Money, Money!

With a diverse population and a multitude of professional opportunities, the First Coast is the perfect place for those looking for a new career.

Below are several professions on the First Coast and their salaries compared to the U.S. mean. With ever-changing job markets, it's important to know the average salary in the area, which could help with choosing the right career path.



FINANCIAL MANAGERS
3,710 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$161,360 | Jacksonville Mean
\$174,820 | U.S. Mean



GENERAL AND OPERATIONS MANAGERS
13,810 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$126,790 | Jacksonville Mean
\$129,330 | U.S. Mean



LAWYERS
3,640 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$127,980 | Jacksonville Mean
\$176,470 | U.S. Mean



MANAGEMENT OCCUPATIONS
44,180 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$126,340 | Jacksonville Mean
\$137,750 | U.S. Mean



SOFTWARE DEVELOPERS, APPLICATIONS
6,270 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$118,560 | Jacksonville Mean
\$138,110 | U.S. Mean



LEGAL OCCUPATIONS
6,340 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$100,430 | Jacksonville Mean
\$133,820 | U.S. Mean



MANAGEMENT ANALYSTS
5,140 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$88,240 | Jacksonville Mean
\$115,530 | U.S. Mean



COMPUTER SYSTEMS ANALYSTS
2,690 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$104,710 | Jacksonville Mean
\$110,800 | U.S. Mean



SECURITIES, COMMODITIES AND FINANCIAL SERVICES SALES AGENTS
4,060 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$86,620 | Jacksonville Mean
\$109,710 | U.S. Mean



LOAN OFFICERS
3,210 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$79,670 | Jacksonville Mean
\$84,490 | U.S. Mean



HEALTHCARE PRACTITIONERS AND TECHNICAL OCCUPATIONS
51,700 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$96,710 | Jacksonville Mean
\$102,060 | U.S. Mean



COMPUTER AND MATHEMATICAL OCCUPATIONS
21,660 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$98,890 | Jacksonville Mean
\$113,140 | U.S. Mean



SALES REPRESENTATIVES, WHOLESALE AND MANUFACTURING, TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PRODUCTS
1,080 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$101,650 | Jacksonville Mean
\$113,520 | U.S. Mean



ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING OCCUPATIONS
9,300 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$90,750 | Jacksonville Mean
\$99,090 | U.S. Mean



ACCOUNTANTS AND AUDITORS
7,010 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$79,960 | Jacksonville Mean
\$90,780 | U.S. Mean



MARKET RESEARCH ANALYSTS AND MARKETING SPECIALISTS
3,800 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$76,150 | Jacksonville Mean
\$83,190 | U.S. Mean



INSURANCE SALES AGENTS
2,960 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$67,190 | Jacksonville Mean
\$79,700 | U.S. Mean



BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS OCCUPATIONS
56,370 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$83,290 | Jacksonville Mean
\$90,580 | U.S. Mean



PROJECT MANAGEMENT SPECIALISTS
5,300 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$96,370 | Jacksonville Mean
\$104,920 | U.S. Mean



REGISTERED NURSES
18,720 | Total Jacksonville Employees
\$72,460 | Jacksonville Mean
\$94,480 | U.S. Mean

Top 50 Employers on The First Coast

1. Naval Air Station Jacksonville

21,000 employees
6801 Roosevelt Blvd.,
Jacksonville
<https://cnrse.cnicy.navy.mil/Installations/NAS-Jacksonville>

2. Naval Station Mayport

14,000 employees
Box 280032, Mayport
<https://cnrse.cnicy.navy.mil/Installations/NS-Mayport>

3. Baptist Health

12,000 employees
800 Prudential Dr., Jacksonville
www.baptistjax.com

4. Mayo Clinic

8,450 employees
4500 San Pablo Rd. S.,
Jacksonville
www.mayoclinic.org

5. Amazon Fulfillment Center JAX2

8,000 employees
12900 Pecan Park Rd.,
Jacksonville
www.amazon.com

6. Bank of America

8,000 employees
50 N. Laura St., Jacksonville
www.bankofamerica.com

7. UF Health Jacksonville

6,600 employees
655 W. 8th St., Jacksonville
www.ufhealthjax.org

8. Florida Blue

5,700 employees
4800 Deerwood Campus Pkwy.,
Jacksonville
www.floridablue.com

9. Southeastern Grocers

5,700 employees
8928 Prominence Pkwy.,
Ste. 200, Jacksonville
www.segrocers.com

Fleet Readiness Center Southeast, photo by Toiete Jackson



10. Fleet Readiness Center Southeast

5,350 employees
101 Wasp St., Jacksonville
<https://frcse.navair.navy.mil>

11. Ascension St. Vincent's Riverside

5,050 employees
1 Shircliff Way, Jacksonville
www.healthcare.ascension.org

12. UPS

4,500 employees
4420 Imeson Rd., Jacksonville
www.ups.com

13. Citi

4,000 employees
14000 Citicards Way,
Jacksonville
www.citi.com

14. JPMorgan Chase

3,900 employees
112 W. Adams St., Ste. 101,
Jacksonville
www.jpmorganchase.com

15. Johnson & Johnson Vision

3,500 employees
7500 Centurion Pkwy. N.,
Jacksonville
www.jjvision.com

Bank of America tower, photo by Monica Fields



Photo courtesy of Johnson & Johnson Vision, Inc.

16. GATE Petroleum Company

3,000 employees
9540 San Jose Blvd.,
Jacksonville
www.gatepetro.com

17. Brooks Rehabilitation

2,900 employees
3599 University Blvd. S.,
Jacksonville
www.brooksrehab.org

18. Ascension St. Vincent's Southside

2,720 employees
4201 Belfort Rd., Jacksonville
www.healthcare.ascension.org

19. AT&T

2,600 employees
4663 River City Dr., Ste. 101,
Jacksonville
www.att.com

20. CSX Corporation

2,530 employees
500 Water St., Jacksonville
www.csx.com

21. Deutsche Bank

2,400 employees
5022 Gate Pkwy., Jacksonville
www.db.com

22. HCA Florida Memorial Hospital

2,370 employees
3625 University Blvd. S.,
Jacksonville
www.hcafloridahealthcare.com/locations/memorial-hospital

“Three Jacksonville-based companies are on *Forbes* magazine’s list of the largest privately owned U.S. companies. Southeastern Grocers, Inc. ranked 67th, Fanatics ranked 95th and Crowley Maritime ranked 181st.”

- 23. Haskell**
2,270 employees
111 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville
www.haskell.com
- 24. Diocese of St. Augustine**
2,100 employees
11625 Old St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville
www.dosafl.com
- 25. Remedy Intelligent Staffing**
2,010 employees
5834 Normandy Blvd., Jacksonville
www.remedystaffing.com
- 26. Fidelity Investments**
2,000 employees
4601 Touchton Rd. E., Bldg. 400, JV1A, Jacksonville
www.fidelity.com
- 27. YMCA of Florida’s First Coast**
1,971 employees
40 E. Adams St., Ste. 210, Jacksonville
www.ymca.org
- 27. One Call**
1,970 employees
841 Prudential Dr., Ste. 204, Jacksonville
www.onecallcm.com
- 28. Parallon**
1,790 employees
335 Crossing Blvd., Orange Park
www.parallon.com

- 29. HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital**
1,770 employees
2001 Kingsley Ave., Orange Park
www.hcafloridahealthcare.com/locations/orange-park-hospital
- 30. Aetna, Inc.**
1,700 employees
9000 Southside Blvd., Bldg. 100, 8th Fl., Jacksonville
www.aetna.com
- 31. Fanatics, Inc.**
1,700 employees
8100 Nations Way, Jacksonville
www.fanatics.com
- 32. VyStar Credit Union**
1,690 employees
76 S. Laura St., Jacksonville
www.vystarcu.org
- 33. Fidelity National Financial, Inc.**
1,660 employees
601 Riverside Ave., Bldg. 5, Jacksonville
www.fnf.com
- 34. Intercontinental Exchange**
1,566 employees
601 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville
www.ice.com
- 35. UF Health Flagler Hospital**
1,560 employees
400 Health Park Blvd., St. Augustine
https://stjohns.ufhealth.org
- 36. FIS**
1,500 employees
347 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville
www.fisglobal.com

- 37. Crowley**
1,300 employees
9487 Regency Square Blvd., Jacksonville
www.crowley.com
- 38. GuideWell**
1,300 employees
4800 Deerwood Campus Pkwy., Jacksonville
www.guidewell.com
- 39. Baptist Medical Center South**
1,250 employees
14550 Old St. Augustine Rd., Jacksonville
www.baptistjax.com/locations/baptist-medical-center-south
- 40. Comcast**
1,200 employees
4663 River City Dr., Ste. 107, Jacksonville
www.xfinity.com
- 41. Wells Fargo**
1,180 employees
3563 Philips Hwy., Jacksonville
www.wellsfargo.com
- 42. Northrop Grumman**
1,100 employees
5000 US 1 N., St. Augustine
www.northropgrumman.com
- 43. Wolfson Children’s Hospital**
1,100 employees
800 Prudential Dr., Jacksonville
www.wolfsonchildrens.com
- 44. Citizens Property Insurance Corporation**
1,040 employees
301 W. Bay St., Ste. 1300, Jacksonville
www.citizensfla.com
- 45. Flightstar Aircraft Services**
1,030 employees
6025 Flightline Dr., Jacksonville
https://mrohldings.com/facilities/flightstar
- 46. Contemporary Services Corporation**
1,000 employees
1 Everbank Field Dr., Jacksonville
https://csc-usa.com
- 47. McKesson**
1,000 employees
6651 Gate Pkwy., Jacksonville
www.mckesson.com
- 48. Miller Electric Company**
1,000 employees
6805 Southpoint Pkwy., Jacksonville
www.mecojax.com
- 49. Nemours Children’s Health**
1,000 employees
807 Children’s Way, Jacksonville
www.nemours.org
- 50. W.W. Gay Mechanical Contractor, Inc.**
1,000 employees
524 Stockton St., Jacksonville
https://wwgmc.com



Wolfson Children’s Hospital, photo courtesy of Baptist Health



Regions, photo by Monica Fields

Banking & Mortgage Industry

With both local and major banking and mortgage providers in our own backyard, the First Coast's strong financial reputation has allowed major employers to call the area home. Twenty major banks, insurance and investment firms found on the Fortune Global 500 list have operation centers here on the First Coast. Known as a financial hot spot with a high growth rate, there are more than 55,000 employees working in the financial services industry. Below are some available providers in the area ranging from smaller companies to larger national corporations.

Ally

Even though this fully online financial institution doesn't have any physical branches, Ally has a corporate office in Jacksonville and offers banking, investing, home loans, auto finance and much more.

Alive Credit Union

Founded right here on the First Coast, this full-service credit financial institution has served the community, including the employees of Florida Blue, Baptist Health, HCA Florida Memorial Hospital, UF Health Jacksonville, Ascension St. Vincent's and Mayo Clinic, since 1954. Membership services are also available to those working in healthcare, law enforcement, city, marketplace and within our local community, as well as their immediate family members.

Ameris Bank

Originally branded as Ameris Bancorp, this financial institution has been in the industry since 1971. The



Bank of America, photo by Monica Fields

bank serves customers across the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic and has several locations on the First Coast. They offer individual, small business and commercial banking services, as well as wealth management including financial planning, retirement and more.

Bank of America

This American multinational investment bank and financial services company is one of the world's leading financial institutions. It services individuals, businesses, corporations and more with full-service banking, investment management and other products such as savings accounts, loans, mortgages and auto loans.

Bank OZK

Bank OZK has been named one of "America's Best Banks" and "World's Best Banks" every year since 2019 by *Forbes* and has multiple locations on the First Coast. The bank offers personal checking and savings, debit and credit cards, business checking, trust services and much more.

Capital City Bank

Operating since 1895, Capital City Bank is one of the largest publicly traded financial holding institutions in the country. With locations in Keystone

Heights and Hastings, the bank offers mortgages, trusts, merchant services, bank cards and many banking services.

Chase Bank

This multinational investment bank and financial services company is one of the world's oldest and largest financial institutions. The bank provides credit cards, savings and checking accounts, commercial banking, auto loans and more to its members. Chase Bank is even part of the Jacksonville skyline, with the downtown branch located in the former Barnett National Bank building.

Citi

For more than 25 years, Citi has offered financial services including credit cards, banking and wealth management. With an additional focus on security services, commercial banking, markets, private banking, trade solutions, treasury solutions and capital markets, Citi is a leader in growth and economic development on the First Coast.

Community First Credit Union

Community First Credit Union has been serving the First Coast community for more than 85 years. As one of Florida's largest credit unions, it offers auto loans, mortgages, credit cards, checking accounts, student banking and more for its members.

Deutsche Bank

As a multinational investment bank and financial services company, the bank's operations center in Jacksonville employs more than 2,000 individuals and is the second-largest U.S. operation outside of its New York City branch.

EverBank

Headquartered right here in Jacksonville, EverBank is a diversified financial services company that provides banking and investing services. The bank

offers its members high-interest checking, money market accounts, CDs and more.

Fifth Third Bank

Fifth Third Bank offers a wide range of services including banking, home buying, insurance, investment markets, savings accounts, CDs and checking accounts with credit cards. The bank focuses on community involvement and builds strategic relationships with each customer to provide a positive and personalized experience.

First Bank, The

With a branch on the Southside of Jacksonville, The First Bank offers personal banking services including checking, savings and credit cards. It also has business and wealth management services, as well as mortgage loans.

First Citizens Bank

First Citizens Bank provides personal, small business and commercial banking services to the First Coast. The bank also provides wealth management services, including trusts, insurance options and investment solutions, to help plan and prepare for the future and retirement. To serve more residents on the First Coast, the bank offers military bank accounts.

First Federal Bank

First Federal Bank has been providing home financing for over 60 years. The company also focuses on warehouse lending, consumer lending, specialty commercial financing, wholesale lending and manufactured housing lending. As a wholesale mortgage lending solution, the bank has been ranked "5 Star, Superior" by BauerFinancial, Inc. since 2000.

First Florida Credit Union

Headquartered in Jacksonville, First Florida Credit Union provides its members with affordable financial products and services. Members have access to digital banking, fast loan approvals, free financial resources and more.

First Horizon

First Horizon has a wide range of products and services for First Coast residents, including banking, home loans, insurance, investing, trust services and more. It also offers small business and commercial banking services.

“There are more than 55,000 employees working in the financial services industry on the First Coast!”

Florida Capital Bank

As a nationally chartered bank headquartered right here in Jacksonville, Florida, Capital Bank focuses on solutions for the financial well-being of businesses and their owners. It is a full-service retail and commercial bank specializing in SBA loans, small business checking, savings and treasury management services.

Navy Federal Credit Union

Founded in 1933, this credit union offers personal and small business banking services to current and retired members of the armed forces, their families and household members, Department of Defense personnel and more.

PNC Bank

With several locations throughout the First Coast, PNC Bank offers a wide range of personal banking services, including checking and savings accounts, credit cards, mortgage loans, auto loans and more.

RadiFi Credit Union

Serving Northeast Florida since 1935, RadiFi Credit Union offers personal and business banking services, including auto loans, home loans, business loans, checking accounts, saving accounts and more.

Regions Bank

As a member of the S&P 500 Index and one of the largest full-service banking and mortgage providers in the country, Regions Bank is focused on both economic and community development. It provides a full range of services such as personal deposits, loans and credit lines, business banking services, insurance, investment products and more.



Chase, photo by Monica Fields

Your local agent for home & auto

Call me for a quote today



Kathy Scott Insurance Agcy Inc
Agent

6026 San Jose Blvd W
Jacksonville, FL 32217-2365

Bus: 904-730-3665
kathy@kathyscottinsurance.com
kathycares.biz



State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company, State Farm Indemnity Company, State Farm Fire and Casualty Company, State Farm General Insurance Company, Bloomington, IL

State Farm County Mutual Insurance Company of Texas, State Farm Lloyds, Richardson, TX

State Farm Florida Insurance Company, Winter Haven, FL

State Farm

In addition to focusing on auto insurance, State Farm offers banking services, including credit cards, savings and checking accounts, auto loans, home loans and money market savings.

Synovus

Named one of the Best Banks in America by *Forbes*, Synovus provides the First Coast community with commercial and retail banking, investment, and mortgage services. In 2024 Synovus was awarded The Smarter Bank – Customer Service award for relationship banking from GonzoBanker.

SouthState

This Florida-based bank offers personal checking and savings, personal loans, mortgages, retirement planning, small business services, commercial financing



VyStar, photo by Monica Fields



and more. SouthState Bank earned the “America’s Best Mid-Size Companies” award from *TIME Magazine* in 2024.

TD Bank

With multiple locations around the First Coast, TD Bank offers its customers numerous products and services, including checking and savings accounts, credit cards, home equity and mortgage loans.

Truist

As a top 10 commercial bank in the U.S., this financial institution is an important part of the First Coast that offers checking and savings accounts, credit cards, mortgages, small business, commercial banking and more.

U.S. Bank

Named one of the World’s Most Ethical Companies by the Ethisphere Institute for the 10th year in a row, U.S. Bank on the First Coast offers corporate and commercial banking services as well as home mortgages.

Valley Bank

For more than 95 years, Valley has been one of the premier commercial, retail and private banks in the country and offers a wide range of services for those banking on the First Coast.

VyStar Credit Union

Headquartered in Jacksonville, VyStar Credit Union was founded 70 years ago at Naval Air Station Jacksonville. They offer a comprehensive selection of products including banking and loan services, investment, insurance and retirement planning. The credit union also provides special services for military personnel and civil service workers. Recently, VyStar acquired 121 Financial Credit Union, giving it more than \$14 billion in assets and more than 985,000 members.

Wells Fargo

Wells Fargo provides a variety of banking services on the First Coast, including checking and savings accounts, personal loans, auto loans as well as small business and commercial financial services. The bank prides itself on offering local services as well as digital banking services to customers.

Synovus, photo by Monica Fields

Information Technology

The First Coast is also becoming a global powerhouse for finance technology, or fintech. Our area has attracted many fintech giants, including Intercontinental Exchange, Inc., FIS, Paysafe, SoFi, SS&C Technologies and SmartStream Technologies. The University of North Florida even offers graduate and undergraduate programs in fintech to develop talent in this key industry.

The First Coast continues to grow as a global technology market, attracting a talented workforce to the region. Numerous companies in the area encompass a diverse array of Information Technology sectors, including software development, healthcare, logistics, e-commerce and more. According to LinkedIn, Jacksonville has been named a top city for tech workers.

AT&T

One of the largest employers on the First Coast, this multinational company provides the most mobile and fixed telephone services in the United States. AT&T has utilized the First Coast as a home base for its call center operations.

Availity

Connecting nearly 3 million providers, Availity delivers revenue cycle and other related business solutions for healthcare professionals. This Jacksonville-based IT company operates the largest real-time information network in healthcare.



Dun & Bradstreet, photo by Monica Fields

Beeline

Beeline is a Jacksonville-based global leader in developing staffing software solutions and pioneered the world's first extended workforce platform. Over 400 global organizations currently rely on Beeline.

Dun & Bradstreet

Headquartered here in Jacksonville, this tech company offers a wide range of products and services for risk and financial analysis, operations and supply, and sales and marketing

professionals, as well as research and insights on global business issues.

Fanatics, Inc.

Established in 1995 as a brick-and-mortar storefront, this company is now one of the top IT employers on the First Coast and an online retail giant.

FIS

This Fortune 500 company offers a wide range of financial technology services and has been recognized by CNBC as one of the world's top 250 fintech companies. Headquartered in Jacksonville, FIS employs 56,000 people across 58 countries and processes over \$75 billion in transactions around the world.

Forcura

Since 2012, Jacksonville-based Forcura has been providing cloud-based software that modernizes documentation, workflows and secure communications for home health, hospice, rehabilitative therapy, skilled nursing and behavioral health providers.

Intercontinental Exchange, Inc.

With an office in Jacksonville, Intercontinental Exchange, Inc. is a multinational financial services company that operates global financial exchanges and clearing houses and provides mortgage technology, data and listing services.



FIS, photo courtesy of COJ



Avallity, photo by Monica Fields

Newfold Digital

Newfold Digital provides website development solutions for small and medium-sized businesses across the world and is headquartered here in Jacksonville.

Nymbus

Headquartered in downtown Jacksonville, Nymbus is a leading provider of banking technology solutions for financial institutions.

Optimum Healthcare IT

Based in Jacksonville Beach, Optimum Healthcare IT is a staffing and consulting services firm that works with healthcare providers, payers, software and life sciences organizations.

Paysafe

London-based Paysafe offers payment processing, digital wallet and online cash solutions. The company's North American headquarters is located right here in Jacksonville.

SoFi

This digital personal finance company's Jacksonville office, located near the St. Johns Town Center, focuses on member relations, loan review, quality assurance and fraud prevention.

SS&C Technologies

With an office on the Southside of Jacksonville, SS&C Technologies is the world's largest independent hedge fund and private equity administrator, as well as the largest mutual fund transfer agency.

SmartStream Technologies

This London-based company provides financial solutions and managed services for its clients. SmartStream's Jacksonville office focuses on providing technology and business support services, client onboarding, professional services and more.

“Numerous companies in the area encompass a diverse array of Information Technology sectors, including software development, healthcare, logistics, e-commerce and more.”

More Industries Making an Impact on the First Coast

Healthcare

The First Coast has a thriving healthcare industry. We are home to many top facilities like Baptist Health, Mayo Clinic, Ascension St. Vincent's and UF Health. Our hospital systems' services draw many to the area for the top programs and treatments they offer. Wolfson Children's Hospital and Nemours Children's Health are also here on the First Coast and offer top-notch medical services for infants to young adults.

Advanced Manufacturing

Several manufacturing companies have chosen the First Coast as their home base due to the convenient access to airports, railways and ports. Our leading advanced manufacturers include Johnson & Johnson Vision, Anheuser-Busch, BAE Systems,

Baker Hughes, Medtronic, Northrop Grumman and more. According to JAXUSA, construction costs on the First Coast are 14 percent lower than the U.S. average, and the cost to lease industrial space is \$10.35, which is below most major metropolitan areas. This makes the Jacksonville region an affordable and efficient location for advanced manufacturing.

Space and Defense Technology

With a multitude of innovative manufacturers like Northrop Grumman, Boeing, Carlisle Interconnect Technologies, Redwire Space, Kaman Aerospace and Collins Aerospace, it is no wonder why NASA Administrator Bill Nelson dubbed the Jacksonville region as "the center for space technology." Jacksonville's



Boeing, photo courtesy of COJ

Cecil Spaceport is the first commercial spaceport on the East Coast licensed to conduct horizontal launch operations and has been the center point for over \$300 million in infrastructure improvements in the area, according to JAXUSA.

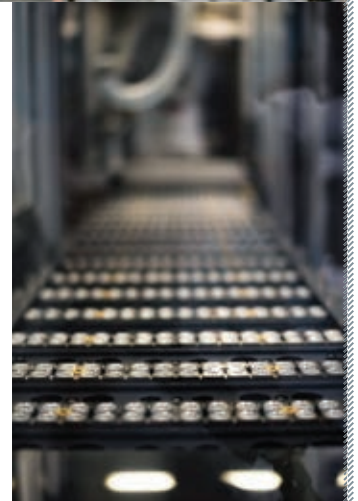


Photo courtesy of Johnson & Johnson Vision

We Salute You: First Coast Military

NAS .Jax, photo by Yeoman 2nd Class Paul Cooper Jr.



With the third-largest military presence in the country, the First Coast has a long history as a military- and veteran-friendly area. The region is home to thousands of active duty, reserve and civilian contractors stationed at the area's three naval bases: Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Naval Station Mayport and Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay. The United States Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville, Camp Blanding Army Base and Marine Corps Blount Island Command also call the First Coast home. Our strong military presence has a significant economic impact on the region and provides stability and diversity in the community. Every year, the First Coast holds the largest Veterans Day Parade in the state of Florida and other various veteran-gearred events. With a great military presence in the area, many businesses are veteran-owned as well as veteran-employed.



Naval Station Mayport

Box 280032, Mayport

<https://cnrse.cnmc.navy.mil/Installations/NS-Mayport/>

Situated at the mouth of the St. Johns River and the Atlantic Ocean, Naval Station Mayport (NS Mayport) is located near the small village of Mayport. As one of the three major Navy Installations on the First Coast, it is the third-largest naval facility in the continental U.S. and is also home to the Navy's 4th Fleet. NS Mayport's unique operational composition includes a busy harbor able to accommodate 34 ships and an 8,000-foot runway that can accommodate any type of Department of Defense aircraft. With more than 100,000 helicopter and fixed-wing flights each year, the airfield is operated by NS Mayport's Air Operations Department.



Naval Air Station Jacksonville

6801 Roosevelt Blvd., Jacksonville

<https://cnrse.cnmc.navy.mil/Installations/NAS-Jacksonville/>

As home to the famous Blue Angels, Naval Air Station Jacksonville (NAS Jacksonville) is the largest Navy base in the Southeast and is located on the Westside of Jacksonville on the St. Johns River. With a regional annual impact of \$2.1 billion, the base is a large part of our area's economy. NAS Jacksonville is an operational headquarters for more than 120 tenant commands. The base is a recipient of a 2012 Presidential Excellence Award and multi-year winner of the Commander, Navy Installations Command Excellence Award, including as recently as 2021 and 2024. Also included on the installation's 3,800 acres are Naval Hospital Jacksonville and the Navy Band Southeast.



Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay

1063 USS Tennessee Ave., Kings Bay, GA

<https://cnrse.cnrc.navy.mil/Installations/SUBASE-Kings-Bay/>

Naval Submarine Base Kings Bay is located approximately 38 miles away from Jacksonville, adjacent to St. Marys, GA. This base is the home port for the U.S. Navy Fleet ballistic missile nuclear submarines that are capable of being equipped with the Trident missile. The major base commands include the Strategic Weapons Facility Atlantic, Trident Refit Facility, Trident Training Facility, Submarine Group 10 and the Naval Submarine Support Center. Currently, there are eight Ohio-class submarines, including two guided missiles and six ballistic missiles, on the base.



United States Coast Guard Sector Jacksonville

10426 Alta Dr., Jacksonville

www.atlanticarea.uscg.mil/Our-Organization/District-7/Units/Sector-Jacksonville-Home/

Sector Jacksonville is accountable for 40,000 square miles of ocean and island waterways and is located on six acres of land close to NS Mayport. Sector Jacksonville's area of responsibility spans 190 miles of coastline spanning from Kings Bay, GA to Port Malabar, FL. Sector Jacksonville is responsible for all Coast Guard missions in the Jacksonville Captain of the Port zone and area of responsibility, including search and rescue, ports, waterways and coastal security, waterways management, maritime homeland security, marine science activities, aids to navigation, and command and logistical support.



Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island

5880 Channel View Blvd., Jacksonville

www.bic.marines.mil

Strategically positioned on the St. Johns River, Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island serves as the home of Blount Island Command. The installation is the hub of the Marine Corps' pre-positioning programs and its worldwide mission supporting Fleet Marine Forces. Blount Island Command received its sixth Meritorious Unit Commendation in 2024.

“The First Coast has the third-largest military presence in the country and the second highest concentration of veterans in Florida.”



Camp Blanding Joint Training Center

5629 FL-16 W., Starke

<https://fl.ng.mil/Commands/Camp-Blanding-Joint-Training-Center>

Located in Starke, Camp Blanding Joint Training Center is a 73,000-acre training center that serves as the primary military reservation and training base for the Florida Army National Guard and certain nonflying activities of the Florida Air National Guard. The facility is also home to the Camp Blanding Museum, which currently features displays on Camp Blanding's history and involvement during WWII.

NS Mayport, photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Brandon J. Vinson



NSB Kings Bay, photo by Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Travis S. Alston



Photo courtesy of JAXPORT

Talleyrand Marine Terminal, photo courtesy of JAXPORT

Our Gateway to the World: Ports of the First Coast

Due to the First Coast’s prime location, we are a major player in the logistics and distribution industry. With our access to waterways, interstates and railroads, more than 98 million consumers are receiving their goods faster than ever. Because of this, numerous logistics and distribution companies have decided to call the First Coast home.

PORTS

JAXPORT

The largest container port by volume in Florida and one of the nation’s largest vehicle-handling ports, **Jacksonville Port Authority (JAXPORT)** is known as the global gateway to Florida. JAXPORT’s international seaport offers global cargo service from dozens of ocean carriers, including direct service with Asia, Europe, Africa, South America, the Caribbean and other major markets. Comprised of three marine terminals, Blount Island, Dames Point and Talleyrand, shippers can utilize the port to ship to 140 ports in 70 countries via the 100 trucking firms or the 40 daily trains. In 2022, the Jacksonville Harbor Deepening Project was completed through Blount Island. The project deepened the Jacksonville shipping channel from 40 feet to 47 feet. The project included the construction of a vessel turning basin that now allows larger ships to turn around at Blount Island berths.

The Blount Island Marine Terminal is JAXPORT’s largest marine facility, as well as one of the largest vehicle import/export centers in the U.S. The Dames Point Marine Terminal has 5,002 linear feet of deep-

water berths, as well as six new Panamax container cranes. Talleyrand Marine Terminal mostly deals with containerized and breakbulk cargo, automobiles and liquid bulk commodities.

Port of Fernandina

The **Port of Fernandina** is a natural deep-water port that handles a variety of cargoes, such as steel, aluminum, machinery, paper and forest products and consumer goods. The 950-foot turning basin directly adjoins the 1,200-linear-foot pier. The port also features 250,000 square feet of warehouse space on-site, 100,000-plus square feet of off-port space, as well as 10 acres of open storage.

LOGISTICS & DISTRIBUTION

Headquartered in Jacksonville, **AGX Freight** offers expedited transportation services throughout North America. The company works with transportation and logistics professionals to offer cost-effective solutions for its customers.

CEVA Logistics is one of the world’s leading supply chain management companies and specializes in end-to-end customized solutions for customers’ supply chain needs. CEVA believes that innovation is necessary and works to improve the way they interact with customers in tandem with improving efficiency. The Jacksonville location was designed with this type of innovation in mind.

Headquartered in Jacksonville, **Crowley Maritime Corporation** is known for its speed and efficiency in shipping and distribution. The company ships to several countries in the Caribbean and Central America, as well as Puerto Rico. Crowley is made up of five business units: Logistics, Shipping, Fuels, Land Transportation and Wind.

JAX Logistics provides worldwide logistics services to companies across the nation, from full container load transportation to door-to-door service. Based in Jacksonville, JAX Logistics is a woman-owned business with a commitment to safety and efficiency.

Made up of independent freight agents and transportation capacity providers, Jacksonville’s **Landstar** provides transportation solutions to more than 25,000 businesses worldwide. With independent agents, Landstar provides local presence and global reach.

Calling out of JAXPORT, **Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC)** is one of the leading forces in shipping and logistics. Their fleet is equipped with the latest green technologies and accesses 520 ports along 260-plus trade routes. MSC focuses on the evolution of the shipping industry and prides itself on “delivering global service with local knowledge.”

Shoreside Logistics is a Jacksonville-based inland transportation company offering a broad range of logistics cargo services. Shoreside Logistics is also a U.S. Customs Centralized Examination Station and has 1,000,000 square feet of warehousing that includes a Foreign Trade Zone, within a few miles of JAXPORT.

On the Road Again: Transportation

Navigating your way around a new town doesn't need to be difficult. Below is all the information you need to get around the First Coast.



St. Johns River Taxi, photo by Interpret Studios

ROADS

Alternative names for some of our major roadways:

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 ... State Road 212 and 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 ... J. Turner Butler Boulevard or Butler Boulevard or JTB

State Road A1A also known as ... Third Street

I-295 East Beltway formerly known as ... State Road 9A

TOLL ROADS

First Coast drivers who wish to use toll roads need to buy a SunPass or E-PASS. Drivers can use either pass to navigate through any state or local toll roads, along with express lanes.

SunPass

www.SunPass.com

SunPasses are issued by the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT). SunPasses can be purchased online, over the phone or at several convenient retailers such as Publix, Walgreens and CVS.

E-PASS

<https://epass.cfxway.com>

E-PASS is the Central Florida Expressway Authority's electronic toll collection system. Each time you pass through a toll, the fee is deducted from your prepaid E-PASS account. Funds can be added to an E-PASS account using cash or a debit or credit card. E-PASS is available to purchase online, over the phone or at the E-PASS Service Center in Orlando.

First Coast Expressway (State Road 23)

<http://firstcoastexpressway.com>

This multi-lane, limited-access toll road will cross parts of Duval, Clay and St. Johns counties upon completion. Those with a SunPass will be able to pass through electronic toll gantries without stopping.

The segments on the First Coast Expressway are:

- I-10 to N. Argyle Forest Blvd.
- North of Argyle Forest Blvd. to Blanding Blvd.
- SR 21 to North of SR 16
- North of SR 16 to East of CR 209
- New St. Johns River Bridge
- East of CR 16A Spur to I-95

I-295 Express Lanes

<https://nflroads.com/NorthFloridaExpress>

The express toll lanes on I-295 West stretch over four miles starting at I-95 to the Buckman Bridge. Express lanes along I-295 East stretch from JTB to SR 9B. Future projects include I-95 from International Golf Parkway to I-95/I-295 South Interchange and I-95 from JTB to Atlantic Boulevard.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Jacksonville Transportation Authority (JTA)

www.jtafla.com

JTA provides various mass transit services for the public in Duval County, including paratransit for the disabled and elderly, and Ride Request on-demand services.

Bus – JTA manages all bus services in the greater Jacksonville area. The JTA website features updated information about each route daily, including a specific time for each stop.

Connexion (Paratransit) – The paratransit service provides destination-to-destination shared 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. Connexion Plus is for eligible customers who want private, same-day, door-to-door service anywhere in Duval County.

Park-n-Ride – Created to make going to downtown Jacksonville a breeze, this coordinated JTA effort has designated lots around the city with express service to downtown. The Stadium Shuttle provides transportation to and from the stadium for major sporting events.

ReadiRide – Offered by JTA through Owl Inc., ReadiRide is an on-call service that provides affordable transportation to customers in 15 Jacksonville communities. Download the MyJTA app for more information and payment options.

Skyway – This free automated train allows riders to glide high above traffic for convenient access around downtown Jacksonville. There are eight train stations, and trains depart 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.

Other JTA Regional Services

www.jtafla.com/ride-jta/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.

Baker Transit: In Baker County, the Wildcat Shuttle is operated by the Baker County Council on Aging.

Clay Regional Express: JTA operates the Clay Regional Express (Route 201) from the Black Creek Park-n-Ride and Route 5 from the Orange Park Mall.

Nassau Express Select: Through JTA and NassauTRANSIT, Nassau Express Select offers travelers an executive-style ride back and forth from Nassau County to downtown Jacksonville.

St. Johns Express Select: Operated by JTA, St. Johns Express Select offers commuters an executive-style, affordable ride between the St. Johns County Government Center and the Jacksonville Regional Transportation Center at LaVilla in downtown Jacksonville.

Sunshine Bus Company (St. Johns County)
www.sunshinebus.net

The Sunshine Bus Company is St. Johns County's public transit and offers a deviated fixed route line with nine different routes throughout the county. 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.

AERONAUTICAL

Jacksonville Aviation Authority
www.flyjacksonville.com

The Jacksonville Aviation Authority owns and operates Jacksonville International Airport, Cecil Airport, Jacksonville Executive at Craig Airport and Herlong Recreational Airport.



Jacksonville International Airport, photo by Tabitha Edwards, JAA

“Northeast Florida’s only major airport serves as the gateway to the First Coast region and neighboring areas.”

Jacksonville International Airport (JAX)

Northeast Florida’s only major airport serves as the gateway to the First Coast region and neighboring areas. JAX provides non-stop flights to major U.S. airports, many of which go international. Only 12 miles from downtown Jacksonville, the airport offers free in-terminal Wi-Fi, live entertainment, shops and restaurants.

Cecil Airport (VQQ)

Cecil Airport is a public joint civil-military airport and spaceport that services military aircraft, corporate aircraft, general aviation and air cargo.

Herlong Recreational Airport (HEG)

Perfect for aviation enthusiasts, this small-scale airport on Jacksonville’s Westside is used for light sport and recreational flying, including skydiving, helicopters, glider airplanes and more. Additional services include flight training, aircraft sales and maintenance.

Jacksonville Executive at Craig Airport (JAXEX)

This mid-sized corporate airport in the Arlington neighborhood 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.

Fernandina Beach Municipal Airport (FMBA)
www.fbfl.us/66/airport

In Nassau County, the Fernandina Beach Municipal Airport is operated by the City of Fernandina Beach and serves Amelia Island and Fernandina Beach.

Keystone Heights Airport (42J)
<https://keystoneairport.com/>

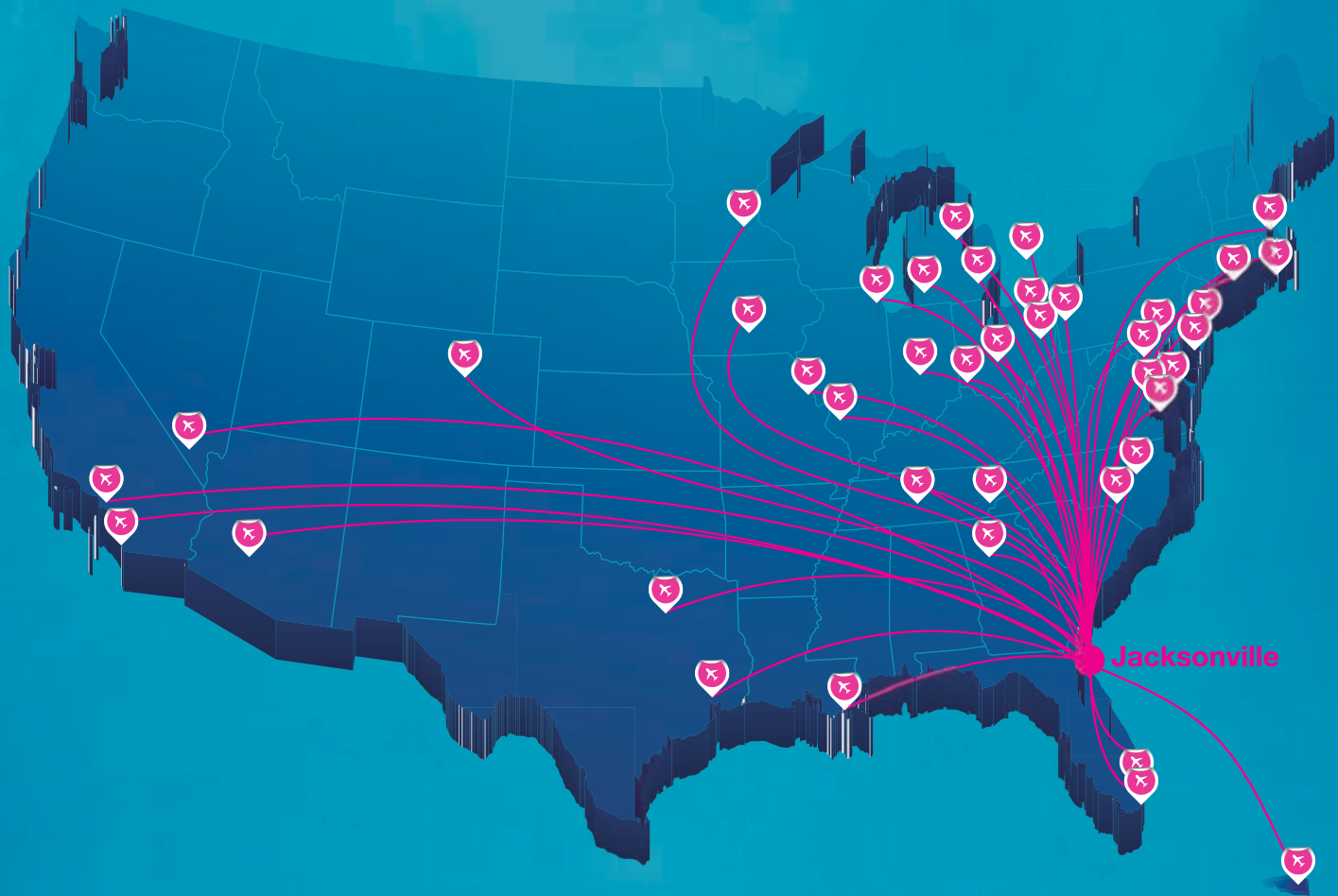
This airport serves travelers in Clay and Bradford counties and is located 50 miles southwest of Jacksonville.

Northeast Florida Regional Airport (KSGJ or UST)
www.flynf.com

This St. Johns County airport is just a few miles from historic downtown St. Augustine. Operated by the St. Johns County Airport Authority, the public facility is centered in a gateway market of 4.4 million passengers within a two-hour drive to the airport.



Ponte Vedra Beach Blvd., photo courtesy of FloridasHistoricCoast.com



Jacksonville



JAX

Jacksonville
International
Airport

flyjax.com

Akron-Canton

Atlanta

Baltimore

Bellefonte

Boston

Charlotte

Chicago
(Midway, O'Hare)

Cincinnati

Cleveland

Columbus

(Columbus International,
Rickenbacker International)

Dallas

(Love Field, Ft. Worth)

Denver

Des Moines

Detroit

Flint

Ft. Lauderdale

Grand Rapids

Harrisburg

Hartford

Houston

(Hobby, George Bush Intercontinental)

Indianapolis

Knoxville

Las Vegas

Los Angeles

Miami

Minneapolis

Nashville

New Haven

New Orleans

New York

(LaGuardia, JFK)

Newark

Norfolk

Philadelphia

Phoenix

Providence

Pittsburg

Raleigh-Durham

San Diego

San Juan, PR

St. Louis

Toronto, CAN

Washington, D.C.

(Reagan, Dulles)

RAILROAD

Amtrak (Passenger)

www.amtrak.com/stations/jax

Amtrak provides passenger rail service in Jacksonville with a station near New Kings Road. The Amtrak station is open daily and provides rail service throughout the U.S.

NAUTICAL

JAXPORT Cruise Service

www.jaxport.com/cruise

If you're looking for a tropical getaway, Carnival Cruise Line's 2,190-passenger Carnival Elation departs from the JAXPORT Cruise Terminal. Beginning in November, Norwegian Cruise Line will offer seasonal service to the Eastern Caribbean and Bahamas.

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, is a car and passenger boat that connects the north and south ends of State Road A1A in Duval County, linking Mayport Village and Fort George Island via a scenic ride across the beautiful St. Johns River.

St. Johns River Taxi & Tours

www.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. The river taxi makes numerous stops along the St. Johns River, including the Friendship Fountain Dock, Arena Dock and Riverside Dock.



River Ferry, photo courtesy of JTA

Know what is happening on the roads – before and after a storm!

FLORIDA 511
Connect. Know. Go.
FDOT

- Alerts for hurricane evacuees
- Road and bridge closures, toll suspensions and evacuation routes
- Crashes, stalled cars and congestion
- Downed powerlines and flooded roads
- Much more live 24/7 traffic information provided by the FDOT
- Website available in Spanish

Travel on roadways can be disrupted before and after a hurricane or tropical storm. **The Florida Department of Transportation** encourages all motorists to check **FL511** before a motor trip for this essential information:







First Coast Bridges

With the St. Johns River and Intracoastal Waterway winding through the First Coast, our many bridges serve as the links that connect Northeast Florida together.



Acosta Bridge

Connects the Southbank to Downtown/Riverside



Bridge of Lions, photo by Interpret Studios

Acosta Bridge, photo courtesy of JTA

Bridge of Lions

Connects Historic St. Augustine to
Anastasia Island

Buckman Bridge

Connects Mandarin to
Orange Park



Buckman Bridge, photo by Natalya Chernyavskaya, courtesy of Shutterstock

Dames Point Bridge, photo by Frame Craft 8, courtesy of Shutterstock



Dames Point Bridge
Connects Arlington to Northside

Hart Bridge, photo by Glenn R. Thomas, courtesy of Shutterstock



Hart Bridge
Connects Southside to Downtown

Fuller Warren Bridge (I-95)
Connects Riverside to San Marco

Fuller Warren Bridge, photo courtesy of Pexels



Main Street Bridge (John T. Alsop Jr. Bridge)

Connects San Marco to Downtown



Main Street Bridge, photo courtesy of Unsplash



Mathews Bridge, photo by Glenn R. Thomas, courtesy of Shutterstock

Mathews Bridge

Connects Arlington to Downtown



Cancer Survivors Park, photo by Monica Fields

More Bridges Throughout the Region

FEC Strauss Trunnion Bascule Bridge

Francis and Mary Usina Bridge

Intracoastal Waterway Bridge

J. Turner Butler Intracoastal Bridge

Kingsley Creek RR Swing Bridge

McCormick Bridge

Mickler O'Connell Bridge

Ortega River Bridge

Palm Valley Bridge

Shands Bridge

Thomas J. Shave Jr. Bridge

Trout River Bridge

Wonderwood Bridge

St. Johns River Bridge

Located just south of the two-lane Shands Bridge will be a new four-lane bridge that will cross over the St. Johns River. Expected to be completed in 2030, the new bridge will connect Clay and St. Johns counties as part of the First Coast Expressway and eventually replace the Shands Bridge.

Richard and Annette Bloch Cancer Survivors Park Bridge Replicas

101 W. State St., Jacksonville

This downtown park features to-scale replicas of Jacksonville's beautiful bridges. Visitors can walk across miniature versions of the Acosta, Dames Point, Hart, Main Street and Mathews bridges.

Play

The Play Section has everything you need to know about relaxing and having fun here on the First Coast.





Jacksonville Beach, photo by CycleHere Media

Surf and Sand: First Coast Beaches & Waterways

One of the best parts of living on the First Coast is having access to some of Florida's most beautiful beaches and waterways! Here, you can breathe in the sea salt air and feel the sand between your toes. If you're looking to bask in the sun, search for shells, build sandcastles or catch some waves, the First Coast is the perfect place to have a beach day.

BEACHES

DUVAL COUNTY

Atlantic Beach

Duval County's northernmost beach community, Atlantic Beach offers a peaceful seaside atmosphere. The beach's historic fishing village, Mayport, is well-known for its shrimping industry. Located between Atlantic Beach and Mayport is the popular Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park. Here visitors can enjoy camping, fishing and surfing.

Jacksonville Beach

Nestled between Neptune and Ponte Vedra beaches, Jacksonville (Jax) Beach spans 60 blocks along the Atlantic Ocean. Jax Beach offers public access in multiple locations and is the perfect spot for surfing. The Jax Beach pier is a great place for anglers to catch fish.

Neptune Beach

Located north of Jax Beach, this mile-long beach gives residents and visitors a chance to bike, bask in the sun and surf.

NASSAU COUNTY

Fernandina Beach

As the First Coast's northernmost beach, Fernandina Beach is the perfect place for seashell hunting and is known for its horseback riding tours that give visitors and residents a chance to experience the beach from a whole new perspective.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Crescent Beach

Located south of St. Augustine on Anastasia Island, Crescent Beach is named from the crescent shape of its coastline. The beach's hardpacked sand is perfect for bike riding, horseback riding or beach volleyball.



Mickler's Landing, photo courtesy of FloridasHistoricCoast.com

North Beach

North Beach is a serene spot just north of the Vilano Bridge on A1A. A full range of facilities are available, including boat ramps, showers and public parking.

Ponte Vedra Beach

This low-key beach located just south of Jax Beach has many access points for beachgoers and is the perfect place to hunt for seashells and shark teeth. Mickler’s Landing is tucked into the southern part of Ponte Vedra Beach and is known as a popular destination for surfers and families.

St. Augustine Beach

St. Augustine Beach has everything for a fun-filled beach day, including a fishing pier, pavilion, splash park and beach volleyball courts.

Vilano Beach

Vilano Beach is located on the north side of the Matanzas Inlet and has a dune walkover and access for four-wheel-drive vehicles. Its location on the coast gives it a stronger current, making it popular for surfing, paddleboarding and skim boarding.

WATERWAYS

The Intracoastal

Dividing Jacksonville’s Southside region from the beach, the Intracoastal Waterway runs about 40 miles through the First Coast. It has a variety of saltwater inlets, sounds and man-made canals, which are open to recreational vessels.

St. Johns River

Florida’s longest river runs right through the First Coast, spanning 310 miles from Mayport to Indian River County. Residents can enjoy many activities on the river, such as kayaking, boating and fishing. The Riverwalk in downtown Jacksonville allows residents to take a stroll or jog along the beautiful river. Keep your eyes peeled for manatees or dolphins, which frequent the river.

Other First Coast Rivers

Other First Coast rivers provide for fishing, boating and other outdoor activities throughout the year. In St. Johns County, the Guana and

Tolomato rivers surround the Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuary Research Reserve. On the Amelia River, boaters can take in the historic sights of Fort Clinch State Park. In St. Augustine, take a ride on the Matanzas Bay and Matanzas River to see the Bridge of Lions, St. Augustine Lighthouse and Castillo de San Marcos.

Matanzas Inlet, photo by Janice Jones

Amelia Island, photo by CycleHere Media



St. Johns River Base, photo by Diana Ferguson

“If you’re looking to bask in the sun, search for shells, build sandcastles or catch some waves, the First Coast is the perfect place to have a beach day.”



The Great Outdoors: State Parks & Preserves

While the hustle and bustle of the First Coast is great and exciting, few things compare to the peace of nature. The First Coast is home to 80,000 acres of parks, including nine state parks, a national forest and national wildlife refuge. Enjoy a walk through beautiful gardens and nature preserves, or spend some time at one of the more than 400 urban parks. Many of the parks and preserves have options for water activities like fishing or canoeing and trails for biking, walking or horseback riding.



Big Talbot Island, photo by Ryan Ketterman

BAKER COUNTY

John M. Bethea State Forest

On more than 37,000 acres, the John M. Bethea State Forest houses a plethora of animals, including bald eagles, black bears, white-tailed deer and the ever-present alligators. There is also a seven-mile horse loop, areas open for fishing and hunting and three miles of the St. Johns River for a scenic river hike.

Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge

With more than 400,000 acres of land, it's no surprise that the refuge is home to over 400 species of wildlife. While the refuge is mainly located in Georgia, a portion of the land claims space in Baker County. The area is a great location for camping, hiking and boating.

Osceola National Forest

The Osceola National Forest is perfect for those looking to hunt, hike, camp or fish. The 237,000 acres of flatwoods and swamps has plenty of options for every type of adventurer.

CLAY COUNTY

Jennings State Forest

In northern Clay County, Jennings State Forest gives visitors the chance to experience several different ecosystems, hike or bike along trails, fish or go horseback riding. The forest is over 25,300 acres and has several recreational areas.

Mike Roess Gold Head Branch State Park

In the 1930s, this 600-acre area was established as one of Florida's first state parks. The rolling sandhills, ravines, springs and other ecosystems offer a wide array of activities like canoeing, swimming and hiking.

Hanna Park, photo by Ryan Ketterman



DUVAL-BEACHES

Kathryn Abbey Hanna Park

With a mile and a half of gorgeous beaches, a 60-acre lake and over 20 miles of hiking and biking trails, Hanna Park is perfect for a day outside. Visitors can also spot some local wildlife, including alligators, foxes and various birds. Sea turtle nesting is from May to October.

DUVAL-NORTH

Amelia Island State Park

Containing picturesque beaches, salty marshes and magnificent forests, this state park is great for anyone looking to go horseback riding or wanting to search for shark teeth and shells while walking along the white sandy beach.

Big Talbot Island State Park

Home to Boneyard Beach, aptly named due to the skeletons of live oak and cedar trees that once grew along the shoreline, Big Talbot Island is a beautiful beach with hiking trails that lead to the shore, marsh and maritime forest.

Fort George Island Cultural State Park

Originally home to a fort of the same name, this state park is now a beautiful destination for people wanting to spend some time on the water boating or fishing or enjoy a hike around the island. The Ribault Club is a lovingly restored museum and event venue that highlights the history and beauty of Fort George Island.

George Crady Bridge Fishing Pier State Park

Head to one of the best fishing areas on the First Coast with this mile-long, pedestrian-only bridge that leads to a variety of fish such as tarpon, whiting, jake and drum.

Little Talbot Island State Park

Made up of five miles of untouched beaches and three miles of biking trails, Little Talbot Island is one of the last barrier islands on the First Coast. Camping, kayak rentals and paddle tours are available for visitors.

Pumpkin Hill Creek Preserve State Park

Threatened and endangered species like the American alligator and wood stork, respectively, and various other flora and fauna call the state park home due to the protective nature of the longleaf pine flatwoods. Visitors can bike, hike or ride horses along the more than 15 miles of trails.

Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve

Merging history with nature, this preserve is home to a variety of plants and animals, as well as Fort Caroline and the Kingsley Plantation. Within the 46,000 acres, visitors will find the St. Johns River, multiple tributaries, wetlands, dunes, hardwood hammocks and salt marshes. For those interested in the history of the area, including that of the Timucua people who lived here for thousands of years, monuments and historical structures can be found along the hiking trails.

NASSAU COUNTY

Cary State Forest

Established in 1937 as Florida’s second state forest, Cary State is comprised of 11 ecosystems and is home to endangered and threatened species such as the gopher tortoise, Sherman’s fox squirrel and wood stork. Visitors can camp, hike, hunt or go horseback riding within the forest.

Four Creeks State Forest

Aptly named for the four water systems located within the over 10,000 acres, Boggy, Plummer, Thomas and Alligator (Mills), Four Creeks State Forest is a great spot for water-based activities such as kayaking and fishing.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Anastasia State Park

With over 1,600 acres of beaches, sand dunes, marshes and hammocks, this state park offers space for an array of activities like camping, biking, bird-watching and more.

Faver-Dykes State Park

Nature lovers can find reprieve at this state park, which is home to more than 100 species of native and migratory birds, creeks, tidal marshes and

forests. Faver-Dykes is a great place for camping and various water-related activities.

Guana Tolomato Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve

This connection of freshwater and saltwater mixes, thus creating a unique and diverse habitat for several species. This estuary is one of 30 in the nation and is comprised of over 76,000 acres of land, with nine miles of trails and places for fishing and kayaking.

Matanzas State Forest

Home to the last undisturbed salt marshes on the Matanzas National Estuarine Research Reserve, this state forest is home to a variety of species, such as bald eagles, deer, otters, hogs and songbirds. Visitors can explore the area in a myriad of ways, including hiking, biking, kayaking and horseback riding.

7 Creeks, photo by Karen Morgan



Timucuan Ecological & Historic Preserve, photo courtesy of NPS



“Jacksonville is home to the largest urban park system in the country!”



Cedar Point in Timucuan Preserve, photo courtesy of NPS

Top Five Neighborhood Parks and Preserves

The First Coast is home to hundreds of locally managed parks and preserves. Check out these five parks that offer a serene spot to relax in nature.

Bird Island Park

101 Library Rd.,
Ponte Vedra Beach

Castaway Island Preserve

2921 San Pablo Rd. S.,
Jacksonville

Dutton Island Park

793 Dutton Island Rd. W.,
Atlantic Beach

Tide Views Preserve

1 Begonia St., Atlantic Beach

Tommy Hazouri, Sr. Park

14780 Mandarin Rd., Jacksonville



Dutton Island Preserve, photo courtesy of Unsplash

Geocaching: Find Real-World Treasure on the First Coast

Often referred to as “the great outdoor GPS-based hide-and-seek game,” geocaching is a simple, fun way to explore the First Coast. Armed with your phone or GPS and app, you can search for caches hidden throughout the area. Once you’ve found your treasure, simply sign the book, trade an item if you’d like, replace the cache and log your find on the app. With thousands of caches hidden anywhere from beaches to parks and everywhere in between, this real-world treasure hunt will help you learn your new terrain in no time.

Black Creek Trail
Fleming Island

Fort Clinch State Park
Fernandina Beach

Howell Park
Atlantic Beach

Mike Roess Gold Head Branch
State Park
Keystone Heights

St. Mary’s Shoals Park
Glen St. Mary

Geocaching Websites:

Geocaching
www.geocaching.com

EarthCache
www.geosociety.org

Waymarking
www.waymarking.com

First Coast Geocachers FB group
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1630177707250004/>

Jogging Paths & Yoga Spots

While our many parks and preserves are great places for joggers and yoga enthusiasts, there are also many spots to visit throughout the First Coast for a peaceful run or relaxing yoga session.

If going to a preserve or state park for a hike or a yoga session isn’t an option, the First Coast also has great jogging paths and yoga spots to help residents find their inner peace.



Beach Yoga, photo courtesy of Visit Jacksonville

JOGGING PATHS

CLAY COUNTY

Bayard Conservation Area Loop
- 10.5 miles

Black Creek Trail - 8 miles

Camp Chowenwaw Park Trail
- 2.3 miles

Nine Lives Trail - .7 miles

DUVAL COUNTY

Jacksonville Baldwin Rail Trail
- 14.5 miles

Main Street Bridge & Acosta Bridge
Loop - 1.7 miles

Robert W. Loftin Nature Trails at UNF

- Big Cypress Trail - .47 miles
- Blueberry Trail - 1.44 miles
- Goldenrod Trail - 2.85 miles
- Gopher Tortoise Ridge - .78 miles
- Red Maple Boardwalk - .31 miles
- Southbank Riverwalk - 1.25 miles

NASSAU COUNTY

Amelia Island Trail - 8.7 miles

Egan’s Creek Greenway Trail
- 5 miles

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Alpine Groves Park Trail - 1.5 miles

Gourd Island White to Red Loop
- 4.3 miles

Nocatee Greenway Trails

- Darter Trail - 2 miles
- Eagle Trail - 3 miles

- Egret Trail - 1 mile
- Heron Trail - 2.5 miles
- Herring Trail - 2 miles
- Nocatee Preserve Trail - 4.1 miles
- Osprey Trail - 6.4 miles
- Peacock Trail - 4 miles
- Pelican Trail - 2.15 miles
- Seagull Trail - 3.5 miles
- Spoonbill Trail - 1 mile

OUTDOOR YOGA

CLAY COUNTY

Spring Park Pavilion
Green Cove Springs

DUVAL COUNTY

Riverside Arts Market Morning Yoga
Jacksonville

Yoga in the Gardens
Jacksonville Arboretum & Botanical Gardens

Yoga in the Park

Memorial Park

Yoga on the Beach

Jacksonville Beach Pier

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

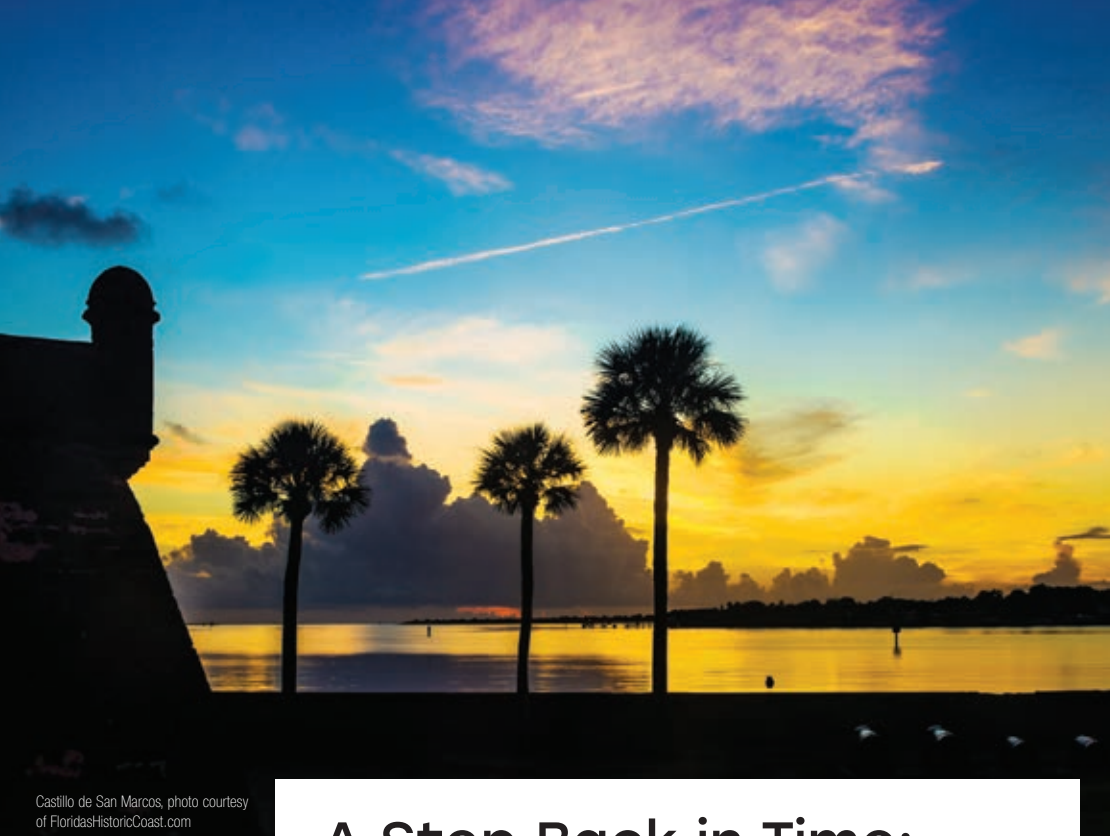
Beach Yoga by Pilates Yoga Loft
Vilano Beach

Yoga in the Garden

Lightner Museum Radzinski Family Garden

Yoga on the Lawn

Ximenez-Fatio House Museum



Castillo de San Marcos, photo courtesy of FloridaHistoricCoast.com

Living on the First Coast comes with many benefits. The picturesque beaches, thriving job market and plethora of opportunities for a fun day out are all huge draws to the area. However, these are just a small part of what makes the First Coast amazing. Its history is filled with battles, struggles over land occupation, and the kind of perseverance that shows exactly why the area is continuing to grow daily.

A Step Back in Time: Historical Sites & Museums

In the beginning, the Timucuan tribes populated the area, making their homes along the waterways in northern and central Florida, as well as southeastern Georgia. For more than 1,000 years, they lived and thrived in the region. At the Timucuan Ecological and Historical Preserve, archeologists have discovered some of the oldest pottery in the U.S., dating back to 2500 B.C.

One of the most famous residents of the First Coast, Juan Ponce de León, a Spanish conquistador, landed on the banks of Northeast Florida and claimed the land for Spain in 1513. He called the region La Florida because of the jaw-dropping landscape.

Several decades later, in 1562, the French Huguenots, led by Jean Ribault, claimed land near the St. Johns River and traveled north to South Carolina to establish a colony. However, this colony ended in failure and a return trip to Florida. This trip was led by René Goulaine de Laudonnière, the founder of Fort Caroline. In 1565, just a year after it was established, the fort was destroyed on orders from Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, the Spanish governor of Florida.

Disaster after disaster for the French led to the creation of St. Augustine, formerly the Timucuan village Seloy. St. Augustine has been rebuilt numerous times after being attacked during various wars. At the end of the French and Indian War, most of the Spain's Florida territory was given to the British in a trade to keep the city of Havana.

After the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783, Britain returned control of Florida to the Spanish as outlined in the Peace of Paris, which was a set of treaties that ended the war and British control over the U.S. colonies.

In 1821, Spain sold the territory to the United States. The next year, Cowford, originally named for the shallow and narrow part of the St. Johns River that was perfect for cattle to cross, was renamed Jacksonville for General Andrew Jackson, who later became the seventh president of the U.S.

From 1890 to 1910, Jacksonville's population grew from 17,201 to 57,699 residents. As the city became more popular, the area became a major vacation destination and, due to the warm weather and beautiful landscape, was used as the

"Winter Film Capital of the World." The St. Johns River became a large transporter of goods and passengers, opening up travel and commerce options. The growing Naval bases also contributed to the rise in population. This only drove more people to the First Coast, starting it on a path to its current popularity and importance in numerous sectors.

BAKER COUNTY

Olustee Battlefield Historic State Park
5815 Battlefield Trail Rd., Olustee
www.floridastateparks.org

For five hours on Feb. 20, 1864, cavalry, infantry and artillery troops totaling more than 10,000 fought in the largest Civil War battle in Florida, known as the Battle of Olustee. The battle ended with a Union retreat to Jacksonville and 2,807 casualties. The state park pays tribute to the battle, and each February, volunteers honor those who fought in the battle with a reenactment. Scenes from the film "Glory" were filmed during one such reenactment.



Fort Caroline, photo courtesy of Unsplash

Jacksonville was named after General Andrew Jackson, who later became the seventh president of the U.S.



MOSH, photo by Interpret Studios

Heritage Park Village

102 S. Lowder St., Macclenny
www.cityofmacclenny.com/parks.html

Heritage Park Village is comprised of 20 small museums that celebrate Baker County's history. The village includes a trading post, jail, train depot and chapel. The site also includes the Burnsed Blockhouse, the last in the state, which was used as a defensive structure.

CLAY COUNTY

Clay County Historic Museum & Triangle
915 Walnut St., Green Cove Springs
www.claycountyhistoricalsociety.org

Clay County's rich history is preserved at the Clay County Historic Museum & Triangle. Visitors can see the many exhibits that cover the everyday life of residents through personal letters, photos, furniture and clothes. The Triangle includes the 1890 courthouse, haunted jail and a veterans memorial monument.

DUVAL-BEACHES

Beaches Museum
381 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach
www.beachmuseum.org

With permanent and ever-changing exhibits, a 1911 steam locomotive and the History Park tours, guests can get a glimpse of what it was like to live at the beaches in the early 20th century.

DUVAL-NORTH

Fort Caroline National Memorial
12713 Fort Caroline Rd., Jacksonville
www.nps.gov

Established in 1564, the Fort Caroline National Memorial pays tribute to the brief French Huguenot presence in the 16th century. Visitors can tour the replica of the fort or venture into the Timucuan Preserve.

Norman Studios

6337 Arlington Rd., Jacksonville
www.normanstudios.org

As the only silent film studio complex on the First Coast, Norman Studios is a callback to the days when the area was used as the "Winter Film Capital of the World."

Ribault Club, The

11241 Fort George Rd., Jacksonville
www.theribaultclub.com

Originally meant as a getaway for affluent families, The Ribault Club now serves as a museum for the history of Fort George Island.

Yellow Bluff Fort Historic State Park

New Berlin Rd., Jacksonville
www.floridastateparks.org

Despite its name, Yellow Bluff Fort was an armed encampment that served as an access point to inland Florida during the Civil War for both Union and Confederate troops. At its peak, it housed more than 250 soldiers.

DUVAL-SOUTH

Brumos Collection, The
5159 San Pablo Rd. S., Jacksonville
www.thebrumoscollection.com

Filled with Porsche racecars from as far back as 1953, auto memorabilia and stories, the Brumos Collection is a beautiful collection worth seeing for any automobile fan.

Hands On Children's Museum

8580 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville
www.handsonchildrensmuseum.org

With over 20 interactive exhibits, kids between 1 and 12 can enjoy hands-on learning intended to develop their cognitive, social and physical abilities.

Mandarin Museum & Historical Society

11964 Mandarin Rd., Jacksonville
www.mandarinmuseum.org

Made up of multiple buildings, permanent and temporary exhibits, the Mandarin Museum and Historical Society highlights the history and culture of the Mandarin area. Visit the St. Joseph's Mission Schoolhouse for African American Children or take a moment to learn about abolitionist and author Harriet Beecher Stowe.

Museum of Science & History (MOSH)

1025 Museum Cir., Jacksonville
www.themosh.org

Fun for visitors of all ages, MOSH is comprised of numerous interactive and educational exhibits, the

Bryan-Gooding Planetarium, the Hixon Native Plant Courtyard and many more areas to explore. The City of Jacksonville has approved funds to start construction on the new Northbank location.

DUVAL-WEST

Camp Milton Historic Preserve
1175 Halsema Rd. N., Jacksonville
www.timucuanparks.org

Civil War artifacts, reenactments, an 1800s farmstead and an education center can be found at Camp Milton, a former Civil War encampment.

Durkeeville Historical Society & Museum
1293 W. 19th St., Jacksonville
www.durkeevillehistoricalsociety.org

During the Jim Crow era, Durkeeville served as a community for African Americans. The museum includes artifacts and exhibits covering that period of racial segregation.

Eartha M. M. White Museum
613 W. Ashley St., Jacksonville
<https://clarawhitecommission.org/new-page-1>

Clara White, former slave, and Eartha White, humanitarian, served food to and sheltered those in need beginning in the 1880s. This museum commemorates their selfless efforts towards reducing and preventing homelessness and hunger, a mission that is continued today.

Jacksonville Naval Museum
610 E. Bay St., Jacksonville
<https://jaxnavalmuseum.org>

Visit the USS Orleck and the floating naval museum that honors the U.S. Navy and their efforts in the Cold, Vietnam and Korean wars.

Merrill House Museum
319 A Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jaxhistory.org/merrill-museum-house-tours

Experience early 1900s middle-class life with a tour at the Merrill House Museum, a fully furnished Queen Anne-Eastlake Victorian home.

Ritz Theatre and Museum
829 N. Davis St., Jacksonville
<https://theritz.jaxevents.com>

Acting as a working venue and museum, the Ritz honors the LaVilla neighborhood, also referred to as the "Harlem of the South." Visitors can attend shows or enjoy learning about part of Jacksonville's

history from the 1920s to the 1960s, including a permanent exhibit honoring John Rosamond and James Weldon Johnson, who wrote the African American National Anthem, "Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing."

Veterans Memorial Wall
1145 E. Adams St., Jacksonville
www.jacksonville.gov

Created to honor the more than 1,700 fallen heroes from World War I to the War on Terror, it was first dedicated to veterans from all military branches in 1995 and rededicated on its 20th anniversary in 2015. This memorial is the second largest veterans memorial wall in the nation.

NASSAU COUNTY

A.L. Lewis Museum
1600 Julia St., Fernandina Beach
<https://allewismuseum.org>

This museum gives visitors a look at the lives of African Americans living on Amelia Island during the Jim Crow era and their resilience and perseverance to triumph over segregation and racial discrimination.

Amelia Island Lighthouse
215 O'Hagan Ln., Fernandina Beach
www.fbfl.us

Built in 1828, this lighthouse is the state's oldest lighthouse and the only one left from the Territorial Period that has not required major restoration.

Amelia Island Museum of History
233 S. 3rd St., Fernandina Beach
[www.ameliuseum.org](http://www.amelimuseum.org)

Cover 4,000 years of Amelia Island history at this museum, with information on the Timucua tribe all the way to the Victorian era.

Fort Matanzas, photo courtesy of Unsplash



Fort Mose Museum, photo courtesy of FloridasHistoricCoast.com

Historical Sites & Museums

Fernandina Plaza Historic State Park **Estrada St., Fernandina Beach** www.floridastateparks.org

Located where Fort San Carlos once stood, this state park offers a gorgeous view of the river and the homes that have replaced the fort. This state park is the smallest in Florida, coming in at about 0.8 acres.

Fort Clinch State Park **2601 Atlantic Ave., Fernandina Beach** www.floridastateparks.org

Explore the rooms, galleries and grounds of Fort Clinch, a Union stronghold during the Civil War. Visitors can also enjoy the beautiful surroundings, including maritime hammocks with live oaks, trails for biking and hiking, and the many species that call this area home.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Castillo de San Marcos National Monument **1 S. Castillo Dr., St. Augustine** www.nps.gov/casa

Built to protect Spain's claim on the New World, Castillo de San Marcos is the oldest masonry fort in the U.S. Visitors can walk through the fort, experience exhibits and enjoy reenactments.

Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine **38 Cathedral Pl., St. Augustine** www.thefirstparish.org

Visitors to the cathedral are welcome to take guided tours of the oldest Catholic church in St. Augustine and the oldest parish in the country.

Colonial Quarter **14 S. Castillo Dr., St. Augustine** www.colonialquarter.com

Get the full colonial experience at the Colonial Quarter, where visitors can take tours through history, learn about blacksmithing, watch a live musket demonstration or even climb the watchtower.

Flagler's Legacy Tours **59 St. George St., St. Augustine** <https://legacy.flagler.edu>

Take a tour of Flagler College, originally built as the Hotel Ponce de León by developer Henry Flagler in 1888.

Fort Clinch, photo courtesy of Unsplash



St. Augustine Lighthouse, photo courtesy of Unsplash

Fort Matanzas National Monument **8635 A1A S., St. Augustine** www.nps.gov/foma

Visitors to the fort, built to protect the area from the invading British in the 1740s, can learn about its history and watch reenactments.

Fort Mose Historic State Park **15 Fort Mose Trl., St. Augustine** www.floridastateparks.org

Visitors to the fort can take a tour of the Flight to Freedom Trail or enjoy the interactive museum that tells the story of this first sanctioned free African American settlement, established for those fleeing from slavery in the English colonies.



Karpeles Manuscript Library Mini Museum **106 St. George St., Unit L, St. Augustine** www.karpeles.com/visit/st-augustine-mini-museum

This mini Karpeles Manuscript Library is the smallest walk-in museum in the U.S. Visitors can view just a small taste of the historical documents that Karpeles has in their possession.

Karpeles Manuscript Library Museum **105 St. George St., St. Augustine** www.karpeles.com/visit/st-augustine-florida

This location is the newest addition to the manuscript library and will include rotating exhibits and a garden for visitors to enjoy.

Lightner Museum **75 King St., St. Augustine** www.lightnermuseum.org

Another former Henry Flagler hotel, the former Hotel Alcazar now serves as a museum that houses several permanent and rotating exhibits that cover fine art, architecture, history and even hosts regular events for visitors.

Oldest Wooden School House **Historic Museum & Gardens** **14 St. George St., St. Augustine** www.oldestwoodenschoolhouse.com

Dating back to the early 18th century, the Oldest Wooden Schoolhouse offers visitors the chance to experience colonial school life replicated with textbooks, supplies and furniture. After returning to school, visitors can head to the gift shop for some "old school gifts."

Lightner Museum, photo by 500PX



St. Augustine History Museum
 167 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine
www.historictours.com/st-augustine/history-museum

Learn about different periods of St. Augustine history at this museum. Its exhibits include a Timucuan Indian Village, a replica trading post and information on Henry Flagler's lasting influence on the city.

St. Augustine Lighthouse & Maritime Museum
 100 Red Cox Dr., St. Augustine
www.staugustinelighthouse.com

An iconic landmark of the First Coast, the lighthouse gives visitors an amazing view of St. Augustine. Climb to the top or explore the exhibits located in the Keeper's House.

St. Augustine Old Jail & Oldest Store Museum
 167 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine
www.trolleytours.com/st-augustine/old-jail

Get a glimpse into the daily life of prisoners and the sheriff at the Old Jail, which functioned as inmate housing, the sheriff's residence and the gallows. Nearby, the Oldest Store Museum offers visitors an authentic experience with tour guides acting as clerks and their 19th and 20th century wares.

St. Augustine Pirate & Treasure Museum
 12 S. Castillo Dr., St. Augustine
www.thepiratemuseum.com

This museum houses over 800 pieces of authentic pirate artifacts that encompass pirate history from the 17th century to present day.

For an adventure-filled day, visit these other notable St. Augustine historical sites and museums!

Father Miguel O'Reilly House Museum
 32 Aviles St., St. Augustine
www.oreillyhousefl.org

Governor's House Cultural Center and Museum
 48 King St., St. Augustine
www.staugustine.ufl.edu/govHouse.html

Lincolnton Museum and Cultural Center
 102 M L King Ave., St. Augustine
www.lincolntonmuseum.org

National Shrine of Our Lady of La Leche at Mission Nombre de Dios
 101 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine
www.missionandshrine.org

Oldest House Museum Complex
 14 St. Francis St., St. Augustine
<https://staugh.com>

Peña-Peck House, The
 143 St. George St., St. Augustine
www.penapeckhouse.com

Spanish Military Hospital Museum
 3 Aviles St., St. Augustine
www.smhmuseum.com

St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine
 41 St. George St., St. Augustine
www.stphotios.org

Ximenez-Fatio House Museum
 20 Aviles St., St. Augustine
www.ximenezfatiohouse.org

Spanish Military Hospital, photo courtesy of FloridaHistoricCoast.com



Ximenez Fatio House, photo courtesy of FloridaHistoricCoast.com

Villa Zorayda Museum
 83 King St., St. Augustine
www.villazorayda.com

Built in 1883 as a winter home, this building kickstarted the Moorish architecture revival and has exhibits and self-guided audio tours covering the history of the Zorayda and its life as a casino, restaurant and speakeasy.

**Founded in 1565,
 St. Augustine is
 the oldest city
 in the U.S.!**

A Curated Collection: Art Museums & Events

The First Coast is bursting with artistic expression. Our many museums, public art spaces and small galleries are home to everything from paintings and sculptures to contemporary and mixed media art. Local art walks and art markets also offer a multitude of unique art as well.



Cummer Museum, photo by Ryan Ketterman

DUVAL-NORTH

Alexander Brest Gallery
2800 University Blvd. N., Phillips
Fine Arts Bldg., Jacksonville
www.ju.edu

This multipurpose 2,300-square-foot art gallery located on the Jacksonville University (JU) campus showcases nationally recognized artists as well as emerging JU students in a variety of media.

DUVAL-WEST

CoRK Arts District
2689 Rosselle St., Jacksonville
<http://corkartsdistrict.com>

More than 80,000 square feet of art studios and galleries are found at the corner of Rosselle and King streets. Known as CoRK, the warehouse space is full of a variety of disciplines, including mixed media, painting and photography.

Cummer Museum of Art & Gardens
829 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville
www.cummuseum.org

Overlooking the banks of the St. Johns River, the First Coast's largest fine arts museum is home to more than 5,000 works of art in its permanent and traveling exhibits.

Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA) Jacksonville
333 N. Laura St., Jacksonville
<https://mocajacksonville.unf.edu>

With nearly 1,000 pieces of art, including sculpture, mixed media, printmaking, photography and painting, MOCA is one of the largest contemporary art museums in the Southeast and features more than 500 artists. MOCA celebrated its 100th anniversary last year as the oldest art museum in the region and the second contemporary art museum established in the U.S.



Cummer Museum, photo by Ryan Ketterman

“MOCA celebrated its 100th anniversary last year as the oldest art museum in the region and the second contemporary art museum established in the U.S.”

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Crisp-Ellert Art Museum
 48 Sevilla St., St. Augustine
www.flagler.edu

Art from local, national and international artists can be found in this museum on the Flagler College campus. This contemporary art museum has numerous exhibits and community programs available.

First Coast Cultural Center
 6000-B Sawgrass Village Cir.,
 Ponte Vedra Beach
www.firstcoastculturalcenter.org

The First Coast Cultural Center offers educational art programs, exhibits, workshops, events and classes to the Ponte Vedra Beach community.

St. Augustine Art Association
 22 Marine St., St. Augustine
www.staaa.org

For 100 years, the St. Augustine Art Association has provided a rich cultural art experience to the community. With 3,200 square feet of gallery space, there are 500 works in the art association’s permanent collection.



MOCA, photo courtesy of Visit Jacksonville

Art Walks and Festivals

Artrageous Artwalk
 Downtown Fernandina Beach
<https://islandart.org/special-events>
Second Saturday of the month

Mandarin Art Festival
 Mandarin Community Club
www.mandarinartfestival.org
Easter weekend

First Friday Artwalk
 St. Augustine Historic District
www.staaa.org/art-galleries-of-st-augustine
First Friday of the month

North Beaches Art Walk
 Beaches Town Center
www.nbaw.org
Third Thursday of the month

First Wednesday Art Walk
 Downtown Jacksonville
<https://dtjax.com/artwalk>
First Wednesday of the month

Riverside Arts Market
 715 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville
www.riversideartsmarket.org
Every Saturday

Jax Beach Arts Market
 Seawalk Pavilion
<https://jaxbeachartsmarket.com>
See website for dates

San Marco Art Festival
 Balis Park
www.sanmarcoartfestival.com
Thanksgiving weekend

Riverside Arts Market, photo courtesy of Visit Jacksonville



First Wednesday Art Walk, photo courtesy of COJ

Lights, Camera, Action!



FSCA Artist Series photo by Matthew Murphy

First Coast Entertainment

When the curtains rise and spotlights come on, entertainment seekers can find some of the best shows on the First Coast. From concerts and comedians to variety shows and musicals, the First Coast is full of fun and laughs. Whether you are looking for a small, intimate space like the Ponte Vedra Concert Hall, or larger venues like Daily's Place and VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena, there are a multitude of options for a night full of fun in our own backyard!

CLAY COUNTY

Thrasher-Horne Center
283 College Dr., Orange Park
www.thcenter.org

Located on the St. Johns River State College campus, the Thrasher-Horne hosts professional dance, theater and musical performances.

DUVAL-BEACHES

Beaches Fine Arts Series
1150 5th St. N., Jacksonville Beach
www.beachesfinearts.org

This fine arts series offers the community free world-class dance and musical performances ranging from jazz and world music to contemporary and classical.

Latham Plaza & Seawalk Pavilion
11 1st St. N., Jacksonville Beach
www.jacksonvillebeach.org

Located in the heart of Jacksonville Beach, the plaza

and pavilion host live music, concerts, festivals and outdoor movie screenings.

DUVAL-NORTH

Florida Ballet, The
10131 Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville
<https://floridaballet.org>

As the First Coast's only professional ballet company, the Florida Ballet brings an assortment of dance performances to the area. Enjoy "The Nutcracker" each holiday season as well as several other special performances throughout the year.

Linda Berry Stein College of Fine Arts & Humanities Creative Arts Series
2800 University Blvd. N., Jacksonville
www.ju.edu/cfa

Located on the Jacksonville University campus, this creative arts series hosts dance performances, concerts, exhibitions and workshops.



Photo courtesy of Florida Theatre

DUVAL-SOUTH

Alhambra Theatre & Dining
12000 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville
www.alhambrajax.com

The Alhambra is the oldest continuously operating dinner theater and offers shows throughout the year. Performances have a themed dinner that coordinates with the show as well.

FSCJ Artist Series, photo by Joan Marcus

Photo courtesy of FSCJ Artist Series



Comedy Zone, The

3130 Hartley Rd., Jacksonville
www.comedyzone.com

Head over to the Comedy Zone in Mandarin for a night full of laughs to see stand-up comedians and entertainers from all over the country.

Nathan H. Wilson Center for the Arts

11901 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville
www.fscj.edu/campuses/south-campus/wilson-center

Located on the Florida State College at Jacksonville's South Campus, the Nathan H. Wilson Center for the Arts includes an art gallery, main theater seating 500, a studio theater for small productions and more. Productions throughout the year include music, theater, humanities and visual arts.

University of North Florida (UNF)

Fine Arts Center
1 UNF Dr., Bldg. 45, Jacksonville
www.unf.edu/fineartscenter

Offering more than 128,000 square feet of space, this venue hosts a variety of performances by international, national and local entertainers, including dance performances, operas and concerts.

DUVAL-WEST

Daily's Place

1 Daily's Pl., Jacksonville
www.dailysplace.com

With the ability to hold more than 5,000 people, Daily's Place is the perfect place to enjoy concerts by your favorite artists right on the banks of the St. Johns River.

Florida Theatre

128 E. Forsyth St., Ste. 300, Jacksonville
www.floridatheatre.com

The Florida Theatre has been a staple of the First Coast for more than 97 years, bringing an array of

dance performances, concerts, comedians and more to our own backyard.

Friday Musicale

645 Oak St., Jacksonville
www.fridaymusicale.com

As the oldest musical organization in Florida, Friday Musicale hosts concerts, private events and children's summer music camps.

FSCJ Artist Series, The

501 W. State St., Ste. 109, Jacksonville
www.fscjartistseries.org

Known as the top source for professional Broadway shows on the First Coast, the FSCJ Artist Series has entertainment for all ages with dance performances, opera, concerts and more.

Jacksonville Center for the Performing Arts

300 Water St., Jacksonville
<https://pac.jaxevents.com>

This venue hosts a variety of professional and community performances, including concerts, comedy, ballet, Broadway and symphony productions.

Jacksonville Symphony

300 Water St., Ste. 200, Jacksonville
www.jaxsymphony.org

The Jacksonville Symphony has been a staple of the First Coast for more than 75 years and is one of the nation's leading regional orchestras.

Metropolitan Park

1410 Gator Bowl Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jacksonville.gov

Known for its music festivals, concerts and other events, Metropolitan Park is located on the St. Johns River.

Prime F. Osborn III Convention Center

1000 Water St., Jacksonville
<https://conventioncenter.jaxevents.com>

This 78,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art convention center was converted from a historic railroad station and is now used for conventions, trade shows, expos and more.

VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena

300 A. Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville
<https://arena.jaxevents.com>

VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena has some of the biggest names in entertainment and music visiting the First Coast.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

EMMA Concert Association

14 Granada St., St. Augustine
www.emmaconcerts.com

The EMMA Concert Association provides the nation's oldest city with a variety of classical concerts, including dance and musical performers, offering music for all ages.

Florida Theatre has hosted many notable events, including a performance by Elvis Presley in 1956!

The First Coast is the birthplace of Southern Rock! The bands Lynyrd Skynyrd and The Allman Brothers Band were formed here.

First Coast Opera
St. Augustine
www.firstcoastopera.com

The only opera company in the area, the First Coast Opera gives the community a chance to experience creative performances like cabaret shows as well as opera and operetta.

Ponte Vedra Concert Hall
1050 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach
www.pvconcerthall.com

The Ponte Vedra Concert Hall is an intimate concert venue, hosting more than 140 concerts and events throughout the year.

St. Augustine Amphitheatre, The
1340-C A1A S., St. Augustine
www.theamp.com

The St. Augustine Amphitheatre, also known as "The Amp," is a 5,000-seat venue located on Anastasia Island right across the bridge from downtown St. Augustine. Each year it hosts more than 40 performances.



Ritz Theatre, photo courtesy of Downtown Vision, Inc.

First Coast Community Theaters

5 & Dime, The
10131 Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville
www.the5anddime.org

All Beaches Experimental Theatre
106 6th St. N., Jacksonville Beach
www.abetjax.com

Amelia Community Theatre
207 & 209 Cedar St., Fernandina Beach
www.ameliacommunitytheatre.org

Limelight Theatre
11 Old Mission Ave., St. Augustine
www.limelight-theatre.org

Greenlight Theatre Company
106 6th St. N., Jacksonville Beach
www.greenlighttheatreco.com

Orange Park Community Theatre
2900 Moody Ave., Orange Park
www.opct.info

Players by the Sea
106 6th St. N., Jacksonville Beach
www.playersbythesea.org

Theatre Jacksonville
2032 San Marco Blvd., Jacksonville
www.theatrejax.com

Photo courtesy of Florida Theatre



Thrasher-Horne Center, photo by Diana Ferguson

Adventure Awaits You: First Coast Attractions



K1 Speed, photo courtesy of PR Newswire

With so many fun things to do on the First Coast, the opportunities to make lifetime memories are endless! Now that you live here, you have access to many exciting and fun-filled attractions right in your own backyard.

DUVAL-NORTH

Catty Shack Ranch Wildlife Sanctuary

1860 Starratt Rd., Jacksonville
www.cattysnack.org

This nonprofit sanctuary allows visitors to get up close and personal with big cats and other animals.

The Catty Shack provides a safe home for endangered big cats and educates visitors about their plight in the wild and captivity. The sanctuary offers year-round educational school tours and is open to the public on select weekends. The Catty Shack's current residents include tigers, lions,

leopards, cougars, coatimundis, servals and more.

Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens
370 Zoo Pkwy., Jacksonville
www.jacksonvillezoo.org

Take a walk on the wild side and see more than 2,000 rare and exotic animals at the Jacksonville Zoo. There are a variety of educational programs and exhibits to explore, including the African Forest, Giraffe Overlook and Land of the Tiger.

DUVAL-SOUTH

iFly Jacksonville
10579 Brightman Blvd.,
Jacksonville

www.iflyworld.com/jacksonville
Experience all the thrills of skydiving in iFly's state-of-the-art vertical wind tunnel, which simulates the feeling of

skydiving without needing to jump out of a plane!

K1 Speed
6601 Executive Park Ct. N.,
Jacksonville
www.k1speed.com/jacksonville-location.html

Channel your inner Speed Racer at K1 Speed, the First Coast's ultimate indoor go-kart racing destination. Race along the speedway's professionally designed indoor tracks on their European-style electric karts that reach speeds up to 45 mph.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Adventure Landing
2780 SR 16, St. Augustine
<https://st-augustine.adventurelanding.com>

With miniature golf, batting cages,



Photo courtesy of Catty Shack

Alligator Farm, photo by Jenni Shotts, courtesy of Shutterstock



educational aquarium. Here, visitors can feed sharks and stingrays and even snorkel with multiple species of fish in a natural Florida reef environment.

St. Augustine Wild Reserve
 5190 Farm Creek Rd.,
 St. Augustine
www.sawildreserve.org

This rescue nonprofit gives visitors a chance to see more than 90 animals, including wolves, lions, tigers, hyenas, coyotes, a coatimundi, lynxes, leopards, jaguars and more, through their educational tours.

an arcade and go-karts, Adventure Landing is the perfect place for a day of family fun.

**Fountain of Youth
 Archaeological Park**
 11 Magnolia Ave., St. Augustine
www.fountainofyouthflorida.com

This historical attraction transports visitors to the time when Spanish settlers and Juan Ponce de León came to the New World in 1513 in search of the Fountain of Youth.

Marineland Dolphin Adventure
 9600 Oceanshore Blvd.,
 St. Augustine
www.marineland.net

The world's first oceanarium, Marineland offers unforgettable experiences that allow visitors to see,

swim and interact with dolphins and other aquatic animals.

Potter's Wax Museum
 31 Orange St., St. Augustine
www.potterswaxmuseum.com

This unique attraction is the country's first established wax museum and has more than 160 realistic wax sculptures of scientists, musicians, movie stars, political figures, authors and athletes.

Ripley's Believe It or Not!
 19 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine
www.ripleys.com/attractions/ripleys-believe-it-or-not-st-augustine

Marvel at the 800-plus rare and unusual artifacts, including two-headed animals, shrunken heads and

a Fiji "mermaid," at Ripley's Believe it or Not!

**St. Augustine Alligator Farm
 Zoological Park**
 999 Anastasia Blvd., St. Augustine
www.alligatorfarm.com

Embark on an adventure at one of Florida's oldest continuously running attractions. The Alligator Farm is home to alligators and crocodiles as well as numerous other birds, reptiles and more. Guests can also zipline across seven acres through the treetops above the park.

St. Augustine Aquarium
 2045 SR 16, St. Augustine
www.saaquarium.com
 Become a marine biologist for a day while visiting this interactive and



Jacksonville Zoo, photo by Diana Ferguson

Bounce Around at These First Coast Trampoline Parks!

Altitude
 1214 Beach Blvd., Jacksonville Beach
www.altitudetrampolinepark.com

Bravoz Family Entertainment Center
 14985 Old St. Augustine Rd., Unit 123,
 Jacksonville
www.bravoz.com

Flight
 7022 A C Skinner Pkwy., Ste. 200, Jacksonville
www.flightadventurepark.com/jacksonville

Get Air
 1564 Park Ave., Orange Park
www.getairsports.com/orange-park

Surge Adventure Park
 9292 Arlington Expy., Jacksonville
<https://surgefun.com/locations/jacksonville/>

Urban Air Adventure Park
 9950 Southside Blvd., Jacksonville
www.urbanair.com/florida-south-jacksonville



Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp

The Fan Zone: First Coast Sports

The First Coast is the perfect place for any sports fanatic! Catch a Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp minor league baseball game or cheer on the NFL's Jacksonville Jaguars at EverBank Stadium. There are also soccer, arena football, rugby and hockey teams that call the First Coast home. Our area even hosts the Taxslayer Gator Bowl and the Florida-Georgia football game. With a great sports scene, it's easy to find a game for anyone to enjoy!

DUVAL-NORTH

Greater Jacksonville Kingfish Tournament
Jim King Park and Boat Ramp at Sisters Creek
 8203 Heckscher Dr., Jacksonville
www.kingfishtournament.com

More than 300 boats in this annual fishing tournament compete for thousands of dollars in prize money. One of the largest kingfish tournaments in the Southeast, this weeklong event also includes a food festival, live entertainment, a boat display and a junior angler tournament.

Kona Skatepark
 8739 Kona Ave., Jacksonville
www.konaskatepark.com

Skaters of all skill levels can learn some new tricks at the longest privately owned skatepark in the world.

DUVAL-SOUTH

Community First Igloo
 3605 Philips Hwy., Jacksonville
www.communityfirstigloo.com

Home to the Jacksonville Icemen training and practice facilities, the Community First Igloo includes two NHL-sized ice rinks, a pro shop and a sports-themed restaurant and lounge.

Jacksonville Armada Football Club
 1 UNF Dr., Jacksonville
www.jacksonvillearmada.com

The Jacksonville Armada is the First Coast's only professional soccer team. Founded in 2013, the Armada will play in the MLS NEXT Pro league starting this year. Construction has begun on a new stadium in downtown Jacksonville, which is set to open in 2026.

Jacksonville Axemen Rugby League
 1 UNF Dr., Jacksonville
www.jaxaxe.com

As an expansion team of the American National Rugby League, the Axemen are one of the most successful rugby league football clubs in the country.



Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Jaguars

Fun Fact: The first college football game in Florida was played in Jacksonville in 1901!



Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Jaguars

The Jacksonville Jaguars have announced plans to build a new \$1.4 billion stadium! Dubbed the “Stadium of the Future,” construction is set to begin in 2026. The stadium will include state-of-the-art technology and a shade canopy to reduce heat retention.

New Jaguars Stadium rendering, photo courtesy of OCJ



Jacksonville Roller Derby
Skate Station Funworks Mandarin
 3461 Kori Rd., Jacksonville
www.jacksonvillerollerderby.com

The first and only women’s flat-track roller derby league on the First Coast, the Jacksonville Roller Derby League has more than 70 skaters who compete in this fast-paced contact sport.

DUVAL-WEST

Florida-Georgia Football Game
EverBank Stadium
 1 EverBank Stadium Dr., Jacksonville
<https://flgajax.com>

Held in Jacksonville since 1933, this rivalry game brings Georgia Bulldog and Florida Gator fans together for a fun-filled week ending with the big game.



Equestrian Center Rodeo, photo courtesy of Visit Jacksonville

Jacksonville Equestrian Center
 13611 Normandy Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jaxequestriancenter.com

The First Coast’s premier facility for horseback riding, events, outdoor activities, hiking and biking is located on 80 acres of beautiful land.

Jacksonville Icemen
VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena
 300 A Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jacksonvilleicemen.com

The Jacksonville Icemen wow fans with their skills on the ice. The Icemen are members of the ECHL and are affiliated with the Buffalo Sabres and Rochester Americans.

Jacksonville Jaguars
EverBank Stadium
 1 EverBank Stadium Dr., Jacksonville
www.jaguars.com

Fans love to cheer on the Jacksonville Jaguars at EverBank Stadium each football season. They are members of the National Football League (NFL) as well as the American Football Conference. The Jaguars have won four division championships and had eight playoff appearances.



Photo courtesy of Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp

Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp
VyStar Ballpark
 301 A Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville
www.milb.com/jacksonville

Take the family out to a ball game to cheer on the Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp, the Triple-A affiliate of the Miami Marlins. Enjoy themed nights, appreciation events and family movie nights.

Jacksonville Sharks

VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena
300 A Philip Randolph Blvd., Jacksonville
www.jaxsharks.com

The Jacksonville Sharks are the First Coast's professional indoor football team and have won multiple championship titles. Join in on the fun and attend one of their action-packed games!

TaxSlayer Gator Bowl

EverBank Stadium
1 EverBank Stadium Dr., Jacksonville
www.taxslayergatorbowl.com

Founded in 1946, the TaxSlayer Gator Bowl is one of the oldest college football bowl games in the country and was the first to be nationally televised.

First Coast Sports Teams Stats



Jacksonville Jaguars
 National Football League
 EverBank Stadium
 Established: 1995
 Division Championships: 4



Jacksonville Sharks
 Indoor Football League
 VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena
 Established: 2009
 League Championships: 4



Jacksonville Armada FC
 MLS Next Pro
 Hodges Stadium
 Established: 2013



Jacksonville Jumbo Shrimp
 Minor League Baseball
 VyStar Ballpark
 Established: 1962
 League Championships: 7



Jacksonville Icemen
 East Coast Hockey League
 VyStar Veterans Memorial Arena
 Established: 1992



Jacksonville Axemen
 USA Rugby League
 University of North Florida Turf Field
 Established: 2006
 League Championships: 4

First Coast College Sports

Edward Waters University (EWU) Tigers
 1658 Kings Rd., Jacksonville
www.ewutigerpride.com

Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ)
 Manta Rays
 4501 Capper Rd. (North Campus), Jacksonville
 11901 Beach Blvd. (South Campus), Jacksonville
www.fscjmantarays.com

Jacksonville University (JU) Dolphins
 2800 University Blvd. N., Jacksonville
www.judolphins.com

University of North Florida (UNF) Ospreys
 1 UNF Dr., Jacksonville
www.unfospreys.com

Edward Waters University Volleyball, photo courtesy of Visit Jacksonville



First Coast Walks and Runs

Ameris Bank Jacksonville Marathon, Half Marathon & 5K
www.amerisbank.com
December

DONNA Marathon Weekend
www.breastcancermarathon.com
February

Down Syndrome Association of Jacksonville Buddy Walk
www.ds-stride.org/dsajbuddywalk
October

Festival of Lights 5K
www.cmnjax.com/fol
December

Fight for Air Climb
www.lung.org
March

Gate River Run
www.gateriverrun15k.com
March

Light the Night Walk
www.lightthenight.org/nofl
November



Gate River Run, photo courtesy of COU

Making Strides of the First Coast
www.cancer.org
October

McKenzie's Run
www.mckenziestrun.org
November

Ortega River Run
<https://esj.org/support/events/ortega-river-run>
February

Penney Farms Historical 5k Run and 1 Mile Walk
<https://1stplacesports.com/races/penney5k/>
October

Relay for Life West Nassau
www.cancer.org
December

It's Tee Time!

Golf on The First Coast

THE PLAYERS, photo courtesy of FloridasHistoricCoast.com

Featuring world-class golf courses and numerous places for a fun round of golf, the First Coast is a top golf destination for pro and amateur golfers. Whether you're looking for a golf course with a view or an event to attend, the First Coast is the perfect place to be.



Top 10 Golf Courses

1. Eagle Harbor Golf Club
2. San Jose Country Club
3. Deerwood Country Club
4. Jacksonville Golf & Country Club
5. Timuquana Country Club
6. Blue Sky Golf Club
7. Hyde Park Golf Club
8. Hidden Hills Golf Club
9. World Golf Village (Slammer & Squire)
10. TPC Sawgrass (THE PLAYERS Stadium Course)



Fleming Island Golf Club, photo courtesy of Explore Clay

THE PLAYERS Championship

Each March, this five-day competition attracts some of the world's best golfers and golf's biggest fans. Hosted in Ponte Vedra Beach at TPC Sawgrass, THE PLAYERS Championship is our most popular and renowned golf event. The pros are challenged by the infamous "Island Green," a par-3, 137-yard hole that is considered one of the most difficult holes.

Golf Fun for Everyone

If world-renowned competitive golf courses aren't on the agenda, a visit to one of the miniature golf courses, driving ranges or other golf-related spots is an option. Head to the St. Johns Town Center for a few rounds of golf and drinks at **TopGolf**. They offer different games you can play with your group or date and food and drink service straight to your

bay. For some mini golf, there are many options throughout the First Coast. In Keystone Heights, the newly renovated **Keystone Heights Mini Golf** is available for an exciting 18 holes with the family. At **Adventure Landing Jacksonville**, guests will find two unique 18-hole courses. **Adventure Landing St. Augustine** has one 18-hole course with beautiful landscaping. **Anastasia Mini Golf** in St. Augustine is a fun course with a pirate ship, tunnel and many courses to challenge golfers of all levels. At **Batt Family Fun Center**, visitors can go for a round of "Krazie Golf," where a pair of 3D glasses really enhance the experience. **Fiesta Falls** in St. Augustine boasts a full 18 holes with eight waterfalls and a 65-foot Spanish ship. At **Island Falls Adventure Golf**, located in Fernandina Beach, there are 18.5 holes that are surrounded by gorgeous waterfalls, bridges and

Gregor MacGregor's, photo courtesy of AmeliaIsland.com



tunnels. For a historical experience, head to Florida's oldest mini golf course at **Ripley's Bayfront Mini Golf**, where you can putt around and take in a dazzling view of the Bridge of Lions. **Skate Station Funworks** in Mandarin and Orange Park are home to Swamp Golf and Captain Graybeard's buried treasure. For a nautically good time, mini golfers should head to **Heron's Cove Adventure Golf**, located at Omni Amelia Island Resort, where there are 18 nautically themed holes. Pick up a club and drink at **Gregor Macgregor's Mini Links & Drinks** in Fernandina Beach, where you can enjoy a few rounds at the lush course.

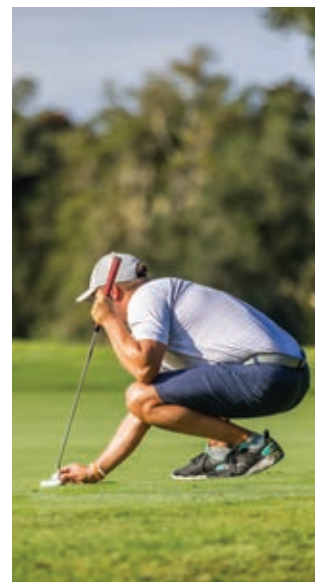
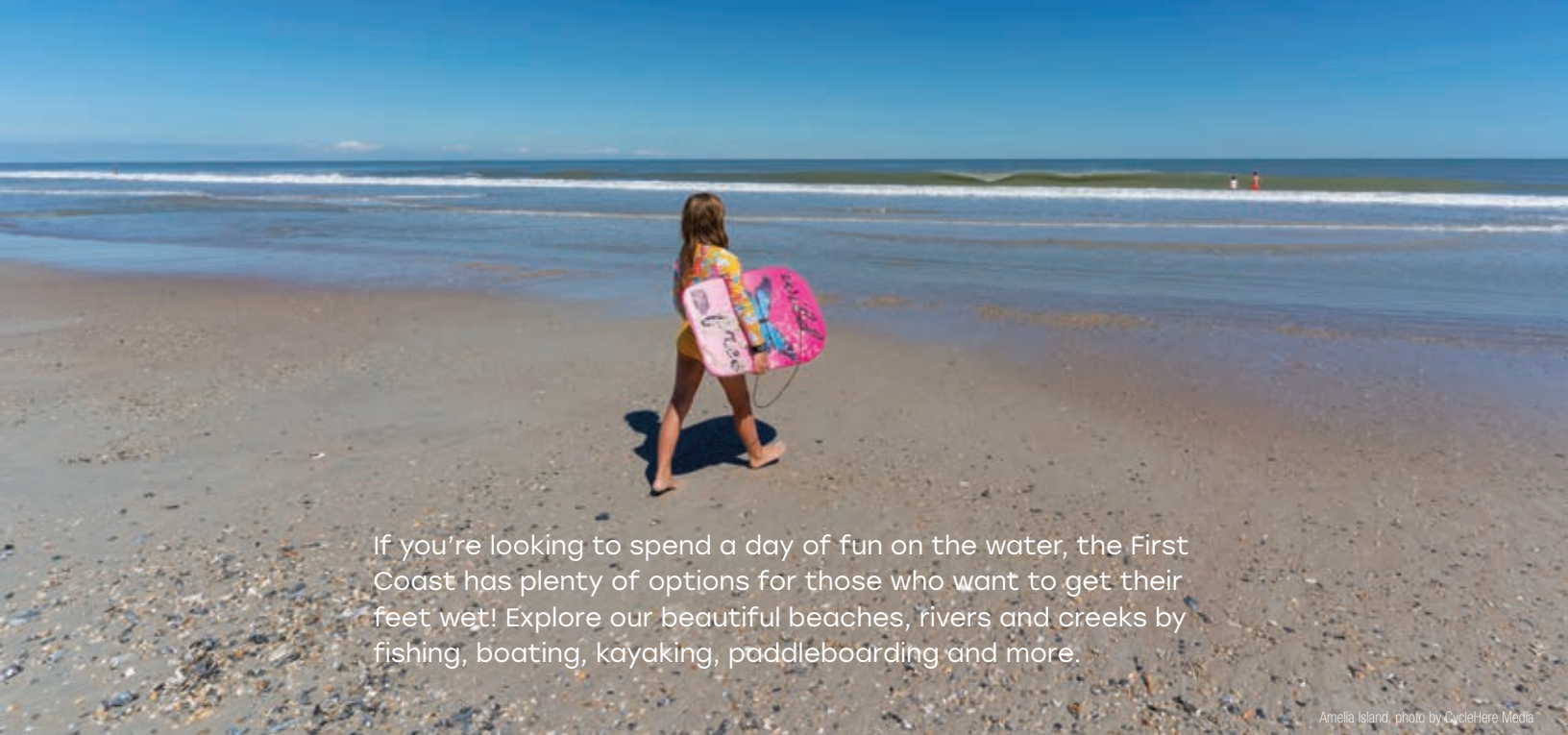


Photo by Deemer Studios LLC, courtesy of AmeliaIsland.com

First Coast Fun on The Water



If you're looking to spend a day of fun on the water, the First Coast has plenty of options for those who want to get their feet wet! Explore our beautiful beaches, rivers and creeks by fishing, boating, kayaking, paddleboarding and more.

Amelia Island, photo by CycleHere Media

FISHING

With both saltwater and freshwater fishing options throughout the area, anglers can catch a variety of different fish. Choose from our many fishing piers, rent a boat or even charter an offshore fishing trip.



First Coast fishing, photo by Ryan Ketterman

Fish Found on the First Coast



Catfish



Cobia



Trout



Bluefish



Spanish Mackerel



Sailfish



Snapper



BOATING

The First Coast is a great place for boaters to explore our rivers, the Intracoastal Waterway or even the ocean. There are many boat rental opportunities and boat-friendly restaurants, complete with docks.

Boating in St. Augustine, photo by Viaval Tours, courtesy of Shutterstock

JET SKIS

Get an adrenaline rush and feel the wind in your hair while speeding along on a jet ski. Multiple locations for jet ski rentals make it easy to have some fun on the water.



Jet Ski, photo by Chuck Wagner, courtesy of Shutterstock

First Coast surfing, photo by Ryan Ketterman



SURF, BOOGIE OR SKIM BOARDING

The Atlantic Ocean offers adventure for those looking to ride the waves on a surf, boogie or skim board. With a multitude of beaches and waterways in the area, it is easy to find the perfect spot to catch a wave.

Kayaking, photo courtesy of FloridasHistoricCoast.com



PADDLE SPORTS

Are you looking for a relaxing paddle down a creek in a kayak or canoe? Or are you looking for more of a challenge riding a paddleboard onto the waves of the Atlantic? Either way, kayaks, canoes and paddleboards can be found throughout the First Coast.

Retail Therapy: First Coast Shopping

CLAY COUNTY

Shoppers in Clay County have a few different options when it comes to shopping. The **Orange Park Mall** has several shops, restaurants and a movie theater for visitors to peruse. There are also several shopping centers in Fleming Island, like the **Fleming Plaza**.

DUVAL COUNTY

Quintessential coastal shops can be found at the **Beaches Town Center**, located in the heart of Atlantic and Neptune beaches.

The Southside of Jacksonville is home to three main large shopping centers. **The Avenues** is a multi-level indoor shopping mall that is especially fantastic for those hot or rainy days. Shoppers can also head

to the **St. Johns Town Center**, an outdoor shopping mall that has stores from several designers and brands. Just down the street is **The Markets at Town Center**, where visitors can find many top retailers and restaurants.

San Marco Square draws shoppers to historic San Marco where cute boutiques offer unique items. In Riverside, **Five Points** is a great place to find vintage clothing, accessories and décor.

Since the 1940s, **The Shoppes of Avondale** has been selling eclectic pieces ranging from furniture to home accessories to clothing from their locally owned shops. The Westside boasts the **Oakleaf Town Center**, which offers a myriad of options for shoppers and all of their needs.

Whether you're staying in your area or venturing out for a new shopping experience, the First Coast has it all. Big box stores, quaint boutiques and everything in between can be found all around the region.



Shopping in Atlantic Beach, photo by Ryan Ketterman



Fernandina Beach shopping, photo by Deremer Studios LLC, courtesy of Ameliasland.com



St. Johns Town Center, photo by Monica Fields

Jacksonville's premier shopping destination, the St. Johns Town Center, is home to more than 175 retailers!

Oakleaf Town Center, photo by Diana Ferguson



St. George Street, photo courtesy of Unsplash

Conveniently located near Jacksonville International Airport, **River City Marketplace** is full of major anchor stores and other popular retailers.

NASSAU COUNTY

In Amelia Island and Fernandina Beach, shoppers can find a variety of boutiques and shops filled with décor, fashionable clothes and gifts at the historic **Centre Street** in downtown Fernandina Beach and at **The Shops at Omni Amelia Island**.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

In Ponte Vedra Beach, **Sawgrass Village** is great for those looking for upscale shops and boutiques.

Also in the area is the **Nocatee Town Center**, which has an array of businesses, shops and restaurants.

The Pavilion at Durbin Park, located in northern St. Johns County, is an ever-growing shopping center. Once finished, the three-phase shopping area will be home to many stores and restaurants and will be the largest on the First Coast.

Take a stroll down the historic cobblestoned **St. George Street**, where shoppers can find unique clothing, accessories, décor and souvenirs. The **St. Augustine Premium Outlets** has name-brand clothing, accessories and shoes, all for lower prices.

All-Natural and Organic Grocery Stores

Grassroots Natural Market
2007 Park St., Jacksonville
www.facebook.com/Grassroots5Pts

Grassroots Natural Market II
1915 E. West Pkwy., Ste. 1, Fleming Island
www.grassrootsnaturalfoods.com

Native Sun Kitchen + Market
1585 3rd St. N., Jacksonville Beach
www.nativesunjax.com

Sprouts Farmers Market
12675 Beach Blvd., Ste. 200, Jacksonville
4873 Town Center Pkwy., Jacksonville
www.sprouts.com

The Fresh Market
12795 San Jose Blvd., Ste. 1, Jacksonville
13493 Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville
150 Riverside Ave., Ste. 200, Jacksonville
1960 E. West Pkwy., Ste. 100, Fleming Island
840 A1A N., Ponte Vedra Beach
www.thefreshmarket.com

Trader Joe's
11112 San Jose Blvd., Jacksonville
4180 S. 3rd St., Jacksonville Beach
www.traderjoes.com

Whole Foods Market
10601 San Jose Blvd., Jacksonville
2050 3rd St. S., Jacksonville Beach
www.wholefoodsmarket.com



A Foodie's Paradise:



Mesa in Jacksonville, photo by Vy Nguyen Films

First Coast Dining

From quaint bistros and upscale eateries to fish camps and downhome diners, First Coast restaurants are always cooking up something scrumptious. We are fortunate to have nationally and internationally trained chefs who create delectable dishes. Here, you'll also find some of the most unique dining flavors around, with a variety of tastes and cultures mixed in. *Bon appétit!*

Name	Neighborhood(s)	Website	Cuisine
Ill Forks	Southside	www.3forks.com/location/jacksonville	Steakhouse
4 Rivers Smokehouse	Orange Park, Southside	www.4rsmokehouse.com	Barbeque
ABBQ	Atlantic Beach	www.ab bqmeatdrink.com	Barbeque
Aqua Grill	Ponte Vedra Beach	https://aquagrill.net	Seafood
bb's restaurant and bar	San Marco	www.bbsrestaurant.com	American
Bearded Pig, The	Jacksonville Beach, San Marco	www.thebeardedpigbbq.com	Barbeque
Bellwether	Downtown	www.bellwetherjax.com	American
Biscottis	Avondale	www.biscottis.net	American
Blue Bamboo Canton Bistro	Mandarin	https://bluebamboojacksonville.com	Chinese
Blue Fish Restaurant & Oyster Bar, The	Avondale	https://bluefishjax.com	Seafood
Blue Orchid Thai Cuisine	Arlington, Riverside	https://blueorchidthai.com	Thai
Brick Restaurant	Avondale	www.thebrickofavondale.com	American
Burlingame Restaurant	Fernandina Beach	https://burlingamerestaurant.com	American
Burrito Gallery	Riverside, Town Center	www.burritogallery.com	Mexican
Caffe Andiamo	Ponte Vedra Beach	www.caffeandiamo.com	Italian
Callahan's Irish Bistro	Orange Park	www.callahansbistro.com	Irish
Cantina Laredo	Town Center	www.cantinalaredo.com	Mexican

Amelia Island Brewing Co., photo by Deremer Studios, courtesy of AmeliaIsland.com



Photo courtesy of FloridaHistoricCoast.com

Capital Grille, The	Town Center	www.thecapitalgrille.com	American
Carmine's Pie House	Riverside	https://carminespiehouse.com	Pizza
Catch 27	St. Augustine	www.catchtwentyseven.com	Seafood
ChopHouse Thirteen	Mandarin	www.chophouse13.com	Steakhouse
Congaree and Penn	Northside	www.congareeandpenn.com	American
Coop 303	Atlantic Beach	https://coop303.com	Southern
Copeland's of New Orleans	Southside	https://copelandsjax.com	Southern
Cowford Chophouse	Downtown	https://cowfordchophouse.com	Steakhouse
District SPR, The	Springfield	www.thedistrictspr.com	American
Domu	Town Center	https://domufl.squarespace.com	Japanese
Dunya	Orange Park	www.instagram.com/dunya_jax	Middle Eastern
Dwight's Bistro	Jacksonville Beach	www.dwightsbistro.com	Mediterranean
Eleven South	Jacksonville Beach	www.elevensouth.com	American
Ember & Iron	St. Johns	www.emberandiron.com	American
Fish Company, The	Atlantic Beach	https://thefishcojax.com	Seafood
Floridian, The	St. Augustine	www.thefloridianstaug.com	Southern
Flying Iguana Taqueria & Tequila Bar	Neptune Beach	https://flyingiguana.com	Mexican
Fogo de Chão Brazilian Steakhouse	Town Center	https://fogodechao.com	Brazilian
Good Dough	San Marco	www.gooddoughjax.com	Breakfast/Brunch
Grumpy's Restaurant	Middleburg, Neptune Beach, Orange Park, St. Johns, Wildlight	www.grumpysrestaurantco.com	Breakfast/Brunch
Happy Tomato Courtyard Café & BBQ, The	Fernandina Beach	www.thehappytomatocafe.com	Barbecue
Hawkers	Five Points, Neptune Beach	https://eathawkers.com	Pan-Asian
Hilltop Club & Restaurant, The	Orange Park	https://hilltop-club.com	American
Indochine	Downtown	www.indochinejax.com	Thai
Irie Diner	Orange Park	https://iriediner.com	Caribbean
J. Alexander's	Town Center	www.jalexanders.com	American
Jax Beach Brunch Haus	Jacksonville Beach	www.jaxbeachbrunchhaus.com	Breakfast/Brunch
JJ's Liberty Bistro	Ponte Vedra	www.jjbistro.com	French
Johnny's	Keystone Heights	www.johnnysbbqcatering.com	Barbecue
Joseph's Pizza	Atlantic Beach, Northside	https://josephspizza.com	Pizza
Kazu Japanese Restaurant	Mandarin	https://kazujapaneserestaurant.com	Japanese
Lola's Filipino Café & Mini Store	Orange Park	https://explorecalay.com/dining/lolas-filipino-cafe-mini-store/	Filipino
M Shack	Nocatee	https://mshackburgers.com	American

Blue Bamboo Chef Dennis Chan, photo by Vy Nguyen Films



Safe Harbor, photo by Interpret Studios



Maggiano's Little Italy	Town Center	www.maggianos.com	Italian
Maple Street Biscuit Company	Baymeadows, Fleming Island, Jacksonville Beach, Julington Creek, Murray Hill, San Marco, St. Augustine	www.maplestreetbiscuits.com	Southern
Mason's Famous Lobster Rolls	Fernandina Beach, St. Johns, Town Center	www.masonslobster.com	Seafood
Matthew's Restaurant	San Marco	https://matthewsrestaurant.com	French/Mediterranean
Mesa	Avondale	https://mesajax.com	Indian
Metro Diner	Jacksonville Beach, Mandarin, Orange Park, Ortega, Ponte Vedra Beach, San Marco, Southside, St. Augustine	https://metrodiner.com	American
Mezza Luna Ristorante	Neptune Beach	https://mezzalunajax.com	Italian
Michael's	St. Augustine	https://michaelsjax.com	Spanish
Midtown Table	Town Center	https://midtowntable.medurebrothers.com	Italian
Nona Blue Modern Tavern	Ponte Vedra Beach	www.nonablue.com/locations/ponte-vedra-beach	American
North Beach Fish Camp	Neptune Beach	https://thenorthbeachfishcamp.com	Seafood
O-Ku	Jacksonville Beach	www.o-kusushi.com	Japanese
Orsay	Avondale	www.restaurantsays.com	French
Palermo Puerto Rican Kitchen	Orange Park	https://palermopuertoricankitchen.com	Puerto Rican
Parlor Doughnuts	Fleming Island, Fruit Cove, Jacksonville Beach, St. Augustine, St. Augustine Beach	www.parlordoughnuts.com	Breakfast/Brunch
Pepe's Hacienda & Restaurant	Mandarin	https://pepeshaciendajax.com	Mexican
Pepper's Cocina Mexicana & Tequila Bar	Fernandina Beach, Fleming Island, St. Johns	https://pepperscocina.com	Mexican
Pizza Time	St. Augustine	www.visitstaugustine.com/restaurant/pizza-time	Pizza
Prati Italia	Town Center	www.pratiitalia.com	Italian
Prohibition Kitchen	St. Augustine	www.pkstaug.com	American
Restaurant Doro	Neptune Beach	https://restaurantdoro.com	American
Restaurant Medure	Ponte Vedra Beach	https://restaurantmedure.com	American
RH Rooftop Restaurant	Town Center	https://rh.com/us/en/jacksonville/restaurant	American
River & Post	Five Points	www.riverandpostjax.com	American
Rue Saint-Marc	San Marco	https://ruesaintmarc.com	French
Salt	Amelia Island	www.saltameliaisland.com	American
Santioni's Italian Restaurant	Fleming Island	www.santonis.com	Italian
South Kitchen & Spirits	Nocatee	www.southnocatee.com	Southern
Sugar Factory	Town Center	www.sugarfactory.com	American

Mason's Famous Lobster Rolls, photo by Deremer Studios LLC, courtesy of AmeliasIsland.com



Parlor Doughnuts, photo by Diana Ferguson



TacoLu Baja Mexicana	Jacksonville Beach	www.tacolu.com	Mexican
Taverna	San Marco	https://taverna.restaurant	Italian
Timoti's Seafood Shak	Fernandina Beach, Nocatee	www.timotis.com	Seafood
Tommy Bahama Marlin Bar	Town Center	www.tommybahama.com/restaurants-and-marlin-bars/locations/jacksonville	Seafood
Town Hall	San Marco	www.townhalljax.com	Southern
Treylor Park	Nocatee, St. Augustine	www.treylorpark.com	Southern
True Food Kitchen	Town Center	www.truefoodkitchen.com	American
Turmeric Kitchen, The	Green Cove Springs	https://clayturmeric.com	Indian
V Pizza	Fernandina Beach, Fleming Island, Jacksonville Beach, Mandarin, Ponte Vedra, San Marco, St. Augustine, Town Center	www.vpizza.com	Pizza



Food Trucks in St. Augustine, photo by Kelly Rizzo

First Coast Food Trucks

Looking for delicious gourmet food on the go? Try one of the more than 130 food trucks in the area. From burgers and grilled cheese to barbecue, tacos, sushi and much more, Jacksonville has food trucks for all tastes. Food trucks can often be found around town at art walks, festivals, concerts and breweries.

For more information visit: <https://foodtruckfinderusa.com/jacksonville-food-trucks/>



Kings Tacos food truck, photo by Diana Ferguson

Picturesque Dining: First Coast Waterfront Restaurants

On the First Coast we are blessed to have beautiful beaches, rivers and waterways throughout the area, so there is certainly no shortage of waterfront dining options. For an unforgettable dining experience with stunning views, check out these restaurants on the water.

OCEAN VIEWS

Azurea at One Ocean

Atlantic Beach

Beachcomber

St. Augustine

Casa Marina Restaurant

Jacksonville Beach

Joe's Crab Shack

Jacksonville Beach

LandShark Bar & Grill

Jacksonville Beach

Reef Restaurant, The

St. Augustine

Refinery Jax Beach

Jacksonville Beach

Salt

Jacksonville Beach

Salt Life Food Shack

Fernandina Beach, Jacksonville Beach, St. Augustine

Sliders Seaside Grill

Fernandina Beach

Tides Beach Bar and Grille

Jacksonville Beach

ST. JOHNS RIVER VIEWS

Chart House

Southbank

Estrella Cocina

Downtown

Julington Creek Fish Camp

Julington Creek

Palms Fish Camp Restaurant

Northside

River & Post

Riverside

Safe Harbor Seafood Market & Restaurant

Mayport

Safe Harbor, photo by Interpret Studios



Sandollar Restaurant

Northside

Singleton's Seafood Shack

Mayport

Whitey's Fish Camp

Fleming Island

INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY AND OTHER RIVER VIEWS

Asado Life

St. Augustine

Aunt Kate's

St. Augustine

Barbara Jean's on the Water

Ponte Vedra Beach

Brett's Waterway Café

Fernandina Beach

Cap's on The Water

St. Augustine

Conch House

St. Augustine

Dockside Seafood Restaurant

Jacksonville Beach

Down Under Restaurant

Fernandina Beach

Hurricane Patty's

St. Augustine

Kingfish Grill on the Water

St. Augustine

Marker 32

Intracoastal

Mavi Waterfront Bar & Grill

Jacksonville Beach

Palm Valley Fish Camp

Ponte Vedra Beach

Palm Valley Outdoors Bar & Grill

Ponte Vedra Beach

Salty Pelican Bar & Grill

Fernandina Beach

Shucker's Oyster Bar & Grill

Fernandina Beach

St. Augustine Fish Camp

St. Augustine



Dockside, photo courtesy of Visit Jacksonville



Sliders, photo by Deremer Studios, courtesy of Ameliasland.com

First Coast Cup of Joe: Local Coffee Shops

From foamy cappuccinos to chilled iced coffees, there's always something good brewing on the First Coast. Our many local coffee shops are sure to have something to satisfy your caffeine cravings. Cozy up with a cup of coffee on a comfy leather couch, meet up with friends or even settle down for a good study or work session.



Brew Five Points in Jacksonville, photo by Vy Nguyen Films

1985 Coffee

1985 Mayport Rd., Atlantic Beach
<https://1985-coffee.square.site>

Amelia Island Coffee

207 Centre St., Fernandina Beach
www.ameliaislandcoffee.com

Bitty & Beau's Coffee

1965 San Marco Blvd., Jacksonville
www.bittyandbeauscoffee.com/location/jacksonville

Bold Bean Coffee Roasters

869 Stockton St., Ste. 100, Jacksonville
2400 3rd St. S., Ste. 201, Jacksonville Beach
<https://boldbeancoffee.com>

Brass Tacks Coffee Co.

4352-01 Southside Blvd., Jacksonville
www.brasstackscoffee.com

BREW 5 Points

1024 Park St., Jacksonville
www.brewfivepoints.co

Coffee Grinder, The

9834 Old Baymeadows Rd., Jacksonville
www.thecoffeegrinderjax.com

DOS Coffee & Wine

4853 Big Island Dr., Jacksonville
2375 SR 16, St. Augustine
300 San Marco Ave., St. Augustine
74 Spanish St., St. Augustine
www.dosbar.com

Flamingo, The

1176 Edgewood Ave. S., Ste. 1, Jacksonville
<https://flamingocoffeeroasters.com>

Foxtail Coffee Co.

2039 Hendricks Ave., Unit 114, Jacksonville
7570 Gate Pkwy., Ste. 106-A, Jacksonville
260 Front St., Ste. 620, Ponte Vedra Beach
160 King St., Unit 3, St. Augustine
50 Silver Forest Dr., Ste. 109, St. Augustine
www.foxtailcoffee.com

Jacksonville Coffee Company

12620 Beach Blvd., Ste. 7, Jacksonville
4413 Town Center Pkwy., Ste. 221, Jacksonville
8221 Southside Blvd., Ste. 7, Jacksonville
www.jacksonvillecoffeecompany.com

Kookaburra Coffee, The

351 Town Plaza Ave., Ste. 102-A, Ponte Vedra
1835 US Hwy. 1 S., St. Augustine
24 Cathedral Pl., St. Augustine
4265 A1A S., St. Augustine
470 SR 207, St. Augustine
647 A1A Beach Blvd., St. Augustine
www.thekookaburracoffee.com

Mechanism Coffee Roasters

11526 Lake Mead Ave., Ste. 103, Jacksonville
<https://mechanismcoffee.com>

Royal Moose Coffee Company

2441 Blanding Blvd., Middleburg
<https://royalmoosecoffeeco.net>

Sago Coffee

318 7th Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach
www.sagocoffeejax.com

Sippers Coffeehouse

7643 Gate Pkwy., Ste. 101, Jacksonville
www.facebook.com/sipperscoffeehouse

Southern Grounds

1671 Atlantic Blvd., Jacksonville
3562 St. Johns Ave., Jacksonville
JAX Airport, Concourse A, Jacksonville
200 1st St., Neptune Beach
www.southerngrounds.com

Spring Park Coffee

328 Ferris St., Green Cove Springs
www.springparkcoffee.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

Hang out with some cool cats at one of the First Coast's cat cafés! The cats in these cafés are even available for adoption.

Caffeinated Cat, The

331 1st Ave. N., Jacksonville Beach
www.facebook.com/thecaffeinatedcatjax

Frisky Cat Café

1092 S. Ponce De Leon Blvd., St. Augustine
www.friskycatcafe.com

Witty Whisker Cat Café

112 N. Ponce De Leon Blvd., Unit A, St. Augustine
www.wittywhisker.com





Ice Plant Bar, photo by Vy Nguyen Films

Paint the Town Red: First Coast Nightlife

When the sun sets, the First Coast nightlife comes alive. Whether you are looking to relax on a rooftop bar or enjoy the ocean breeze while bar hopping, the First Coast has something for everyone. The live music venues, dance clubs and even hole-in-the-wall spots found throughout the area are guaranteed to make your night unforgettable.

CLAY COUNTY

Cheers Park Avenue
Orange Park

Industry Pub, The
Orange Park

Roadhouse, The
Orange Park

DUVAL-BEACHES

Brix Taphouse, The
Jacksonville Beach

Flask & Cannon
Jacksonville Beach

**Hoptinger Bier Garden
& Sausage House**
Jacksonville Beach

Lemon Bar
Neptune Beach

Lynch's Irish Pub
Jacksonville Beach

Pete's Bar
Neptune Beach

Surfer The Bar
Jacksonville Beach

DUVAL-SOUTH

Aromas Cigar, Wine & Martini Bar
Southside

Grape & Grain Exchange, The
San Marco

Sidecar
San Marco

DUVAL-WEST

1904 Music Hall
Downtown

Axe Champs
Murray Hill

Birdies
Five Points

Dos Gatos
Downtown

Eclipse Bar & Nightclub
Avondale

Garage, The
Riverside

**Hoptinger Bier Garden
& Sausage House**
Five Points

Keg & Coin
Riverside

Kickbacks Gastropub
Riverside

Loft, The
Riverside

Root Down
Five Points

Rouge
Riverside

Volstead, The
Downtown

NASSAU COUNTY

Hammerhead Beach Bar

Fernandina Beach

Palace Saloon

Fernandina Beach

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

Auggie's Draft Room

St. Augustine

Barley Republic

St. Augustine

Fionn MacCool's

Ponte Vedra Beach

Ice Plant Bar

St. Augustine

Mulligan's Pub

Ponte Vedra Beach

Odd Birds

St. Augustine

Stogies Jazz Club

& Listening Room

St. Augustine

Tini Martini Bar

St. Augustine



Amelia Distillery Tour, photo by Deremer Studios LLC, courtesy of Ameliasland.com

Tour and Sample these First Coast Wineries and Distilleries

Black Creek Distilleries

4289 CR 218, Middleburg

www.facebook.com/blackcreekdistilleries

Citrus Distillers

2222 Harper St., Jacksonville

<https://citrusdistillers.com>

City Gate Spirits

11 St. George St., St. Augustine

www.citygatespirits.com

Four Fathers Distillery

2917 Borden St., Jacksonville

www.fourfathersdistillery.com

Manifest Distilling

960 E. Forsyth St., Jacksonville

www.manifestdistilling.com

Marlin & Barrel Distillery

232 S. 8th St., Fernandina Beach

www.facebook.com/MarlinBarrel

St. Augustine Distillery

112 Iberia St., St. Augustine

www.staugustinedistillery.com

San Sebastian Winery

157 King St., St. Augustine

www.sansebastianwinery.com

Meehan's Irish Pub, photo courtesy of Pexels



Pete's Bar is the oldest bar in Duval County and was featured in the John Grisham novel *The Brethren*.



Photo by Deremer Studios LLC, courtesy of Ameliasland.com

Pet-Friendly Bars

Brewhound Dog Park + Bar

Neptune Beach

Kanine Social

Riverside

First Coast Craft Breweries

The First Coast is flowing with craft brews! Here, you can taste a variety of unique and award-winning beers found nowhere else. Newcomers can take a self-guided tour called the Jax Ale Trail to visit dozens of breweries found in all corners of the First Coast, including Amelia Island, Jacksonville, St. Augustine and Orange Park.

CLAY COUNTY

Cultured Collective Brewing Co.
www.culturedcollective.info
Orange Park

DUVAL-BEACHES

Engine 15 Brewing Co.
www.engine15.com
Jacksonville Beach

Green Room Brewing
<https://greenroombrewing.com>
Jacksonville Beach

Ink Factory Brewing
www.inkfactorybrewing.com
Jacksonville Beach

Jekyll Brewing
www.jekyllbrewing.com/jacksonville-beach
Jacksonville Beach

Mayport Brewing Co.
<https://mayportbrewing.com>
Mayport

Reve Brewing
www.revebrewing.com
Atlantic Beach

Southern Swells Brewing Co.
www.southernswells.com
Jacksonville Beach

Strings Sports Brewery
<https://stringssportsbrewery.com>
Jacksonville Beach, Springfield

DUVAL-NORTH

Flying Fish Taphouse
www.flyingfishtaphouse.com
Northside

DUVAL-SOUTH

Aardwolf Brewing Company
www.aardwolfbrewing.com
San Marco

Bottlenose Brewing
<https://bottlenosebrewing.com>
Southside

Legacy Ale Works
www.legacyaleworks.com
Bartram Park

Tepeyotl Cerveceria
<https://tepeys.com>
San Marco

Veterans United Craft Brewery
www.vubrew.com
Southside

Voodoo Brewing Co.
<https://jacksonville.voodoobrewery.com>
San Marco

Wicked Barley Brewing Company
<https://wickedbarley.com>
Baymeadows

DUVAL-WEST

Bold City Brewery
<https://boldcitybrewery.com>
Downtown, Riverside

Fishweir Brewing Company
www.fishweirbrewing.com
Murray Hill

Grace Note Brewing
<https://www.gracenote.beer>
Ortega

Historically Hoppy Brewing Company
<https://historicallyhoppy.com>
Springfield

Intuition Ale Works
<https://intuitionaleworks.com>
Downtown

King Maker Brewing
www.kingmakerbrewing.com
Riverside

Myrtle Avenue Brewing
www.facebook.com/MyrtleAveBrewing
LaVilla

Ruby Beach Brewing Company
www.rubybeachbrewing.com
Downtown

NASSAU COUNTY

Amelia Island Brewing Co.
www.ameliaislandbrewing.com
Fernandina Beach

Disco Witch Brewing
<https://discowitchbrewing.com>
Yulee

First Love Brewing
<https://firstlovebrewing.com>
Fernandina Beach

Mocama Beer Company
<https://mocama.com>
Fernandina Beach, Yulee



Ancient City Brewing, photo courtesy of FloridasHistoricCoast.com

SJ Brewing Company
<https://sjbrewingco.com>
Yulee

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

2nd Bay Brewing Co.
www.2ndbaybrewing.com
Fruit Cove

Ancient City Brewing
www.ancientcitybrewing.com
St. Augustine

Bog Brewing Company
www.bogbrewery.com
St. Augustine

Dog Rose Brewing Co.
www.dogrosebrewing.com
St. Augustine

Old Coast Ales Brewery
www.oldcoastales.com
St. Augustine

Time to Party!



St. Augustine Schooner Freedom, photo courtesy of FloridaHistoricCoast.com

First Coast Festivals & Celebrations

We certainly know how to let loose on the First Coast! From food festivals to holiday events and cultural celebrations to historical reenactments, thousands of locals and visitors enjoy the many annual festivals and celebrations all over the First Coast.

BAKER COUNTY

Battle of Olustee

February

www.battleofolustee.org

To commemorate Florida's largest Civil War battle, history comes to life through reenactments of the battle fought on Feb. 20, 1864. The event includes memorial services, demonstrations, crafts and arts, concerts, parades and more.

CLAY COUNTY

Carrie Clarke Day

March

www.townoforangepark.com

This historical festival celebrates the life and legacy of the Clarke family, one of the earliest families to live in Orange Park. Visitors can enjoy historic demonstrations, live music, hayrides and more.

Spring Park, photo by Diana Ferguson



Town of Orange Park Fall Festival

October

www.opfallfestival.com

Clay County's oldest and largest arts and crafts festival features more than 200 vendors and artists. Find beautiful handmade jewelry, pottery, art and unique gifts for purchase. Make sure to bring your appetite and sample the many food vendors on site.

Hometown Holiday in the Park

December

www.townoforangepark.com

Enjoy an old-fashioned holiday celebration in Orange Park with pony rides, hay and train rides, tours of the Clarke House, pictures with Santa, shopping, music and more.



Parade of Trees, photo by Diana Ferguson

Parade of Trees in Spring Park

December

www.greencovesprings.com/292/Parade-of-Trees

Stroll through this enchanting Spring Park and admire beautifully decorated trees sponsored by members of the community. The trees are lit every night from December 1 through December 31.

Jacksonville Jazz Fest, photo courtesy of Downtown Vision, Inc.



DUVAL COUNTY

World of Nations Celebration

February

<https://specialevents.coj.net/Special-Events/World-of-Nations-Celebration.aspx>

For more than 30 years, visitors have been enjoying this annual multicultural celebration. Travel the globe by sampling food, music, dance and stories from a variety of countries and cultures.

Opening of the Beaches Parade

April

www.jacksonvillebeach.org

Each year, the City of Jacksonville Beach celebrates the beginning of beach season with a festive parade.

Springing The Blues Festival

April

www.springingtheblues.com

This exciting three-day blues festival at the Seawalk Pavilion features local, regional and national blues artists.

Jacksonville Jazz Festival

May

www.jacksonvillejazzfest.com

For more than four decades, the Jacksonville Jazz Festival has brought jazz legends such as Dizzy

Gillespie, Miles Davis, Branford Marsalis, Buddy Guy, Harry Connick Jr., Mavis Staples and many more to the First Coast.

Spooktacular

October

www.jacksonvillezoo.org/spooktacular

This family-friendly Halloween event at the Jacksonville Zoo is full of tricks and treats. Dress up in your costume for a night filled with spooky stories and surprises around every corner.

Jacksonville Light Boat Parade

November

<https://specialevents.coj.net/Special-Events/Light-Boat-Parade.aspx>

For more than 30 years, the First Coast has enjoyed this holiday boat parade on the St. Johns River. Boats of all shapes and sizes are decorated with festive holiday lights, wreaths and other decorations.

Jacksonville Jazz Fest, photo courtesy of COJ





Deck The Chairs

November/December

www.deckthechairs.org

This holiday light display in Jacksonville Beach showcases more than 60 lifeguard chairs decorated with festive props, lights and more.

NASSAU COUNTY

Amelia, The

March

www.ameliaconcours.org

As one of the top automotive events in the world, The Amelia is the perfect event for car aficionados. Fans can see hundreds of cars on display, from 1930s Alfa Romeos to Formula 1 cars.

Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival

May

www.shrimpfestival.com

Taste the most delicious shrimp at this annual festival in downtown Fernandina Beach. Visitors can also enjoy live music, arts and crafts, contests and a pirate-themed parade.

Dickens on Centre

December

www.ameliasland.com/dickens-on-centre

Inspired by Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, this annual event in downtown Fernandina Beach transports visitors back to the Victorian era with themed holiday entertainment, Christmas carolers, costumed characters and visits with Santa.

ST. JOHNS COUNTY

St. Augustine Lions Seafood Festival

April

www.floridashistoriccoast.com/blog/st-augustine-lions-spring-festival/

This annual festival draws thousands of visitors each year for two days of live music, delicious seafood and a local arts and crafts fair.



Shrimp Festival, photo by Deremer Studios LLC, courtesy of Ameliasland.com

St. Augustine Food and Wine Festival

May

<https://staugustinefoodandwinefestival.com>

This weekend-long festival features celebrity guest chefs, celebrity winemakers, local chefs, artisans and local craft spirits/beers. From tasting events to master classes, this culinary celebration is perfect for all taste buds!

Sing Out Loud Festival

September

www.singoutloudfestival.com

Enjoy the best of live entertainment in the Nation's Oldest City at this annual festival. Over 100 national, regional and local artists play a mix of free and ticketed shows at a dozen venues throughout St. Augustine over multiple weekends in September.

Nights of Lights

November through January

www.floridashistoriccoast.com/nights-lights

Listed among the top 10 holiday light displays in the world by *National Geographic*, this festival illuminates downtown St. Augustine with millions of twinkling lights.



The Amelia, photo by Deremer Studios LLC, courtesy of Ameliasland.com

World of Nations, photo courtesy of COJ



Dickens on Centre, photo by Deremer Studios LLC, courtesy of Ameliasland.com

St. Augustine's Nights of Lights is listed among the top 10 holiday light displays in the world by *National Geographic*!

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