

HOST & HOME · LUXURY VACATION RENTALS

Embrace the Sun, Your Seasonal Sanctuary

Activities, beaches, dining, experiences, and curated stays for a seasonal getaway

When the rest of the country reaches for a heavier coat, Hilton Head Island settles into its gentlest season. Mornings start with coffee on the balcony and a walk on cool, hard-packed sand in Forest Beach. Afternoons stretch out under the live oaks and Spanish moss of Sea Pines, and evenings end with the lagoons of Palmetto Dunes going gold in the last light. Fewer crowds, mild days, and a slower pace make this the season for couples who want the island to themselves.

> **THE QUICK ANSWER**
>
> Hilton Head Island's cooler months are made for couples who'd rather slow down than sightsee. Book the tour and tasting at Hilton Head Distillery, the island's only distillery, then save a weekday afternoon for the $90 demonstration class at Michael Anthony's Cooking School, where a welcome glass of Prosecco starts the lesson.

Our Host & Home “Embrace the Sun, Your Seasonal Sanctuary” Area Guide connects you with the island's best experiences, beaches, dining, and stays for two. Host & Home handles every detail before you arrive, offering a higher standard of care and a better way to stay on Hilton Head Island.

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ACTIVITIES

Explore

What to see and do around the island during your stay.



01

Sea Love Candle Making

At Sea Love Candle Bar in The Shops at Sea Pines Center, you'll pour custom soy candles side by side. A Certified Scent Stylist walks you through a wall of more than 100 fragrances, so you can each blend a scent that feels like you, or create one together for home. Sessions run 45 to 60 minutes, candles start at $42 per person, and beer and wine are available while you pour. Book ahead and allow about two hours for your candles to set, and every time you light one at home, the trip comes back with it.



02

Pickleball

Mild weather keeps Hilton Head Island's courts busy straight through winter, with games for every pace and skill level. Palmetto Dunes Tennis & Pickleball Center has 24 dedicated courts, $20 round robins twice a day, and $34 clinics, including Pickleball 101 with paddles provided. If you'd rather play indoors, Dill Dinkers on Mathews Drive has eight cushioned indoor courts, open play, and private lessons, open daily from 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sign up for a round robin together, and you'll leave with a few new friends and a standing game for the rest of your stay.



03

Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge

Just off US 278 between the bridges onto the island, Pinckney Island National Wildlife Refuge protects 4,053 acres of salt marsh, maritime forest, and freshwater ponds. Flat gravel and grass trails welcome walkers and cyclists, from the two-mile round trip to Ibis Pond to the 7.8-mile route out to White Point. Look for white ibis, snowy egrets, herons, and alligators sunning at the water's edge. Entry is free from sunrise to sunset, and there are no restrooms or water on site, so pack a thermos and binoculars, then head back to your villa for a slow afternoon.



04

Michael Anthony's Cooking School

At Michael Anthony's Cucina Italiana in Orleans Plaza, the cooking school turns a weekday into a long Italian lunch for two. In the demonstration class, you'll watch the chef prepare a full menu step by step, with a welcome glass of Prosecco, a generous tasting of every dish, a glass of wine, and a recipe booklet to take home. Classes run from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. and cost $90 per person plus tax and gratuity, or $125 for the hands-on version, where you'll cook three recipes alongside the chef. Reserve by phone at 843-785-6272, since seats are assigned by party size in the order bookings come in.

RELAXED ATMOSPHERE · ISLAND FAVORITES

Dining

A few local favorites for a quiet, sit-down experience, from American-Italian classics to fine-dining hidden gems.



Book a corner table, order a second glass, and let dinner run long.

Truffles Cafe

Truffles has been feeding Sea Pines since 1983, and its dining room at Sea Pines Center still feels like a regular's table. The menu runs from fresh seafood and steaks to the house chicken pot pie under puff pastry and mango-glazed salmon with pineapple chutney. Pair dinner with a glass from the wine list, then stroll the shops at Sea Pines Center before heading home.

Lulu Kitchen

Chef Scott Hastings opened Lulu Kitchen in 2021 in the Fresh Market Shoppes, with a bright, eclectic dining room built around fresh, high-quality ingredients. Plates range from bold to refined, with Lowcountry staples like shrimp and grits and seasonal specials that keep fine dining approachable on a weeknight. Lunch starts at 11:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday, and Sunday brunch runs from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Frankie Bones

Frankie Bones on Main Street channels a 1960s Rat Pack supper club, with high-back burgundy leather booths and a martini list to match. The American-Italian menu covers steaks, seafood, and house-made pasta, with standouts like lobster mac and cheese and a coffee-marinated ribeye. Settle into a booth for a slow dinner, or come for early dining, served daily from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

“Amazing lunch options — sandwiches, fancy salads, seafood — huge servings, everything was fresh and delicious. Very affordable upscale-ish lunch.”

ON LULU KITCHEN

Beaches

Couples cherish Hilton Head Island's coastal haven for its pristine, broad stretches of sun-drenched sand and calm, gentle Atlantic waters.



A quiet path through the dunes to the Atlantic.

Fish Haul Beach Park

Fish Haul Beach Park sits on the calm water of Port Royal Sound at the island's north end, far from the busier resort beaches. At low tide, wide mudflats, sun-bleached driftwood, and the edge of the maritime forest give you room to wander hand in hand, hunt for shells, and watch shorebirds in near privacy. The park sits in the historic Gullah neighborhood of Bay Gall beside Mitchelville Freedom Park, with parking, restrooms, and outdoor showers on site.

Folly Field Beach

Folly Field Beach trades the crowds for wide, soft sand, reached by a wooden boardwalk that winds through the dunes. It faces the Atlantic, which makes it an easy mid-island pick for a sunrise walk, and the tide line is a good place to look for intact sand dollars. Parking, outdoor showers, and restrooms at 55 Starfish Drive make an early start simple, with coffee waiting back at the villa.

South Beach

At the southern tip of Sea Pines, South Beach is a wide, quiet stretch of shore facing Calibogue Sound, where Atlantic bottlenose dolphins often feed just offshore. Its view to the west makes it one of the island's best places to watch the sun drop into the water in gold and pastel light. When the light fades, follow the tide line to South Beach Marina for dinner or a cocktail at the Salty Dog Cafe.

LOCAL TIP · CATCH THE GOLDEN HOUR

Plan your walk for golden hour, the first hour after sunrise or the last hour before sunset, when low, warm light runs across the water and the shore is at its quietest. Through fall and winter, that means a sunrise walk at Folly Field around 7 a.m., or a sunset walk at South Beach around 5:30 p.m. as the sun drops over Calibogue Sound. Then check the tide chart: the water here rises and falls about seven feet and turns roughly every six hours, and the two hours on either side of low tide leave the widest, firmest sand of the day.

SELECT EXPERIENCE

Hilton Head Distillery

Distillery tour and tastings at Hilton Head Distillery

Island's Only
DISTILLERY ON HILTON HEAD ISLAND

One of a Kind
SPIRITS MADE ON THE ISLAND SINCE 2016

Tasting Tour
ONE HOUR · SIX SPIRITS, NEAT



CRAFT SPIRITS, MADE ON THE ISLAND

Of all the ways to fill a slow afternoon on Hilton Head Island, few are as satisfying as a visit to Hilton Head Distillery, the island's first and only distillery. Brothers Joe and Tony Dawson opened the small craft house at 14 Cardinal Road in 2016, and it now makes rum, vodka, gin, and whiskey right on the island. Step up to the tasting bar, where the team, who call themselves “Rumslingers,” pour each spirit and tell the story behind it, from the ingredients to how it's made. Book the one-hour tour and tasting to see distillation up close in the still house, then finish with six spirits poured neat. It's an unhurried, intimate hour for two, and a welcome change from the beach and the fairway.

CLASSES, BOTTLES, AND BEFORE YOU BOOK

If you'd rather get hands-on, the two-hour History of Rum cocktail class ($95 per person) revives the classic cocktail hour and sends you home with timeless recipes and a few modern twists for your next sunset on the lanai. Before you leave, browse the bottle shop for the Spiced Rum or Espresso Roast Rum, both 2026 ADI silver medalists, as a souvenir or a gift for friends still shoveling snow back home. The distillery is open Monday through Saturday from noon to 6:30 p.m., with the last tour and tasting at 5 p.m., so it's easy to plan around a round of golf or a bike ride on the beach. Tours and classes are for guests 21 and older, and we recommend booking ahead in the busy winter season.

SELECT COURSE

Robert Cupp Course

Robert Cupp Course at Palmetto Hall Plantation

18 Holes
PAR 72 · OPENED IN 1993

7,079 Yards
FROM THE GOLD TEES · FOUR TEE SETS

Semi-Private
VISITORS WELCOME TO BOOK TEE TIMES



A BOLD DESIGN SINCE 1993

A crisp, clear autumn afternoon brings out the best of golf season on Hilton Head Island, and the Robert Cupp Course at Palmetto Hall is the place to spend it. Opened in 1993, the semi-private, par-72 layout was first drawn by computer, with straight lines, sharp angles, and geometric bunkers unlike anything else on the island. Time has softened those edges, but the bold design character and sound shot values remain. Four sets of tees, from 5,220 to 7,079 yards, give seasoned players a real test while keeping the round fun for every skill level.

AMENITIES, AND AFTER THE ROUND

Warm up on the driving range, then head out with everything taken care of: professional golf staff, rental clubs, and carts, with the cart included in your green fee. Palmetto Hall's sister layout, the Arthur Hills Course, opened in 1991, so a longer stay can easily fit both. After your final putt, the clubhouse at 108 Fort Howell Drive keeps the afternoon going with dining and happy hour. Fish Haul Beach Park is just a few minutes away off Beach City Road, so the day can end with a sunset walk on Port Royal Sound.

> *“A truly unique experience, the Cupp course is, from a player's standpoint, refreshingly new and great fun to play for all skill levels.”*
>
> ROBERT CUPP COURSE · PALMETTO HALL

BOOK DIRECT · NO PLATFORM FEES

Signature Snowbird Stays

A few of the homes we recommend to escape the cold for a warm island visit.



POPULAR PICK

8 Juniper

4 BED · 3 BATH · 10 GUESTS

Set in Forest Beach near Coligny, this updated single-level home wraps around a private, landscaped backyard with an expansive pool and spa, and heating is available for winter swims. The king primary suite and three more bedrooms each have their own bath, and the open living and dining room fills with light through large windows. Beach chairs, towels, and a cart are ready for the short trip to the sand, with parking for four cars.



58 Ocean Breeze

2 BED · 2.5 BATH · 6 GUESTS

A dog-friendly townhome under the live oaks, steps from the community pool and a short bike ride to Coligny Beach.



1672 Bluff Villas

2 BED · 2 BATH · 6 GUESTS

Steps from the sand near South Beach in Sea Pines, with vaulted ceilings, a screened porch, and monthly snowbird rates.



C346 Hilton Head Beach & Tennis

1 BED · 1 BATH · 4 GUESTS

A gated Folly Field resort condo with a stone fireplace, a balcony, and pickleball courts and an oceanfront beach bar on site.



7102 Treetops Villa

3 BED · 3 BATH · 8 GUESTS

A top-floor villa with vaulted ceilings, a screened patio in the trees, and a shaded walk to South Forest Beach.

POPULAR PICK

200 Olive Shell

4 BED · 3.5 BATH · 8 GUESTS

Inside the gated Homes at Olive Shell in Spanish Wells, this three-story townhome pairs 9-foot ceilings and high-end finishes with two king suites, each with its own screened porch. Step out back to a fenced plunge pool ringed with Adirondack chairs, or walk over to the community pool. North End waterfront dining, golf, and fishing are close by, and a game room with ping-pong keeps rainy afternoons easy.



LOOKING FOR SOMETHING ELSE

Host & Home manages homes across Sea Pines, Palmetto Dunes, Shelter Cove, Forest Beach, Shipyard, Folly Field, and beyond, from harbor-view villas to oceanfront homes made for a long, easy season. Turn to page 9 to connect with our local team and find the stay that fits.

READY TO BOOK

Plan Your Next Stay

Host & Home offers a higher standard of stay: comfort, care, and craft; thoughtfully prepared for your arrival. Our team excels in providing high-end customer service and takes a proactive approach to ensure every detail is meticulously handled.

Drawing from hands-on experience in the 5-star hotel, real estate, and vacation rental industries, we've taken best practices to the next level, delivering a stay that feels effortless, local, and genuinely well cared for.

Everything Handled Before You Arrive

This is where a thoughtfully hosted stay makes the difference — more than just a place to sleep for the week. With Host & Home, the details are handled before you ever arrive: local support, a well-prepared home, and a Hilton Head experience that starts long before check-in.

LOCAL TEAM · 5-STAR EXPERIENCE · A BETTER WAY TO STAY



Find Your Next Stay for Two on Hilton Head Island

Ready for a better way to settle into the Lowcountry? Connect with us and book direct to start planning your coastal getaway.

Phone: 843-929-1538
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HOST & Home
— Luxury Vacation Rentals —