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Frequently Asked Questions About the Daytona Beach Area

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. -- Every year the Daytona Beach area welcomes millions of tourists from around the world who visit the area to experience its 23 miles of beautiful, sun-kissed beaches, fun-filled attractions, museums, shopping, fine dining, entertainment, and more.

First-time visitors commonly ask a number of specific questions about the area, some of which are listed below. This fact sheet will provide some specific answers to those questions.

1. **What's the fastest route to Daytona Beach by car from Tampa or Orlando? From Jacksonville or St. Augustine? From Miami or Ft. Lauderdale?**

* From Orlando, head east on I-4 until you see signs for I-95. Take I-95 and head north. Exit I-95 at Exit 261 (U.S. 92; International Speedway Boulevard). Head east on U.S. 92 until you reach the beach. Travel time is approximately one hour.

* From Jacksonville or St. Augustine, head south on I-95 until you see Exit 261A (U.S. 92; International Speedway Boulevard). Take Exit 261A and head east on U.S. 92 until you reach the beach. Travel time is approximately one hour from St. Augustine or 1.5 hours from Jacksonville.

* From Miami or Ft. Lauderdale, head north on I-95 until you see Exit 261 (U.S. 92; International Speedway Boulevard). Take Exit 261 and head east on U.S. 92 until you reach the beach. Travel time is approximately 4.5 from Ft. Lauderdale or 5 hours from Miami.

2. **Can I fly into Daytona Beach?**

Yes. Daytona Beach International Airport provides scheduled air service to and from more than 150 destinations worldwide via Delta and U.S. Airways.

3. **Where can I get information on area attractions, kids' activities, museums, and other area information?**

Several Visitor Information Centers (VICs) can be found throughout the Daytona Beach area. Locations include: the Daytona Beach Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (125 E. Orange Ave., Daytona Beach); the main lobby of Daytona International Speedway (from I-95 at Exit 261, head east for one mile and turn right at the speedway sign); inside Destination Daytona (U.S. 1 at I-95, Ormond Beach); and the Ormond Beach Chamber of Commerce (165 W. Granada Blvd., Ormond Beach). There is no charge to visit VICs and all information is free. Most VICs are open Sunday-Thursday 9 a.m.-8 p.m. and Friday-Saturday 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

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4. Where can I get a free area map showing the main roads and area attractions?

The two-page map found in the area's *Visitors Guide* outlines some of the major Daytona Beach area thoroughfares and it serves as an excellent road map to area attractions.

Free *Visitors Guides* are given out at Daytona Beach area Visitor Information Centers. Consumers can order their free copy prior to visiting the Daytona Beach area by calling (386) 255-0415 or 1-800-854-1234 (U.S. and Canada). Internet users can visit the Daytona Beach Area Convention and Visitors Bureau Web site at www.DaytonaBeach.com.

5. I've heard from some people that you can drive on the beach and others say you can't. What's the latest?

Beach driving and parking is permitted from dawn until dusk seven days per week at a cost of \$5 per vehicle along 11 miles of the area's 23-mile stretch of beach. There are several pedestrian-only beach zones located in designated areas along the beach where vehicles are not permitted to drive or park.

6. How do I explore the ocean and the area's waterways?

The Daytona Beach area is surrounded by many beautiful waterways including the Halifax and St. Johns Rivers. There are several adventure tour operators in the area who will gladly guide you through our natural wonders. So no matter what your interests are -- scuba diving, deep-sea fishing, kayaking or dolphin watching -- the Daytona Beach area has something for every nature lover! A few of the Daytona Beach area's sightseeing/adventure tour companies include: The Manatee 1-800-881-BOAT (2628); and Fountain of Youth ECO/History Tours (386) 837-5537.

Artificial reefs are another way to explore the area's waterways. Fresh and saltwater diving and snorkeling opportunities are plentiful in the Daytona Beach area and throughout Volusia County. The Ponce de Leon Inlet Port Authority Artificial Reef Program includes a total of 28 artificial reefs that were constructed with the remains of ships, barges, airplanes, and local demolished bridges. The area's freshwater springs feature spectacular underwater sites such as manatees and limestone-walled caves. For more information, please contact the Ponce de Leon Inlet Port Authority at (386) 248-8072.

7. When are the races?

Speedweeks begins in January with testing and the running of the Rolex 24 At Daytona sports car race and concludes in February with the world famous Daytona 500.

Motorcycles take their turn on the speedway in late February and March for Daytona 200 Week, featuring the popular Daytona 200 and Daytona Supercross races. NASCAR returns to Daytona International Speedway in the summer for the Coke Zero 400, which is held 4th of July weekend.

8. Where can I get tickets for the Daytona 500 and other races?

Visitors can call (386) 253-7223 (RACE) to obtain the latest ticket information, or they can visit the ticket information booth located at Daytona International Speedway. Ticket information and sales are also available online at www.daytonainternationalspeedway.com.

9. What's the weather like in the Daytona Beach area throughout the year?

The average daily temperature in the Daytona Beach area throughout the year is approximately 70 degrees Fahrenheit (21 degrees Celsius). The average daily temperature in the summer is 81 degrees Fahrenheit and 60 degrees Fahrenheit in the winter.

January weather ranges between the mid-60s to low 70s during the day and the 50s at night. The annual average rainfall is 53.56 inches. A constant ocean breeze on the peninsula side moderates the climate in both the winter and summertime. To obtain current weather conditions visit www.daytonabeach.com.

10. Is the Daytona Beach area safe to visit?

Many visitors flock to the Daytona Beach area because of its reputation as a safe, family-oriented vacation destination. To maintain that reputation, the area's seven local law enforcement agencies work closely to ensure public safety remains a top priority. The area's tourist industry, the Daytona Beach Hotel/Motel Association, and local area law-enforcement agencies participate in a tourist crime prevention program information network called Tourist Oriented Policing (T.O.P.s)

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