

# **ECO-FRIENDLY & SUSTAINABLE OFFERINGS**

Beloved by naturalists, conservationists, birders, and outdoor adventure enthusiasts alike, Amelia Island is an eco-tourism paradise. Situated on the Atlantic coast, all 13 miles of the island's pristine quartz beaches are open for enjoyment. Visitors can explore the island's natural wonders along scenic trails at Fort Clinch State Park, Amelia Island State Park, Egans Creek Greenway, and The Gateway to the Great Florida Birding Trail, with a chance to see more than 100 bird species. Scenic shorelines and winding waterways reveal an amazing assortment of native wildlife and breathtaking vistas.

### **ACCOMMODATING SUSTAINABILITY**

Amelia Island is committed to protecting and preserving the island's natural treasures and maintaining this paradise for generations of visitors to discover. Five Amelia Island hotels recently earned the Audubon International Green Lodging Program certification. The recognition verifies the properties meet environmental best practice standards and demonstrate a strong commitment to water conservation, energy efficiency, and other green practices.

- The Addison on Amelia Island
- Courtyard by Marriott Amelia Island and Springhill Suites Amelia Island
- Hampton Inn & Suites Amelia Island-Historic Harbor Front
- 🌡 Residence Inn by Marriott Amelia Island
- Seaside Amelia Inn

### **HIGH STANDARDS**

The island's two award-winning beachfront resorts specialize in protecting and showcasing local natural treasures for their guests.

- The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island offers nature walks, bird excursions, and other activities for adults, and fun nature activities through their popular Ritz Kids Program. The AAA Five Diamond resort also uses sustainable and organic products at their full-service spa.
- Omni Amelia Island Resort's unique "Sprouting Project" includes an aquaponic greenhouse, organic garden, beehives, barrel room, and resident chickens. The project produces fresh eggs, honey, organic micro-greens, herbs, jams and more, all on property.





# IN-HOUSE NATURALISTS

Both The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island and Omni Amelia Island Resort have trained Naturalists on staff, offering tours and keen insight into the plants, wildlife, and other natural wonders of Amelia Island's rare maritime forest ecosystem.

#### **CELEBRATE NATURE**

Amelia Island's diverse wildlife and other unique natural assets are certainly worth celebrating. Visitors can join the celebration with unique events and activities throughout the year.

- The annual Wild Amelia Nature Festival offers a fun and educational look into the island's biodiversity through tours, workshops, kids' activities and more.
- In November, the Right Whale Festival celebrates the annual return of the endangered North Atlantic Right Whale to the destination's warm coastal waters with fun, ocean-themed activities and exhibits.
- During a Shrimping Eco Tour with Amelia River Cruises, passengers get an informative and interactive tour of surrounding waterways and Amelia's celebrity crustacean sensation.
- In addition to tours and rentals, the folks at Amelia Adventures offer exciting 3-day outdoor adventure camps for kids and teens. These immersive celebrations of nature are available June and July.

## FEELING BEACHY CLEAN

Amelia Island works hard and prides itself on its clean, beautiful beaches. Visitors love walking the sandy shores of Fernandina Beach, where the only thing left behind are their footprints.

- ♠ A local "Leave No Trace" ordinance ensures any unattended items left on the beach after 8 p.m. are removed and discarded daily.
- Visitors are asked to kindly fill in holes and sandcastles that can be dangerous for sea turtles and other wildlife that call Amelia Island home.
- Keep Nassau Beautiful, Inc. coordinates local partners and volunteers for ongoing cleanup projects to keep Amelia Island's beaches spotless.
- To help protect and preserve the island's natural assets, Amelia Island undergoes critical beach renourishment, refilling shoreline eroded overtime.

### **READY TO GET WILD**

Learn more about Amelia Island's natural appeal here.