



DESTIN

Long stretches of pristine beach, fishing piers, busy harbors, yachts, and sailboats are the essence of Destin, Florida. It's the perfect mix of laid back and luxury.



Once you discover the beach-side city of Destin, it is likely to stay in your heart and your memory forever. It is a place where families come together, where hard workers come to take it easy, and where those in need of a getaway come to escape. In light of the many different reasons people come to visit Destin, there is one unique feeling people have when they leave. They instantly feel nostalgia for the sunsets, the beach, and the people. They immediately start thinking of when they'll go back. It's one of those places with the ability to give you a new perspective on life. They stare out onto the Gulf of Mexico with water in beautiful gradients of blue, inhale the slightly salty air and learn to breathe deeper, to sit back and let the sun rays soak in, and to live in the moment.



DESTIN



Holiday Isle



Silver Shells



Surrounded by water on three sides, most have to cross a bridge to get to Destin: the Marler Bridge or the Mid-Bay Bridge. The first takes them over the East Pass with a view of the Gulf of Mexico and Crab Island, while the second takes them over the Choctawhatchee Bay. These bridges are icons for the Destin community, and they're some of the first things visitors think of when recalling their trip to Destin. It's not the bridge itself they remember, but the feeling they associate with it. They recall their excitement when the water came into sight for the first time as they neared their destination—they knew they had officially arrived in paradise.

Saltwater has been the livelihood of Destin since the beginning. With the arrival of Captain Leonard Destin in the 1840s, Destin's fishing industry was born. The city is historically known as the "World's Luckiest Little Fishing Village," benefiting from its location on the verdant Gulf of Mexico. The residents established a loving relationship with the Gulf early on as a resource for food, economy, and even socialization. From swimming to boating, snorkeling to tubing, the water provided a place for friends and family to come together. Visit Destin now, and you'll find the entertainment options have expanded. Jet ski and pontoon rentals are among the most popular. Among hundreds of options for water sport, there are also guided snorkeling tours, pirate excursions, sunset dinner cruises, fishing charters, stand up paddle board rentals, and many other fun things to do.

Much of this expansion came about in the 1970's when the city of Destin built some of its first condos. As more people became aware of Destin, tourism increased. The influx of visitors boosted the local economy and the city experienced exponential growth during the years that followed. Not only did the city draw beach goers for the spring and summer, but Snow Birds from the north also found Destin to be a popular choice for their winter stays. Destin became a year-round tourist city boasting beach-front condos and luxury, vacation rental homes.

Today the city of Destin retains its original love for saltwater. You'll find that all the beaches are kept pristinely clean and free of litter, that wildlife habitats along the beach are vehemently protected, and that fishing is still a major business. Today, Destin houses the largest fishing fleet in the State of Florida. Destin will forever be the fishing village it was over 170 years ago, but their nets are bigger and casting further, capturing the hearts of visitors from around the world.



Sub-Communities

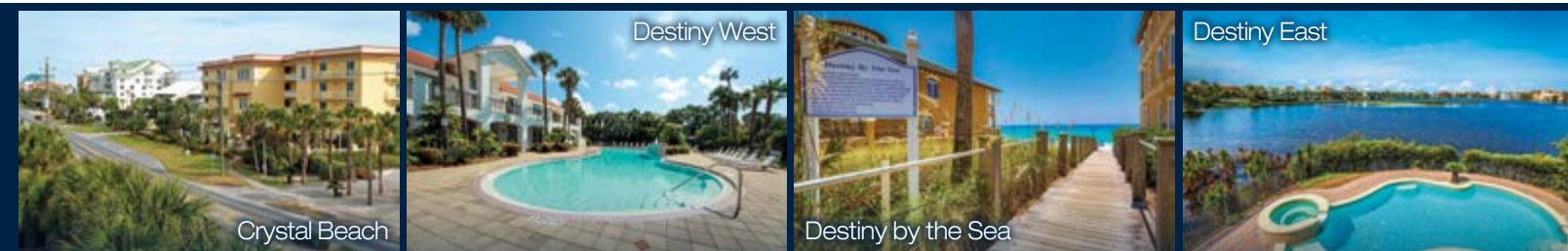
Within Destin you will find many master-planned communities, each with a unique feel. Some are family-centered while others focus on privacy; some feature modern architecture while others take a traditional approach; some require entrance through ornate iron gates while others are lined with white picket fences or no gate at all. The experiences guests have while in Destin will have much to do with the neighborhood they choose, so get to know them below!

West Destin is the most metropolitan area of the city and sometimes referred to as downtown Destin. It's where you'll find the most restaurants, the main strip of bars and nightlife, and the famous HarborWalk Village. HarborWalk Village is a collection of shops, restaurants, and condos with a boardwalk along the East Pass (Choctawhatchee Bay's outlet to the Gulf of Mexico). There are weekly concerts, frequent firework shows, and annual festivals here throughout the year. Just a few of the festivals include the

vacationing celebrities and high-class individuals. Within its private gates, guest have access to two private beach accesses, a community pool, and a clubhouse. Many of the homes have their own private pool, and a few even have a pool on the roof!

The neighborhood is beach-front, residing on the Gulf coastline. For some homes, the beach is right in the back yard. Homes on a gulf-front lot have an impressive, uninterrupted view of the Gulf of Mexico, and those deeper in the neighborhood are never more than a few hundred yards away from the beach.

Destiny East and **Destiny West** are the sister neighborhoods of Destiny by the Sea. While Destiny by the Sea is on the Gulf side of Scenic Gulf Drive, these two neighborhoods are on the inland side. However, they are still within sight of the Gulf, and gulf views are visible from some of the homes. The neighborhoods are also graced by two beautiful lakes: Lake Destiny and Four Prong Lake. Those craving to be surrounded by water will love either of these



Destin Seafood Festival in October, the Christmas Boat Parade in December, and the Red, White and Blue Celebration in July.

Silver Shells Resort is the premier vacation destination with all-in-one services! Everything you need to enjoy a coastal vacation is located within the resort premise including restaurants, fitness facilities, beach access, and a 7,500 square-foot pool with waterfall and whirlpool details.

Holiday Isle is another noteworthy community in Destin. This three-mile long peninsula is lined with large homes and tall condo buildings. The Destin Harbor and the Gulf of Mexico run parallel on either side, and various inlets and lagoons run through the community. Every vacation rental in this area is near the water. Those who stay on Holiday Isle must visit the Norriego Point beach access tucked into the back of Holiday Isle, because it is unknown to most visitors and, therefore, less crowded.

Crystal Beach is a family-centered neighborhood off of Scenic Gulf Drive. Scenic Gulf Drive is a beachfront road that was once the main highway in Destin. It became less trafficked and more pedestrianized when the new Highway 98 was built to accommodate the growing city. Now Scenic Gulf Drive is lined with wide sidewalks, beach boardwalks, and mom-and-pop restaurants. Many charming neighborhoods have also popped up along the road, including Crystal Beach.

Guests love the beach lifestyle and atmosphere surrounding Crystal Beach that makes every vacationer feel like they've escaped to a new, more perfect reality. With picket fences, perfectly green lawns, and pastel-colored homes, some liken the neighborhood to a utopia. All Crystal Beach rentals are within walking distance of a number of the city's public beach access points.

Destiny by the Sea is to Destin as Beverly Hills is to California. This prestigious neighborhood houses some of the largest and most expensive homes in all of Destin. It's known to be a neighborhood of choice for

neighborhoods. They house luxury homes built in a Mediterranean style very similar to what would be found in Destiny by the Sea.

While these two neighborhoods are not gulf front, they are just across the street from a fully-equipped, public beach access with a boardwalk, picnic tables, bathrooms, and showers. Each neighborhood also offers extra amenities. Destiny East was developed around a state-of-the-art, 5,000 square-foot clubhouse that holds a movie theater, fitness center, community pool, and tennis and basketball courts. Destiny West offers private tennis courts, a community pool and hot tub, and a play area for children. Both neighborhoods are also gated for the security of guests.

In addition to neighborhood developments, there are many free-standing homes in Destin. These one-of-a-kind homes throughout Destin are often located on highly-sought after gulf-front or gulf-view lots. In a city that has become increasingly developed over time, buyers are lucky to find space to build these dream homes! Many visitors to Destin enjoy staying in these distinctive homes customized by the builder or owner.

Whether guests choose to stay in a neighborhood or a private home, they're going to love Destin. It's a paradise of beautiful beaches, emerald waters, and memorable experiences. The vacation home is only a part of the experience. There is also the beach going, boating, dining, shopping, golfing, and exploring all that Destin has to offer. Make your Destin vacation a Five Star vacation in any of our luxury homes ready to host you, your friends, and family! ★

CHECK OUT OUR
RESTAURANT GUIDE
 to see our recommendations
 for the best dining in Destin!

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