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**Dear Harry,**

June is a wonderful time to do just about anything in the South. Father's Day is coming soon and it would be nice to steal a weekend away at the beach, or go to a park for hiking, biking or canoeing. Fishing is also a wonderful way to spend Father's Day. Soon the kids will be out of school and everyone will be itching to do something special. There are so many great museums and historical sites in the southeast. Don't forget the amusement and water parks. Take a leisurely few day trip or splurge on a week just make sure you take advantage of beautiful June. We've dedicated this issue to fun for the family. Enjoy!!

• **Spotlight on Service: Elliott**

Elliott Realty of North Myrtle Beach has been specializing in vacation rentals, winter rentals, golf packages and real estate sales since 1959. Enter our Web site and you'll be able to search for your vacation home according to specific criteria, take advantage of special deals, learn more about us and North Myrtle Beach, find out how to get to North Myrtle Beach, and so much more.



[For more information on Elliot Realty](#)

• **Spotlight on Service: Myrtle Beach Hotels**



MyrtleBeachHotels.com is your Internet destination for the best selection of oceanfront Myrtle Beach hotels and condos, with the most competitive rates available. We are using guestdesk™ online reservation technology to make your booking process as easy as possible, and we make an effort to present you with the most aggressive resort deals and golf packages available.

[For more information on Myrtle Beach Hotels](#)

• **Super Places for the Family**



Charlotte, North Carolina's Discovery Place offers three floors filled with a fascinating array of displays for kids and adults alike. Be sure to check out the Banana Hammer, and the world's largest eyeball--12 feet tall! 301 North Tryon Street; (704) 372-6261 [For Accommodations in Charlotte](#)

**Alligator Adventure**  
 One of the largest reptile zoos in the world. More than 700 alligators and crocodiles with live shows and demonstrations. 4604 U.S. 17 South, North Myrtle Beach; (843) 361- 0789 [For Myrtle Beach Accommodations](#)

**Big Kahuna's Water and Adventure Park**  
 This stop drenches in a different way. Slide, float, and tumble down 40 different attractions including a lazy river, a wave pool, and huge slides. You can also play miniature golf and race go-karts. 1007 Highway 98 East; (850) 837-8319 [For Destin Accommodations](#)

**Blue Dolphin Cruises**  
 See dolphins and other native wildlife as you depart from the Flora Bama and cruise with Capt. Jerry Summers. (251) 981-2774 [For Gulf Shores Accommodations](#)

• **Little Gem of the South: Valdosta, GA**

Wild Adventures Them Park in Valdosta, Georgia is reasonably priced and makes the most of its South Georgia Home. Wild Adventure boasts more rides, including nine coasters, on its 250 acres than any other park in the South. The most exciting attractions sit near kiddie activities, so families can stay together. While older members of the family ride the Hangman steel coaster at 65 mph, the little ones can ride Fiesta Express, a mouse train with tiny hairpin curves. In between the action there are more than 500 exotic animals tucked into seemingly natural habitats. The steel coaster Swamp Things swoops down over a pond full of 10 foot alligators. The park also includes Splash Island Water Park complete with wave pool, tube slides and Tadpole Cove. In the evening folks come with lawn chairs and blankets for concerts.

[For Accommodation in Valdosta](#)

• **Travel Help**

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**Sarasota, Florida**

It may not be a big-name Florida city like Miami, Tampa, St. Petersburg or Orlando, but Sarasota, on Florida's southwest coast, is the place to go for all the conveniences of a big city in a small package. Located about 40 miles south of the Tampa Bay area, Sarasota has a variety of attractions and events that attract the arts-minded tourist who's interested in more than just riding some gussied-up roller coasters.

Sarasota is known as the "Circus Town." The city was once the winter quarters of the "Greatest Show on Earth," hence, the moniker. The work and contributions of John Ringling, of Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus, have made the city a cultural capital. John and his wife Mable built a mansion on Sarasota Bay and set out to collect art by Peter Paul Reubens and other Flemish and Italian masters of the 17th century. That collection today is called the John & Mable Ringling Museum of Art. Ringling's name is also immortalized as an avenue in downtown Sarasota.

Downtown Sarasota is in the midst of a building boom, with condos, office buildings and shopping either in place, under construction or planned. In addition, urban renewal projects are working to make a better life for the city's less-fortunate citizens. As befits a cultural capital, it's the small galleries by artists in various media that make the arts scene vibrant. Galleries are scattered throughout the city and surrounding area, and even amateur artists take their crafts seriously. Other Sarasota attractions include the Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium, the Pelican Man Sanctuary, Selby Gardens and Jungle Gardens. Arts and cultural events are presented at the Van Wezel Performing Arts Hall, Asolo Theatre, Florida Studio Theatre and Sarasota Opera House. The city hosts an annual book fair and film festival, too.

When you've had enough exploring in Sarasota, it's time to hit the beaches. Sarasota features 35 miles of sand and several beautiful keys on the Gulf of Mexico that are well-known to sun-and-fun lovers, including St. Armands Key, Longboat Key, Lido Key, Bird Key, Siesta Key (considered by some to have the whitest and finest sand in the world), Casey Key, Venice Beach, Anna Maria Island and Bradenton Beach. There is so much to see and do in Sarasota that more than one visit may be required.

[For Accommodations in Sarasota](#)

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