



[Home](#) [News](#) [Opinion](#) [Movies](#) [Music](#) [Events/Exhibits](#) [About Us](#)



Local News

Wash away stress at Rosemary Beach

The planned beachfront community in South Walton, Fla. is all about escaping the daily grind.

by Cheré Coen

Stretching along the top reach of Florida lies sugar white beaches, emerald sea waters and dunes only found in three areas of the world.

No wonder Lafayette residents are among the largest markets visiting the beaches of South Walton.

Planned communities offering house rentals, town center shopping and dining and exquisite beach access exist along Hwy. 30-A, properties such as Seaside, WaterColor and Seagrove. Rosemary Beach finishes the southeast trek down the Gulf, an elegant jewel among the Emerald Coast crown.

Houses in Rosemary Beach are in the million-plus range, and renting out a beach property during the summer is nothing short of divine. Each property owns a carriage house, as well, so smaller and more affordable accommodations are available with equal the charm. Rosemary Beach also offers condos in multi-family properties and a Pensione Bed and Breakfast. Plans are in the works for a full-service hotel to open later this year.



Photo by Cheré Coen

Rosemary Beach is planned so that all the properties have views of the beachfront. Pictured above is one of the many million dollar houses that line the shore — a replica of the Pitot House in New Orleans.

What makes Rosemary Beach different from the rest is the exquisite attention to detail. There is the usual town center, bike rentals, pools and fitness center, but connecting all the dots are walkways and paths lined with semi-tropical landscaping and a property plan that allows for just about everyone to have a Gulf view. Heading to the beach from anywhere on site, for instance, one passes quaint courtyards with fountains, pocket parks, green spaces used for children's activities and weddings and restaurants with outside seating to enjoy the Florida sun.

The beaches with their environmentally significant dunes have been lovingly taken into consideration when building the property. Nine walkovers (two for wheelchair access) take visitors down to the beach over the dunes; the beach access exists away from the homes with the dunes intact, a decision that also benefits homeowners during hurricanes. At water's edge, visitors can obtain umbrellas and rent sailboats or surf.

Rosemary Beach is home to several fine dining establishments, such as Onamo Café with its fabulous Italian fare and seafood, such as fresh sea scallops seared and roasted or crab cakes topped with

remoulade sauce. Casual establishments such as the Summer Kitchen Café offer fresh wraps and sandwiches and Cowgirl Kitchen serves up a fun breakfast. In addition, residents can purchase deli items and more at Wild Olives Market (also a restaurant), buy fine wine and cheeses at Courtyard Wine and Cheese Bar or have the concierge services pick up your groceries for you. The sustainable property also includes a full-service spa, Racquet Club, fitness center, butterfly garden and plenty of shopping.

During the summer, Rosemary Beach conducts special activities for visitors, including Camp Rosemary for kids, where children create crafts, go exploring along the beach and compete in pool games supervised by visiting college students majoring in recreation.

“The philosophy is to do something you can’t do at home or your parents won’t let you do,” said Kate Price, Camp CPO (Chief Play Officer).

Or just do nothing at all.

Escaping to Rosemary Beach is like entering a different universe, one where stress, cell phones and the harried world no longer exist.

If you go

Rosemary Beach Cottage Rental Company

(888) 855-1551

www.rosemarybeach.com

Beaches of South Walton

www.beachesofsouthwalton.com

Upcoming events

Moonlight and Movies on the Western Green

8:15 p.m. July 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, Aug. 6 and 30

Fourth of July Celebration

Varied activities planned all day and night July 4

Kids Rock the Block! Party

6-8 p.m. July 14, Aug. 29

Summer special

Rosemary Beach is offering a special summer package through Aug. 15. A Carriage House or Flat costs \$250 a night, and lodging in a two-bedroom flat costs \$275 a night, both for 4-6 people. The price includes complimentary tennis at the clay courts of the Racquet Club and workouts at the fitness center, plus unlimited DVD rentals and 15 percent off rentals at Bamboo Beach and Surf.

 [Print this article](#)  [E-mail this to a friend](#)

Copyright ©2007 The Times of Acadiana. All rights reserved.
Use of this site indicates your agreement to the [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#)
(Terms updated 7/20/05)