

Florida Beach Picks

A curated list of Florida beach picks designed for real people and real trips — quieter spots, family-friendly shores, scenic favorites, and the best sunrise/sunset beaches.



Quiet & Less Crowded Beaches

These beaches tend to be quieter due to limited access, state-park settings, or distance from major tourist strips.

Caladesi Island State Park — Boat-access-only feel, peaceful shoreline, minimal crowds

Grayton Beach State Park — Wide beach, natural dunes, far calmer than nearby resort areas

Cayo Costa State Park — Remote island beach, uncrowded even in peak season

St. George Island State Park — Long stretches of open sand with few access points

Best strategy: arrive before **9 AM** or after **4 PM** for near-empty conditions.



Best Beaches for Families

These beaches are known for safety, space, and convenience — ideal for kids and multi-hour visits.

Clearwater Beach — Lifeguards, calm Gulf water, restrooms, amenities

Siesta Key Beach — Soft sand, wide shoreline, shallow entry

Fort De Soto Park — Multiple beach areas, picnic spots, family-friendly layout

Delnor-Wiggins Pass State Park — Clean facilities, controlled access, calmer environment

Tip: county-managed beaches usually offer the best family balance.

Most Scenic Beaches

These beaches stand out for natural beauty, photography, and atmosphere — not crowds.

Bahia Honda State Park — Iconic views, turquoise water, postcard scenery

Navarre Beach — Emerald Coast colors, wide open shoreline

Bowman's Beach — Shell-covered sand, natural feel, fewer buildings

Honeymoon Island State Park — Natural dunes, wildlife, dramatic sunsets

Best light: sunrise or golden hour.

Best Sunrise & Sunset Beaches

Florida offers both — depending on which coast you're on.

Best Sunrise Beaches (Atlantic Coast)

- Cocoa Beach
- Daytona Beach
- Jupiter Beach

Early mornings here are calm, quiet, and ideal for photography.

Best Sunset Beaches (Gulf Coast)

- Anna Maria Island
- St. Pete Beach
- Captiva Island

Expect wide horizons, glowing skies, and relaxed evening vibes.

