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Communities on the Northern Outer Banks

If you are looking for a vacation home at the beach to rent for a week, or if you want to invest for a lifetime, it is helpful to know which area will suit your needs best. This article gives you brief descriptions of the main communities on the northern Outer Banks.

Corolla

Corolla is the Outer Banks' northernmost community. The village of Corolla has been around for decades, but most of the development visitors see has been planned and built within the last 25 years. Corolla is known for its wide beaches, the Corolla Lighthouse, the historic Whalehead Club, and the Currituck Club golf course. Many visitors are attracted to Corolla because of the limited commercial development and its upscale, quiet, "off the beaten trail," atmosphere. Corolla boasts some of the finest planned neighborhoods on the Outer Banks including Pine Island, The Currituck Club, Monterey Shores, Corolla Light and the Villages of Ocean Hill. These neighborhoods all have valuable community amenities and protective covenants. Home prices in Corolla are starting in the \$300's.

Because Corolla is located at the northern end of the Outer Banks, driving there on a summer check-in day sometimes involves negotiating through slow moving traffic. Many Outer Banks guests, owners and residents are proponents of a bridge linking Corolla to the mainland which would significantly reduce the drive time to this popular resort. Options for a bridge have been studied and debated for years. The North Carolina Turnpike Authority has the latest information about the current proposal

Duck

Duck Village is one of the Outer Banks' quaintest and most popular communities for visitors. Situated between Corolla and Southern Shores, Duck features charming restaurants, boutique shopping, beautiful beaches and limited commercial development. Scarborough Faire, Scarborough Lane, and the Waterfront Shops are known up and down the island by shoppers for their unique stores. Four Seasons and Sanderling are probably the most well known neighborhoods in Duck, although all of its quiet neighborhoods are great places to spend a relaxing week at the beach. Home prices in Duck start in the \$300's.

Attractions in Duck include browsing through the shops, enjoying a walk along the beach, touring the Army Corps of Engineers research pier, or renting kayaks and sailboats on the sound. The park in the center of town features a popular waterfront boardwalk.

Southern Shores

Southern Shores is a favorite residential community for year round residents and vacationers. As one of the Outer Banks' first planned communities, the town is known for its tranquility. Quiet residential streets may provide a canopy of trees or a view of the ocean.

Canals and streets are intertwined on the sound side of town, while high dunes provide great views of the ocean just a few steps to the east. Residents and guests enjoy the private ocean and sound access areas, several small marinas for boating on the sound, and a network of live oak shaded trails that are perfect for a relaxing stroll. Home prices in Southern Shores start in the \$250's

Kitty Hawk and Kill Devil Hills

Heading south from the Wright Memorial Bridge, Kitty Hawk and Kill Devil Hills are the first communities for vacationers to explore. Most of the vacation homes are located near the ocean on "the Beach Road," NC 12. Restaurants, shopping, and family attractions are plentiful along US 158, which is the main 5 lane thoroughfare connecting the towns of Kitty Hawk, Kill Devil Hills and Nags Head.

The Wright brothers stayed in Kitty Hawk and conducted their famous flight in Kill Devil Hills. The national park and monument that commemorates their achievement is a highlight for many visitors. The visitor's center hike to the monument gives visitors a unique perspective on the history of the Outer Banks. Other favorites in Kitty Hawk and Kill Devil Hills include the Avalon Fishing Pier, miniature golf courses, unique local shopping and great seafood at local restaurants. Home prices in this area start in the \$200's.

Nags Head

Vacationers have been enjoying the beaches of Nags Head for over one hundred years. Located south of Kill Devil Hills and just north of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Nags Head offers vacationers a unique blend of beaches, attractions, and history. Favorites include the Bodie Island Light House, three fishing piers, the sand dunes of Jockey's Ridge State Park, the Oregon Inlet fishing center, and the Villages of Nags Head golf course. The architecture of Nags Head is highlighted in the Historic District directly across from Jockey's Ridge State Park.

Similar to the neighboring towns to the north, most of the vacation homes in Nags head are close to the ocean. Visitors enjoy relaxing days on the beach and the convenience of nearby restaurants and shopping. Home prices in Nags Head start in the \$200's.

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