

Corolla

Currituck Beach Lighthouse — This unpainted 158-ft. brick lighthouse has been operating since December 1875. Visitors are invited to climb the 214 steps to the top for a panoramic view of Currituck Sound and the Atlantic Ocean, weather permitting, for a nominal fee. Also on the property is the light keeper’s house, built in 1876. The exterior of the house and the surrounding grounds have been restored; interior restoration is planned for the future. The lighthouse and grounds are open Easter through Thanksgiving from 10am to 5pm daily. An admission fee is charged to climb the lighthouse. **(252) 453-8152.**

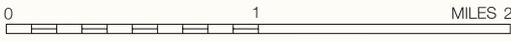
Outer Banks Center for Wildlife — Exhibits at the center explain the barrier island environment, its wildlife, and the hunting and fishing history of the region. The center also offers educational programs and special events. Open from 8am to 5pm. Admission is free. **252-453-0221. www.ncwildlife.org/pg08_EducationWorkshops/pg8c_3.htm**

The Whalehead Club — Built in 1922 as a hunt club for owners Edward Collings and Marie Louise Knight. In later years, the structure served many uses, including a boys’ school and housing for the Coast Guard. Now restored, this structure is considered one of the most spectacular landmarks in Currituck County. With its art nouveau architectural styling, accented with Tiffany lamps, cork-tiled floors, and brass duck head and water lily hardware, this magnificent structure stood isolated for years on these remote barrier islands. Exhibits on the area’s history include a replica of a duck decoy maker’s shop, antique canoes and gun displays. Rocking chairs on the sound-front patio are a pleasant place to unwind before exploring the nearby boathouse and grounds. The property is open for tours from Easter through Thanksgiving. An admission fee is charged. **(252) 457-0128.**

Pine Island Audubon Sanctuary — This 6,000-acre preserve is one of the few remaining places to view the abundant plant and animal life traditionally found in the region. Follow the self-guided nature trail to discover some of the 350 species of plants, 159 species of birds, 19 mammal species and 17 reptile species that call the dunes, scrub thickets, forests and marshes home. Open all year. Admission is free. **www.ncaudubon.org/nccas_sanc4.html**

LEGEND & MILEAGE SCALE

-  Multi-Use Trail 10' Wide
-  Sidepath Along Road 5' to 8' Wide
-  Wide Paved Shoulder 3' to 6'
-  Route 1 – Wright Brothers Bikeway
-  Portion of NC 2 – Mountains To Sea Route
-  Route 3 – Ten Mile Loop Route
-  Indicates Multiple Features
-  Busy Intersection or Narrow Bridge
-  Regional Medical Center
-  Points of Interest
-  Town Hall / Municipal Complex
-  Public Beach Access
-  Beach Bath House
-  Lighthouses
-  Schools
-  Public Lands
-  American Youth Hostel (AYH)
-  Campgrounds
-  Bicycle Shops
-  Welcome Center

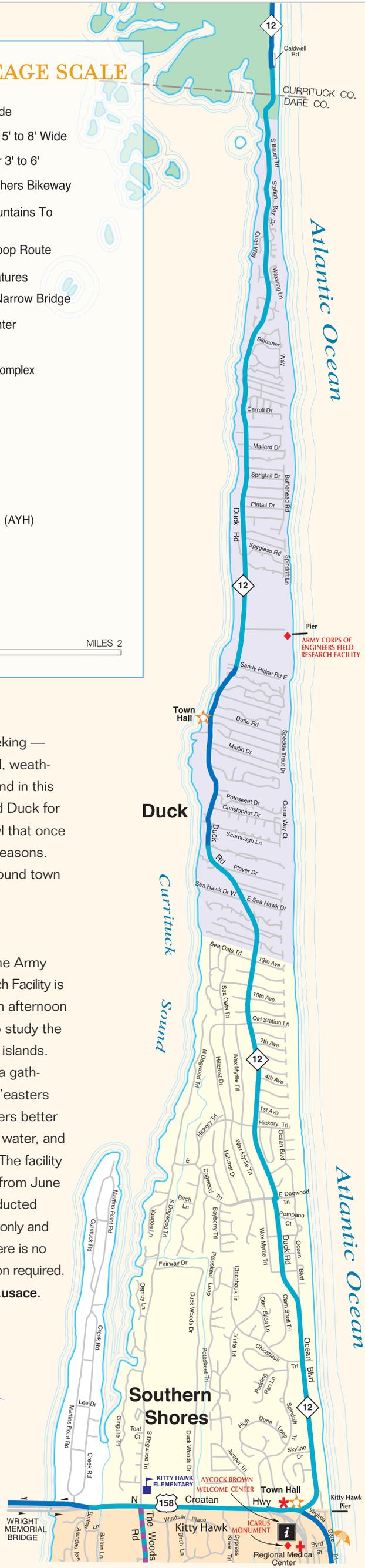


Duck

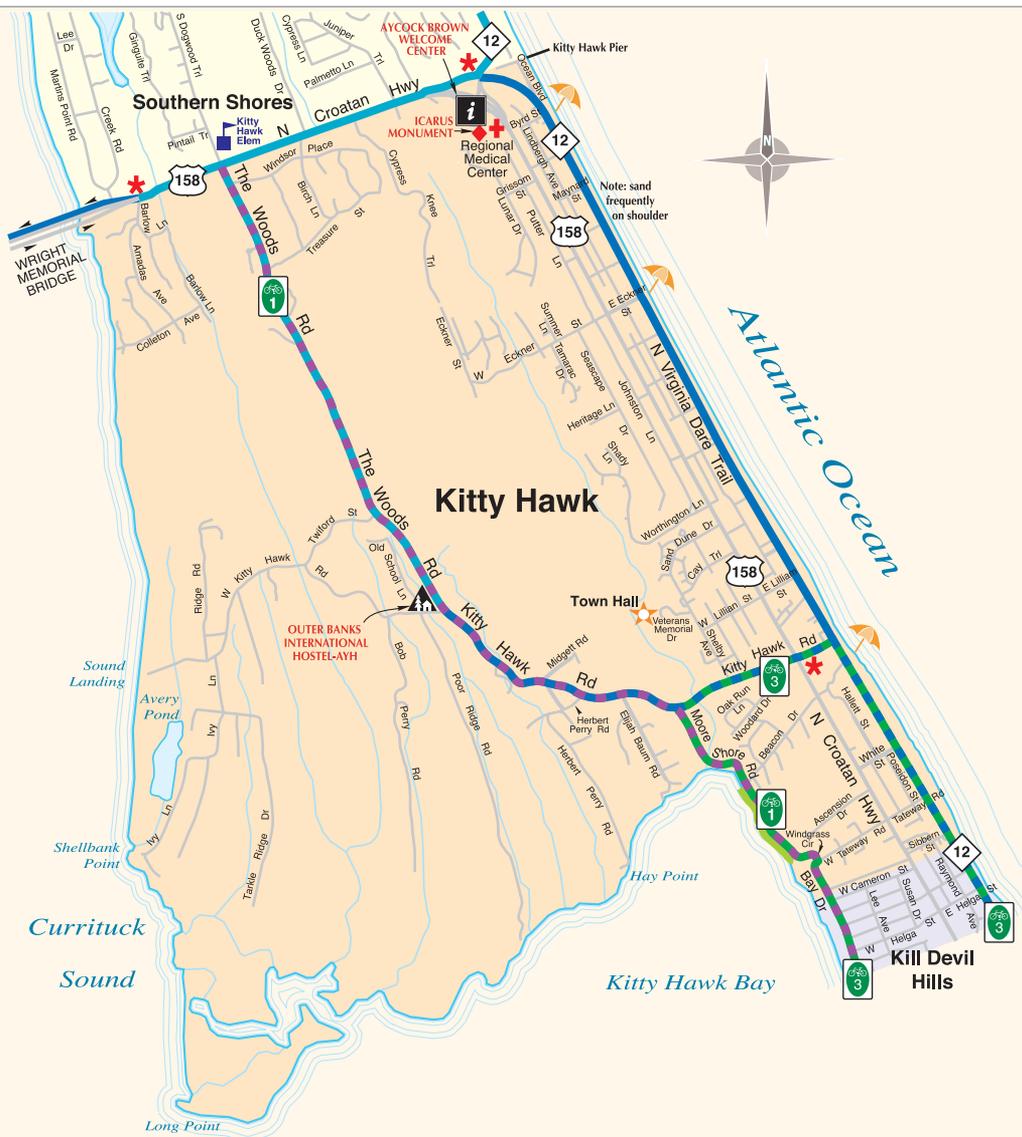
Whichever species you are seeking — the live waterfowl or the carved, weathered decoys — they both abound in this soundside town so aptly named Duck for the sheer numbers of waterfowl that once flocked here during migratory seasons. Today, Duck is a thriving year-round town as well a vacation destination.

Field Research Facility

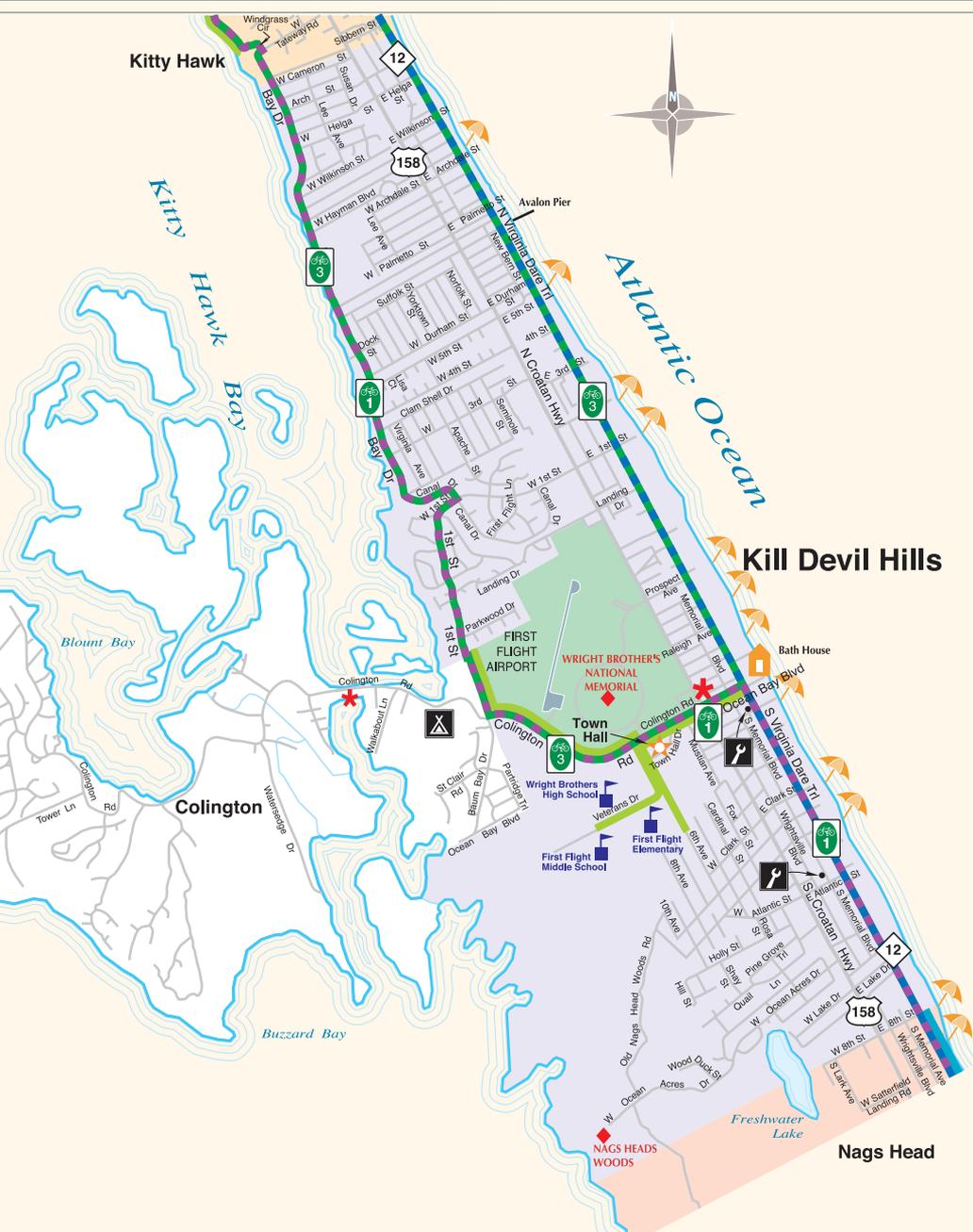
At the north end of the town, the Army Corps of Engineers Field Research Facility is a fascinating attraction worth an afternoon tour. The facility was created to study the dynamic processes of a barrier islands. Over the years, a wealth of data gathered during hurricanes and Nor'easters have helped planners and builders better understand the impact of wind, water, and waves on coastal construction. The facility is open for guided public tours from June through August. Tours are conducted Monday through Friday at 10am only and last approximately 1.5 hours. There is no fee for the tour and no reservation required. (252) 261-6840. <http://www.fr.usace.army.mil/organ.stm>.



KITTY HAWK | MAP 3



KILL DEVIL HILLS | MAP 4





THE ROUTES

The Dare County bicycle routes described below utilize a combination of wide paved shoulders along roadways, multi-use paths on separate alignments, sidepaths adjacent to the road and low-volume neighborhood streets and roadways. Despite the presence of these facilities, it is important to always bike defensively, exercising particular caution at intersections and driveways. The routes are marked with signs like the one shown below.



Route 1 — Wright Brothers Bikeway

This 16-mile north/south route connects the most heavily populated areas of the northern Outer Banks. Starting in Kitty Hawk the route follows more lightly traveled roads that include special bicycle facilities. Traveling south, the route skirts Kitty Hawk Bay along the Wright Brothers Multi-use Path and then passes into Kill Devil Hills. Quiet residential streets connect to another bike path that runs behind the Wright Brothers National Memorial, merging onto a sidepath that leads to the ocean. Some care is required here as the sidepath changes from the north side of the road to the south side and passes through a busy intersection with US 158. At the eastern end, the sidepath terminates at NC 12, where the route continues south to Nags Head.

Many historic sites, recreation areas, beach access locations, shops, and restaurants lie along the route or can be accessed from intersecting streets shown on the map. A visit to the Wright Brothers National Memorial, Nags Head Woods Ecological Preserve and Jockey's Ridge State Park requires crossing US 158, a very busy, multi-lane road, so please use extra caution when traveling to these locations.

The route intersects with Route 3, the Ten Mile Loop Route and Route 2, the cross-state Mountains to Sea Route, providing additional riding options (see descriptions below).



Route 2 — Mountains to Sea

The Atlantic Ocean at Nags Head is the eastern terminus of this 725-mile cross-state route that begins in Murphy, in the westernmost corner of the state. It enters mainland Dare County from the south along a remote stretch of US 264 and connects the fishing villages of Stumpy Point and Manns Harbor to Roanoke Island via the five-mile long Virginia Dare Bridge. This bridge includes six-foot shoulders and bicycle-safe railings and even has a bicycle turn-out at the peak of the span, 65-feet above Croatan Sound. Just past the eastern end of the bridge, you can turn north and take a side trip into Manteo with its charming waterfront and numerous historic sites, dating back to the earliest English settlement of the New World in 1585. Route 2 intersects with Route 1 in Nags Head.



Route 3 — The Ten Mile Loop

This route is located in Kill Devil Hills and Kitty Hawk and is suited for more casual cyclists. The route connects residential areas with both the ocean and the sound side of the island. It runs concurrently with Route 1, the Wright Brothers Memorial Bikeway on two sides, and provides access to the Wright Brothers National Memorial and several beach access locations. In addition, the route passes the Kill Devil Hills Town Hall and is connected via a bike path to the elementary, middle, and high schools that are located on Veterans Drive.

LEGEND & MILEAGE SCALE

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|---|--|---|-------------------------------|
|  | Multi-Use Trail 10' Wide |  | Town Hall / Municipal Complex |
|  | Sidepath Along Road 5' to 8' Wide |  | Public Beach Access |
|  | Wide Paved Shoulder 3' to 6' |  | Beach Bath House |
|  | Route 1 – Wright Brothers Bikeway |  | Lighthouses |
|  | Portion of NC 2 – Mountains To Sea Route |  | Schools |
|  | Route 3 – Ten Mile Loop Route |  | Public Lands |
|  | Indicates Multiple Features |  | American Youth Hostel (AYH) |
|  | Busy Intersection or Narrow Bridge |  | Campgrounds |
|  | Regional Medical Center |  | Bicycle Shops |
|  | Points of Interest |  | Welcome Center |



SIGHTS & SOUNDS

Kitty Hawk

Icarus Monument to a Century of Flight — Next to the Aycock Brown Welcome Center, this monument recognizes significant accomplishments throughout aviation history. Admission is free. www.icarusinternational.com/monument.html

Kill Devil Hills

Wright Brothers National Memorial — Off of US Hwy 158, a granite monument on top of a 90-ft. dune in Kill Devil Hills honors Orville and Wilbur Wright at the site of the first controlled, powered flight that occurred in 1903. Within the National Park visitors can see full-scale reproductions of the 1902 glider that was tested hundreds of times on the dunes in the area, the historical 1903 flyer that first flew 120-ft. in a 12-second flight, a replica campsite that includes the hangar and living quarters used by the Wrights, and historical markers throughout a trail area that represent the first four flights on December 17, 1903. The Centennial Pavilion, which celebrates the past 100 years since the birth of aviation, contains permanent and special exhibits. The Memorial is open from 9am to 5pm (later during the summer) and an admission fee is charged. **(252) 441-7430**. www.nps.gov/wrbr

Nags Head/Bodie Island

Nags Head Woods Ecological Preserve — This 1,092 acre area is bordered by Jockey's Ridge sand dune in the south, Run Hill sand dune in the north, and a marsh system that is home to river otters, egrets, and herons to the west. The maritime deciduous hardwood forest contains trees as old as 500 years that grow in the preserve among dunes, interdune ponds and wetlands. Over 50 species of birds nest in this preserve, which also includes the rare water violet in its freshwater ponds. Visitors may enjoy birding or hiking along self-guided trails. Open weekdays 10am to 3pm. Admission is free. **(252) 441-2525**. <http://nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/northcarolina/preserves/art5618.html>

Jockey's Ridge State Park — The tallest natural sand dune system in the Eastern United States can be observed in this 426-acre park. Jockey's Ridge varies from 80 to 100 feet depending on weather conditions, and includes activities like hiking up to the top and around the dune system, hang gliding and kite flying, nature programs, and more. The park contains a natural history museum, picnic facilities, and two self-guided trails. Hours vary by season. Admission is free. **(252) 441-7132**. www.jockeysridgestatepark.com



Cape Hatteras National Seashore — This stretch of land is over 70 miles long and covers 30,000 acres. It is the first national seashore in the United States, authorized in 1937, and runs from South Nags Head to the Ocracoke Inlet. Many natural, historic, and cultural attractions are within this area, such as the Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, the Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, the Chicamacomico Lifesaving Station, and several different shipwreck sites. Picnic, camping, and beach access areas are throughout. Coquina Beach is one of the large public swimming and picnic area on the National Seashore and is home to the Laura A. Barnes shipwreck. Admission is free. **(252) 473-2111**. <http://www.nps.gov/caha/>

Bodie Island Lighthouse — The island is pronounced "body," and there are several tales which attempt to explain the spelling and pronunciation of its name, ranging from it being called after someone who was associated with the lighthouse to the idea that many bodies washed ashore there from shipwrecks. The 150-ft. lighthouse seen today began its operation on October 1, 1872, and is the third lighthouse built there. It is marked by two black bands alternated in between three white bands. The Coast Guard still runs the facility, which can be seen 19 miles out in the ocean. Although visitors cannot climb the tower, the restored keeper's quarters are open to the public year round and a nature trail weaves through the surrounding area. Admission is free. **(252) 441-5711**.