What Everybody Ought to Know About Destin, Florida by Danny Riddell

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Fancy a place that offers world-class offshore fishing and pristine beaches beside jewel-toned waters? Then Destin, Florida is your destination. Located on Florida's Emerald Coast, this city made it to National Geographicâ€™s top 10 travel destinations for Fall 2011.

Although a relatively young city, Destin has managed to attract well over 12,000 tourists as of the 2010 U.S. census. Destin is also popularly referred to as the World's Luckiest Fishing Village and takes its name from Leonard Destin, a fishing captain and forerunner of Destin's fishing industry. His legacy continues to this day, and fishing enthusiasts are delighted to find in this city the largest and better equipped fishing fleet around Florida.

Are you into fishing? Go catch billfish, wahoo, marlin and many more within the deep blue of the Gulf, while inshore fishermen cast their lines for bluefish, mackerel, and tarpon. If you want a more challenging fishing experience, Destin and nearby Fort Walton Beach and Okaloosa Island also highlight freshwater fishing within Blackwater, Shoal, and Yellow river swarming with bream, bass, and catfish.

If reeling in fish isn't your thing, you can also appreciate marine life via a glass bottom boat on a guided tour. Dolphin watching is also a popular tourist attraction within the breeding shallow grounds along the Santa Rosa Sound and Destin Harbor. Charter boats can take you and your loved ones on sightseeing or even diving.

Because Destin is a veritable fishing destination, expect to find restaurants serving - of course â€“ the freshest seafood. Dining options include rustic oyster bars, open-air cafes, and candlelit fine-dining restaurants. Popular traveler review site TripAdvisor lists over 200 restaurants Destin FL tourists can check into, serving everything from everyone's favorite seafood dishes, All-American fare, Mexican specialties, and Oriental culinary delights.

Florida's Emerald Coast has over 24 miles of pristine white-sand beaches, some of which was imported from the Appalachian Mountains. You can count yourself among the 80 percent of the Emerald Coast's 4.5 million annual visitors. Many come over to enjoy the finely ground quartz crystal sands that feel like you're walking on powdered sugar, some of them fronting beach hotels and restaurants Destin Florida visitors regularly book.

You're sure to find something memorable among the staple of hotels, shopping centers, and restaurants Destin Florida tourists come by to see. Come on over and see for yourself. You can read more about tourism in Destin, Florida on sites like emeraldcoast.fl.com and destindirect.com.

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