

Living Legends, Storied History and Natural Beauty Abound

on the Currituck Outer Banks

Wild horses on remote beaches aren't the only cultural treasures you'll find on the Currituck Outer Banks. You'll also find wide open green spaces, awe-inspiring views and unique landmarks like Whalehead in Historic Corolla, the Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education and the Currituck Beach Lighthouse, each with its own unique story to tell.

Points of interest:

The Corolla Wild Horses

The legendary wild horses of Corolla roam the beaches north of the paved section of Route 12 in Corolla on the 7,000-acre Currituck National Wildlife Refuge, accessible to four-wheel-drive vehicles only. While these horses are known to be descendants of Spanish Colonial Mustangs that have grazed, bred and galloped here for almost five centuries, the question of how they arrived here is a matter of some debate. As with so many other legends, the truth behind these horses arrival here has yet to be ascertained with absolute certainty.

Whalehead in Historic Corolla



Whalehead in Historic Corolla is a 1920s era Art Nouveau architectural masterpiece and the centerpiece of what has now come to be called Historic Corolla Park. Whalehead's intriguing past is steeped in the 1920s lifestyle of its patriarch and matriarch, Edward Collins Knight Jr. and his wife, Marie Louise Lebel Bonat Knight. The Knights shared a

passion for waterfowl hunting, so when Mrs. Knight was not allowed membership into the all-male hunt clubs, her husband had the majestic 21,000-square-foot "mansion by the sea" constructed for his bride. Tours and exhibits are offered daily.



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The Currituck Beach Lighthouse

This red-brick lighthouse towers above the northern Outer Banks landscape of Historic Corolla Park. Visitors can climb the winding staircase, 220 steps in all, to the top of the lighthouse for a panoramic view of Currituck Sound, the Atlantic Ocean and the Currituck Outer Banks. Inside the lighthouse, at the base and on the first two landings, there are museum-quality lighthouse exhibits. On the way up or down, stop to learn about the history of coastal lighthouses, the Fresnel lens, shipwrecks and the lighthouse keepers. The Currituck Beach Lighthouse is known as a first order lighthouse, which means it has the largest of seven Fresnel lens sizes. With a 20-second flash cycle (on for 3 seconds, off for 17 seconds), the light can be seen for 18 nautical miles.



The distinctive sequence enables the lighthouse not only to warn mariners but also to help identify their locations. Like the other lighthouses on North Carolina's Outer Banks, this one still serves as an aid to navigation. The beacon comes on automatically every evening at dusk and ceases at dawn. To distinguish the Currituck Beach Lighthouse from other regional lighthouses, its exterior was left unpainted and gives today's visitor a sense of the multitude of bricks used to form the structure.

Historic Corolla Village

Historic Corolla Village is a pedestrian experience with many significant landmarks within walking distance of one another. Walk down the narrow roads and pause to listen,



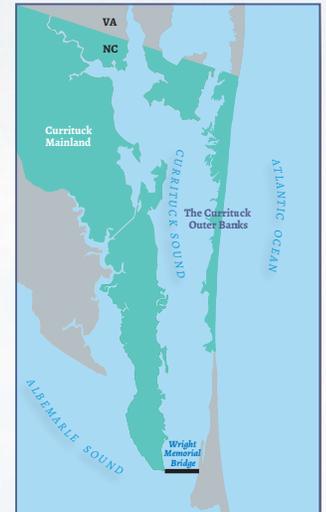
read the signage about the buildings or go inside. Coming to these landmarks helps visitors connect to the original and current inhabitants. While the Village, as locals call it, has food and shopping, it's far from a shopping center. All the shop owners know and easily share their unique stories. What they sell gives you a sense of place as well as community and reflects a simpler time.

Other Points of Interest on the Currituck Outer Banks and Mainland

4x4 Beaches, The Outer Banks Center for Wildlife Education, Historic Jarvisburg Colored School (est. 1868, listed on the National Register of Historic Places), Knotts Island & Mackay Island National Wildlife Refuge, Weeping Radish Farm Brewery (NC's oldest micro-brewery), Sanctuary Vineyards, H2OBX Waterpark, Grave Digger Truck & Digger's Dungeon

Currituck OBX Annual Events

Memorial Day Beach Blast
(May 27th, 2018)
Independence Day Celebration,
(July 4th, 2018)
Under The Oaks Arts Festival,
(June 19th and 20th, 2018)
The Currituck Heritage Festival,
(September 15th, 2018)



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