



Onslow County, NC

Coastal towns of Jacksonville, Richlands, Sneads Ferry, Swansboro and North Topsail Beach

Family fun adventures await in Onslow's Great Outdoors. Our coastal North Carolina location makes being out on the water nearly a year-round opportunity with a variety of adventures on tap. As home to Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, our area is steeped in military tradition and history that inspires our visitors to experience a unique and palpable sense of heartfelt patriotism that is all their own. From our rural coastal plains region, all the way out to North Topsail Beach, Sneads Ferry, and the quaint and historic waterfront town of Swansboro, unforgettable family memories are made in Onslow.



OnslowCountyTourism



OnlyInOnslow

Onslow's Great Outdoors

Onslow is an ideal getaway for vacationing families seeking a variety of fun and unique experiences. Located just 2.5 hours from Raleigh, Onslow is also a convenient place to stay and a short drive to many regional coastal North Carolina attractions and points of interest.

- Escape the ordinary and spend an afternoon out on the New River in Jacksonville aboard **The Bayonet**, a chartered yacht captained by a retired Marine Colonel.
- Feel the breeze coming off the water along a marsh cruise from **Hammocks Beach State Park** in Swansboro out to **Bear Island** for a leisurely family day at the beach.
- **Bait a hook** and enjoy **pier or kayak fishing** in Jacksonville or head offshore on a fishing charter for a guided deep water fishing and sight-seeing adventure in North Topsail Beach or Sneads Ferry.
- Take in the amazing scenery and enjoy a casual waterfront dining experience in **Historic Downtown Swansboro**.
- Enjoy dinner and a river cruise at sunset with Captain Bob Beck at **Marina Cafe** in Jacksonville.
- **Head inland** to the coastal plains town of Richlands to **Mike's Farm** for a southern-cooked dinner as well as their many events and family activities throughout the year.



Marine Colonel to Captain of the Bayonet

Retired Marine Colonel, Lance Ledoux and his wife Marilyn are the proud owners of **Bayonet Enterprise Cruises in Jacksonville**. As a family, they did three tours with the Marine Corps at Camp Lejeune, retired in 2007 and stayed. Jacksonville was Marilyn's **favorite place they had lived** in all of their duty stations which included a tour in Hawaii and three tours in California. **This is their 7th year of cruising** and they've hosted many military members, as well as guests from all over the United States. They are **proud to serve the local community** and bring something very special to the beautiful waterways of the New River.

For more information: Donna Hammonds, Onslow County Tourism
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ONslow COUNTY

Local Family Traditions

Onslow County is ripe with **local family-owned businesses** that are passionate about what they do and how they do it. For them, it's about the legacy they are creating for the next generation and beyond. Passion for their craft and working in the place where they grew up and raised a family conveys a realness to our visitors who enjoy that personal and authentic connection they crave. In Onslow, the magic is about our people, the stories they tell, and their amazing experiences.



Mike's Farm began with Mike and Teresa Lowe selling Christmas trees. Today, joined by their daughter Caitlin and her husband, they own and operate a multi-faceted agritourism business consisting of a 400-seating capacity family style restaurant, wedding barn, bakery, gift shop, seasonal produce and year-round events. They will be opening a new store this fall, showcasing exclusively North Carolina products.



Don Walton is a local attorney with an office in Downtown Jacksonville, who created **Walton's Distillery**, a small batch craft distillery manufacturing corn whiskey and moonshine. Many of the distillery's products are named after his ancestors and relatives. His son, Grey, is involved in growing the business. They host Open Houses (aka Distillery Sessions) seasonally that feature live bluegrass music, food and tastings.



Church Street Deli & Inn opened 26 years ago in an old historic building in Downtown Swansboro (the Little Red House). Starting as a coffee shop and evolving over the years into a deli, and 5 room inn that houses several gift shops. A young man, Justin Brooks, that has worked there since high school and through college is taking the business into the future.



It's a second and third generation father and son partnership manning the helm of the **Riverview Café**, a waterfront landmark restaurant in business since 1946. Seventy-three years serving fresh local vegetables in season, country favorites and fresh locally caught seafood, mostly from the New River and coastal waterways of Onslow County.



Marine Life Excursions & Local Seafood in Sneads Ferry

A family can make a day of it in **Sneads Ferry** by embarking on a scenic boat ride to a coastal island to explore, swim and picnic, or enjoy an evening adventure aboard a working shrimp trawler to experience firsthand the variety of marine life in the New River. Sneads Ferry is known as the **"Shrimp Capital of the East Coast,"** and a chartered excursion with **Reel Livin' Fishing Charters** provides a truly memorable and authentic experience. Lunch or dinner at the legendary **Riverview Cafe** will delight fresh seafood lovers. They offer a daily menu with many southern-style mouthwatering dishes as well as the area's well-known **Stump Sound oysters**, which are a favorite among oyster lovers and are harvested locally along the NC Stump Sound, a seven-mile stretch of water from Sneads Ferry to **North Topsail Beach**.



Coastal Camping and Eco Tours in Swansboro

In addition to being known for its over forty unique shops, boutiques and restaurants, Swansboro is also the vortex for some amazing water recreation, outdoor adventure and family fun!

- Whether it be by **kayak** or paddle board, **Swansboro Paddle Boarding** provides **expertly guided tours** of Swansboro's local waterways and now has a 5-acre private island with ten individual tent sites available for rent, ready for family-fun, adventure-filled **primitive camping** experiences and relaxation.
- **Fresh seafood**, a clambake or an authentic **low country boil** make for great family get togethers while in Swansboro, Whether it be while out on a chartered excursion or while enjoying the outdoor seating area overlooking the beautiful White River, **The Boro Low Country Kitchen** provides all the service and deliciousness for a truly memorable experience with family and friends.
- **Enjoy an exclusive cruise** along the backwaters of Swansboro's coast, Get off the beaten path with Captain Darryl, of **Marsh Cruises**, to enjoy views of the coastline, an area known for more than 200 species of birds. Enjoy dolphin watching along the way during a visit to Bear and Sand Dollar Islands for an afternoon of shelling.



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