

New Opportunities in Mobile Bay



New and Renovated

Several of our downtown hotels have recently been renovated. The beautiful and historic Battle House Hotel, A Renaissance property has reopened after major renovations. The Renaissance Riverview Plaza completed a \$54 million renovation, and the Holiday Inn Historic Downtown wrapped up a multi-million dollar renovation as well. A brand new Hampton Inn has opened in the heart of downtown Mobile Bay, and a Candlewood Suites is under construction in the downtown area with plans to open within the year.

Cruise out of Mobile Bay

Imagine driving to Mobile Bay, enjoying the historic beauty of this Gulf Coast city and then taking a cruise to the Western Caribbean. The reality of cruising began on October 16, 2004 when **Carnival Cruise Lines**, LLC kicked off weekly cruises onboard the *HOLIDAY* Fun Ship. Mobile Bay is an ideal homeport for the cruise lines being so close to international waters, the Caribbean and other exotic destinations. Currently running 4, 5 and 7 day cruises.

GulfQuest - the National Maritime Museum of the Gulf of Mexico

The Mobile Bay area owes its heritage to the water, one of our most prized natural resources. Had it not been for the proximity to the Gulf of Mexico, the rivers, and waterways, much would not have been discovered. Construction of a museum dedicated to the ecological and maritime history of the area has begun at Mobile Landing on the water in downtown Mobile Bay. This museum will house artifacts, interactive exhibits and much more detailing the maritime history in Mobile Bay. **COMING SOON!!**

Nature-Based Tourism

The rich lushness of the area provides a beautiful backdrop for exciting outdoor adventures. A brand new facility for outdoor recreation recently opened on Mobile Bay. **Five Rivers: Alabama's Delta Resource Center** is the ultimate place to begin your adventure into over 250,000 acres of waterways, woods and wetlands. Kayaking, canoeing and pontoon boat tours are all available from the docks of 5 Rivers. For more on details go online to www.mobilebay.org and look in the *Outdoor Recreation* section.

Experience Mardi Gras Year-Round

In Mobile, Mardi Gras is a year-round celebration. As the official founding city of Mardi Gras in the United States, Mobile Bay hosts this family fun-filled event annually. **The Mobile Carnival Museum** is open four days a week for your enjoyment. This one-of-a-kind museum showcases extravagant attire of Mardi Gras royalty including sparkling crowns and interactive displays that allow the visitor to relive the experience from all perspectives. This is a royal invitation to get rowdy on America's first thrill ride — Mardi Gras. For more information, call 251-432-3324 or visit www.mobilecarnivalmuseum.com

Coastal Cuisine

Mobile Bay is the culinary capital of the Gulf Coast. With a bounty of fresh seafood at our doorstep and many unique cultural influences, dining in Mobile Bay is always a delight for your taste buds. Home to scores of restaurants ranging from fine dining to island-casual, our tempting fare will please anyone. Famous for fresh, off-the-boat seafood, don't miss our succulent shrimp, blue crabs, oysters, amberjack, flounder and much more. You won't find more delicious, tantalizing seafood anywhere else!

