

MOVE TO THE BEACH

20 BEST PLACES TO LIVE

Ready for your dream life to begin? These amazing locations, from little beach towns to humming coastal cities, from sweet domestic islands to expat escapes, are ready for you

BY TRACEY MINKIN





LONG BRANCH, NEW JERSEY

POPULATION 30,941
SUNNY DAYS PER YEAR 213

Originally a beachy escape for millionaires, theater stars, and U.S. presidents, this late-1800s resort city on the Jersey Shore has maintained its summery sense of play while evolving over the years into a year-round escape from big-city life. With easy train access into Manhattan, a new boardwalk and promenade (rebuilt after Hurricane Sandy) anchoring its Pier Village, and the great distinction of being the birthplace of New Jersey's own Bruce Springsteen, there is much to love about the reborn Mid-Atlantic city on the sea.

YOUR ONE THING The Seven Presidents Church has served more presidents than any church outside of Washington, D.C. Now housing a museum, the church is open for private tours.



STAY HERE
Historic Charmer
Sleeps 2
\$250 per night
airbnb.com/rooms/14236411



STAY HERE
Village Loft
Sleeps 5, \$179 per night
vrbo.com/454626

HABERSHAM, SOUTH CAROLINA

POPULATION 436 **SUNNY DAYS PER YEAR** 216

A master-planned community, Habersham is the small town you wish you'd grown up in. Combining New Urbanism-inspired design with inherited gifts from the original site, Habersham's team created a place that really does feel like it's been here a couple of centuries, instead of decades. The commercial village's main street curves its way to a recovered oak allée, and the varied but harmoniously designed homes set along meandering lanes feel utterly individual. The result is both dreamy and timeless.

YOUR ONE THING Take advantage of Habersham's Lowcountry location for easy excursions to the charming town of Beaufort (just seven miles away), as well as Charleston and Savannah.



ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

POPULATION 39,474
SUNNY DAYS PER YEAR 208

There are historic cities, and then there is Annapolis. All it takes is a short walk along the brick sidewalks that circle the capitol (the oldest state house in legislative use in America), amid the storefronts and hotels, to feel that breathing connection to the Revolutionary era. And one need only walk a few short blocks to City Dock to feel the salty influence of Chesapeake Bay, from sailboats and crab joints to those scrubbed midshipmen of the U.S. Naval Academy in their dress uniforms. For maritime-history fans, there is no better place to call home.

YOUR ONE THING About a half-mile from the State House, the U.S. Naval Academy is open to the public and offers guided tours from its visitors center. (Yes, they really feed more than 4,400 midshipmen within five minutes at every meal—learn how.)



STAY HERE
Main Street Perch
Sleeps 4, \$119 per night
airbnb.com/rooms/6765457

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