



The second-quarter edition of Beach Shorts is dedicated to sharing a brand-new lineup of experiences launched by Gulf Shores & Orange Beach Tourism

New Signature Experiences Debut in Gulf Shores and Orange Beach, Alabama

(June 12, 2019) – Along Alabama’s Gulf Coast, the waterfront towns of Gulf Shores and Orange Beach are known for 32 miles of sugar-white sand beaches and family-friendly fun. This year the destinations are adding even more excitement to the summer lineup with the introduction of [Signature Experiences](#).

Much of the new programming – developed to provide visitors with a deeper look into Coastal Alabama’s history, culture, nature and cuisine – has already launched and is ready to book ... with more programs on the way for fall. Here’s a sampling of the adventures awaiting this summer’s guests:

Dolphins and Wildlife Kayak Tour

4159 CR 6, Gulf Shores, AL 36542

Learn about the habitat of the bottlenose dolphin and other local wildlife while paddling a two-person kayak along Bon Secour Bay. Kayakers will traverse the waterways and learn about eco-tourism in the region while paddling in search of wildlife, including bottlenose dolphins, manatees, turtles and many species of birds. The three-hour guided excursion is available year-round with [Wild Native Tours](#) and is perfect for all experience levels.

Angler Academy at Gulf State Park Pier

20800 E. Beach Blvd., Gulf Shores, AL 36542

Enroll in [Angler Academy](#) at Gulf State Park Pier, a beginner’s workshop to becoming a saltwater fisherman. The experts from Gulf State Park’s Nature Center provide wanna-be anglers of all ages with the tools and rules of saltwater fishing, so no experience is required and all fishing equipment is provided. Before casting out into the Gulf of Mexico from Gulf State Park’s 1,500-foot pier (the second longest in the northern Gulf of Mexico), participants will learn how to prepare a line and what bait to use to reel in a big catch. This two-hour experience isn’t an adults-only activity; anglers as young as 4 can participate in the academy.

Guided Walk at Gulf State Park Pier

20800 E. Beach Blvd., Gulf Shores, AL 36542

For visitors who want to experience the Gulf State Park Pier without casting a line, expert naturalists from Gulf State Park’s Nature Center are available to guide guests on a journey of

discovery. During the [guided pier walk](#), visitors learn about marine wildlife, the Gulf's unique biodiversity and the park's impressive conservation efforts. Participants in this free signature experience can use binoculars to further explore and discover marine wildlife.

Animal Encounters and Animal Enrichment at Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo

1204 Gulf Shores Pkwy., Gulf Shores, AL 36542

Participate in an [up-close encounter](#) with a variety of animals at the “Little Zoo That Could.” Visitors can hop into Kangaroo Crossing to interact with red kangaroos; meet Madagascar's most endangered species, the lemur; learn about (and maybe get to feed some) sloths, one of the slowest animals in the world; and get a hands-on meet-and-greet with a relative of the anteater, a southern tamandua. Encounters with select animals are available daily during regular zoo hours. Visitors can also join zookeepers to discover how a variety of animals at the Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo are cared for through the **new animal enrichment program**. In this program, guests help to create an enrichment item for some of the zoo's residents – which could be tigers, parrots or monkeys – and watch as the enrichment item stimulates the animals' curiosity.

Chef's Table: Orange Beach Concierge

4790 Wharf Pkwy, Ste. F206, Orange Beach, AL 36561

Dine with family and friends – or make new friends -- during a multi-course [Chef's Table](#) tasting menu during an intimate and upscale two-hour experience in Orange Beach. Featuring locally sourced produce, fresh seafood and game meats from the area's farms, vineyards and purveyors, Chef David Pan personally curates each menu and can accommodate dietary restrictions as needed.

Bath Boldly at High Cotton Bath Company

4830 Main St. Ste. 110, Orange Beach, AL 36561

Gulf Shores & Orange Beach is all about relaxation, so visitors can head over to [High Cotton Bath Company](#) to customize and create their own bath, body, home or pet products to take back home with them. Here, participants learn about different fragrance and scent combinations to create customized bath and body products.

And if that's not enough, more signature experiences are set to debut this fall, so expect more details in the next edition of “Beach Shorts!” A robust photo and video gallery of Signature experiences is available here: <https://gsob.co/ExperiencesGallery> (credit: Gulf Shores & Orange Beach Tourism). To start planning your visit to the area, visit [GulfShores.com](#) and [GulfShores.com/Signature-Experiences](#).

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