



I Love the Nightlife

Our Client Destinations Give a Whole New Meaning to the Phrase

(October 10, 2019) – It’s October! The days are shorter and the nights are longer, which makes this an opportune time to answer one question we get about so many of the client destinations represented by [Mindy Bianca Public Relations](#): What’s there to do around there at night? Our clients offer rather interesting interpretations of “nightlife,” skipping the bar scene and often allowing Mother Nature – and sometimes forces from beyond – to take the reins. Here’s a roundup of some of our favorite ways to while away the after-hours in our client destinations:

ALABAMA

[Guided Stargazing Walks at Gulf State Park](#)

Gulf Shores, Alabama

If you can’t get enough of the white-sandy beaches and other outdoor adventures along Alabama’s Gulf Coast during the day, you may want to peek at their star-speckled skies after the sun goes down. Discover constellations, planets and everything else the night sky offers during one of Gulf Shore’s weekly guided stargazing walks. Your guide will meet you at the Gulf State Park Pier and help you understand Mother Nature’s version of “night lights.” Don’t spend so much time looking up at the twinkling Alabama sky that you forget to look down, though. Ghost crabs, little white crustaceans that aren’t as spooky as their name implies, come out at night and might be spotted darting through your feet. Another animal that parties when the sun goes down may be the world’s cutest rodent, the rare and endangered Alabama beach mouse. There’s a chance you could see this tiny but big-eared creature scurrying through the sand during your tour.

DELAWARE

[Paranormal Experience at Rockwood](#)

Rockwood Park, Wilmington, Delaware

Well, we can’t talk about nighttime in October and not mention ghosts, right? And if we’re going to talk about a haunted site, it might as well be one that all those paranormal shows have determined to be the real deal. One TV investigator reported, “This place is lousy with ghosts!” By day, Rockwood is a historic house museum that was built by the Shipley family in the 1850s. Since 2015, though, guests who visit at night get a whole different interpretation of Rockwood’s story, as revealed by the people who used to live and work there. On one Saturday per month (and multiple Saturdays in October), paranormal investigators host gatherings of up to 15 interested guests who want to go from attic to basement, hauling sophisticated equipment that allows them to track and communicate with spirits. All those ghosts are friendly and include members of the Shipley family;

Bobby, a runaway slave child who stays in the attic (it's thought that the Shipleys, a Quaker family, may have operated a stop on the Underground Railroad); and Frankie, the coal man who still works in the basement. Tours are limited to guests ages 14 and older and must be reserved. Plan ahead, though, because tours are often sold out months in advance.

LOUISIANA

[Sunset Kayak Tours](#)

Lacombe, Louisiana

Louisiana is known for many things – gators and gumbo, bayous and blues -- but romance with a twist of adventure? If watching your significant other inhale a plate of fried crawfish isn't your idea of a romantic evening, you might want to check out Bayou Adventure's sunset kayak tours in St. Tammany Parish instead. Departing before dusk, you'll explore Cane Bayou and Lake Pontchartrain with the help of one of Bayou Adventure's owners as your guide. If you're not too busy watching the sunset or enjoying some kayak cocktails, keep your eyes peeled for herons, otters and other wildlife. And be sure to watch for the glittering red eyes on your way back. You don't want to bump into a baby gator!

MISSOURI

[Flashlight Tours of Titanic Museum Attraction](#)

Branson, Missouri

There's an all-new experience at *Titanic*, a museum attraction that transforms the famed ship's tragic story into a real-life experience for modern-day travelers. The museum is co-owned by John Joslyn, who in 1987 helped lead a \$6 million expedition aimed at exploring the wreckage of the *Titanic* deep in the Atlantic Ocean, retrieving artifacts and filming the remains. In 2006 he and his wife, Mary Kellogg-Joslyn, opened the *Titanic* Museum Attraction, where more than 400 artifacts collected from the ship, its passengers and crew tell the stories of those 2,208 people. A tour of the facility is incredibly interesting by day and nothing short of awe-inspiring at night. Now you can grab a flashlight and explore the hallways, parlors, cabins and Grand Staircase of the replica ship while learning the stories *behind* the stories from a specially trained guide. This experience is limited to groups and must be arranged in advance, but if you gather up enough pals we promise you'll see *Titanic* in a way that's truly stunning.

MISSOURI

[Pumpkin Nights at Silver Dollar City](#)

Branson, Missouri

Fall is a beautiful time to visit the Ozarks, and no trip to Branson is complete without a stop at Silver Dollar City. Fall brings the park's annual Harvest Festival, where local artisans demonstrate and sell their wares during "Craft Days." This fall something entirely amazing is happening at night, however. "Pumpkin Nights" is a family-focused event that features fall-inspired food, crafts and – hooray! – extended ride times. There are more than 10,000 pumpkins positioned around the park, ranging in weight from 3 pounds to 250. A new Pumpkin Pathway leads to the Pumpkin Plaza, which is home to nighttime dance parties and a full range of fun fall activities. New fall foods include pumpkin spice funnel cakes and drinks that glow in the dark. And those jack-o-lantern-lit pathways lead to all kinds of rides that run late into the night. You haven't really experienced the park's award-winning roller coasters until you've ridden them at night, when each twist and turn comes as a complete surprise because the journey is lit only by the moon, stars and some glowing pumpkins.

SOUTH CAROLINA

[Full Moons Hikes](#) at South Carolina Botanical Gardens

Clemson, South Carolina

Filled with quaint shops, restaurants and bars, and no shortage of students, the town of Clemson comes alive at night. When you visit the home of Clemson University, your visions of nightlife may be filled with keggers, beer pong and five-dollar fishbowls. But what if the typical college nightlife scene isn't your style? The South Carolina Botanical Garden at Clemson offers Full Moon Hikes to those looking for a more unorthodox approach to nightlife. Every month on the night of the full moon, naturalist James Wilkins guides visitors through the gardens using the light of the moon to illuminate the way. Immerse yourself in the beauties of nature by moonlight while he discusses all the sights and sounds that only appear once the sun goes down.

JAMAICA

Night-Blooming Jasmine Flowers at [Sunset at the Palms](#) Resort

Negril, Jamaica

When you think of nightlife at a Jamaican resort, you probably dream of dancing to reggae music while sipping some sort of rum concoction out of a coconut shell. And you can do that at Sunset at the Palms, an all-inclusive, adults-only resort on the western side of Jamaica. There's a lot that sets this resort apart from its competition, though, starting with the fact that you stay in a treehouse-style bungalow and are surrounded by the lush foliage of a Jamaican jungle. The setting of this resort is so beautiful that the groundskeeping crew offers weekly nature tours to point out all the flowers and trees that lend such an air of serenity to the property. Not only will you be amazed by the usefulness of the gardens – several of the plants and flowers have both culinary and medicinal uses – but one might stand out above the rest. The night-blooming jasmine boasts a white and yellow flower whose buds remain closed during the tours, but the groundskeepers encourage guests to revisit it at night for a whole different sight ... and smell. The seemingly plain plant transforms into a beautiful, blooming masterpiece that can be witnessed on the way to dinner or home from an evening's entertainment.

ST. CROIX

[Bioluminescent Kayak Tours](#)

The Buccaneer, St Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

[The Buccaneer](#), located on St. Croix in the U.S. Virgin Islands, is the oldest family-run resort in the Caribbean. Guests who vacation here can enjoy all the resort's amenities and also take some "field trips" to truly appreciate the natural beauty of St. Croix. For example, you can watch the sunrise at nearby Point Udall, the easternmost place in the United States and its territories. This island also offers a great way to say goodbye to the day. Virgin Kayak Tours offer a uniquely relaxing visit to St. Croix's glowing Bioluminescent Bay, one of the seven super-glow bio bays in the world. Throughout your tour, you can paddle across the bay while surrounded by what seems to be underwater lightning bugs. These glowing single-celled organisms illuminate your path and bring twinkling magic to an otherwise low-key experience in St Croix.

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MEDIA CONTACTS

Mallory Furry

mallory@mindybiancapr.com

Mindy Bianca

mindy@mindybiancapr.com

919-200-6060