

Galveston vs. Orange Beach

A late-summer showdown between two beloved Gulf Coast getaways



Texas's historic beach escape pairs shoreline fun with cool, urban updates



Alabama's white-sand hangout is made for playing on the beach and in boats



1 FUN ZONE

Stroll the **Postoffice Street Arts & Entertainment District** for restaurants and shops, and check out the Heard Gallery for sea-inspired art; galveston.com.

2 CHIC STAY

The new **Villas at The San Luis Resort** define exclusivity with private check-in, secluded suites, and an option to arrive via limo. Rates start at \$899; villasat sanluisresort.com.

3 COASTAL COMEBACK

Musicians and patrons rallied after Hurricane Ike to restore **Old Quarter Acoustic Café**, a live-music dive “where lyrics still count;” oldquarteracousticcafe.com.

4 BUZZ WORTHY

The **Hurricane Ike** cocktail at **Nick's Kitchen & Beach Bar** is strong but sweet, with light and dark rum playing off orange, pineapple, and grapefruit juices; nicksgalveston.com.



1 BUZZ WORTHY

At **The Gulf**, the **Perdido Mojito** adds muddled orange to the rum-based classic while honoring the name of one of the area's most beloved beach enclaves; thegulf.com.

2 COASTAL COMEBACK

The **Flora-Bama** hosted a “no tears in our beer” party after the destruction of Hurricane Ivan, then salvaged wood to help re-create the bar; florabama.com.

3 CHIC STAY

Turquoise Place combines luxury condominiums with resort amenities including beachfront dining and concierge service. Rates start at \$417; turquoiseplace.spectrumresorts.com.

4 FUN ZONE

Already a great shopping destination, **The Wharf** district now includes a farmers' market, mini golf, zip-lining, and a nightly sound-and-light extravaganza; alwharf.com.

WANT TO DIG IN TO THE SUNNY FUN OF THE ALABAMA COAST? Check out our top 10 things to do in the area (including the best Bushwacker!) at coastalliving.com/gulfshores-orangebeach

FROM LEFT: GALVESTON ISLAND CVB (3), COURTESY OF R. KEN COOPER/OBAAWEBSITE.COM, COURTESY OF CRESCENT MOON, COURTESY OF GULF SHORES & ORANGE BEACH TOURISM; DRINKS: JENNIFER CAUSEY/PROP STYLING BY LINDSEY LOWER/FOOD STYLING BY TORIE COX; ILLUSTRATIONS BY JULIA LUDLAM