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Grolina Southern Summer

Q-Notes' Best Queer Southern Getaways

by Matt Comer . Q-Notes staff

Are you longing to get away from the hustle and bustle of our busted, dog-eat-dog economy? You aren't the only one. As summer rolls around, folks will be looking for ways to slip away from the madness. But don't throw away your money on some fancy cruise or outrageously expensive cross-country trip. From the mountains to the coast, there are plenty of fun and exciting things to do right

here in your own backyard — right inside the Carolinas and our neighborly Southern sisters. **Wilmington & Wrightsville Beach**

Need a seaside getaway without all the buzzing activity of more popular summer



hot spots? Wilmington and Wrightsville Beach have the perfect small-town charm without losing any of the vacation usuals you've come to expect. Home to a thriving queer scene and overflowing with cute college surfer boys, there should be plenty of activities to keep you busy.

If you go:

• Take at least one night to head out to Club Ibiza, Eastern North Carolina's largest gay and lesbian nightlife establishment.

• Visit the USS North Carolina, a WWII battleship turned permanent memorial and museum.

The Outer Banks

Golfing, camping, fishing, art galleries, lighthouses, museums and more. There's nothing sweeter than being in the Outer Banks. Pristine, natural environments, warm Atlantic breezes and relaxing afternoons at a seaside restaurant, or even dinner on the ocean!

If you go:

• Be sure to visit at least one of Carolina's historic lighthouses.



• Kick back, order a drink and laugh your worries away at the Comedy Club in Kill Devil Hills, the nation's longest-running summer late-night comedy venue.

• Take a peek into history, be sure to see a

- see next bage >



Kate Matista, MS, EdS, LPC
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