## **Beaufort Pirate Invasion**

Get in touch with your inner pirate as Beaufort comes alive with over 100 pirate reenactors for two full days of fun at the Beaufort Pirate Invasion. This annual event takes place on August 8-9 and highlights the rich history of pirates who have pillaged and plundered along the East coast. More specifically, it is a reenactment of an actual historical event that occurred in August 1747 between the town of Beaufort and a ship of Spanish privateers.

Experience our famous pirate invasion battle at Grayden Park on the Beaufort waterfront with Captain Sinbad and the *Meka II* and Captain Ben Bunn and the skipjack *Ada Mae* as they terrorize the citizens and try to take the town. Watch historical demonstrations such as sword fighting and cannon firing, and see black-powder weapons displays, a mock trial and hanging and so much more.

There will be activities for everyone. Aspiring young pirates can take part in the Scallywag School presented by Blackbeard's crew, have lunch with the pirates or participate in the children's pirate activities at the North Carolina Maritime Museum. There will be puppet storytelling and an opportunity to search for pirates around town to capture autographs of Beaufort's most-wanted pirates. There will be four stages throughout town with performances by The Rusty Cutlass, Thunder and Spice, The Commanders and The Motley Tones.

The Beaufort Pirate Invasion is free to the public, with several additional signature events:

The Buccaneer Revue (BBQ dinner and pirate talent revue), Friday, August 8, 5:30-8:30 p.m. Feast on a plate of Clawson's BBQ with all the fixin's, then sit back and enjoy a dazzling and entertaining display of swashbuckling showmanship and debauchery. Dinner will be at 5:30 and the revue will begin at 7:00 on Middle Lane behind the Beaufort Historic Site Encampment. Tickets: \$17/adult, \$8/kids 12 and under (includes dinner, iced tea and the show); grog available for purchase.

Yo ho ho & a bottle o' RUN (pre-grog 1M/5K jog or walk), Saturday, August 9. Register online or on race day beginning at 7 a.m. Race begins at 8 a.m. Pirates cheer as participants run, walk or swagger down the scenic Beaufort waterfront. There will be prizes for the race winners as well as for the best pirate costumes. Strollers and





Pirate crews gather for the annual Beaufort Pirate Invasion.—Photo by Jason Goldsmith, Goldsmith Photography

four-legged friends are welcome. Race starts and ends at the corner of Turner and Front Streets. Fee: \$20/individual or \$60 for a "crew" of four.

Parley on the Waterfront, Saturday, August 9, 6-10 p.m., at the Dockhouse on the Beaufort waterfront. Celebrate the end of the invasion and a return to peace and prosperity with an evening of live music, grog and good cheer. Admission is free; grog is available for purchase.

Keep up on daily activities of the pirate community on Facebook at Beaufort-Pirate-Invasion. For information and ticket purchase for the signature events, visit www.beaufortpirateinvasion.com, and find details for events at the North Carolina Maritime Museum at www.ncmaritimemuseum.org.

The Beaufort Pirate Invasion is supported solely through sponsorship, local fundraising, the sale of merchandise and in-kind donations. We are a non-profit organization and operate as a 501c(6) under the umbrella of the Beaufort Business Association. To make a donation or for sponsorship information contact sreed@redcadi.com.

