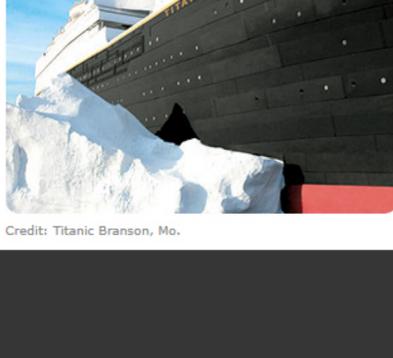


JANVIER 2022

Credit : US Space and Rocket Center Alabama

Family trip to the southern United States

Travelers to the South of the United States have a wide variety of places and attractions perfect for family trips. Create priceless memories in Alabama during an extraordinary experience for our future generation of astronauts, learn about sea turtles and learn about rehabilitation efforts in place in Georgia, travel back in time to a gold mine in North Carolina and search for your own nugget, collect the spoils before Bad Billy Bones on a pirate ship excursion in South Carolina, and get your boarding pass for the Titanic in Missouri.



Credit : Titanic Branson, Mo.

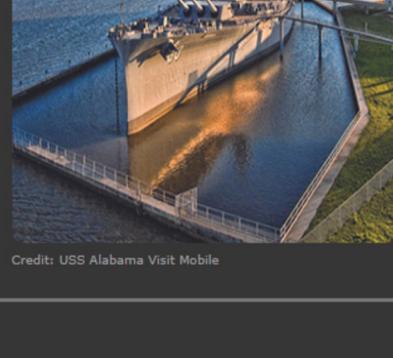
ALABAMA

The world's largest space museum, Alabama's [US Space and Rocket Center](#) is a true wonderland for dreamers of all ages, reminding us all that the stars are within reach. A Saturn V rocket and the Apollo 16 capsule, which circled the moon 64 times in 1972, are on display there.

The US Space and Rocket Center offers several exhibits, interactive demonstrations at the planetarium, a flight simulator and families can even enjoy a real Space Camp (reservation required). Located in Huntsville, Alabama, the US Space and Rocket Center is very accessible and within walking distance of hotels.

Have you ever wondered what life on board a submarine could be like? Look no further than the [USS Alabama](#) and Battleship Memorial Park, just minutes from Mobile in southern Alabama. Their expansive aviation museum and collection of ships is an immersive experience for families with military enthusiasts and for the child in all of us who wants to imagine ourselves in command of one of these huge artifacts.

USS Alabama (BB-60) was a World War II battleship and the fifth ship to bear the name of the state of Alabama. He first served in the Atlantic theater of operations during the war, but was best known for his role in the capture of Japanese-held islands in the Pacific from 1943 to 1945, which earned him many quotes.



Credit : USS Alabama Visit Mobile

GEORGIA

Step into another world at Driftwood Beach on [Jekyll Island](#). Besides spending time on the sand, don't miss things to do nearby, like climbing the stairs to the top of [St. Simons Lighthouse](#), that lonely spot known as Driftwood Beach on Jekyll Island. will give you a whole new perspective on the beach.



Credit : Georgia Sea Turtle Center

Enjoy Jekyll Island, too, by visiting the [Georgia Sea Turtle Center](#) and heading to the historic district, where fabulous "cottages" were once part of the Jekyll Island Club, a luxury private retreat. Hire bikes and explore the island's 30 kilometers of trails, spotting dolphins as the sun sets over the coast. For more, check out the [Jekyll Island Guide](#).

Explore [Cumberland Island](#), isolated and wild. With no cars and few homes on this secluded beach, Cumberland Island is the perfect escape. Hike to the ruins, search for seashells and spot the famous wild horses. Families with older children can stay at the luxurious and historic [Greyfield Inn](#). Explore the [ruins of Dungeness](#): Erosion at the northern tip of the island has resulted in dozens of downed trees bleaching and drying along the sand. It's an amazing sight and a favorite with photographers. Visiting [Plum Orchard](#) is subject to ranger availability. Reservations can be made at [cumberlandislandferry.com](#)

NORTH CAROLINA

[Reed Gold Mine](#), in Midland. The center of the first gold rush in the United States functions as a state historic site. Visitors can tour the mine and historic structures and also pan for gold. The cost is \$3, and the miners keep what they find. Parts of the Reed Gold Mine underground tunnels have been restored for guided tours. The visitor center contains exhibits of gold and historic mining equipment. Trails wind through the historic mining area with picnic areas. Nearby hotels include the [Great Wolf Lodge](#) in Concord, which offers an indoor water park and other entertainment for the whole family.

[Earth to Sky Park](#) in Burnsville is an environmental education park for people who want to experience the natural world we live in, from earth to sky.

Formerly called EnergyXchange, the [Mayland Earth to Sky Park](#) is home to the [Bare Dark Sky Observatory](#), the [Glenn and Carol Arthur Planetarium](#) (opening 2022), aquaponics and hydroponics labs, a visitor center (opening 2022), a discovery center for children (future project), hiking trails and gardens.



Credit : Great Wolf Lodge, Visit North Carolina

CAROLINE FROM THE SOUTH

Boarding! Go to the high seas to play with the family aboard a pirate ship. Blackbeard's [Pirate Cruise](#) in Fantasy Harbor and [Pirate Adventures](#) in Murrells Inlet, 20 minutes south of Myrtle Beach, both offer interactive sea activities.



Credit : Coastal Expedition, South Carolina

Under the expert tutelage of a skilled captain and crew, kids use clues to search for sunken treasure, witness sword fights, and use water cannons to battle pirate ships. Arrive early to have time to transform your children into true buccaneers; reservations are recommended. At least one parent must be present, but that's okay; you'll also have a lot of fun on these excursions, which each last 1h30 to 2h in calm waters.

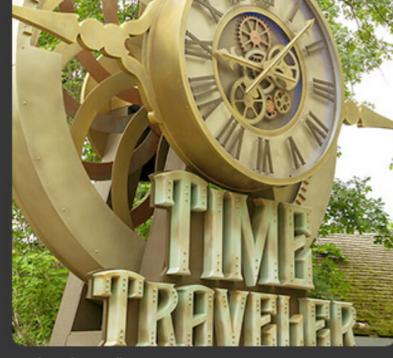
Cruise on [Coastal Expedition's "Dolphin & History"](#) boat in Beaufort, south of Charleston: Cruise along the waterfront as the captain tells you about local history, starting with Native Americans, then Spanish exploration, followed by French colony and English colonization. Along the way, you'll spot dolphins, nesting bald eagles, and hunting ospreys. This 1.5-hour tour is the perfect introduction to Beaufort's incredible history and abundant wildlife. Private tours are also available year-round.

MISSOURI

Family fun in Branson at [Silver Dollar City](#), an 1880s-themed amusement park. The park is set in the majestic hills of the Ozarks and there's even an on-site cave for visitors to explore. Silver Dollar City is renowned for its quality and constantly renewed attractions, its legendary rides, its home cooking, its colony of artisans, its festivals and events dedicated to families.

At the height of the summer season, the new [Mystic River Falls](#), one of a kind, offers four experiences in one course: a river descent of almost a kilometer, an elevating tower of 8 floors, a waterfall of more than 4 floors. When it's time to rest, a number of theaters provide the perfect setting to sit down and catch a live show. In fact, Silver Dollar City was ranked in the top 5 "America's Best Amusement Parks" by [USA Today's 10Best Readers' Choice Awards](#).

Silver Dollar City is a must visit, but there are so many other attractions to complete a family vacation that you can find [here](#).



Credit : Silver Dollar City, Mo.

DID YOU KNOW ?

ALABAMA

Mobile is not only known for celebrating Alabama's first known Mardi Gras in 1703 (even before New Orleans), but also for being home to "[America's Family Mardi Gras](#)". This magnificent celebration, which delights young and old in the city and the country, lasts more than two and a half weeks.

For weeks, the streets of downtown Mobile are filled with the sights and sounds of marching bands, brightly colored floats and, of course, throngs of parade participants. The floats are light shows led by masked riders, draped in satin and sequins and armed with "goodies" for the crowd such as beads, Moon Pies and candy.

Mardi Gras is the perfect place to bring your family and "let the good times roll"!

GEORGIA

The [Dungeness](#) site on [Cumberland Island](#) was built by Thomas Carnegie and his wife Lucy in 1884. The Dungeness Carnegie burned down in the 1950s. Today wild horses and other wildlife on the island wander freely through the ruins and along the beach.

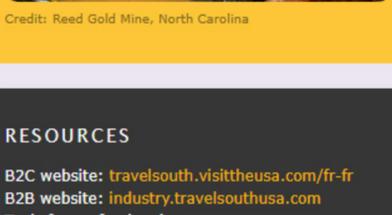
Glimpses of the Carnegie lifestyle can be easily imagined through the ruins of Dungeness, and through the derelict luxury vehicles. The first Dungeness was built in 1783 by Nathaniel Green. The Tabby House, situated in the grounds of Dungeness, was built for the widow of Revolutionary War hero Nathaniel Greene (Catherine).



Credit : Cumberland Island, Explore Georgia

NORTH CAROLINA

[Reed Gold Mine](#) is the site of the first documented gold discovery in the United States. John Reed was a soldier who left the British Army towards the end of the Revolutionary War and came to settle near his countrymen living in the lower Piedmont of North Carolina. Most of the inhabitants lived on modest family farms in rural areas, where they grew corn and wheat. The life of farmer John Reed would have been long forgotten had it not been for a fortuitous event one Sunday in 1799. On that day, Reed's son Conrad found a large yellow stone in Little Brook Meadow, on Reed's farm, in the county of Cabarrus. This rock is said to have weighed 17 pounds and was used for three years as a doorstop in the Reed home. In 1802, a Fayetteville jeweler identified the gold nugget. He bought it for the asking price of \$3.50, one tenth of its real value. The following year, John Reed launched the Reed mining operation by partnering with three local men.



Credit : Reed Gold Mine, North Carolina

CAROLINE FROM THE SOUTH

The [Huntington Beach State Park Nature Center](#) (in Murrells Inlet, south of Myrtle Beach) has opened a new nature center after the previous one was destroyed by a fire caused by lightning four years ago.

The new nature center represents an investment of \$1.2 million. Enjoy a walk along the park's iconic causeway to observe the many wildlife, such as birds and alligators, that call the swamp home. Take an audio tour or guided tour of [Atalaya](#), a National Historic Site.



Credit : Murrells Inlet, Discover South Carolina

This quaint Moorish-style house was the winter retreat of famed 20th-century sculptor Anna Hyatt Huntington and her husband, philanthropist and Spain scholar Archer Huntington.

Wake up early and enjoy a breathtaking pier over the over 4 km long beach and pier.

MISSOURI

The Titanic Museum in Branson is a celebration of the ship, passengers and crew!

As the world remembers the world's most famous luxury liner, Branson's [Titanic Museum Attraction](#) will continue to open the door to its own unique way, allowing "passengers" to experience what it was like to walk in the corridors, lounges, cabins and the main staircase of the Titanic.

By touching a real iceberg, walking the Grand Staircase and Third Class Corridors, dipping their hands in 2 degree water and trying to stand on the angled decks, visitors learn what was life on the Titanic by experiencing it firsthand. Each guest entering the ship will receive a boarding pass from a real Titanic passenger or crew member.

Feel the presence of their spirit in the galleries where more than 400 personal and private objects are exhibited. Many are on display for the first time in the world. This is a self-guided tour. Discover the fate of your passenger or crew member in the Titanic Memorial Room, where 2,208 names are inscribed on this historic wall.

RESOURCES

B2C website: travelsouth.visittheusa.com/fr-frB2B website: industry.travelsouthusa.com

Tools for professionals:

industry.travelsouthusa.com/travel-professionals

PRESS CONTACTS

Travel South USA c/o Article Onze Tourism



Mary Loyola | 06 75 11 55 99

mloyola@articleonze.com