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## LET'S GO DOLPHIN SPOTTING: NSB'S GUIDE TO FINDING FLIPPERED FRIENDS

-Seaside location is perfect place to spot flippered friends-

**New Smyrna Beach, Fla. (DATE)** – New Smyrna Beach, Fla., located along Florida's sparkling Central East Coast, is the perfect place to get back to nature and spot dolphins thriving in their natural habitat, with the most commonly found being the bottlenose dolphin. The area has a plethora of locations ideal for finding these creatures, including boat tours, waterfront restaurants, attractions and more.

- Marine Discovery Center The Marine Discovery Center, a non-profit that seeks to educate others on and preserve aquatic biospheres, offers daily boat eco-tours of the Indian River Lagoon, North America's most biologically diverse estuary. During the tour, an expert guide leads a 40-passenger boat on an educational expedition to observe and learn about the variety of land and sea creatures native to the area. Wildlife such as dolphins, manatees and shorebirds can be spotted during the tour. MDC offers many two to three-hour boat tours, offered at various times throughout the day, for the best chance to see New Smyrna Beach's abundance of wildlife.
- The Black Dolphin Inn At the Black Dolphin Inn, a boutique bed and breakfast along the Indian River, dolphins can often be seen right from the hotel's dock. Bottlenose dolphins and other species that are spotted here swim right by, making it the perfect place to stay and to get a glimpse of the creatures.
- Waterfront Dining Many of New Smyrna Beach's waterfront restaurants offer a great place to spot dolphins. Outriggers Tiki Bar and Grill, located along the beautiful Indian River, consists of a restaurant, marina, and fishing store all in one. Dolphins can be spotted in the marsh near the marina and from the restaurant's outdoor patio overlooking the water. Additionally, River Deck Tiki Bar and Restaurant is a great place to get a glimpse of flippered friends. River Deck's outdoor dining and uniquely constructed sandy white beach seating areas overlook the Indian River. While enjoying a cocktail or delicious seafood, dolphins can be spotted along the waterfront.

• **Outdoor Spaces** – Many of NSB's waterfront parks, beautiful creeks and blueways offer ample opportunities for dolphin spotting. Riverside Park is one of many scenic places to find these creatures in their natural habitat. The waterfront park is located along the Indian River and has walking paths, restrooms, a playground, a boardwalk, and a fishing pier. Dolphins are best seen walking along the boardwalk and fishing pier. In addition to the plethora of spots along the Indian River, dolphins can be seen in salty waterways such as Indian Creek.

These are just a few places to spot this mammal of the sea. Be on the lookout along the waterfront throughout all of New Smyrna Beach for the best opportunity to see flippered friends in action. For more information about New Smyrna Beach's dolphin spotting and wildlife, please visit <u>https://visitnsbfl.com/</u>

## About the New Smyrna Beach Area

The New Smyrna Beach area includes the communities of New Smyrna Beach, Edgewater, Oak Hill, Osteen, and Port Orange in east Central Florida. New Smyrna Beach is an eclectic mix of old and new; of subtle sophistication and bohemian soul that is as "real" as Florida gets. It occupies a notable place in history as the second oldest city in Florida, site of the largest single attempt at British colonization in the new world. The city's barrier island is recognized worldwide for its incredible surf with Surfer magazine recently touting it one of the "Best Surf Towns in America" and National Geographic magazine including it in its "World's Top 20 Surf Towns."

Accommodations range from charming bed and breakfast inns to family-size condominium units and oceanfront hotels. Natural attractions include 17 miles of sandy beaches from Ponce de Leon Inlet to Canaveral National Seashore and North America's most diverse estuary – the Indian River Lagoon.

Two distinct downtowns along Flagler Avenue and Canal Street and connected via the Waterfront Loop welcome visitors with independent restaurants, unique shops, artisanal coffee shops and art galleries.

For more information, please visit <u>www.VisitNSBfl.com</u> or call 386-428-1600. Follow <u>@NewSmyrnaBeach1</u> on Twitter, <u>Facebook.com/VisitNewSmyrnaBeach</u> or <u>@visitnewsmyrnabeach</u> on Instagram for the latest news. Download the free New Smyrna Beach Mobile App for iPhone and Android to receive this information on-the-go.