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The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island, Debuts A Whole New Look And Feel For Its 30th Anniversary



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Travel

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The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island is debuting a whole new look for its 30th anniversary. CHRISTOPHER CYPERT

[The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island](#), has unveiled a new look, just in time for family summer travel and to celebrate its 30th anniversary. The iconic

property is debuting extensive renovations, with refreshed guest rooms and suites by Wimberly Interiors, new culinary venues, and special guest experiences.

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The property is situated on a barrier island and is an ideal beachfront family escape with 13 miles of expansive, private beaches, nature-driven experiences, and great restaurants. Spend the day kayaking, biking, playing golf, or enjoying a spa treatment while the evenings can be spent relaxing with the family in front of a beachfront fire pit.

Activities and Programs





The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island has plenty of activities for kids and the whole family. CHRISTOPHER CYPERT

Families can enjoy biking, water sports, and swimming in the pools, or take advantage of the new Ecology Field Trip package for a true summer-camp feel. The program is a hands-on immersive experience with activities like kayaking, sampling the coastal biosphere, and exploring the native dunes. But really, there's so much to do for families that nobody will be bored. If you're into biking, you'll love that Amelia Island has miles of bike paths easily accessed from the resort. The East Coast Greenway, the 3,000-mile trail that runs from Key West to Maine, goes through Amelia Island along the ocean. Guests can connect to the Ocean View Trail and ride into historic downtown Fernandina Beach or explore the Fort Clinch Trail beneath a canopy of southern oaks for a view of boats passing between the fort and Cumberland Island.

Dining





The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island has several places to dine on property, including Coquina.

CHRISTOPHER CYPERT

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The resort has several unique dining spaces, from AAA five-diamond dining at Salt to casual bites in the Lobby Bar. This year, the property is undergoing a culinary refresh and hired two new culinary masters: Okan Kizilbayir, who previously served as sous chef at Le Bernardin, the three-Michelin Star fine-dining seafood restaurant led by Eric Ripert in Manhattan, as chef de cuisine at AAA five-diamond restaurant Salt and Fabien Gemmi as director of food and beverage. The resort also opened Coquina, North Florida's largest alfresco restaurant and ocean-view bar serving Spanish-influenced cuisine. Two additional restaurants will open soon: Tidewater Grill, offering casual coastal fare, and First Drop, serving artisanal beverages and carryout sandwiches and salads.

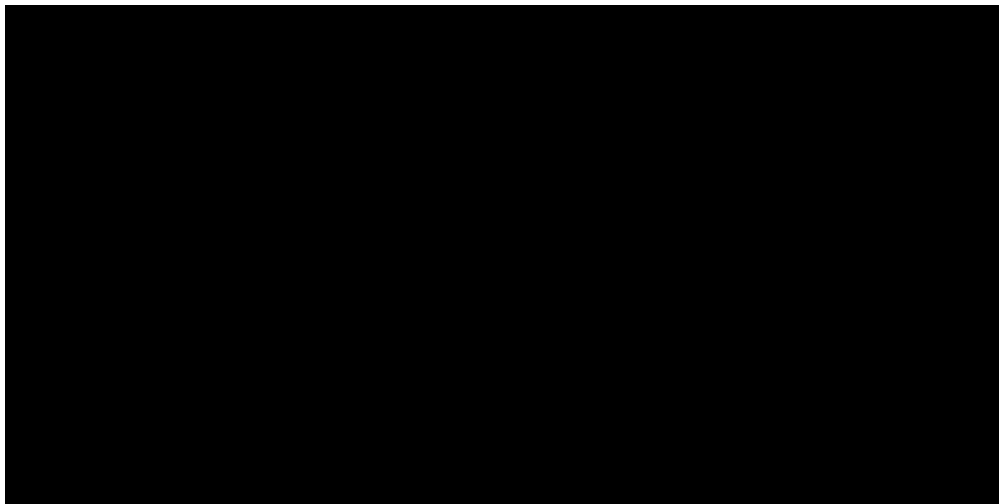
The Spa





Be sure to allow time to indulge in treatments at the spa. CHRISTOPHER CYPERT

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The Ritz-Carlton Spa, Amelia Island, is one of the largest spas in the region with holistic wellness treatments inspired by the sea. There are several signature services and standout treatments.

The Heaven in a Hammock massage combines touch therapy, gentle rocking, and the illusion of zero gravity to echo the movements of the tide. The Ocean Healing Bath is a therapeutic treatment that incorporates a

vigorous sea-salt exfoliation to stimulate circulation. Chakra balancing, reflexology, meditation, and yoga are also incorporated into the spa experience along with a healing saltwater pool.

Beach, Pools, and Nature



An elevated boardwalk across the protected sand dunes of Amelia Island's main beach. GETTY

You can't come to Florida without spending a good amount of time in the water. The resort has indoor and outdoor pools, and families can book a private cabana for the ultimate pool experience. Families can also book one of the beach experiences, which include surfing, stand-up paddleboarding, kayaking, and boating. If you're looking to experience nature, you've come to the right spot. Located on vital migratory routes and between two protected state parks and nature preserves, the resort's serene environment is the perfect spot to take advantage of birding and hiking adventures. Guests can explore beach and dune ecology on a walk with the resort's naturalist to identify coastal birds, dune flora, and wild animals indigenous to the area.

For Kids



There are plenty of great activities for kids on Amelia Island, including spending time at the ... [+] GETTY

In addition to the family Ecology Field Trip experience, which is a great way for kids to go on boat excursions, sample and study complex water systems, and take part in the microscopic analysis of sand dwellers, there's plenty more for kids to experience. The Ritz-Kids experience offers immersive, educational experiences during which kids can explore the natural wonders of the island through a variety of hands-on adventures. Activities include pirate tuck-ins, sandcastle concierge, and indoor pirate campouts.

Golf, Tennis, and Yoga

The Golf Club of Amelia Island features an 18-hole championship golf course designed by PGA Tour veteran Mark McCumber and golf legend Gene

Littler. If tennis is your thing, you can take advantage of the resort's oceanfront clay court, a full-service pro shop, daily drills clinics, and personal instruction from skilled tennis professionals. If you're looking for a more meditative experience, the resort offers several classes and wellness experiences including yoga and mindfulness.

Renovated Rooms



The guest rooms have been remodeled and updated. THE RITZ-CARLTON SPA, AMELIA ISLAND.

The 446-room property has a variety of room choices including ocean view, oceanfront, and coastal view. All rooms and suites have a private balcony or terrace and come with either a king bed or two queens. The beds are some of the comfiest to be found with luxurious 400-thread-count Egyptian Frette 100 percent cotton linens and goose-down and non allergenic foam pillows. The marble baths with dual vanities and showers are spacious and modern. Each room has a 55-inch flat-screen television.

Special Packages

To celebrate its milestone birthday, the resort is offering a pearl-inspired package, special programming, and a partnership with Mikimoto. The resort invites guests to commemorate their favorite memories at the resort with the “30 Reasons to Fall in Love with The Ritz-Carlton, Amelia Island” campaign, in which one lucky storyteller will be presented an exclusive Mikimoto pearl necklace or cufflinks.

There’s also the Personal Wellness Retreat package that includes two and a half hours of mindfulness training that can be used to adapt to stress, anxiety, loneliness, and insomnia related to Covid-19. The sessions utilize meditation, deep breathing, and relaxation practices.

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Judy Koutsky



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