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Contact – Marion Edmonds, (803) 734-1370, medmonds@scprt.com

Hunting Island State Park on TripAdvisor's Top 10 Beach List

BEAUFORT – The beach at Hunting Island State Park has been named one of the top 10 in the United States by TripAdvisor.

Hunting Island was eighth on the list compiled by TripAdvisor's Popularity Index and its travel Web sites' editors.

TripAdvisor's branded travel sites make up the largest travel community in the world, the company said, with more than 25 million monthly visitors, 5 million registered members and 10 million reviews and opinions.

"Hunting Island beach is part of a lush and protected nature reserve, and this secluded barrier island is home to an enormous variety of wildlife. Great for hiking, biking and camping, visitors will also want to check out the historic Hunting Island Lighthouse. According to one TripAdvisor member, "Hunting Island State Park is one of the true gems of the South Carolina coast," TripAdvisor said in its announcement of the top 10 list.

In addition to Hunting Island, the list includes four beaches in Florida, three in Hawaii, one in California and Cumberland Island National Seashore in Georgia.

"These spectacular beaches stand out for their world-class sand, breathtaking water, and all-around relaxing environments," said Michele Perry, director of communications for TripAdvisor. "Many of these beaches are off the beaten path, so travelers should pack their beach bags and head there before word gets out."

Hunting Island State Park at the southern terminus of U.S. 21 about 20 miles east of Beaufort is a 5,000-acre, semi-tropical barrier island that also includes maritime forest, marsh and creeks. Camping and cabins are available. For reservations, call 1-866-345-PARK or go to www.SouthCarolinaParks.com.

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