



ROAD TRIP

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: Hiking trail in Bon Secour Wildlife Refuge; a pristine, uncrowded beach; royal red shrimp, a diner's dream; fishing and shrimping boats dock in the bay.



GULF SHORES, ALABAMA

Plan your next getaway to the Gulf for incredible shrimp, sandy beaches and scenery.

STANDING BAREFOOT in the soft sand of the beach with a warm salty breeze blowing gently in my face, I instantly fell in love with Gulf Shores, Alabama.

With 32 miles of clear water along the Gulf of Mexico, this area is one of the country's best kept secrets. Here, you can relax on the beach, fish in the deep sea, explore the diverse landscape and feast on seafood straight from the water.

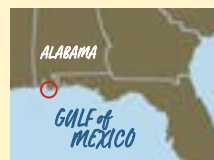
This region boasts abundant species of freshwater fish, snails, crayfish, mussels, turtles and amphibians. Alabama is the most biologically diverse state east of the Mississippi, and some call the nearby Mobile Delta America's Amazon.

Seafood lovers will savor the local cuisine. The fish and shrimp were the freshest and tastiest I've ever had.

The GulfQuest National Maritime Museum of the Gulf of Mexico is a must-see destination. This world-class museum features fun and fascinating interactive exhibits detailing the cultural, historical and economic influence of the Gulf. It's worth the hourlong drive to Mobile.

Couples, families and solo travelers alike will surely appreciate the tranquil atmosphere of this region. Visit soon before the secret is out!

SCOTT SCHILLER
Milwaukee, Wisconsin



NATURALLY WONDERFUL

Alabama's warm climate attracts wildlife and people. Be sure to check out these destinations.

■ **BON SECOUR NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE**

■ **ALABAMA COASTAL BIRDING TRAIL**

■ **GULF STATE PARK**

Plan your visit:
gulfshores.com or
gulfshoresal.gov