



### Florida's Water Activities

Winter escapes = escaping the cold weather in France at Florida's beaches, fresh and nature springs

When temperatures plummet across Europe, Florida offers a sun-soaked alternative. St. Pete-Clearwater invites French travelers to exchange their heavy coats for swimsuits, with warm Gulf waters, award-winning beaches and crystal-clear natural environments that feel a world away from the cold.

#### **Boat Tour**

Experiencing the destination on the water is easy, even for those without the boating experience. [The Tropics Boat Tours](#) offers daily dolphin-watching and sightseeing cruises, along with sunset sailings that showcase the area's coastal scenery. In [Tarpon Springs](#), guided boat tours reveal the town's rich sponge-diving history, letting off at the perfect location for dining at one of the many Greek restaurants along the sponge docks. For an unforgettable evening on the water, [Hubbard's Marina](#) – selected as the Best Fishing Charter in America by USA Today for four consecutive years – offers sunset sails out of John's Pass and into the Gulf, delivering sweeping views of St. Pete-Clearwater's iconic colorful sunsets.

#### **Clear Kayak Adventures**

For a more immersive way to experience Florida's natural beauty, [Get Up and Go Kayaking](#) offers clear kayak tours through [Shell Key Preserve](#). Floating above seagrass flats and shallow waters, visitors might spot dolphins, seabirds and seasonal wildlife as they glide past mangrove islands and sandbars. Evening tours elevate the experience further, with sunset paddles that transition into twilight and glow tours that illuminate the water below with LED lights. Launching in Tierra Verde near St. Pete Beach, these guided excursions combine adventure and nature in one unique outing. Get Up and Go Kayaking also offers clear kayak tours across the Anclote River waters in Tarpon Springs and Clearwater Beach.

#### **Island-Hopping**

A true island experience is closer than it seems in St. Pete-Clearwater. [Honeymoon Island State Park](#) offers four miles of soft beaches, ideal for swimming and shelling, along with a scenic trail through a virgin pine forest. From there, visitors can reach [Caladesi Island State Park](#) by ferry or kayak, best known for its uncrowded beaches and excellent birdwatching. Farther offshore, [Egmont Key State Park](#) is home to one of the last government-operated lighthouses in the U.S. and rewards those looking for a day trip with nearly deserted beaches and historic ruins.

### **Pick Your Perfect Beach**

Home to America's Favorite Beaches, St. Pete-Clearwater consistently earns top honors from trusted travel authorities and global publications. The destination's shoreline is celebrated for its soft white sand, clear waters and year-round sunshine. [Clearwater Beach](#), one of the most recognized beaches in the world, has been named the Best Beach in the South and ranked among the world's top white-sand beaches. The nearby [St. Pete Beach](#) has also claimed the spotlight, earning the title of Top Beach in the United States from Tripadvisor's community of travelers. From lively beachfront promenades to peaceful stretches of sand, these award-winning beaches offer the perfect setting for a winter escape.