

WATERCOLOR RESORT

by Diana LaChance

Gulf Coast, FL—True to its name, the oceanfront resort town of WaterColor is painted in relaxing hues and peaceful shades, suffusing its guests with serenity from the moment of arrival. One-of-a-kind boutiques and trendy art galleries are tucked along the community's palm-lined streets, while local artists display their wares in an open-air market of colorful kiosks. Warm afternoons bring visitors to Sugar Pies



Until recently, WaterColor has been something of a well-kept secret. But the resort town's irresistible allure and unparalleled amenities are quickly turning this quiet community into a highly desirable vacation destination. From golfing and shopping to wining and dining, there's a good reason why WaterColor—and the WaterColor Inn—top the list of mainland get-away.

Cafe for an ice cream cone or a bite to eat before heading over to the Ogden Museum of Southern Art. In the summer, the town comes alive to celebrate everything from film to wine, as various festivals fill the local calendar of events. In the winter, the peace and beauty of the ocean and the temperate climate lure hibernating Northerners to the town's quiet shores. To say that it is idyllic really only begins to describe WaterColor's appeal.

With so much to recommend it, it's hard to imagine any one thing standing out among the others. But the crown jewel of this vibrant little town is the WaterColor Inn, an exclusive 60-room David Rockwell-designed complex that was voted one of the "Top 50 Mainland U.S. Resorts" by readers of Conde Nast Traveler. The sophisticated, upscale accommodations are set against a dazzling backdrop of lakefront parks, lush woodlands, coastal dunes, and a pristine white-sand beach. It even boasts a AAA Four-Diamond restaurant, Fish Out of Water, overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. No visit is complete, however, without a trip to the InnSpa, where highly-trained specialists meet your every therapeutic need, from natural enzyme exfoliating Papaya and Pineapple body treatments to rejuvenating pedicures in their NASA-influenced Zero Gravity lounge. The truly indulgent can take advantage the spaciousness of the Inn's guest rooms with a private in-room spa service.

