

THE OUTER BANKS



DARE COUNTY BICYCLE MAP



N.C. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
DIVISION OF BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN TRANSPORTATION

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

BIKE LAWS

In North Carolina, the bicycle has the legal status of a vehicle. This means that bicyclists have full rights and responsibilities on the roadway and are subject to the regulations governing the operation of a motor vehicle. Under North Carolina law, bicyclists are required to:

- Ride on the right in the same direction as other traffic
- Obey all traffic signs and signals
- Use hand signals to communicate intended movements
- Equip each bicycle for night riding with a front lamp visible from 300 feet and a rear reflector that is visible from a distance of 200 feet.

In addition, cyclists under the age of 16 are required by North Carolina law to wear a bicycle helmet approved by the US Consumer Product Safety Commission.

SAFETY TIPS

- Ride defensively and in a predictable manner.
- Wear bright-colored clothes to increase your visibility.
- Wear a bicycle helmet every time you ride your bike.
- Keep traffic flowing by helping motorists pass safely.
- When riding in a group, ride single file.
- Be courteous to other drivers.
- Avoid riding at night, if possible.

RESOURCES

Outer Banks Visitors Bureau

1 Visitors Center Circle
Manteo, NC 27954
Phone: 877-OBX-4FUN
www.outerbanks.org or for
bicycle information visit,
[www.outerbanks.org/
activities/land_activities/](http://www.outerbanks.org/activities/land_activities/)

Outer Banks Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 1757
101 Town Hall Drive
Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948
Phone: (252)-411-8744
www.outerbankschamber.com

Dare County Parks & Recreation Department

Hatteras Island Division
The Fessenden Center
Buxton, NC 2795420
Phone: (252) 475-5650

Roanoke Island/Mainland Division
Lions Club Center at Wescott Park
Manteo, NC 27954
Phone: (252) 473-2969

Northern Beach Division
Family Recreation Park
602 Mustan Street
Kill Devil Hills, NC 27948
Phone: (252) 475-5920

For more information:
[www.co.dare.nc.us/depts/
parks_rec](http://www.co.dare.nc.us/depts/parks_rec)

Cape Hatteras National Seashore

1401 National Park Drive
Manteo, NC 27954
Phone: (252) 473-2111

Visitor Centers

Bodie Island: (252) 441-5711
Hatteras Island: (252) 995-4474
www.nps.gov/caha/index.htm

NCDOT Ferry Division:

Hatteras to Ocracoke Route
Hatteras, NC 27943
Phone: (800) 368-8949 or
(252) 986-2353
www.ncferry.org

Division of Bicycle & Pedestrian Transportation

1552 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1552
Phone: (919) 733-2804
Fax: (919) 715-4422
www.ncdot.org/transit/bicycle

Visit the Division's website for maps of cross-state, regional, and local bicycle routes, additional information on laws and safety tips, a calendar of bicycle events, and listings of North Carolina bicycle shops and clubs.



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Photo credits: N.C. Division of Tourism, Film and Sports Development,
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WELCOME TO DARE COUNTY

Dare County is named for Virginia Dare, the first English child born in North America in what was known as the "Cittie of Raleigh," founded on **Roanoke Island** in 1587. The location of this settlement is now the **Fort Raleigh National Historic Site** and also hosts the **Elizabethan Gardens** and **The Lost Colony's Waterside Theatre** that portrays the fate of the 117 settlers who attempted establishing the first English colony in the New World. The towns of **Wanchese** and **Manteo** on Roanoke Island were named after two Indian Chiefs who befriended the colonists. The Fort Raleigh National Historical Site is named after Sir Walter Raleigh, the English statesman, adventurer, and writer, who founded the first colony in 1585 and the 1587 colony that mysteriously vanished.



Dare County is home to over 1000 known shipwrecks, many caused by pirates who took advantage of the shifting channels around the islands of the Outer Banks. Legend says that **Nags Head** was named for a common ploy used by pirates in the area who hung a lantern from the neck of a horse that walked up and down the tall sand dunes of **Jockey's Ridge**, appearing to be a ship at anchor in a cove. Other ships at sea would become attracted to the light, only to run aground and to be plundered by pirates. The most notorious pirate, Blackbeard, also known as Edward Teach, lived in an area near the **Ocracoke Village** until he was killed there in 1718. To minimize shipwreck occurrences and the number of deaths at sea on the Outer Banks, crucial lighthouses were built over the past two hundred years from 1798 to 1936 and the **Chicamacomico Lifesaving Station**, now a museum, was in operation from 1876 until the Coast Guard closed it in 1954. In 1852, the Lighthouse Board was formed and set the standard for lighthouse operations in the United States. **Cape Hatteras Lighthouse** is one of the most famous lighthouses in the United States because of its spiraling black-and-white stripe pattern and its height of 208-ft. The current structure was erected between 1869 and 1870 but a lighthouse has protected sailors on the cape in southern Dare County since 1803. The first lighthouse on Bodie Island was built in 1847, but was replaced by the current one in 1872 after Confederates destroyed the original one so that Union forces could not use it. Today the **Bodie Island Lighthouse** is used year-round as a visitors' center.



The age of aviation was also born in Dare County at **Kill Devil Hills**, which, according to some, is so named because of a ship full of Kill Devil Rum that wrecked opposite the hills. In 1900, Orville and Wilbur Wright began their experiment that led to discovering the mechanisms of flight. They came to Kill Devil Hills in the fall of 1902 to launch glider flights from the windy sand dunes. On December 17, 1903, the Wright brothers successfully flew four separate controlled flights. The **Wright Brothers Visitor Center** holds reproductions of the 1902 glider and the 1903 flyer, and **Wright Brothers National Memorial** commemorates their achievement with a 60-ft. high granite monument and markers that record the four famous flights.

More than half of Dare County's 384 square miles is designated as part of a national wildlife refuge. The **Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge**, which is part of the **Cape Hatteras National Seashore**, was founded in 1937 to protect hundreds of migrating bird species. The **Alligator River National Wildlife Refuge** was designated in 1984 to protect wetland habitats and the animals and plants they support, including several threatened or endangered species.

For more of Dare County's history check out the **Roanoke Island Festival Park** and the **Outer Banks History Center** located there.

BICYCLING DARE COUNTY



The Outer Banks region of Dare County is one of the prime cycling destinations in North Carolina. Looking at a map, the long, thin ribbon of land conjures images of sun and sea that are almost irresistible to those who like to travel on two wheels. Recognizing this natural draw, the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT), in partnership with Outer Banks municipalities and tourism agencies, has built an extensive system of bicycle facilities, including multi-use paths, wide paved shoulders, sidepaths and bicycle-safe bridge accommodations. Improvements such as those described below have created a more bicycle-friendly environment in Dare County.

Bicycle Facility Types

Wide paved shoulders — three to six feet of additional pavement is provided on each side of the road, separated from the travel lane by a white stripe. Sand may be present.

Multi-use path — these paved facilities are built on a separate location, away from any roadway, and are eight to ten feet wide. Shared with pedestrians.

Sidepath — these run parallel to a road, on only one side, with minimal separation from the travel lane. They are typically five to eight feet wide. Since bicyclists may be riding against traffic on these facilities, extra care is required at intersections and driveways as drivers may not be looking for cyclists approaching from both directions. Shared with pedestrians.

Designated bicycle route — three bicycle routes have been designated in the area. Although signs are installed along these routes, it is important to use the maps as a guide since signs are sometimes missing. Descriptions of these routes accompany the enlarged Kitty Hawk, Kill Devil Hills and Nags Head maps (maps 3, 4, and 5).

Bridge improvements — three to six foot shoulders and bicycle-safe bridge railings are present on all three US 64/264 bridges that connect the mainland with the Outer Banks. Please note that neither the Bonner Bridge over Oregon Inlet on NC 12, the Umstead Bridge on US Business 64/264, nor the southern span of the Wright Memorial Bridge on US 158 includes these improvements.

How to Use the Maps

This publication was created to help both novice and experienced cyclists find places to ride that match their cycling skills. The Locator Map to the right provides the key to this information by guiding users to the enlarged municipal/regional maps within the brochure. These maps provide more detailed information on the types and locations of special bicycle facilities throughout the area. Points of interest, tourist-oriented information, beach access sites and much more are also shown on the enlarged maps. Check the legend that accompanies each map set to help you explore Dare County.

In addition, the Locator Map shows the portion of Route 2, the 725-mile cross-state Mountains to Sea Route, that runs through Dare County. Detailed information on Route 2 through Manteo/Roanoke Island and Nags Head appears on maps 5 and 7. A written description of the entire route accompanies those maps. **The mileage matrix below will help you plan your rides.**

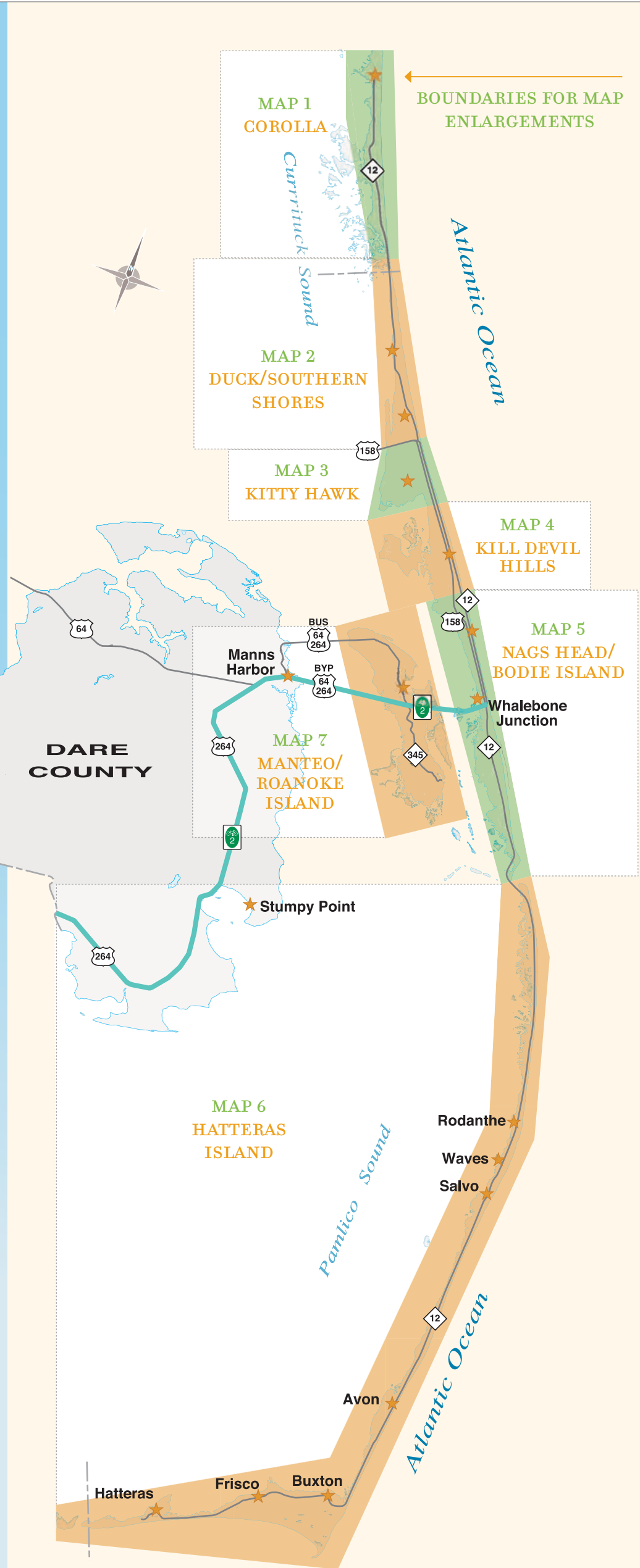
	AVON	BUXTON	COROLLA	DUCK	FRISCO	HATTERAS	KILL DEVIL HILLS	KITTY HAWK	MANN'S HARBOR	MANTEO	NAGS HEAD	SOUTHERN SHORES	STUMPY POINT	RODANTHE	SALVO	WAVES	WHALEBONE JUNCTION
AVON																	
BUXTON	7																
COROLLA	77	84															
DUCK	61	68	16														
FRISCO	12	5	89	73													
HATTERAS	17	10	94	78	5												
KILL DEVIL HILLS	49	56	28	12	61	66											
KITTY HAWK	54	61	24	8	66	71	5										
MANN'S HARBOR	51	58	46	30	63	68	18	23									
MANTEO	47	54	42	26	59	64	14	19	8								
NAGS HEAD	45	52	32	16	57	62	4	9	14	10							
SOUTHERN SHORES	56	63	21	5	68	73	7	3	25	21	11						
STUMPY POINT	67	74	62	46	79	84	34	39	16	24	30	41					
RODANTHE	17	24	60	44	29	34	32	37	34	30	28	39	50				
SALVO	13	20	64	48	25	30	36	41	38	34	32	43	54	4			
WAVES	15	22	62	46	27	32	34	39	36	32	30	41	52	2	2		
WHALEBONE JUNCTION	41	48	36	20	53	58	8	13	10	6	4	15	26	24	28	26	

A Note of Caution

The information provided in this publication was designed to assist cyclists in finding better places to ride. However, it is important to always ride defensively and watch for turning traffic. **During the summer months, traffic is heavier on all roads throughout the region. Many visitors driving in the area are unfamiliar with traffic patterns and the location of their destinations.** To alert motorists to the possible presence of bicyclists on the roads, "Share the Road" signs like the one shown here have been installed along more heavily traveled roads. Please note that the designated Dare County bicycle routes are not designed to be used by children biking alone as their ability to judge traffic conditions and driver actions is not well developed.



DARE COUNTY LOCATOR MAP



LEGEND & MILEAGE SCALE

Portion of NC 2 – Mountains To Sea Route

