

# New Opportunities in Mobile Bay



## **New and Renovated**

Several of our area hotels have recently been renovated or are in the process of completing major renovations over the next few months. The Radisson Admiral Semmes Hotel, The Ashbury Hotel & Suites and the Mobile Marriott have all been beautifully renovated in the last two years. The Riverview Plaza, Historic Battlehouse Hotel, and Lafayette Plaza are renovating currently. Once completed, the Riverview Plaza and the Battle House Hotel will become Renaissance properties. The Lafayette Plaza will become a Holiday Inn property.

## **Cruise out of Mobile Bay**

Imagine driving to Mobile Bay, enjoying the historic beauty of this Gulf Coast city and then taking a cruise to the Western Caribbean. The reality of cruising began on October 16, 2004 when Carnival Cruise Lines, LLC kicked off weekly cruises onboard the *HOLIDAY* Fun Ship. Mobile Bay is an ideal homeport for the cruise lines being so close to international waters, the Caribbean and other exotic destinations.

## **National Maritime Museum of the Gulf of Mexico**

The Mobile Bay area owes its heritage to the water, one of our most prized natural resources. Had it not been for the city's proximity to the Gulf of Mexico, the rivers, and waterways much of the area would not have been discovered. Construction of a museum dedicated to the ecological and maritime history of the area will be built at Mobile Landing. This museum will house artifacts, replicas, and other interesting details of the maritime history in Mobile Bay.

## **Nature-Based Tourism**

Are you looking for outdoor excitement and adventure? Are you interested in nature-based tourism? If the answer to these questions is yes, Mobile Bay has a lot to offer you. The rich lushness of the area provides an array of flora and fauna for outdoor enthusiasts to enjoy. Mobile Bay offers several suggested ecological tours for the day or week traveler. Tours are available from a variety of locations in the Mobile area. For more details go online to [www.mobilebay.org](http://www.mobilebay.org) and look under the *Things to Do* section.

## **Experience Mardi Gras Year-Round**

In Mobile, Mardi Gras is a year-round celebration. As the official founding city of Mardi Gras in the United States, Mobile Bay hosts this family fun-filled event annually. The Mobile Carnival Museum is now open four days a week for your enjoyment. This one-of-a-kind museum showcases extravagant attire of Mardi Gras royalty including sparkling crowns and interactive displays that allow the visitor to relive the experience from all perspectives. This is a royal invitation to get rowdy on America's first thrill ride — Mardi Gras. For more information, call 251-432-3324 or visit [www.mobilecarnivalmuseum.com](http://www.mobilecarnivalmuseum.com).

## **Gulf Coast Exploreum Science Center & IMAX® presents *A Day in Pompeii* - World Premiere!!**

Come experience *A Day in Pompeii* at the Gulf Coast Exploreum in downtown Mobile Bay. This blockbuster exhibit provides the ultimate historical Pompeii experience as it tells the story of daily life in this vibrant city and of the human tragedy of the volcano's victims. *A Day in Pompeii* features hundreds of exceptional objects that lay buried under almost 30 feet of volcanic material for over 17 centuries. Most poignant and compelling are the body casts of the volcano's victims. Also showing on the giant screen in the IMAX® Theater, *Greece: Secrets of the Past*. On display Jan. 12 - June 3, 2007. For more information call: 251-208-6883, toll-free 1-800-625-4FUN or visit [www.exploreum.net](http://www.exploreum.net).

