EXPLORE SOUTHWALTON

FIND YOUR PERFECT BEACH

MIRAMAR BEACH
SEASCAPESANDESTIN
DUNE ALLEN GULF PLACE
SANTA ROSA BEACH
BLUE MOUNTAIN BEACH
GRAYTON BEACH
WATERCOLOR
SEASIDE
SEAGROVE
WATERSOUND
SEACREST
ALYS BEACH
ROSEMARY BEACH
INLET BEACH

VISITSOUTHWALTON.COM
Adventure lies around every corner in South Walton.

While you could easily spend the entire day soaking up the Florida sunshine, shopping, dining or relaxing along 26 miles of sugar-white sand and turquoise water, why not get out and explore?
There are endless ways to quench your thirst for adventure in South Walton

With access to the Gulf of Mexico and the Choctawhatchee Bay, dropping a line and reeling in the big one is a true South Walton adventure. With four state parks and Point Washington State Forest, hit the trails and traverse your way through the scrub oaks and pines all while catching a glimpse of the local birds and wildlife.

If a truly unique experience is what you’re looking for, be sure to check out South Walton’s rare coastal dune lakes. These incredibly diverse ecosystems are a combination of freshwater and saltwater. There are 15 coastal dune lakes to explore here, but you’d have to travel to New Zealand, Australia, Madagascar or the Pacific Northwest to find them outside of South Walton.

Everything about South Walton inspires you to be outdoors. The sights, sounds and smells challenge you to take full advantage of your senses.

Grab a bike, foot powered or electric, a stand-up paddleboard or kayak, or hop on the back of a horse, and see what South Walton has to offer beyond the beach.
TOP 6 BUCKET LIST
Adventures in South Walton

Everyone has a bucket list of adventures they want to tackle. For those who visit South Walton, breath-taking scenery and good times are easy to come by.

With 26 miles of sugar-white sand, turquoise water as far as the eye can see, a collection of 15 rare coastal dune lakes, four state parks and a state forest, there are plenty of opportunities to check adventures off of your bucket list.

1. Stand-up paddleboarding on a coastal dune lake
2. Snorkel/dive South Walton’s artificial reefs and Underwater Museum of Art
3. Explore the “Hobbit Hole” at Grayton Beach State Park
4. Run a half marathon on 30A
5. Hop on a fishing charter that launches directly from Grayton Beach
6. Bike the 8.25 mile Longleaf Greenway Trail
South Walton is home to more than 200 miles of hiking and biking trails with varied levels of difficulty. Some trails are paved and others all natural, so whether you’re looking for a leisurely bike ride or stroll or a heart-pounding, sweat-inducing adventure, there’s a trail for you in South Walton.

**TRAILWAYS**
1. Scenic Gulf Drive Trail
2. Topsail Hill Preserve State Park
3. Timpoochee Trail
4. Kellogg Nature Center
5. Greenway Trails
6. Grayton Beach State Park
7. Eden Gardens State Park
8. Point Washington State Forest
9. Deer Lake State Park
10. Alys Beach Nature Trail
11. WaterSound Trail

**LEVELS OF DIFFICULTY**
- **Easy** – flat and paved trails
- **Moderate** – hard ground with some sandy, hilly areas
- **Difficult** – extremely sandy and difficult hills

**TRAIL LEGEND**
- Parking
- Restrooms
- Great Florida Birding Trail
- Pets Allowed on Leash
- Wheelchair Access

**TRAIL ETIQUETTE**
- **Yield to Pedestrians:** Pedestrians always have the right-of-way.
- **Keep Right and Pass on Left:** The trails are like U.S. roadways.
- **Keep the Trail Clean:** Make sure you leave the trail pristine by removing all trash and personal items you brought with you.
- **Be Safe at Night:** Cyclists must use head and tail lights after dark.
- **Pets on Trails:** Dogs should be kept on a short leash and pet waste must be cleaned from the trail.
- **Protect Yourself and Others:** It’s the law that a bicycle rider or passenger under 16 years of age must wear a helmet, and bicyclists are not allowed to wear headphones at any time.

**SCENIC GULF DRIVE TRAIL**
2384 Scenic Gulf Drive
Miramar Beach, FL 32550
(850) 822-6877
VisitSouthWalton.com

Scenic Highway 98 is the original beach cruising spot in South Walton. This paved path is perfect for biking, jogging or even longboard skateboarding. The path runs right by Miramar Beach Regional Beach Access which offers expansive views of the coastline. It’s also a local favorite for surfing and sunsets.

Scenic Gulf Drive
3 miles, Easy
TOPSAIL HILL PRESERVE STATE PARK

7525 W. County Highway 30A
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459
(850) 267-8330
FloridaStateParks.org/topsailhill

Identified as the most pristine piece of coastal property in Florida, this undeveloped area features 1,600 acres of stunning bald cypress swamps, nature trails over mountainous sand dunes and two freshwater coastal dune lakes. Topsail Hill Preserve State Park is known for its 25-foot-high sand dunes and 14 unique plant communities.

- Morris Lake Trail
  2.5 mile loop, Difficult
- Old Growth Trail
  1 mile, Difficult
- Deer Track Trail
  5.5 miles, Difficult
- Salamander Pond Trail
  1 mile, Easy
- Campbell Lake Trail
  5.2 mile loop, Easy
- Beach Tram Path
  1 mile, Easy

TIPMOOCHIE TRAIL

Along Scenic Highway 30A

Probably the most widely used trail in South Walton, the Tipmoochee Trail is named after Tipmoochee Kinnard, an influential Chief of the Euchee tribe.

Running parallel to Scenic Highway 30A, the 18.5-mile multi-use path winds its way from Dune Allen in the west to Inlet Beach in the east through 12 of South Walton’s 16 beach communities, while also showcasing views of recreational areas, state parks, the state forest and 15 coastal dune lakes. The trail is paved, protected and mostly level, with just a few Florida hills making it perfect for a casual stroll, bikes or roller blades.

- Tipmoochee Trail
  18.5 miles, Easy
Grayton Beach State Park

357 Main Park Road
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459
(850) 267-8300
FloridaStateParks.org/GraytonBeach

With pristine landscapes, picnic areas and bird watching galore, Grayton Beach State Park is a must-see for those exploring South Walton. The trails in the park wind through pine flatwoods and around small freshwater ponds, which are a natural habitat for wading birds.

- The Flatwoods Trail
  3.81 miles, Easy-Moderate
- Western Lake Loop
  0.7 miles, Easy-Moderate

Kellogg Nature Trail
0.3 miles, Easy

Greenway Hiking Trail
875 feet, Easy

Greenway Multi-Use Path
1 mile, Easy

Kellogg Nature Center
776 E. Nursery Road
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459
(800) 822-6877
VisitSouthWalton.com/hiking-biking-trails

This 10-acre parcel of land was donated to Walton County in 2003 by Mrs. Pat Kellogg to be used as a wildlife nature preserve and nature center. The hiking and biking trail is perfect for bird watching and outdoor recreation as it loops through pine flatwoods connected to Choctawhatchee Bay.

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- Western Lake Loop
  0.7 miles, Easy-Moderate

Kellogg Nature Trail
0.3 miles, Easy

Greenway Hiking Trail
875 feet, Easy

Greenway Multi-Use Path
1 mile, Easy
EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK

181 Eden Gardens Road
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459
(850) 267-8320
FloridaStateParks.org/EdenGardens

During the 1800’s, Eden Gardens State Park was the home of lumber baron William Henry Wesley and his family. Tour the historic Wesley Mansion or just walk among the moss-draped, ancient live oak trees and extensive landscaped grounds that stretch to the Choctawhatchee Bay. The camellias and azaleas sprinkled throughout the park add color during the spring and summer.

Eden Gardens State Park Trail
0.5 miles, Easy

POINT WASHINGTON STATE FOREST

2447 South County Hwy 395
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459
(850) 231-5800
FreshFromFlorida.com

Covering 15,000 acres, Point Washington State Forest offers explorers more than 27 miles of distinct trails that traverse through longleaf pine flatwoods, wet prairie, coastal scrub swamplands and sand hills.

Longleaf Greenway Trail
Western Trail
2.5 miles, Easy

Middle Trail
3.25 miles, Moderate

East Trail
2.5 mile, Moderate

Eastern Lake Trail
Yellow Loop
3.5 miles, Easy-Moderate

Red Loop
6 miles, Moderate

Orange Loop
11 miles, Moderate-Difficult
DEER LAKE STATE PARK

6719 E. Scenic Highway 30A
Santa Rosa Beach, Florida 32459
(850) 267-8300
FloridaStateParks.org/DeerLake

Deer Lake State Park is nestled alongside a rare coastal dune lake, and presents visitors with splashes of color from the summer wildflowers, and various species of birds and butterflies. The 1.5-mile loop trail is located on the north side of Scenic Highway 30A across from the park entrance.

Deer Lake Trail
1.5 miles, Easy-Moderate

WATERSOUND TRAIL

530 Pathways Drive
Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459
(850) 213-5299
WaterSound.com/lifestyle/area-amenities/explore-nature

The Watersound Trail connects Walton County and Bay County, running from the Watersound Origins community to the Panama City Beach Conservation Park. The trail can be accessed at Village Commons in Watersound Origins and offers a leisurely stroll on foot or a quiet bike ride through nature.

Watersound Trail
5 miles, Easy-Moderate

ALYS BEACH NATURE TRAIL

140 Charles Street
Alys Beach, FL 32461
(850) 213-5500
AlysBeach.com/amenities/nature-trail

The northern portion of Alys Beach contains a 20-acre nature preserve that provides a quiet and reflective getaway. A .75-mile trail meanders through the preserve, with most of it on an elevated boardwalk that offers views of slash pine forest, cypress trees, open meadows, wiregrass and wildflowers.

Nature Trail
0.75 miles, Easy
Perhaps South Walton’s most unique feature, coastal dune lakes are dynamic bodies of water that can only be found in a handful of locations around the world. You’d have to travel to New Zealand, Madagascar, Australia or the Pacific Northwest to find other coastal dune lakes.

What makes dune lakes interesting is that they are a combination of freshwater and saltwater. Coastal dune lakes are defined as such because the narrow spit of sand separating freshwater from saltwater is breached and reformed from time to time, mixing then separating the two bodies of water.

The coastal dune lakes in South Walton are perfect for exploring. Since they are smaller bodies of water, they lend themselves to smoother rides on stand-up paddleboards and kayaks. You can even drop a line and fish.

“One of the coastal dune lakes of South Walton are dynamic biologically diverse ecosystems. We hope that by striving to preserve these ecosystems, future generations will enjoy the natural beauty and many recreational activities we do today.”

- Debbie Heard, Chair of the Walton County Coastal Dune Lakes Advisory Board

For more information about coastal dune lakes in South Walton, visit visitsouthwalton.com.
With four state parks and a state forest, South Walton is truly a nature lover’s paradise. Tucked amongst the scrub oaks you’ll find opportunities for camping, miles of hiking and biking trails, prime examples of Florida’s unspoiled natural vegetation, rare coastal dune lakes and diverse ecosystems.

TOPSAIL HILL PRESERVE STATE PARK is known for its towering sand dunes and 14 unique plant communities, and has been identified as the most pristine piece of coastal property in Florida. Topsail Hill showcases 1,600 acres of bald cypress swamps, nature trails that traverse mountainous sand dunes and two rare coastal dune lakes – Campbell Lake and Morris Lake. Visitors to Topsail Hill, which offers 3.2 miles of secluded beach, can spend the day soaking up sunshine, biking and hiking through the old growth long leaf pines, or reeling in bass and catfish. Want to stay longer than a day? Topsail Hill has more than 200 campsites and cabins to suite your style.

GRAYTON BEACH STATE PARK has trails that wind through pine flatwoods and around small freshwater ponds, which are a natural habitat for wading birds, water birds and lowland birds. Plovers, Terns and Gulls are common sights in this area. Grayton Beach State Park is home to two nature trails – The Flatwoods Trail and Western Lake Loop – that wind through acres of pristine landscapes. The park features a boat ramp, plenty of space for camping, sunbathing and exploring, whether by foot, bike or paddleboard. Speaking of paddleboards, Western Lake is the ideal spot to go for a leisurely paddle or kayak excursion. Grayton Beach State Park has been hailed as the “Best Beach in the U.S.” by Dr. Stephen Leatherman, aka Dr. Beach, and again ranked as a top 4 beach in the USA in 2017.

DEER LAKE STATE PARK features a pristine coastal dune lake and bursts with a kaleidoscope of color from the summer wildflowers, plants and various species of birds and butterflies that make their home here. In Deer Lake State Park you’ll find southern magnolias, woody goldenrod and scrub oaks, in addition to rare varieties of plants like the Gulf Coast lupine and spoonflower pitcher plants. Take a stroll along the 1.5 mile Deer Lake Trail and explore the dune ecosystem, one of 11 natural communities in the park. Other favorite activities include fishing, enjoying a picnic lunch or just sunbathing and relaxing on the beach.

EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK is home to the Wesley Mansion, which was occupied by lumber baron William Henry Wesley and his family in the 1800s. Nowadays, visitors can tour the historic mansion or stroll through the carefully manicured gardens at Eden Gardens State Park. With gorgeous moss-draped ancient live oaks, camellias and azaleas sprinkled throughout the park, there are plenty of sights to soak up. The approximately 163-acre park is the perfect place to enjoy a serene lunch, an easy stroll through the park ground, fishing in Tucker Bayou, or even a wedding.

POINT WASHINGTON STATE FOREST boasts 15,000 acres and more than 27 miles of distinct trails that meander through coastal scrub, wet prairie, swamplands and longleaf pine flatwoods. Point Washington is a haven for bikers and hikers who can traverse trails that vary in length from the more relaxed 2.5-mile Western Trail to the more challenging 11-mile Orange Loop. There are four primitive campsites in Point Washington where visitors can stay the night. While camping you might notice several species of plants and animals, such as the gopher tortoise, flatwoods salamander and white-topped pitcher plants that are listed as threatened or endangered.

To learn more about the Florida State Parks and forests, and current fees, visit floridastateparks.org
ADVENTURE 30A (PLATINUM):

Adventure 30A is all about living the outdoor lifestyle. Founded by Tyler King, best known as "TK," this Santa Rosa Beach-based company offers both kayak and stand-up paddleboard rentals, as well as carefully curated adventures throughout South Walton.

Paddle and snorkel at the Turtle Reef at Grayton Beach State Park (trips run daily); take a guided Eco Paddle Tour through the state park and Western Lake; or enjoy an inshore fishing trip on the Choctawhatchee Bay with local Captain Hunter Ray. And once you’ve enjoyed plenty of time on the water, the team at Adventure 30A can set you up with a beach bonfire so you can relax under the stars as the Gulf waves lap in the background.

For more information, visit adventure30A.com.

GREEN FIN PADDLE CO. (GOLD):

No matter your skill level, whether it’s your first time on a stand-up paddleboard or you’re a seasoned pro, the team at Green Fin Paddle Co. has an adventure with your name on it. This Santa Rosa Beach-based company offers a variety of guided stand-up paddleboard tours perfect for individuals, couples or families. And with launch points from Inlet Beach in the east to Miramar Beach in the west, no matter where you’re staying there’s a convenient location to hop on your board and go explore.

With both sunrise and sunset paddles available, you’re in control of your setting. Don’t worry, you can’t go wrong with either choice, given South Walton’s natural beauty, sugar-white sand and turquoise water. One of the perks of paddling with Green Fin is that they will document your adventure through photography, which you can download and keep after your trip, completely free of charge.

For more information, visit greenfinpaddleco.com.

YOLO BOARD (DIAMOND):

Born in South Walton, YOLO Board was founded by entrepreneur Jeff Archer, who quickly found out the area was the perfect muse and location for his lifestyle brand based around healthy and active living. Since 2007 YOLO Board has experienced tremendous growth, offering stand-up paddle board sales and rentals, bike sales and rentals, and merchandise.

From first-time paddlers to experienced racers, YOLO showcases a wide variety of boards to fit your personal style. When you look at South Walton’s natural beauty, it’s no wonder that both locals and visitors relish the opportunity to enjoy an active lifestyle while soaking in incredible views of sugar-white sand, turquoise water and undisturbed woodlands.

“YOLO Board is a company with products and adventures that have become synonymous with the South Walton visitor’s experience for over a decade. We’re so proud that ‘YOLO Boarding’ on the Choctawhatchee Bay or riding a beach cruiser or electric cruiser down scenic 30A are at the top of people’s to-do list when they visit South Walton,” says Archer. “Even though our brand has grown in its reach far beyond the panhandle, our local community represents the foundation of our YOLO Tribe; our employees and customers, families and friends, who have all been inspired by our signature mantra, You Only Live Once.”

No matter the adventure you choose, YOLO rents equipment and offers lessons. They currently operate three locations in South Walton: YOLO Board + Beach Store (11610 U.S. Hwy. 98 W, Miramar Beach); YOLO Board + Bike Store (30A and Hwy. 393, Santa Rosa Beach); and YOLO Board Adventures (located in the Sandestin marina).

For more information, visit yoloboard.com.

BEST OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES

With four state parks, a state forest and more than 200 miles of hiking and biking trails, outdoor adventure waits around every turn in South Walton. And that doesn’t even take in to account the incredibly rare coastal dune lakes, which are perfect for calm water adventure, the Gulf of Mexico and the Choctawhatchee Bay.

As part of the annual Perfect in South Walton awards, locals and visitors alike cast their votes for the “Best Outdoor Adventure.” With more than 23,000 votes cast, these three businesses took home Diamond, Platinum and Gold honors.

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For more information, visit yoloboard.com.
Is there any activity that says “Florida” more than fishing? Dropping a line and reeling in the big one in South Walton is a unique experience, as some of the charter boats here launch directly from the sugar-white sand.

The Gulf of Mexico is home to a wide variety of fish species to test your skill. But don’t worry, whether you’re a seasoned angler or a novice, South Walton’s local boat captains will put you on the perfect fishing hole and you’ll be reeling them in before you know it. You’ll fish for the brightly colored, aptly named, red snapper (probably the state’s most popular fish), colorfully neon mahi mahi, grouper, and tuna, just to name a few.

If you prefer the calmer waters of the Choctawhatchee Bay, we’ve got you covered as well. Fish the grass flats or near the bridge pilings as you search for redfish, Speckled trout and King mackerel. Did you know you can even fish in South Walton’s rare coastal dune lakes? Whether you choose to fish on the Gulf, bay or a coastal dune lake, you’re certain to have a great time.

A recreational saltwater fishing license is required for anyone between the ages of 16 and 65 fishing in state and federal waters. The cost of a saltwater license can vary based on various factors, such as home state and length of license. A separate license is required to fish in freshwater.

If you don’t want to fish yourself, you can still experience some amazing catches in South Walton. Each June anglers from around the country converge for the annual Emerald Coast Blue Marlin Classic at Sandestin, where they compete for more than $2 million in prize money. In 2018, the winning Blue Marlin topped the scales at 699.2 pounds.

After a day on the water, or even watching the catch come in at the marina, you’ll certainly be hungry. Fortunately, fresh fish and the South Walton sun go hand-in-hand. There are a variety of restaurants that will let you bring your fresh catch with you and they’ll let the chef work their magic.

Find more information about fishing in South Walton at visitsouthwalton.com.
South Walton has a love affair with the outdoors, and those who visit our 26 miles of sugar-white sand and turquoise water take full advantage of the natural beauty by spending as much time exploring as possible.

One of the best ways to see South Walton, whether you’re looking for a workout or a leisurely adventure, is on a stand-up paddleboard or kayak. Is there anything more calming than gliding across the water? We think not.

Between the Gulf of Mexico, Choctawhatchee Bay and the South Walton’s rare coastal dune lakes, you have endless options to be on the water. And, depending on your skill level, each body of water offers a different experience.

Both the bay and dune lakes tend to offer calmer waters, while the waves of the Gulf can offer a bit more resistance, and a welcomed workout, whether you’re on a stand-up paddleboard or a kayak.

From YOLO paddleboards and BOTE paddleboards to RUN/SUP races that will test your endurance, and a variety of local paddleboard rental companies, getting out on the water is a breeze. Not only will South Walton’s businesses be more than happy to rent a stand-up paddleboard or a kayak, they’d be more than happy to give you a quick lesson as well.

No matter where, and how, you choose to start your adventure, one thing is for sure. You’ll always be surrounded by South Walton’s natural beauty.

For more information about stand-up paddleboard and kayak rentals, visit visitsouthwalton.com.
Thanks to the efforts of the South Walton Artificial Reef Association (SWARA), there are now a series of snorkel/dive reefs just a short distance from the beach. Built in the shapes of a dolphin, cobia, turtle and a seahorse, these reefs offer snorkelers and divers the opportunity to observe a variety of local marine life, from fish to sea turtles. The best part is that you can easily reach the reefs by kayak or stand-up paddleboard. They can be found off the beach in Miramar Beach (Dolphin), Topsail Hill Preserve State Park (Seahorse), Grayton Beach (Turtle), and Inlet Beach (Cobia).

Soaking up sunshine in South Walton is always a great way to spend the day, but did you know you can have just as much fun exploring what’s beneath the surface of the Gulf’s beautiful turquoise water?

In addition to the snorkel/dive reefs, SWARA has plans for nine more reefs, farther from shore and more appropriate for SCUBA diving or fishing. Not only will these reefs provide recreational opportunities for locals and visitors, they will also contribute to the overall health of the marine habitat.

A partnership between SWARA and the Cultural Arts Alliance of Walton County has also brought the first Underwater Museum of Art to the United States of America. So if you are looking for a unique experience only found in South Walton, these sculptures, which were created by seven local and international artists, can be found .08 miles off the shore of Grayton Beach. The sculptures sit in about 50-60 feet of water.


Learn more about SWARA, CAA and UMA, at visitsouthwalton.com.
At the time, nobody was selling or renting E-bikes from Austin, Texas to the east coast of Florida, so the former coast guardsman committed his entire life savings into his new adventure and Pedego 30A was born. Medina and his wife Emily opened their store in October 2016.

In addition to selling Pedego e-bikes, Medina now also offers rentals and a variety of tours along 30A through its sister company Eventure Tour Company, working out of the same shop. Walking into the shop and encountering the cool and colorful E-bikes lined up for display, it’s hard to not be excited.

That excitement has translated into tremendous success for Pedego 30A, which was honored in 2017 as the top Pedego dealer out of 120 stores.

“I think a lot of that is based on the infrastructure we already have here, especially since we are so bike-friendly,” he said. “This kind of gives people a little bit of an alternative to be out on a bike without having to get all hot before going out to dinner or wherever.”

As for the bikes themselves, there’s a style that’s right for everyone, whether you are looking for a cruiser, a commuter-style or a mountain-style bike that’s perfect for exploring the 200-plus miles of hiking and biking trails in South Walton.

One of the best parts about electric bikes is that you don’t have to pedal constantly. With battery powered assistance, everyone is able to go for a ride and not have to worry about being able to keep up with the crowd. With different levels of assistance, a Pedego bike can go up to 20 MPH.

With a range between 15-60 miles, you’ll be able to stop by your favorite restaurant, cruise past South Walton’s rare coastal dune lakes, stop by a few art galleries and still have plenty of battery left for a leisurely cruise along the Timpoochee Trail.

“The first time I rode an E-bike, it was like being a 10-year-old kid again.”

“The first time I rode an E-bike, it was like being a 10-year-old kid again,” Medina said. As someone with a passion for being outdoors and giving back to his community, Medina has also partnered with the Choctawhatchee Basin Alliance, a local non-profit organization which aims to protect and promote the Choctawhatchee Basin watershed, to offer self-guided tours through the 15,000-acre Point Washington State Forest.

The approximately two-hour tour is best suited for Pedego’s Trail Tracker (fat tire bike) and 50 percent of the proceeds go directly to the CBA. “I love the beach, but there’s so much more than that to see,” Medina says.

To learn more about Pedego 30A, visit pedegoelectricbikes.com

E-BIKE EXPLORATION

Hello, fun: Pedego 30A Brings E-Bike Adventures to South Walton

South Walton took the top spot in a recent article titled, “The Very Best Cities for E-Biking,” and for good reason. It’s not just the miles and miles of paved and off-road trails that traverse South Walton, it’s the scenic towns, great restaurants, state parks, and picture perfect beaches they connect that make the temptation to keep exploring just a few miles further too great to resist.

Several local companies offer electric bicycles to help you and your band of bikers see more of South Walton, including YOLO (selling the YOLO 30A Electric Cruiser and the YOLO BOLT), GreenEBikes (offering rentals, sales and tours), and Pedego 30A. Soon after opening Pedego 30A, Jason Medina also launched the Eventure Tour Company, realizing that there were many great ways to experience South Walton via E-bike. In hindsight, it seems like a perfect match, but the path that took him there was hardly a straight line.

Medina has spent countless hours in and on the water, trails and beaches of South Walton, whether by boat, bike or on foot. His love of the water led to a 22-year career with the United States Coast Guard, but when Medina retired from the Coast Guard he knew South Walton was where he wanted to settle down with his family.

The roots of his second career were planted during a conversation about traffic and commuting to work with his brother-in-law, a local chef and restaurateur. “I remember telling him to ride a bike to work, and he said he didn’t want to get all sweaty before even getting to work, then sweat all day,” Medina says. “So I told him, ‘Why don’t you get an E-bike?’ He looked at me and said, ‘What’s an E-bike?’ so I started looking around and doing a bunch of research about the rules and regulations and codes.”

As he researched, it occurred to Medina that E-bikes could be the solution not only to his brother’s quandary, but could also ease traffic in South Walton, where it’s possible to get just about anywhere by bike. “It’s kind of my little solution,” he says. “It’s not the answer, but it’s part of the bigger answer.”

Because South Walton’s 16 unique beach neighborhoods are incredibly bike-friendly, bikeability has become a big part of the local culture. Families traveling from place to place via bicycle are a common sight in the area, but not all family members can travel at the same pace. Medina saw E-bikes as a way even the playing field for biking families of varied fitness levels, and was immediately drawn to the Pedego brand due to its commitment to the customer and quality products.
Whether traveling with your family, significant other or flying solo, adventure abounds in South Walton. Explore our rare coastal dune lakes, calm turquoise waters of the Gulf or one of our State Parks. No matter what adventure calls to you, there’s something for everyone to explore in South Walton.

Here are a few of our suggestions for the perfect day of exploring South Walton.

### FAMILY ITINERARY

**Breakfast at 2 Birds Coffee & Café at Seascapes**
2 Birds Coffee + Café is a locally owned, casual stop for coffee and homemade pastries as well as delicious homemade breakfast options. Check out their famous Fried PB&J or a breakfast bowl for a hearty fill-up to start your day.

**Beach Launch Fishing Charter from Grayton Beach**
Choose this unique experience and launch from one of the most beautiful beaches in the world. Local charter captains can assist you in deciding the perfect range of fishing time, and style. Catch local favorites like grouper, red snapper and redfish.

**Lunch at Airstream Row in Seaside**
Choose from gourmet grilled cheeses and hot dogs, delicious crepes, classic southern style barbecue, or pop across the street to grab a burger, pizza, burrito or lobster roll. There’s something for every taste here!

**Afternoon Paddle on Western Lake at the WaterColor Boat House Paddle Club**
Hop on and paddle across one of South Walton’s rare coastal dune lakes and explore the beautiful landscaping around WaterColor. RUN/SUP at the WaterColor Boathouse can arrange a lesson, provide rental boards and even offer various specialty classes if you’re interested in getting more in-depth. The always calm water is perfect for beginners and kids.

**Dinner at FOOW (Fish Out of Water) in WaterColor**
FOOW (Fish Out of Water) is one of South Walton’s premier dining destinations. FOOW provides an unforgettable experience with great, waterfront views and a menu focused on fresh, local fish and meats infused with Southern flavor.

### COUPLES ITINERARY

**Breakfast at Black Bear Bread Company in Grayton Beach**
Black Bear Bread Co. is your neighborhood bakery, coffee shop and all-day seasonal café. Freshly-baked naturally leavened bread, dynamically seasonal produce and sensible sourcing are the inspiration for the daily breakfast and lunch café menu.

**Paddleboard & Snorkel the Miramar Beach Artificial Reef**
Hop on a bike and enjoy a scenic ride down Miramar Beach as you head to your first adventure of the day. The near-shore artificial reef system arranged by South Walton Artificial Reef Association lies about 685 feet from shore and is best reached by paddleboard. Local vendors can supply both the board and snorkeling equipment, and others offer a fully guided experience.

**Lunch at Vin’tij Food & Wine**
This South Walton favorite recently opened in a brand-new location. Venture into their expansive wine library filled with boutique wines and pick a bottle to enjoy with your lunch. Their menu features locally sourced seafood and produce, and delicious southern flare in each dish.

**Stroll along the shops at The Village of Baytowne Wharf**
The Village of Baytowne Wharf features an array of boutiques, eateries, galleries and nightlife— not to mention a jam-packed schedule of concerts, festival and events. This spectacular setting is nestled on the bay side of the beautiful Sandestin resort.

**Sunset Dinner at Marina Bar and Grille in Sandestin**
Enjoy a romantic atmosphere combined with delectable, fresh Gulf seafood at this South Walton staple. Delicious, fresh Gulf seafood dinner pairs with a breathtaking sunset view overlooking the multi-million dollar yachts docked in the marina.