

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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Did you know that...

... Virginia Beach is the **34th largest city in the United States and most populous city in Virginia**? More than 432,000 people live in the city which covers 310 square miles. Virginia Beach attracts approximately 3 million overnight visitors to its sandy shores each year.

... the **Virginia Beach boardwalk is nearly three miles long and the beach is wider than a football field**? Originally built in 1888, Virginia Beach's boardwalk is a concrete thoroughfare stretching from Rudee Inlet to 40th Street, a perfect place for biking, jogging, blading, strolling or people-watching.

...the **\$202.5 million Virginia Beach Convention Center** provides meeting planners and convention-goers with the latest in wired and wireless communications technologies? The facility boasts more than 500,000 gross sq. ft. of space, with unique features including 2,230 free parking spaces, a 150,000 sq. ft. of *column-free* exhibit space, and a 31,000 sq. ft. ballroom with programmable LED lighting.

... the **first permanent English settlers landed at Cape Henry** in Virginia Beach in 1607 before continuing north to settle Jamestown?

... the **mid-Atlantic's largest population of bottlenose dolphins make their summer homes in Virginia Beach**? More than 650 bottlenose dolphins have been cataloged by the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center through a variety of observation and photo ID programs.

... the city's nationally-renowned **Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center**, one of the nation's most-visited aquariums, features 700,000 gallons of aquariums and a 3D IMAX® theater.

... the **Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel** is one of the seven engineering wonders of the modern world? This 17.6-mile man-made phenomenon connects Virginia's Eastern Shore to Virginia Beach and saves motorists 95 miles on their trip from points north.

... the late psychic **Edgar Cayce selected Virginia Beach as the headquarters for his research because he believed it to be a safe haven from storms**? The Association for Research and Enlightenment in Virginia Beach draws thousands of visitors around the world who peruse its metaphysical library, one of the world's largest such libraries, second only to the Vatican.

... a popular Virginia Beach museum, **The Old Coast Guard Station**, is housed in a former U.S. Life Saving Station that dates to 1903? Featuring the history of the life-saving service and shipwrecks that occurred just off the Virginia coast, the museum has a **TOWERCAM roof-mounted video camera** that gives museum visitors the same view crewmen had from the tower a century ago.

...the **East Coast Surfing Championship** is held each year in Virginia Beach? ECSC is **North America's oldest running surfing competition** and second oldest continuously-run surfing contest in the world?

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