



Beach Briefs - June 19, 2014

Captiva Named to Top Ten List of America's Happiest Seaside Towns

Coastal Living Magazine has named Captiva one of America's 10 happiest seaside towns. The magazine started with every place it has lauded as a Dream Town over the past 15 years and added nominations from its readers. It then looked at the rank on the Gallup-Healthways Well-Being Index, percentage of clear and sunny days, healthiness of beaches, commute times, walkability, crime ratings, standard of living and financial well-being of the locals, geographic diversity, and its editors' assessment of each town's "coastal vibe." The results were *Coastal Living's* list of the top 10 spots to live in bliss by the sea.

The magazine described Captiva Island as a "slender barrier island in the Gulf of Mexico... (that) has pale, powdery sands graced with more than 250 types of seashells. A single main road runs Captiva's five-mile length, making much of its raw beauty best appreciated by sea kayak." It describes Alison Hagerup Beach Park as being "a great sunset post for spotting the horizon's famous green flash."



Visitors enjoy a spectacular sunset at Hagerup Beach

This is not the first time Captiva has received national recognition. *Disney FamilyFun Magazine* featured Captiva in its "Let's Go" section of the May 2011 issue. "Gentle waters and superb shell-seeking make this small Gulf Coast Island...a sure bet for families in search of a low-key beach scene." In December 2010, *Travelocity* named Captiva's Alison Hagerup Beach Park the #1 rated "Romantic Beach in the U.S. and Nearby." It called Captiva's sunsets "the most romantic in all America." *Best Beaches in the USA*, the famous rankings by Dr. Beach, rated Captiva #3 in his Best Romantic

Beaches based on features such as natural beauty, privacy, good sand and water quality, and amenities such as easy access, picnic area, and places to walk along the shore.

So who is Number 1? The top 10 rankings will be revealed in *Coastal Living's* July/August issue and on CoastalLiving.com.

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The Captiva Erosion Prevention District is comprised of 5 elected, unpaid Commissioners dedicated to preserving and maintaining Captiva's beaches and shorelines. For more information on CEPD, click on mycepd.com or join our email list by clicking on mycepd@gmail.com

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