

On May 21st, we'd love to take you to a beach that is new to the BBC,

The Coquina Gulfside Park on Anna Maria Island.

According to the Conde Nast Traveler magazine in 2015, Coquina Beach has the best island beach sand in the U.S. and the fifth-best in the world. Unusual for a beach park is its shaded walk and picnic areas, offering a great escape from Florida's heat.

For those of you a bit more adventurous, there's Coquina Bay Walk right across the street. Although the entire trail system is less than a mile—and you don't need to walk the full distance—it might be fun to explore. The trails offer great views of the bay from observation decks hidden away in the mangroves—you feel like you're peeking out of tunnels! Climb to the top of the spoil piles for a sweeping view of the bay and the gulf. Degree of difficulty – reportedly 1 out of 10!

Yes, there is a café at Gulfside Park which is eager to exchange fresh food for delectable dollars! As you can see, it's a bit small so we'd want to stagger our visits. They were delighted to learn that we are coming. You can see their extensive menu at:

<http://www.coquinabeachcafe.com/event-calendar-cfvg>

They offer chair and umbrella rentals too. If you're interested in them, please let it be known on your application.

If you'd like to learn more about this park, visit:

<http://www.coquinabeachcafe.com/beach-rentals-gift-shop>

Knowing this is a slow, laid-back beach with only the Baywalk nearby, we will offer an OPTIONAL mid-afternoon trip to expose you to three different points of interest in the city of Bradenton. First, we'll drive by the COLORFUL Villages of the Arts, (where you may need a good pair of shades!), as well as The Bradenton Riverwalk,

Then spend an hour on your own at The Manatee Village Historical Park, where you can learn about early Florida pioneer life at the Wiggins General Store, the Fogarty Boat works, the Settlers House, the 1887 Church and the 1860 Courthouse. All of these buildings--in addition to others--are furnished with period furniture and artifacts. To learn more about this village, visit:

<http://manateevillage.org/>

We hope this brief tour will encourage you to visit Bradenton again soon.

If you chose instead to remain behind at the beach park for one more hour, a bus will return for you and your beach equipment.

On the way home, we'll get a rip-roaring welcome at the Texas Roadhouse in Wesley Chapel for dinner.

To join us on this trip, print the reservation form (click on green button below) and mail it along with your check (made out to the BBC) for **\$28** per person to the address below. On **May 7th**, we will conduct our lottery and you will be notified shortly thereafter of your seat confirmation or waitlist status.

I/we would like to go to Coquina Beach with the BBC on May 21st. Enclosed is my **\$28 check** (pp).

Print your name(s): _____

I/we wish to be on the bus with these friends (name up to four)

I/we still have a credit with the BBC and I would like to use that credit. _____

I/we think I'm/we're interested in the OPTIONAL afternoon adventure, but reserve the right to change my/our mind. _____ (No. of people)

I am interested in renting:

An umbrella and two chairs - \$21.30 _____

A single chair - \$6.45 _____

Please pay this additional charge at the time you apply for the trip.

Note: There are only 18 3-pc. sets, but multiple additional chairs available. We will allot those sets on a first-drawn-first-serve basis. If there are not enough pieces to accommodate you, we will let you know by e-mail well in advance of the trip.