

Grand Times



Labor Day Celebrates End of Summer

As the frantic pace of summer wanes, and the beginning of school looms on the horizon, there's time for one last weekend of family fun before the fall routine begins.

Spending Labor Day weekend at the Grand Hotel Marriott Resort, Golf Club and Spa is a great opportunity to enjoy some quality time with the family and end the summer on a high note.

The weekend is chock full of themed activities, beginning with the Holiday Welcome Reception on Friday evening. Upon your arrival on Friday, the recreation staff hosts a bike ride to Punta Clara Kitchen, and activities like creating patriotic picture frames and hand prints.

Saturday morning, like every morning, begins with the best breakfast buffet in the country. Later that morning, the craft patio is alive with unique exercises like making patriotic water bottle holders and bubble art. The firing of the Civil War cannon, afternoon tea, and the ringing of the bell at sunset are Grand traditions celebrated every afternoon. The day concludes with a "Dive-In" movie at the Grand feature pool.

Sunday features Grand Activity Land, with attractions ranging from rock walls, gyroscopes and face painting to cotton candy and snow cones. There's even a petting zoo and a bounce house. After dropping off the kids at Fun Camp for a pajama party, parents will enjoy an adult Pinterest party with pre-sketch canvases and a cash bar.

Monday brings the weekend to a spectacular finish, with a morning seashell hunt and a sand castle contest on the beach, and carriage rides around the grounds that afternoon.

Of course, in addition to all these planned activities, there will also be the opportunity to enjoy the more traditional amenities of the resort, such as the world-class spa, two championship golf courses and 10 lighted tennis courts. The impressive Grand feature pool plus the fitness center, horseback riding, grand bikes, putting, croquet and the video arcade are available all weekend long.

So get your family together and come join us for Labor Day as we celebrate the end of another great summer. **Resort view rooms are available starting at \$309 per night. Visit GrandHotelMarriott.com to make your reservations today.**



Enjoy a mint julep by the pool.



Labor day at the Grand is made for kids.



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Girls' Getaway? Golf Buddy Trip? Tennis Tune Up? There's a Grand Package for You

Are you planning a weekend getaway with the girls? Or considering a guys' golf / football weekend? Looking to fine tune your tennis skills?

No matter your purpose, the Grand Hotel offers the ambiance and the world class amenities to meet your needs.

The Spa at the Grand offers a variety of services, ranging from relaxing massages, mani-pedis, and a peaceful visit to the Quiet Room. Sumptuous culinary options, endless shopping opportunities and countless venues for "me" time make the Grand a great destination for your next getaway. A deluxe guest room in the Spa Building, a \$125 spa credit for one, lunch for 1 in the Spa, use of quiet room and a glass of wine or champagne are all included in the Spa Package which starts at \$354 on weekdays, \$374 on weekends.



Enjoy the Spa at the Grand.

With football season just about ready to kickoff, perhaps you and your buddies are looking for a combination links/gridiron experience. Both the Azalea and Dogwood course offer a challenge to golfers of all skill levels. That evening you can get comfortable at Bucky's Birdcage Lounge, enjoying your favorite refreshment while watching the big game. In addition to your deluxe guest room, the Golf Package includes golf for two with a cart, range balls and lunch at the clubhouse for only \$369 per room on weekdays, \$389 on weekends.



Enjoy a refreshment in Bucky's Birdcage Lounge.

If tennis is your game, come try the Grand's new tennis facility with 10 lighted courts. In addition to your deluxe guest room, the tennis package includes a one-hour private lesson for two, use of the ball machine and 15% off in the tennis pro shop for only \$234 on weekdays, \$254 on weekends.

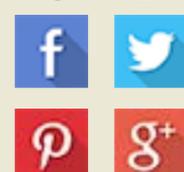
For additional information on fall packages please visit GrandHotelMarriott.com.



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Fairhope Festival Embraces the Silver Screen

For a weekend every fall, Fairhope becomes a film lovers' paradise. The Fairhope Film Festival, now in its third successful year, hosts over 40 screenings of intriguing films. Mark your calendars for November 12 – 15, and head over to downtown Fairhope to catch notable foreign and feature films, documentaries, and shorts.

The festival's motto "the best of the best" promises only world-class and award-winning films, and audiences have not been disappointed. The selection committee choose from the most acclaimed films of the biggest and best festivals around the world. Visit their website, www.fairhopefilmfestival.org, to see last year's lineup, and stay tuned to find out this year's selection. It's an amazing opportunity to view films one might never get to see otherwise, and it happens right here on Mobile Bay.

Directors, actors, and screenwriters participate in the screenings both in person and via electronic transmission. Additional after parties, events, and social gatherings provide the chance to meet the people directly involved in film production.

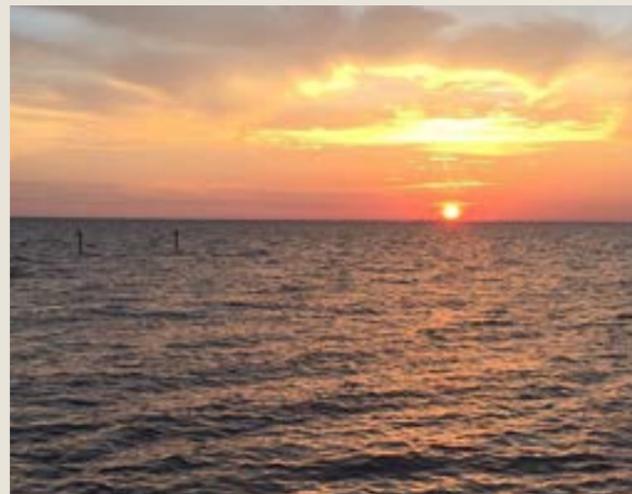
The viewings take place in five locations around downtown Fairhope, making it easy to enjoy the restaurants, galleries, and shops of the charming town in between shows.

Film passes will be sold in 4-packs for \$40 and 8-packs for \$75 and may be shared by two attendees. Individual tickets are \$10 per film. Tickets to after hours social events are sold separately.

Just a few minutes from Fairhope, the Grand is the perfect base for your movie going weekend. **Visit GrandHotelMarriott.com to make your reservation. Don't miss this special weekend this fall! See you at the movies!**



Viewings take place in five locations around Fairhope.



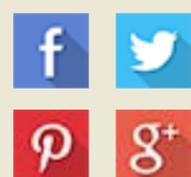
Sunset on Mobile Bay..



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Fall Packages Are Calling You Back To The Grand

It's been a long hot summer, but fall is just around the corner, offering you a variety of reasons to come back to the Grand.

Celebrating a special occasion? There's no place better than Point Clear where the amenities are unmatched and the ambiance alluring.

Romance is in the air at the Grand, where the spectacular sunsets set the stage for a special opportunity to spend a honeymoon, celebrate an anniversary or just getaway for some adult relaxation. Toast the sunset at Bucky's Birdcage Lounge. Enjoy a quiet dinner with a sumptuous steak and a bottle of fine wine. Top off the weekend with some quiet time in the hot tub or enjoy a relaxing visit to the world class Spa at the Grand for a couples massage.

The Two for Romance package offers a deluxe bayside room, breakfast buffet for two, and a bottle of champagne served with chocolate covered strawberries and starts at \$299 per night on weekdays, \$319 on weekends.

Few resorts in the country can match the Grand for military history. Prior to serving as a training venue during World War II, the Grand served as a military hospital during the Civil War and was targeted by Union gunboats during the Battle of Mobile Bay. Each afternoon at 4 pm, a ceremony including the Firing of a Civil War cannon calls attention of all those who made the ultimate sacrifice. A deluxe guest room, breakfast buffet for 2, a brochure describing the Alabama Civil War Trail plus the Grand Traditions book are all part of the Civil War package, available on weekdays for \$239 and on weekends for \$259.

Fall packages are also available for girlfriends getaways, tennis trips and golf weekends, as well as spa specials. With unmatched hospitality, great food and unlimited options for your favorite activity, the Grand is the place to be this fall. Nearby Fairhope offers funky boutiques, unlimited shopping and the unique atmosphere of an artists' colony.

It's fall and it's time to slow down and enjoy life for a while. Visit GrandHotelMarriott.com to make your reservations today.



Wake up to champagne & strawberries in your room.



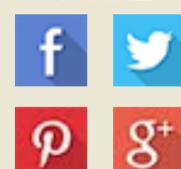
The Grand is the place to be in the Fall.



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Point Clear: Jubilee Central!

No one can completely explain it, but everyone on the Mobile Bay loves it: Jubilee! Seafood for all! Come fill your nets and buckets!

During a Jubilee, fish, crabs, and shrimp appear in abundance along the shoreline, moving sluggishly. You can scoop them up by the dozens, even pick them up with your hands.

Traditionally, those who notice the Jubilee first will call out to neighbors or ring Jubilee bells, alerting everyone to come out and harvest the bounty. The shoreline quickly fills with gatherers and a festive, joyful atmosphere spreads.

So far as we know, Mobile Bay is among the two places in the world where the conditions are just right for this fun and fortunate event. Although similar events can happen along any shoreline during a red tide, Jubilees differ in that they do not seem to be related to harmful algae.

Marine biologists, the NOAA, and the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources have all studied the Jubilee phenomenon. One hypothesis is that an accumulation of organic matter on the Bay floor results in oxygen depletion, forcing marine life to the surface in search of oxygenated water. Lack of oxygen also explains the slow behavior of the fish.

As special as this event is, it is nothing new: Written accounts date back to the 1860s and oral accounts go back even further. In fact, Jubilees predate European settlement of the region.

Though Jubilees remain mysterious, certain factors are known and consistent. They almost always occur with an incoming tide and an easterly wind, in the early morning hours before dawn. They happen most often in August, and during the summer months. The upper Eastern Shore of the Bay, from approximately Point Clear to Daphne, is often the location, though they also occur south of Point Clear and on the western shore of the Bay. Finally, in general, saltier water meets fresher water, causing a change in the water's condition.

Next time you visit the Grand, be sure to ask about this year's Jubilee! If you're very lucky, maybe you'll catch one.



Crabs are just one of the Jubilee's rewards.



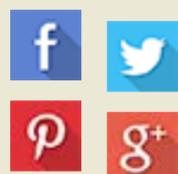
The beach at the Grand...Jubilee central!



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Eastern Shore Calendar of Events

First Friday Art Walks

September 4, October 2, November 6, December 4
Downtown Fairhope

Labor Day Weekend at the Grand

September 4 – 7
The Grand Hotel Marriott

Grand Beverage Academy: Wine 101

September 18, 5:30 p.m.
The Grand Hotel Marriott

Grand Culinary Academy: Baking Basics

September 19, 10 a.m.
The Grand Hotel Marriott

Polo at the Point

September 26, 2015.
Sonny Hill-Clearwater Complex, Point Clear

27th Annual Jubilee Festival

September 26 & 27
Olde Towne Daphne

Alabama Coastal BirdFest

September 30- October 3
5 Rivers Delta Resource Center, Spanish Fort

Grand Festival of Art

October 3 & 4
Eastern Shore Art Center, Fairhope

Baldwin Pops Founder's Day Concert

October 4
Henry George Park, Fairhope, AL

Grand Beverage Academy: Wine 201

October 16, 5:30 p.m.
The Grand Hotel Marriott

Grand Culinary Academy: Pastry Basics

October 17, 10 a.m.
The Grand Hotel Marriott

Downtown Trick or Treat

October 24- 10:00 a.m.
Downtown Fairhope

Fairhope Film Festival

November 12 - 15
Fairhope

Fairhope's Annual Tree Lighting Celebration

November 19- 5:30
Downtown Fairhope

Grand Beverage Academy: Punches

November 20, 5:30 p.m.
The Grand Hotel Marriott

Downtown Fairhope Holiday Stroll

November 20
Downtown Fairhope

Grand Culinary Academy: A Thanksgiving Dinner

November 21, 10 a.m.
The Grand Hotel Marriott

6th Annual Movie in the Street

November 21
Downtown Fairhope

Fairhope's 56th Annual Christmas Open House

November 22
Downtown Fairhope

Thanksgiving at the Grand

November 26
The Grand Hotel Marriott

Fairhope's Magical Christmas Parade

December 4
Downtown Fairhope

Grand Beverage Academy: Warm Drinks: Cold Nights

December 18, 5:30 p.m.
The Grand Hotel Marriott

Grand Culinary Academy: Gingerbread Houses

December 19, 10 a.m.
The Grand Hotel Marriott

Christmas at the Grand

December 25
The Grand Hotel Marriott

