

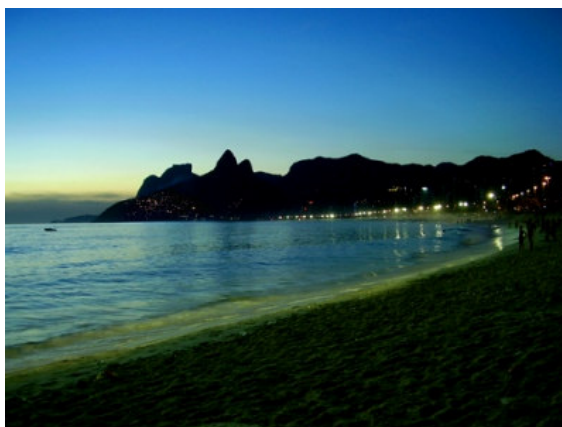
Top 10 Beaches in the World

1. Anse Source D'Argent, La Digue, Seychelles



This beach on La Digue is one of the most beautiful beaches on earth. La Digue is an island of Seychelles, lying east of Praslin and west of Felicite Island. It is said to be the most photographed beach in the world, Anse Source D'Argent is a long stretch of golden soft white coral sands, flanked by spectacular granite boulders. If you follow the twisting pathways that lead away from the main beach you will discover the hidden coves, separated by towering boulders and secret caves. The beach has calm waters and is sheltered by a reef, ideal for snorkeling and sun bathing.

2. Ipanema Beach, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, South America



Ipanema is a neighborhood located on the southern region of the city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, between Leblon and Arpoador. The beautiful beach at Ipanema became famous due to the song "The Girl from Ipanema" ("Garota de Ipanema"), written by Antonio Carlos Jobim. This beach is known for its elegance and social qualities. Two mountains called the "Dois Irmãos" (Two Brothers) rise at the western end of the beach. Lots of sports enthusiasts are here to play football and volleyball and footvolley. Ipanema, adjacent to Copacabana beach, is relatively easy to navigate because the streets are aligned in a grid. Loads of world-class restaurants, shops, and cafes flourish in the area.

3. Poipu Beach, Kauai, Hawaii



Poipu is on the southern side of the island of Kauai in Hawaii. This beach is a series of golden sand crescents strung together. Palm trees dominate the coastline with an expansive lawn at the park. Poipu beach offers fun, kid-friendly activities that can be enjoyed by the whole family such as camping, ATV (all terrain vehicles) riding, bicycling downhill, surfing, hiking, scuba diving, snorkeling, surfing and others. The best activity, of course, is the helicopter rides for beautiful aerial views of the area.

4. Tulum Beach, Mexico



Tulum has some of the biggest powder beaches on the coast. There is a nice small beach right in the famous Tulum ruins, but the best are just south, along the road to Boca Paila. Boca Paila has yet to be invaded by the all-inclusive resorts and remains one of the last popular bastions of hedonistic culture in the Riviera. Along the beach you find inexpensive cabanas for rent and the odd drink stand/BBQ joint. All beaches are "public". There are no "private" beaches, although getting access to the beaches in most cases can only be achieved by access through private land or Beach Clubs.

5. Pink Sands Beach, Harbour Island, Bahamas



Pink Sands is a popular destination for tourists who want to spend their holidays in a peaceful and private location, as it is not lined with high rise buildings. This beach is famous for the wide-mile stretch of, miraculous pink sands and the almost-endless crystal blue horizon. The amazing coral reef present in the blue waters protects this shoreline from dangerous waves making the beach safe for casual swimming. Beautiful photographs of the striking contrast of the deep blue sky and the green belt will make for great memories.

6. Palm Beach, Aruba, West Indies



The Palm Beach is one of the topmost on the list of popular attractions of Aruba with its powder white sand beach, crystal blue water, and palm trees as far as the eye can see. Palm Beach Aruba runs alongside the high-rise resorts on the island where most visitors choose to stay. Due to the perfect water and sand on the beach, Palm Beach vacations can revolve completely around sunbathing and swimming easily, but this beach offers so much more. Windsurfing, water bikes, sailing, fishing, or snorkeling are all excellent at this location.

7. Whitehaven Beach, Australia



Whitehaven Beach is a definite "must-see" in Australia. The crystal clear aqua waters and pristine silica sand of Whitehaven stretch over seven kilometres along the Whitsunday island, the largest of the 74 islands in the Whitsundays. It is nature at its best and provides the greatest sense of relaxation and escape. It has been said to be Queensland's most beautiful beach. Its sand consists of 98% pure silica which gives it a bright white color. The island is accessible by boat from the mainland tourist ports of Airlie Beach and Shute Harbour.

8. Las Islas Cies, Galicia, Spain



The Cíes consist of three islands, Monteagudo ("Sharp Mount" or North Island), do Faro ("Lighthouse Island", or Isla do Medio, "Middle Island") and San Martiño ("Saint Martin" or South Island). The beaches are along the stunning Atlantic coastline of Galicia, just north of Portugal. Cies is now an uninhabited and pristine national park, open to the public only in summer. The Rodas beach in Islas Cies is beautiful and a lovely place to spend a day. Apart from the beach it offers lots of hiking and lots of wildlife. The place is full of birds, flora and many exquisite animals. The surrounding waters are also visited by dolphins, whales and marine tortoises. The locals call this their 'Caribbean Beach'.

9. Paradise Beach, Greece



Paradise Beach is a very popular southern beach on the island of Mykonos in Greece. It is a very appealing sheltered bay replete with calm and tranquil waters making it a beach lover's heaven. Partying and merrymaking is common on this beach. It is mostly frequented by youngsters and those fond of loud music and dancing. So if you are in the mood for some solid beach dancing and hip swinging then Paradise Beach is the place for you to be. However, there are also tranquil and secluded beaches on the same island if you wish to spend quiet time with your family.

10. Shoal Bay, Anguilla, Caribbean



Anguilla is a vacation spot to enjoy away from the tourist crowd, and be pampered at some of the most elegant hotels and resorts in the Caribbean. With surreal blue sea and a quiet presence, Shoal Bay is unarguably one of the best beaches that Anguilla offers. Shoal Bay is two miles of sand that is so sumptuous that you sink in up to your ankles. Mostly unspoiled by buildings, there are just small clusters of sunbathers, marking the hotels. Shoal Bay is where people come when they're escaping the busy St Marten island next door.