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## MEET IN JAX!

Jacksonville, or “Jax” as the locals call it, is perfectly positioned on the coast of Northeast Florida. Its unique location offers river, ocean and intracoastal waterfront meeting views without breaking the bank. Give your attendees a meeting they’ll never forget in a city they’ll want to keep coming back to. Our state-of-the-art event spaces combined with the 22 miles of relaxing beaches, delicious cuisine, vibrant arts scene, charming neighborhoods, easy transportation, and exciting eco-adventures are why Jacksonville is Florida’s newest meetings destination – a place to gather, get business done and get a return on experience well worth the investment. So go ahead; Meet in Jax!





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## 9 REASONS WHY MEETING PLANNERS LOVE JACKSONVILLE

**Reason #1: Weather** — Jacksonville has an average of 221 sunny days per year, and an average daily temperature of 70 degrees.

**Reason #2: Flexibility with Dates** — Unlike a lot of other big Florida cities, Jacksonville can accommodate tight schedules and budgets.

**Reason #3: Great Airport Location** — It's easy to get from Jacksonville International Airport to anywhere in the city, as the airport is so close to downtown you can be in and out in a flash.

**Reason #4: Unique Meeting Spaces** — You've never seen meeting spaces like the ones in Jacksonville — right on the waterfront, in museums or music halls, even in an NFL football stadium.

**Reason #5: Southern Hospitality** — You and your team will love how Jacksonville pours on the southern charm and gives you a warm welcome wherever you go.

**Reason #6: Florida Flair** — Jacksonville offers the best of Florida all in one place, from beaches to water sports to wildly diverse cultural and historic attractions.

**Reason #7: Highly-Customized Service** — The rockstar event coordinators of Jacksonville are able to offer unmatched customized service for meeting planners, from event design and execution to meeting planning deals.

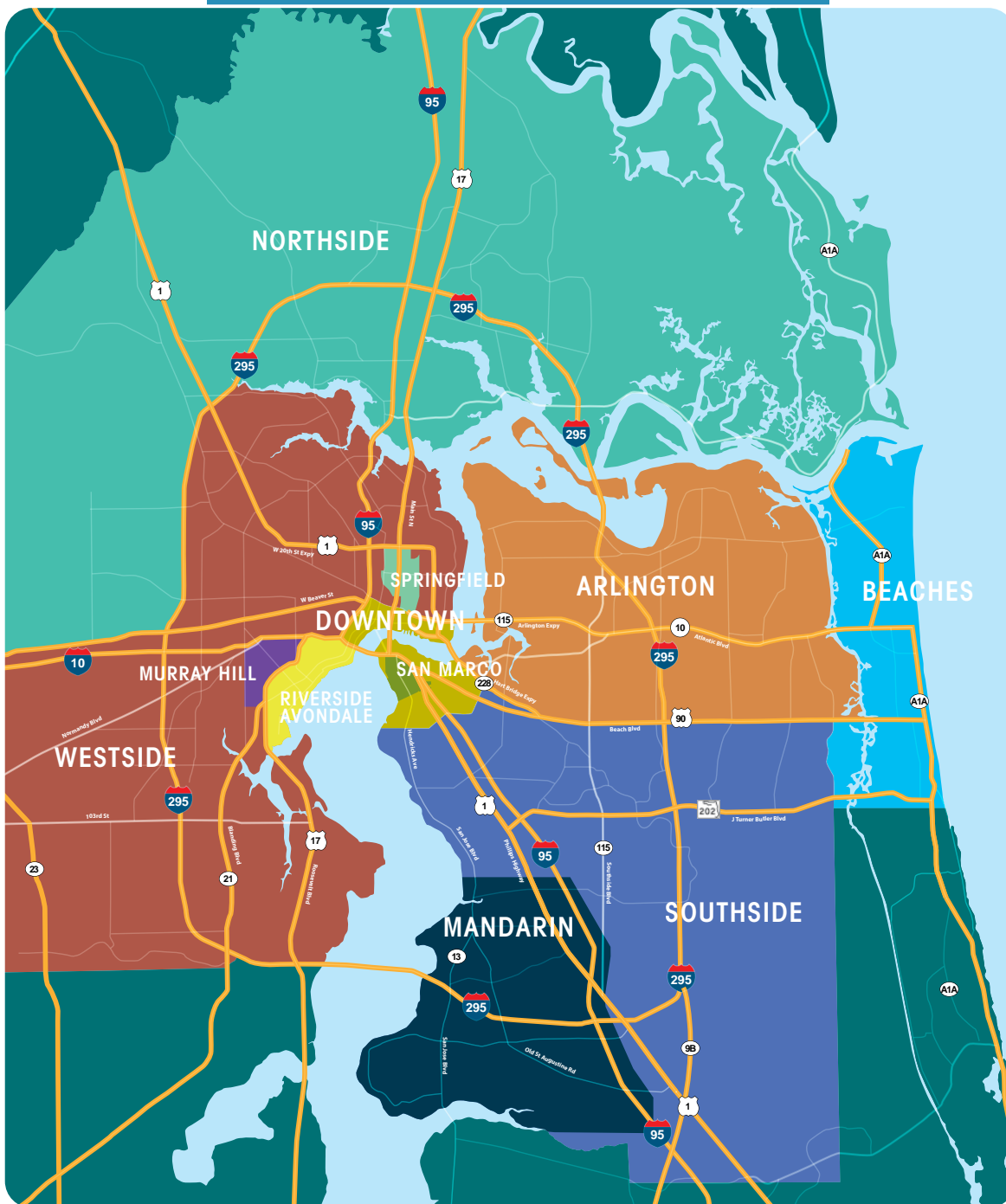
**Reason #8: Smaller Destination with a Big Presence** — Small is the new big, and Jacksonville is a smaller, unique destination with all the perks of a big city visitors bureau.

**Reason #9: Affordable Florida** — You don't normally think "affordable" when you think of Florida, but Jacksonville has the distinction of being the most affordable meeting city in the state.



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**NEIGHBORHOODS**





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## DOWNTOWN JACKSONVILLE

Nestled between skyscrapers and the sparkling St. Johns River, Downtown Jacksonville's North and South banks have a lively urban vibe with a vibrant atmosphere. Fortune 500 companies call the city's core home, as well as major hotels, world-class museums, unique culinary offerings, and a dense variety of nightlife options, from dive bars, to live music halls, and upscale lounges. Downtown Jacksonville boasts 5.6 miles of beautiful Riverfront, including almost 3 miles of Downtown Riverwalk, perfect for a stroll or a jog by the river or even one of our famous skyline photographs.

There are many ways to get around Downtown – use the River Taxi or the Skyway. The Skyway connects Downtown's Southbank to its Northbank in less than 5 minutes for free. To help you find your way, Downtown Ambassadors are always nearby ready to give directions and suggestions to visitors; spot them by their bright orange shirts.



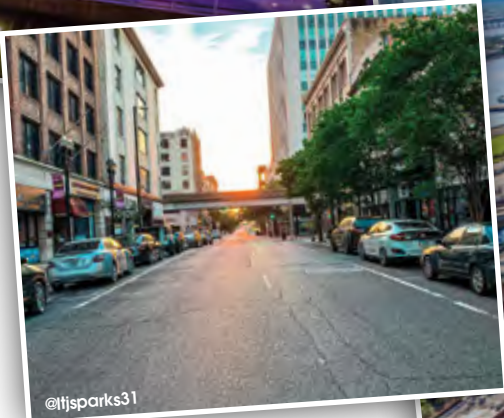
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## RIVERSIDE & AVONDALE

Listed in the National Registry of Historic Places, Riverside is one of Jacksonville's oldest and trendiest neighborhoods. Voted as one of the country's "Top 10 Great Neighborhoods," this area has a unique mix of history, culture, charm and modern design.

Riverside's "Five Points" area is a bohemian neighborhood with funky coffee shops, locally owned restaurants, outdoor cafés, hip boutiques, nightclubs, antique stores and more. The Shoppes of Avondale host dozens of local boutiques and locally owned restaurants. Rent a bike or go for a run, Riverside and Avondale are very pedestrian friendly.



@coeurdepiere98



@historicavondale



@cecilealmode



@preservationjax



Welcome to Murray Hill  
Established 1906  
A Neighborhood in Jacksonville  
MHPA

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**MURRAY HILL**

Local art, delicious food, craft beer, and passionate makers have transformed Murray Hill into one of the coolest neighborhoods in Jacksonville. Located west of the hip and historic Riverside Avondale, this old yet new again hood has become the spot for young entrepreneurs to open innovative restaurants, boutiques, bottle shops and businesses.

When visiting, check out its parks like Four Corners and Murray Hill Park and stroll along Edgewood Avenue and its dozens of local stores. Snap a pic of the neighborhood's many murals and catch a show at the historic Murray Hill Theatre.



@bikeduval



@anarbatskiy



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@vagabondflecjax



@murrayhilltheatre



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## SAN MARCO

Located just minutes from downtown's Southbank is the historic neighborhood of San Marco. Restaurants, hotels, cocktail lounges and breweries call San Marco home. Stroll along the San Marco Square to discover delicious dining options of every kind and upscale, trendy clothing boutiques. Theatre Jacksonville, the oldest community theatre in the country dating back to 1938, is also located within the square.



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**SPRINGFIELD**

Established in 1869 as one of Jacksonville's most upscale neighborhoods, and located just to the north of Downtown Jacksonville, the Springfield neighborhood is in the middle of a re-birth. This historic neighborhood is filled with restored mansions, locally-owned shops, parks, craft breweries and tons of southern charm with majestic oaks providing protective shade along its residential streets. This neighborhood gives visitors a window into Jacksonville's past and the City's effort to preserve its history.



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@kboys



@sparjax



@urbanchrome



@springfield\_jax



@904happyhour



@reimaginstudio





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**MANDARIN & SOUTHSIDE**

Once a field of cows and farmland, the Southside has quickly evolved into the hustling and bustling heart of the city. From apartments, to malls, to business centers and more, the Southside is overflowing with popular attractions, nightclubs, entertainment centers, movie theatres, massive shopping districts, fine dining and parks.

Families love living near the St. Johns Town Center, the Markets at Town Center and the Strand at Town Center. All of these massive complexes make up Jacksonville's largest shopping destination with more than 200 stores, restaurants and nightlife options for visitors.

Along the St. Johns River and south of San Marco, you will find the Mandarin neighborhood. This quaint area is marked by its history, ancient oak trees draped with Spanish moss, beautiful historic parks, and more water views than any other area in Jacksonville.

Mandarin owes its name to its farming history. In the 19th century the neighborhood used to be a small farming village that shipped oranges, grapefruit, lemons and other fruits and vegetables. Nowadays, the mostly residential area is brimming with commerce and big box retailers.



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## NORTHSIDE & THE AIRPORT

Three of Jacksonville's main travel hubs – the Jacksonville International Airport, the Amtrak station and the JAXPORT Cruise Terminal – are located in this area. Dozens of hotels populate the area as well as the Jacksonville Port and several factories. The Northside area is dotted with lush green areas and waterways. Here, you'll find the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens and the Talbot Island State Parks. Other can't miss attractions on the Northside include the Kingsley Plantation, 7 Creeks Recreation Area, Timucuan Ecological and Historic Preserve, and the River City Marketplace – a large shopping complex with more than 70 restaurants and stores.



@timucuanparks



@acrane



@paulapowell2264



@life\_of\_charliecooper





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## ORTEGA & THE WESTSIDE

Across the Buckman Bridge, on the other side of the St. Johns River from Mandarin, visitors will find the Westside and Ortega communities.

A mostly commercial area, the Westside is home to several Jacksonville highlights, including the Equestrian Center of Jacksonville, the Baldwin-Jacksonville Rail Trail and the Naval Air Station Jacksonville, one of two naval bases in Jacksonville. NAS is the founding location of the Blue Angels. Ortega, located in a peninsula separated from the mainland by the St. Johns River and the Ortega River, is one of the wealthiest neighborhoods in Jacksonville. Riverfront mansions and beautifully manicured city parks make this one of the best neighborhoods for a run, or a long drive.



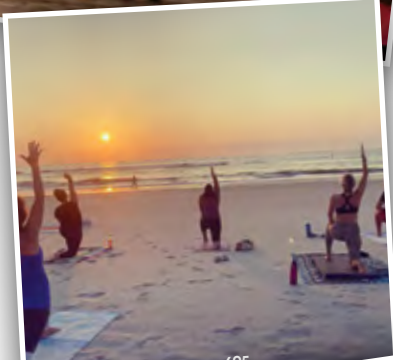


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**THE BEACHES**

Bring your flip flops and pack the sunscreen. Jacksonville has 22 miles of wide, relaxing, white-sandy beaches that offer visitors majestic sunrises and star filled nights. Groups will find plenty to do, with diverse water activities, restaurants, nightlife hotspots, souvenir shops and oceanfront hotels blending into the scene without crowding views of the shorelines. The coastline is made up of four neighborhoods, each with its own distinct feel – Jacksonville Beach, Neptune Beach, Atlantic Beach and Mayport. Mayport is home to the Mayport Naval Station and an active shrimping community.



@julesintown



@soozasana-Instagram-695



@shane\_fowler





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**ARLINGTON**

Arlington is one of the first areas in the United States visited by Europeans. It was the site of the French Fort Caroline settlement back in 1564, and is now the Fort Caroline National Memorial, one of Jacksonville's two National Parks. Other historic and natural sites in Arlington include the Jacksonville Arboretum, the Tree Hill Nature Preserve, Kona Skate Park, the oldest skateboarding park in the world, and Jacksonville University.



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@femfamilyfams



@dorothyblakee



@trvmike



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## JACKSONVILLE BUCKET LIST

We want to keep your attendees engaged even after the meeting is over. From sightseeing to adventure seeking, Jacksonville is fun for everyone!

- You can't come all the way to Jacksonville and not take a stroll down our beautiful beaches. Keep your eyes peeled for a shark's tooth or seashell – the perfect keepsake to bring back home with you.
- Visit the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens, one of the "Top 20 Zoos" in the nation.
- Visit the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens in the historic Riverside neighborhood. It has an extensive art collection and beautiful views of the St. Johns River. Tuesday is "Free for All" day at the Cummer.
- The St. Johns Town Center is the perfect place to browse or buy from an incredible selection of local and national brand retailers including Nordstrom, Dillard's, Tiffany's, Michael Kors, and many more.
- Plan a kayaking or paddle boarding group outing of one of Jacksonville's beaches, marshes, wetlands or waterways.
- Melt your stress away on the pedestrian walkways over the Main Street Bridge and the Acosta Bridge for a 4.3 mile run or walk overlooking the St. Johns River.
- Enjoy a tour of the Sweet Pete's Candy Factory in Downtown Jacksonville. Enjoy a treat at their dessert bar or have a group dinner in one of their meeting spaces.
- If you like big cats, you'll love Catty Shack Wildlife Sanctuary; where you can get up close and personal with Tigers, Leopards, Lions, Pumas, Lynx and Foxes.
- Hop on the River Taxi and enjoy a scenic boat ride in Downtown. Be sure to stop by Friendship Fountain, to snap a selfie and make a wish.
- The Museum of Science and History has exhibits for every age group. Be sure to visit the planetarium for an experience that's out of this world!
- Enjoy the views, and a cocktail, at one of our rooftop bars and restaurants throughout Jacksonville.
- Have a night out at Daily's Place, a covered outdoor amphitheater hosting big name artists in an intimate setting – there are no bad seats at Daily's Place.
- With professional football, golf, basketball, baseball, soccer, ice hockey, arena football, rugby and much more; there's an exciting game awaiting you in Jax!

For more activities to do in Jacksonville, visit our website [www.VisitJacksonville.com](http://www.VisitJacksonville.com).

