



CORPUS CHRISTI RATED AS THE HOT SPOT IN #2 BOATING STATE IN THE U.S. !

U.S. RECREATIONAL BOATING INDUSTRY ANNOUNCES TOP TEN STATES FOR BOATING

Discover Boating identifies the best spots for getting off the dock this summer

(June 14, 2011) - More Americans are planning vacations this summer, approximately 86 percent (three percent higher than 2010) according to a recent [TripAdvisor survey](#), with the nation's waterways serving as prime destinations. To mark the start of summer travel and boating seasons, the [National Marine Manufacturers Association](#) (NMMA) announced the top ten states for boating based on annual sales. In conjunction, [Discover Boating](#), the recreational boating industry's nonprofit awareness program, offers some of the best on-the-water spots.

According to the NMMA, 2010 Recreational Boating Statistical Abstract, boating expenditures in the U.S. reached \$30.4 billion in 2010, and an estimated 75 million Americans took to the water, an increase of 14 percent compared to the recessionary year of 2009. Here are the top ten boating states, ranked by total annual expenditures for new powerboats, motors, trailers and accessories in 2010, including popular on-the-water destinations from [DiscoverBoating.com](#).

1. Florida (\$1.1 billion) Hot Spot: Cedar Key
2. Texas (\$812 million) Hot Spot: [Corpus Christi](#) - A Coastal city located in South Texas is the perfect waterfront city for boaters with more than 300 square miles of water. Its marina- called the "T-Heads" by local residents- is an excellent base for visiting boaters to see it all. It's also the place to buy Gulf shrimp right off the boat when the fleet returns. Enjoy sailing, cruising, fishing, watersports or a day trip to nearby islands.
3. New York (\$401 million) Hot Spot: Lake George
4. North Carolina (\$361 million) Hot Spot: Crystal Coast
5. Louisiana (\$360 million) Hot Spot: Caddo Lake
6. Michigan (\$350 million) Hot Spot: Harbor Springs
7. Delaware (\$343 million) Hot Spot: Indian River
8. California (\$310 million) Hot Spot: Carlsbad

9. Washington (\$298 million) Hot Spot: Wynoochee Lake

10. Wisconsin (\$292million) Hot Spot: Fish Creek

Keith Arnold, CEO of the Corpus Christi CVB says, "recognition of the incredible range of boating opportunities in Corpus Christi/Upper Padre Island is a real asset for marketing this destination to visitors with exceptional demographics. The improvements to the Corpus Christi Marina, Bluff's Landing and Packery Channel launch sites have contributed to this strong rating, and the CVB will capitalize on this opportunity to target powerboaters, fishing enthusiasts, sailors, kayakers and recreational boaters for additional marketing initiatives."

Also this year, in March 2011, [TripAdvisor](#), the world's largest travel site, announced the winners of its inaugural 2011 Travelers Choice Family award-winning best family destinations and hotels and Corpus Christi was ranked as number 7. Arnold adds "being recognized twice in a three month period as a destination of choice through Discover Boating and by TripAdvisor, gives our area wide exposure and marketing leverage."

###

The Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau's mission is "to drive overnight visitor\$ to the Corpus Christi Area". For more information about the Corpus Christi Convention and Visitors Bureau or to plan your next trip to Corpus Christi, visit www.VisitCorpusChristiTX.org or call 1-800-788-BEACH.