

## **Add Amelia Island To Your Things To Do In Florida List This Spring**

*Popular Florida beach vacation destination, Amelia Island, will host a variety of events this spring including the Bausch & Lomb Tennis Championships and the 45th Annual Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival.*

March 14, 2008 (FPRC) -- Amelia Island, FL -- Tennis fans from around the world converge on Amelia Island for the Bausch & Lomb Championships between April 7th and April 13th.

Returning for the 29th consecutive year, the 2008 tournament takes place at the great Florida beach vacation spot, Amelia Island Plantation and will feature many of the game's top players, including Venus Williams and Lindsay Davenport.

Among the many other things to do in Florida this summer, the island welcomes cyclists for the April 19 Katie Ride for Life Organ Donor Awareness Cycling Event, which allows riders to raise funds for a unique organ donor education program at the high school level.

On May 2-4, Fernandina Beach will host the island's most popular event – the 45th Annual Isle of Eight Flags Shrimp Festival. With boatloads of fresh seafood and shrimp dishes, Fine Arts and Crafts Show, and a Family Fun Zone with live entertainment for all ages, the Shrimp Festival is a colorful three-day celebration of pirates, parades, family fun and food – lots of food. For a complete list of nearby Amelia Island hotels travelers can visit Amelia Island's tourism site.

From May 16-18, travelers can add a walk on the wild side to their Florida beach vacation during the Wild Amelia Nature Festival. With more than 25 seminars and outdoor adventure experiences, the three-day festival includes a Segway tour of Ft. George Island, kayaking the marshes along Fort Clinch State Park, exploration of bird habitats by bike or golf cart and many other outdoor activities.

Starting May 30, the Amelia Island Chamber Music Festival will enter its seventh season showcasing world-class classical music for residents and visitors to the island and surrounding area. The 2008 Festival will be under the artistic direction of Christopher Rex, Principal Cello in the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Cello Chair of the McDuffie Center for Strings at Mercer University. Festival performances will include Guarneri String Quartet, Atlanta Woodwind Quintet, and pianist Jon Kimura Parker.

Says Gil Langley, Managing Director of the Amelia Island Tourist Development Council, "With so many fun events from tennis tournaments, to festivals, to cycling events, residents and tourists can plan on having an exciting time here in Amelia Island throughout the entire spring season!"

More information about upcoming events in Amelia Island Florida can be found at <http://www.ameliaisland.org/activities/default.php>.

About Amelia Island: Located off of the northeastern shores of Florida, Amelia Island is a popular Florida beach vacation escape, cherished for its long stretches of quiet beaches, natural beauty, unique history, and charming seaport character. Recently named among the Top 10 North American islands by Conde Nast Traveler's Reader's Choice Awards, Amelia Island is home to an irresistible

mix of world-class resorts, spas, golf, and dining, and a charming collection of bed and breakfast inns and historic districts. At just 13 miles long and two miles wide, the little barrier island is big on springtime fun, with festivals, Amelia Island hotels, tours, sporting events, openings, and other celebrations that showcase Amelia Island's timeless appeal.

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