Hello, (Name):

If the current state of affairs has taught us anything, it is that we have long been taking too many things for granted. From a weekend trip with the grandparents, to a family day at the beach, catching a game or simply catching up with a group of friends over drinks – it turns out these seemingly small things were actually some of our most important and valued experiences.

So as those across the state begin stepping back out into the sun and making a break for it, the **Bradenton Area (Bradenton, Anna Maria Island, Longboat Key) on Florida’s West Coast**, encourages them to focus on appreciating the things we all once took for granted, wherever they go.

To help, it has created a printable check-list of things everyone should take time to appreciate during their next vacation. And – with miles and miles of white-sand beaches, gentle waves and nature trails plus award-winning dining and unbeatable activities, all found where flip flops are a way of life and a laid-back atmosphere will remind you how Florida used to be – the cozy paradise of **Bradenton, Anna Maria Island, Longboat Key** might just be the best place to check all the boxes.

**Please let me know if you are interested in working together on a travel piece about a place where the little things have always been a part of the big picture**. I work with the Bradenton Area Convention and Visitors Bureau and we would love to host you when you are ready.

Thank you for your time.

Megan

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\_\_\_\_ Catch a sunset

(Preferably from top stops like [Sandbar](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/385/sandbar-restaurant) on Anna Maria Island or downtown Bradenton’s [Riverwalk](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/487/bradenton-riverwalk))

\_\_\_\_ Take a long walk on the beach

(Why not do it at [Coquina Beach](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/129/coquina-beach), one of the world’s [Top 10 Islands for Perfect Sand](https://www.cntraveler.com/galleries/2015-02-26/top-10-island-beaches-for-perfect-sand-whitehaven-beach) according to Conde Nast Traveler?)

\_\_\_\_ Shop for the perfect keepsake or gift

(Have you been to [Pine Avenue](https://pineavenueinfo.com/), where chain stores not exist and shops and boutiques line the Greenest Little Main Street in America?)

\_\_\_\_ Take a minute to listen to the waves crash on the shores

(Any of our six “Blue Wave Certified” [beaches](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/terms/beaches) should do the trick)

\_\_\_\_ Get out on the open water

(Fishing Charters and Dolphin Tours are available at [Paradise Boat Tours](http://www.paradiseboattours.com/) or guests can rent a paddleboard or kayak from [Beach Bums](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/64/beach-bums-recreational-rentals-gift-shop))

\_\_\_\_ Spend more time in nature

(Check out the trails at [Robinson Nature Preserve](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/367/robinson-preserve) or [Emerson Point Preserve](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/168/emerson-point-preserve) which both offer hundreds of acres of coastal saltern, marsh and mangroves where visitors can paddle board, kayak or discover a shady trail)

\_\_\_\_ Take time to give back

(Visitors can make a meaningful impact at stops including [Florida Wildlife Care & Education Center at Mixon’s](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/550/wildlife-education-rehabilitation-center-inc), [Anna Maria Turtle Watch](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/39/anna-maria-island-turtle-watch) and [Bunker Hill Vineyard and Winery](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/99/bunker-hill-vineyard-winery))

\_\_\_\_ Take more pictures

(With pristine beaches, untouched nature preserves and on-going efforts to preserve its “Old Florida” charm, there is not bad backdrop for photos anywhere in the [Bradenton Area](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/))

\_\_\_\_ Sleep in (in a comfy bed)

(Provided by the Bradenton Area’s many accommodation options, ranging from luxury hotels such as [Waterline](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/720/waterline-marina-resort-beach-club) and [Zota](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/225/zota-beach-resort-longboat-key), [single-family rentals](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/250/vacasa-anna-maria) and small resorts such as [Anna Maria Island Resort](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/544/anna-maria-island-resorts)s)

\_\_\_\_ Watch children playing

(Top stops like [The Bishop](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/pages/204/behind-the-scenes-at-the-bishop-museum-of-science-and-nature), [Treeumph](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/506/treeumph), sand dollar painting at [Shiny Fish Emporium](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/404/shiny-fish-emporium) plus the [beaches](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/terms/beaches) make it easy to catch kids in their element and enjoying life to its fullest)

\_\_\_\_ Enjoy a good meal

(It’s easy to do at top-rated stops including [Beach Bistro](https://www.beachbistro.com/) and [Euphemia Haye](https://www.euphemiahaye.com/))

\_\_\_\_ Hold hands with someone you love

(While strolling through the [Village of the Arts](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/471/village-of-the-arts-an-artist-community) or walking down [Old Main Street](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/places/592/old-main-street-bradenton))

\_\_\_\_ Enjoy a slower pace

(The [Bradenton Area’s](https://www.bradentongulfislands.com/) laid back atmosphere makes it easy to do at every turn)