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## Sharks in Port A?

By Juliana Mathews

Where can you enter the gaping jaws of a giant shark and come out unscathed? Port Aransas, of course.

Do you remember the movie JAWS? After it came out in 1975 hordes of sunbathers refused to ever enter the ocean again, terrified they would suffer the same fate as the iconic young actress snatched during her leisurely skinny dip by the vicious jaws of a massive shark.

### The Epitome of a Roadside Attraction: Giant Shark Doors

These giant shark doors are my favorite of all the roadside attractions in Port Aransas. The toothy wonders are true works of art.

I've lived all up and down the California coast, an area known for shark activity. Not once in all of those years did I ever encounter a roadside attraction like a giant shark door gracing the entrance to a building. That is, until I came to Texas.

At Destination clothing store at 516 S. Alister Street, the brave and adventurous enter the store by way of the giant shark's toothy jaws. Follow the trail through belly, past the ribs and into the store's brightly lit entrance. Don't worry; there is a regular door for those of you still suffering from the effects of JAWS.

Need another shark door fix? The giant shark door at Bojons Surf Co. at 204 East Avenue G looks remarkably like the shark from the movie JAWS. Comprised of only the head, it reaches up from the depths to capture you on your way into the store. The artist added a nice touch of "splashing waves" to the sculpture.

And at Third Coast Beach Company on 14501 S Padre Island Drive in Corpus Christi, you get the full-length shark, complete with tail hovering in the air over the parking lot.

Join me next time when I show you the giant mermaid on a half-shell and the mini submarine on Padre Island.

*Know of a unique roadside attraction you'd like to see here? Submit your suggestion by emailing Juliana at [TheGreatRVRollabout@yahoo.com](mailto:TheGreatRVRollabout@yahoo.com).*



