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The OFFICIAL Destination Guide for Atlantic, Cape May & Cumberland Counties



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HISTORIC ESCAPES

OCEAN CITY, SEA ISLE, AVALON, STONE HARBOR, THE WILDWOODS & CAPE MAY

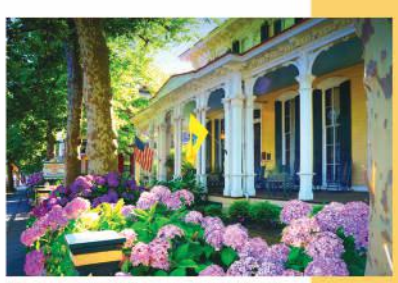
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WELCOME LETTER

Welcome to history in the making



The Battle of Turtle Gut

AS YOU ARRIVE in Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties, you're stepping into a region that is deeply rooted in America's past while being vibrantly alive in the present. This year carries special significance as our nation celebrates its 250th anniversary – a milestone that invites reflection, gratitude, and a renewed sense of possibility. Here that spirit is woven into every historic downtown, every lighthouse standing sentinel over the sea, and every community gathering that honors the traditions that shaped us. From Revolutionary War sites to our proud maritime heritage, the region offers living reminders of the resilience, ingenuity, and hope that built America.

Adding to this extraordinary moment, Southern New Jersey is buzzing with anticipation as Philadelphia prepares to host FIFA World Cup™ matches beginning in June. With visitors from around the world arriving to cheer on their teams, our corner of the country is ready to welcome fans, families, and explorers eager to experience the best of our region.

At its southernmost point lies Cape May, America's oldest seaside resort, where Victorian architecture, tree-lined streets, and graceful porches create an atmosphere of timeless beauty. Visitors linger in the historic district, browse the boutiques of the Washington Street Mall, climb the iconic lighthouse, or relax on peaceful beaches where dolphins often glide past. Cape May invites you to slow down, breathe deeply, and savor the simple pleasures.

Farther up the coast, the Wildwoods burst with color, energy, and pure summer joy. Their wide, free beaches and 38-block boardwalk – lined with amusement piers, waterparks, arcades, and more than 100 rides – create a playground where fun knows no season. Neon lights glow against the night sky, music drifts from open-air venues, and families return year after year to make new memories in a place where the spirit of summer never fades.

Continue north to Ocean City, long celebrated as "America's Greatest Family Resort." Since 1879, families have returned for its classic boardwalk, pristine beaches, and year-round calendar of festivals and events. Sunrise bike rides, afternoons in the surf, and the simple delight of a slice of boardwalk pizza capture the enduring charm of this town.

No journey through the region is complete without experiencing Atlantic City – where excitement meets oceanfront relaxation. Its legendary boardwalk, world-class casinos, headline entertainment, and historic landmarks offer something for every traveler.

Inland, Cumberland County reveals a quieter, equally captivating side of Southern New Jersey. Wildlife preserves, scenic waterways, and tranquil Delaware Bay beaches offer peaceful escapes perfect for birdwatching, photography, and reflection. Charming small towns, cultural attractions, and a rich agricultural heritage create a warm, welcoming atmosphere that feels worlds away from the bustle of everyday life.

This year, New Jersey's Southern Shore is more than a destination – it is a stage for history in the making. We invite you to join us in celebrating the nation's 250th anniversary, cheering alongside the world during FIFA's global games, and discovering the timeless magic of our shores and towns. •

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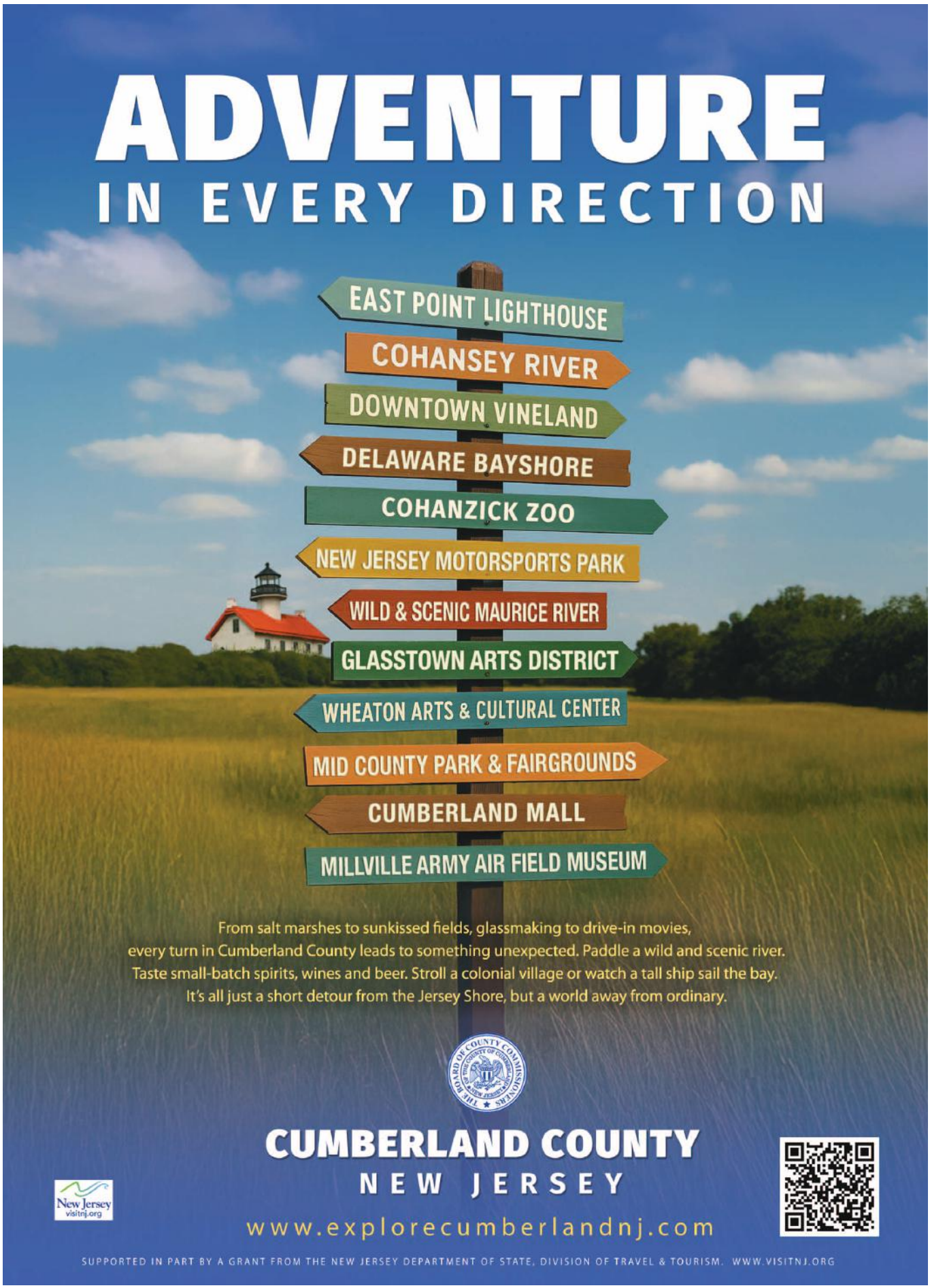
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Bruce Willis Welcome Center
The Official Welcome Center at NJ's Southern Shore. Need more information? Pick up a guide book, a map, or brochures. Located at Mile Marker 18.3 N/S on the Garden State Parkway. 609-624-0918

Other Welcome Centers
New Jersey Tourist & Travel Service at the Farley Service Plaza is located at milepost 21.3 on the Atlantic City Expressway


ADVENTURE
IN EVERY DIRECTION
EAST POINT LIGHTHOUSE
COHANSEY RIVER
DOWNTOWN VINELAND
DELAWARE BAYSHORE
COHANZICK ZOO
NEW JERSEY MOTORSPORTS PARK
WILD & SCENIC MAURICE RIVER
GLASSTOWN ARTS DISTRICT
WHEATON ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER
MID COUNTY PARK & FAIRGROUNDS
CUMBERLAND MALL
MILLVILLE ARMY AIR FIELD MUSEUM
From salt marshes to sunkissed fields, glassmaking to drive-in movies,
every turn in Cumberland County leads to something unexpected. Paddle a wild and scenic river.
Taste small-batch spirits, wines and beer. Stroll a colonial village or watch a tall ship sail the bay.
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250 Ways to Celebrate!

New Jersey's Southern Shore Region is a place of contrasts – a region where neon lit boardwalks meet quiet marshlands, where Victorian streetscapes sit just miles from sprawling wildlife refuges, and where small town diners coexist with world class restaurants. Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties form a triangle of experiences that feel both deeply rooted and endlessly surprising. Travelers come for the beaches, but they stay for the character – the quirky shops, the historic downtowns, the arts districts, the hidden trails, the family run wineries, and the sense that every town has its own story to tell.

This is a region that rewards wandering. You can start your morning watching dolphins off Cape May Point, spend your afternoon exploring a glassblowing studio in Millville, and end your night listening to live music on the Atlantic City Boardwalk. The distances are short, but the experiences are vast.

To make sense of it all, it helps to think of New Jersey's Southern Shore Region not just by county, but by vibe – the energy each town radiates. Some places pulse with boardwalk nostalgia. Others whisper with Victorian charm. Some are havens for artists, while others are sanctuaries for wildlife. And some are simply delicious, offering culinary experiences that rival any major city.

This collection of 250 things to do across Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties is a vibrant tribute to the region's spirit in honor of the nation's 250th Anniversary. From historic lighthouses and scenic wetlands to bustling boardwalks, wineries, museums, and hidden gem small towns, this list captures the incredible diversity of Southern New Jersey's coastal and rural landscapes. It celebrates the people, places, and traditions that have shaped these counties for generations, inviting residents and visitors alike to explore, learn, taste, and experience the richness of the region. Together, these 250 activities form a living tapestry of history, culture, nature, and community – an unforgettable way to honor America's milestone year.



SHORE CLASSICS & BOARDWALK ICONS

There's nothing quite like the Southern New Jersey Shore. The smell of saltwater taffy, the sound of gulls overhead, the glow of amusement rides at dusk – it's a sensory experience that stays with you long after summer ends. Atlantic City, Ocean City, Wildwood, and their neighboring beach towns are the beating heart of this vibe. Atlantic City is the boldest of them all – a place where casinos rise above the sand and the boardwalk stretches like a ribbon along the ocean. But beyond the gaming floors, you'll find outlet shopping, historic piers, celebrity chef restaurants, and a surprisingly rich arts scene. Ocean City is the family friendly counterpart – dry, wholesome, and filled with classic boardwalk charm. Wildwood is pure retro energy, with DooWop motels and a boardwalk that feels like a carnival stretched across two miles of beachfront. Avalon, Stone Harbor, Brigantine, and Sea Isle City round out the vibe with quieter beaches, boutique shopping, and a more relaxed pace.

1. Walk the historic Atlantic City Boardwalk: Take in ocean views as you wander one of America's most iconic seaside promenades.

2. Enjoy the view on a 220ft. Observation Wheel on Steel Pier: A legendary boardwalk icon since 1898, Steel Pier blends classic thrills with modern amusements for all.

3. Catch a performance at the Ocean City Music Pier: Set above the Boardwalk overlooking the ocean, this historic venue hosts concerts, comedy, dance, and family entertainment throughout the season.

4. Shop at Tanger Outlets, The Walk: In the heart of downtown, this open-air shopping destination offers a vibrant mix of more than 60 brand name retailers and dining options, all within an easy walkable setting

5. Try your luck at a casino: Experience the excitement of gaming in Atlantic City's lively casino scene.

6. See a show at Hard Rock Live: Catch top-tier performers in a vibrant, state of the art venue.

7. Stroll Gardner's Basin in Atlantic City: Wander through this peaceful waterfront area filled with shops, boats, and local charm. See the AC Aquarium, grab a bite at Gilcrests, the Back Bay Ale House, or one of the food trucks.

8. Discover Southern New Jersey's free beaches: Relax on the ocean beaches of Atlantic City, Strathmere, and the Wildwoods, or enjoy the calmer bayside shores of Beesley's Point and Somers Point – all without beach tags.

9. Visit Raging Waters Water Park on the Wildwood Boardwalk: Between the ocean views and the rush of the slides, it's the kind of fun that sticks with you long after the day ends.



10. Enjoy the beach at sunset along the Delaware Bay shoreline in Cape May and Cumberland counties: Watch the sky transform with color as the day winds down.

11. Explore the murals in the Atlantic City Arts District: The area features Noyes Arts Garage of Stockton University and vibrant street art that showcases the 150creativity of local artists.

12. Dine at a celebrity chef restaurant in many of the Atlantic City casinos: Treat yourself to a memorable meal crafted by world renowned culinary talent.



13. Walk the Ocean City Boardwalk: A classic, family friendly boardwalk. Shops, treats, and amusements!

14. Ride the Ferris Wheel at Morey's Mariner Pier in Wildwood: Soar above the boardwalk and savor sweeping, unobstructed views of the Wildwood shoreline from one of the coast's most iconic rides.

15. Visit Playland's Castaway Cove in Ocean City: Experience a lively amusement park filled with rides and seaside fun.

16. Enjoy Johnson's Popcorn: Savor the famous caramel popcorn that's been a boardwalk favorite in Ocean City for decades.

17. Rent bikes for a morning boardwalk ride: Cruise along the quiet early morning boards before the crowds arrive.

18. Explore Asbury Avenue's shops: Browse unique boutiques and local businesses in Ocean City's charming downtown.

19. Test your teamwork in one of our many escape rooms: From Atlantic City to Cape May escape rooms throughout the region offer immersive adventures packed with puzzles, clues, and high-pressure fun.

20. Catch big name Country Music stars on the beach in Wildwood: The Barefoot Country Music Festival in Wildwood turns the beach into a massive, boots in the sand celebration.

21. Explore Morey's Piers on the Wildwood Boardwalk: Experience three thrilling amusement piers packed with high energy rides, classic boardwalk games, and sprawling water parks – an iconic seaside adventure for all ages.

22. Ride the tram car ("Watch the tram car, please!"): Glide effortlessly along the Wildwood Boardwalk while taking in the sights.

23. Visit the Doo Wop Experience Museum in Wildwood: Step back into the 1950s with retro architecture, music, and memorabilia.

24. Enjoy Curley's Fries at Morey's Piers in Wildwood: Treat yourself to the legendary boardwalk fries served hot and perfectly salty.

25. Relax on the wide beaches in the Wildwoods: In many areas, the sandy expanse stretches from 400 to 500 feet – roughly the length of 4–6 football fields – and in spots, nearly 500 yards wide. Considered some of the largest, most spacious beaches on the East Coast.

26. Shop the stores on the Atlantic City, Ocean City and Wildwoods Boardwalks: Pick up souvenirs, beachwear, and treats from classic boardwalk shops.

27. Watch the movie "Jaws" on the Beach in Cape May: Watching movies on the beach in Cape May feels like summer magic flickering beneath the stars in this charming setting.

28. Discover the beauty of the Hereford Inlet Lighthouse in North Wildwood: Tour this beautifully preserved Victorian style lighthouse and wander through its lush, meticulously landscaped gardens – an inviting coastal gem steeped in maritime history.

29. Shop 96th Street in Stone Harbor: Fashion boutiques, galleries, and specialty stores give this walkable downtown its upscale coastal feel. Afterwards grab a bit to eat or drink at one of the restaurants or bars,

30. Roll with your friends in a spirited game of Skee-ball: Nothing says classic boardwalk fun like stepping up to a Skee-ball lane, where players of all ages roll a wooden ball up a smooth ramp, chasing high scores and nostalgic thrills along the Southern New Jersey Shore.

31. Revel in one of Ocean City's biggest celebrations: Night in Venice. Celebrated as the largest boat parade in the Southern New Jersey region, fills the bay with brilliantly decorated vessels and festive waterfront energy that dazzles visitors every summer.

32. Drive your 4x4 on Brigantine's Beach: Explore the beach in a different way with your 4x and a valid permit. Three access points across the town.

33. Explore Sea Isle City's Promenade: Walk or bike along this lively oceanfront stretch filled with shops and eateries.

34. Visit Avalon's Boutique Shops on Dune Drive: Browse clothing, gifts, home décor, and beach-town favorites along Avalon's stylish downtown corridor.

35. Enjoy Sea Isle's summer concerts in Excursion Park: Listen to live music under the stars at this beloved seasonal tradition. Best of all, the concerts are Free.

36. Surf Ocean City's northern and southern ends: Catch consistent waves in one of the area's favorite surf spots. Or just check out one of the 5 specialized surf shops for gear or clothing.

HISTORIC ATTRACTIONS & ARCHITECTURAL CHARM

Southern New Jersey's history is written in its architecture. Cape May's Victorian homes are so iconic that the entire city is a National Historic Landmark. Smithville's colonial style village transports visitors to another era. Hammonton blends historic storefronts with modern creativity, while Mauricetown offer glimpses into the region's agricultural and maritime past. These towns are perfect for slow travel – wandering brick sidewalks, browsing antique shops, sipping coffee on a porch, or taking a guided tour through centuries old streets. They're places where history isn't just preserved; it's lived in.

37. Tour the Emlen Physick Estate: Step inside Cape May's grand Victorian mansion and learn it fascinating history.

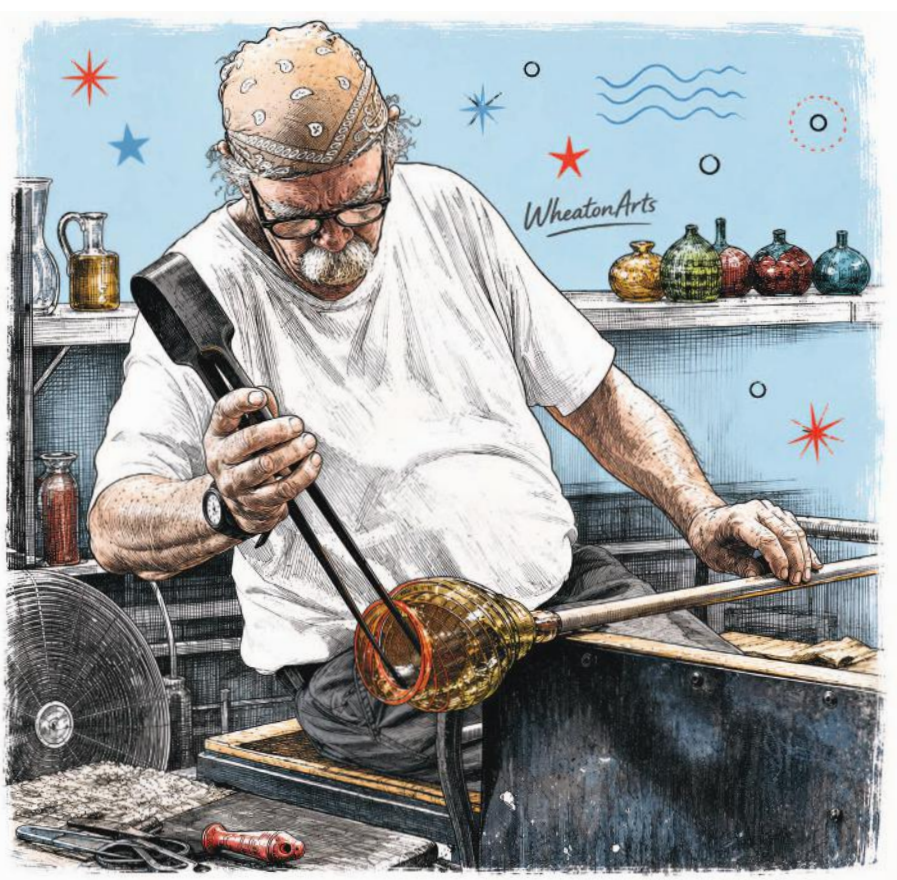
38. Stroll on the Washington Street Mall: Enjoy a pedestrian friendly shopping district filled with cafés, galleries, and boutiques.

39. Take a guided tour of Cape May's Historic District on a Trolley: Glimpse into the town's ornate architecture while learning about Cape May's storied past and seaside charm.

40. Visit the Cape May Lighthouse: Climb its 199 steps to reach a sweeping panoramic view of the ocean and the surrounding Cape May peninsula – while standing atop the third lighthouse built on the site, originally first lit in 1859 using bricks from its 1847 predecessor, and now a 157 foot historic beacon listed on the National Register of Historic Places since 1973.

41. Visit Historic Steel Pier in Atlantic City: Classic seaside fun as you play above the Atlantic – enjoying thrilling rides, vibrant entertainment, and sweeping ocean views.

42. Watch dolphins on a boat tour: Cruise the coastline as playful dolphins swim alongside the vessel.



43. Visit the Harriet Tubman Museum in Cape May: Where powerful exhibits and stories honor her legacy and offer an inspiring look at the region's role in the journey to freedom.

44. Enjoy a horse drawn carriage ride through streets of Cape May: Experience Cape May's charm as you clip clop past historic homes.

45. Explore Cape May Point State Park: Walk scenic trails filled with wildlife, dunes, and peaceful coastal views.

46. Visit the WWII Lookout Tower: Learn about the region's wartime role while taking in bayfront scenery.

47. Explore the ruins at Estell Manor Park: Hidden among the trees, the remnants of old industrial buildings and ironworks offer a haunting glimpse into South Jersey's past.

48. Stay in a historic B&B in Cape May: Enjoy cozy accommodations filled with Victorian charm and warm hospitality.

49. Explore Historic Smithville Village: Wander along cobblestone paths lined with quaint shops and colonial style buildings.

50. Drive the Wildlife Loop at Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge: The scenic eight-mile route winds through tidal marshes filled with egrets, ospreys, bald eagles, and sweeping South Jersey bayshore views.

51. Explore Historic Cold Spring Village: A visit transports you to the 1800s, where costumed interpreters and authentically restored buildings immerse you in the sights, sounds, and stories of early American life.

52. Explore the Atlantic County Veterans Museum: Step inside to discover powerful stories of local service members, brought to life through thoughtfully curated artifacts and moving historical exhibits.

53. Marvel at mid-century "Doo Wop" architecture in Wildwood: Neon signs, bold colors, and mid-century motel designs give the island one of the country's largest collections of 1950s resort architecture.

54. Step back into Revolutionary-era Greenwich: Colonial homes, quiet streets, and the Tea Burning Monument preserve the story of one of New Jersey's earliest acts of protest against British rule.

55. Enjoy holiday lights starting in your favorite beach town starting in November: Stroll through a magical display of twinkling lights during the festive season.

56. Dine at the Smithville Inn: Savor a memorable meal in a historic setting dating back to the 1700s. Experience the past along with a taste of the future.

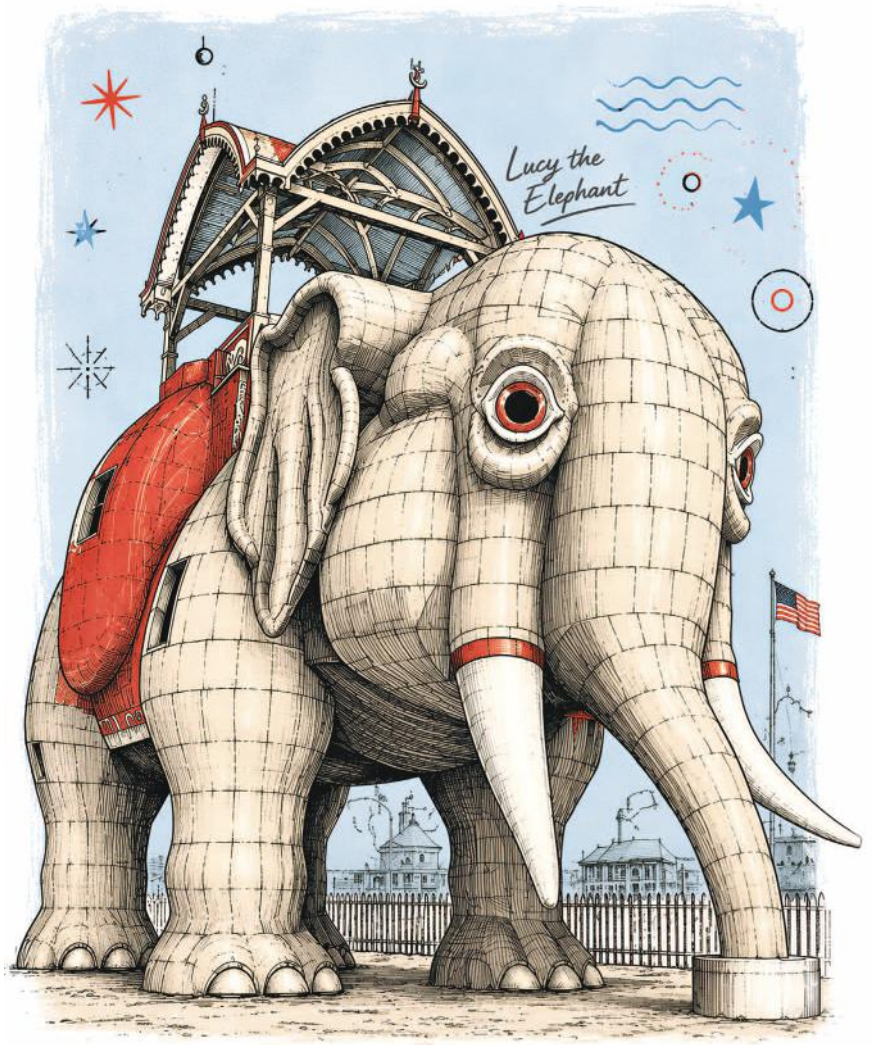
57. Shop Downtown Hammonton: Experience a vibrant artsy downtown filled with shops, cafés, and local culture.

58. Shop artisan studios at Wheaton Arts & Cultural Center: Browse handcrafted pieces made by local makers in intimate, creative spaces.

59. Attend Third Friday events in the Glasstown Arts District: Enjoy themed evenings featuring art, music, food, and community fun.

60. Shop local boutiques on Ocean City's Asbury Avenue and 96th Street in Stone Harbor and Dune Drive in Avalon: Browse stylish clothing, gifts, and artisan goods from small businesses.

61. Explore Glasstown Arts District: High Street comes alive with galleries, chef driven restaurants, and eclectic boutiques in Millville's creative core. Historic 19th and early 20th century architecture adds charm to this vibrant arts destination.



62. Visit New Jersey's First Zoo "Cohanzick Zoo": Meet a variety of animals in this charming, family friendly zoo.

63. Walk Bridgeton City Park: Wander through one of New Jersey's largest municipal parks with lakes and trails.

64. Explore Mauricetown's maritime history: Learn about the village's shipbuilding past and riverfront heritage.

65. Visit the Mauricetown Historical Society: Step inside a historic home filled with artifacts and local stories.

66. Photograph historic homes: Capture the beauty of well preserved architecture throughout our local villages.

67. Explore local antique shops: Hunt for vintage treasures and unique collectibles.

68. Visit Potter's Tavern in Bridgeton: Open weekends, the tavern was built around 1767 and is a National Historic Landmark.

69. Enjoy Hammonton's coffee shops: Sip handcrafted drinks in cozy cafés with small town charm.

70. Visit the historic Tuckahoe Train Station: Beautifully preserved rail station recalls the golden age of South Jersey train travel and serves as a gateway for scenic excursion rides.

71. See the legendary Palace of Depression in Vineland: One of New Jersey's strangest and most legendary roadside attractions, this whimsical castle-like structure built from discarded materials has fascinated visitors since the Great Depression.

72. Attend a Mauricetown festival: Join locals for lively celebrations featuring food, music, and tradition.

ARTS DISTRICTS & CREATIVE HUBS

Southern New Jersey's creative spirit runs deep. Millville's Glasstown Arts District is a powerhouse of galleries, studios, and performance spaces. Hammonton's arts scene thrives through festivals and community events. Atlantic City's murals and installations bring color to unexpected corners. Vineland's Landis Avenue blends culture with commerce. These towns are ideal for travelers who love hands on experiences – glassblowing, pottery, painting, live theater, and artisan markets. Creativity is woven into the fabric of daily life here.

73. Catch a free bayfront concert in Somers Point: Summer evenings come alive with live music, sea breezes, and waterfront views in this longtime Jersey Shore favorite

74. Experience the restored Levoy Theatre: Beautifully restored, this historic downtown theater hosts concerts, comedy, films, and live performances year-round.

75. Watch glassblowing demonstrations at WheatonArts: See skilled artisans at Wheaton Arts & Cultural Center transform molten glass into stunning works of art.

76. Step inside a six-story, elephant-shaped architectural landmark: Built in 1882 to attract real estate buyers, Lucy the Elephant is now celebrated as the oldest surviving roadside attraction in America. Tour the museum and enjoy panoramic views from the top.



77. Explore the NASW Aviation Museum: A visit offers a fascinating glimpse into naval aviation history, with vintage aircraft and interactive exhibits that bring the past to life.

78. Visit the Shoppes at Dragon Village: Located just outside Bridgeton they have a collection of merchant shops, monthly events and offer entertainment for all ages with a unique twist.

79. Visit the Riverfront Renaissance Center: Experience the talent of regional artists and enjoy relaxed receptions during Millville's lively Third Friday celebrations. The downtown center buzzes with art, great food, and energetic nightlife.

80. Visit the Millville Army Airfield Museum: See exhibits that showcase America's first defense airport, including aircraft displays, World War II artifacts, and stories of the pilots who trained there.

81. Take a pottery class at Clay College in Millville's Glasstown Arts District: Get hands on as you shape clay into your own functional or decorative creation.

82. Attend a craft show on Wildwoods Boardwalk: Discover handmade goods, meet local artisans, and enjoy a festive atmosphere.

83. Explore local murals in Wildwood: Find vibrant wall art that brings stories, culture, and creativity to life.

84. Shop artist-crafted items at Cape May Mac's Craft & Collectible Shows: Pick out unique, handmade pieces you won't find anywhere else.

85. Attend a summer concert at Gardner's Basin: Live waterfront music, sea breezes, and harbor views create a laidback Atlantic City evening away from the casino crowds.

86. Attend the Hammonton Art Walk: Join a lively evening of open studios, street art, and creative energy.

87. Shop and explore MudGirls Studios: Part working pottery studio, part community mission, this Atlantic City nonprofit helps women rebuild their lives through ceramic art and craftsmanship.

88. Applaud live performances at local theaters in Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties: Enjoy theater, music, or dance presented by talented local performers.

89. Visit the Sperlak Gallery and Sculpture Gardens in Goshen: A working farm, studio, nature sanctuary and sculpture garden of artist Stan Sperlak. Works displayed and for sale. Walk the sculpture gardens during the seasons. Open Sat 10-4 or by appointment.

90. Visit Vineland's Landis Theater: Experience classic architecture and live entertainment in a beautifully restored venue.

91. Attend a performance at Stockton Performing Arts Center: From touring musicians and orchestras to dance, theater, and cultural performances, Stockton's premier venue brings a diverse lineup of entertainment to Southern New Jersey audiences.

92. Attend Cape May's Oktoberfest: The seaside town turns into a vibrant Bavarian village each fall, with German music, beer gardens, and festive fare lining the streets of Carpenter Lane and Jackson Street.

93. Visit the Museum of American Glass at WheatonArts: Explore one of the nation's largest collections of American glass, where intricate paperweights, stained glass, bottles, and contemporary works showcase the artistry of glass.

94. Attend an Atlantic City Arts Foundation event: From public art projects and mural tours to live performances and community events, the organization helps fuel Atlantic City's growing creative energy year-round.

95. Attend Cape May's Songwriter Weekend: The town fills with intimate performances and creative energy, turning cozy venues into gathering spots for musicians and music lovers to share new work and inspiration.

96. Experience the Exit Zero Jazz Festival: World-class jazz performances fill Cape May's theaters, ballrooms, and outdoor venues during one of the East Coast's most celebrated music festivals.

97. Attend a film screening at Ventnor Square Theater: Watch independent or classic films in an intimate, arts focused setting.

98. Strike up a game of bowling at County Commons in Rio Grande: Enjoy modern, well-lit lanes with comfortable seating, vibrant neon accents, and a relaxed atmosphere that's perfect for families.

99. Experience the charm of classic American theater at East Lynne Theater Company in Cape May: Timeless stories and classic American plays come to life in an intimate, historic setting.

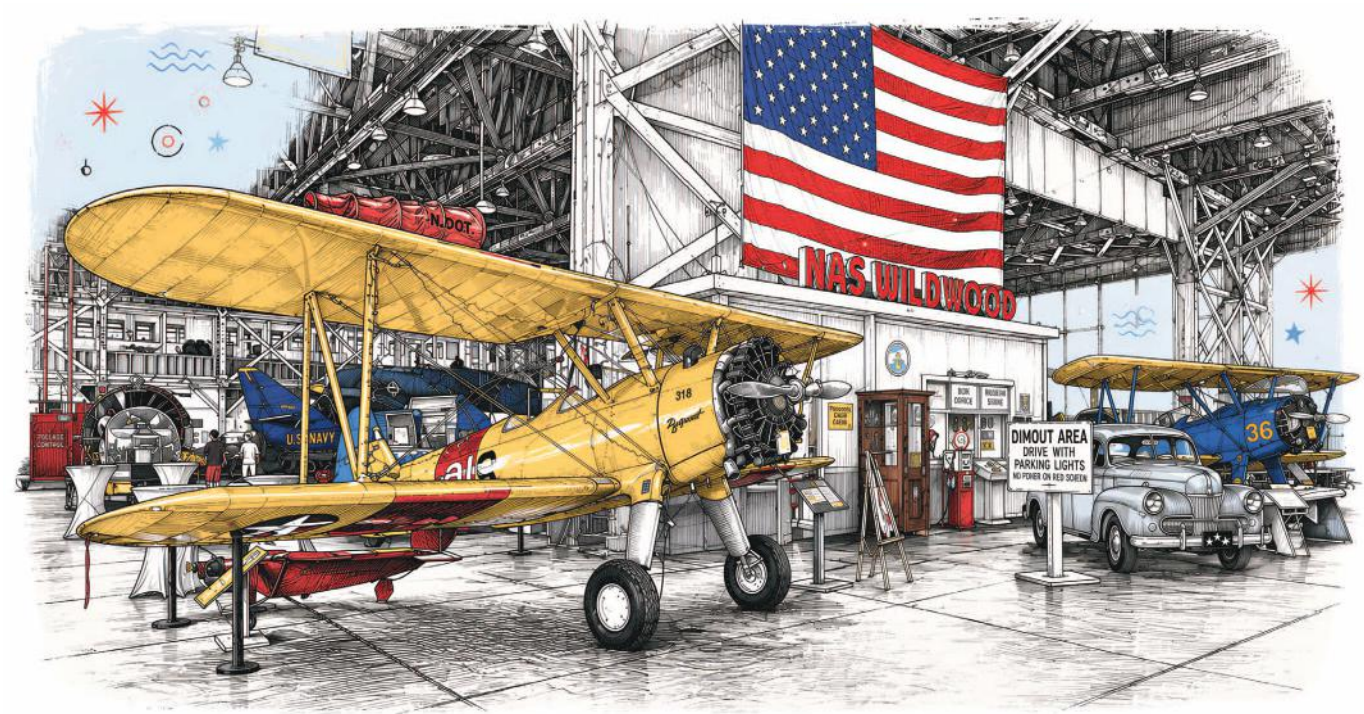
100. Enjoy a free outdoor concert at Sea Isle City's Excursion Park: From rock bands to tribute acts, summer evenings here are filled with live music and shore-town energy.

101. Enjoy Broadway-quality performances at Cape May Stage: Enjoy premier professional theater in historic Cape May. It's a must-see cultural gem that brings acclaimed plays and musicals to New Jersey's oldest seaside resort.

NATURE ESCAPES & OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

Beyond the beaches lies a world of marshes, forests, rivers, and wildlife refuges. Cape May Point is a birdwatching paradise. Port Norris and Maurice River Township offer glimpses into the Delaware Bay's maritime ecology. Belleplain and Estell Manor are havens for hikers, kayakers, and campers. This vibe is all about slowing down and reconnecting with nature – watching a sunset over the marsh, paddling through quiet waterways, or exploring trails that wind through the Pine Barrens.

102. View Bald Eagles in Cumberland County: The premier location for bald eagle viewing, hosting the highest concentration of nesting pairs in the state. The Maurice River and Delaware Bayshore, serves as a crucial habitat for these rare birds, which are active year-round.





103. Visit Beach Plum Farm: Enjoy a peaceful escape, where wandering past gardens, barns, and grazing animals connects you to Cape May's quieter, home-grown side. Afterwards grab a bite to eat and sit in the gardens.

104. Birdwatch at Cape May Point: Enjoy a front row view of one of North America's most spectacular migration routes where raptors, shore birds and songbirds fly.

105. Take a whale watching cruise: Enjoy an easy thrill as dolphins skim the waves, seabirds circle overhead, and massive whales rise from the water just close enough to make your heart skip.

106. Visit the hawk platform at Cape May Point State Park: From this elevated lookout, visitors can watch hawks, eagles, falcons, and other soaring migrants in one of the busiest migration routes.

107. Walk the Red Trail in Cape May Point State Park: Follow this scenic loop through marshes, ponds, and coastal forest habitats.

108. Visit the WWII-era bunker: The WWII-era concrete relic nestled in the sand at Cape May Point sits on the beach as a powerful reminder of the region's military history.

109. Watch the sunset at Harpoon Henry's Seafood Restaurant: Grab a drink or seafood dinner along the Delaware Bay as the sky lights up in brilliant color at one of the region's favorite sunset spots.

110. Visit the Cape May Bird Observatory: Enjoy a front-row seat to one of North America's most spectacular migration routes where hawks, songbirds, and shorebirds stream past Cape May Point with a visit to this renowned hub for birdwatching.

111. Visit Warren E. Fox Nature Center: Located in Estell Manor, learn about local habitats through hands on exhibits and educational programs.

112. Visit the Bayshore Center at Bivalve: Discover the region's maritime heritage along the historic waterfront.

113. Catch a four-hour fishing trip aboard a recreational fishing boat: It's a peaceful way to explore local waters while connecting with the natural rhythms of the destination.

114. Spend a day at Belleplain State Forest: Swim, hike, camp, or paddle among the pine forests and cedar waters of one of South Jersey's most peaceful outdoor escapes.

115. Kayak Lake Nummy: Paddle across calm waters surrounded by towering trees and quiet shoreline.

116. Take a paddle boat across the lake in Historic Smithville: Glide across the calm water for a relaxing family friendly activity.

117. Explore the ruins of Weymouth Furnace: Remains of this once thriving 19th century iron furnace offer a glimpse into South Jersey's industrial past. The surrounding river is a favorite destination for kayaking and canoeing.

118. Bike the forest trails in Cumberland County: Ride through shaded woodlands on smooth, scenic paths perfect for all skill levels.

119. Explore the Maurice River Bluffs: Take in dramatic river views from high overlooks along rugged trails.

120. Discover the Marine Mammal Stranding Center: This longtime Brigantine nonprofit rescues and rehabilitates stranded whales, dolphins, seals, and sea turtles along the New Jersey coast.

121. Kayak the Wild and Scenic Maurice River: Glide along a winding, peaceful river lined with marshes and tall grasses.

122. Take the Cape May Whale Watcher's Grand Lighthouse Tour: Enjoy a six hour cruise showcasing seven historic Delaware Bay lighthouses.

123. Experience accessible and spectacular birdwatching at the Ocean City Rookery: Located at the Welcome Center on the Route 52 Causeway you can observe Snowy Egrets, Great Egrets, White Ibis, and Night Herons nesting in the trees.

124. Birdwatch in Brigantine: Scan the skies and shoreline for shorebirds, raptors, and also seasonal migrants.

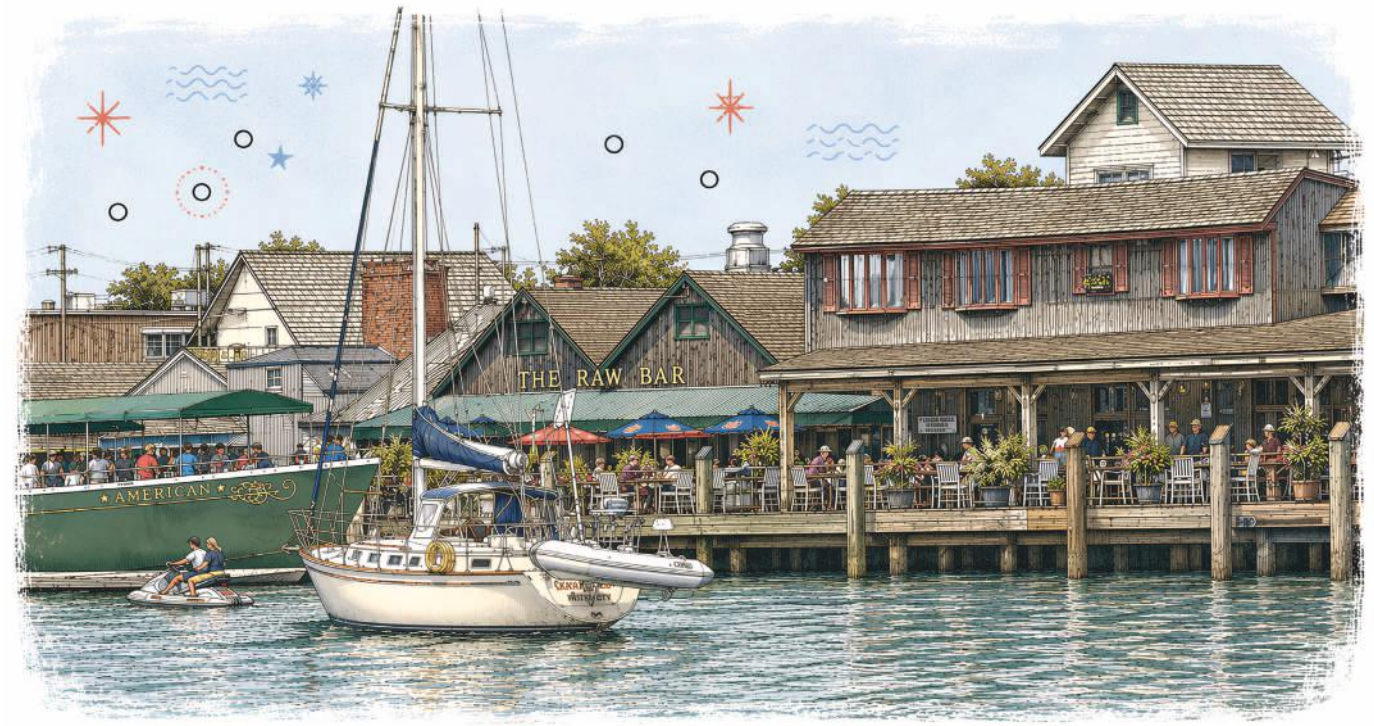
125. Go on a Pirate Adventure Voyage: Enjoy an hour of swashbuckling fun, laughter and memories.

126. Walk the Brigantine North End: Trek along a remote stretch of beach known for its tranquility and wildlife.

127. Kayak in Brigantine's wildlife refuge: Paddle through calm waters surrounded by birds, marshes, and natural beauty.

128. Find a Pickleball Court and enjoy a game with friends: Across Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties, visitors can enjoy lively pickleball games set against welcoming shore towns and scenic Southern New Jersey landscapes.





129. Lafayette Street Park in Cape May: The park just had an extensive makeover with ADA compliant features, new playgrounds, a revamp of the dog park and lit bocce courts.

130. Explore the New Cape May Nature Trail at Lafayette Street Park: This free, accessible boardwalk loop traverses forests and salt marshes, offering birdwatching, benches, and elevated views of the Cape Island Creek area.

131. Visit the Cape May Nature Center: Enjoy an easy-going blend of bayfront views, hands on exhibits, and a peaceful look at the region's coastal wildlife – perfect for a laidback day in Cape May.

132. Explore the region's remarkable migratory wildlife on a guided hike: Learn from naturalists as you explore trails rich with flora and fauna through prime birding habitats.

133. Take a parasailing adventure: Go parasailing above the Jersey Shore: Soar high above the ocean for sweeping views of beaches, boardwalks, and back bays from Atlantic City to Cape May.

134. Visit historic Batsto: During the American Revolution, Batsto's furnace provided iron goods, including cannons and cannonballs, to General George Washington's Continental Army.

135. Discover the Wetlands Institute in Stone Harbor: Explore the wonders of coastal ecology through hands on exhibits, immersive programs, and scenic marsh trails that bring the bay's wildlife and habitats to life.

136. Watch migrating birds: Witness seasonal flocks traveling along the Atlantic Flyway, an unforgettable experience, as thousands of raptors, shorebirds, and songbirds sweep across the skies during one of the East Coast's most spectacular natural migrations.

137. Stroll Bridgeton's Cohansey Riverwalk and Millville's Maurice Riverwalks: Enjoy peaceful waterfront views, lush greenery, and abundant wildlife along a scenic trail. Perfect for picnics and birdwatching.

138. Learn about butterfly migration at The Cape May Point Science Center: Once a hotel, hospital, and convent retreat, the building now serves as a conservation hub at New Jersey's southernmost point along the Atlantic flyway.

139. Explore the Cape May National Wildlife Refuge: Immerse yourself in a mosaic of coastal habitats, where migrating birds, native mammals, and thriving ecosystems showcase the natural beauty of New Jersey's southern shore.

140. Visit Reed's Farm: Run by local restaurateur Cookie Till, this working family farm offers fresh produce, educational programs, and a meaningful connection to South Jersey's agricultural roots.

141. Explore the Dutch Wagon Amish Market: Fresh baked goods, produce, handmade items, and seasonal events like corn mazes make this Cumberland County favorite worth the drive.

142. Mark your calendar for Wildwood's Thunder Over the Waves Airshow in September: Enjoy the roar of engines and ocean breeze, as fighter jets and stunt pilots carve thrilling arcs above the beach.



FOODIE TOWNS & CULINARY HOTSPOTS

Southern New Jersey's culinary scene is a revelation. Hammonton is the blueberry capital of the world – and home to wineries, breweries, and farm to table dining. Cape May's restaurants rival those of major cities, with seafood so fresh it practically leaps off the plate. Atlantic City's dining scene blends celebrity chefs with local favorites. Vineland and Somers Point offer multicultural flavors and classic Jersey comfort food. This vibe is for travelers who explore with their taste buds – from boardwalk treats to fine dining.

143. Sip your way through Hammonton: Wineries, breweries, and distilleries throughout the town offer everything from blueberry wine to craft beer and small-batch spirits.

144. Enjoy farm to table dining: Savor dishes made with fresh, seasonal ingredients sourced straight from local farms.

145. Visit a blueberry farm in the Blueberry Capital of the World: Pick ripe, juicy berries in Hammonton where you can stroll through sun-drenched fields.

146. Explore more than 20 craft breweries in NJ's Southern Shore: Sample small batch beers with bold flavors and creative brewing styles.

147. Visit the newly expanded Rea's Farm in West Cape May: Shop the farm market, harvest your own on their U-Pick fields, attend one of their seasonal events, or simply enjoy live music at one of their Friday Night Farm Markets.

148. Find Mission Spirits distillery in Millville: It is a bold, small-batch craft distillery known for creating uniquely flavorful spirits in a cozy, industrial-chic tasting room.

149. Attend Root Stock at Hawk Haven Winery: Celebrate New Jersey wines with a vibrant summer concert series where guests enjoy live music, vineyard sunsets, and local food trucks – all paired with award-winning wines in a stunning Cape May County setting.

150. Dine on the sand year-round in Atlantic City: Eating on the beach at LandShark Bar & Grill in Atlantic City feels like the perfect mix of ocean breeze, boardwalk energy, and a laidback meal served with your toes in the sand.

151. Enjoy Cape May's culinary hot spots: Indulge in elegant coastal cuisine prepared by top tier chefs.

152. Savor a Sip Trip to one of 19 wineries located in NJ's Southern Shore Region: Relax with a glass of wine in a scenic vineyard setting near the shore.

153. Dive into the local seafood scene: Explore restaurants serving the fresh catches around and savor just caught fish, crab, and shellfish crafted in endless delicious styles.

154. Eat and drink your way through Somers Point: A wave of new restaurants, bars, and breweries is adding even more energy to one of South Jersey's classic nightlife towns.

155. Visit Atlantic City's celebrity chef spots: Taste signature dishes created by world famous culinary icons.

156. Explore multicultural dining in Vineland: Discover global flavors from family owned restaurants across the city.

157. Visit Atlantic City's own distillery: Little Water Distillery. Rums, bourbons, vodkas, and canned cocktails!

158. Gather with friends for a lively crab night: Enjoy piles of freshly steamed, heavily seasoned crabs ready to crack and enjoy.

159. Visit a farmers' market: Shop for fresh produce, baked goods, and handmade treats from local growers.

160. Savor the treats at Cape May Peanut Butter Company: Delights include fresh ground nut butters, creative peanut butter themed treats, and a warm, aromatic shop.

161. Enjoy a brewery tour in over 20 breweries throughout the region: Go behind the scenes to see how craft beer is made from grain to glass.

162. Visit a distillery in Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties: Sample handcrafted spirits while learning about the distilling process.

163. Explore Bar 32 in Atlantic City: The Chocolate Bar offers a distinctive bean to bar experience featuring artisanal chocolates, decadent desserts, and craft cocktails in a stylish setting.

164. Enjoy a bakery crawl: Hop from shop to shop sampling breads, pastries, and sweet treats.

165. Sip a cider at Behr Brewing in Cape May County: One of the few craft breweries in the region that also produces cider, offering a rotating selection of small-batch hard ciders alongside their beers.

166. Dine out during the Taste Atlantic City event: The entire resort town turns into a monthlong culinary playground, inviting visitors to explore signature dishes, creative menus, and the vibrant flavors that define the city's ever evolving dining scene.

167. Enjoy a tapas menu at Cape May Winery: Share small plates, sip local wine, and relax beside the vineyards in one of Cape May County's most scenic dining settings.

168. Catch a summer event at the Cape May–Lewes Ferry grounds: Food trucks, concerts, wine festivals, and waterfront sunsets make the ferry terminal a surprisingly lively entertainment venue.

169. Celebrate summer at the Red, White and Blueberry Festival in Hammonton, the Blueberry Capital of NJ: Stroll through vendor stands to enjoy fresh blueberry treats, browse crafts and local goods, listen to live music, and take in the festive atmosphere celebrating the town's signature crop.

170. Explore the Spice Cellar in Cape May: Wander through shelves of aromatic herbs, blends, and exotic seasonings.



171. Enjoy a coffee roastery in Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland Counties: Top-rated coffee roasteries include Remedee Coffee Roasters in Ventnor City, Cape May Roasters in Cape May, and Kaffe Magnum Opus in Millville – each offering small-batch, locally roasted beans and cozy café experiences.

172. Enjoy drinks or a great meal in Somers Point: Long known for its many restaurants and bars, the town has recently added several new venues, and a second brewery.

173. Savor a seafood dinner at historic Dock's Oyster House in Atlantic City: Dock's blends timeless elegance with fresh, expertly prepared seafood, offering a classic dining experience since 1897.

174. Enjoy the wharf at the Lobster House in Cape May: Outdoor dining beside the commercial fishing fleet, fresh seafood, raw bars, and cocktails aboard the Schooner American make this one of the Jersey Shore's classic waterfront experiences.

175. Eat at a local diner: It's the perfect slice of small town comfort, where the coffee is always hot, the portions are generous, and the regulars make you feel like you've been part of the community for years.

176. Visit a U-pick farm in Cumberland County: Step into the heart of Jersey farmland, where you can wander the rows, fill your basket with just picked produce, and enjoy the simple pleasure of harvesting straight from the source.

177. Enjoy a pizza tour on Boardwalks in Atlantic and Cape May counties: Taste your way through different pizzerias offering unique styles and toppings.

178. Enjoy Kohr's Brothers Ice Cream: It feels like stepping into a sweet slice of Jersey Shore nostalgia, where the swirl of frozen custard and the ocean breeze instantly put you in vacation mode.

179. Dine on award winning barbeque at the NJ Barbecue & Blues Festival: Enjoy diving into a smoky, sauces licked feast set to the soundtrack of live blues, where every bite and every note captures the spirit of a perfect Jersey summer day.

FAMILY FUN & ALL AGES ADVENTURES

Some towns are built for families – Ocean City, Wildwood, Cape May Court House, Mays Landing, and Bridgeton among them. These places offer aquariums, zoos, amusement rides, water parks, playgrounds, mini golf, and hands on museums. This vibe is all about memory making – the kind of experiences kids talk about for years.

180. Ride boardwalk coasters: Feel the rush as you soar above the shoreline on classic seaside thrill rides.

181. Visit boardwalk arcades: Play Skee-ball, win prizes, and enjoy nostalgic boardwalk games.

182. Visit to the Cape May County Zoo: No trip would be complete without stopping by to see the giraffes, where their calm, towering presence makes the whole day feel a little more magical. Standing beneath the giraffes at the Cape May County Zoo, it felt like stepping into a quiet moment on the savanna.

183. Spend a day at the boardwalk water parks: Splash down thrilling slides and float carefree under bright summer skies.

184. Visit the Ocean City Historical Museum: Discover the island's rich past through artifacts, photos, and exhibits.

185. Take a thrilling ride, Thunder Cat Dolphin Watch & Speedboat Tours: Speedboat tours out of Wildwood Crest. Guaranteeing dolphin sightings and a great time.

186. Ride the tram car on the Boardwalks in Atlantic City: Cruise the boardwalk with ease while taking in all the sights and sounds.

187. Lafayette Street Park in Cape May: The park just had an extensive makeover with ADA compliant features, new playgrounds, a revamp of the dog park and lit bocce courts.



188. Watch Fourth of July–style fireworks in Wildwood: Fireworks light up the sky in brilliant colors over the beach every Friday night all summer long.

189. Visit Atlantic City's James Candy Company and its sister brand Fralinger's and Wildwoods' Laura's Fudge: Visit the most iconic sweet stops, known for classic saltwater taffy, fudge, and macaroons that have defined the Southern Shore candy tradition for generations.

190. Bring the whole family to the Atlantic City Aquarium: View colorful marine life, hands on exhibits, and bayfront views make learning about the ocean an unforgettable part of your visit.

191. Explore the beach playgrounds: Let kids climb, swing, and play right by the ocean.

192. Learn to surf: Catch a lesson with the surf schools in Ocean City and Sea Isle City enjoy a classic Jersey Cape thrill, where friendly instructors, rolling Atlantic waves, and laidback beach vibes make learning to ride a board part of the vacation fun.

193. Enjoy boardwalk treats: Snack on funnel cakes, fries, ice cream, and all your seaside favorites.

192. Explore Bridgeton's Cohanzick Zoo: Meet small animals in a cozy, family friendly zoo setting.

195. Enjoy a Boardwalk car show: Celebrate vintage rides and custom cars with the dazzling car shows that roll onto the Wildwood and Ocean City Boardwalks each year.

196. Challenge your family to mini golf at Congo Falls Adventure Golf: With multiple locations across the region, the longtime mini golf favorite remains a classic family tradition at the shore.

197. Take a magical spin on the carousel at Congress Hall in Cape May during Winter Wonderland: Enjoy the holidays at the historic hotel, where you will enjoy the enchanted vendor village, train rides and ol fashioned charm delight families of all ages.

198. Experience Vintner Wonderland at Renault Winery: In winter the Egg Harbor City winery transforms into a magical winter escape, complete with ice skating, fine wine, wooden cabins, fire pits, heated igloos, and more!

199. Explore Cape May County Park: Wander trails, picnic, and enjoy wide open green spaces.

200. Visit Storybook Land: Step into a magical world where classic childhood tales come to life.



201. Glide down the Atlantic City Boardwalk in one of the iconic rolling chairs: Experience a slice of seaside nostalgia as you take in the sights at a relaxed pace.

202. Mark your calendar for Atlantic City's Soar and Shore Festival: The festival brings May to life with non-stop entertainment, breathtaking aerial performances soaring over the beach and boardwalk.

203. Head to the Cumberland County Fair: Enjoy a lively mix of entertainment, tasty bites, and family friendly festivities.

204. Visit The Sheep Farm in Petersburg: Part farm market, part South Jersey institution, this family favorite is known for baked goods, fresh produce, and friendly farm animals.

205. Keep your cool in the Bridgeton Splash Park: Cool off with fountains, sprayers, and kid friendly water fun.

206. Climb through the treetops at Tree to Tree Aerial Park: Adventurers can climb, swing, and zipline high above the ground for an adventurous way to experience Cape May County Park.

207. Sleep under the stars at one of 66 campgrounds in Atlantic and Cape May counties: Enjoy a laidback coastal escape where towering pines, family friendly amenities, and easy access to Jersey Shore beaches create the perfect base for a relaxed getaway.

208. Attend a 4H Fair in Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties: Enjoy rides, games, food stands, and festive entertainment.

209. Bring your family dog to a park on the beach: The Wildwood Beach Dog Park gives pups a sandy stretch to run free while their humans enjoy the ocean breeze.

210. Visit the Jersey Shore Alpaca farm: Visit a small, friendly Green Creek farm where well cared for alpacas greet visitors enthusiastically.

211. Play the day away: Hit boardwalk arcades for xball and other nostalgic games. Attempt a hole-in-one on a number of mini golf courses. Race go-karts or make a big splash in water parks.

212. Attend Wacky Wednesdays in Ocean City: Enjoy a playful midweek celebration on the Ocean City Boardwalk where families dive into messy, silly, and totally unforgettable themed activities.

213. Take part in a sand sculpting event: Or design your own masterpiece, carving towers and ridges in the soft beach sand.

HIDDEN GEMS & OFF THE RADAR FINDS

New Jersey's Southern Shore is full of surprises. Egg Harbor City's wineries and German heritage. Port Republic's quiet riverfront. Millville's aviation history. Downe Township's remote fishing villages. Commercial Township's wetlands and lighthouses in Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties. hese towns and attractions encourage curiosity – the traveler who takes the road less traveled.

214. Go birding in Cape May, New Jersey: Widely regarded as one of the premier birding destinations in North America drawing birdwatchers from around the world to witness spectacular migrations along the Atlantic Flyway, especially during the fall when over a million birds pass through its coastal habitats.

215. Tee off among the vines at Renault Winery's Vineyard National Golf Course: Enjoy championship-level play meets the scenic charm of a historic New Jersey vineyard.

216. Spend a day at Lenni Lenape Lake: Nestled in Mays Landing, New Jersey, offers a peaceful retreat for fishing, kayaking, and enjoying the natural beauty once inhabited by the Lenape people for whom the lake is named.

217. Spot a celebrity at the Shore: Cape May, Avalon, Stone Harbor, and Longport have long been favorite getaway spots for actors, musicians, and television personalities looking to escape the spotlight.

218. Visit the Linwood Arboretum: A small pocket garden established in 2016 that focuses on introducing the public to uncommon and rare woody plants.



219. Visit the historic Saint Peter's By-the-Sea Church: Step inside a beautifully preserved landmark that reflects centuries of local history in Cape May Point – a charming seaside chapel known for its Victorian "Carpenter Gothic" architecture and its unique history of being relocated multiple times due to coastal erosion.

220. Bike the Atlantic County Bikeway: Ride a scenic 7.6-mile stretch of paved trail that winds through Mays Landing to Egg Harbor Township, featuring benches and educational signage amid wooded stretches.

221. Discover the East Point Lighthouse: An active lighthouse built in 1849, situated on the picturesque Southern Bayshore in Cumberland County.

222. Pedal through paradise on bike paths throughout New Jersey's Southern Shore: Ride along smooth, scenic routes that wind through forests and small towns.

223. Explore Port Republic's historic Chestnut Neck Battleground: Visitors will find a quiet yet powerful glimpse into a pivotal Revolutionary War skirmish set along the winding Mullica River.

224. Explore Downe Township's fishing villages: Experience rustic bayshore communities shaped by generations of watermen.

225. Visit the Colonial House Museum: One of the oldest homes in Cape May.

226. Shop, dine, and catch a movie at Cumberland Mall: The Vineland shopping destination remains a popular stop for locals and visitors exploring Cumberland County.

227. Cast a line off one of the fishing piers off the Ocean City Route 52 causeway: Fish or simply enjoy the breeze as you look out over the water.

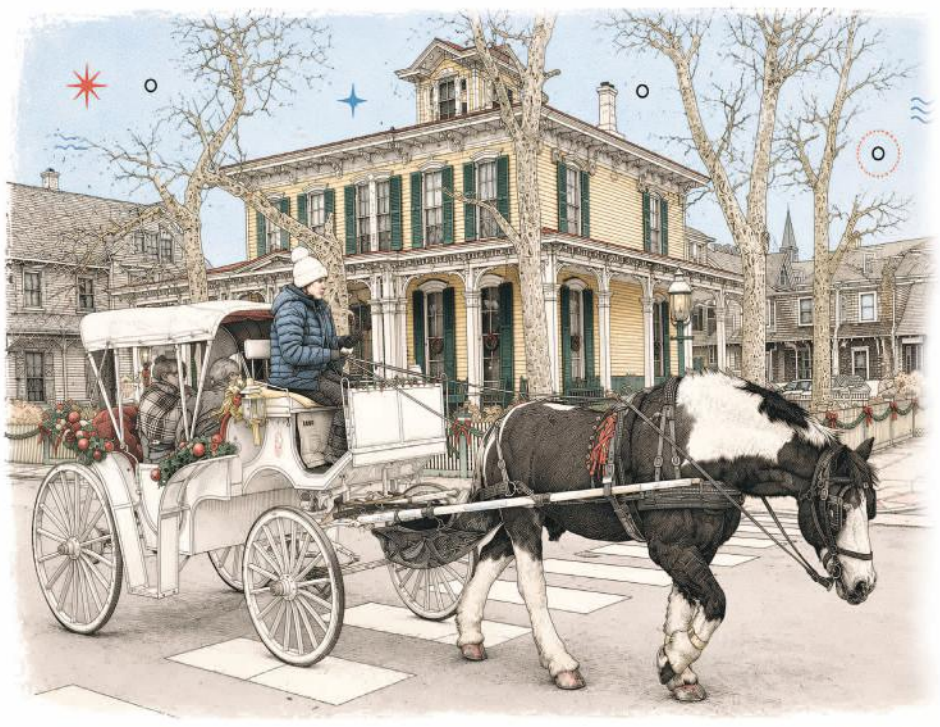
228. Explore Commercial Township's wetlands: Discover quiet marsh trails rich with natural beauty and birdlife.

229. Discover the historic Absecon Lighthouse: Climb 228 steps in New Jersey's tallest beacon for sweeping views of the Atlantic City shoreline.

230. Stroll along Shell Pile Beach in Cumberland County: Enjoy quiet bayside views, salt marsh breezes, and scattered shells left over from the area's historical oyster-packing industry create a peaceful escape for nature lovers.

231. Climb aboard a vintage trolley for a spine-tingling ghost tour: Ghosts of Cape May tours glide through shadowy streets, where haunted tales and historic charm come alive under the moonlight.





232. Step back in time at the Old Presbyterian Cemetery in Bridgeton: Where centuries-old headstones and peaceful grounds offer a glimpse into the lives of Cumberland County's earliest settlers and Revolutionary War veterans are laid to rest.

233. Craft a paperweight at Wheaton Arts: The experience becomes a memorable hands on moment, letting you step into the glow of the glass studio and shape molten color into a one of a kind keepsake.

234. Go boating on Union Lake: One of New Jersey's largest freshwater lakes offers a peaceful setting for kayaking, fishing, and exploring Cumberland County's natural beauty.

235. Visit the African American Museum in Atlantic City: learn about the city's Black history through exhibits that honor community stories and highlight the cultural legacy that shaped the shore.

236. Pedal along old railroad tracks: Revolution Rail turns a simple ride into an adventure, guiding you down quiet rails where marsh views, seabirds, and salty breezes make every mile feel like a new discovery.

237. Visit a wildlife blind in Avalon at the Avalon Seawatch site: Managed by New Jersey Audubon, this spot is renowned for its exceptional views of seabird migration, especially during the fall season.

238. Unfurl the sails of the AJ Meerwald: New Jersey's official tall ship – sail aboard a historic 1928 Delaware Bay oyster schooner now serving as a floating classroom for maritime education through the Bayshore Center at Bivalve.

239. Head to the Delsea Drive-In Movie Theatre. Catch a movie at NJ's only Drive In Movie Theatre: Enjoy a show at this long-standing, 2-screen drive-in movie theater offering first-run features. Makes a great date night or just for fun with the kids.

240. Visit the best Bayshore sunset spot in Cape May County – Sunset Beach in Cape May Point: Where the sun sinks directly into the Delaware Bay, often accompanied by the daily flag-lowering ceremony and views of the historic SS Atlantus shipwreck. It's the most iconic and accessible location for breathtaking views.

241. Take a drive along Ocean Drive in Cape May and Atlantic counties: Driving along through the barrier islands feels like a breezy coastal escape, with sweeping bay views, salt marshes, and charming shore towns unfolding mile after mile.

242. Discover Malibu Beach Wildlife Management Area: Known simply as "Dog Beach" to locals, this relaxed bayside stretch is one of the region's favorite spots for dogs, sunsets, and shoreline walks.

243. Try your hand at crabbing in Cumberland County: Quiet rivers and tidal bays offer plenty of spots to drop a line and enjoy a classic coastal pastime.

244. Unleash your inner artist at the studios at the Noyes Arts Garage of Stockton University in Atlantic City: Watch over 15 working artist spaces, where visitors can watch artists create in mediums like painting, photography, jewelry, sculpture, and illustration, and even purchase original artwork directly from the creators.

245. Rev up your inner race car driver in New Jersey Motorsports Park in Millville: Over 500 acres and features two world-class road courses – Thunderbolt and Lightning – making it a premier destination for racing enthusiasts.

246. Discover Fortescue Beach: The self-proclaimed Weakfish Capital of the World, weathered docks, bay breezes, and a tight-knit fishing culture define this hidden Delaware Bay escape.

247. Hike through Maurice River Bluffs Preserve: Take a scenic journey along forested trails, steep ravines, and sweeping overlooks of the winding Maurice River below.

248. Visit the Sam Azeez Museum of Woodbine Heritage: Rich local history, immigrant stories, and small town culture come together inside beautifully restored former synagogue.

249. Take a train ride on the Seashore Lines in Tuckerton: Vintage railcars and coastal scenery come together for a nostalgic ride through South Jersey's quieter, more charming side.

250. Attend a Howard Street Ramble at the Chalfonte: Celebrate their 150th anniversary season by enjoying the live music on the porch on Thursday nights. Enjoy the porch or bring a lawn chair!

250 YEARS

As America marks its 250th birthday, New Jersey's Southern Shore reveals its own Revolutionary War legacy, from privateers and naval battles to patriot uprisings and heros



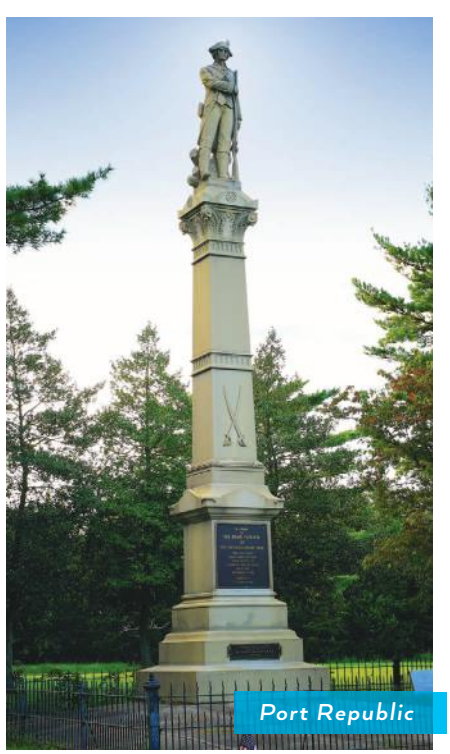
Historic Cold Spring Village

AS THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA celebrates her semiquincentennial (or quarter millennium, or even easier, 250th birthday), it's important to note that the nearby cities of Philadelphia and Trenton aren't the only places with ties to the birth of a nation. As a northern colony, New Jerseyans were predominantly patriots and many of the local residents volunteered to take up arms against the controlling Great Britain. Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties each contain sites that played significant roles during the Revolutionary War.

In Atlantic County, Port Republic (part of the mainland, just west of Brigantine) was the location of the Battle of Chestnut Neck on Oct. 6, 1778. Referred to as the "Affair at Little Egg Harbor," Port Republic is a small port/village on the banks of the Little Egg Harbor River (the Mullica River) and was the ideal location for privateers. A small fort had been constructed on the river by the Americans to protect Chestnut Neck. The fort was manned by militiamen, but it was not equipped with cannons. There was little resistance against the British forces who opened cannon fire on the fort from their ships, and then came ashore attacking and driving the American forces from the fort into the woods. The British destroyed several privateer ships they found, as well as the houses in the village. The British would have caused more damage, but their delayed arrival caused by the weather had given the inhabitants of Chestnut Neck time to prepare. A number of privateer vessels were sent out to the ocean or miles upriver to a spot known as the Forks, and the locals had time to remove valuables from the houses and hide them in the woods.The British had hoped to sail farther up river to capture the privateer vessels which had been moved to the Forks. However, they had received word that American military forces were on their way to Chestnut Neck, and they decided that it was safer to instead leave the river and return to the bay. The British ships intended to leave immediately and head back to New York, but they were again deterred by weather conditions. American forces under the command of Gen. Casimir Pulaski arrived in the area on Oct. 8, too late to defend the village of Chestnut Neck. They made camp about five miles northeast from here, in what is now Little Egg Harbor Township. On Oct. 15, two hundred British troops came ashore and made a surprise attack on a group of Pulaski's troops, and about fifty men were lost.

A little-known fact is that Southern New Jersey patriots had their own tea party, taking some of the accolades from their Boston brethren. With a strong patriot sentiment and local resistance, in 1774 (a year after the Boston Tea Party), residents in Greenwich showed their defiance when they burned tea owned by the East India Company as a protest against British taxation.

Published in Potter's Tavern in Bridgeton, the newspaper The Plain Dealer helped rally local support for resistance to the British during the revolution. In August 1781, five years after independence had been declared,



Port Republic

Cumberland County's only recorded battle with casualties occurred at Dallas Landing, and came to be known as the Skirmish on the Maurice River. In the area of Port Norris, a skirmish occurred between a few New Jersey Militia commanded by Capt. James Riggins, and local Tories, loyal to the British. The conflict resulted in a tactical Patriot victory with the Cumberland County militia defeating loyalist sympathizers on the Maurice River.

Cape May County has its own Revolutionary War connections. Although Turtle Gut no longer exists, it was a natural water feature in the southern end of Wildwood Crest (filled in by the borough in 1922). On June 29, 1776, an American ship named the Brigantine Nancy managed to slip past a British naval blockade to deliver supplies and ammunition. Multiple British ships espied Nancy and pursued her. A dense fog rolled in, allowing the Nancy to run aground in Turtle Gut Inlet to unload the supplies. As the weather cleared up, the British regained a view of the American ship. In time, the British ships inched close enough to board, and in an act of improvisation and surprise, discovered that the American had left the ship and set a make-shift fuse that was lit as they were leaving. The Nancy exploded, killing many British soldiers, and making the incident a key event in the war. The Americans suffered just one casualty, Lt. Richard Wickes, who is interred in Cold Spring Presbyterian Church Cemetery, just a few miles away. Today, a marker stands in a park near Miami and New Jersey avenues noting the event, and the Brigantine Nancy is depicted on the seal of the Borough of Wildwood Crest. It is remembered as an early naval success for the Continental Navy and Capt. John Barry, who would later become known as the Father of the American Navy. The Battle of Turtle Gut Inlet demonstrated the effectiveness of American forces and led the British Navy to move its blockade of Philadelphia farther from Cape May.

Cape May County's colonial story is well preserved not only through military history but also through everyday people and traditions. Items such as Cape May Mitts, textiles, and other household goods offer insight into how families lived and persevered during a time of uncertainty.

Historic Cold Spring Village will play a central role in sharing this legacy. In 2026, the Village will host its Semiquincentennial Celebration with a full week of special programming, demonstrations, and family activities that bring everyday life of Early America to your vacation. Cold Spring Brewery will also release a Semiquincentennial historic beer using a traditional recipe while celebrating ten years of operation. Mark your calendars this summer and beyond for history, education, and family fun at Historic Cold Spring Village. *Stay tuned for 2026 by following Historic Cold Spring Village on Facebook, @hcsvillage on Instagram, or by visiting www.hcsv.org. Historic Cold Spring Village is at 735 Seashore Road in Lower Township. For more information, call (609) 898-2300.*



Greenwich

In the northern part of Cape May County, at Beesley's Point in Upper Township, a Women's Heritage Trail sign marks the area where two sisters, Sarah and Rebecca Stillwell – daughters of Capt. Nicholas Stillwell – thwarted British efforts. According to legend, there are two separate stories involving the sisters. Rebecca prevented a British raiding party from landing at Beesley's Point by firing a cannon filled with grapeshot at an approaching British sloop. Sarah was successful in enlisting General Washington's aid in an exchange of prisoners.

At the time of the Revolutionary War, Rebecca Stillwell Willets, the wife of James Willets, lived at her fathers's Ferry House at Beesley's Point. Privateers had captured British supplies which they had stored near the Ferry House for the Continental Soldiers. All men and boys of 15 years or older had been ordered into the Army and the women were alone. The Tories had learned about the supplies, where they were stored, and that the Ferry House was unguarded, so they notified the British. The British decided to raid this storehouse. One day, looking across the bay through her spy glass toward Somers Point, Rebecca saw a British ship approaching. It anchored not far away and lowered a boat filled with sailors who began to row toward the Ferry House. Rebecca decided she must act. A cannon was standing in the front yard, loaded and ready for action. As the loaded boat came closer and closer, she fired the cannon and the load of grapeshot went its way just above the heads of the Redcoats and the British stopped rowing.They turned around, rowed back to their ship and sailed away, leaving the storehouse unscathed.

Sarah Stillwell was married to Capt. Moses Griffing, who had been captured by the British and kept on board the prison ship Jersey, anchored on the East River in New York. When Sally heard of his imprisonment, she reportedly journeyed alone from Cape May County to Sir Henry Clinton's headquarters in New York to win the release of her husband. On the way to New York, Sally visited General Washington's encampment and obtained from him the control of a British officer of equal rank with her husband and proceeding in person to New York, she exchanged him for her husband.

Today, the Upper Township Stillwell Sisters Organization works to preserve local history and promote the Revolutionary War legend of the Stillwell Sisters.

As the nation boasts about its 250 years of independence this summer, remember that New Jersey's Southern Shore Region played no small part in the American Revolution. •

BEACH SPORTS

As FIFA World Cup 2026 captures the world's attention, New Jersey's Southern Shore brings the excitement to the sand. From beach soccer and volleyball to ultimate frisbee



AS THE FIFA WORLD CUP 2026 ignites passion across North America, Southern New Jersey's beaches are becoming more than just a summer escape – they're turning into sandy soccer sanctuaries.

As the world's biggest football tournament unfolds across the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, the excitement is spilling far beyond the stadiums. In New Jersey's Southern Shore Region, from Brigantine to Cape May Point, the Atlantic coastline is buzzing with World Cup energy. Here, the pristine white sands are doubling as impromptu pitches where locals and visitors alike are embracing the global game.

While Southern New Jersey has long been a magnet for sunseekers and wellness enthusiasts – offering beachside yoga, Pilates, and aerobics – this summer, the focus shifts to football. Families are staging friendly matches at low tide, kids are practicing penalty kicks between sandcastles, and solo players are perfecting their footwork under the golden sun.



Whether you're a seasoned player or a curious newcomer inspired by the World Cup spectacle, the beaches of Southern New Jersey offer a scenic and spirited way to join the celebration. So, pack your sunscreen, bring a ball, and get ready to kick off your own beachside tournament – World Cup style.

There are few beaches more perfect for seaside sports than Wildwood, which has acres and acres of beach available for events. Each year, the Cape Express soccer club hosts a beach soccer competition, and this year is expected to draw more teams and spectators than usual as the World Cup comes to the area. The five-on-five tournament will be held over two separate weekends, June 27 and 28, and again July 18 and 19. Young soccer enthusiasts shed their cleats (although socks are not uncommon to protect tender feet from the hot sand) for heated games in the sand. Most games are held on the beach between Spencer and Poplar avenues.

Wildwood's expansive beach is also home to other athletic events. In late May (29 to 31), Morey's Piers hosts its annual Beach Jam volleyball competition on Pigdog Beach (near Cedar Avenue), but nearly every resort along the coast has nets in strategic locations for casual beach volleyball games.

INDULGE IN AVALON 2026

AVALON, NJ



BUNNY HOP.....April 4

SPRING INTO SUMMER.....May & June

ART & AUTHORS ON DUNE.....May 30

SUMMER SOLSTICE FESTIVAL.....June 20

END-OF-SUMMER SHOP HOP.....September 11-13

ARTS & SEAFOOD FESTIVAL.....October 10

FESTIVE FRIDAY.....November 27

SNOWFEST SATURDAY.....November 28

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For more 2026 events and announcements, please visit

visitavalonnj.com



Cape Express Soccer tournament

Another sport well-served by the beach is flag football. On July 11 and 12, the Wildwood beach will host the Battle at the Beach Flag Football tournament for youth and adult teams of up to ten players.

Baseball on the sand is a natural fit, although the grounders don't travel nearly as far as they would on turf. Wildwood will host two beach baseball tournaments this year, the first from Aug. 7 to 9, and the following weekend, Aug. 14 to 17.

Not to be left behind, field hockey players, in a five-on-five format, will participate in the Sticks in the Sand hockey tournament on Aug. 1 and 2. Players use traditional sticks but replace the hard rubber ball with a larger softer rubber ball to execute play on the beach.

And although difficult to imagine, basketball even has its days in the sun as Wildwood will host a beach three-on-three basketball tournament Aug. 1 and 2 on the sand. Dribbling is impossible in the sand but be prepared to see some expert passing and awesome dunking on the shore.

In recent years, ultimate frisbee has gained popularity, and the world's largest beach ultimate frisbee event is held every July on the Wildwood beaches. More than 500 teams from around the world converge in the resort to compete in co-ed four-on-four contests for players of all ages and ability levels. The games are held from Montgomery to Schellenger avenues.

Many of the seaside resorts in Southern New Jersey have a variety of runs and races, and those who like to run or walk are hard pressed to find better scenery than the beach in which to exercise. So, as the entire continent goes athletic with the advent of the most popular sporting event in the world, travel to the beach in Southern New Jersey for sun, sand, and fresh air, and get moving!



Lower Township

A Place to Remember

NATURAL BEAUTY - RICH IN HISTORY - EXCITING EVENTS









UNIQUE AGRITOURISM - FAMILY MEMORIES

SPECIAL EVENTS

March 28: Egg Hunt and Spring Fling
May 22: Summer Kick Off/Family Fun Night
June 7: Escape The Cape Triathlon
July 3: Independence Day Festival (Rain Date July 5)
August 1: Coombs Douglass Bayrun
August 12: Patriotic Drone Show
September 11: 9-11 Memorial Ceremony at NASW Museum
September 18: Back to School/Family Fun Night
October 10: Halloween Costume Parade
October 18: Trunk or Treat
October 24: Haunted Trails
November 7: Veteran's Day Parade
December 12: Rotary Christmas Parade
December 13: Ferry Merry Christmas Party
December 27 - 29: Tom Beheler/Elk's Basketball Tournament
December 31: New Year's Eve Party

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July 22: Jimmy & The Pirates • July 29: Legacy
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STROLLING THE SHORE

The Charm of Boardwalks and Promenades at New Jersey's Southern Shore



TOGETHER, OUR COASTAL TOWNS form a sun-splashed ribbon of boardwalks and promenades that capture the essence of summer along New Jersey's Southern Shore. Atlantic City dazzles. Ocean City delights. Sea Isle relaxes. Avalon soothes. Wildwood excites. Cape May enchants.

There's a moment familiar to anyone who has vacationed here: that first breath of ocean air as you step onto the boards or wander along a seaside walkway. It's a mix of salt, sunscreen, and nostalgia – a cue that the season has begun. From neon lights to Victorian charm, each town offers its own way to savor the shoreline.

Atlantic City, the queen of American boardwalks, sets the tone with history and spectacle. Built in 1870, it remains the nation's oldest and most iconic stretch of boards. Visitors may come for the casinos, but the boardwalk itself steals the show. Rolling chairs glide past historic hotels and modern resorts, while saltwater taffy shops, seafood restaurants, and Steel Pier's rides add layers of tradition and excitement.

Ocean City offers a different rhythm. Its 2.5-mile boardwalk is lined with amusement piers, mini-golf courses, bike rentals, and shops selling caramel popcorn and beach toys. Mornings belong to cyclists and surrey riders; afternoons bring families chasing thrills and oversized pizza slices. Playland's Castaway Cove lights up the night with spinning rides and a Ferris wheel offering sweeping island views. As a "dry town," Ocean City leans into wholesome charm that draws generations back year after year.

Further south, Sea Isle City trades wooden boards for a concrete promenade stretching from 29th to 57th streets. It's quieter here, perfect for a sunrise jog or a slow stroll with coffee in hand. Benches overlook the dunes, and summer concerts and sunset gatherings give a warm, communal energy.

Avalon offers the most understated experience of all. Its peaceful northern promenade is framed by dune grass, sea oats, and wide, uncrowded beaches. There are no rides or neon – just waves and early-morning light.

Then comes Wildwood, a technicolor burst of nostalgia and adrenaline. Its 2.5-mile boardwalk is a sensory celebration of neon lights, arcades, music, and the irresistible pull of Morey's Piers. With more than 100 rides across three piers and two waterparks, Wildwood delivers nonstop fun.

At the southern tip, Cape May offers elegance and atmosphere. Its promenade runs alongside Victorian hotels, pastel homes, and a beach where dolphins frolic offshore.

Walk them all, and you'll discover that the magic of New Jersey's Southern Shore isn't found in any single place – it's in the journey itself.



Sea Isle City

NEW JERSEY



There's Always a Reason to

Smile in Sea Isle

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OCEAN CITY

Family Fun Since 1879



OCEAN CITY has been a favorite destination for families ever since four Methodist ministers vowed in 1879 to create a wholesome seaside resort. Since then, generations have enjoyed Ocean City's beaches, boardwalk and bay.

The Ocean City Boardwalk offers 2.5 miles of family fun with rides, mini-golf, shops, iconic eateries and attractions for all ages. A bustling bayside offers fishing charters, parasail boats, rented watercraft and even a floating water park for children. The downtown shopping district on Asbury Avenue includes shops and restaurants that cater to families.

But a full calendar of special events gives families even more reason to visit Ocean City in every month of the year.

Spring includes two Great Egg Hunts (March 28 and April 4) that allow children to find prizes and treats at Boardwalk businesses. The madcap Doo Dah Parade will go off on April 18. Martin Z. Mollusk – Ocean City's hermit crab mascot – will seek his shadow on May 1 and attempt to bring an early summer to Ocean City for the 51st consecutive year. The Spring Block Party is set for May 2.

Some of the premier summer events include the Fourth of July bike parades and fireworks (July 4), the 71st annual Night in Venice boat parade (July 25) and the 116th annual Baby Parade (August 13).

Fall brings the Airport Festival and Parachute Pyrotechnic Show (Sept. 19), the Boardwalk Aerobatic Air Show (Sept. 20), the Fall Block Party (Oct. 10), Dog Days on the Boardwalk (Oct. 24 and 25), Halloween Parade (Oct. 29), and a wonderful Christmas in the Downtown celebration (Nov. 27) that includes Santa being rescued from the roof of City Hall by an Ocean City Fire Department ladder truck.

Every year is capped off by the family-friendly First Night celebration on New Year's Eve and First Day at the Beach, Jan. 1. •

For complete information on all events, call 1-800-BEACH-NJ. visit www.oceancityvacation.com



LIGHTHOUSES

Southern Shore's Lighthouse Trail Is a Journey Through Time



East Point Lighthouse

NEW JERSEY'S SOUTHERN SHORE, is a place where coastal beauty and history intertwine, offering travelers far more than sunsoaked beaches and bustling boardwalks. Beyond the Victorian charm of Cape May and the bright lights of Atlantic City lies a quieter, more contemplative experience: a trail of lighthouses that have stood watch over the Atlantic Ocean, Delaware Bay, and winding coastal inlets for generations. These towering beacons – weathered by storms, steeped in maritime lore, and lovingly preserved—invite visitors to step into the past while taking in some of the most breathtaking vistas along the Eastern Seaboard.

Each lighthouse in Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties has its own distinct character, shaped by the waters it guards and the communities that have fought to preserve it. These aren't static relics. They are living monuments that have witnessed shipwrecks and rescues, guided sailors through treacherous conditions, and served as symbols of hope. Their survival is a testament to the dedication of volunteers, historians, and lighthouse enthusiasts who continue to protect these coastal treasures.

Exploring the Southern Shore's lighthouse trail is more than a history lesson – it's an immersive experience. Visitors climb spiral staircases to lantern rooms with sweeping ocean views, wander through gardens tended with care, and browse exhibits filled with artifacts from the golden age of maritime navigation. Each stop becomes a window into the lives of the keepers who once tended these lights, often in isolation and under harsh conditions, ensuring the safety of countless mariners.

The northernmost beacon on this journey is the **Absecon Lighthouse** in Atlantic City. Standing 171 feet tall, it is New Jersey's tallest lighthouse and the third tallest in the nation. First lit in 1857, Absecon guided ships approaching what was then a growing port and resort town. Today, visitors can climb its 228 steps to a lantern room offering panoramic views of the Atlantic City skyline, the ocean, and the surrounding wetlands. At its base, the Keeper's House Museum brings the lighthouse's past to life through exhibits that explore the routines and challenges of its dedicated keepers. Despite the city's rapid evolution, Absecon Lighthouse remains a steadfast symbol of resilience.

Traveling south, the Cape May Lighthouse rises above Cape May Point State Park. First lit in 1859, this 157 foot tower is one of the most recognizable landmarks on the Jersey Shore. A climb to the top rewards visitors with sweeping views of Cape May, the Atlantic Ocean, and Delaware Bay. The surrounding state park is a haven for birdwatchers, especially during migration seasons.

A short drive away, the **Hereford Inlet Lighthouse** in North Wildwood offers a completely different experience. Built in 1874, this Victorianstyle structure resembles a coastal cottage, surrounded by lush gardens that make it one of the most picturesque stops along the trail. Inside, exhibits highlight the lighthouse's role in guiding mariners through the tricky waters of Hereford Inlet.

The journey concludes in Cumberland County at the **East Point Lighthouse**, built in 1849. Overlooking the Delaware Bay, it is the state's secondoldest lighthouse and one of the last remaining examples of the classic Cape Cod style. Though currently closed to the public, its silhouette against the bay – especially at sunset—remains one of the region's most evocative sights.

Together, these lighthouses tell a story of endurance, community, and the timeless bond between people and the sea. For travelers, New Jersey's Southern Shore's lighthouse trail offers a chance to step away from the bustle of beach towns and reconnect with the deeper history that has shaped this remarkable coastline.

LIGHTHOUSE CHALLENGE

The allure of lighthouses and their centuries-old purpose as beacons of light against a fogged and dark shore remain a fascination for travelers. In New Jersey, the attraction for these legendary structures has taken thousands of visitors to new heights, literally! Call it an event or possibly a bucket list item; the Lighthouse Society of NJ dares beacon enthusiasts to visit multiple lighthouses in one weekend.

That's right! The Lighthouse Challenge of New Jersey invites participants to visit 11 lighthouses, three life saving stations, and one museum over a two-day weekend. The route covers the Atlantic Coast from Sandy Hook to Cape May and the Delaware Bay and River Coast from Cape May to Paulsboro.

Participants pay a nominal registration fee to enter the contest and if you ask any of the former participants, the payoff for completing the challenge is far bigger than earning a souvenir from each site in the route; it's the first-hand opportunity to learn more about these historic treasures.

Ready to take the challenge? The 2026 Lighthouse Challenge is set for the weekend of October 17 and 18. For more information, or to register, **www.lighthousechallengenj.com**

MUSEUMS

Our history is your history: Discover New Jersey's Southern Shore



Historic Cold Spring Village

NESTLED WITHIN THE STREETS of Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties lies a collection of museums, each serving as a portal to the past. These hallowed halls beckon visitors to journey through time, revealing the rich tapestry of the area's history.

TRAVEL BACK IN TIME by visiting Historic Cold Spring Village in Cape May County! Nestled on 30 scenic acres between Seashore Road and Route 9 in Lower Township, this Early American open air living history museum is the largest of its kind in New Jersey. Featuring more than two dozen historic buildings relocated from Cape May and Cumberland counties, the Village has been carefully restored and is open to the public throughout the year. As you wander the quiet paths, you will encounter knowledgeable interpreters dressed in period attire who bring the 1800s to life through demonstrations of daily work and traditional skills. Visitors can observe homespun crafts such as basket weaving, pottery, tinsmithing, woodworking, and blacksmithing, all practiced as they would have been in the 19th century. These demonstrations allow visitors to experience hands-on history, offering insight into the skills and labor that shaped early rural communities in southern New Jersey.

Historic Cold Spring Village's newest addition is the Cold Spring Brewery, located in a historic 1804 three bay English-style barn. Here, adults can enjoy a flight of craft beer named after Cape May County's founding families while listening to live music in a relaxed historic setting. The brewery has quickly become a popular gathering place for both locals and visitors over the past decade.

Throughout the season, special event weekends add excitement and variety to the Village experience. These include Independence Day celebrations, Seafarer and Maritime Weekend, Ghost Walks, Revolutionary War encampments, and Civil War encampment weekends. Families can stroll the grounds, visit the farm area to see animals, and on select days enjoy a ride on a horse-drawn wagon through the Village.

Historic Cold Spring Village is located at 735 Seashore Road in Lower Township. Call 609-898 2300 or visit www.hcsv.org

THE ROBERT L. FROLOW ATLANTIC COUNTY VETERANS MUSEUM in Mays Landing makes a surprisingly rich stop for travelers exploring southern New Jersey. Set inside the beautifully restored Daniel Estell House, the museum pairs smalltown warmth with an intimate, deeply personal look at the region's military history.

Rooms are arranged almost like a walk through time, each one filled with uniforms, medals, photographs, and handwritten letters that trace the stories of Atlantic County veterans from the Revolutionary War through modern day. The scale is small enough that nothing feels rushed, and the exhibits invite you to linger.

The setting itself adds to the experience. Just minutes from the center of Mays Landing, the museum sits on peaceful grounds that make the visit feel unhurried. The historic architecture and quiet atmosphere create a reflective space that balances education with a sense of gratitude.

In celebration of the 250th, the museum will be hosting RevolutionNJ's traveling exhibition entitled "Revolutionary Lives: Living the American Experiment Then and Now" from October 28 through November 11, 2026. This exhibit highlights how ordinary people's lives were shaped based on their own personal experiences and views during that time in our history.

Robert L. Frolow Atlantic County Veterans Museum. 189 Boulevard Route 50, Mays Landing. 609-909-7305.

WHETHER YOU'RE PASSIONATE about aviation, fascinated by military history, or interested in the rich heritage of Cape May County, the Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum offers something for everyone. Housed inside Historic Hangar #1 at Cape May Airport, this family-friendly destination showcases more than 26 aircraft, a genuine air traffic control tower, military

Historic COLD SPRING VILLAGE

Largest Open-Air Living History Museum in New Jersey



The 1800s COME TO LIFE with 27 restored buildings and interpreters in period dress, you'll get a hands-on glimpse of everyday life in Cape May County during the Early American era!

IN ADDITION TO the trades and craft buildings, make sure to stop by the Country Store, Bakery, Ice Cream Parlor, the Village Eatery and Cold Spring Brewery.

FOR MORE INFORMATION regarding group tours, admission prices, advance tickets, and hours of operation, ***visit: hcsv.org*** *or* ***call: (609)898-2300***

Scan the QR code to watch a video about Historic Cold Spring Village!

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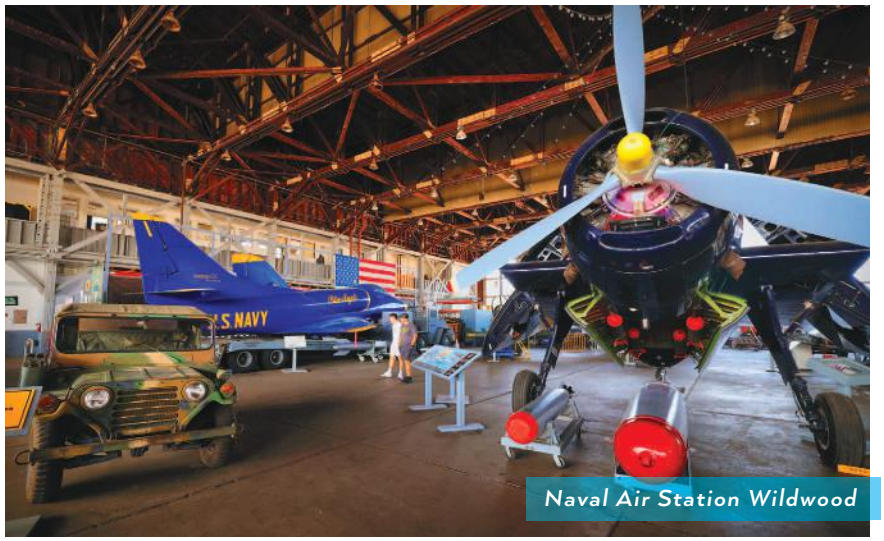
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vehicles, exhibit rooms, and engaging displays that bring history to life.

Travel through time while exploring a 92,000-square-foot, WWII-era double-wide wooden hangar. Unlike many traditional museums where exhibits are viewed from a distance, visitors to NAS Wildwood are encouraged to engage with history firsthand. Guests can climb a restored air traffic control tower from Bader Field, sit behind the wheel of a classic Willys Jeep, tour the interior of a Coast Guard Seaguard helicopter, and even climb into the cockpits of select aircraft – offering a rare, up-close look at what it's like to sit in the pilot's seat.



Naval Air Station Wildwood

Built in response to the attack on Pearl Harbor, the site operated from 1943 to 1945 as Naval Air Station Wildwood, serving as a major dive-bombing training base that prepared naval aviators and squadrons for combat in the Pacific Theater. During this period, 42 naval aviators lost their lives while training at the station. Today, the museum stands as a place of education and remembrance, honoring their sacrifice while safeguarding the legacy of naval aviation and the history of NAS Wildwood for generations to come.

The museum's newest and most distinctive addition is the AV-8B Harrier II+, a combat-veteran aircraft best known for its ability to take off and land vertically or in extremely short distances. Designed for operations from aircraft carriers and forward bases, this Harrier flew 219 combat missions, logging 755 combat flight hours in the Middle East with VMA-223 Bulldogs. Last flown in December 2024 and acquired by the museum in June 2025, the aircraft represents a rare and tangible link between modern combat operations and the public, offering visitors an up-close look at one of the most innovative aircraft ever to serve in naval aviation.

Spanning the modern jet age back to World War II, the museum's aircraft collection highlights the many roles that have defined military aviation. Carrier-based fighters such as the F-14 Tomcat and the legendary Grumman F6F Hellcat illustrate the evolution of naval air power at sea, while the F-16 Fighting Falcon and F-5 Tiger II represent

Capture a View of America's Past





The Robert L. Frolow Atlantic County Veterans Museum is located in the historic Daniel Estell House, c.1832, listed on the National Registry of Historic Places and the New Jersey Women's Heritage Trail as the former home of Rebecca Estell Bourgeois Winston, New Jersey's first female mayor.

Contributions from area residents tell the story of our nation's history on the battlefront and home front, starting with the Revolutionary War through modern day.

Exhibits showcase many personal and military artifacts donated by local veterans and their families.

Artifact donations are accepted by appointment only. Group visits/tours available. Please call or email for further information.



ROBERT L. FROLOW
ATLANTIC COUNTY VETERANS MUSEUM

189 Boulevard Route 50, Estell Manor, NJ
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Atlantic County Executive Dennis Levinson
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Atlantic County Veterans Museum Foundation 501c(3)
P.O. Box 194
Northfield, NJ 08225

the aggressor role, serving as adversary aircraft used to train U.S. pilots for real-world combat. Anchoring the museum's World War II collection is the TBM Avenger, built in Trenton, New Jersey – a powerful reminder of the aircraft and crews that defined naval aviation during the war.

The Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museumm is open year-round, offering an engaging look at aviation, military, and local history through interactive exhibits and immersive displays. The museum also hosts special events including AirFest, Wings & Things, and Christmas at the Hangar.

For hours, upcoming events, or additional information about NAS Wildwood, call 609-886-8787 or visit www.usnasw.org

A TRIP TO the Millville Army Air Field Museum offers one of South Jersey's most compelling windows into World War II aviation history. The museum sits on the grounds of the Millville Airport, dedicated in 1941 as America's First Defense Airport, where nearly 1,500 pilots trained for combat in P-47 Thunderbolts and P-40 Warhawks.

Stepping inside the Millville Army Air Field Museum feels like entering a living chapter of wartime America. Exhibits span five wings and include aircraft parts, uniforms, photographs, and personal stories that bring the airfield's mission to life. Visitors can explore military vehicles in the courtyard, view the historic Link Trainer, and learn how young pilots prepared for the dangers of overseas combat.

The museum's intimate scale makes it easy to absorb the history without feeling rushed, and its knowledgeable volunteers add depth with firsthand insights. Educational events, movie programs, and special commemorations – such as Veterans Day – make it a dynamic stop for families, aviation enthusiasts, and history lovers alike. Less than an hour from the Jersey Cape, it's an ideal cultural detour during a coastal getaway. •

Visit the Millville Army Air Field Museum at 1 Leddon Street, Millville Executive Airport, Millville; 856-327-2347. www.p47millville.org

SOUTHERN SHORE AIRSHOWS

Visitors will find that aviation excitement takes flight across Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties, each community brings its own flair to the region's sky-high celebrations.

Atlantic County continues its tradition of drawing crowds for the iconic **Atlantic City Airshow**, May 29-30, a summertime spectacle that sends elite civilian and military performers soaring above the Boardwalk and glittering oceanfront.

In Cape May County, the annual **Thunder Over the Waves Airshow,** Sept. 11-12, is best viewed from the beaches in the Wildwoods, and brings military precision and beach-front drama to the shoreline, complementing the county's beloved **AirFest at the Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum** set for Labor Day Weekend where historic aircraft, flyovers, and live entertainment fill a WWII hangar with energy.

Just up the coast, Meanwhile, air-show season at the **Millville Army Air Field Museum** brings a burst of adrenaline to South Jersey's skies. Travelers can watch vintage warbirds and modern aircraft roar overhead at "America's First Defense Airport," where history and high-flying spectacle meet. The museum's air shows blend thrilling aerobatics with living history, offering an up-close look at restored WWII planes, skilled pilots, and the legacy of the nation's first Army Air Defense Base.





CAPE MAY MAC

History happens every day



THE IMPRESSIVE 1879 Emlen Physick Estate is widely considered the best example of Victorian Stick Style architecture in the country. The Cape May Music Festival, now in its 36th year, is a gem of a festival featuring classical music, jazz and Americana. A fleet of shiny, comfortable trolleys crisscrosses the historic district, a far cry from the tractor that hauled an open-air trolley around town in the 1970s. The restored 1859 Cape May Lighthouse opened to the public in 1988, and more than 2.5 million people have climbed to the top. The historic World War II Lookout Tower, Fire Control Tower No. 23, also underwent restoration.

All this is thanks to Cape May MAC (Museums+Arts+Culture), which has spent more than five decades leading preservation, history and education efforts that helped America's oldest seaside resort reinvent itself.

Cape May's renaissance is linked to a huge mansion on Washington Street that appeared beyond salvaging around 1970, overgrown and possibly even haunted. When plans surfaced to demolish the building, a determined group of volunteers banded together to save and restore the Emlen Physick Estate. They not only saved the Physick Estate but helped revitalize Cape May, forming the Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts, renamed Cape May MAC in 2020. In 1976, the entire city was declared a National Historic Landmark because of its remarkable collection of 19th-Century buildings, one of the largest concentrations of seaside Victorians in the country.

Guided tours of the 1879 Physick House Museum provide an in-depth look at Victorian architecture and how the Physick family and their staff lived, worked and spent their leisure time. The 18-room mansion was designed by famed American architect Frank Furness. Cape May MAC also offers curated trolley tours, walking tours, house tours and golf cart tours led by knowledgeable guides.

Cape May MAC celebrates more than Victorian history. The year 2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding. While Cape May was remote from much of the Revolutionary War, it occupied a strategic location at the tip of the Cape. Visitors can learn about Cape May's little-known naval role in the American War of Independence in "Revolutionary Cape May," an exhibit at the city's Welcome Center in 2026.

The year also marks two significant anniversaries for the City of Cape May: the 175th anniversary of its incorporation and the 50th anniversary of its designation as a National Historic Landmark. Cape May celebrates its unique place as "America's First Seaside Resort" and the nation's only National Historic Landmark City. Visit the Carroll Gallery exhibit "Cape May – The First and Only" from May 1 to Nov. 2. Each winter, the Carroll Gallery also highlights local Black history in conjunction with Center for Community Arts, while a partnership with the Harriet Tubman Museum of New Jersey explores Cape May's role in the Underground Railroad and Harriet Tubman's presence there.

Fast forward to December, when hundreds of Christmas tours celebrate the season. The Christmas Candlelight House Tour, held on three Saturday evenings before Christmas since 1974, remains a highlight, featuring homes, inns, churches and hotels decorated for the holidays, including the Physick House Museum and a special holiday exhibit at the Carroll Gallery.

Throughout the year, visitors can enjoy crafts shows, concerts, scavenger hunts, a Harvest Brew Fest, Lessons of History lectures, Scarecrow Alley, cruises, murder mystery dinners, Sherlock Holmes weekends, Victorian Weekend, ghost tours, food and wine events, Halloween Happenings and six full weeks of Christmas tours beginning the Saturday before Thanksgiving. •

Cape May MAC is headquartered at 1048 Washington St., Cape May; 609-884-5404; www.capemaymac.org





Cape May MAC celebrates the history and enriches the life of the greater Cape May region. We breathe life into the stories and places of the past and foster unforgettable experiences in the arts, history, and culture.

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WHERE THE SHORE SAYS "I DO"

Planning Destination Weddings in Atlantic, Cape May & Cumberland Counties



COUPLES ARE INCREASINGLY choosing Southern New Jersey for their destination weddings, and it's easy to understand why. While the beaches are undeniably romantic, the region's appeal stretches far beyond the shoreline. Southern New Jersey offers a blend of natural beauty, historic charm, unexpected venues, and a deep network of experienced wedding professionals who know how to bring a couple's vision to life.

With a diverse collection of settings that range from oceanfront vows to ceremonies held beneath the wings of vintage aircraft. Planning a destination wedding here means embracing variety – whether the dream is a barefoot ceremony on the sand, a Victorian-era garden party, or a rustic vineyard. The region offers couples the chance to craft a celebration that reflects their style while giving guests a memorable getaway.

Cape May County beaches are among the most picturesque on the East Coast, especially Sunset Beach, where the west-facing shoreline creates golden-hour ceremonies

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bathed in warm, romantic light.

Cape May is the romantic classic: Victorian architecture, quiet beaches, and sunsetwashed backdrops that feel tailormade for elegant ceremonies. Many couples choose historic inns or grand seaside hotels, where wrap-around porches, manicured gardens, and intage charm create a timeless atmosphere. The town's slower pace adds to the appeal, turning a wedding weekend into a relaxed getaway for guests who can wander boutiques, sip local wine, or explore the lighthouse between events.

Wildwood offers a completely different energy – vibrant, nostalgic, and full of personality. Its wide beaches and iconic boardwalk set the stage for weddings that lean playful and bold. Couples who want a celebration with a bit of flair often gravitate here, embracing everything from retroinspired photo sessions to oceanfront venues with sweeping views. The island's spacious beaches also make it a favorite for larger gatherings.

Ocean City strikes a balance between family friendly charm and coastal sophistication. Known for its clean, welcoming beaches and classic boardwalk, it's a natural fit for couples envisioning a bright, breezy ceremony by the water. Many choose to host their celebrations where guests can enjoy a laidback weekend of minigolf, bike rides, and saltwater taffy. The town's wholesome atmosphere makes appealing for multigenerational weddings.

Avalon and Stone Harbor offer quieter, upscale stretches of sand perfect for refined coastal weddings.

Atlantic County, vibrant and full of energy, is the region's powerhouse for couples seeking endless possibilities. Brigantine Beach remains a favorite for those who want a quieter shoreline, with its wide beaches and natural dunes creating a serene, intimate setting. Just across the inlet, Atlantic City offers a more glamorous take on the beach wedding, where resorts such as Hard Rock, Ocean Casino Resort, and Resorts Casino Hotel provide private beach access, ocean-view terraces, and shimmering ballrooms perfect for celebrations.

Many couples choose to host their ceremony on the sand and then transition to a rooftop cocktail hour overlooking the Atlantic, blending natural beauty with full-service convenience. Beyond the beach, Atlantic County offers unexpected venues that add character and charm. Renault Winery in Egg Harbor City brings Old-World elegance to the forefront with its vineyards, historic hotel, and European-inspired tasting rooms. Museums, aquariums, and arts spaces also provide creative alternatives,

WEDDING VENUES AND RESOURCES

Cape May Convention Hall: Located steps away from the waves of the Atlantic Ocean, the Cape May Beachfront Ballroom combines the best qualities of indoor and outdoor events. The Beachfront Ballroom offers you complete flexibility in planning your big day. Coordinate with your choice of vendors to add your personal style. Enjoy unlimited flexibility in choosing your own vendors, including caterers, musicians and wedding coordinators and more. Make your dream wedding experience come true at The Beachfront Ballroom at Cape May Convention Hall! **www.capemaycity.com**

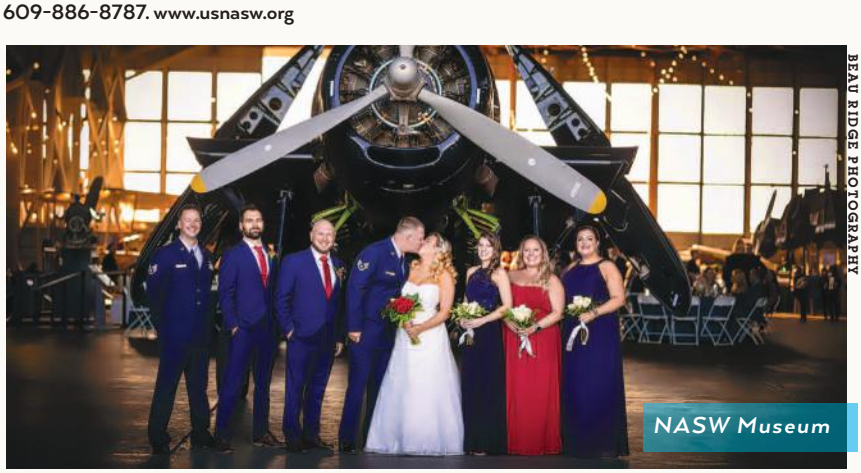
Madison Resorts: Weddings along the shore create their own breathtaking backdrop for your special memories. Madison Resorts' properties, Montreal Beach Resort in Cape May and Madison Resort Wildwood provide multiple options. Walk down the aisle to your wedding ceremony right on the beach with a view of ocean waves as your backdrop at either resort. Both properties are located on some of Cape May counties' most beautiful beaches. Madison Resort Wildwood Crest's Ocean Tower pool deck can accommodate up to 200 guests for a ceremony, with a spacious adjacent patio that is perfect for a reception under the stars. Harry's Ocean Bar & Grille's rooftop deck at Montreal Beach Resort is a highly sought after reception site that looks out over the beach and ocean for a scenic event. **www.madisonresorts.com**

Inn Of Cape May: Hosting your wedding at The Inn of Cape May offers a timeless, romantic setting that transforms your special day into an unforgettable experience. Nestled in one of New Jersey's most charming seaside towns, the Inn blends historic elegance with modern comfort, creating an atmosphere that feels both intimate and sophisticated. Its beautifully preserved Victorian architecture and wrap around porch provide a stunning backdrop for ceremonies and photographs, while the ocean, just steps away, adds a natural touch of coastal romance. The Inn of Cape May's team of professionals are known for their personalized service, attention to detail, and seamless execution. A private tasting will allow you to customize a menu which reflects your unique style and culinary preferences, ensuring a dining experience your guests will remember. Whether you're dreaming of an intimate gathering or a larger celebration, the Inn offers onsite accommodations for your guests, and flexible indoor and outdoor spaces that can be tailored to your needs. With its unique charm, exceptional service, and picturesque location, The Inn of Cape May is more than a venue – it's a destination where lasting memories are made. Contact the Director of Sales, Jeri Anne Gerace, today to find out more information and book your tour! **609-884-5555, ext. 4. Jerianne@innofcapemay.com**

Vacation Rentals Wildwood and Ocean City: Looking for a vacation rental in Wildwood or Ocean City NJ? Check out VRWW and VROCNJ for the best selection and the lowest prices when planning a Jersey Shore vacation. Start your search with your vacation dates, the neighborhood of interest and the number of people in your group or family. Filter the results to show only the rentals that are close to the beach, have pools, are pet friendly or whatever your criteria, and fit for your price range. View the listing details including photos, amenities, rates, availability, interactive location map and reviews. Once you find that perfect rental, contact the owner or the Realtor in the listing where you will #bookdirect – and save up to 25 percent on fees and taxes that VRBO and Airbnb charge. That's a lot of extra cash that can be used for vacation fun. Vacationers can also create a free account to save favorites, share with friends and keep track of booking requests and messages to owners. New listings are added every day; if your travel plans are last minute, visit the Special Offers page for cancellations and deals for additional savings. Ready to start a search for the perfect beach rental? **Visit VRWW at www.VacationRentalsWildwood.com**

or VROCNJ at www.VacationRentalsOceancityNJ.com

Nasw Museum: One of the most distinctive venues in Cape May County is the NASW Aviation Museum at the Cape May County Airport, where couples can exchange vows beneath vintage aircraft, host cocktail hour in an open hangar, and dance the night away surrounded by aviation history. Its dramatic architecture and industrial chic aesthetic make it ideal for couples seeking a bold, unconventional celebration, and photographers love the striking backdrops found in every direction. **609-886-8787. www.usnasw.org**



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including the Atlantic City Aquarium, where waterfront views and marine-life exhibits add a playful twist to receptions.

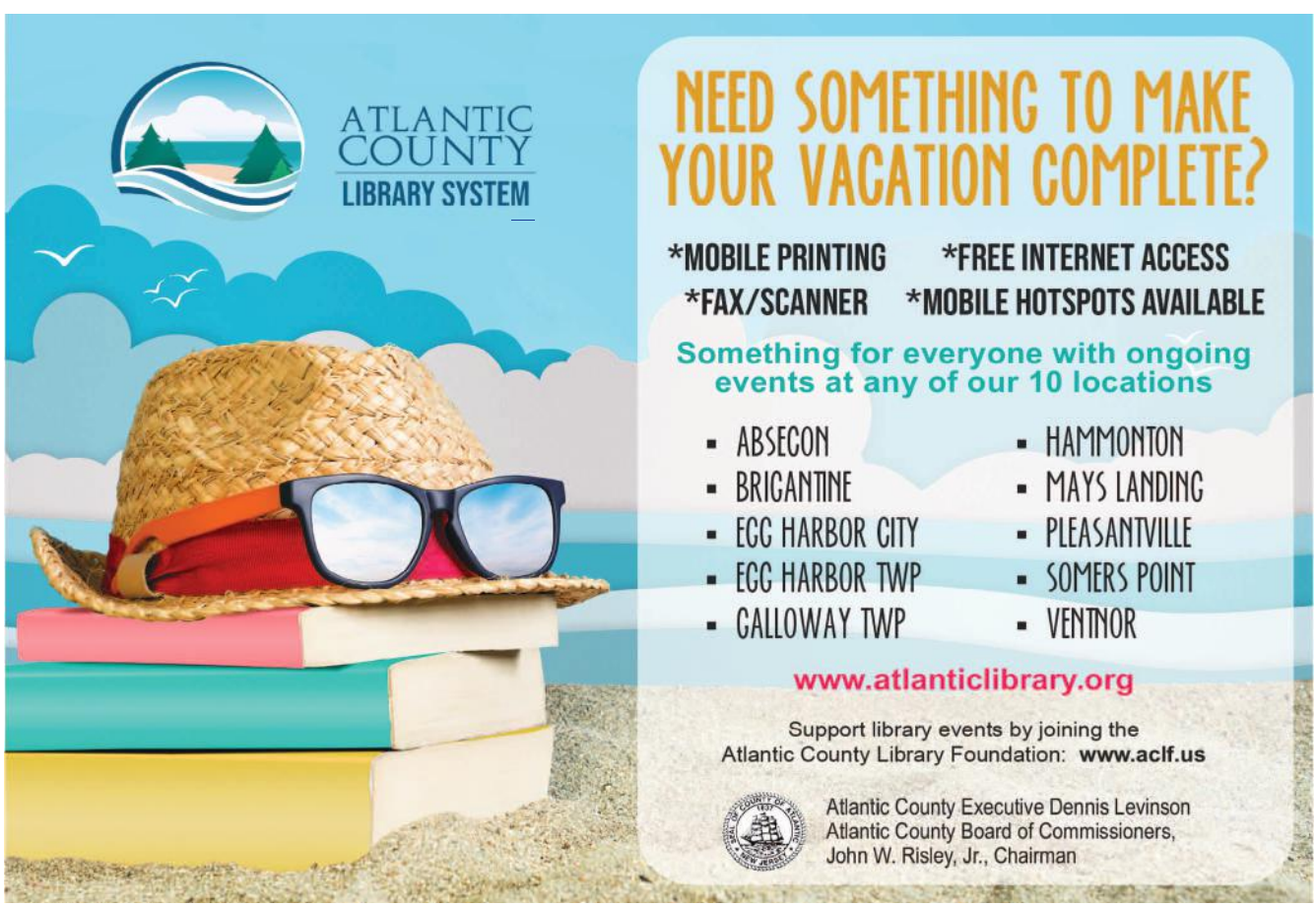
The county's hospitality infrastructure makes planning seamless, with full-service resorts offering spas, salons, and bridal suites; seasoned wedding planners specializing in beach and resort weddings; award-winning restaurants ideal for rehearsal dinners; and easy transportation through Atlantic City International Airport. Here, logistics fade into the background, allowing couples to focus on the celebration itself.


Madison Resorts

Cumberland County offers a different kind of destination wedding – one rooted in nature, tranquility, and rustic charm. For couples seeking a celebration away from the bustle of the shore, this county provides peaceful beauty and intimate settings. While it doesn't have ocean beaches, Cumberland offers serene waterfront locations along the Maurice River, Delaware Bay, and many lakes, making it ideal for quiet, nature-inspired ceremonies.

The Glasstown Arts District in Millville offers industrial-chic venues perfect for creative couples, while wineries provide vineyard views and cozy tasting rooms that lend themselves to relaxed, romantic celebrations. The county's wedding professionals emphasize personalization and local charm, from family-owned caterers specializing in regional cuisine to florists who incorporate native greenery along with seasonal blooms. Nature-focused photographers capture the area's marshlands, forests, and river views, and affordable accommodations make it easy to host larger guest lists.

What truly sets Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties apart is their diversity. Within a short drive, couples can choose from oceanfront ceremonies, historic Victorian estates, vineyards and wineries, museums and aviation hangars, ferry-deck weddings, rustic barns, arts-district venues, and quiet riverfront settings. The region's hospitality industry is built for celebrations, offering everything from luxury resorts to boutique inns. Guests can spend their downtime exploring beaches, boardwalks, wildlife refuges, wineries, lighthouses, and charming downtowns. The region is easily accessible from major cities, and offers all the magic of a destination wedding without the stress of long-distance travel. Southern New Jersey isn't just a place to get married – it's a place where the landscape becomes part of the love story.





MORE than a getaway.
It's Atlantic County.

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Iconic beaches and boardwalks
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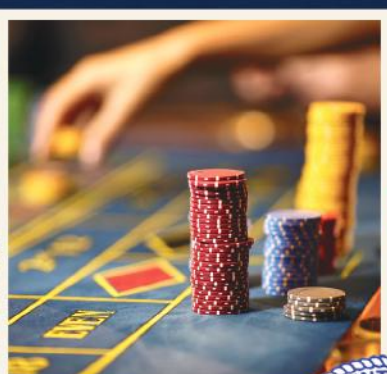
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ATLANTIC CITY

Where Nostalgia Meets New Adventures



NESTLED BETWEEN THE LAND & SEA, Atlantic City is more than just a seaside destination; it's where memory-making moments are created and celebrated. From its iconic past to its vibrant present, the city-by-the-sea blends rich history with modern appeal, offering the perfect backdrop for celebrations big and small.

As the birthplace of the nation's first boardwalk and inspiration for the Monopoly board game, Atlantic City's historic past is woven into every aspect of the city, holding a unique place in American history. The city's diverse communities of Black, Hispanic, and LGBTQIA+ cultures have shaped its vibrant identity, fostering an inclusive environment where every visitor can explore the stories and timeless experiences that continue to define this iconic destination.

Come for the views, stay for the experiences on the world-famous Atlantic City beach and boardwalk. As the world's longest boardwalk, this iconic wooden landmark stretches five miles along the Atlantic coastline, inviting visitors to explore a timeless seaside treasure. Discover top offerings like classic boardwalk treats, luxury beachfront dining, and vibrant nightlife, along with must-visit attractions such as the historic Steel Pier, North Beach Mini Golf & Bike Rentals, Lucky Snake Arcade, and Island Waterpark, the largest indoor beachfront waterpark in the world, and so much more. Just steps away, the free Atlantic City Beach offers the perfect setting to soak up the sun, take a refreshing dip, or enjoy a peaceful sunset stroll.

Rooted in creativity and connection, Atlantic City invites all to experience its vibrant local spirit. From the historic Ducktown neighborhood to the lively Orange Loop, the city's arts scene, diverse culinary offerings, and cultural celebrations immerse visitors and locals alike in its dynamic atmosphere. Whether admiring one of the more than 100 murals or dining at a locally-owned restaurant, each neighborhood showcases the eclectic community that makes Atlantic City truly memorable.

Indulge in the city's diverse culinary scene offering a mix of eclectic flavors and cheers-worthy cuisine. From celebrity chef restaurants to hidden gems loved by locals, there's a table for every tastebud and occasion. Each year, visitors are welcomed to experience the culinary mecca during Taste Atlantic City, where incredible cuisine meets unbeatable value.

Whether you're staying in the Marina District or along the Atlantic City Boardwalk, the city offers a variety of accommodations, from nine luxurious casino resorts to family-friendly hotels. Each resort provides top-tier guest service, amenities for all budgets, and panoramic city views, ensuring a memorable and also a comfortable experience for every traveler.

When the sun sets, Atlantic City comes alive with endless reasons to celebrate. Take in a world-class act at Jim Whelan Boardwalk Hall, dance the night away at the city's nightlife outlets, or be amazed by The Hook, Spiegelworld's adult-only live performance filled with extraordinary talent and hysterical comedy acts. From seasonal events to vibrant cultural festivals, this iconic city is where celebrations live on.

With constant excitement and endless entertainment, relaxation is always on the itinerary. Recharge at one of Atlantic City's world-class spas, where soothing treatments provide the perfect reset before your next celebration.

Visit Atlantic City, where every celebration is unforgettable, and every visit is an opportunity to create memory-making moments and celebrate life's greatest adventures. •

Discover why Atlantic City is a legendary destination that as been captivating visitors for generations. Start planning your next trip at www.VisitAtlanticCity.com

LEARNING AND LIVING HOSPITALITY

The Student Perspective on going to school in Atlantic City at Stockton University



ATLANTIC CITY Atlantic City is more than a tourism destination – it's a living classroom. For Stockton University hospitality, tourism and event management students, the city's casinos, resorts, restaurants and cultural attractions provide daily opportunities to learn, connect and grow.

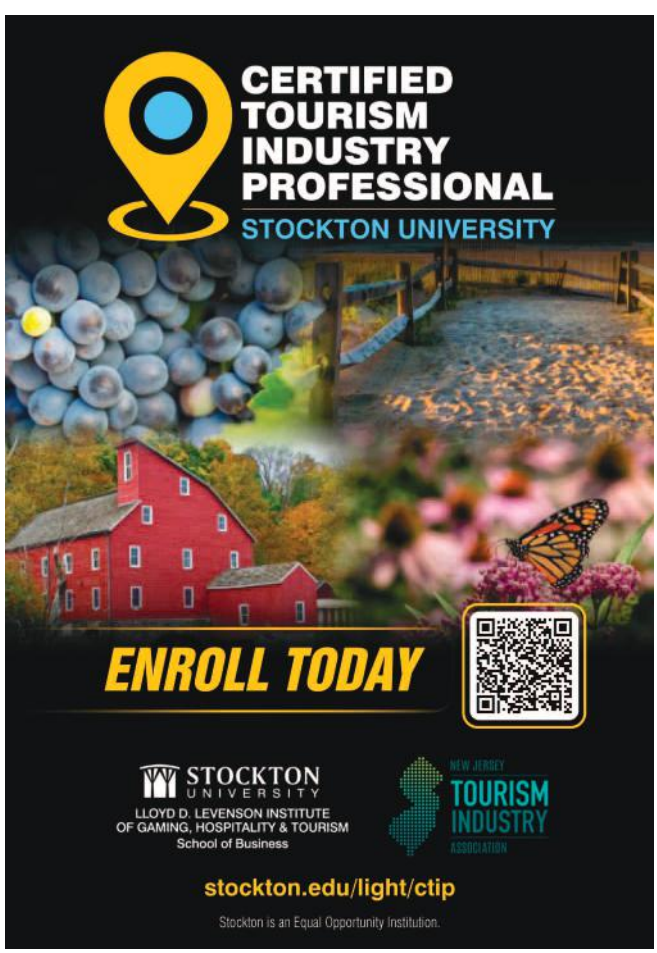
When asked about favorite hangouts, students overwhelmingly mentioned the Boardwalk and beach as places to unwind and feel part of the community. Others cited Tropicana Atlantic City, Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Atlantic City and Ocean Casino Resort as energetic hubs for entertainment and social interaction. Local cafés such as Brewberry Café, Queen Bean Bistro and Brittany's Café also made their list of favorites. Many even included Stockton's Kesselman Hall and their campus housing, underscoring the sense of belonging they've developed in the city.

Concerts, shows and community events also ranked highly. Students enjoy festivals such as the AC Latino Festival and the Christmas tree lighting, while appreciating smaller pop-up events and local art experiences. Memorable moments often centered on hands-on learning – touring hotels and casinos, exploring the Atlantic City Convention Center, and meeting professionals through guest lectures and events. Others recalled watching Fourth of July fireworks or taking walks on the beach with friends.

Students expressed pride in Stockton's role as an anchor institution and bridge between education and industry. Many described the university as a "pipeline to employment," providing direct access to internships, mentorship and professional networks. For hospitality majors, Stockton's Atlantic City campus brings classroom concepts to life through real-world experience in one of the nation's most iconic hospitality destinations.

Want to know more about Stockton's hospitality, tourism and event management program? Contact noel.criscione@stockton.edu





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SECOND SEASON SPECIAL EVENTS

Whether it's referred to as the "second season" or "shoulder season," there's little doubt that post-Labor Day is a special time in Southern New Jersey.



Exit Zero Jazz Festival

AS CHILDREN HEAD BACK TO SCHOOL, the humidity drops and the weather becomes more bearable, the region ramps up its line-up of special events that lasts well past the new holidays.

Those who visit in the summer almost certainly took advantage of the beaches, lakes, and boardwalks. While those attractions are still options in autumn, many visitors return to the Southern Shore Region to take advantage of the shows, parades, decorations, activities and natural surroundings away from the beach.

Each September, Atlantic City holds a Latino Festival, and a jazz festival, and just south of the casino destination, the Downbeach Seafood Festival is held in Ventnor. Nearby Smithville holds an annual Italian Festival amid quaint shops and picturesque village. In October, Smithville celebrates Oktoberfest, and later an Irish Festival, while Atlantic City holds the third oldest continuing marathon (Oct. 17 and 18) in the United States.

The Lighthouse Challenge of New Jersey is an annual event that takes place the third weekend of October each year. The challenge is to visit eleven lighthouses, four lifesaving stations, and one museum over the two-day weekend. The challenge route covers the Atlantic Coast from Sandy Hook to Cape May and the Delaware Bay and River Coast from Cape May to Paulsboro. Take the challenge and learn more about these historic treasures of New Jersey.

Each December, as the holidays near, Atlantic City hosts the Festival of Trees of Boardwalk Hall, where elaborate Christmas trees create a beautiful holiday spectacle. There's also the Noyes Arts Garage Holiday Market and Gingerbread Village. The City of Atlantic City's Winter Wonderland Parade is a festive procession that brings holiday magic to the world-famous Boardwalk.

For more holiday wonder, visit Smithville Village's Lightshow on the Lake from Thanksgiving through early January, with over 120 Christmas trees made from over 50,000 Christmas lights, that magically float on Lake Meone in the center of Historic Smithville. The moment darkness falls, an orchestrated show of lights and music is played out across the lake. The lights seem to dance and chase each other to the music all the while reflecting off the water's surface.

Not far away, in Egg Harbor City, Renault Winery holds their Vinter Wonderland, a celebration of a successful harvest at Renault Winery. This winter festival provides the opportunity to gather loved ones, savor the season, and create enduring memories. From ice skating, to culinary and wine, to local artisans and live entertainment, there's something for everyone this season at Renault. Vinter Wonderland operates Fridays through Sundays from just after Thanksgiving until mid-January.

In Cumberland County, the New Jersey Motorsports Park in Millville revs things up with monster truck shows, Harley motorcycle races , and motocross races. There is something happening every weekend at the park.

Millville is also home to WheatonArts, which has held its Festival of Fine Craft for the past 26 years. More than 150 artisans are on hand to show off their handcrafted works of art and provide demonstrations. There are family activities, music, and food trucks



Vinter Wonderland

Cumberland Events!

These events & many more are happening in 2026 in Cumberland County







MAY 15 – 24: Bridgeton Invitational Baseball Tournament. www.bridgetoninvitationalbaseballtournament.sportngin.com

JUNE 6-7: Pow-Wow Event. Millville. www.nanticoke-lenape.info

JUNE 13: Cruise Down Memory Lane Car Show. Landis Avenue, Vineland. www.TheAve.biz





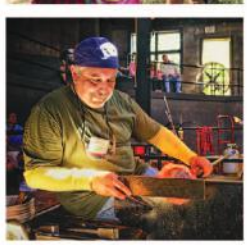
JUNE 20: Kite and Color Festival. Millville. www.foisnj.org

JUNE 27: Food Truck Festival. NJ Motorsports Park. www.njmp.com

JULY 7–11: Cumberland County Fair, County Fairgrounds, Millville.

JULY 19–26: Puerto Rican Festival Week. www.facebook.com/vinelandprfestival





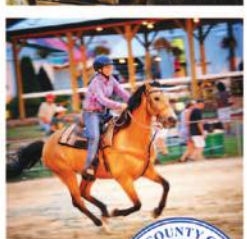
AUGUST 15-16: Peach Festival. Shoppes at Dragon Village, Hopewell Twp. www.Shoppesatdragonvillage.com

SEPTEMBER 19: Hopewell Harvest Fair, Hopewell Twp. www.facebook.com/HopewellTownshipCumberlandCountyNJ

SEPTEMBER 26: Run for the Animals 5K for the Cohanzick Zoo. www.cohanzick-zoo.org

SEPTEMBER 26-27: Artisans' Faire & Marketplace. Gibbon House in Greenwich. www.greenwichcraftfaire.com





OCTOBER 3 & 4: Festival of Fine Craft, WheatonArts & Cultural Center, Millville. www.Wheatonarts.org

NOVEMBER 7: The 24th annual Millville Army Air Field Museum Veterans Appreciation Day. www.p47millville.org

DECEMBER 5: Christmas Village. Shoppes at Dragon Village, Hopewell Twp. www.Shoppesatdragonvillage.com

Cumberland County, New Jersey

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to please all at this event that is held in early October each year.

Starting Sept. 27 and running weekends through Nov. 2, Bridgeton is home to the Hedge Field Fall Fest, with a corn maze, wagon rides, pumpkin patch, wagon rides, a flashlight maze at night, concession stands and vendors.

Whether you're a history enthusiast, a beachgoer, or simply someone who loves a spectacular skyward show, the season's coastal aviation festivals promise some of the most memorable moments of the year.

Kicking things off is Airfest, September 3 - 6, hosted by the NASW Aviation Museum. This beloved Labor Day tradition transforms the holiday weekend into a vibrant celebration of numerous vintage aircraft, worldclass aerial performances, and interactive exhibits that captivate aviation fans of every age.

The excitement continues with Thunder Over the Waves, September 11-12, delivering an adrenaline charged blend of aviation heritage and high energy flight displays that electrify the Jersey Cape shoreline.

The month reaches its grand finale with the Boardwalk Aerobatic Airshow that takes place on September 20. Here, elite pilots paint the sky above the shimmering Atlantic with smoke trails, loops, and precision maneuvers – an unforgettable crescendo to a spectacular coastal aviation season.

Cape May County truly embraces the cooler weather events. Oktoberfest is the vibe each weekend from mid-September through mid-October at Morey's Piers on the Boardwalk in the Wildwood. Another annual Wildwoods event is the vintage muscle car show held each September along the Wildwoods Boardwalk.

In early September Sea Isle City holds its annual Fall Family Festival along with Promenade with craft vendors, face painting, food concessions, and family activities.

The 51st annual NJ State Fireman's Convention and parade will be held, centered at the Wildwoods Convention Center, Sept. 18 and 19. Firetrucks from all over New Jersey will be displayed, and vendors will be on hand around the center as well as Fox Park. The annual parade steps off at 2 p.m. and parades through Wildwood to North Wildwood.

North Wildwood turns green Sept. 24 to 27 as the annual Irish Fall Festival takes over. A celebration of all things Irish brings a multitude of visitors to the resort for Irish food, drink, an amateur boxing match, 5K run, vendors, and good times.

That very weekend, in the middle of the island, Wildwood hosts the annual Olde Tyme Italian Festival at Fox Park near the Boardwalk with vendors and concessions doling out cannolis, pizza, and pizzelles amid traditional Italian performers and some Dean Martin music.

At the other end of the resort island, in Wildwood Crest, will be the annual Seafarers Celebration on Sept. 26, with fireworks, performances, dancing, vendors, and nautical-themed festivities along the Crest's scenic Sunset Lake.

As if festivals in each location didn't fill the calendar, the Wildwoods also host Monsters on the Beach truck races and demonstrations on the beach Sept. 25 to 27.

The Wildwoods aren't the only resort with second-season events. In September, the Emlen Physick Estate in Cape May hosts its Harvest Brew Fest with breweries, food, artisans and live music. Of course, the resort's Mid-Atlantic Center for the Arts (MAC) holds year-round trolley and walking tours around America's Oldest Seaside Resort.

October is a busy month, with the Avalon Arts and Seafood Festival, and over in West Cape May, the oft-overlooked legume is celebrated with the annual Lima Beach Festival. Historic Cold Spring village hosts a pumpkin festival with hayrides, games, and family fun. Birding enthusiasts will appreciate the annual Cape May Audubon Fall Festival in mid-October, and throughout the month Cape May's Washington Street Mall is alive with German heritage with its Oktoberfest. Middle Township will hold its 28th annual Harvest Festival in downtown Cape May Court House with more than 100 vendors, entertainment, food, pony rides, and many other family-friendly activities.

The Exit Zero Jazz Festival (formerly the Cape May Jazz Festival) will be held Oct. 23 to 25 as international jazz artists take to the stage in various Cape May locations.

Willow Creek Winery in West Cape May holds its fall festival in early November, and after Thanksgiving, many of the towns kick off the holiday season with tree lightings, tours, and holiday events. Ocean City holds a downtown Shopping Extravaganza along Asbury Avenue and events at the Music Pier.

Even the county airport gets into the spirit of the season with Christmas at the Hangar at Naval Air Station Wildwood with live music, face painting, cookies, and Santa, usually over the Black Friday weekend.

Expect Cape May to be a hotbed of holiday activity with a Holiday Preview Weekend, Christmas Candlelight Tours, Lamplighter Christmas Tours, Ghosts of Christmas Past Trolley rides, Holiday Inns Tours, Breakfast with Santa, and more. The lawn at Congress Hall becomes a Winter Wonderland as the festivally-decorated hotel is home to vendors and concessions, all devoted to fostering the holiday spirit.

The post-summer season in New Jersey's Southern Shore is unquestionably worth the trip! •



Polar Bear Events

THE CAPE MAY LEWES FERRY

Rediscover the thrill of exploration



THE CAPE MAY-LEWES FERRY is an important transportation link connecting North Cape May, New Jersey and Lewes, Delaware. For visitors a ride on the ferry is an invitation to discover charming Victorian architecture and pristine beaches. The iconic ferry service offers a scenic way to travel between the two states, making it more than just a means of travel.

Passengers can choose the open-air observation deck for fresh sea air or the climate-controlled comfort of the indoor lounges. Guest amenities on board include food and alcoholic beverage service, gift shops, and free Wi-Fi.

The ferry operates every day, year-round, inviting foot passengers, cyclists and drivers to enjoy the 85-minute crossing. On board, passengers can see historic lighthouses, picturesque harbors and oceangoing vessels. Travelers are often treated to sightings of marine life, including dolphins, whales, seals, osprey and bald eagles.

The ferry accommodates vehicles of all sizes, including cars, SUVs, pick-up trucks, RVs, buses, and motorcycles. Fares vary depending on the passenger's age, vehicle type, and travel dates, with discounted fares available for frequent travelers.

The modern terminals at Cape May and Lewes offer restaurants, lounges, mini golf, and cornhole. Shuttle services to and from Cape May's Welcome Center are available during the summer and early fall, while the DART Route 204 bus operates seasonally from the Lewes terminal.

If you are visiting or residing in New Jersey's Southern Shore, the ferry is a convenient way to travel between New Jersey and Delaware, especially for those who want to avoid highway traffic. Best of all, a ride on the Cape May-Lewes Ferry offers a great way to take in the natural beauty of the region and discover the thrill of exploration.

Book your trip today at www.cmlf.com or call 1-800-643-3779 for event information, schedules and reservations.



A TASTE OF SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY

Dining Your Way Through Atlantic, Cape May & Cumberland Counties



Stowaways at the Cape May Ferry

SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY has a way of surprising travelers. Sure, people come for the beaches, the boardwalks, the casinos, and the wildlife-rich marshlands – but what they often don't expect is the depth and diversity of the region's dining scene. From chef-driven restaurants tucked into Victorian streets to oyster shacks perched along tidal rivers, this corner of the state offers a culinary landscape shaped by the sea, the soil, and the people who've called it home for generations.

If you're exploring Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties, consider this your guide to eating exceptionally well along the way.

Cape May County turns dining into an experience – one shaped by Victorian charm, maritime heritage, and chefs who treat local ingredients with genuine respect. Cape May itself, often considered one of the most picturesque towns on the East Coast, offers a culinary scene that's every bit as beautiful as its streets lined with historic inns and gingerbread-trimmed homes. Many of these elegant buildings hide exceptional restaurants that celebrate the region's agricultural richness, from cozy farm-to-table cafés to refined, upscale dining rooms.

Once dubbed the Restaurant Capital of the East Coast by the New York Times, Cape May continues to evolve its culinary identity. Elaine's Cape May blends atmosphere and creativity, offering indoor and outdoor dining nearly year-round, complete with heaters, firepits, live entertainment, and a menu as eclectic as the setting.

At the Inn of Cape May, Ocean 7 invites guests to enjoy breakfast coffee in the plush lobby, cocktails on the breezy porch, or a more formal dinner featuring modern takes on American classics made with seasonal ingredients.

Along the beachfront, charming eateries pair ocean views with memorable meals. Harry's Ocean Bar & Grille at the Montreal Inn serves inventive dishes from the city's only rooftop deck, while The Lobster House delivers a quintessential waterfront experience – boats bobbing in the harbor, gulls overhead, and seafood so fresh it tastes like summer.

Every shore town in Cape May County brings its own flavor. Wildwood leans into nostalgia with oversized pancakes, hand-cut fries, funnel cakes, and neon-lit seafood joints that feel like pure Americana. Stone Harbor and Avalon offer a more elevated scene, with chic bistros, raw bars shucking icy local oysters, and chefs showcasing Jersey corn, heirloom tomatoes, and just-caught fluke. In Sea Isle City, Fish Alley buzzes with energy – whether you're enjoying live music at Oar House Pub or digging into a seafood feast at Mike's Seafood and Dock Restaurant.

Atlantic County is best known for Atlantic City, a place where neon lights and ocean breezes mingle with the smell of frying dough and saltwater taffy. But beyond the casinos and carnival-bright boardwalks, the county has quietly evolved into one of the most dynamic dining destinations on the East Coast.

Atlantic City's dining scene has undergone a renaissance. Celebrity chefs have opened outposts in the casinos, bringing polished menus and theatrical dining rooms. But the real magic lies in the mix – high-end restaurants coexisting with beloved local institutions.

Start with the classics. Dock's Oyster House, a century-old landmark, remains a must-visit for seafood lovers. Its raw bar is a celebration of the region's maritime heritage, featuring oysters harvested from nearby waters and clams so fresh they taste like the ocean itself.

For something more contemporary, head to the Knife & Fork Inn, where historic architecture meets modern cuisine. The menu leans into elevated comfort – think lobster thermidor, dry-aged steaks, and

cocktails served with old-school glamour.

But Atlantic City's most exciting dining often happens off the casino floor. In the city's diverse neighborhoods, you'll find everything from Vietnamese pho shops to Dominican bakeries to Italian red-sauce joints that feel like time capsules. The multicultural energy of the city is reflected in its food, making it a place where you can eat around the world in a single afternoon.

Drive inland and Atlantic County reveals a different side of itself. Towns like Hammonton – known as the Blueberry Capital of the World – offer farm-to-table dining shaped by the region's agricultural roots.

Local wineries such as Tomasello and Renault pair their vintages with seasonal menus, while family-run trattorias and bakeries reflect the area's deep Italian heritage. It's a quieter, more pastoral version of the county, but no less delicious.

Cumberland County doesn't always make the headlines, but travelers who venture here discover a world of rustic charm, rich cultural traditions, and some of the freshest seafood in the state.

Cumberland County's identity is tied to the Delaware Bay, and nowhere is that more evident than in the historic oyster villages of Bivalve and Port Norris. This is the heart of New Jersey's oyster industry, where generations of watermen have harvested the bay's briny treasures.

Visitors can explore the Bayshore Center at Bivalve, tour historic schooners, and – most importantly – taste oysters that were in the water mere hours earlier. Whether slurped raw, grilled with herbs, or fried to golden perfection, they're a revelation.

Inland, towns like Millville and Bridgeton offer a surprising array of international cuisines. Thanks to diverse communities, you'll find authentic Mexican taquerias, Puerto Rican cafés serving mofongo and a slow-roasted pork dish called Pernil, and soul-food kitchens where the fried chicken is crisp, the collards are slow-cooked, and the hospitality is heartfelt.

In the Glasstown Arts District, The Old Oar House Irish Pub is a cozy, character-filled gathering spot where exposed brick, warm wood, and vintage décor create an inviting, old-world atmosphere. It's the kind of place where locals and visitors mingle over hearty pub fare, craft beers, and live music, making it a true neighborhood gem at the heart of Millville's creative community.


Cape May Food Tours

Cumberland County's agricultural heritage also shines through in its farmers markets and roadside stands. In summer, the peaches, melons, and sweet corn are so flavorful they barely need preparation.

With its wildlife refuges, marshlands, and quiet backroads, Cumberland County invites slow travel – and also slow dining. Many restaurants here embrace simplicity: fresh ingredients, unfussy preparation, and a focus on local sourcing. It's the kind of place where a bowl of clam chowder or a plate of fried flounder feels like the perfect meal after a day spent exploring trails or watching eagles along the Maurice River.

What ties these three counties together isn't just geography. It's a shared appreciation for the land and sea, and a culinary culture shaped by fishermen, farmers, bakers, and chefs who take pride in their craft.

Whether you're savoring oysters on the Delaware Bay, indulging in fine dining in Cape May, or grabbing a late-night slice in Atlantic City, you're tasting the story of Southern New Jersey – one rooted in tradition, creativity, and a deep connection to place.

CAPE MAY'S ORIGINAL WALKING FOOD TOUR: A DELICIOUS STROLL THROUGH HISTORY

Cape May has always been a feast for the senses – Victorian architecture, ocean breezes, and a food scene that surprises even seasoned travelers. But there's one experience that brings all of that charm together in a single unforgettable afternoon: Cape May's original Walking Food Tour. It's part culinary adventure, part historic exploration, and entirely the kind of outing that lingers long after the last bite.

Led by knowledgeable local guides, the tour winds through Cape May's postcard perfect streets, where every corner seems to hold a story. Over the course of 2.5 to 3 leisurely hours, guests stop at five to six eateries ranging from beloved sitdown restaurants to irresistible grab-and-go favorites. Each tasting is thoughtfully chosen to showcase the flavors that define Cape May – fresh, inventive, and rooted in local tradition.

What makes this tour stand out is the way food and history intertwine. As you savor each stop, your guide shares fun facts, surprising tales, and glimpses into the city's rich past. You'll hear about Cape May's evolution from a fashionable Victorian resort to a modern culinary destination, and how the city's chefs, bakers, and artisans continue to shape its identity today. It's a journey through time told one delicious sample at a time.

Travelers often ask whether there's anything else quite like it in Cape May. The truth is that this tour is uniquely its own – an experience built on local passion, insider knowledge, and a genuine love for the town's food culture. It's the perfect outing for curious eaters, history buffs, families, and anyone who believes the best way to know a place is to taste it. EAT. EXPLORE. ENJOY!

Cape May Food Tours: IG @capemay_foodtours, FB @capemayfoodtours

908-300-4630. www.capemayfoodtours.com

TEE OFF IN THE SOUTHERN SHORE

A Golfer's Paradise for Every Skill Level



ONE OF THE FASTEST-GROWING SPORTS in the country is golf, and New Jersey's Southern Shore Region is keeping pace with the demand for high-quality, high-value golf amenities. Whether an occasional duffer or scratch player, the more than two dozen golf facilities in the area are more than enough to satisfy players of all levels.

Leading the pack is Atlantic County, with a plethora of public courses. The only county barrier island with a golf course is **Brigantine Golf Links** is an 18-hole Scottish links style course in the northern section of the barrier island community. This reasonably-priced course offers well-manicured greens in a setting that is part of a National Audubon Society sanctuary.

Nearby, in Northfield, is the historic **Atlantic City Country Club,** which is credited as the birthplace of the term "birdie." Among names of the famous who have played on the course's superior 18 holes are Al Capone, Frank Sinatra, Bob Hope, Lee Trevino, Sam Snead, and Arnold Palmer.

Ottinger Golf Group is the owner of Atlantic City Country Club, as well as **Ballamoor** and **Scotland Run** golf clubs. Ballamoor is in Egg Harbor Township, and Scotland Run is in Williamstown. Set amid 350 acres of lush woodlands, Ballamoor is a golfer's friend with wide fairways and large greens.

Not far from Ballamoor is **Twisted Dune Golf Course,** a links-style course in Egg Harbor Township. Deep ravines, towering grass-covered hills, and more than 100 deep traps and bunkers, make Twisted Dune's 7,200



yards a memorable golfing experience for all. Egg Harbor Township is home to **Harbor Pines Golf Club** as well. Loaded with water (12 ponds creating 17 acres of water), this parkland-style course usually plays with outstanding course conditions.

Blue Heron Pines, in Galloway Township, is a Ron Jaworski-owned facility, frequently regarded as a top value golf destination. WIth 18 holes situated in the Pinelands, this is a beautiful and reasonably-priced course for players of all abilities.

McCullough's Emerald Golf Links in Egg Harbor Township provides an Irish-Scottish golf experience with wide fairways, tricky Southern New Jersey winds, vast natural areas, undulating greens, and some serious mounds and bunkers. Egg Harbor Township is also home to **Green Tree Golf Course,** an 18-hole course with tight fairways and slick greens. A county-operated course, Green Tree also has a public driving range and is a great value for family golf.

Seaview Golf in Galloway Township is one of the more prestigious stops in the South Jersey golf scene. The 6,300-yard layout is less a test of length, and more a test of imagination, accuracy and short game. The Bay Course presents a Scottish-links feel, dramatic seaside views, deep pot bunkers and small undulating greens. It is the current host of the ShopRite LPGA Classic.

Vineyard National in Hammonton is a course nestled among the grapevines and Renault Winery. This 18-hole, 6746 yard, championship golf course features majestic views of the vineyards as it meanders subtly through the Pinelands. Perhaps the most inexpensive golf in the area is **Frog Rock Golf & Country Club** in Hammonton. Open on a first-come, first-served basis (no tee times), a walker can usually play 18 holes for under $20. **Pinelands Golf Club,** also in Hammonton, is an 18-hole, par 71 course that is just over 6,500 yards in length and won't beat up players.

Buena Vista Country Club, located between Hammonton and Vineland, is an 18-hole par-72 championship course with full practice dining facilities

Hamilton Trails Golf Club in Mays Landing is a nine-hole course that requires no tee times.

In northern Cape May County is **Heritage Links golf Course,** in the Ocean View section of Dennis Township. This nine-hole course with ample bunkers and a sprinkling of water features, has just three par-four holes and six par-threes all at reasonable rates.



Ocean City Golf Course, a municipal facility, is a 12-hole, par 37 course adjacent to the island of Ocean City's airport, on the western side of the island. With just one par-four hole, this is a perfect course for a beginner or family outing. Rates in 2024 were under $20 per person per round.

The Pines at Clermont, on Kings Highway in Dennis Township, is a fun nine-hole course that has just enough bunkers and water to make play interesting. At par 31, this course has five par-three holes and four par-four holes. Walkable in a couple of hours, this course also offers carts for a quicker rate of play. Tee times are suggested.

Shore Gate Golf Club, par 72, is an 18-hole course in Ocean View that can be challenging with a total of seven ponds or lakes and 88 bunkers set in 245 acres of pinelands forest. Pristine yet fun, this course is very popular with summer visitors, so be sure to secure your tee time early.

Avalon Golf Club, with 22 bunkers and 10 water hazards, is another busy and popular golf destination near its namesake resort, but situated in the Cape May Court House section of Middle Township. This par-72 course has a full-service restaurant making it a wonderful spot to get some exercise and dine with friends or family!

One of the newer facilities in Cape May County is **Big Little 9,** which bills itself as the "happiest golf course on Earth." Created on 89 acres of meadows, willow oak trees, ponds, and waterfalls it is a challenging par-3 course that offers a fresh and cheerful ambiance while providing a satisfying experience for golfers.

Closer to Cape May is **Cape May National Golf Club,** which is just off Route 9 in Lower Township. This 18-hole, par 71 championship course is another hugely popular course because of its proximity to the Wildwoods and the Cape Mays, and its breathtaking vistas in a wildlife management area. Be sure to book your tee time early to ensure you can play this beautiful course.

Cape May Par 3, is a no-frills, walk-only course that is affordable but dares duffers to control their short game. The course is a nicely-shaded par-54 that is great for beginners, families, or those who want to get in a quick 18 before (or after) the beach.

The western part of the Southern Shore Region, Cumberland County, boasts a decent number of high-quality courses, and golfers all over anxiously await the opening of **Trout National – the Reserve,** set to open in spring 2026. Owned by Major League Baseball great and Millville native Mike Trout, the 11-time MLB All-Star partnered with none other than golf great Tiger Woods to design the championship course.

The Eastlyn Golf Course is a nine-hole course in Vineland with well-manicured grounds that lets golfers ride or walk nine or 18 holes. Wheat Road Golf, also in Vineland, is a nine-hole chip and putt facility that's great for beginners or practice.

At **LaTona Country Club** in Vineland, nine holes are designed for the average player and there's little water on the course to frustrate golfers!

Whether new to the game or able to play like a pro, the Southern Shore Region has a course to fit every playing ability. •

TWO FREE NEW JERSEY ZOOS

Cape May County Zoo & Cohanzick Zoo are worth the trip!



The Cohanzick Zoo

NEW JERSEY MAY BE BEST KNOWN for its beaches, boardwalks, and bustling shore towns, but tucked among its forests and riverbanks are two remarkable zoological treasures – both completely free to visit. The Cape May County Zoo and the Cohanzick Zoo offer wildly different experiences, yet each delivers its own brand of charm, discovery, and family-friendly adventure. Together, they prove that you don't need a major metropolitan zoo – or a pricey ticket – to enjoy unforgettable encounters with wildlife.

CAPE MAY COUNTY ZOO

A Nationally Ranked Gem: If you've ever wondered whether a free zoo could rival the big names, the Cape May County Zoo answers with a confident "yes." Spread across 85 acres within the sprawling Cape May County Park, this beloved destination consistently ranks among the best small zoos in the United States. It's easy to see why: lush, shaded pathways wind through beautifully maintained habitats, home to more than 550 animals representing over 250 species.

The moment you step inside, the zoo's thoughtful layout encourages exploration. The African Savannah is a standout, offering sweeping views of giraffes, zebras, ostriches, and antelope grazing across wide, open fields. Elevated boardwalks allow visitors to linger above the landscape, watching the animals interact in a setting that feels surprisingly expansive for a small zoo. Nearby, the lion habitat draws crowds – especially when the resident pride decides to nap right against the viewing glass, giving guests an up-close look at these majestic cats.

Families will find the zoo especially welcoming. The pathways are stroller-friendly, the habitats are close enough for young children to see clearly, and the surrounding parkland offers even more to enjoy. Playgrounds, picnic areas, bike trails, and open green spaces make it easy to turn a simple zoo visit into a full day outdoors. Many families pack a lunch, wander the zoo in the morning, and spend the afternoon relaxing under the trees or exploring the park's recreational areas.

Animal lovers and curious visitors alike will appreciate the zoo's commitment to conservation and education. Keeper talks, seasonal events, and behind-the-scenes tours offer deeper insight into the care, research, and global partnerships that support endangered species. And because admission is free – donations are encouraged but never required – the zoo remains one of the most accessible attractions in the region.

What truly sets the Cape May County Zoo apart is its atmosphere. It feels intimate without being small, wild without being overwhelming, and polished without losing its natural charm. Whether you're visiting Cape May for a beach vacation or exploring the wineries, breweries, and historic villages inland, the zoo offers a refreshing change of pace – an oasis of shade, greenery, and animal magic.

Open 364 days a year (closed only on Christmas), the Cape May County Zoo is located at 707 Route 9 North in Cape May Court House. Admission and parking are free. More information: 609-465-5271 or www.cmczoo.com

COHANZICK ZOO

New Jersey's First Zoo, Full of Heart: About an hour north, tucked along the quiet, tree-lined banks of the Cohansey River in Bridgeton, the Cohanzick Zoo offers a very different – but equally delightful – experience. Established in 1934, it holds the distinction of being New Jersey's first zoo. Its name honors the Cohanzicks, a Lenape people who once lived



The Cape May County Zoo

along these same waters. Today, the river still provides a peaceful backdrop to this intimate, family-friendly attraction.

One of the zoo's most beloved residents is Lolli the emu, a local celebrity who nearly rivals the fame of her commercial-star cousin, LiMu. She shares her home with a lively cast of characters: ring-tailed lemurs Nora and Clyde, Winston the wallaby, gibbons Sandy and Koko, and marmosets Chase and Oxy. Each brings its own personality to the zoo, making every visit feel a bit like catching up with old friends.

The big cats are another highlight. Bengal tiger brothers Mahesha and Rishi, once tiny cubs, now command attention with their powerful presence. Nearby, African leopard sisters Nakie and Shuri offer a striking contrast – Nakia with her classic spotted coat, and Shuri with her rare melanistic coloring, her hidden rosettes visible only when the sunlight hits just right.

Adding to the zoo's charm is a whimsical collection of animal sculptures scattered throughout the grounds. Visitors can spot Gordy the gorilla, Mr. Kipling the life-sized Komodo dragon, Shorty the giraffe, and Daisy and George, a sweet mother-and-baby gorilla duo. These playful installations make the zoo feel both artistic and inviting.

Supported by the Cohanzick Zoological Society and a dedicated local community, the zoo continues to grow and evolve. Over the decades, it has provided sanctuary for thousands of animals – from injured wildlife and orphaned youngsters to exotic pets that needed a new home. Its mission is rooted in compassion, education, and accessibility.

Just beyond the zoo, Bridgeton City Park offers even more to explore, with a children's splash park, scenic walking paths, and the shimmering waters of Sunset Lake. It's easy to spend a full afternoon wandering the grounds and enjoying the peaceful setting. •

Admission is free, with donations helping to support the animals' care. Visit at 45 Mayor Aitken Drive, Bridgeton. More information: 856-453-1658 or www.cohanzick-zoo.org



The Children's Splash Park at Bridgeton City Park



SMARTER TRAVEL PLANNING

Planning a getaway to New Jersey's Southern Shore is easier with a little help from AI



PLANNING A TRIP TO NEW JERSEY'S southernmost counties – Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland – has always promised a mix of beaches, boardwalks, historic towns, and quiet stretches of nature. Today, travelers have a new planning companion: artificial intelligence. With the right tools, visitors can build custom itineraries, discover lesser-known places, and make smarter decisions about when and where to go

Many travelers start with a simple prompt in an AI assistant such as **ChatGPT, Gemini, or Claude**. A question like "Plan a three-day trip to the Jersey Cape with beaches, seafood, wildlife, and wineries" can quickly generate a day-by-day outline. These tools work like a digital concierge, suggesting attractions, helping refine travel plans, and answering questions along the way.

Dedicated AI trip planners can go even further. Platforms such as **GuideGeek, Wonderplan, and Mindtrip** specialize in building itineraries. Enter your travel dates and interests, and the software can organize activities, map routes, and suggest dining stops across the region.

Atlantic County is best known for Atlantic City's iconic boardwalk, casinos, and also it's entertainment venues. AI tools can help visitors look beyond the bright lights by tailoring suggestions based on personal interests. A traveler focused on food might ask an AI assistant to design a progressive dining tour of Atlantic City's restaurants, while families might request a half-day plan around Steel Pier and the boardwalk arcades. Outdoor enthusiasts might discover nearby natural areas such as the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, where bird-watchers often visit during migration seasons.

Cape May County offers a different atmosphere – historic towns, beach communities, and scenic coastal landscapes. AI planning tools can help organize a full day in Cape May City, from touring Victorian architecture to catching sunset views at Cape May Point State Park. Travelers can also ask AI to recommend quieter beaches, family-friendly attractions, or winery stops along the growing wine trail.

Families might prompt an assistant to "create a kid-friendly day in Cape May County," which could return a schedule that includes the Cape May County Zoo, miniature golf, ice cream breaks, and time on the beach. Couples planning a relaxed getaway might instead ask for winery visits paired with scenic drives through the county's coastal towns.

Cumberland County provides another side of the Southern Shore experience. Known for its rural landscapes and outdoor recreation, the county offers excellent bird-watching along the Maurice River, kayaking routes through tidal waterways, and a thriving arts scene in Millville's Glasstown Arts District. AI assistants can recommend activities based on interests such as wildlife photography, paddling routes, or local galleries.

Because attractions in Cumberland County are more spread out, navigation tools can also play an important role. Apps like **Google Maps and Waze** use predictive technology to analyze traffic conditions and suggest efficient driving routes. A well-planned drive can easily link together birding spots, small towns, and local farm markets throughout the region.

Restaurant discovery has also become easier with **Yelp and Tripadvisor,** which use recommendation systems to highlight restaurants and attractions based on traveler interests and reviews. Visitors can find popular seafood restaurants in Margate, waterfront dining in Cape May, or farm-to-table options in Vineland and Bridgeton.

For travelers who want to experiment with AI planning, the process can be as simple as asking a few targeted questions:

- *"Where are the quietest beaches found in Cape May County?"*
- *"Plan us a bird-watching day along the Maurice River."*
- *"Create a family itinerary with the Cape May County Zoo and nearby beaches."*
- *"Design a seafood and winery weekend along the Jersey Cape."*

By blending the natural beauty, history, and attractions of Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties with modern AI tools, travelers can plan trips that fit their interests more precisely than ever before. Whether the goal is a lively boardwalk weekend, a peaceful nature escape, or a scenic coastal drive, AI can help turn a simple travel idea into a well-organized getaway.

REVOLUTION RAIL

A Unique Way to Tour Cape May



NEW JERSEY'S SOUTHERN SHORE is famed for its stunning beaches, bays, boardwalks, and delightful dining. But what if you're looking for outdoor fun beyond the "salt life?" Whether the sun is shining or the summer rain offers a refreshing cool-down, we've got the perfect adventure for you!

Welcome to Revolution Rail, where rail-biking adventures in the heart of Cape Island have become a bucket-list activity since its debut in 2020. Starting at the Cape May Welcome Center at 609 Lafayette St., this unique guided journey pedals along a picturesque two-mile route to the Cape May Canal. At a scenic picnic spot, you'll enjoy a fascinating history talk about the canal's rich past. On the way back, you'll stop at the Garrett Family Preserve for a short walk and learn about local wildlife and habitats from a knowledgeable naturalist.

Perfect for all ages and abilities, this 90-minute adventure takes you through salt marshes and wildflower meadows, offering glimpses of songbirds, raptors, and butterflies. With tours departing every two hours between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. – and extended hours during peak season – you can choose the perfect time to embark. Pack your favorite snacks and drinks/libations to savor during the leisurely stops.

Looking for something truly magical? Don't miss the Full Moon Railbike Ride – an enchanting twilight experience. Illuminated railbikes light the way as you glide to a picnic spot by the Cape May Canal. Savor your refreshments and roast s'mores under the moonlight while swapping stories of local lore, from the legendary Jersey Devil to fabled Cape May pirates! • *More information visit www.revrail.com*



WINERIES, BREWERIES & DISTILLERIES

A vacation in every glass, a memory in every sip



Mud Hen Brewing Company

SIP YOUR WAY DOWN New Jersey's Southern Shore and you'll quickly discover that this isn't just a place to swill – it's a place to savor. The region unfolds like a coastal tasting journal, each stop offering its own personality, its own rhythm, and its own story poured into a glass. Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties have shaped a craft beverage trail where breweries buzz with energy, distilleries hum with quiet creativity, and vineyards stretch toward the horizon in soft, sun-washed rows.

Across the Southern Shore, handcrafted drinks meet a food scene that feels tailor-made for wandering palates. Wineries pair their pours with boards of local cheeses and charcuterie, while breweries often host gourmet food trucks serving everything from indulgent burgers to inventive tacos. Nearby restaurants – some tucked into cozy corners, others offering polished farm-to-table menus – lean into the region's agricultural roots, turning fresh, local ingredients into memorable meals that round out the journey.

What elevates this trail beyond the drinks themselves is the setting. Vineyards host open-air concerts, tasting rooms glow with candlelight, and seasonal festivals spill out onto lawns where live music drifts into the evening. Sunsets paint the sky over the vines, and each stop invites you to slow down, breathe in the salt-tinged air, and settle into the region's relaxed coastal spirit.

No trip is complete without a stop at **Hawk Haven Vineyard & Winery** in Rio Grande. Run by Todd and Kenna Wuerker, the vineyard sits on farmland tended by the family since the 1940s. What began with a few Cabernet Sauvignon vines in 1997 has grown into more than 16 acres of thriving varietals, all processed on site – from harvest to bottle. Hawk Haven's evolution includes Pet Nats introduced in 2019 and a lineup of refined sparkling wines. Visitors can join guided tours, enjoy year-round tastings, or settle in for the beloved Rootstock Concert Series, a summer celebration of wine, music, and food truck fare.

Just a short drive away, **Cape May Winery in Lower Township** welcomes guests with warmth and tradition. Established with the planting of the Townbank Vineyard in 1989, the winery now spans four vineyards and 26 acres. Owned by the Craig family and operated by Toby Craig and his daughter Betsy, it's a place where guests are treated like old friends – whether they're sampling a flight or lingering over a glass with a view of the vines.

Atlantic County's craft beverage scene mirrors the vibrant energy of Atlantic City itself. Visitors can hop from a beachfront beer garden to a sleek casino-side tasting room, all while staying within earshot of the ocean. Beyond the city lights, Hammonton has blossomed into a craft beverage destination of its own. Known as the Blueberry Capital of the World, the town infuses its agricultural heritage into its wines and beers. It's entirely possible to sip a blueberry ale in the afternoon and a barrel-aged red at dusk – all within a walkable stretch of town.

In Wildwood, **Mud Hen Brewing Company** offers a lively brewpub experience with indoor-outdoor seating, live entertainment, and a laid-back atmosphere that encourages lingering. It's the kind of place where an afternoon can easily turn into an evening, fueled by great beer and good company.

Near Millville's Glasstown Arts District, **Mission Spirits** stands out as a small-batch distillery with big imagination. Their lineup – whiskey, gin, rum, vodka – forms the foundation for inventive cocktails with names as playful as their flavors: Sage Old Granny, Caprese Daiquiri, Painkiller. Each bottle reflects meticulous craftsmanship and a willingness to push boundaries, making Mission Spirits an essential stop on the Southern Shore's spirited trail.



The Coastal Cruiser

The Coastal Cruiser is a new hop-on, hop-off shuttle connects the Wildwoods to Cape May and also local wineries, breweries and The Cape May Ferry. The Coastal Cruiser offers a new way to ride, sip, and explore the Shore this summer and is a coastal shuttle made for day-trippers. With one flat daily fee, riders can hop on and off throughout the day to enjoy tastings, sightseeing, shopping, and shore exploring at their own pace. *For more information call 609-788-2525 or visit www.thecoastalcruiser.com*

Check out the list of the many wineries, breweries, and distilleries you can explore in Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties. Each establishment offers its own charm, so take the time to discover your passion for wine, beer, and spirits.



Hawk Haven's new expansion

WINERIES

Ashenfelter Vineyards: *237 Lincoln Avenue, Vineland; www.ashenfeltervineyards.com*

Balic Winery: *6623 Harding Highway, Mays Landing; 609-625-2166; www.balicwinery.com*

Bellview Winery: *150 Atlantic Street, Landisville; 856-697-7172; www.bellviewwinery.com*

Briganti By The Bay Vineyard and Winery (Natali Winery): *221 North Delsea Drive (mile post 12.9 Rt. 47 North), Cape May Court House; 609-465-0075; www.natalivineyards.com*

Cape May Winery and Vineyards: *711 Townbank Road, Cape May; 609-884-1169; www.capemaywinery.com*

Cedar Rose Vineyards: *431 Kenyon Avenue, Millville; 856-221-3131; www.cedarrosevineyards.com*

DiMatteo Vineyards: *951 8th Street, Hammonton; 609-704-1414;dimatteovineyards.com*

Frightened Turtle Winery: *400 Greenwich Road, Bridgeton; 856-451-0025; www.frightenedturtle.com*

Hawk Haven Vineyard and Winery: *600 S. Railroad Avenue, Rio Grande; 609-846-7347; www.hawkhavenvineyard.com*

Jessie Creek Winery: *1 Rt. 47 North, Cape May Court House; 609-536-2023; www.jessiecreekwinery.com*

Kennedy Cellars: *839 13th Street, Hammonton; 609-941-2000; www.kennedycellarswine.com*

Plagido's Winery: *570 N. 1st Road, Hammonton; 609-567-4633; www.plagidoswinery.com*

Renault Winery: *72 N. Bremen Avenue, Egg Harbor City; 609-965-2111; www.renaultwinery.com*

Sharrott Winery: *370 S. Egg Harbor Road, Hammonton; 609-567-9463; www.sharrottwinery.com*

Terra Nonno: *370 Garrison Road., Millville; 856-575-1459; www.terranonno.com*

Tomasello Winery: *225 North White Horse Pike, Hammonton; 800-666-9463; www.tomasellowinery.com*

Turdo Winery: *3911 Bayshore Road, Cape May; 609-884-5591. www.turdovineyards.com*

Willow Creek Winery: *168 Stevens Street, West Cape May; 609-770-8782; www.willowcreekwinerycapemay.com*

White Horse Winery: *106 Hall Street, Hammonton; 609-270-1411; www.whitehorsewinery.com*

BREWERIES

Anglesea Aleworks: *3401 New Jersey Avenue, Wildwood; 609-305-4388. www.angleseaaleworks.com*

Avalon Brew Pub: *125 79th Street, Avalon; 609-967-2116; www.avalonbrewpub.com*

Bay Ave. Brewery: *435 Bay Avenue, Somers Point; www.bayavebrewery.com*

Behr Brewing: *513 Seashore Road, Cape May; 304-609-2347; www.behrbrewing.com*

Cape May Brewing Company: *1250 Hornet Road, Rio Grande, Cape May County Airport; 609-849-9933; www.capemaybrewery.com*

Chimney Rustic Ales: *15 Horton Street, Hammonton; www.chimneybeer.com*

Cold Spring Brewery: *735 Seashore Road, Cape May; 609-854-3077; www.coldspringbrewery.org*

Garden State Beer Company: *247 E. White Horse Pike, Galloway; 609-232-2337; www.gardenstatebeerco.com*

Glasstown Brewing Company: *10 Peterson Street, Millville; 856-327-7770; www.glasstownbrewery.com*

Gusto Brewing Company: *3860 Bayshore Road., N. Cape May; 609-849-8260; www.gustobrewco.com*

Hidden Sands Brewing: *6754 Washington Avenue, Unit B, Egg Harbor Township: 609-910-2009; www.hiddensands.com*

Ludlam Island Brewery: *2051 Dennisville-Petersburg Road, Woodbine; 609-263-6969; www.ludlamisland.com*

Meyers Lighthouse Brewing Company & Mini Golf: *2576 US-9, Ocean View; 609-478-8807.*

Mud Hen Brewery: *127 W. Rio Grande Avenue, Wildwood; 609-846-7918; www.mudhenbrew.com*

Obscura Brewing Company (Bucket Brigade Brewery): *205 North Main Street; Cape May Court House; 609-778-2641. www.obscurabrewingco.com*

Slack Tide Brewery: *1879 Route 9, Clermont. 609-478-2343; www.slacktidebrewingco.com*

Snouts and Stouts Brewing: *300 Unit B 12th Street, Hammonton; 609-666-2053 www.snoutsandstoutsbrewing.com*

SoPo (Somers Point Brewing Company): *705 W New York Avenue, Somers Point. 609-788-0767. www.somerspointbrewing.com*

The Seed: *204 N. Delaware Avenue, Atlantic City. 609-246-7324. www.theseedbeer.com*

Three 3s Brewery: *50 13th Street, Hammonton; 732-814-1396; www.three3sbrewing.com*

Tun Tavern: *2 Convention Blvd., Atlantic City; 609-347-7800; www.tuntavern.com*

Whale Tale Brewing Company: *28 Indian Trail Road, Unit 103, Cape May Court House; 609-600-7935 www.whaletalebrewing.com*

DISTILLERIES

Blue Rascal Distillery: *8 West End Avenue, Hammonton; 609-878-3578; www.bluerascaldistillery.com*

Little Water Distillery: *807 Baltic Avenue, Unit B, Atlantic City; 609-344-7867; www.lwdco.com*

Mission Spirits: *215 Buck Street, Millville; 856-765-7861; www.missionspirits.co*

Nauti Spirits Distillery: *916 Shunpike Road, north of the Canal, Cape May; 609-770-3381; www.nautispirits.com*

THE WETLANDS INSTITUTE

Promoting appreciation, understanding, and stewardship of coastal and wetland ecosystems through programs in research, conservation, and education

THE WETLANDS INSTITUTE in Stone Harbor offers one of the most peaceful and enriching nature experiences along the Jersey Cape. Surrounded by more than 6,000 acres of protected coastal wetlands, the Institute invites travelers to slow down and explore a world shaped by tides, wildlife, and salt-marsh breezes. Elevated boardwalks lead visitors deep into the marsh, where herons stalk the shallows, ospreys circle overhead, and tiny fiddler crabs scuttle across sun-warmed mudflats.



Inside the main center, interactive exhibits and touch tanks introduce guests to the creatures that thrive in this fragile ecosystem. Naturalists are always nearby, ready to share insights about migrating birds, diamondback terrapins, and the Institute's long-running conservation work. Seasonal programs – like guided kayak tours, birding walks, and hands-on marine science activities – make it easy for families and nature lovers to connect with the environment in meaningful ways.

Sunset is especially magical here, when the marsh glows gold and the sky reflects in the still water. It's a quiet reminder that the Jersey Cape's wild side is every bit as captivating as its beaches. •

You can find The Wetlands Institute at 1075 Stone Harbor Blvd., Stone Harbor. For more information phone 609-368-1211 or visit www.wetlandsinstitute.org





LIFEGUARD RACES

A Jersey Shore Summer Tradition



IN BEACH TOWNS along the Jersey Shore, most sports take a backseat every summer to a pastime with local flair: lifeguard races. A highlight of summer and steeped in tradition, most local beach patrols from Brigantine to Cape May Point host at least one race annually, and the free, family-friendly events draw hundreds, sometimes thousands, of spectators.

Race season begins in July, with most races starting in the early evening and lasting less than two hours. Lifeguards compete in swimming, paddle boarding, rowing and surf dashing categories. The ocean swim is a fan favorite, featuring an open-ocean race followed by a sprint to the finish line. Fans crowd the rope to cheer on hometown favorites.

"The competitions are made to mirror what actual rescues involve," John Amodea, former Margate City commissioner, explained. "As a spectator, you never know what you are going to see, especially if the surf conditions are challenging."

Amodeo served and competed as a Margate lifeguard from 1964 to 1971 and passed the tradition onto his children. "The camaraderie among lifeguards is tight and many of our lifeguard alumni plan their vacations around being at the competitions," he said.

The races are organized and hosted by the 15 beach patrols of the South Jersey Lifeguard Chiefs Association (SJLCA) from Brigantine to Cape May Point. The SJLCA's "Big Three" signature events include the Margate World War II Memorial Race, founded in 1946; the Wildwood Beach Patrol's Dutch Hoffman Memorial Lifeguard Championships; and the South Jersey Lifeguard Championships, hosted by the previous year's winner.

The race season kicks off in July with events such as the Cape May County Lifeguard Championships in Wildwood Crest, the Beschen-Callahan Memorial races in North Wildwood, and the Chief William Kuhn Lifeguard Invitational in Brigantine. Ocean City Beach Patrol also hosts its Women's Lifeguard Invitational competition at the 58th Street beach. The Dutch Hoffman races in Wildwood are held each year in late July, while the Margate World War II Memorial Lifeguard Championships are typically held the first week of August. The South Jersey Lifeguard Championships will be held in Avalon in 2026 near 35th Street beach.

Hosting the races is a source of pride for the squads and towns, said North Wildwood Beach Patrol Captain Bill Ciavarelli. North Wildwood is home to the Beschen-Callahan Memorial Lifeguard Race, honoring James Beschen and Michael Callahan, both 21 years old when they died in the Vietnam War.

Competing requires rigorous physical conditioning and tryouts. "You can't come down to the beach and just try to get in shape if you want to be a lifeguard. You have to be in excellent physical shape year-round," said Ciavarelli. Bill Handley, president of the SJLCA and chief of the Upper Township Beach Patrol, added, "Training is essential to be a lifeguard. You have to be well prepared to rescue people under conditions that test you physically."

Check out the 2026 lifeguard race schedule at municipal or lifeguard websites, then grab a blanket or beach chair and head out for a fun night on the beach.



SHOPPING

Where Small-Town Charm Meets Shore Couture



Washington Street Mall

SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY'S coastal counties – Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland – are often celebrated for their beaches, boardwalks, and wildlife preserves. But tucked between the dunes, farms, and riverfronts is another treasure worth exploring: a constellation of walkable downtowns and bustling boardwalk districts where family-owned shops, historic architecture, and local flavor create some of the region's most memorable travel experiences. Whether you're hunting for handmade art, vintage finds, gourmet treats, or simply a perfect afternoon stroll, these three counties offer a surprisingly diverse shopping landscape. Best of all, New Jersey has no tax on clothes and shoes.

Cape May County is synonymous with beach vacations, but its downtowns offer far more than sunscreen and souvenirs. Cape May City, with its Victorian architecture and gaslit streets, is arguably the crown jewel of South Jersey shopping. **The Washington Street Mall,** a three-block pedestrian plaza, is the heart of the experience. Here, pastel storefronts house bookstores, fine-art galleries, gourmet chocolate shops, and boutiques filled with coastal-inspired home décor. The mall's brick walkways and flower-filled planters make it feel like a European promenade – especially in the early evening when the lights come on and musicians set up along the corners.



Tanger Outlets, The Walk

Cape May's shops are known for their quality and character. Many are family-owned, and several have been in business for generations. You'll find handcrafted jewelry made with local sea glass, high-end clothing boutiques that curate beach-to-dinner outfits, and specialty stores dedicated entirely to olive oils, spices, or hot sauces. Even the souvenir shops feel elevated, offering artisan-made ornaments, nautical prints, and locally produced skincare.

Just up the coast, **Stone Harbor's 96th Stree**t offers a more modern, upscale take on seaside shopping. Its boutiques lean toward luxury—think designer resort wear, fine home furnishings, and curated gift shops that feel like they belong in a coastal design magazine. The vibe is breezy and polished, with many stores offering personalized service and seasonal collections that change with the tides.

Prefer a quieter, more eclectic experience? **Downtown Ocean City** delivers a family-friendly blend of classic and contemporary. While the downtown district along Asbury Avenue is a gem, the **Ocean City Boardwalk** is

a shopping destination all its own. Stretching for miles, it's lined with surf shops, candy makers, toy stores, art galleries, and boutiques selling everything from beachwear to handcrafted gifts. Generations of families return each summer for their favorite boardwalk traditions – saltwater taffy, custom T-shirts, and the thrill of discovering a new shop tucked between arcades and pizzerias.

Downtown Wildwood leans into its retro soul. Neon glow and midcentury angles give the district a breezy DooWop charm, setting the stage for a shopping scene that feels as playful as the town itself. Beachwear shops spill out bright colors, boutiques channel vintage flair, and offbeat gift stores embrace the quirky personality locals love.

A stroll onto the **Wildwood Boardwalk** turns that vibe up even further. Souvenir stands, surf shops, novelty spots, and candy counters line the planks in an irresistible, high energy mix. It's the rare boardwalk where the keepsakes feel spirited and memorable rather than cookiecutter, making it easy to bring home something that captures the fun of the shore.

A "don't miss" shopping destination is **Woodland Village,** a hidden jewel in Cape May County's landscape, its landscaped campus with 15 shops provides a peaceful, relaxed, open-air setting. It's a welcome getaway from the hustle and bustle of the beach scene. The shops provide something for everyone- you can outfit your family in the latest apparel, find that one-of-a-kind gift or unique home décor item, stock up on gourmet treats and/or indulge yourself while you shop. The Village is located at 1943 North Route 9 in Clermont.

Atlantic County is best known for the neon glow of Atlantic City, but its smaller downtowns are where the county's personality really shines. Start your journey in **Downtown Hammonton,** a thriving arts-driven community that has reinvented itself over the past decade. Its main artery, Bellevue Avenue, is lined with boutiques, cafés, and galleries that spill out onto the sidewalks during festivals and Third Thursday celebrations.


Avalon

Hammonton's shops reflect the town's creative spirit. You'll find artisan jewelry, hand-poured candles, and locally designed apparel in stores that feel more like studios than retail spaces. Vintage lovers can browse curated collections of mid-century furniture and retro décor, while foodies gravitate toward the town's Italian bakeries and gourmet markets – reminders of Hammonton's deep cultural roots.

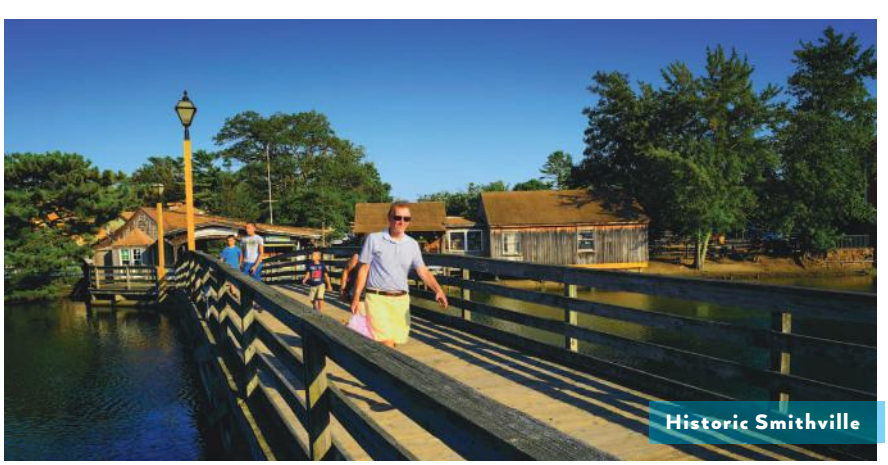
For a more coastal vibe, head to **Historic Smithville,** a village-style shopping destination that blends colonial charm with modern boutiques. Wooden boardwalks connect more than 60 small shops; each tucked into a replica 18th-century building. You can browse everything from handmade soaps to whimsical toys, then hop on a paddle boat or ride the vintage carousel. Smithville is especially magical during the holidays, when thousands of lights reflect off the lake and the shops glow like a storybook village.

Of course, no exploration of Atlantic County shopping is complete without stepping onto the **Atlantic City Boardwalk,** one of the most iconic promenades in the country. Here, ocean breezes mingle with the scent of fresh fudge and popcorn as visitors wander past an eclectic mix of surf shops, fashion boutiques, candy stores, and souvenir stands. From handmade jewelry kiosks to upscale resort boutiques tucked inside casinos, the boardwalk offers a shopping experience that's equal parts nostalgic and contemporary.

Cumberland County may not have the oceanfront glamour of its neighbors, but its downtowns offer something equally compelling: authenticity. This is a region shaped by agriculture, glassmaking, and the arts, and its shopping districts reflect that heritage.

Begin in **Downtown Millville,** home to the Glasstown Arts District, one of South Jersey's most vibrant creative communities. The district centers around High Street, where galleries, studios, and artisan shops occupy restored historic buildings. Visitors can watch glassblowers at work, browse handcrafted pottery, or shop for original paintings and sculptures. Millville's boutiques tend to emphasize craftsmanship and local talent, making it an ideal destination for travelers who prefer one-of-a-kind pieces over mass-produced goods.

Downtown Vineland brings a classic main-street feel to the county. Landis Avenue, the city's central corridor, stretches for miles and features a mix of boutiques, bakeries, clothing stores, and cultural institutions. Vineland's shopping district is especially lively during festivals and parades, when the avenue fills with vendors, performers, and families enjoying the open-air atmosphere. It's a place where old-fashioned hospitality still thrives, and where shop owners greet customers like neighbors.


Historic Smithville

MALLS & OUTLETS

Cumberland Mall in Vineland has been a trusted shopping destination since opening in 1973. Over the years, it has become more than just a place to shop – it's a convenient stop for locals and visitors alike, offering a relaxing place to unwind, browse, and enjoy time together.

Located at the intersection of Routes 47 and 55, just 45 miles south of Philadelphia, Cumberland Mall is an easy stop for travelers heading to or from the Southern New Jersey shore points. Whether you're making a quick stop on the way to the beach or looking to escape a rainy shore day, the mall offers a comfortable, all-in-one shopping experience.

Spanning more than 950,000 square feet, Cumberland Mall features a wide variety of stores anchored by Boscov's, Dick's Sporting Goods, and Marshalls. Inside the mall, shoppers will find popular favorites including American Eagle, Bath & Body Works, Victoria's Secret, Foot Locker, Journeys, LIDS, Spencer's, Aéropostale, and GameStop, offering everything from fashion and footwear to gifts and everyday essentials.

When it's time to eat, guests can enjoy interior dining options like Saladworks and the always-popular Luca's Pizza. Just outside the mall, visitors will find a strong lineup of familiar restaurants including Applebee's, Red Robin, Red Lobster, Chick-fil-A, Playa Bowls, Philly Pretzel Factory, Wingstop, and Sushi Lover, making it easy to turn a shopping stop into a full meal break.



To stay up to date on events, giveaways, and a fun, behind-the-scenes look at the mall and its tenants, follow@cumberlandmallnj on social media. For store listings, hours, and additional information, visit **www.cumberlandmallnj.com**

Tanger Outlets - The Walk brings big-city energy to Atlantic City's shopping scene, stretching between the Convention Center and the casinos in a vibrant open-air layout. With more than 100 outlet stores, visitors can browse the latest styles for men, women, and children while scoring impressive savings on top brands like Michael Kors, Calvin Klein, Nike, Coach, H&M, J. Crew, and American Eagle. Between shops, cafés and restaurants – from Starbucks to Ruth's Chris Steak House – offer easy places to unwind. Just steps away, the sprawling Bass Pro Shops Outpost adds outdoor adventure gear to the mix. It's an effortless, all-day shopping escape at the heart of the city. For more information, visit **www.tangeroutlet.com**





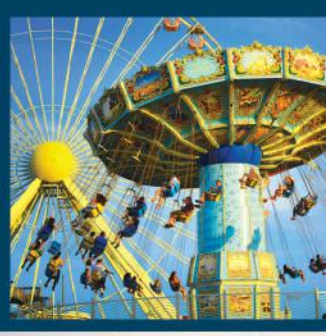
cape may county

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Cape May County, your perfect year-round workplace home.













Can you see yourself, your business and your employees in Cape May County enjoying the shore beyond summer? We can. The unique combination of lifestyle and innovation by the ocean offers an alternative to the belief that businesses need to exist in crowded larger markets to succeed is driving Coastal Shift. Cape May County is filled with coastal, island and mainland communities that you, your family, and your business can call home and improve your business outlook.

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FALL MIGRATION AT THE AVALON SEAWATCH

Over 1 Million Birds in 2025



CAPE MAY IS WELL KNOWN as a global destination for birdwatching, especially during spring and fall migration. That's largely thanks to thousands of visitors attracted to the Cape May Hawkwatch, which was launched 50 years ago by New Jersey Audubon's fledgling Cape May Bird Observatory (CMBO). The Hawkwatch averages an impressive 46,000 raptors per fall season. However, fewer than 20 miles up the Garden State Parkway, another count takes place every fall, with about 25 times the number of birds.

CMBO's Avalon Seawatch began in 1993 and has averaged more than 780,000 waterbirds (ducks, geese, swans, cormorants, gannets, loons, grebes, gulls, terns, jaegers and more) per season over the past ten years, with totals over one million the last three years – 2023, 2024 and 2025!

So, what is happening here? When it comes to breeding habitat, many seabirds, such as Black and Surf Scoters and Red-throated Loons, prefer habitats far to our north, in the freshwater lakes of northern Ontario and the subarctic; Northern Gannets and Double-crested Cormorants seek the rocky cliffs around the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

These most common waterbird species, along with approximately 70 others, pass by the shores of southern New Jersey on southbound (fall) migrations. The geography at Avalon, with its northern point jutting out into the Atlantic Ocean, produces a funneling effect as migrants head south. Individuals following the coast are forced to swing out around the point, and the point provides slightly closer views of distant flocks. The Avalon Seawatch, located on the beach between 8th and 9th streets, is a concentration point – perfect for a migration count.

New Jersey Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory stations an experienced and keen-eyed counter at the Avalon Seawatch every day, dawn to dusk, from Oct. 1 to Dec. 22, tracking the number and timing of migration. The Borough of Avalon supplies a small viewing shack for especially brutal weather days, as well as a lean-to for additional observers. Data is collected on a tablet using Trektellen software and can be tracked real-time on the New Jersey Audubon website by visiting www.njaudubon.org or www.birdcapemay.org

The totals are in for the 2025 season, including 322,522 Black Scoters, 204,577 Double-crested Cormorants, 166,407 Red-throated Loons (a record high count), 139,250 Surf Scoters, and 113,400 Northern Gannets. In a typical year, these five species represent 85 percent of the total count.

And while some shorebirds and songbirds begin their southbound migrations as early as July and peak in September, these seabirds are seen in large numbers by mid-October and peaking in early to late-November. One of the largest ever one-day seabird migration



New Jersey Audubon's Cape May Bird Observatory

spectacles at the Avalon Seawatch took place on Nov. 15, 2025 when more than 66,000 birds passed between dusk and dawn: 66,407 to be precise. That's remarkable!

Come spring, birds on their northward migration are counted at the Cape May Springwatch on Cape May Point beginning March 1 and shorebird banding operations take place from early May through early June on the Delaware Bayshore. Fall migration counts begin again in August with the Morning Flight Songbird Count at the Higbee Beach WMA in Lower Township, soon followed by the return of the Hawkwatch at Cape May Point State Park and the Monarch Monitoring Project at sites throughout Cape May Point. In addition, songbird banding takes place at The Nature Conservancy's South Cape May Meadows in the fall.

All these efforts are conducted by the experts at New Jersey Audubon, with the research department heading up bird banding programs and the Cape May Bird Observatory staffing the migration counts. As the Cape May Bird Observatory celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2026, be aware that there are few places on Earth where such a quantity and variety of valuable conservation data is being collected. Join us in protecting and stewarding the abundant natural resources we all share by attending one of their programs, volunteering, or making a donation. •

Visit www.njaudubon.org to learn more about these and other activities throughout New Jersey nearly every day of the year.

ATLANTIC COUNTY WILDLIFE LOCATIONS

Estell Manor Park: Home of the Warren Fox Nature Center. 109 State Highway 50, Mays Landing, NJ 08330. 609-645-5960 or 609-625-1897. www.atlanticcountynj.gov/parks

Gaskill Park: Located at the bulkhead of the Great Egg Harbor River in Mays Landing, NJ 08330.. www.atlanticcountynj.gov/parks

Lake Lenape: 6303 Harding Highway in Mays Landing, NJ 08330. www.aclink.org/PARKS

Weymouth Furnace: Route 559 (Weymouth Road) just north of Route 322 in Mays Landing, NJ 08330. www.atlanticcountynj.gov/parks

Wharton State Forest: There are two locations in Wharton, one at Batsto Village and also one at the Atsion Recreation Area. Batsto Village is located on Route 542, . Atsion is located on Route 206. www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/parks

CUMBERLAND COUNTY WILDLIFE LOCATIONS

Edward G. Bevan WMA, 8747 Ferry Rd, Millville, NJ 08332

Cohansey River WMA, 66 Perry Rd, Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Dix WMA, Back Neck Road, Fairton, NJ

Egg Island Fish WMA & Fortescue WMA, Fortescue, NJ 08321

Heislerville WMA: Matts Landing Road, Heislerville, NJ 08324. One of Audubon's website 10 greatest bird watching hot spots with the largest concentration of nesting bald eagles anywhere in the state.

Nantuxent WMA, East Bay Point Road, Cedarville, NJ

Natural Lands Glades Wildlife Refuge, 261 Schoolhouse Road, Newport, NJ 08345

New Sweden WMA, Cedarville, NJ 08311

Stow Creek State Park, Stow Creek Road, Stow Creek Landing, NJ



CAMPING THE COAST

Exploring the Great Outdoors



THERE'S SOMETHING ABOUT CAMPING along the southern New Jersey coast that stays with you long after the embers of the campfire fade. In Atlantic and Cape May counties, the rhythm of daily life slows to match the tides, inviting travelers to trade screens for sunsets and schedules for spontaneity. Here, the serenity of the shoreline blends seamlessly with the quiet majesty of the Pinelands, creating a landscape where families, friends, and solo adventurers can reconnect with nature – and each other.

With 66 campgrounds scattered across the two counties, the region offers an impressive range of outdoor escapes. Rustic tent sites tucked beneath towering pines, full-service RV resorts with all the comforts of home, and everything in between make it easy for campers of every style to find their perfect retreat. Whether you're seeking a peaceful weekend in the woods or a lively, activity-packed getaway, this corner of New Jersey delivers.

Cape May County, long celebrated for its coastal charm, is a true haven for campers. Nearly 50 campgrounds stretch from the barrier islands to the inland forests, each offering its own blend of seaside breezes and wooded tranquility. No matter where you set up camp, the ocean is never far – its salty air drifting inland, its waves providing a soothing soundtrack to evenings spent under the stars.

Among the county's standout destinations is **Ocean View Resort Campground,** the largest privately-owned camping resort in New Jersey. Spanning 180 wooded acres and offering 1,175 sites, it caters to both traditional campers and those who prefer a touch of luxury. Full hookups, Wi-Fi, and a variety of cabin and cottage rentals make settling in easy, while a white-sand lakefront beach and the Buccaneer Bay splash pad keep families entertained for hours. Its central location places guests within easy reach of Sea Isle City, the Wildwoods, the Ocean City Boardwalk,

SEA GROVE
Camping Resort

Nestled in the heart of Cape May County. Come enjoy a camping getaway just minutes from the beautiful beaches of the Jersey Shore.

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• Large Wooded Sites w/ Hookups • Swimming Pool • Camp Store • Snack Bar • Recreation Building
• Game Room • Playground • Planned Activities • Shuffleboard • Horseshoes • Basketball • Volleyball
• Free Wi-Fi Hotspots • Bath House with Free Showers • Propane Refills • Laundromat



Just three miles to the beach!

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Ocean View, NJ 08230
800-432-6629 • 609-624-3529
email: sgresort@aol.com
www.seagroveresort.com



and the Cape May County Zoo – ideal for those who like to mix nature with nearby attractions. *2555 Route 9, Ocean View; 609-624-1675; www.ovresort.com*

Just down the road, **Sea Grove Camping Resort** offers a family-focused atmosphere where relaxation and recreation go hand in hand. A swimming pool, game room, camp store, and full calendar of events create a welcoming environment where children make fast friends and adults find time to unwind. With South Jersey's beaches only minutes away, it's a perfect base for days spent surfing, sunbathing, or simply watching the waves roll in. *2665 Route 9, Ocean View; 800-432-6629; 609-624-3529; www.seagroveresort.com*

To the north, Atlantic County offers its own blend of coastal proximity and woodland adventure. While no campgrounds sit directly on the beach, many are just a short drive from nearly 44 miles of shoreline, the bright lights of Atlantic City, and the historic charm of Cape May. For those who crave both nature and nightlife, it's an ideal combination.

Outdoor enthusiasts will find one of the region's most immersive natural experiences in **Wharton State Forest,** part of the storied New Jersey Pine Barrens. Here, miles of quiet trails, rare wildlife, and untouched wilderness



invite exploration. Hikers, birdwatchers, and nature lovers can wander beneath cathedral-like pines, discovering hidden streams and historic sites along the way.

Many Atlantic County campgrounds enhance the natural setting with family-friendly amenities – fishing ponds, kayak rentals, bike trails, and weekend activities that bring campers together. Whether you're paddling across a still lake or pedaling through shaded paths, the experience feels invigorating and deeply restorative.

Together, Atlantic and Cape May counties offer a camping experience that captures the very best of coastal living and woodland escape. From the whispering pines of the Pinelands to the salty breezes drifting off the Atlantic, this region invites travelers to slow down, explore, and savor the simple joys of the outdoors. Whether you're a seasoned camper or pitching your first tent, the memories made here are the kind that last long after the trip is over. •

CAMPING RESOURCES

www.njsouthernshore.com, www.newjerseycampgrounds.com or 800-2campnj (800-222-6765)



A CULTURAL JOURNEY

Every stage tells a story, the curtain is always rising on something unforgettable



Cape May Stage

SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY'S coastal crescent – Atlantic, Cape May, and Cumberland counties – has long been known for its beaches and boardwalks. But beyond the surf and sand lies a vibrant cultural corridor filled with theaters, concert halls, galleries, and performance venues that rival those of much larger cities. From Atlantic City's casino stages to Cape May's intimate Equity theater and Cumberland County's arts-driven small towns, the region offers a rich tapestry of entertainment for travelers seeking more than a day at the beach.

Whether you're drawn to Broadway-style productions, classical concerts, indie music, or community theater, New Jersey's Southern Shore invites you to take a seat, dim the lights, and enjoy the show.

Cape May County is the cultural heart of the Southern Shore region, offering a blend of historic charm, artistic sophistication, and year-round programming. Its theaters, music venues, and arts organizations create an atmosphere where creativity thrives in every season.

Cape May's cultural heartbeat pulses strongest at **Cape May Stage,** a jewel of New Jersey's professional theater scene and a must-experience stop for travelers who crave artistry with their seaside escape. Tucked inside the charming Robert Shackleton Playhouse on Lafayette Street – an intimate, beautifully restored venue in the center of the historic district – the theater delivers a level of performance that rivals major metropolitan stages.

From mid-May through December, visitors can slip into a plush seat any night of the week and catch a lineup that spans sharp contemporary dramas, smart comedies, and thought-provoking new works. Productions often feature celebrated playwrights and even Tony Award–winning performers, giving audiences a front-row view of world-class talent just steps from Cape May's Victorian streets and ocean breezes

The experience extends beyond the mainstage. Cape May Stage's Second Stage Series brings Broadway vocalists, cabaret artists, magicians, puppeteers, and rising creators to town, adding variety and surprise to any Cape May itinerary.

East Lynne Theater Company adds another rich cultural layer to the Cape May experience. Located inside the historic Clemans Theater on Franklin Street, the company is known for reviving classic American works and uncovering lesser-known gems, all delivered with exceptional craft and emotional nuance. Its productions balance nostalgia with fresh perspective, creating theater that feels both rooted in tradition and vibrantly original.

Beyond its Equity mainstage productions, East Lynne enriches the season with concerts, special events, and programs celebrating theatrical heritage and Cape May's creative spirit.

Cape May's arts scene also includes galleries, craft fairs, cultural tours, music festivals, jazz weekends, classical concerts, and community performances throughout the year. Historic churches, wineries, and outdoor venues frequently serve as performance spaces, creating memorable settings for live music.

Outdoor concerts remain one of the



East Lynne Theater

region's most beloved summer traditions. Each week, local and regional musicians bring rock, pop, jazz, blues, and country music to scenic venues across the county. Enjoy Concerts Under the Stars in Sea Isle City and North Wildwood, Centennial Park Concerts in Wildwood Crest, Rotary Park performances in Cape May, live music at Ferry Park in Lower Township, shows at the Water Tower in Stone Harbor, and Surfside Park in Avalon. For schedules and updates, check with local chambers of commerce.

Wildwood's Barefoot Country Music Festival has quickly become one of the region's signature music events. Returning June 18–21 for its sixth year, the four-day festival brings major country stars to the expansive Wildwood beach between Morey's Piers. The 2026 lineup includes Post Malone, Eric Church, Kelsea Ballerini, Miranda Lambert, Cole Swindell, Tracy Lawrence, Shaboozy, Chase Rice, Ty Myers, Tucker, Wetmore, Chase Matthew and Dasha.

Atlantic County powers the region's entertainment scene, anchored by Atlantic City's yearround lineup of concerts, comedy, musicals, and touring productions. The city's casino resorts – Hard Rock, Borgata, Caesars, Harrah's, and Ocean – draw national tours and top-tier performers to venues like Hard Rock Live at Etess Arena and the Borgata Event Center. Visitors can move from a pop concert to a jazz set, from a comedy headliner to a holiday spectacular, all within a single weekend.

Beyond the casino lights, Atlantic County's arts scene widens into an impressive network of theaters and cultural spaces. **The Noyes Arts Garage of Stockton University** provides a creative counterpoint to Atlantic City's larger entertainment venues. Its working studios, rotating exhibitions, specialty shops, and two onsite museums – the Noyes Museum of Art satellite gallery and the African American Heritage Museum of Southern New Jersey – offer an intimate look at local artistry.

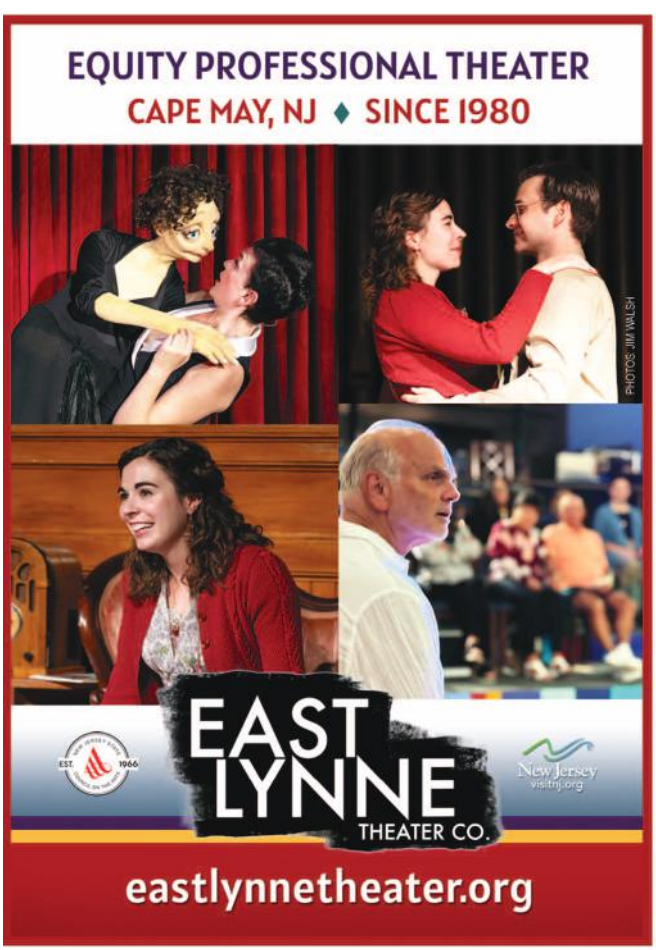
Regional stages deepen the county's artistic footprint. According to NJArts.net, the Atlantic City Theatre Company, Stockton Performing Arts Center, the Eagle Theatre in Hammonton, and the Gateway Playhouse in Somers Point present contemporary plays, musicals, dance, film, and multi disciplinary festivals. Combined with Atlantic City's steady rhythm of concerts, cultural celebrations, and seasonal events, the county delivers entertainment as a defining part of the visitor experience.

Cumberland County offers a quieter but equally meaningful cultural experience. Known for its arts districts, historic theaters, and nature-inspired creativity, the county provides a refreshing contrast to the high-energy entertainment of its coastal neighbors.

Millville's Glasstown Arts District serves as a hub of creativity, home to galleries, studios, and the restored Levoy Theatre, which hosts concerts, plays, and film events. Bridgeton and Vineland also feature community theaters and cultural centers showcasing local talent and touring productions.

Cumberland County's calendar includes folk festivals, jazz performances, outdoor concerts, heritage celebrations, art walks, craft fairs, and cultural gatherings reflecting the region's diverse history. Along the Maurice River, the county's natural beauty continues to inspire events blending music, art, and environmental appreciation.

Whether you're planning a weekend getaway or a longer stay, New Jersey's Southern Shore offers endless opportunities to immerse yourself in the arts. Catch a concert in Atlantic City, enjoy a play in Cape May, explore an arts district in Millville, or follow the music from one county to the next.





DISCOVER WHEATONARTS

South Jersey's Hidden Gem



CREATIVE INSPIRATION is everywhere at WheatonArts and Cultural Center in Millville. This vibrant nonprofit arts campus invites visitors to explore hands-on experiences, live demonstrations, exhibitions, shopping, and more. Since its beginnings in the 1970s, WheatonArts has grown into a dynamic cultural destination and an important center for artistic expression and cultural diversity.

At the heart of the campus is the **Museum of American Glass,** home to one of the nation's most comprehensive collections of American glass. The museum traces the evolution of the medium, from early bottles and flasks to innovative contemporary works. Visitors can marvel at the world's largest free-blown glass bottle, delicate paperweights by renowned New Jersey artist Paul Stankard, and whimsical creations unique to South Jersey. In 2026, visitors will have another chance to see Transformations: The Wasserstein Collection of Contemporary Glass and a new installation of work by Jocelyne Prince titled Ghost Optics. Prince is also curating a related special exhibition, Portals & Passages, showcasing five artists whose work centers around flat glass, historically used for windows and architecture.



Glassmaking history comes alive in **the Glass Studio**, a reimagined version of the 1888 T.C. Wheaton Glass Factory. Here, visitors can watch skilled artists transform molten glass into stunning works of art using techniques such as glassblowing and mold pouring. Featuring both local and visiting artists, the studio celebrates traditional craftsmanship alongside experimental approaches – and guests are encouraged to ask questions and engage directly with the artists at work.

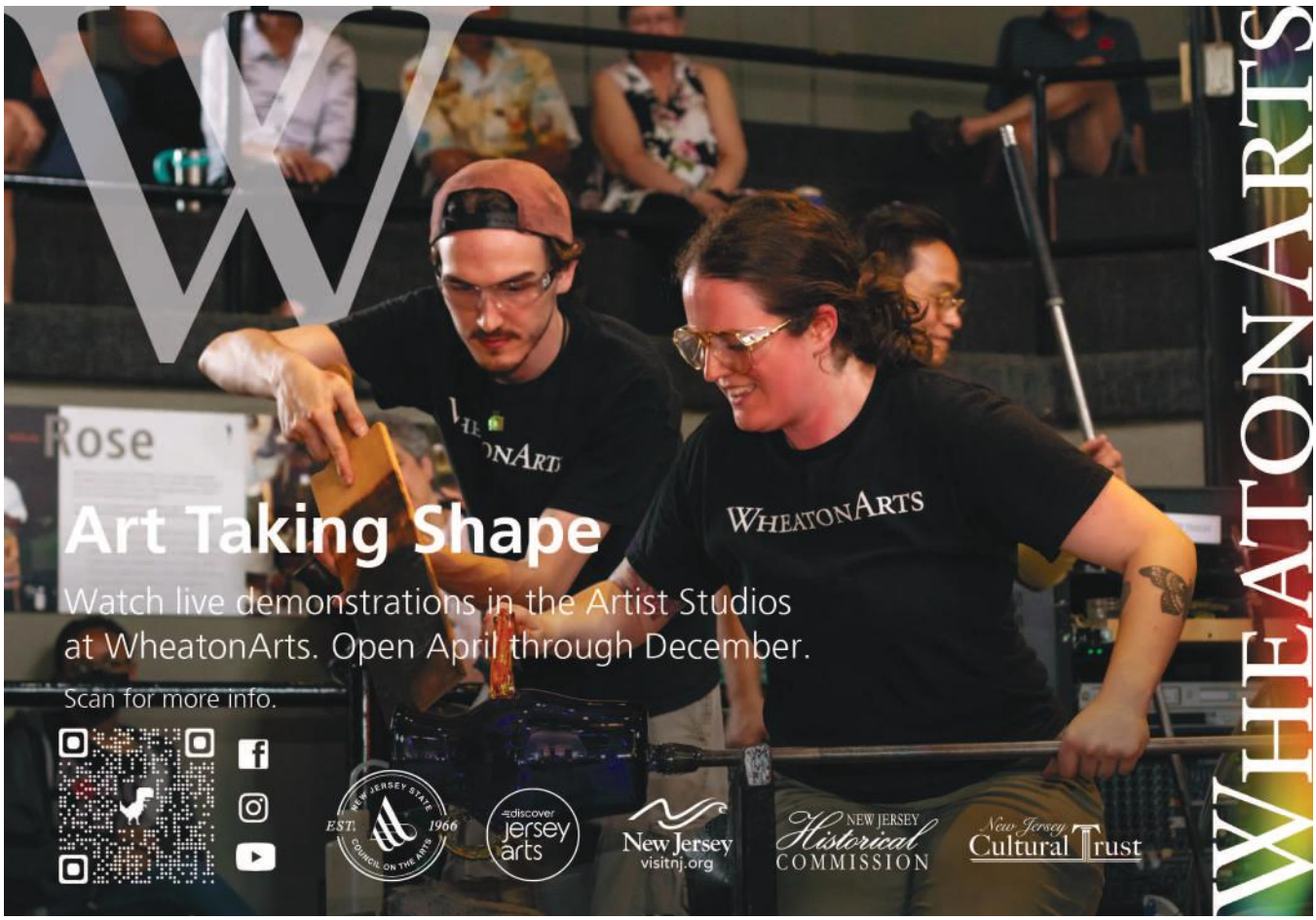
WheatonArts also showcases the art of ceramics in its Pottery Studio, where artists shape wet clay into functional and decorative pieces using hand-building and wheel-throwing techniques. In the Flamework Studio, colorful glass rods are heated over a torch and skillfully formed into beads, small sculptures, and intricate designs.

Each of the three Artist Studios – Glass, Pottery, and Flamework – offers interactive opportunities through the popular Make-Your-Own program. Guided by experienced teaching artists, visitors can create their own glass or clay pieces, gaining hands-on insight into the creative process and a meaningful connection to the artistic community.

Cultural exploration continues at the **Down Jersey Folklife Center,** which celebrates the region's folk and traditional arts. This year, the Down Jersey Folklife Center will continue to explore cross-cultural themes and feature artworks aiming to highlight similarities and differences between the local cultures. The center also hosts educational programs, artist residencies, and also live performances throughout the year.

Beyond the studios and galleries, visitors can stroll along a scenic one-mile nature trail, browse unique gifts at two museum stores, and enjoy signature events such as the **Festival of Fine Craft** each October. Whether you're attending a special event or stopping by on the way to the shore, WheatonArts offers a day filled with creativity, discovery, and inspiration.

WheatonArts is open seasonally from April through December. Learn more and plan your visit at www.wheatonarts.org


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WITH SO MUCH TO SEE AND DO Millville, N.J. is a hidden gem. Just 50 minutes from Philadelphia and 40 from the Jersey Shore, Millville has a treasure trove of places to explore and discoveries to experience in one easy-to-find package.

Really? That little town in south Jersey where they used to make glass? Yep. And Millville still makes glass. But Millville Means More, like shopping, dining, art galleries, craft beer and spirits, a wonderfully restored historic theater, museums, history, motor racing, a sparkling lake, rambling river, hiking, biking, boating, fishing and all kinds of special events.

That's Millville's definition of more. And only a few reasons why you should click to VisitMillville.com to discover all there is to see and do.



HERE'S JUST A PREVIEW:

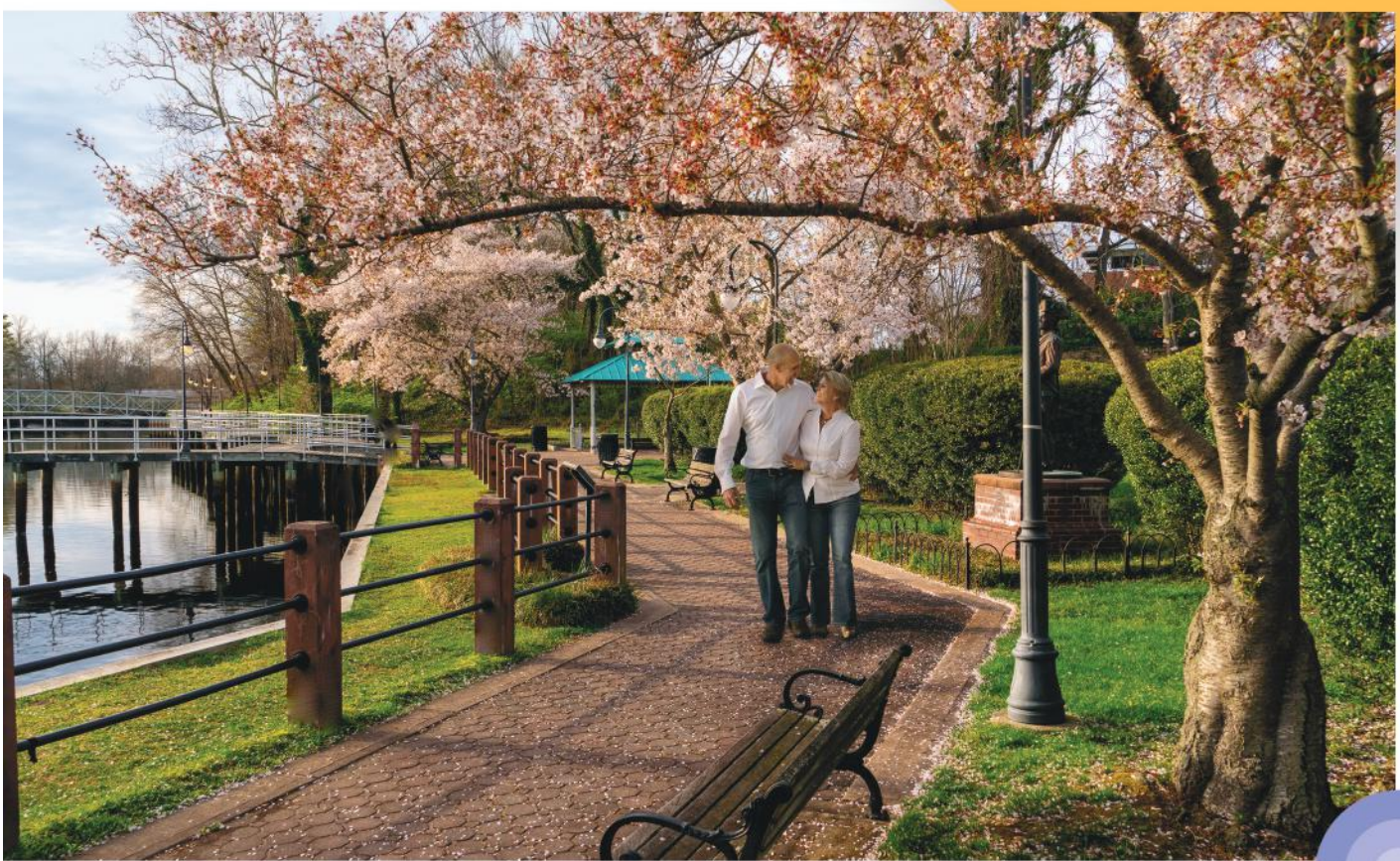
- **Shopping galore –** a variety of big box stores and mom-and-pop shops where you can find the things you need, the things you want and the perfect gift.
- **A dynamic arts scene** with galleries, studios, exhibition spaces, and a world-renowned art glass community – with deep roots as one of the nation's glass industry pioneers.
- **Dining options** from pizza to vegan, home-style to Mexican and everything in between.
- **A brewery and a distillery – Glasstown Brewery and Mission Spirits** are both award winners – plus celebrated wineries nearby.
- Live entertainment and film events at **The Levoy,** Millville's fully-restored historic downtown theater – including **CUT, the annual International short film festival** that draws work from talented filmmakers and storytellers from around the world.
- **Historical and cultural sites and museums,** including the **Millville Army Air Field Museum** and the **David Wood Mansion House**.
- **Hiking, biking, boating and fishing** in stunning natural beauty, both in town and minutes outside.
- **Millville Motorsports Park,** a world-class racing venue that hosts automobile and motorcycle events throughout the year, both professional and amateur. It's also the site of a highly respected driving school.
- **A busy calendar of special events –** many that capitalize on Millville's main-street-USA charm.
- Home to a **vital business community** of many diverse companies, small and large, in nearly every sector and industry – including many charming and diverse mom-and-pops in the city center.
- And Millville is growing, thanks to organizations like **Holly City Development Corporation.** They are a grassroots catalyst for neighborhood change, its projects and programming are driven by the needs and inspiration of residents, business owners and more than 40 partner agencies. The organization meets the people of Millville where they are – empowering their vision for their community with opportunity. *Learn more at www.hollycitydevelopment.org*

Surrounded by the rolling farms and rambling rivers of Cumberland County, NJ, Millville delivers the best of all worlds – world-class arts, entertainment, recreation and diversions – all with a friendly and dynamic small-town vibe.

So, what are you waiting for? Click around, discover all our city has to offer, then plan your visit. •

Everything you need to know is at your fingertips, at www.VisitMillville.com

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