

# Delaware

*Endless Discoveries™*

Official State Discovery Guide

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On the cover: Embrace the natural beauty at Delaware Seashore State Park with majestic skies and sandy beaches.

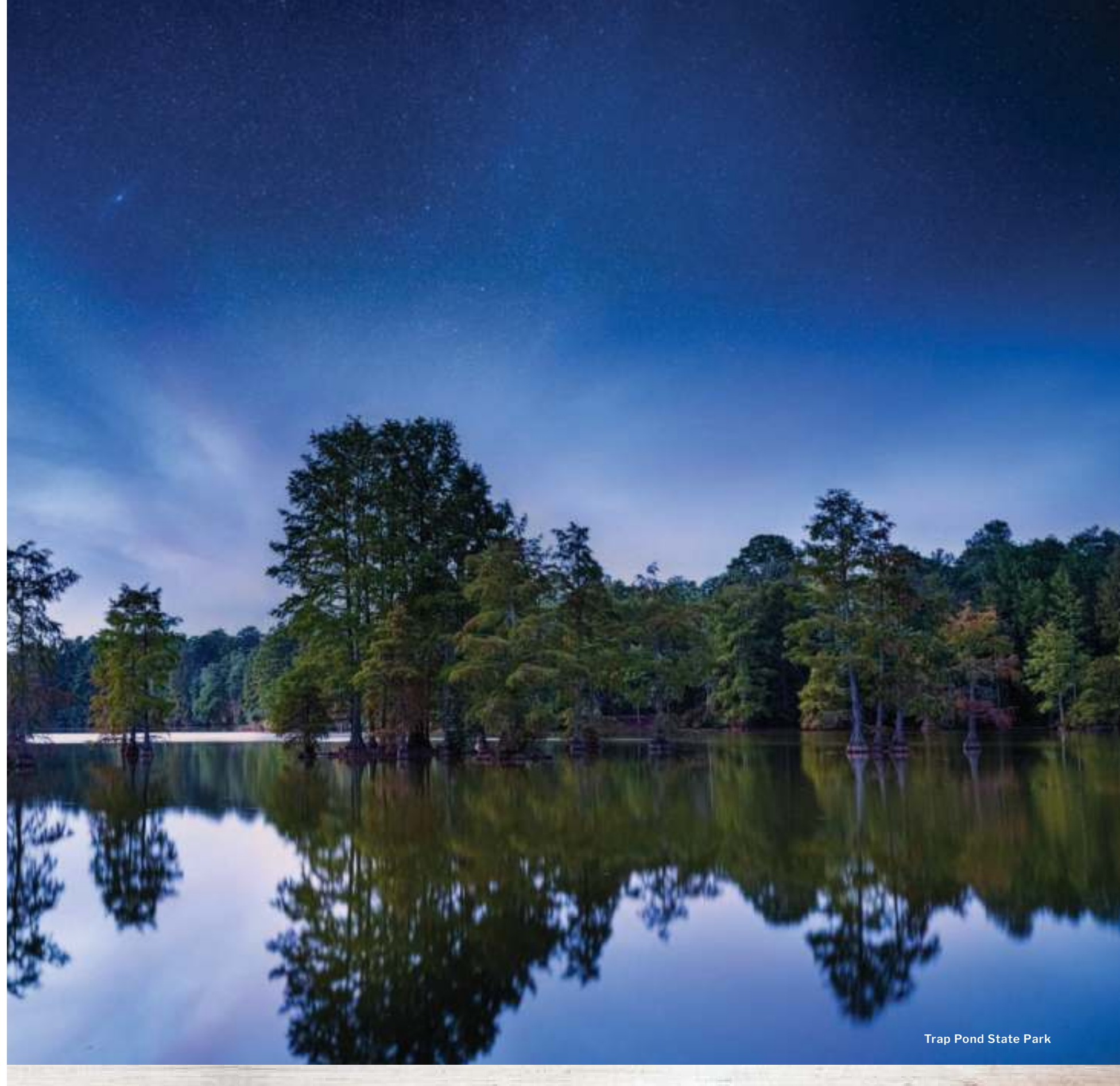


# Endless Discoveries Await

Let your body relax. Feel the day's tension fade. Close your eyes, and you're whisked to someplace new: It's a sun-splashed oasis, lying so still and serene beneath summer's blue skies. With a sigh, you close your eyes, letting yourself become part of the moment, and the moment become part of you.

It's a perfect Delaware moment: One of those times when we realize that the best moments in life were always there for us to find—all we needed was a place to make them real.

So seek your moment, see life's possibilities, embrace the joy that lies within: It's there in the softness of a countryside vineyard, a crisp, cool glass of wine by your side. You'll find it in the blossom-scented garden paths that wind dreamily through the mansions and museums of Delaware's grand estates. In the silvery streams and the ocean waves that hug the coast, you can sense the promise of boundless exploration: Soaring across the waves on a windborne parasail. Paddling softly down a shady creek. Nestled in soft sand, letting the day slip away...



Trap Pond State Park





In Delaware, it's all within reach: Three distinctly different regions, each with its own style and character, but always eager to share their open-hearted charm. It's a unique place to be, in a convenient location—tucked quietly between ocean and bay, yet still within easy reach of Washington and Baltimore to the west, Philadelphia or New York to the north, and just a quick drive to the best beaches in the east.

As you wander and roam—discovering everything from concerts to craft beverages, bike trails to birdwatching—you'll begin to appreciate Delaware's extraordinary range of experiences, and sense its startling value. Imagine the possibilities: Start the day with a breezy walk through the sun-splashed dunes of **Cape Henlopen State Park**, save the afternoon for browsing at the beach's name-brand outlet shops, then wrap up with a hand-crafted cocktail and a haute-cuisine dinner.




Painted Stave Distilling

Or, if a quietly cultured day of refinement is more your style, start your journey in the northern part of the state, where Delaware's Colonial heritage and well-heelled history await new generations of admirers. Head out to the village of **Old New Castle**, a riverside time capsule where 18th century homes and curiosity shops dignify the cobblestone streets. Immerse yourself in the rolling hills and winding roads of nearby Chateau Country, the richly appointed corner of the state that is adorned with lavish estates, now museums for all to enjoy.

And together, you discover the kind of experiences that give life that fresh spark of joy, and bring us closer together: Adventuring through treetops with ziplines through the forest and across the water at **Lums Pond State Park**. Happily jamming together with friends under the stars with the best bands in the world at **Firefly Music Festival**. Paddling through the bald cypress trees at **Trap Pond State Park**, creating memories that can be cherished together.

In many ways, Delaware's the kind of place that gives you just what you want—but also those meaningful moments you need. It's the kind of destination that delivers the thrills we crave, but also the quiet joys of shared discovery that we deserve—and too rarely find.

It's just the kind of place for you—for the whole family—for all time. 

**ONLINE** For more 'Endless Discoveries,' go to [VisitDelaware.com/things-to-do](https://VisitDelaware.com/things-to-do).



@elliottmacguire  
Rehoboth Beach



Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library



@visitdelaware  
Lums Pond State Park



@fireflymusicfestival  
Firefly Music Festival



# Delaware Discovery 'Bucket List'

You feel that warm glow of anticipation even before the trip begins: The giddy excitement of a new destination, new people and places, and new memories to come. There will be some that will forever define Delaware in your thoughts: The soothing sound of rushing waves, the easygoing comforts of unique craft beverage hotspots; and the pumped-up thrills of grooving at Firefly Music Festival, or enjoying a night out in Wilmington.

From the authentic Colonial charm of Old New Castle to the regal splendor of a "Chateau Country" mansion, Delaware is known for a few particularly iconic experiences, the kinds of joys you simply shouldn't miss during your stay. Some are easy to do in a day. Others beg for more time to savor the full flavor of fun. Either way, it pays to keep these Delaware bucket list destinations handy.



Wilmington



### Take a stroll through the dunes at Cape Henlopen State Park

It's a picture-postcard view: A curving stretch of sand and dunes, jutting out into the Delaware Bay just off the coast of Lewes, offering a sparkling view of the dignified lighthouses offshore. **Cape Henlopen State Park's** incredible natural beauty is on full display along the **Walking Dunes Trail**, which winds through the park and passes the **Great Dune Overlook**, where you'll want to pause for a view of the ocean from your breezy perch 80 feet in the air.

### Stroll and shop the Rehoboth Boardwalk

There's no place in Delaware quite like this: A breezy timber Boardwalk, stretching along the shoreline between the beach and the city's center, lined with little shops and frequently filled with flip-flopping sunbathers.

Up and down its festive length, the kids happily chew saltwater taffy while mom and dad enjoy salty french fries—drizzled with vinegar, Delaware style. Perpendicular to the Boardwalk is this old beach town's main street—**Rehoboth Avenue**—home to some of the East Coast's most exciting dining destinations and more than a few exclusive (and tax-free) boutiques.

### Take the kids (and yourself) on the rides at Funland

It's a rite of passage for many locals and travelers since 1962: Strolling up the Rehoboth Beach Boardwalk together toward **Funland**, the old-school but perpetually cool mini amusement park just steps from the sand. Sounds of skeeball and fun-seeking families fill the air, laced with the irresistible aromas of salt-flecked fries and sugar-dusted funnel cakes. All through the neon-lit night, a happy buzz permeates the scene, creating something enduring and indelible that lasts forever in your memories of Delaware.

### Discover Downtown Dover

Victorian homes line shady streets of the capital city, a place where echoes of the American Revolution still linger, and where historic sites inspire visions of another age. Take a tour of landmarks along **The Green** and around **Legislative Hall**, shop at the boutiques along **Loockerman Street**, then tuck up to a meal at coolly casual **33 West Restaurant**. Explore can't-miss events: **First Fridays** (every month), colonial-accented **Dover Days** (May) and **Amish Country Bike Tour** (Sept.), or immerse yourself in military aviation history at the **Air Mobility Command Museum**.

### Explore one of Delaware's Trails of Discovery

Tap into some Delaware's best attractions: Explore the state by following **Delaware's Trails of Discovery**, a step-by-step guide to getting the most out of your trip. First, pick one of four trails, based on your own interests: local craft beverages, historic sites, dining destinations or outdoor discoveries. Then, download your "passport" or app, and start your journey. For more, visit [www.visitdelaware.com/things-to-do/trails](http://www.visitdelaware.com/things-to-do/trails).



### Go birdwatching at Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge

It's a sight like none other: Migrating birds quietly feed in the fields, then suddenly rise in unison, soaring overhead as they slip over the horizon. Recognized as one of the best birdwatching sites in the U.S., **Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge** is a crucial stop for migrating birds in spring and fall, and great flocks of snow geese overwinter here, but the refuge's trails and waterside views give it a year-round appeal.

### Be hoppy and explore what's on tap

Delaware is officially brew crazy: from off-centered ales to backyard hangouts there is a brew for every taste and a vibe for every vacation style, ranging from **Wilmington Brew Works** in the northern part of the state to **Brick Works Brewing and Eats** in central Delaware, to **Big Oyster Brewery** down at the beach. Keep tabs on some of the top spots (and events) with the **DE on Tap** mobile app.

### Go "glamping" at Firefly Music Festival

They say it's the best way to see the shows: Splurge for one of **Firefly's** "glamping" sites, where you can immerse

yourself in the music festival while still enjoying (most of) the comforts of home. There's always the option of carving out your own campsite at the multi-day event, which pulls in some of the top names in contemporary music and features a variety of crowd-pleasing amenities and attractions between acts.

### Spend a day in Old New Castle

It seems like a land from another time: A picturesque Colonial-era village, tucked along the Delaware River and filled with quaint row homes—perfect for a sunny afternoon stroll, and ideal for exploring the offbeat shops and historic sites. **Read House & Gardens** takes travelers back to a different time, and the festivities of **Separation Day** deliver a dose of pageantry, food and fun in June.

### Kayak (or fish) on the inland bays

Some say it's the state's best-kept secret: Broad and peaceful inland bays, along the coast and perfectly suited to a day of fun on the water. From **Dewey Beach** all the way down to **Fenwick Island**, state parks and vendors offer an array of activities: jet-skiing, parasailing, paddleboarding, kayaking and more.



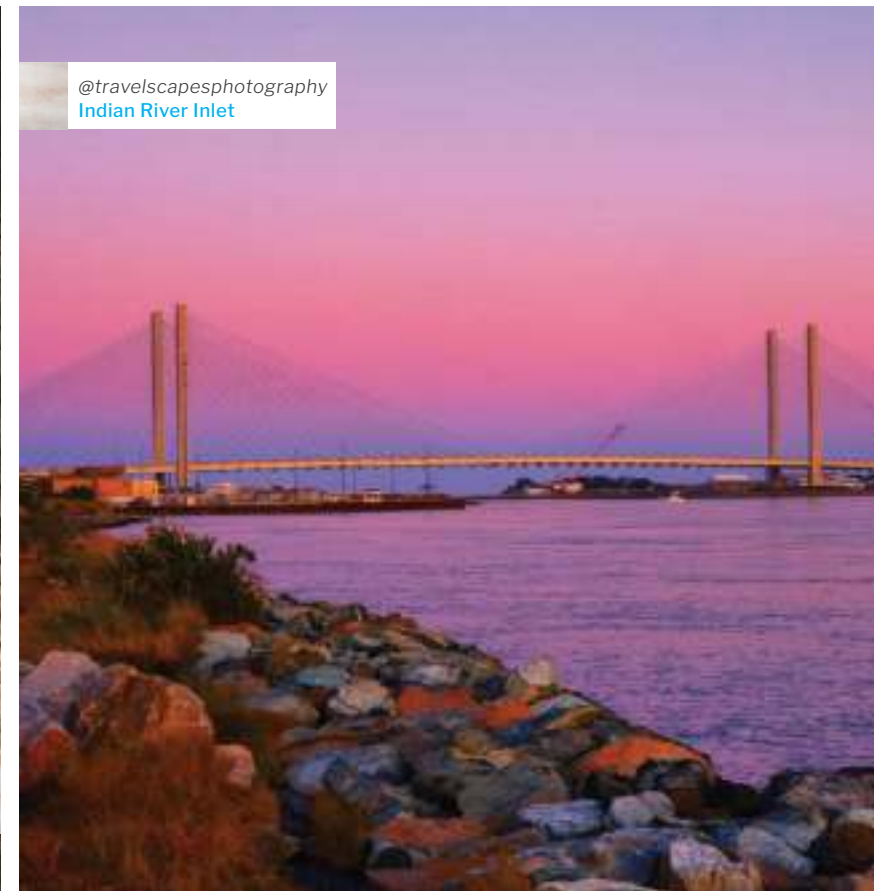




Indian River Bay



@leilah\_nicole  
Mt. Cuba Center



@travelscapesphotography  
Indian River Inlet

Explore tours and rentals from **Coastal Kayak**, **Eco Bay Kayaking Adventures** and **Quest Kayak**.

### Step inside a regal Chateau Country mansion


They take you back to an age of refinement: Delaware mansions and gardens stand as some of the most opulent homes in the nation, and are ideal destinations for a day trip or a weekend of sightseeing. Situated in one of the state's most picturesque landscapes, each offers its own charm: **Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library** for its matchless collection of American antiques and naturalistic gardens; **Hagley Museum** for its historic DuPont Co. gunpowder mills; **Nemours Estate** for its formal French garden and fountains; and **Mt. Cuba Center** for its vistas of native greenery.

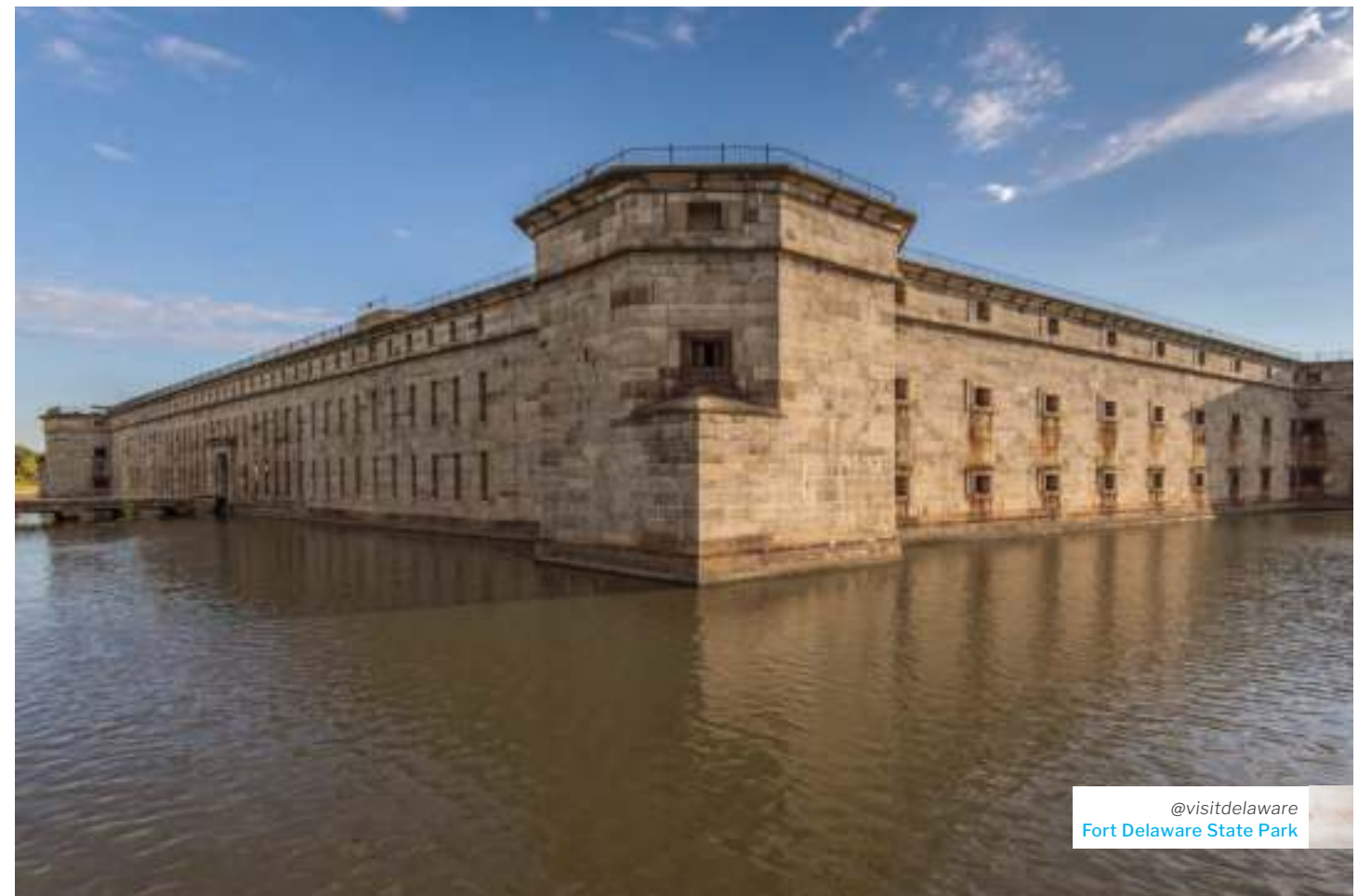
### Explore historic Fort Delaware State Park

It stands in the middle of the river like an apparition from the past: A Civil War fort that once housed

Confederate prisoners, but now stands open to visitors who can hear its story from costumed interpreters. [Insider Tip:](#) Known for “ghostly” activity, the fort has been featured on [Ghost Hunters](#) and [other television shows](#).

### Take a day to enjoy the Wilmington Riverfront

You could easily spend the whole day by the river, enjoying the restaurants, museums and other attractions springing up around the Christina Riverfront. Grab lunch at **Banks’ Seafood Kitchen**, explore the **Delaware Children’s Museum**, or catch a movie at the **Penn Cinema IMAX theatre**. Enjoy the relaxed atmosphere at the **Constitution Yards Beer Garden** as you stroll the Riverwalk, just a jaunt away from the full-court action at the **76ers Fieldhouse** and your choice of hotels with a view. [Insider Tip:](#) Nature lovers shouldn’t miss a [hike through the DuPont Environmental Center](#) along the [Jack A. Markell Trail](#). 



@visitdelaware  
Fort Delaware State Park



# The Beaches

When you arrive at the Delaware beaches, take in your surroundings and relax. Embrace the warm sun, the sound of the ocean and admire the beaches' natural beauty. Enjoy a shoeless day, sitting in a comfy beach chair reading a book or take a dip in the ocean and let your body be one with the waves. When you are at the beach there are no worries in the world. It's almost like time stops and you can unwind.

**Lewes. Rehoboth. Dewey. Bethany. South Bethany. Fenwick.** Six beach towns, each with its own style and allure, and each with its own reason to become your favorite.

## Embrace the Sand

Whether the beach is your own getaway spot or you are visiting with family and friends, your next treasured memory is about to be made.

Just 29 highway miles separate all six top Delaware beach towns, but that straight stretch of oceanside highway embraces an array of state parks, two broad inland bays, hundreds of restaurants and endless shopping sprees. But let's save all that for later.

For now, pack all your favorite beach essentials; snacks, water, sunblock, umbrella, towels and take advantage of the beautiful East Coast sunrise, sunset and all the hours in between.



Cape Henlopen State Park





Delaware Seashore State Park

“Embrace the warm sun, the sound of the ocean and admire the beaches’ natural beauty.”

and dunes overlooking the ocean. Take a hike or ride a bike on one of Cape Henlopen’s thoroughly memorable nature trails, or just pack up the family and the beach chairs and head to the park’s public beaches, well-equipped with concession stands and bathhouses. The campgrounds here are ideal for affordable longer stays, giving the whole family a chance to enjoy Nature Center programs, disc golf, or even annual events such as the Delaware Kite Festival. [Insider Tip:](#) Be sure to climb to the top of the Great Dune for a glorious view of the coast.

### Rehoboth Beach

Beloved by families for generations, Rehoboth sets the standard for its small-town charm and vibrant entertainment scene, ranging from cutting-edge dining destinations to festive, fun nightlife favorites. Daytimes are full of sunbathers and strollers who wander the boardwalk; nighttime gives way to candlelit dinners in laid-back but luscious restaurants, followed by a nightcap in one of Rehoboth’s trendy bars. Contrasts abound here: Family friendly attractions

From sun up to sun down, there are plenty of enjoyable moments to be made at the beach. You can spend hours building a sandcastle, going for a long walk and collecting unique shells and sea glass, or you can rent a boogie board from a local surf shop and ride the waves. Throughout your beach day, don’t be surprised if locals treat you as a friend: dog walkers smile as you pass, while their furry companions wag and wiggle.

You will begin to sense a unique dynamic, a seemingly incongruous identity that has come to define the Delaware beaches: These are all communities as well as “resorts.” These are places with a story, a soul, a spirit: They are places where people care. It all seems so simple, so charming, so unique yet so familiar, even when you’ve never been here before.

It’s then that you realize exactly why you’re starting to fall in love with the Delaware beaches: It’s just so easy to see yourself here. They’re the hometown beach town you always needed—whether you knew it or not.

### Choose your style of beach-town charm

They say that once you experience the Delaware beaches, you fall a little bit in love. Day by day, wave after wave, these Delaware coastal towns show why that’s true.

### Lewes

Lewes Beach is the perfect spot for young families to introduce their children to the surf for the first time. It’s here where the waves are calm and kids spend hours running in out of the water while lifeguards are on watch. It’s here where you can bring your floats to just relax in the water for hours. At the end of the beach day, explore the historic town. Intimate and charming, Lewes (pronounced “Lewis”) still stands as a peaceful refuge from the modern world, thanks in part to the coastal cuisine, intimate boutiques and antique shops that line **Second Street**. [Insider Tip:](#) Experience a narrated nature tour—or a live music cruise—offered by [Cape Water Tours & Taxi](#).

### Cape Henlopen State Park

The natural wonders of Delaware’s beaches are brought together in one easy-to-love package at this iconic 5,200-acre state park, known for its views of offshore lighthouses



Bethany Beach





Dewey Beach



Bethany Beach



Fenwick Island

like **Funland** amusement center and **Dolle's** saltwater taffy co-exist harmoniously with an edgier, artsier scene. [Insider Tip:](#) Grab some **Thrasher's** french fries and enjoy the view. The question is vinegar or no vinegar on the fries?

### Dewey Beach

Here is where the young-and-restless, lively crowds hang, thanks to the bayside nightclubs where rock bands groove until the early hours. Yet it's also so much more: Dewey's long been a favorite among friends who chip in for a weekend beach house rental, and an abundance of budget-friendly options makes it an ideal choice for families looking to keep expenses down. Active travelers will appreciate Dewey's outdoor options, including parasailing, paddleboarding, water/jet skiing, windsurfing, or even dolphin watching. [Insider Tip:](#) Park for free and enjoy the [Wednesday Night Bonfires on the Beach](#) in summer.

### Delaware Seashore State Park

It's hard to miss: Traveling down Delaware's Scenic Coastal Highway (Del. 1), you see a graceful bridge soaring above the water. Beneath the span, pleasure boats make their way through the Indian River Inlet and toward the open ocean. All around you, travelers indulge in Seashore State Park's rich lineup of attractions: A camping site nestles near the bridge, just a short walk from the beach. Lunchtime draws folks to the park's two restaurants, **HammerHeads Dockside** and **The Big Chill Beach Club**. Here, you have your choice of water: Spend the day lounging in the sand on the ocean side, or try some windsurfing or sailing in the park's two bays: Rehoboth Bay and Indian River Bay. [Insider Tip:](#) Rent a beach cottage for the [family right in the park](#).


### Bethany Beach, South Bethany

Bethany prides itself on being a quiet resort, and benefits from being tucked between two beach-

and-bay state parks: **Delaware Seashore State Park** and **Fenwick Island State Park**. More intimate than its upshore neighbors, Bethany is beloved for its restaurants and cheery boardwalk, and is perfect for a day of strolling, sunbathing and shopping. Along with neighboring South Bethany, it's also a favorite of extended families who book a beach house for week long getaways. [Insider Tip:](#) Rent a bike in Bethany and enjoy the scenic ride to [Dewey Beach](#).

### Fenwick Island

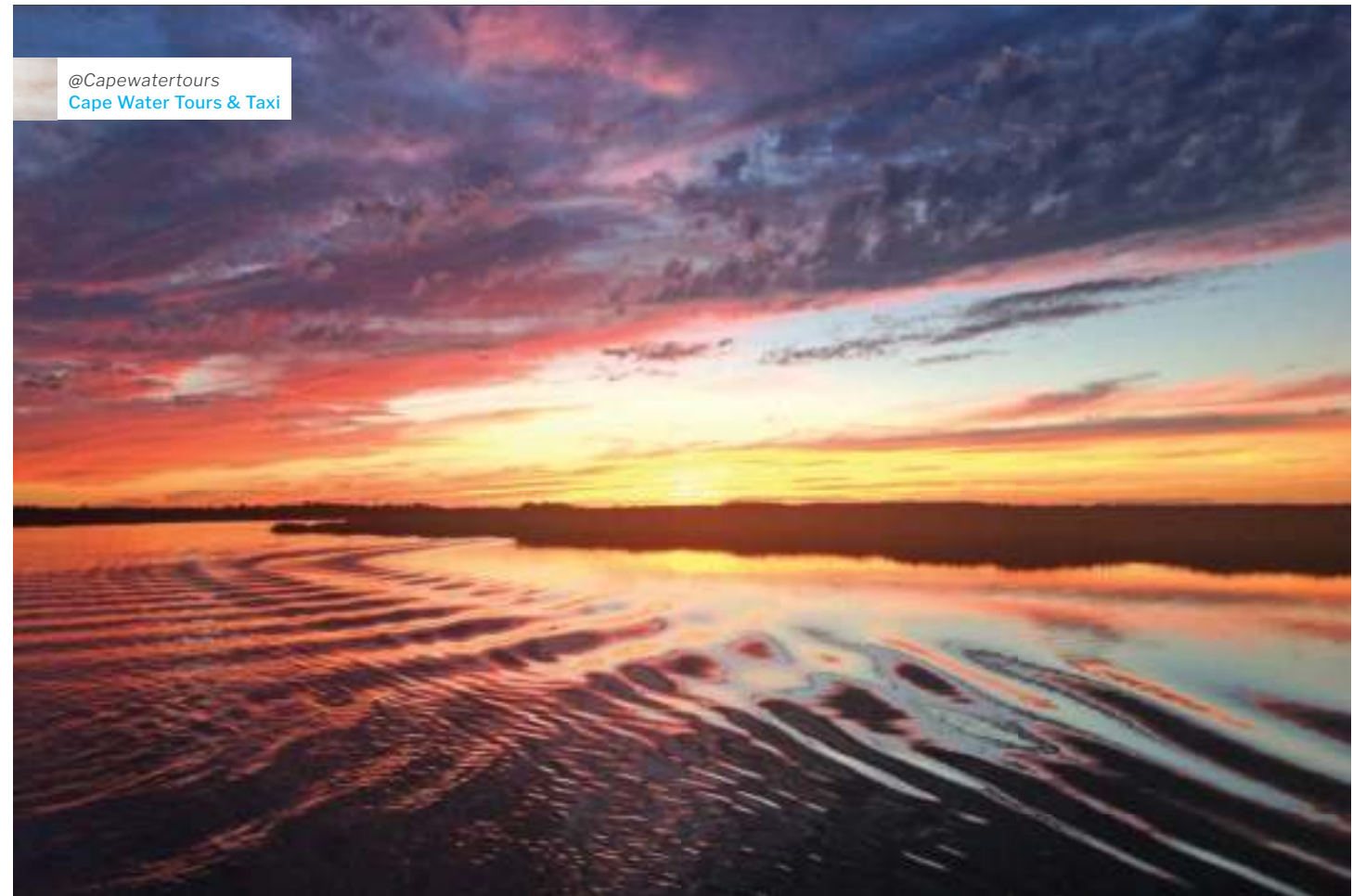
Though it's not truly an island, this southernmost Delaware beach town nonetheless has a set-apart sort of vibe, thanks to the natural buffer of **Fenwick Island State Park** just to the north. Families adore Fenwick for its kid-friendly activities (including putt-putt and go-karts), and outdoor-minded travelers cherish its many boat slips, located just outside beach cottages. Of all the Delaware beach

towns, Fenwick and Dewey boast the best access to the inland bays, giving visitors a chance for dinner with a waterside view at the restaurants along Del. 54, or a day paddleboarding on the calm water. [Insider Tip:](#) Enjoy the farm-to-table cuisine at **One Coastal** restaurant. 





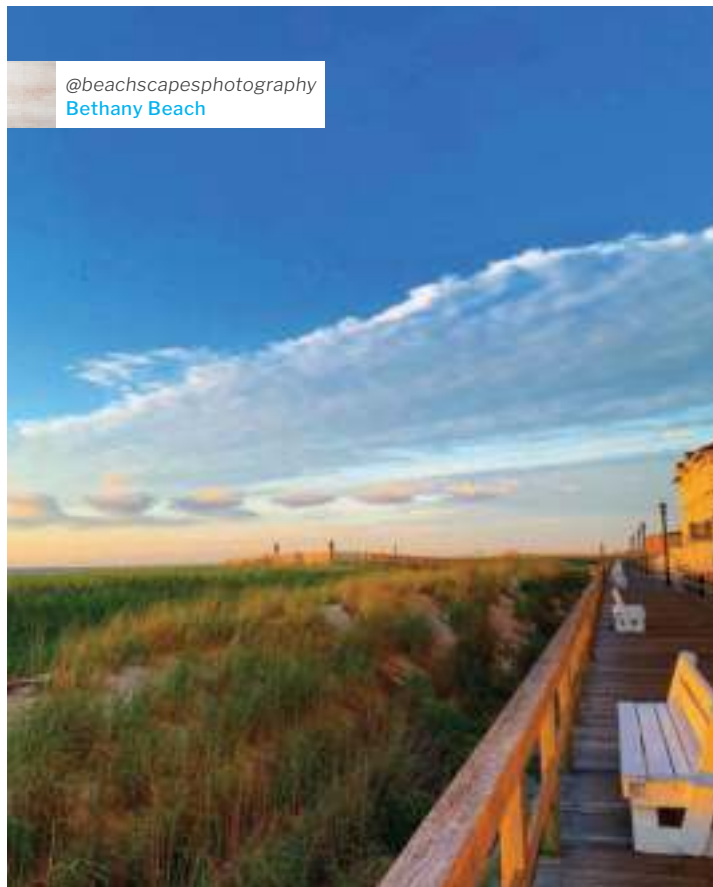
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@grassowhat  
Ice Cream Store Rehoboth Beach



@beachscapesphotography  
Bethany Beach



@harry\_the\_minidoodle  
Dewey Beach



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Fenwick Island



# Beyond the Beach

Just when the sun is slipping over the sparkling bay on a glorious day, a new light begins to shine in and around Delaware's laid-back beach towns, heralding a vibrant scene that beckons beyond the sand.

You sense it in the joyful buzz glimpsed inside cozy-cool restaurants of quaint inland towns, and see it in a succession of roadside temptations, from farm-fresh food stands to down-home crab houses, so full of salty charm, yet still so close to the beach.

So summon your sense of adventure, load the car, and take the less-traveled road to meaningful memories. The towns of Southern Delaware are great places to start. Passing the farm fields of Frankford, you might stop at **Salted Vines Vineyard & Winery** for a summer concert session and a sip of crisp white wine. **Delaware Botanic Gardens at Pepper Creek** located in Dagsboro, offers a soothing nature tour and trail.

## Off the beaten path

Just beyond the beach, the towns of Southern Delaware boast some truly authentic coastal charm, and some memorable off-the-beaten-path adventures.

In Milton, you'll find a charming Victorian vibe, some up-and-coming restaurants (and, of course, the world-famous **Dogfish Head Brewery**).

An engaging art scene makes Milford ideal for strolling, browsing and dining, especially along its main shopping strand, Walnut Street.

The list goes on: In Laurel, the annual **Broad Creek Bike and Brew** is a can't-miss June event, and the town's indoor-outdoor **Laurel Junction flea market** is 25 acres of bargain-hunting heaven. Museums pop up in a host of Sussex towns, ranging from Georgetown (**Treasures of the Sea Museum**), to Millsboro (**Nanticoke Indian Museum**).



Indian River Bay



So keep your eyes peeled as you wend your way to the beaches, and you might be surprised to find that absolutely amazing produce stand (fresh Delaware peaches, anyone?), or that fun-and-funky second-hand shop.

### Discover Western Sussex

There's a certain rural charm in the proud towns in Western Sussex, all a quick hop from the beaches. Imagine a calming canoe journey through the stands of towering bald cypress trees at **Trap Pond State Park**. Savor the delicious snap of juicy, just-picked produce at **T.S. Smith & Sons Orchard Point Market**. Take an afternoon to take off on a tasty tour of the craft-made brews at Delmar's **3rd Wave Brewing Co.**, where you can sample fresh-made craft beer in the surf-themed tasting lounge, or catch a guided tour on Saturdays. Keep an eye out for 3rd Wave's half-price flight nights, or settle in for some oysters at a Buck a Shuck Oyster event.

On your way down to Delmar—known as “the little town

too big for one state”—you'll surely notice the calm natural beauty of Western Sussex's rural landscape, home to the **Nanticoke Wildlife Area**. This unspoiled gem is made up of three large tracts of wooded wilderness, along with a boat ramp to the Nanticoke River and a scenic walking trail. For a picturesque adventure by car, head for the **Nanticoke Heritage Byway**, a 40-mile journey through the pristine lands along this historic river, once home to the people of the Kuskarawaok tribe—the “people of the tidewater.”

If you happen to be in the area in mid July, be sure to stop by the **Nanticoke Riverfest**, which for more than a quarter century has celebrated Western Sussex culture with music, dance and some simple pleasures—there's a hotly contested fishing tournament for the young ones, a car show, and plenty of pageantry and art for all.

### Stroll the Milford Farmers' Market

Back in the day, town markets like these were places to catch up on local doings and stock up on perfectly ripe local produce for home cooking, and it's still that way today at the **Riverwalk Farmers' Market** in downtown Milford. Keep your eye out for such unique finds as driftwood furniture and other crafts, and be sure to take a stroll along the Riverwalk along the Mispillion. Open every Saturday, May through October.

### Anchor down at the sandbar

It's a Delaware tradition for water-loving adventurers: Rent a pontoon boat from **Dewey Beach Watersports** and spend the day relaxing on the Indian River Bay, anchored safely to one of the many shallow sandbars. It's a day full of cool bay breezes, carefree laughter and the occasional leap into the refreshing bay, all you need to make memories for a lifetime. [Insider Tip: Drive the boat to Paradise Grill and park for free at their docks and enjoy a great meal.](#)

### Savor a pile of steamed blue crabs

In Delaware it's a rite of passage: Tucking up to the table and happily devouring steamed-and-spicy



Dogfish Head Craft Brewery

blue-claw crabs, filled with sweet meat and dusted with Old Bay Seasoning. It takes patience and time, but local aficionados will be happy to help you at such legendary spots as the **Old Mill Crab House** in Delmar and **Sambo's Tavern** in Leipsic.

### Roam and relax your way through Milton

It's just one more reason why Milton is becoming one of Southern Delaware's most buzz-worthy destinations: The scenic **Broadkill River**, where kayakers gather for a journey past forests and marshlands filled with life. Check out **Quest Kayak's** Dogfish Pints & Paddles, and you can end your trip with a tour and taste at the famous **Dogfish Head Brewery**. Or, if you're inclined, paddle all the way to the Delaware Bay.

While you're roaming Milton, be sure to stop by **Lavender Fields**, a peaceful and fragrant oasis of blossom-filled gardens and acres of soft green lavender plants. Enjoy a cup of tea in the restored railroad stationhouse, and pick up some of their handcrafted soaps, lotions, shea butter creams and balms. **Hudson Fields** is Milton's go-to place for sporting events, concerts and festivals, and outdoor adventurers will enjoy the **Edward H. McCabe Nature Preserve**, filled with native plants and wildlife, and conveniently located just outside of town (you can even get there via canoe).



Leipsic

### Take a soothing sip at Nassau Valley Vineyards

All it takes is a quick turn off of the beach highway, and you'll find yourself in a charming countryside setting, adorned with rows of grape vines and home to one of Delaware's oldest wineries, **Nassau Valley**. Take a self-guided tour, or settle in for a wine tasting before strolling through the art gallery. Before heading home you'll want to grab a bottle of Nassau's “Adrift” Merlot, or maybe the “Indian River Red,” a vintner's blend that's aged in new French oak for 13 months.



Milford Farmers' Market





### Chip, sip and chew at Baywood Greens

Some come just for the golf, but so much more awaits visitors at **Baywood Greens**, a golf course setting so picturesque that it's been called "Augusta of the North." Repeatedly ranked No. 1 in the state by Golf Digest, the course is just one attraction at this close-to-the-beach destination, which also features a marina, pool and tennis courts. Wind up the day with a meal among friends at the Clubhouse at Baywood restaurant.

### Check out Delaware's next garden hotspot

Still sprouting along the banks of **Pepper Creek**, the fledgling **Delaware Botanic Gardens** is Southern Delaware's tribute to the vital impact of plants on the lives of people and their environment. Set on thirty-seven acres just south of **Indian River Bay**, the garden offers a year-round living habitat to the wildlife that have inhabited Coastal Delaware for thousands of years, and stands as a great example of the ecosystem that still thrives so close to the ocean.

### See one side of old agricultural life

Explore the lovingly restored 1859 **Governor Ross Mansion** near Seaford, where Governor William H. H. Ross (1814-1887) lived just a short distance from the railroad he helped to establish. Inside, immaculate original plaster mouldings, doors and shutters lend an authentic charm to this fully furnished home. Guided tours remind visitors of a time when Southern Delaware's economy was lifted

by Ross's railroad line and its precious cargoes of Delaware-grown tomatoes, strawberries and peaches heading for Philadelphia.

### Get close to wildlife at DuPont Nature Center

**DuPont Nature Center's** water-side attractions include guided tours and interactive exhibits designed to get visitors up-close-and-personal with the Delaware Bay's natural history and ecology. Look around, and see some of the 130-plus species of birds, fish, shellfish, and other animals in this beautiful estuary habitat. Inside the center, view nesting ospreys on the live osprey cam, or check out the live, interactive nature cam to see horseshoe crabs and shorebirds across the harbor. Don't miss the aquariums, full of live horseshoe crabs, fish, shellfish and terrapins.

### Try your luck at Harrington Casino & Raceway

Enjoy more than 1,800 slot machines, table games, simulcasting and sports betting options at **Harrington Raceway & Casino**. Try your luck, then grab a cocktail and a bite at one of the casino's restaurants, which tempt with such treats as bone-in rib-eye and fork-tender filets, frequently accompanied by live entertainment. Visit in July and you'll get to experience the sights and sounds of the Delaware State Fair. 🌊

**ONLINE** Explore unique things to do in Delaware at [VisitDelaware.com](http://VisitDelaware.com).







Wilmington Flower Market

# Festive Events

These are the days we remember: Heading out with friends and family, on a day brightened by sunny skies, enjoying the kind of fun and food that can only be found in this place, at this exact moment in time. There's a special sort of charm to a local festival, a special kind of warmth that embraces everyone who comes, and everything you do.

From food to fine art, from sandcastles to NASCAR racing, there's plenty happening in Delaware to suit any taste in adventure, no matter what time of year.

## Spring

**Lewes Tulip Festival (early April).** This beach town blossoms every spring and gets in the swing with art exhibits, trolley tours, and flower-arranging demos.

**Mt. Cuba Wildflower Celebration, Hockessin (late April).** Stroll through gardens at the peak of their glory, then enjoy live music, food and family programming.

**Dewey Bacon Fest, Dewey Beach and Rehoboth Beach (late April).** Stroll from restaurant to restaurant sampling as many bacon treats as you dare.

**Dover Days (early May).** Colonial heritage is celebrated with a parade and music, Maypole Dancing, tethered hot air balloon rides and more than 100 craft and food vendors.

**Wilmington Flower Market, Rockford Park (early May).** Open-air tents set up beneath the old stone tower are brimming with blossoms and artisanal crafts. Discover the carnival attractions, and live music adds to the festive spring atmosphere.

**Winterthur Point-to-Point Steeplechase, near Greenville (early May).** Upscale tailgating and horse racing across the hills make this a can't-miss social event.

**NASCAR Cup Series Race, Dover (spring).** In the first of two annual races, Dover International Speedway welcomes roaring racing machines to the Monster Mile.

**Separation Day, Old New Castle (early June).** This riverside celebration of the state's independence is full of family fun, food and activities.

## Summer

**Firefly Music Festival, Dover (late June).** Music fans come from across the nation to hear top acts in a woodland setting.

**Mid-Atlantic Sea Glass and Coastal Arts Festival, Lewes (late June).** Dozens of sea glass and coastal artists show their stuff as folks enjoy the live music and food.

**Old Fashioned Ice Cream Festival, Wilmington (late June).** A fun family day of food and music on the scenic grounds of a historic mansion.

**Running of the Bull, Dewey (late June).** The official start of summer in Dewey Beach begins with the annual running of the bull (aka two people in a costume). Surrounded by exciting music and spectators, this is the signature summer event in Dewey.

**July 4th Celebrations, statewide.** From the beach and north to Dover, Newark and Wilmington, fireworks displays light the skies.

**Ladybug Festival, Wilmington (late July).** Billboard magazine has called this event the nation's biggest celebration of women in music. Make sure to attend the Milford Ladybug Festival in early fall to enjoy more amazing tunes.

**Delaware State Fair, Harrington (late July).** Ten days of farm-focused fun, featuring live music, food and amusements.



Winterthur Point-to-Point



Firefly Music Festival





Amish Country Bike Tour

## Fall

**NASCAR Cup Series Race, Dover (fall).** The high-powered racing machines of NASCAR roll into town for the second battle of the year at the Monster Mile.

**Rehoboth Beach Sandcastle Contest (early Sept.).** Get your creative juices flowing at this castle-building contest on the beach.

**Brandywine Festival of the Arts, Wilmington (early Sept.).** Stroll the outdoor vendors on the banks of the Brandywine River, and snag some original artwork.

**Amish Country Bike Tour, Dover (mid Sept.).** An invigorating bike ride through central Delaware's countryside. Save room for the "Famous Amish Pie Stop."

**Rehoboth Beach Jazz Festival (mid Oct.).** Top jazz musicians from around the world come to the beach to wow the crowds from four stages.

**Apple-Scrapple Festival, Bridgeville (mid Oct.).** This celebration of two of Delaware's favorite foods features carnival rides, live entertainment and (of course) food.

**Leipsic Waterfront Oyster Festival (mid Oct.).**

Delaware seafood and its many fans gather at the bayside town to chow down, sip and celebrate.

**Sea Witch Halloween & Fiddler's Festival, Rehoboth Beach (late Oct.).** This quirky, Halloween-focused beach blowout includes parades, games, hayrides, and free live entertainment on the bandstand.

**Fifer Orchards Fall Fest, Camden-Wyoming (late Oct.).** Fall's sweet bounty is the focus in this mashup of music, food, farm tours, and a corn maze.

**First State Heritage Park 18th Century Market Fair, Dover. (early Nov.).** Head back to a different time and experience the sights and sounds of the autumn market fairs held on The Green in Dover in the mid-1700s.

## Winter

**Winter WonderFEST, Lewes (mid-Nov. through Dec.).** This charming beach town gets dressed up for the season with a Christmas village, ice skating and a holiday light spectacular.



Winter WonderFEST

**Yuletide at Winterthur, near Greenville (late Nov. through early Jan.).** Enjoy a magnificent holiday tour of Henry Francis du Pont's mansion, regally decorated and full of delightful seasonal surprises.

**Holidays at Hagley, Wilmington (late Nov. through early Jan.).** French family traditions are reflected through the holidays at this 1803 du Pont family ancestral home, Eleutherian Mills.

**Holidays at Nemours, Wilmington (mid Nov. through early Jan.).** Christmas decorations give the grand Nemours Estate a spectacular holiday flair.

**New Castle Spirit of Christmas and A Dickens Experience, New Castle (early Dec.).** Decorated historic homes, a transformation to scenes from "A Christmas Carol," and festive concerts.

**Fire and Ice Festival, Bethany Beach, Ocean View, Millville (late Jan.).** Enjoy interactive sculptures, beach bonfires, and a stop at your favorite shops for holiday goodies. 🌊

ONLINE

Discover more festive year-round fun at [VisitDelaware.com/events](https://www.visitdelaware.com/events).



Sea Witch Halloween & Fiddler's Festival

Portraits in The Sand





@\_alibishop  
Leipic Oyster Festival



@visitdelaware  
NASCAR at Dover International Speedway



@moonloopphotography  
Ladybug Music Festival



@vrdbcc  
Rehoboth Beach Sandcastle Contest



@lacegraceblog  
18th Century Market Fair



@fivefamilyadventurers  
Yuletide at Winterthur



# Delicious Dining

Get ready for a delicious adventure as we taste our way through the state in search of Delaware's most unique dining destinations.

From the cool, cosmopolitan restaurants up north to the laid-back refinement that's embraced at the beach, Delaware has long been a top dining destination for adoring foodies. If you've never had the salty-spicy pleasure of picking a steamed crab, or enjoyed a romantic meal with a sunset view of the bay, you've come to the right place. From fine-dining to casual eats, from the sweet simplicity of ocean-fresh seafood to edgy and innovative modern cuisine, Delaware is set to soothe your next craving.

## Coastal Cuisine

The Delaware beaches are a joyfully food-focused place, full of family friendly fare, but also fond of adding a delectably refined edge to locally sourced ingredients, all delivered fresh from the farm fields and fishing boats nearby.

For years, the memory will linger, as you dream of those moments—those beachside treats and oh-so-special places—that define the delicious experience of dining in Delaware. In your thoughts, you still feel the craving: The pure and simple pleasure of a pile of sweet crabs or steamed shrimp, dusted with spice and served with a chilly Delaware brew. The unique refinement of a coastal restaurant, so casually cool, so ready for a spark of romance.



Bluecoast Seafood Grill & Raw Bar





Grotto Pizza



The Pines

### Iconic family options

When exploring Delaware's savory coastal cuisine, there are options on the menu for the whole family. Whether it's a signature pizza swirl or bowling with a twist, even the pickiest eater will be satisfied with these options;

- In the morning, try fresh unique donuts from **Fractured Prune** or grab NY-style bagels at **Surf Bagel**.
- When lunchtime approaches, visit **Nicola Pizza** for their addictively filling "Nic-O-Bolis," a stromboli-esque masterpiece. Or spend the afternoon at **Lefty's Alley and Eats** to experience upscale bowling, savory food and a round of laser tag.
- Many a beachtime memory has been made just with **Thrasher's French Fries** drizzled with vinegar, sprinkled with salt, then eaten on a bench.
- Getting a slice (or two) of cheese-swirled **Grotto Pizza Grand Slam** is also practically obligatory here (with an indoor arcade for the kids).
- For dinner options, **Bethany Blues** has luscious BBQ, **Paradise Grill's** waterfront tropical vibe is perfect for a break from the water (you can even dock right at the restaurant) and **Bethany Boathouse** is an ideal spot for a juicy burger.

Down at **Delaware Seashore State Park**, the **Big Chill Beach Club** boasts ocean and bay views with gorgeous sunsets and tasty cocktails. Or head over to **HammerHeads Dockside** for boat docking, local seafood and of course scenic views.

**99 Sea Level** offers oceanfront views along the **Bethany Beach** boardwalk with creative cuisine and a rotating wine list. Or try **Bluecoast Seafood Grill & Raw Bar** which offers fresh local seafood with a unique decor.

### Fine dining destinations

By the time dinner rolls around, the ocean air will have no doubt reawakened your appetite enough for an experience at one of Coastal Delaware's award-winning fine-dining restaurants, all of them artfully attired, and quite many of them also happily obsessed with (you guessed it) local produce and seafood.

- At the cutting edge stand such culinary landmarks as **Salt Air**, **Back Porch Café** and **Henlopen City Oyster House**.
- Savor the flavor of authentic Italian featuring seafood and a variety of martinis at **DiFebo's Restaurant**.
- **The Pines** in Rehoboth Beach is a modern coastal tavern serving creative American cuisine and craft cocktails.
- **Sedona** in Bethany Beach is well known for its date night charm and upscale tapas.

### Ocean-side Bites

Soothing dining plus a scenic view is a must when enjoying Delaware's coastal cuisine. From outdoor dining on the dock at **Catch54 Fishhouse** to open-air boardwalk cuisine at **Obie's by the Sea**, your picturesque view accompanied by delicious dining will make a memorable getaway awaits.



DiFebo's Restaurant



Paradise Grill





Brick Works Brewing & Eats

“From cheesesteak magic to sublime seafood, enjoy Delaware’s favorite treats.”

**Pizza by Elizabeths**, Greenville: Be amazed at the unique décor and flavors. The pizza is divine but you must also try the tomato soup.

**Taverna**, Newark: Italian fare that draws rave reviews from Main Street strollers.

**Woodside Creamery**, Hockessin: Straight-from-the-farm ice cream in unique flavors.

**Central Delaware:**

**33 West**, Dover: American fare known for daily specials. You won’t want to miss the brussels sprouts or maple bacon avocado sandwich.

**Brick Works Brewing & Eats**, Smyrna: “Made from scratch from plate to glass.” Artisanal brews made on-site and popular for their happy hour dining specials.

**Helen’s Sausage House**, Smyrna: It’s a rite of passage in Delaware to enjoy this delicious breakfast spot. Only open for limited hours, but the wait is worth it. Try chocolate milk with your sandwich to add a sweet twist.

**House of Coffi**, Dover: Cozy atmosphere warms this hometown coffee shop. Serving signature drinks and tasty treats.

**La Baguette Bakery**, Dover: House-baked bread, plus fresh sandwiches and to-go meals. Known for their delicious signature cruffins.

**Maverick Texas BBQ**, Smyrna: Finger-licking goodness at this “secret gem.” Only open Fridays – Sundays with limited hours. Be sure to try the brisket.

**Sambo’s Tavern**, Leipsic: The most popular seafood restaurant in Delaware with fresh-off-the-boat crabs and oysters.

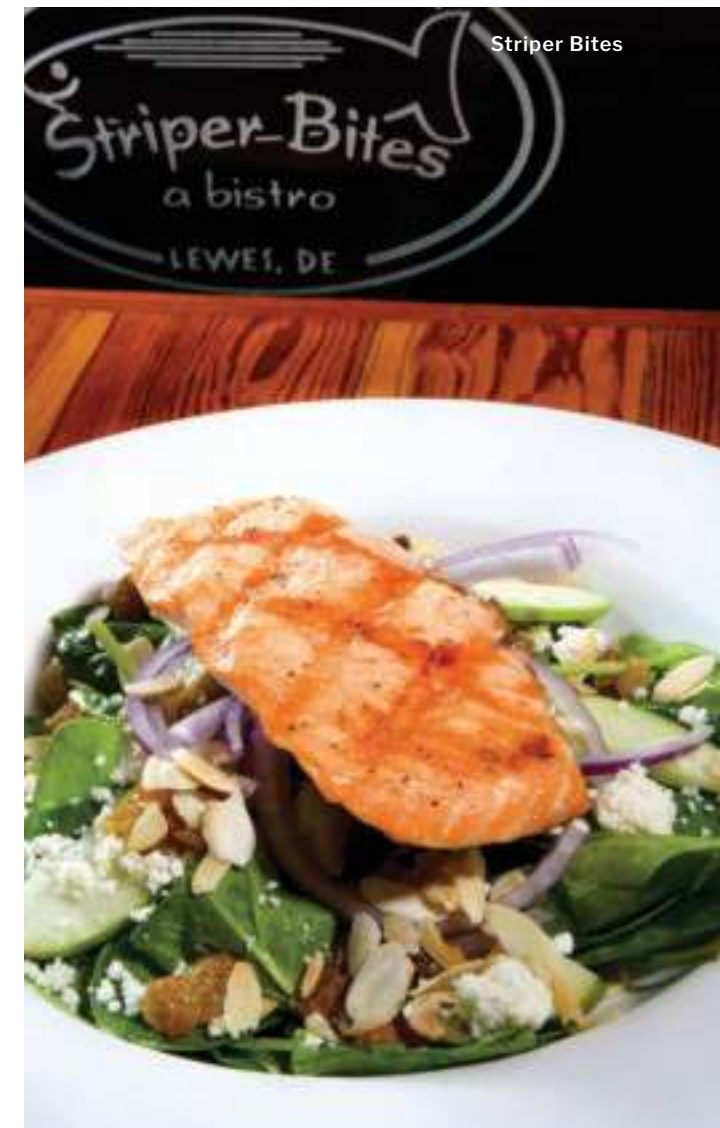
**Southern Delaware:**

**Abbott’s on Broad Creek**, Laurel: Innovative cuisine with small town charm.

**Amity Coffee**, Greenwood: A true hometown coffee shop, where they roast and brew onsite.

**My Sister’s Fault**, Milford: Open Friday – Saturday with delicious desserts. Just wait till you try the empanadas.

**Notting Hill Coffee**: Delightful pastries along iconic 2nd Street in downtown Lewes. The warm cinnamon sticky bun is a must-try.



Striper Bites

**Date nights and late nights**

It’s something about the sea: It inspires thoughts of romance, of staying up late into the evening, enjoying the happy buzz around the bar, sipping a hand-crafted cocktail.

- **Blue Moon**: Edgy and forward-leaning sensibilities lend a touch of beachy sophistication.
- **Cultured Pearl**: Long a favorite for a cozy, intimate meal (request a rooftop table for a view of the stars).
- **Eden**: Gauzy curtains add elegance to the cool, cozy ambiance of the fine dining favorite.

**Dine like a local**

Locals know where all good grub is located! Break away from the everyday menu options and try something new!

**Northern Delaware:**

**301 Plaza Restaurant**, Middletown: Right off Rt. 301, this authentic diner has delicious home-style cooking. Try the French toast.

**Bellefonte Café**, Bellefonte: North of Wilmington, this artistic spot is perfect for happy hour.

**Caruso’s Bistro Cucina Italiana & Pizzeria**, Middletown: Order pizza by the slice or dine-in for delectable Italian. Definitely begin with the pizza rolls!

**Claymont Steak Shop**, Claymont: The cheesesteak spot of Delaware and a favorite of the Governor.

**Deer Park Tavern**, Newark: Legendary historic hotel has been a top Newark spot for nachos and happy hour for years.

**Nora Lee’s**, New Castle: Cajun/Creole surrounded by the historic charm of cobblestone streets.



**Olive & Oats by Azafran**, Lewes: Spanish and Mediterranean tastes are adored.

**One Coastal**, Fenwick: Meals made with heart and soul using fresh ingredients.

**Po'Boys Creole Restaurant**, Milton: Cajun and creole specialties on the way to the beach.

**Striper Bites**: Where local seafood lovers get their regular fix.

## Savor the City

Treat yourself to an elegant evening where the tables sparkle with fine china and silky tablecloths, while the warm flicker of candlelight adds a romantic glow to the evening. Or explore vibrant downtown streetscapes filled with savory delights. Come enjoy big city dining experiences from Wilmington to the heart of central Delaware.

Beginning in northern Delaware, at **Columbus Inn**, a flickering fire enhances an elegant attitude, while inside the intimate

dining room of **La Fia**, James Beard semifinalist Brian Sikora experiments with bistro-esque riffs.

On action-packed Market Street, **Bardea Food & Drink** (another James Beard honoree) has become a new standard-bearer of elevated Italian delights. Homestyle Italian is also proudly revered in Wilmington, as proven by the longstanding Little Italy favorites **Mrs. Robino's** and **Ristorante Attilio**. Locals are buzzing about the **DE.CO** food hall which boasts eight of the city's most contemporary concepts, all casually served, hipster cafeteria style.

For cutting-edge, multi-course gourmet delights, visit **Ciro Food & Drink**. For a sleeker touch, head for **Mikimoto's** sushi, conveniently located near two of the city's buzziest destinations: the dependable **Washington Street Ale House** and a cocktail lounge/"speakeasy" called **Torbert Street Social**. Heading out of the center city and Rivefront area, **Pizza by Elizabeths** stands as one of the most cosmopolitan pizza shops you'll ever enjoy.

Heading a bit south, the city lights are a bit dimmer, but the cuisine is still flavorful. In downtown Newark, Main Street boasts savory options for every palate. Try the elevated Italian cuisine at **Taverna**, or when school is in session, experience the University of Delaware's fine-dining restaurant, **Vita Nova** which offers bistro dishes prepared and served by students.

The next stop on the city tour brings travelers to central Delaware. There is a cosmopolitan elegance at **Dover Downs Hotel & Casino**, where **Michele's** restaurant sets the high-rolling standard with their signature surf and turf cuisine. At **Jerry Longo's Meatballs and Martinis**, try the authentic Italian recipes and custom craft cocktails.

As you dine throughout Delaware, elegant options with romantic ambiance set the scene for the perfect evening. On the menu is always big city flavors with hometown prices! 🌊

ONLINE

Take a tour of 24 favorite restaurants at [VisitDelaware.com/culinary](https://www.VisitDelaware.com/culinary).





# History Lives Here

You can see it, sense it, feel it come to life: A tale that stretches back to the founding of our nation, embracing legends of Colonial courage, and life in the palatial homes of a more regal time.

Start with a stroll on the cobblestone streets of **Old New Castle**. Or take a tour through the richly appointed rooms of **Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library**, home of the world's premier collection of American antiques. In a way, Delaware's story is a lot like the story of all of America—the triumphs and the struggles, the dreamers and the doers.

You sense it as soon as you arrive here: A feeling that the past still lives through the present day, lingering in the immaculate grand halls of the sprawling mansions, echoing down the narrow streets of the riverside towns.

Standing before these historic sites, you wonder: How many sunrises have cast their glow across this old estate's fields, and how many young families were fed from its bounty? How many waves have crashed against that lighthouse standing in the sea, so steadfastly guiding sailors through the storms?

In Delaware, the echoes of a rich past reverberate through the centuries, giving us all the chance to make them part of our own story, our own lives.



Hagley Museum and Library



## Top spots for history buffs

From the hills of Northern Delaware, to the agricultural vistas of Central Delaware, to Southern Delaware's sparkling ocean shores, Delaware's favorite historic adventures await:

### Travel to a time of regal estates

Step back through the decades to a regal time at Delaware's Chateau Country mansions and gardens, now open to all. **Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library** is renowned for its lush gardens and unparalleled antique collections, **Hagley Museum and Library** for its original DuPont Co. gunpowder mills along the Brandywine River, and **Nemours Estate** for its formal French garden, inspired by the palace of Versailles.

### Explore the Colonial past in Old New Castle

It's a scene from a storybook: Cobblestone streets, flickering streetlamps, a brilliant view of the broad river. There's a special charm that draws people by the

thousands to this immaculately preserved Colonial town, which stood as Delaware's first capital and is still home to such leading historic sites as the **New Castle Court House**, **Old Swedes Church**, and the **Amstel** and **Dutch Houses**.

### Coastal Delaware's splendor lives iconic sites

Standing on the coast, you can imagine the sights of the past: Tall ships sailing north for ports in Wilmington and Philadelphia, guided by the stately lighthouses at the mouth of the Delaware Bay. In their shadow lies **Cape Henlopen**, now a beautiful state park, but long a breezy landmark for those who are drawn to that magical place where sea meets land.

### Prepare for takeoff at the Air Mobility Command Museum

Delaware's aviation history is being made every day at sprawling Dover Air Force Base, a key post in the U.S. military's ongoing efforts, and also the home to this jaw-dropping collection of vintage aircraft. The museum specializes in cargo and refueling planes, but keep an eye



Fort Delaware State Park

out for historic fighters, helicopters, a presidential aircraft, and even a bomber. Guided tours are provided by military veterans.

### Take a railroad ride into the rolling hills

The past comes chugging into the present when you climb aboard **Wilmington & Western Railroad**, a vintage-era train that takes passengers on a short-but-scenic ride through the Red Clay Creek Valley in open-air carriages, stopping along the way to enjoy a picnic lunch in a countryside meadow.

### Set sail on a tall ship

It's a hands-on experience sailing aboard this full-scale replica of the tall ship that brought 17th-century Swedish settlers to Delaware. So get ready to haul some lines, and hear how the original **Kalmar Nyckel** brought the first permanent European settlement to the Delaware Valley.

### Take a journey to Fort Delaware State Park

As Americans fought through the Civil War, this island in the middle of the Delaware River would become a barrier against attacks against northern ports, but



Nemours Estate



Old State House



Delaware Breakwater Lighthouse





Air Mobility Command Museum



@visitdelaware  
Hagley Museum and Library

would earn its infamy as a prison for thousands of Confederate prisoners. Costumed interpreters take you back to those days, and occasional ghost tours add a touch of the macabre.

### Explore First State National Historical Park

This sweeping journey into Delaware's past spans the entire state and pays respects to all who made it possible at

seven sites: Woodlawn Tract at Beaver Valley, Fort Christina, John Dickinson Plantation, New Castle Court House Museum, Old Swedes Historic Site, Ryves Holt House, and The Green in Dover. 🌊

ONLINE

Start your journey into our past on the Delaware History Trail, go to [VisitDelaware.com/history](https://www.visitdelaware.com/history).

### Feel nature's splendor at Mt. Cuba Center

Standing on the hillside at this one-time estate, you feel the embrace of nature, and begin to appreciate just how crucial native plants are to all our lives. In a way, this botanical garden is a living, breathing museum, one that celebrates the beautiful bounty of native wildflowers and trees (and birds and bees) that surround us.



Mt. Cuba Center



@diodatiphotography  
Old New Castle



@princetonlane  
Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library



# Tap into Savory Flavors

Some rest peacefully along scenic country roads. Others are tucked into countryside towns, beckoning you to unwind with a chilly beverage. All through the state, Delaware's breweries, wineries, distilleries, meaderies and cideries await.

Diving into the Delaware craft beverage scene, you find yourself on a journey of unexpected delights: Peaceful evenings, sipping wine beneath the stars. Cheerful afternoons in the company of fellow beer connoisseurs, comparing the subtle character of your just-poured brew.

It's a scene that somehow manages to simultaneously embrace high-spirited fun and soothing moments. It's a scene that's vibrant, hip and very frequently accompanied by crave-worthy food, along with a dash of acoustic music.

In Northern Delaware, destinations like **Iron Hill**, **Stitch House** and **Argilla's Brewing @ Pietro's Pizza** supplement the brews with good food. Central Delaware's **Harvest Ridge Winery** smoothly captures soothing back-country charm, and **Misphillion River Brewing** is beloved for its tempting on-tap tasting menu. In Southern Delaware, **Dewey Beer Co.** and **Revelation Craft Brewing Company** keep the brews flowing in and around the beach, while off the beaten path is **Brimming Horn Meadery**.







Harvest Ridge Winery

### Just tap the app

Around every corner, an up-and-coming new contender emerges, so stay up-to-date with what's on tap with the **DE on Tap** mobile application. Easily check-in to 10 locations from your phone and you'll receive a commemorative pint glass for exploring Delaware's craft beverage scene. Not only can you check-in to locations but you can search for craft locations based on your favorite flavors or browse through upcoming events such as food truck competitions or food pairings. Your next savory sip of local flavor is in the palm of your hand! Just download the app and begin the adventure.

### Go where the pros go


Wondering where to go first? We've rounded up top locations that Delaware's very own craft beverage makers like to visit.

*"Stitch House is a great go-to of mine. Great food, staff, beers and it's close to home."* – Dustin Davis, **Fordham & Dominion Brewing Co.**

*"Dew Point Brewing is simply amazing! The owners are so welcoming and the beer, oh so good! Plus, the location takes you back in time and the building is stunning."* – Terri Sorantino, **Liquid Alchemy Beverages**

*"We love to hang out down the road at Big Oyster Brewery."* – Greg Christmas, **Beach Time Distilling** 🌊

#DEonTap



Exploring the popular Delaware Beer, Wine & Spirits Trail is now easier than ever. Just download Delaware on Tap from the App Store or Google Play. [Find out what's on tap!](#)



Crooked Hammock Brewery



@delawareontap  
Liquid Alchemy Beverages



@delawareontap  
Dew Point Brewing Co.



@delawareontap  
Beach Time Distilling



# Embracing the Great Outdoors

These moments are truly golden: The sun's rays are just starting to stretch sleepily over the horizon, but you're already ready to roll. It's time for some serenity, outdoor-style.

Maybe it's a day for a breezy bike ride through the woods. A soothing kayak excursion could also suit the mood, or perhaps a brisk hike through the dunes, serenaded by the songs of shorebirds. So much to choose from: Stand-up paddleboarding, world-class birdwatching, even a thrilling zipline ride through the woods and across a pond.

That's the thing about Delaware: All of the outdoors is well within reach, from the hilly woodlands of Northern Delaware, to Central Delaware's wildlife refuges, to the sun-kissed ocean beaches that make Southern Delaware such a treasure.

Some will start their journey at a state park, a great choice for those who want their pick of affordable fun, from paddleboarding to biking to horseback riding. Others will strike out on their own, heading to sea in a chartered fishing boat for a wave-splashed adventure, or just settling in for a carefree car ride along one of the Scenic Byways that criss-cross the state.

No matter your flavor of outdoor fun, Delaware has all you need, everywhere you turn.



Trap Pond State Park



### Go biking through Brandywine Creek State Park

Immerse yourself in the heart of the Brandywine Valley at this wooded and hilly state park, criss-crossed with rolling trails and renowned for its beauty. Try the Rocky Run Trail or the Brandywine Trail for a view of the gentle creek, then it's back to the top of the hill, where you can savor the panoramic view. Open meadows are well-suited for picnics, kite flying and disc golf, and in the winter, sledding and cross-country skiing.

### Rent a kayak at Trap Pond State Park

Enjoy the majesty of the nation's northernmost stand of baldcypress trees as you kayak across this peaceful pond. Or set up your gear and spend the day fishing for bluegills, catfish and largemouth bass. Park interpreters lead guests on narrated pontoon boat tours on summer weekends and holidays, and visitors can quickly hit the water by renting a rowboat, pedal boat, canoe or kayak.

### Meet the birds at Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge

Birdwatchers flock from around the world to see a globe-spanning assortment of birds at **Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge**, a key stopover on their migratory journey north and south along the Atlantic Flyway. The 16,000-acre refuge has a 12-mile auto-tour route with excellent views, and five short walking trails offer a chance to get up close and personal (especially from the 30-foot-high observation towers.)

### Go fishing (or crabbing) at Indian River State Park and Marina

Here's where the action all begins for folks who love fishing in Delaware, thanks to a well-appointed marina, drive-on beaches for surf fishing, charter boat rentals, and enough amenities to keep all non-fishing fans occupied. From here, boaters can head out into the Atlantic or motor into Delaware's Inland Bays to lay out their crab pots and catch their next meal. Visit **Hook 'em**



Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge



Cape Henlopen State Park

**& Cook 'em** for fishing gear and fresh seafood, or let the chef do the cooking for you at the park's waterfront restaurant, **Big Chill Beach Club**.

### Soar through the treetops at Go Ape!

Put on your game face and jump right in: You're being led on a journey into the treetops, pulling yourself across rope bridges, between 50-foot trees and past other obstacles before being hooked to a 700-foot zipline. Then, feel yourself zooming through the woods and across the pond with a squeal. And be sure to check out the boating, hiking and other adventures available while you're at **Lums Pond State Park**.

### Try your hand at stand-up paddleboarding at the beach

Splashing gently across the bay, or shredding your way through ocean waves, you feel a shiver of freedom, a fresh sense of closeness with



Lums Pond Go Ape Zip Line



the nature that surrounds you. Grab a few introductory lessons, then sign up for a guided tour, and discover the side of Delaware that few get to see. Popular places to start include **Bethany Surf Shop**, **Delmarva Board Sport Adventures**, **Coastal Kayak** and **Delaware Paddlesports**.

### Sit back and learn on a nature tour

Sometimes, it pays to let the outdoor experts bring it all into focus. You don't even have to get your feet wet to enjoy one of the cruises through Delaware's waterways, ocean and bays offered by **Sun Otter Tours** and **Cape Water Tours & Taxi**, which has dolphin-watching cruises, lighthouse cruises and eco-tours. In Northern Delaware, guided tours reveal the quiet beauty of wetlands at **DuPont Environmental Education Center**, part of the **Russell W. Peterson Urban Wildlife Refuge**.



Delaware Bayshore Byway

## Scenic Drives

Sometimes, the perfect day is no further than the comfort of your car, winding through some of Delaware's most scenic locales. Check out some favorites:


### Delaware Bayshore Byway (Del. 9)

This back-road journey twists and turns through some of Delaware's most picturesque coastal lowlands, home to a host of friendly bayside towns.

### Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway

From the gentle and wooded hills of Chateau Country to the city of Wilmington, this journey along the Brandywine River includes some of the state's most spectacular scenery.

### Nanticoke Heritage Byway

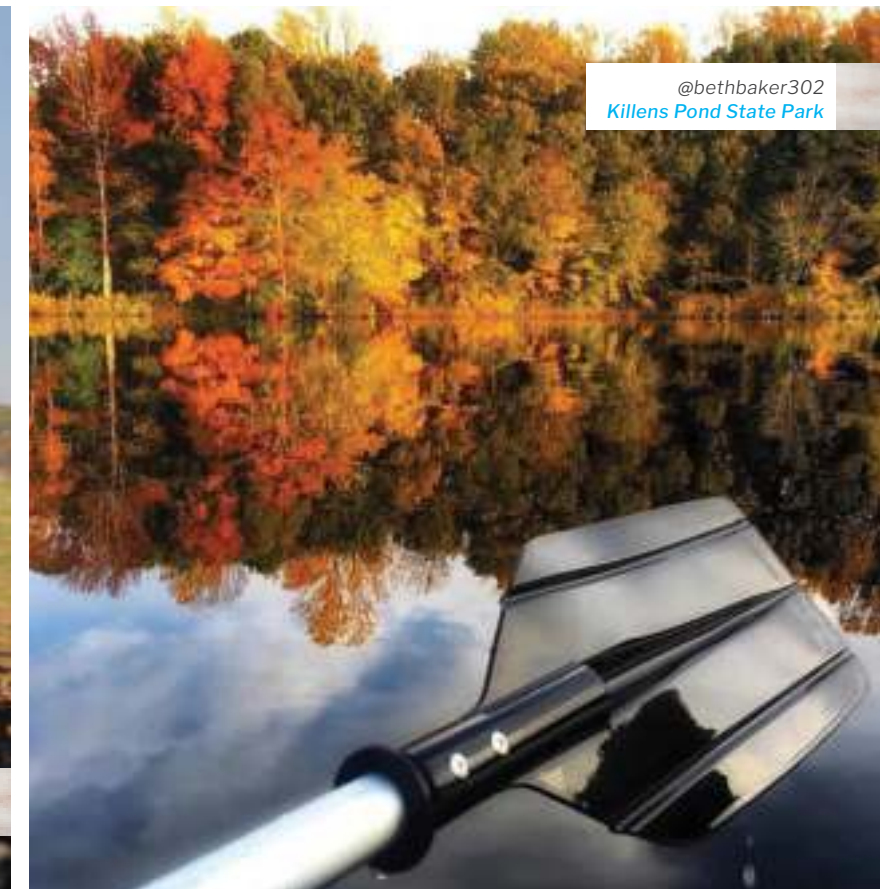
Quiet and rural, this journey explores lands that Native Americans once knew, passing farmlands, wooded areas, and the quaint little towns of Seaford, Bethel and Laurel before winding up at Trap Pond State Park. 

ONLINE

For more outdoor adventures go to [VisitDelaware.com/outdoor](https://www.visitdelaware.com/outdoor).



@visitdelaware  
Brandywine Creek State Park



@bethbaker302  
Killens Pond State Park



Russell W. Peterson Urban Wildlife Refuge



@thetidewader  
Gordons Pond Trail



# Recharge & Rejuvenate

These vacation destinations are ready to boost your spirit, relax your mind and refresh your body.

In life's rich journey, it's important to embrace those moments of calm. Perhaps it's time for a quiet morning alone, by the water, accompanied only by nature's gentle song. Or maybe a leisurely bike ride through the shady streets of town, pausing now and then to reflect, and reframe your perspective.

It's time to take a little time for yourself, and give yourself the gift of rejuvenation.

In Delaware, your next moment of zen is always in reach: Maybe it's a deliciously relaxing day at the spa, or a yoga session at the beach. At cutting-edge restaurants and roadside farm stands, a bounty of organic ingredients and body-healing meals tastefully beckon.

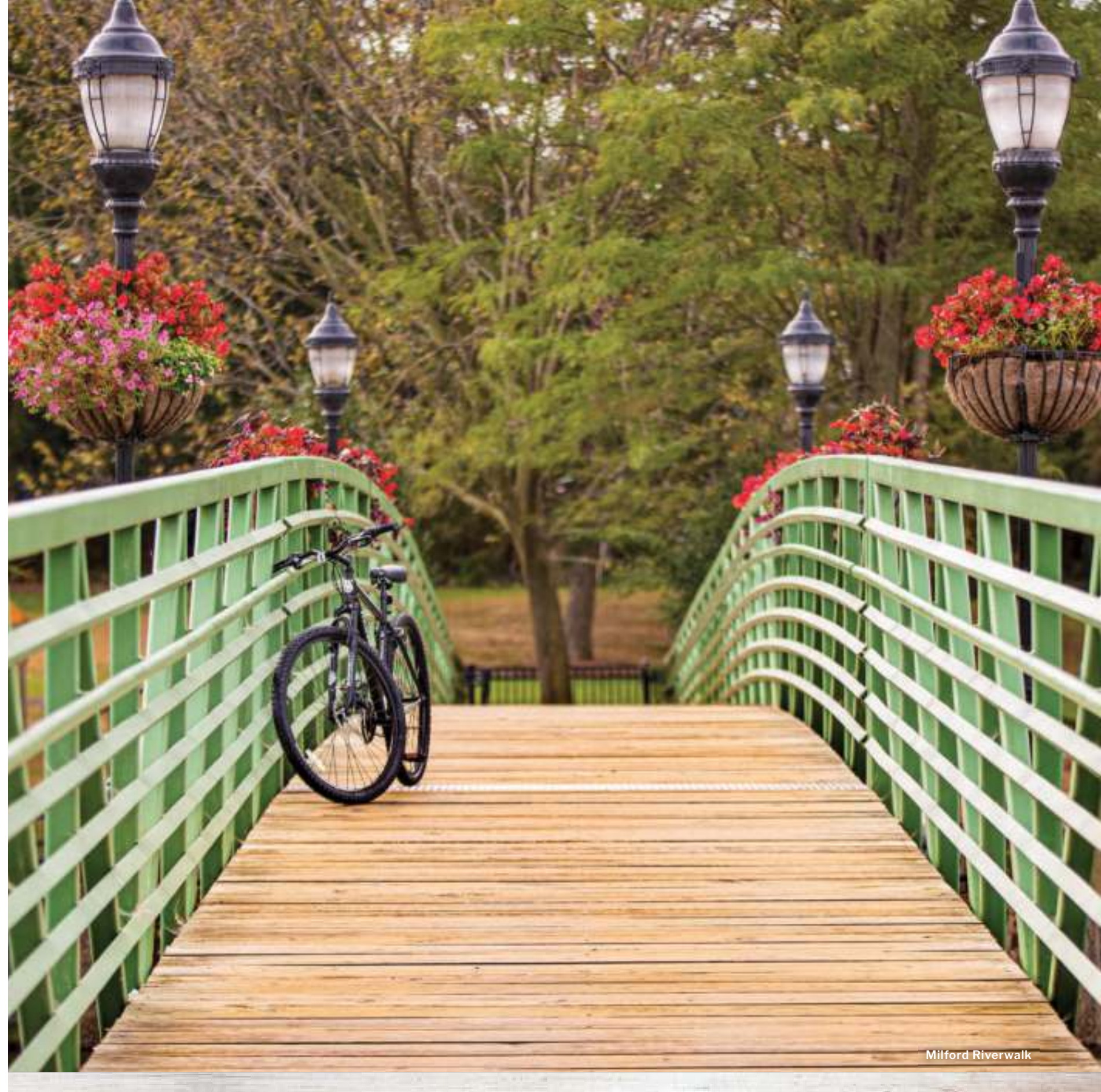
So break away, take a moment for yourself, and just breathe.

You deserve it.

## A day at the spa

The scene is serene at Delaware's top day spas, each with its own special charm, and each suited to a brief session or even a longer stay.

Upstate, travelers wandering the rolling hills of Chateau Country near Wilmington head for the **Inn at Montchanin Village**, a mini-resort of sorts that offers everything from fine dining to cozy lodging to luxurious spa treatments. Close to the city but delightfully secluded, Montchanin's historic buildings have been restored and richly appointed, making it an ideal weekend getaway as you explore nearby mansions and gardens.



Milford Riverwalk



Try the Inn's Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Package, which includes breakfast and dinner at the highly regarded **Krazy Kat's** restaurant. A fitness center stays open from morning until late at night, and Montchanin's spa stays on the cutting edge of self-care with healing massages, oxygen skin treatments, body wraps and natural facials.

Farther downstate, in **Dover Downs Hotel & Casino**, guests seeking a break from the gaming and slots action head for **Toppers Spa and Salon**, a South Seas-inspired retreat with an exotic air of seclusion. A menu of tempting "spa experiences" encourages indulgent moments, from a 110-minute massage and body treatment to the five-hour "Best Day Ever" session, a head-to-toe pampering that includes a massage, facial, mani-pedi, hair styling, makeup and even lunch.

### Serenity by the Beach

Down at the Delaware beaches, moments of relaxation await. There's something about the ocean, the air, the endless horizons here that make us more mindful, giving travelers so many reasons to break free: Try some yoga in an aerial hammock, in a session on the beach, or even some "Glow Yoga" with body paint and black lights at Rehoboth's **Dimitra Yoga**. Feel the blissful burn of balance-board workout at **Salt Fitness**, or immerse yourself in therapeutic bliss at **Urban Float Rehoboth Beach**.

In Bethany Beach, enjoy daily yoga sessions at the town bandstand every day except Thursday, and in Dewey Beach, the **Atlantic View Hotel** gets guests moving every morning with an entry-level beach yoga session. Out on the water, peaceful moments abound: Try a

yoga session perched on a stand-up paddleboard at **Delmarva Board Sport Adventures**, or **SUP Yoga Delaware**, both in Dewey Beach.

Or, head to one of the Delaware beaches' top day spas. Luxurious relaxation is part of the regal charm at one of TripAdvisor's top Rehoboth hotels, **The Bellmoor Inn and Spa**, where guests enjoy massage therapies, rehydrating skin treatments, nourishing nail care and skin-smoothing waxing services. Book the "Wine, Dine and Unwind" package for you and your partner, then lie back for your 50-minute stone massages, discount spa services, bottle of wine, and choice of dinner at some of Rehoboth's top restaurants.

Just around the corner, **Avenue Inn & Spa** is another top TripAdvisor destination that aims to put guests in a blissful, beautiful state of mind

with holistic body care, ranging from CBD massages to five-hour couples' packages with champagne or wine, an outdoor Jacuzzi, indoor salt water pool, and sauna. Down in quiet Bethany Beach, you can book a room along the Boardwalk at **Bethany Beach Ocean Suites Residence Inn**, which offers the in-house Spa on Hollywood, a saltwater pool and the 99 Sea Level restaurant.

### Feeding the Soul

When you eat right, you feel right. Many Delaware restaurants are embracing organic, locally sourced ingredients, ideal for a getaway filled with nutritious meals.

At the beach, options are plentiful: In Rehoboth and beyond, head for **Twist Juice Bar**, **Juicefresh** or **GreenMan Juice Bar & Bistro** for fresh-made, fruit-and-veggie smoothness. **Good Earth Market** stocks all the goodness you'll need in two locations:

Rehoboth, and Ocean View, where a restaurant supplements the appeal.

In Lewes, **Nectar Cafe & Juice Bar** is the place to stop if you're after healthier breakfast and lunch offerings, and **Bountiful Bowls** keeps things light, fresh and delicious with açai bowls, salads and healthy snacks. **Semra's Mediterranean Grill** in Rehoboth has become a go-to for vegans and vegetarians, who are very frequently catered to at a variety of beach-area restaurants.

Upstate, nutrition-minded diners have long headed to **Home Grown Cafe** in Newark for food and music, or just nabbed a home-made grab-and-go meal at **Honeybee** in trendy Trolley Square, which doubles as a market for locally grown produce. In and around Wilmington, **Drop Squad Kitchen** offers "unapologetically vegan" fare on the Riverfront, and the **V-Trap Kitchen & Lounge** in


Wilmington's Little Italy creates healthier versions of your favorite cuisines, from Mexican to Italian to classic American.

### In the fitness zone

If you're looking to keep up with workout routines or step counts while on vacation, take a trip through some of Delaware's fitness-friendly vacation destinations, from beachside gyms to back-to-nature jaunts.

Gentle terrain and countryside views make cycling in Southern Delaware a favorite fitness option: Rent a couple of bikes at **Lifecycle Delaware** and wind your way along the river on the **Mispillion River Greenway**, a 1.8-mile journey passing historic sites and parks.

Stop by for a family guest pass from any of the **YMCA of Delaware** locations and enjoy amenities statewide, including fitness classes, 17 indoor and outdoor pools and kids activities.

Or hit the trail at one of Delaware's top hiking destinations, ranging from the scenic **Gordons Pond Trail** at Cape Henlopen State Park to the hilly woodlands along the 10.4-mile **Northern Delaware Greenway Trail**, which links such top attractions as **Bellevue State Park**, **Brandywine Park**, **Brandywine Zoo**, and **Rockford Park**. Along the way, keep watch for two historic estates and the rocky cliffs of **Alapocas Run State Park**. 



Brandywine Park



The Spa at Montchanin Village



# Tax-Free Shopping



Tanger Outlets

Browse your way through Delaware's unique boutiques and name-brand outlets on a day of retail therapy with a bonus of tax-free savings.

We all deserve a little treat now and then! Whether it's finding the perfect e-gadget or the pair of shoes you've been searching for, you've come to the right place. Online shopping may be your top choice but, the cost savings are all right here in Delaware. Here is a round-up of top tax-free shopping locations throughout the state.

## Malls and Outlets:

**Christiana Mall/Christiana Fashion Center:** With an abundance of name-brand stores and easy access to I-95, the Christiana Mall and surrounding shopping

area are a top spot. Home to such irresistible retailers as Nordstrom, Apple and Michael Kors, and enhanced by crowd-favorite restaurants like **Chili's** or **Honeygrow**. You'll even be able to entertain the kids at the nearby **Main Event**, which features arcade games, indoor mini-golf and rock climbing.

**Concord Mall/US 202:** Upstate, shoppers gravitate toward this retail-rich road and its mall. With popular locations such as Christopher & Banks, H&M and Ulta Beauty.



Coral Cove



Christiana Mall

**Dover Mall:** Located right off US 13, near the Dover Downs Hotel and Casino and Dover International Speedway, the Dover Mall offers name-brand stores and is surrounded by retail favorites such as Home Goods and Best Buy.

**Tanger Outlets:** At the beach, name-brand bargains are at this Coastal Highway center, home to 126 stores including Coach, Old Navy and Vineyard Vines.

## Unique Boutiques:

In downtown Dover, it's all about personalized service and the latest fashions and home goods. Stop by **BLUvintage**, **Bel Boutique**, or **Forney's Too** for that extra shopping experience you're searching for. From styling sessions to meeting Larry the Security Cat, it's true that each boutique in Delaware offers eclectic finds and charm.

If you head a bit north, in and around Wilmington, check out **Peter Kate**, **White House Black Market**, **Christina's Unique Accessories & More**, or Newark's **Bloom**.

Or down by the beaches, shoppers rave about **Aquamarine** in Lewes, and Rehoboth browsers adore **Coral Cove**, **Salt + Stone** and **Willow Marie & Co**. Down in Fenwick Island, check out **L'ete & Company**, and don't miss the sister boutiques of **Gypsy Myst** (Lewes) and **Gypsy Teal** (Bethany).

## Vintage Finds:

Explore Delaware's top antique and second-hand centers, including **Mercantile Antiques**—a charming antique "mall" in the heart of Lewes—and **Laurel Junction**—25 acres of indoor and outdoor finds. Upstate, along Lancaster Pike north of Wilmington, the tiny-but-tonsy village of **Centreville** boasts several antique shops.

Now, aren't you ready for some retail therapy?! 🌊

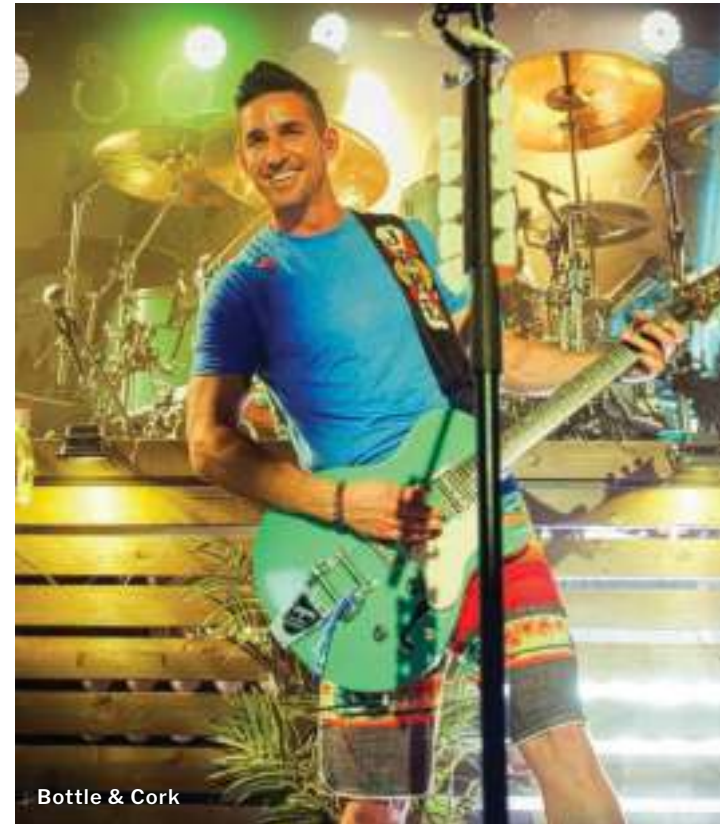


# Nightlife



Constitution Yards Beer Garden

“Take your pick:  
From big-venue entertainment  
to a cozy little bar.”



Bottle & Cork

It's 5 o'clock somewhere, and a happy hour in Delaware is calling your name. Start the evening off with light fare at a trendy restaurant, and then let the night take you to your next favorite celebration spot in Delaware.

Many fun-seekers head straight for Wilmington's **Trolley Square** neighborhood and to the scene along the city's Riverfront, where everyone knows their next stop is just a stroll away. For casual nights out, consider the smaller venues, so rich with character

and charm—try **Maker's Alley**, **Constitution Yards Beer Garden**, **Oddity Bar**, **The Nomad Bar**, and **1984**, the state's only combination craft-beer pub and game arcade. In always-hip Trolley Square, historic **Kelly's Logan House** is revered for its timeworn Irish character, and nearby rivals boast their own appeal, including **Kid Shelleen's**, **Hummingbird to Mars** and **Trolley Tap House**.

Along **Newark's Main Street**, live bands plug in and rock out, but the college crowd gets the evening going at spots like **Klondike Kate's**, **Grotto Pizza**, and **Grain Craft Bar + Grill**, all ideal for a meal as well.

Outside of the neighborhood hotspots, the bigger venues boast big star-power: Top musicians and comedians appear regularly at Delaware's racetrack casinos: **Delaware Park**, **Dover Downs Hotel & Casino** and **Harrington Casino & Raceway**.

A night out in Rehoboth Beach calls for sophisticated celebrations. Dance your Friday night away at these hotspots for great music: **Summer House**, **Purple Parrot Grill**, **Conch Island**, **Dogfish Brewing and Eats** and many more.

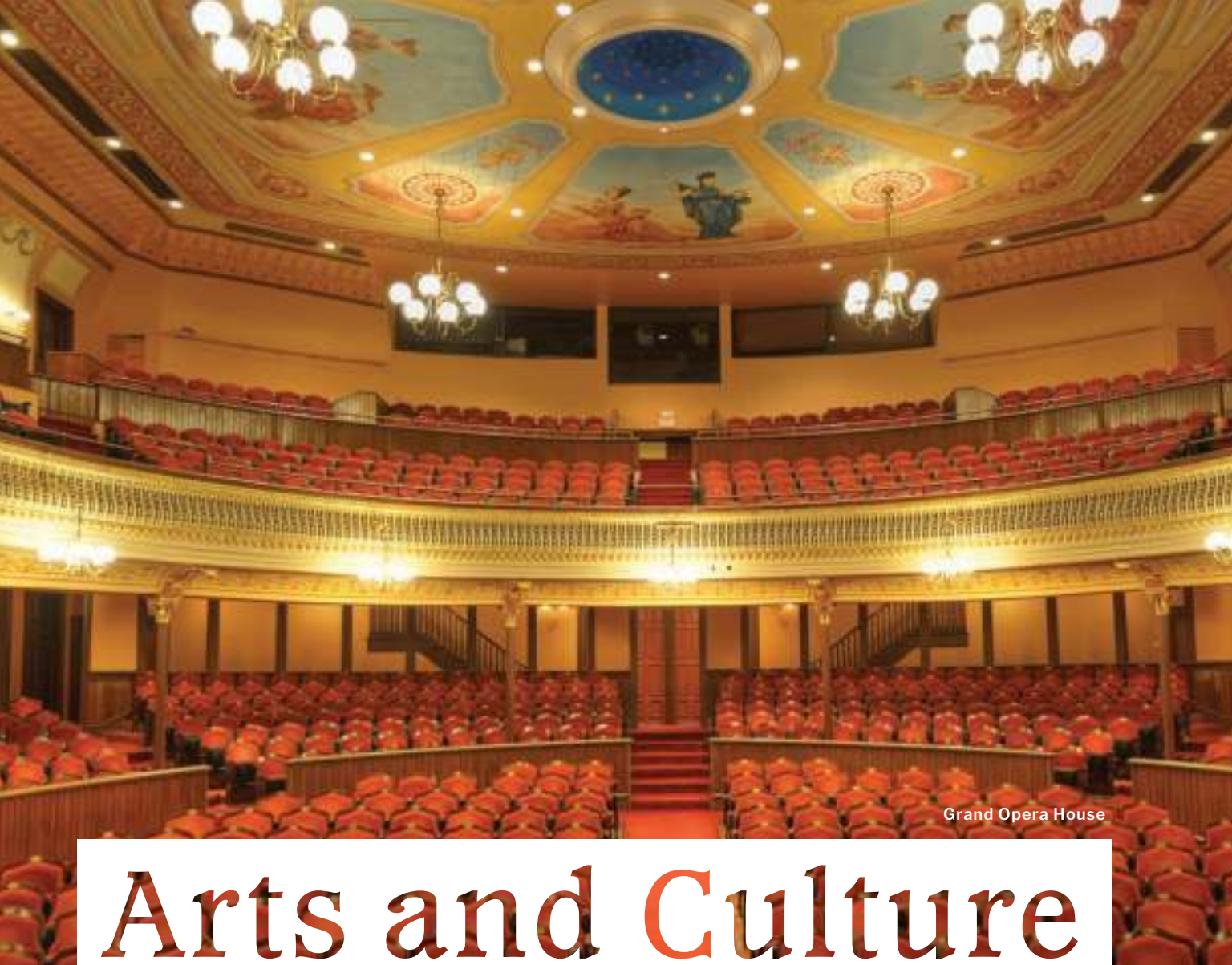
Just next door to Rehoboth, Dewey Beach's unofficial, but oh-so-popular town slogan has stayed

true for generations: “Dewey Beach: A Way of Life.” Considered by many to be the “Best Rock and Roll Bar in the World,” the **Bottle and Cork** is famous for bringing in big acts and for its laid-back Saturday afternoon “Jam Sessions.” And you can't go to Dewey without checking out **The Starboard** for brunch, lunch or dinner (try the best Orange Crush around). [Insider Tip:](#) Woody's Dewey Beach has been serving the best crab cake in town since 2009. 🌊

ONLINE

For up-to-date information on what's happening in Delaware, go to [VisitDelaware.com/events](https://www.visitdelaware.com/events).





Grand Opera House



Delaware Art Museum



The Queen

# Arts and Culture

Embracing everything from theatre to concerts to fine art, Delaware’s mix of museums and performance venues take center stage with big city performances in a hometown atmosphere.

So many memorable experiences are ready to be shared in Delaware: Maybe it will be a rousing standing-ovation performance at the Playhouse on Rodney Square. Or rocking out to legendary artists in the Woodlands at the Firefly Music Festival.

Whichever flavor of arts and culture you choose, Delaware’s a place where those treasured moments are ready to become your own. In the city of Wilmington, you can explore top-rated museums and entertainment venues, ranging from the Grand Opera House and The Queen Wilmington (both go-to venues for national acts), to the Delaware Art Museum and The Delaware Contemporary (the premier fine-art museums in the city).

Many Delaware towns statewide host their own intimate theatres, including iconic Everett Theatre in Middletown, which was not only a filming location for the acclaimed “Dead Poets Society,” but also showcases movie showings and stage performances. Farther downstate,

the Biggs Museum of American Art welcomes you to enjoy a renowned permanent collection and special exhibitions. Just to the south, the city of Milford proudly embraces an artistic vibe in a setting enhanced by a riverwalk along the Mispillion River. Thanks to hands-on classes at the local art league, performances by the Second Street Players, and a great lineup of local festivals, things stay lively in this historic town.

At the beaches, the warmth of community arts creates a cozy scene. The Freeman Stage is a beach-area favorite for live music, dance, theatre and children’s programs, delivering such top-notch line-ups as The Beach Boys and Diana Ross. When you’re taking a break from the beach, Rehoboth’s Clear Space Theatre and Summer Children’s Theatre offer artful options.

From museums to off-broadway theater, the spotlight shines brightly in Delaware year-round, but be sure to mark your calendars for such widely adored events as the Firefly Music Festival (June); Delaware Shakespeare Summer Festival (July); Ladybug Music Festival - Wilmington (July); Brandywine Festival of the Arts (Sept.); Bethany Beach Boardwalk Arts Festival (Sept.); Ladybug Music Festival - Milford (Sept.); and the Rehoboth Beach Independent Film Festival (Nov).





Brandywine Creek State Park

# Begin Your Journey

**Accessible, affordable and convenient: A travel-friendly setting sets Delaware apart.**

Ready to begin planning? You'll discover a rich assortment of tools, ranging from VisitDelaware.com's in-depth trip-planning guides to the following pages of helpful highlights, including: places to stay, a Delaware map, transportation tips, sample itineraries and a check list to add your favorites.

In the meantime, here are some tips for making sure your trip is as easy-as-can-be:

### Consider the off-season:

Delaware's beach resort area is understandably popular in the height of summer, and reaches its peak in the month of August, so consider visiting during the so-called "shoulder seasons"—in spring once the weather has brightened, or in those days of late fall when summer's warm touch still lingers. Many restaurants stay open year-round at the beach, and entertainment options are plentiful, ranging from theatre productions at the **Clear Space Theatre** and events like the Rehoboth Beach Jazz Festival, Sea Witch Festival, and Coast Day in the fall, and Fire & Ice Festival in the

winter. And besides: The sight of the beach stretching out to the horizon is beautiful anytime of year.

### Go to VisitDelaware.com:

The state's official travel website includes in-depth insider knowledge about where to go, what to see and where to stay. Be sure to check out VisitDelaware.com's events pages, top things to do, and city- and region-specific details.

### View Tripadvisor:

At TripAdvisor.com, travelers can find the most popular destinations and the latest reviews about Delaware attractions, ranging from restaurant reviews to feedback on lodging. Check out their traveler forums, and take time to scan the lists of top attractions, statewide rental listings, and even the lists of the state's most-photographed places.

### Explore statewide:


The state's convenient size and easy access make it an ideal destination to explore statewide discoveries. After all—how many times do you get the chance to explore an entire state in one trip? All within a quick drive you can go from grand estates to countryside views to sandy beach paths. Turn a weekend getaway into a time of discovery. You can also create a statewide



Nemours Estate

journey simply by following one of Delaware's Trails of Discovery, which put together top attractions into an easy-to-follow itinerary—go to [www.visitdelaware.com/things-to-do/trails](http://www.visitdelaware.com/things-to-do/trails) for more information.

### Immerse yourself:

Want to really get a feeling of the Delaware experience? Just go to the VisitDelaware.com home page and click on the link for a "360-degree adventure of Delaware." You'll be able to spin around and see the shore and sand, and even pause the video when you see a particularly sweet spot. Be sure to wear your headphones for a truly immersive experience! 



VisitDelaware.com 360°





# Places to Stay

It is more than just a room, it is your home away from home. From cityscape views to oceanfront luxury, you're sure to find the perfect place during your visit to Delaware.

## Oceanfront

**Boardwalk Plaza Hotel**, Rehoboth Beach. Here, you're steps from the Rehoboth Boardwalk, close to the beach and ready to roll.

**Bethany Beach Ocean Suites**, Bethany Beach. Rooms at this richly appointed hotel are directly on the boardwalk, and guests can enjoy a saltwater pool, an in-house spa, and the 99 Sea Level seafood restaurant.

**Atlantic Sands Hotel**, Rehoboth Beach. Rooms with balconies offer a stunning view of the ocean, and the outdoor pool is beloved for its laid-back charm.

**Henlopen Hotel**, Rehoboth Beach. Close to the Boardwalk and the ocean, with private balconies and inspiring views.

## Waterfront

**The Inn at Canal Square**, Lewes. A charming hotel in one of Delaware's most charming beach towns, known for its "Nantucket style" ambience.

**Westin Wilmington**. Modern amenities and quick access to the Chase Center on the Riverfront make this a convenient home base.

**Hyatt Place Dewey Beach**. Request a room with a view of the bay, and enjoy the sunset over the water. Condo rooms available.

**Hyatt Place Wilmington Riverfront**. Snuggled up to the Christina River, the Hyatt offers 24/7 dining and easy access to the wonders of the Brandywine Valley.

**Homewood Suites Wilmington**. This Wilmington Riverfront hotel even offers guests a chance to fire up the outdoor grills on the patio.

## Luxury

**Bellmoor Inn & Spa**, Rehoboth Beach. Voted as the best-designed hotel in the state, the Bellmoor boasts two outdoor pools and a relaxing indoor hot tub.

**Hotel Du Pont**, Wilmington. This luxurious downtown landmark is renowned for its high-end dining and richly appointed decor.

**Dover Downs Hotel & Casino**, Dover. Ideal for guests who have come for the gaming or the NASCAR racing, this upscale destination features an in-house spa and entertainment.

**Inn at Montchanin Village & Spa**, Montchanin. The regal setting of this village-like wonder is a short drive from Delaware's mansion-museums, and features an in-house spa.

## Campgrounds

**Cape Henlopen State Park**, Lewes. A family favorite for its all-around convenience and activities, the campground offers cabins, RV and tent camping.

**Killens Pond State Park**, Felton. Surrounded by picturesque woodlands and a millpond, Killens Pond offers scenic trails alongside cabins, RV and tent camping sites. During the summer, take advantage of their waterpark.

**Delaware Beaches Jellystone Park**, Lincoln. Enjoy resort-style amenities, themed weekends, a refreshing pool and visits with Yogi Bear.

**Lums Pond State Park**, Bear. Delaware's largest freshwater pond delivers endless options for camping, fishing and hiking and the "Go Ape!" treetop obstacle course is a crowd favorite.

## Bed and Breakfast

**Causey Mansion**, Milford. This 1763 home features period-appropriate lighting, decor and even a widow's walk, all in walking distance to local shops and restaurants.

**Bewitched and Bedazzled**, Rehoboth Beach. Rooms pay tribute to old-school TV shows and the Golden Age of Hollywood at this fun-and-funky house.

## Unique

**Dogfish Inn**, Lewes. The hotel offshoot of Delaware's famous Dogfish Head Brewery is right on the Lewes-Rehoboth Canal and steps from shopping.

**Safari tent camping**, Massey's Landing. Located near the Delaware beaches, enjoy the comforts of glamping with a comfort of queen bed, deck furniture and electricity! Linens and a golf cart are included.

**A state park "yurt"**: Things are a little closer to the comforts of home in these tent-like dwellings, available for rental at Lums Pond and Trap Pond State Parks. Inside, you'll find beds and a futon. Outside, there's a deck. Just bring your own linens, cooking supplies and small appliances.

Searching for an affordable place to stay? Here are some top rated statewide locations: **Hampton Inn**, Milford; **Residence Inn**, Dover; **Hilton Wilmington-Christiana**, Christiana; **Sheraton Wilmington South**, Wilmington; **Hampton Inn**, Rehoboth Beach; **Holiday Inn**, Bethany Beach.

## Renting at the beaches

Experience your next stay in the comfort of one of Delaware's premier beach rentals. View options at [VisitDelaware.com/BeachRentals](http://VisitDelaware.com/BeachRentals). If you're renting for summer, consider booking as early as October of the prior year to ensure availability. Check out the off-season rental rates for great deals and consider spending your holidays at the Delaware beaches. 🌊







# Travel Tips

Delaware lies in the heart of the Mid-Atlantic Region, directly on the Interstate 95 corridor and a short drive away from New York, Philadelphia and Washington D.C.

That central location ensures an easy access via car, plane, train, or bus, and makes Delaware a convenient gateway to many East Coast destinations. Travelers on the New Jersey and Pennsylvania turnpikes can easily access the state, and there is even a vehicle ferry that connects Cape May, N.J., and Lewes, Del.

## Top 5 Tips for Getting Around Delaware:

- **Enjoy the Cape May-Lewes Ferry.** Heading to Delaware from Jersey or NYC? Simply drive your car onboard and settle in with some beverages and snack for the picturesque voyage across the Delaware Bay. Foot and bicycle passenger rates also available.
- **Download the DeIDOT mobile app.** From monitoring flow of traffic to where snow plows are located, this app will help ease your travel. For extra moments of discovery, try traveling Delaware's Scenic Byways. From rolling countryside to bayside, your drive will be surrounded by unique landscapes.
- **Plan ahead with travel times.** Peak drive times include; in northern Delaware, commuters heading into Wilmington and Philadelphia during the work week; in Central Delaware NASCAR race weekend and Firefly Music Festival camping check-in days; in southern Delaware during the summer months, Saturday morning check-in & out times for rentals and hotels are peak drive times.
- **When parking at the Delaware beaches,** be sure to download Parkmobile, a smartphone app that allows visitors to pay for parking from the palm of their hand, or sit back and relax on the Jolly Trolley service between Rehoboth and Dewey.
- **Park for free and let the Beach Bus do the driving!** The Lewes Transit Center is a comfortable and affordable way to explore the beaches. Head to the DART website for details on schedules and fares.



Cape May-Lewes Ferry

## Airports

**Baltimore Washington International Airport (BWI):**  
800-I FLY BWI

**Philadelphia International Airport (PHL):**  
800-PHL-GATE

**Reagan National Airport (DCA):**  
703-417-8000

**Salisbury Regional Airport**  
410-548-9790

**Wilmington Airport (ILG):**  
1-855-FLY-ILG5

## Railways

**Amtrak (WIL):** 800-USA-RAIL (800-872-7245)  
**SEPTA (Regional Rail):** 215-580-7800

## Bus Lines

**DART First State:** 800-355-8080  
**Greyhound:** 800-231-2222  
**New Jersey Transit:** 800-275-5555

## Car/Limousine Service

**Delaware Express:** 302-454-7800  
**Delmarva Transportation:** 877-769-7433

## Ferry

**Cape May-Lewes Ferry:** 800-643-3779

## Distance from major cities

	Rehoboth	Wilmington	Dover
Philadelphia	124	32	82
Baltimore	121	74	93
Washington, DC	120	108	88
New York City	211	126	169



Amtrak

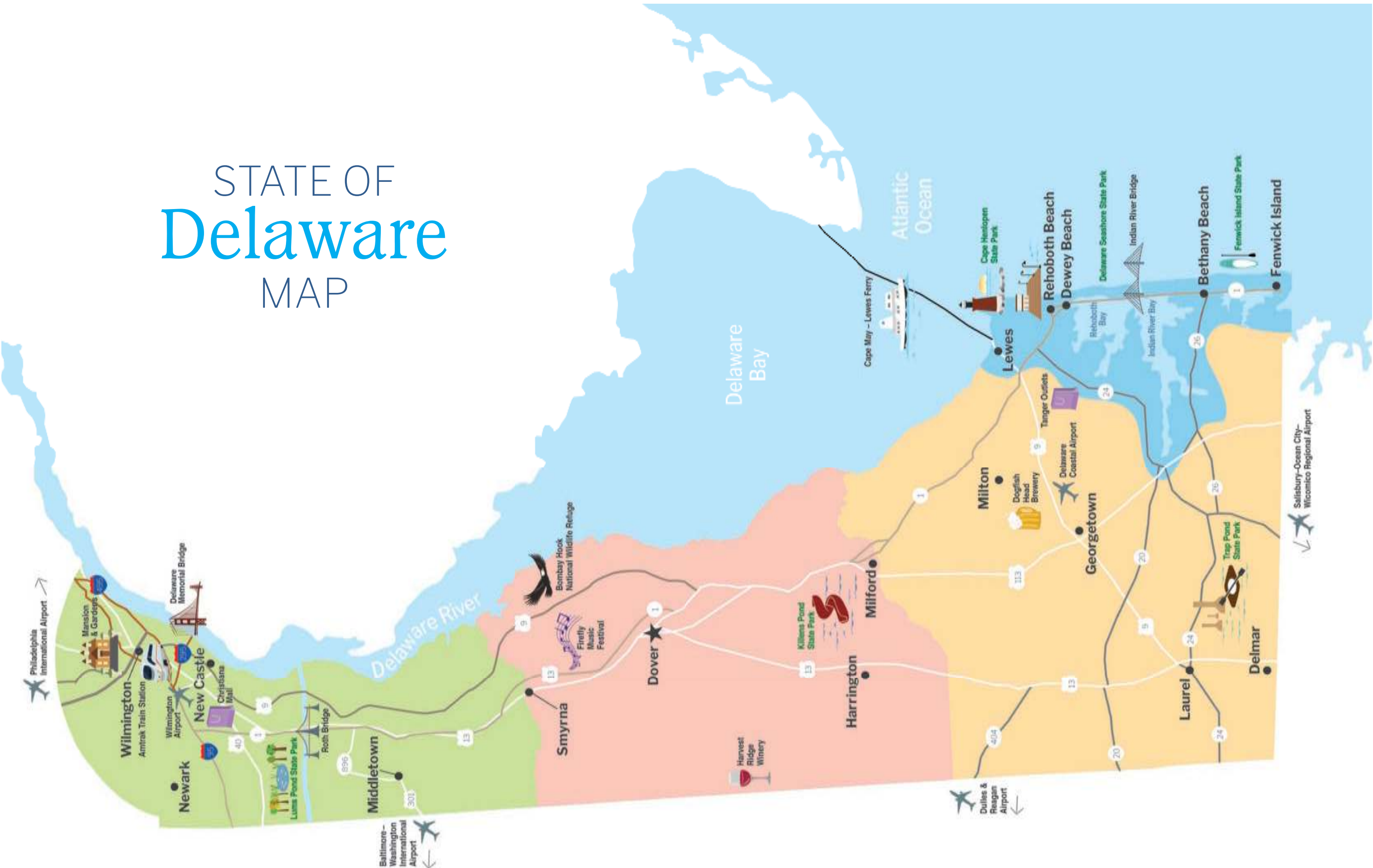
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## Distance to attractions

- Wilmington to Winterthur mansion: 6 miles
- Rehoboth Beach to Bethany Beach: 13.4 miles
- Cape May, N.J. to Lewes: 19 miles by ferry, 175 miles by car
- Delaware's northern border to Firefly Music Festival: About 57 miles
- Delaware's western border to Firefly Music Festival: About 13 miles
- Top of state to bottom: About 117 miles by car



# STATE OF Delaware MAP





# Itinerary Ideas



Iron Hill Brewery

Wondering where to begin your Delaware adventure? We've put together a few sample travel itineraries that should suit everyone, whether it's your whole family, or just you and your BFFs.

## Family Travel

Wilmington's a great spot to get the fun started, thanks to the kid-pleasing attractions along the Riverfront and the lineup of activities just outside the city.

- **Delaware Children's Museum:** Hands-on activities will keep the young ones occupied for hours.
- **Altitude Trampoline Park:** This place will get them jumping, until it's time for lunch.
- **Iron Hill Brewery, Joe's Crab Shack, or Big Fish Grill:** Plenty of kid-pleasing delights at these riverside restaurants.
- **Brandywine Zoo:** A cozy place for getting up close to the animals, nestled along the scenic Brandywine River.
- **Winterthur Museum Garden & Library:** The Enchanted Woods is filled with fairy-tale structures suited to climbing and romping.

- **Delaware Children's Theatre:** Catch a whimsical stage production.
- **Marshall Steam Museum at Auburn Heights:** Ride the miniature steam trains.

In Central Delaware, the fun frequently begins in and around Dover, but reaches all the way to the coast:

- **Air Mobility Command Museum:** Authentic military transport aircraft await youthful dreams of adventure.
- **Dolce Bakery and Coffee Shop:** A warm congenial mood makes this a café worth cozing up to.



Winterthur Museum Garden & Library



Jungle Jim's River Safari Water Park

- **Fifer Orchards:** Rambunctious fun, fall celebrations and great produce keep the whole family feeling fulfilled.
- **Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge:** Walking and driving trails get everyone up close to the action as birds take flight over a scene of coastal beauty.
- **Killens Pond State Park:** Canoe or kayak through the 66-acre millpond, or head for the waterpark for some slip-and-slide fun.

If you find yourself in the southern part of the state at Delaware's beaches, the day's even easier to fill.

- **DelMarVa Board Sport Adventures, Coastal Kayak and Alley-Oop skimboard:** Head out for some action in the water, choosing your flavor of fun, including rentals and lessons on jet-skis, paddleboard, kayaks, and other waterborne craft.
- **Grotto Pizza and Thrasher's French Fries:** Classic lunchtime munchies at the Delaware beaches.
- **Lefty's Alley & Eats:** They take bowling, indoor laser tag, food and fun to a new level!
- **Funland:** Nice-and-easy amusement rides, right on the boardwalk.
- **Midway Speedway Park:** Go-kart action gets everyone racing.

- **Jungle Jim's River Safari Water Park:** Water slides, bumper boats and more.

## Girls Getaway

Sometimes, the girls just have to get away—together. And what better place to get away together than the Delaware beaches.

- **Cape Henlopen State Park:** Together, you'll enjoy a morning of breezy fun cycling and then chilling on the beach.
- **Agave:** Modern Mexican food and killer margaritas are sure to set the soothing tone at this Lewes restaurant.
- **Salted Vines Vineyard & Winery:** You'll fall in love with the Vin-O-Slush (frozen wine slushies)
- **Take a brewery tour:** Check out **Revelation Craft Brewing** outside Lewes, **Big Oyster Brewery** in Rehoboth, and **Dewey Beer Co.** in Dewey Beach.
- **Tanger Outlets:** A spree awaits at this shopping paradise, home to such name-brand shops as **Steve Madden**, **Calvin Klein**, and **Michael Kors**.
- **Bellmoor Inn and Spa:** End the day with some pampering and luxury accommodations.
- **Stingray:** The perfect blend of cocktails and sushi.





Around central Delaware, a little wine paired with boutique shopping can make for a fabulous weekend getaway.

- **Dover Downs Hotel and Casino:** Enjoy a four-diamond resort, with first-class table gaming and savory dining. Did we mention the Bali-themed spa?!
- **Boutique shopping:** Around central Delaware, you'll find boutique shopping galore. From the perfect new wine glass set to Irish themed special gifts, it's all about shopping with personalized style.
- **Harvest Ridge Winery:** Try the savory wine, cider and scenic surroundings.

In Northern Delaware, there's lots to do in the city, but you'll soon find yourself amazed at the wonders just beyond Wilmington:

- **Hotel DuPont:** This regal hotel is the perfect place to stay while you play.
- **Brandywine Creek State Park:** Picturesque and wooded hills lead down to peaceful streams.

- **Spiritual wellness:** At the Mind Body Spirit Healing Room, you'll find reiki practitioners, guided meditations, card readings and even jewelry.
- **Happy Hour:** Check out the newest buzz at the bar inside **DE.CO**, a food court with gourmet tastes.

### Couples Getaway

Come experience a getaway where together you can wander acres of blossoming gardens, be immersed in a historic theater and dine in elegance.

- **Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library:** Hand-in-hand beneath the trees, you explore the magnificent gardens before taking a tour of the mansion, brimming with precious antiques.
- **Inn at Montchanin Village:** Check out your room in this historic, secluded enclave and then head off for lunch at the adjoining **Krazy Kat's** restaurant. If there's time, yield to temptation and get a spa treatment together, rejuvenating yourselves for the evening ahead.
- **Playhouse on Rodney Square:** Catch an off-Broadway stage production (or enjoy a national act at the Grand Opera House).



Dover Downs Hotel and Casino



Inn at Montchanin Village

- **Dinner:** Head to **Bardea Food & Drink**, winner of a James Beard Award for best new restaurant, and home to some of the city's most creative and fulfilling riffs on high-end Italian cuisine.

### Pet-Friendly Getaway

It's clear to many that the Delaware beaches are one of the East Coast's best-kept secrets. But there's a secret within the secret—Rehoboth Beach and the towns along the coast are also among the most pet-friendly, dog-loving places around. And that pet-friendliness continues around the state.

- **A place to stay:** Fans rave about the dog-friendly vibe at the **Hotel Rodney** and **The Breakers Hotel & Suites**.
- **Visit a state park:** **Cape Henlopen State Park**, **Delaware Seashore State Park** and **Fenwick**

**Island State Park** are great places for pets to stretch out and get some exercise, but be mindful of the regulations. Some are open to leashed pets year-round. Others limit pets during the height of the beach season.

- **Go shopping:** Check out the array of animal-accessory boutiques, including **Critter Beach** in Rehoboth, **Yuppy Puppy** in Bethany Beach, and **P.U.P.S. of Lewes**.
- **Take a boat ride:** The **Cape May-Lewes Ferry** welcomes leashed pets outside of the ship's food court areas (and they ride free).
- **Have a brew:** Outside of the beaches in nearby Milton, **Dogfish Head Brewery** allows animals to hang in the tasting room. (But the brewery tour is for humans only). 🌊





@dolcebakeryandcoffee  
Dolce Bakery & Coffee Shop

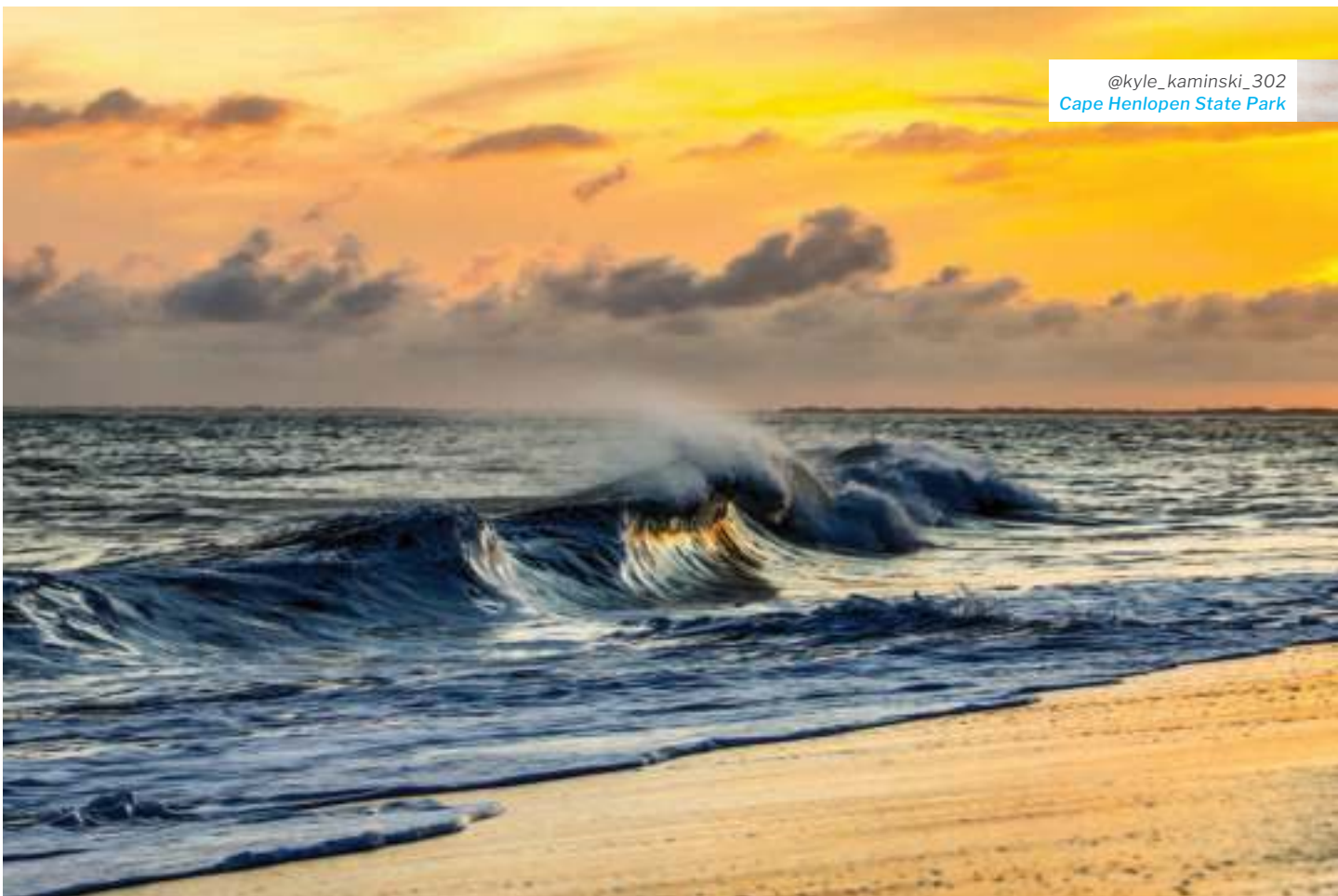
**dol-ce** (dol • chā) adj.  
1. Sweet, (Italian) 2. One of the four basic taste sensations.  
3. Wonderful pastries, ice cream and coffees in Milford, Delaware.  
4. Pleasing to the palate, fresh to the air.



@agavedelaware  
Agave



@\_courtneyleighsmith  
Air Mobility Command Museum



@kyle\_kaminski\_302  
Cape Henlopen State Park



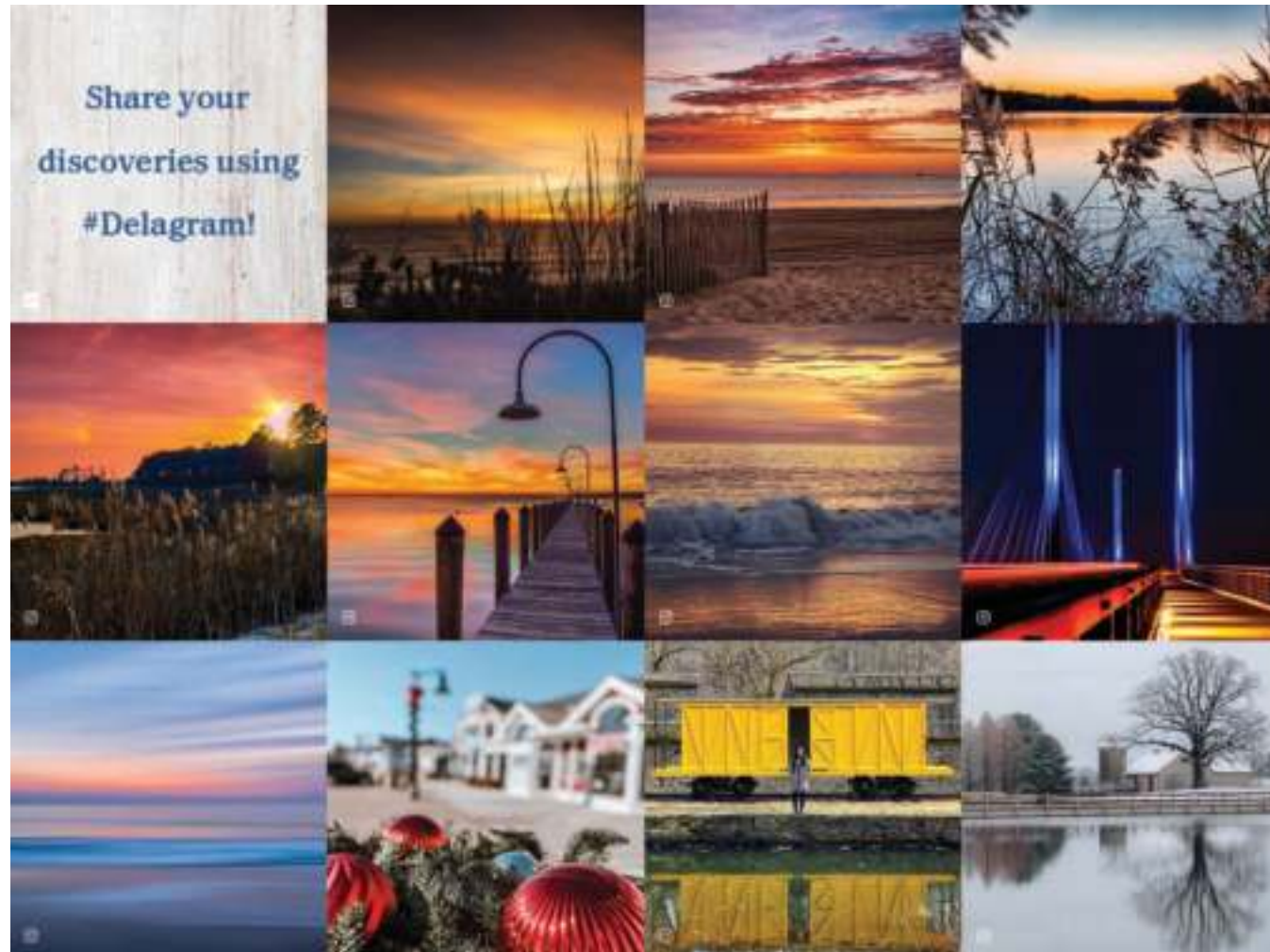
@ericjcarterphotos  
Dogfish Head Brewery



@bluvintage  
BLUvintage



# Visit Delaware on Social Media!



Follow Visit Delaware on social media and you'll 👍 and ❤️ what you see! You'll get the latest travel information and inspiration that will have you adding stops to your itinerary every day. Comment on our posts to get involved in the community and share with us what you love about Delaware!

See Delaware adventures through the eyes of other travelers by searching **#Delagram** on Instagram. Add the hashtag to your photos to share your experience and get a chance to be featured on Visit Delaware's social media channels!

Follow us at Visit Delaware on Facebook and Instagram. Let the road trip begin!



## Discovery Check-List

Now that you are in the Delaware moment, start planning your trip! From the beaches to the mansions and everything in between your trip will be filled with 'Endless Discoveries.' Explore [VisitDelaware.com](http://VisitDelaware.com) for current events during your stay in Delaware! Start your discovery check-list below!

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