

New Jersey Fun & Facts Guide



THE INSIDER'S GUIDE TO COOL THINGS TO SEE AND DO





NEW JERSEY FACTS, JUST FOR FUN!

Why is New Jersey called
"New Jersey?"
How did it get its nickname
the "Garden State?"
And why does New Jersey
have a state dinosaur?

Find out here! Plus discover all the fun
things to see and do in New Jersey.
Test yourself on New Jersey's fun facts
and see how brainy you are.

Check out our kids' website:
www.nj.gov/hangout_nj/
Cartoon history, games,
stories and more!

DISCLAIMER: While every effort is made to ensure information is correct at the time of writing, New Jersey Travel and Tourism is not responsible for any errors and omissions contained in the information, or if the information is not current. Any listing in this publication does not constitute an official endorsement by the State of New Jersey or the Division of Travel and Tourism.







Cover Photos: (Left to Right) Morey's Piers, Mountain Creek Resort, QuickChek New Jersey Festival of Ballooning at Solberg Airport, and Belleplain State Forest

Above Photo: Wetlands Institute

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SIX REGIONS

New Jersey makes up
8,204.37 square miles in
total area with plenty to see
and do! It's divided into six
regions, each with its own
personality. Navigate your
way through the state, and
find these fun attractions!

-  Shore Region
-  Greater Atlantic City Region
-  Southern Shore Region
-  Delaware River Region
-  Skylands Region
-  Gateway Region



TIMELINE

Wow, the state of New Jersey sure has a lot of history!
Take a trip back on this timeline of BIG events.

5000 B.C.E.

The state's first inhabitants arrived, and later became known as the Lenape.



1609

Henry Hudson was another explorer who came to New Jersey. The Hudson River is named after him.

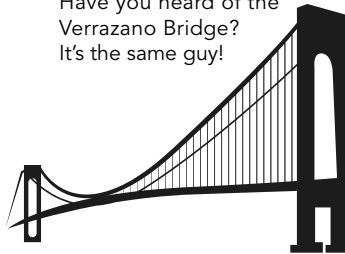


1638

Swedish settlers built along the Delaware River, but the Dutch later took it over.

1524

Giovanni da Verrazano was the first European to "discover" the New Jersey coast. Have you heard of the Verrazano Bridge? It's the same guy!



1633

Dutch settlers built houses in what is now Jersey City.



1664

The next to take over: the British. John Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret call the area "New Jersey" after the "Isle of Jersey" in England. (Two New Jersey towns are named after them: Berkeley Heights and Carteret.)

1721

William Trent was a successful merchant at this time. "Trent's Town" became Trenton, our state capital.

1746

Princeton University is founded. Did you know it was first located in Elizabeth? It moved to Princeton in 1756.

1766

Princeton may have been first, but Rutgers wasn't far behind. Rutgers has grown from a small colonial college to a big university. Today, it has over 50,000 students and over 10,000 teachers and staff.



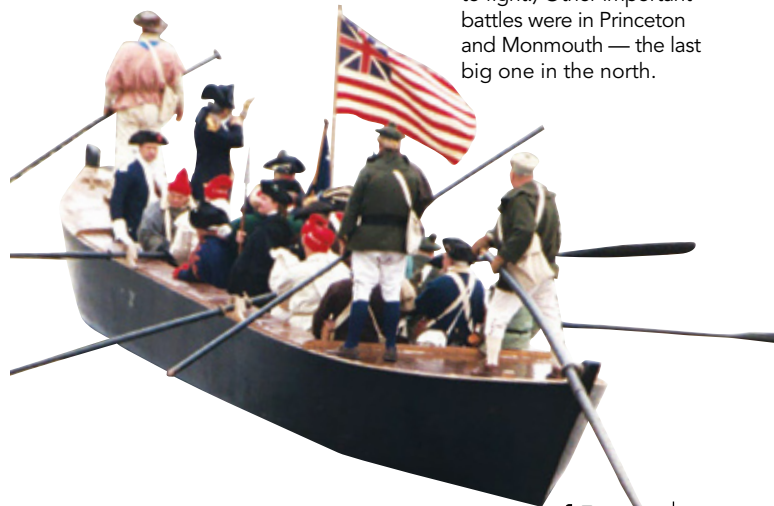
1738

Lewis Morris was New Jersey's first governor. Lots of places are named after him: Morris County, Morristown and Morris Plains.



1776-1783

Did you know that New Jersey is called "The Crossroads of the American Revolution?" Nearly 300 battles took place here. General George Washington spent a lot of time in New Jersey, too. He made his famous crossing of the Delaware River from Pennsylvania to New Jersey on Christmas Day to surprise the Hessian troops in Trenton. (The Hessian troops were hired by England to fight.) Other important battles were in Princeton and Monmouth — the last big one in the north.



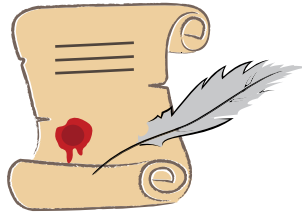
1791

Alexander Hamilton helped to make present-day Paterson the first industrial city in the United States. Early manufacturing used the power from the Passaic River's Great Falls. Paterson was nicknamed "Silk City" because it was well known for manufacturing the silky cloth. By the way, do you know who's on the \$10 bill? It's Alexander Hamilton, who was the first U.S. Secretary of the Treasury. He died in Weehawken after a pistol duel with the third Vice President, Aaron Burr.



1787

New Jersey became the third state to ratify the new Constitution of the United States. "Ratify" means "to make official." In 1789, New Jersey became the first state to ratify the Bill of Rights!



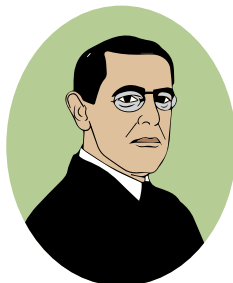
Late 1800s

The Age of Invention comes to New Jersey, thanks to Thomas A. Edison. He invented the light bulb, the first commercial motion picture camera and so much more. The town of Edison honors his contributions.



1912

New Jersey Governor Woodrow Wilson is elected President of the United States.



1918

A German U-boat sinks six American ships off the coast.



1939-1945

During World War II, New Jersey built battleships, aircraft engines and more for the war effort. Visit Battleship New Jersey (America's most decorated battleship) on the Camden Waterfront to see how sailors really lived!



1978

Gambling was legalized in Atlantic City.

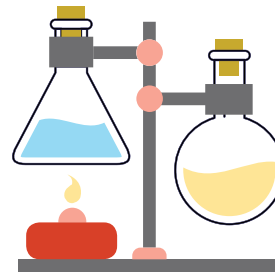
1994

Christine Todd Whitman became the first woman governor in New Jersey.



2001

New Jersey is home to more scientists and engineers per square mile than anywhere else. A great place for STEM students!



1998

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that 24 acres of Ellis Island is actually in New Jersey.



2008

Princeton astronomer Alicia Soderberg became the first person to view a supernova, a star in the act of exploding.



FUN FACTS DID YOU KNOW...



HAIL THE BUFF AND JERSEY BLUE: THE STATE FLAG

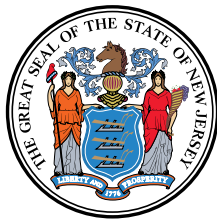


Adopted in 1896, New Jersey's flag displays the state seal in Jersey blue against a buff background. General George Washington

picked these same colors for the uniforms worn by New Jersey soldiers during the Revolutionary War.

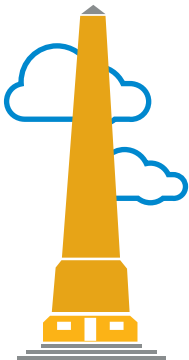
THE STORY BEHIND THE NEW JERSEY STATE SEAL

Pierre Eugene du Simitiere was a patriot, who also painted portraits. He created the state seal in 1777. The plows are for farming. The horse's head stands for speed and strength. The female figures are "Liberty" (left) and "Ceres" (right), the Roman goddess of grain. That represents New Jersey's bounty of produce! The state motto is "Liberty and Prosperity."



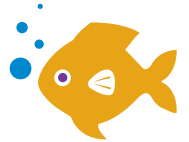
WEATHER FORECAST

From the highest point in the state (1,803 feet), appropriately named High Point, to the lowest spot, sea level at the Atlantic Ocean, New Jersey offers a variety of temperatures. The state enjoys all four seasons with an average summer temperature in July of 74° and an average of just over 30° in January. Rainfall averages 40 to 50 inches per year, depending on your location.



WATER, WATER EVERYWHERE

New Jersey boasts more than 4,100 freshwater lakes, ponds, rivers and streams, plus 130 miles of Atlantic Ocean coastline. Lake Hopatcong is the state's largest lake.



JERSEY FRESH®

It's easy to get your fruits and veggies in a state nicknamed "the Garden State." The state boasts 10,300 farms and 730,000 acres of farmland and grows more than 100 types of fruits and vegetables.

Can you name some of New Jersey's top crops? (If you said blueberries, peaches, bell peppers, squash, tomatoes and cranberries, you'd get an "A" for asparagus — another vegetable New Jersey grows!)



WILD NEW JERSEY

Thanks to its habitat diversity, New Jersey is home to nearly 500 vertebrate species of wildlife, ranging from tiny tree frogs to 400-pound black bears! See NJ wildlife at:

- **Lakota Wolf Preserve**, Columbia (Wolves and their pups, plus bobcats and foxes)
- **Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge**, Galloway (At least 322 species of birds have been observed here)
- **Cape May Bird Observatory: Northwood Center**, Cape May Point (Weekly bird walks offered)
- **Marine Mammal Stranding Center**, Brigantine (Rescues, rehabilitates and releases dolphins, seals, whales and sea turtles)

FUN FACTS WHAT IS THE OFFICIAL STATE...?



TREE
RED OAK
So pretty in
the fall!



FISH
BROOK TROUT
You can tell
by its speckles!



ANIMAL
HORSE
Of course! New Jersey
is home of the U.S.
Equestrian Team.



INSECT
HONEYBEE
1/3 of all fruits and
veggies are pollinated
by honeybees!



BUTTERFLY
BLACK SWALLOWTAIL
This beauty can be
found in each of
the state's
21 counties.



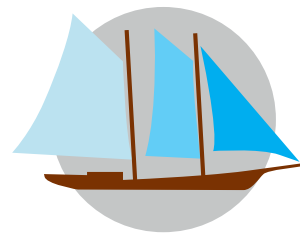
DANCE
SQUARE DANCE
Grab a partner
and "do-si-do" to
NJ's official dance.
Also known as
the American
Folk Dance.



BIRD
EASTERN GOLDFINCH
Listen for this bright
yellow bird. It "whistles"
when it sings.



FLOWER
VIOLET
Look for this sweet
flower growing wild
in parks and lawns.



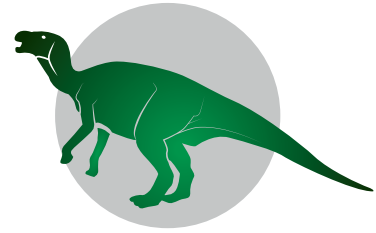
TALL SHIP
A.J. MEERWALD
This Delaware Bay
oyster schooner
is also a sailing
classroom.



SHELL
KNOBBED WHELK
It's commonly
known as the
conch shell.



FRUIT
BLUEBERRY
New Jersey is
home to the
first cultivated
blueberry,
thanks to
Susan C. White
of Whitesbog.



DINOSAUR
HADROSAURUS
Not every state has a
state dinosaur. In 1891,
the first complete
dinosaur skeleton was
found in Haddonfield.
It was proof that dinos
walked upright!

FAMOUS FIRSTS AND FACES

New Jersey is the birthplace and home of many famous people, ideas and innovations.



DID YOU KNOW...



Count Basie's musical roots stem from Red Bank. This jazz legend was the first African-American male to win the Grammy Award.



Edwin E. (Buzz) Aldrin, Jr. went from his birthplace in Montclair to be one of the first two humans to land on the moon.



Grover Cleveland of Caldwell was the only President who served twice — but not in a row! He was the 22nd and 24th President of the United States.

HERE ARE JUST A FEW FAMILIAR NAMES FROM NEW JERSEY!

Jon Bon Jovi | Singer-Songwriter (Sayreville)
American Music Award, Golden Globe Award

Judy Blume | Author (Elizabeth)
Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret;
Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing

Whitney Houston | Singer/Actress (Newark)
2 Emmy Awards, 6 Grammy Awards, 30 Billboard Music Awards, 22 American Music Awards

Queen Latifah | Rapper/Actress/Producer (Newark)
Golden Globe Award, Emmy Award

Shaquille O'Neal | Athlete (Newark)
NBA LA Lakers, 4 NBA Championships

Frank Sinatra | Singer/Actor (Hoboken)
Academy Award, Golden Globe Award

Bruce Springsteen | Singer-Songwriter (Freehold)
20 Grammy Awards, 2 Golden Globe Awards,
Academy Award

Dionne Warwick | Singer/Actress (East Orange)
5 Grammy Awards

NEW JERSEY'S FAMOUS FIRSTS

1777

First U.S. Flag

Legend says Betsy Ross sewed it, but Bordentown's Francis Hopkinson, Declaration of Independence signer, designed it!

1846

First Organized Baseball Game

(Hoboken) Using basic rules developed by Alexander Cartwright, the New York Nine beat the Knickerbockers 23-1 after four innings.

1877 & 1879

First Phonograph & Light Bulb (Menlo Park)
Invented by Thomas Edison, who also launched the first motion picture studio in 1889 (West Orange).

1896

First Pro Basketball Game

(Trenton) The Trenton Nationals were also the first National Basketball League champions, out of six teams, in the 1898-1899 season.



1898

First Navy Submarine

(Elizabeth) John Holland equipped the USS Holland with a gasoline engine for surface propulsion and an electric motor while submerged.

1933

First National Historic Park

(Morristown) Site of General George Washington's and the Continental Army's December 1779 – June 1780 encampment, where they survived the coldest winter on record.

1793

First Balloon Flight

(Deptford) Jean-Pierre Blanchard flew 15 miles from Philadelphia to deliver a letter from George Washington.



1869

First College Football Game

(New Brunswick) Rutgers University, 6 Princeton University, 4

1870

First Boardwalk

(Atlantic City) Did you know that the boardwalk favorite, saltwater taffy, was first made at the Jersey Shore in the 1870s?

1883

First Town with Electricity

(Roselle) Edison's successful experiment lit a store, a railroad station, 40 houses and 150 streetlights.

1897

First "Condensed" Soup

(Camden) Made by the Joseph A. Campbell Preserve Company, now the Campbell Soup Company.

1917

First Cranberry Sauce

(New Egypt) Elizabeth Lee started the company known as Ocean Spray when she boiled damaged cranberries instead of tossing them.



1961

First Robot

(Ewing) George Devol invented the first digital, programmable robot, used by General Motors to replace human workers.

SHORE

MORE THAN A DAY AT THE BEACH

Who doesn't like the Shore Region's beaches and boardwalks? But you can also ride a Ferris wheel, climb a lighthouse, watch a Revolutionary War battle scene and more in this region, which extends from the Atlantic's sandy coastline to the heart of the state. Here are some popular attractions in the Shore Region.



OCEAN COUNTY:

Birds, Bugs, Boating and "Old Barney"

- Dress up like a pirate, and learn about the people and traditions of Barnegat Bay at **Tuckerton Seaport** (Tuckerton), a recreated maritime village. For more sea tales, visit the **NJ Maritime Museum** (Beach Haven), where you can find out about shipwrecks and sharks!



- Go wild at **Six Flags Great Adventure & Safari** (Jackson). If you're 54 inches tall, you can ride the world's tallest pendulum ride — Wonder Woman Lasso of Truth, standing 17 stories in the air, rotating at 75 mph. Or drop into the park's exotic animal attractions. If you dare!

- Count how many different birds and butterflies you see at **Cattus Island County Park** (Toms River). The Butterfly Garden is a pretty spot to take a photo!



- Touch a live tarantula, watch the daily life of an ant colony and see the state insect (the honeybee) in action at **Insectropolis**, New Jersey's bugseum (Toms River).



- From the gaggle of geese that welcome you at the gate to lions, tigers and black bears, **Popcorn Park Zoo** Animal Rescue and Sanctuary (Forked River) welcomes animals needing a safe home. Lots of happy endings here!

- Ocean County is home to two amusement parks. Have fun at the arcade or on the Big Wheel at **Fantasy Island Amusement Park** (Beach Haven). And hop on your favorites (Tilt-a-Whirl and bumper cars) or see what's new — like the Centrifuge, indoor scrambler ride at **Casino Pier & Breakwater Beach Waterpark** (Seaside Heights).

- In Point Pleasant, see the flightless seabird (better known as the penguin) at **Jenkinson's Aquarium**, or build a model boat and learn about sailing at the **New Jersey Museum of Boating**.

- Nesting and migrating birds love **Island Beach State Park** (Seaside Park). It's one of the last undeveloped barrier beaches in the northeastern United States. Watch for osprey (the sea hawk) when you walk on the beach.

- Did you know that **Barnegat Lighthouse** is nicknamed "Old Barney?" Climb 217 steps to the top of this beacon.



MONMOUTH COUNTY:

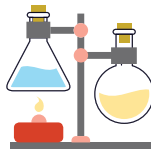
From American History to Amazing Coasters



- See Revolutionary War soldiers “act out” a big battle, complete with muskets and cannons, at the annual reenactment at **Monmouth Battlefield State Park** in Manalapan.

- See what’s on stage at the **Count Basie Theatre**, or get your first taste of Shakespeare at **Two River Theatre Company** — *A Little Shakespeare* is one of its most popular programs! Both theaters are in Red Bank.

- Shhh, it’s a secret...**InfoAge Science History Learning Center** (Wall Township) is a former secret laboratory where lots of innovations we use today were first developed.



- Learn about more American heroes at the **New Jersey Vietnam Veterans’ Memorial & Vietnam Era Museum** (Holmdel). Vietnam Veteran volunteers lead the guided tours. Stop by the U.S. War Dogs Memorial to honor the heroism of our four-legged companions.



- For thrills and chills, don’t miss **iPlay America** (Freehold), New Jersey’s largest indoor boardwalk, complete with rides, games and goodies — and **Keansburg Amusement Park & Runaway Rapids Water Park** (Keansburg), a popular oceanfront attraction since the early 1900s.

- Explore dune trails or play on the beach at **Sandy Hook Unit, Gateway National Recreation Area** (Highlands). To learn more about the ocean, join one of the summer marine science camps offered by the **NJ Sea Grant Consortium**, located at Sandy Hook. And a must-see for all future sailors: **Sandy Hook Lighthouse**. The nation’s oldest lighthouse, Sandy Hook still lights the way for boats.



- Go back in time at these three places. At **Longstreet Farm** (Holmdel), help the staff milk cows, collect eggs and feed the livestock, just like they did back in the 1890s. You can see how one family lived over 200 years ago at **Historic Walnford** (Upper Freehold), or ride a steam engine train at the **Historic Village at Allaire** (Farmingdale).

- Did you know that the first Pledge of Allegiance was said at the **Twin Lights of Navesink** in Highlands? Visit the double lighthouses for more fun facts. Another NJ lighthouse first, go to **Sea Girt Lighthouse** (Sea Girt), home of the first woman lighthouse keeper in the U.S. Lighthouse Service.



- For some ancient American history, head over to Middletown’s **Poricy Park Conservancy** to hunt for fossils from the Cretaceous period. You can take up to five fossils home! Or travel to Ancient Egypt in a time machine at **Monmouth Museum’s Becker Children’s Wing** (Lincroft).

- Watch New Jersey’s state animal (the horse) compete at **Horse Park of New Jersey** in Allentown.



GREATER ATLANTIC CITY

A SHORE BET FOR FAMILY FUN

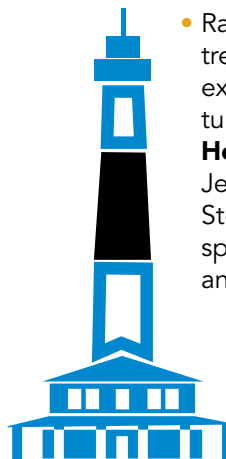


Welcome to Greater Atlantic City, site of the world's first boardwalk, the inspiration for the street names in the game *Monopoly* and the location of the Miss America pageant. This area is famous for its beaches and casinos, but it's also home for a large section of the New Jersey Pinelands, the nation's first National Reserve. Discover the natural and human-made attractions of the Greater Atlantic City Region.

ATLANTIC CITY:

Hit the 'Boards for Fun, History and Weird Wonders

- See concerts, sports events and family shows at **Boardwalk Hall**. And speaking of boardwalks, did you know the Atlantic City Boardwalk was first built in 1870 to solve the "sticky" problem of guests tracking sand into the seaside hotels?
- Hurry over to **Steel Pier** to ride the 227-foot-tall Ferris Wheel, classic and extreme rides, arcade games and fun food. You can go from 0 to 225 feet in 1.5 seconds on the SlingShot.



- Ralph E. Hunter collected cultural treasures about the African American experience. His apartment "museum" turned into the **African American Heritage Museum** of Southern New Jersey. The **Noyes Arts Garage** of Stockton University shares the same space. View artists at work or go to an art camp.



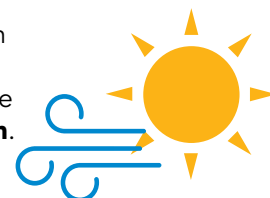
- Remember the heroes of "The Forgotten War" at the **New Jersey State Korean War Memorial**.

- Like weird things? Go to the Odditorium at **Ripley's Believe It or Not! Museum** to look at real shrunken heads and the world's smallest car.

For more strange but real sights, don't miss the Ocean Oddities exhibit at the **Atlantic City Aquarium** at Historic Gardner's Basin. Plan your visit around feeding the stingrays!



- In the summer, join an open house tour to learn about wind and solar energy at the **Jersey-Atlantic Wind Farm**.



JUST OUTSIDE ATLANTIC CITY: >>>

Magical Creatures and More

- Explore New Jersey's amazing Pinelands at **Wharton State Forest** (Hammonton). Hike on the Batona Trail, which stands for Back to Nature! You can also see 33 historic buildings, including the Mansion and a gristmill at **Batsto Village**, which was a bog iron and glassmaking center from 1766-1867.

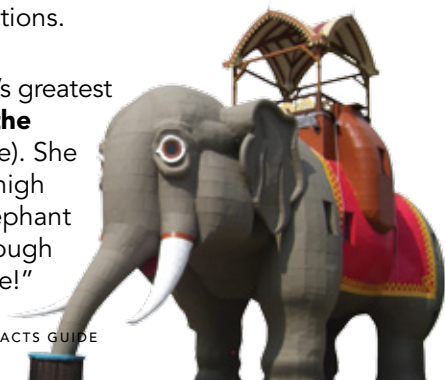


- Watch for bald eagles, wild turkeys, otters and more at **Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge** (Galloway). Much of the refuge is salt marsh, which is a great nesting habitat.

- The **Marine Mammal Stranding Center** in Brigantine has rescued over 4,800 stranded whales, dolphins, seals and sea turtles. Learn more by joining one of the Center's summer programs.



- Have nature questions? Ask a naturalist at the **Warren E. Fox Nature Center** (Mays Landing). Don't miss the live animal display.
- Have fun on the rides at **Storybook Land** (Egg Harbor Township). Stop for a treat at The Watering Can, shaped just like its name!
- See what's playing on stage at **Stockton Performing Arts Center** (Galloway) or the **Eagle Theatre** (Hammonton). Both offer children's and family productions.
- See one the world's greatest attractions, **Lucy the Elephant** (Margate). She stands six stories high and is the only elephant you "can walk through and come out alive!"



SOUTHERN SHORE

BETWEEN THE BEACH AND THE BAY



Located between the Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, the Southern Shore Region is known for sandy beaches, sea life, lighthouses and Victorian homes. What does "Victorian" mean? It was mid-to-late 19th century in American architecture that focused on detailed, very decorative style — sometimes called "gingerbread." Victorian homes look like large dollhouses! Let's explore the things to do and see in the Southern Shore Region.

CAPE MAY COUNTY: >>>

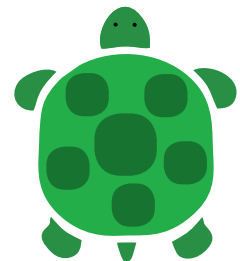
Adventures by the Sea

- Honor the bravery of those killed in Vietnam at the **Wildwood Vietnam Veterans Remembrance Wall** (Wildwood).



- In North Wildwood, tour **Hereford Inlet Lighthouse**. Plenty of photo ops in its pretty seaside garden!

- Experience hands-on history in Cape May at **Historic Cold Spring Village**, which looks just like a real South Jersey farm village from the past.
- Learn about terrapins (a species of turtle) and walk across a salt marsh on an elevated walkway at **Wetlands Institute and Museum** in Stone Harbor.



- **Morey's Piers and Beachfront Waterparks** on the Wildwood Boardwalk is all about classic seaside fun: three amusement piers, two waterparks (**Raging Waters** and **Ocean Oasis**) and over 100 rides! For more "wild" chills, don't miss **Splash Zone Water Park**.

- Easy does it as you climb the 199 steps to the top of the **Cape May Lighthouse**. It's a shorter climb up **Fire Control Tower No. 23**, where you can catch a great view and learn about its role in harbor defense during World War II. Both are in Cape May Point.



- Theater geeks will like the **East Lynne Theater Company** (Cape May), which stages summer workshops for ages 10-16, along with year-round theatrical productions.



- See real warplanes from World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars, plus climb up into an authentic air traffic control tower at **Naval Air Station Wildwood Aviation Museum** (Cape May Airport).

- For outdoor fun, go camping at **Belleplain State Forest** (Woodbine) or crabbing at **Corson's Inlet State Park** (Strathmere). Belleplain offers fun ways to camp. You can stay in a yurt or a lean-to!



- See why Ocean City is called "America's Greatest Family Resort." Maybe it has to do with all of the amusements at **Gillian's Wonderland Pier** or splashy rides at **OC Waterpark**. Another family favorite: the **Ocean City Pops**, a professional orchestra that performs all summer long on Music Pier.



- "Doo Wop" is a style of music and architecture from the 1950s. See the funky Doo Wop motels in Wildwood, and learn more at the **Doo Wop Experience**. For a



completely different style of house, go to Cape May, home to 600 restored Victorian homes. See what life was like 100 years ago in a Victorian mansion at **Emlen Physick Estate**.

- Take the "Behind the Scenes" tour at **Cape May County Park & Zoo** (Cape May Court House), and learn how the Zoo feeds its 500+ animals, from snowy owls to the dromedary camel.

- Love wildlife? Walk along one of the trails at the **Cape May National Wildlife Refuge**, and look for songbirds, turtles and frogs. Watch for egrets and herons at **Stone Harbor Bird Sanctuary** (Stone Harbor). Go birding at two locations of the **Cape May Bird Observatory** (Cape May Court House and Cape May Point). See how many different birds you can count! At the **Nature Center of Cape May**, go kayaking through a tidal marsh with a naturalist. Or join naturalists from the **Cape May Whale Watch & Research Center** on a sail to spot dolphins and whales.

- It's easy to cross the 17 miles of the Delaware Bay that separates New Jersey from Delaware. Just take the **Cape May-Lewes Ferry!**

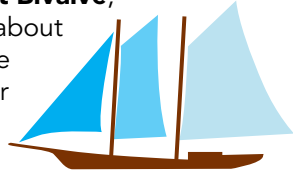
- A playground in the trees? Yes, please! Have a blast on zip lines and obstacle courses at **Tree to Tree Adventure Park** (Cape May Court House).



CUMBERLAND COUNTY:

Art, History and More, Down by the Bay

- Hear a “Tiger Talk” at **Cohanzick Zoo**, New Jersey’s first zoo. This free zoo in Bridgeton also offers Zoo Camps!
- Stop by **Bayshore Center at Bivalve**, take a wetlands walk, learn about oysters and go sailing on the historic A.J. Meerwald. Wear an eye patch and tricorn hat for the Pirate Sail!
- Watch glassblowers, potters and woodworkers in action, and tour the glass museum at **Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center** in Millville.
- Visit **Seabrook Educational and Cultural Center** (Seabrook), the “largest vegetable factory on earth,” and hear the stories of immigrants, refugees, migrant workers and relocated Japanese Americans who lived there.
- Learn about the World War II fighter plane called the P-47 Thunderbolt at America’s first defense airport, now the **Millville Army Air Field Museum**.
- For Broadway musicals close to home, go to the **Levoy Theatre** in Millville.



- If you spot a bright red roof by the Delaware Bay near Heislerville, you’ve found the **East Point Lighthouse**, built in 1849.



DELAWARE RIVER

NEW JERSEY’S WESTERN FRONTIER



Bordered by the historic, scenic Delaware River in the center of the state, this region has something for everyone. General George Washington made his famous crossing here. It’s the home of one of the nation’s top universities. And it’s where you can visit museums, watch a baseball game or a rodeo — and even operate a backhoe! Take a closer look at the attractions of the Delaware River Region.

BURLINGTON COUNTY:

Berries, the Barrens and History

- The “front door” of the New Jersey Pine Barrens (which covers over one million acres) is the **Pinelands Visitor Center** in Southampton. Learn about its history and the conservation efforts of the Pinelands Preservation Alliance.
- It’s always “berry” season at **Whitesbog Village** (Browns Mills). Find out about New Jersey’s role in developing the blueberry, our state fruit, and stomp around a cranberry bog.
- The Victorian Christmas tour is a fun way to see **Smithville Mansion** (Eastampton), which is also open for public tours May through October.



- Just for fun: Pretend you’re in a tropical paradise at **CoCo Key Water Resort** in Mount Laurel with over 55,000 sq. ft. of indoor water park, 150,000 gallons of water. It’s also a hotel, so you can stay overnight!

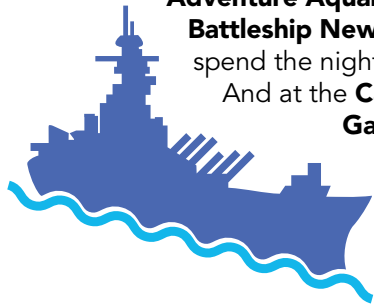


- Visit the **Alice Paul Institute** in Mount Laurel for the ultimate girl power display. Suffragist Alice Paul led the final fight to get women the right to vote and is an author of the Equal Rights Amendment.
- Is it haunted? No one knows! Get a glimpse of how a prison operates at the **Burlington County Prison Museum** in Mount Holly. Its doors opened in 1811 and was a prison for 154 years.

CAMDEN COUNTY:

Earth and Water, Plays and Poetry

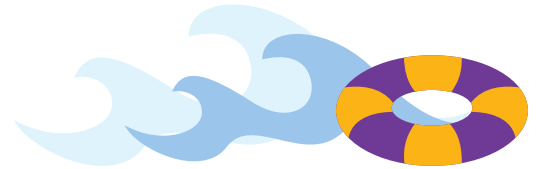
- Head to the Camden Waterfront for three cool attractions. Check out the feeding times for the hippos, little blue penguins and stingrays at **Adventure Aquarium**. Explore the huge **Battleship New Jersey**. You can even spend the night and live like a sailor! And at the **Camden Children's Garden**, don't miss the butterfly house. (Do you know what New Jersey's state butterfly is?)



- Visit a former safe house on the Underground Railroad: the **Peter Mott House** in Lawnside. New Jersey was a major route for slaves escaping the South for freedom in the North. Mott was a free black farmer and pastor of the Mount Pisgah A.M.E. church.
- Learn about the great American poet at the **Walt Whitman House** (Camden). Whitman wrote a famous poem "Elegy" (a poem that expresses sadness) after the assassination of President Lincoln.
- For any kid who has watched *Bob the Builder*, **Diggerland USA** (West Berlin) is the place to go. If you're 42 inches tall, you can operate a digger. At 48 inches tall, you can drive a backhoe or an all-terrain ARGO.



- The **Ritz Theatre** (Haddon Township) presents an all-kids production that brings 3rd to 8th graders together for a fun experience, plus stage musicals that the whole family will love.
- Ride the Ferris Wheel, float down the Lazy River or raft down Sky River Rapids at **Clementon Park & Splash World**. For thrills, go on the Sea Dragon, or chill out at the Big Wave Bay with a "Dive-In" movie.



MERCER COUNTY:

Barracks, Baseball, Butterflies and More

- Follow the footsteps of General George Washington at **Washington Crossing State Park** (Titusville). It marks the famous spot where Washington landed with his troops after crossing the Delaware River on Christmas night in 1776.
- Trenton, the state capital, offers plenty of attractions. Start at the **1719 William Trent House Museum**, and see how different life was in the 18th century. Imagine the daily routines of a soldier during colonial times at the **Old Barracks Museum**. When you walk into the **New Jersey State House**, be sure to look up at the golden dome ceiling.
- Don't miss the **New Jersey State Museum** (Trenton), which is really four museums in one. Go back in time and look at fossils, or soar through space in the museum's planetarium. The last stop on our Trenton tour? Watching the **Trenton Thunder** play at **Arm & Hammer Park**. Everybody loves the Thunder's "world famous" bat dogs!





- Art goes outside at **Grounds for Sculpture** (Hamilton). The 42-acre park is full of surprises—from the resident peacocks to 270 sculptures. Did you know a group of peacocks is called a “muster?” Create your own work of art at one of the Young Artist Workshops.

- See what farm life was like 100 years ago at **Howell Living History Farm** (Titusville). You can help slop the hogs, make butter, harvest honey or just hop on a hayride for old-fashioned fun.
- Take a nature hike, and learn about conservation at **The Watershed Institute** in Pennington. Don't miss the annual Butterfly Festival in August!
- In Princeton, visit **Drumthwacket**, the official home of New Jersey's governor. Go to **Princeton Battlefield State Park**, where General George Washington scored an important victory in 1777. And on the campus of Princeton University, you can see over 97,000 works of art at the **Princeton University Art Museum**, or watch a play or musical performance at **McCarter Theatre**. Here's a fun fact: two former U.S. Presidents called Princeton “home.” Do you know who they were? (Answer: Grover Cleveland and Woodrow Wilson)



GLOUCESTER COUNTY:

Stories by the River

- Lighthouses aren't only by the ocean! The **Tinicum Rear Range Lighthouse** (Paulsboro) stands along the Delaware River and looks out over Philadelphia.

- Walk near the Delaware River and explore the site of a Revolutionary War battle at **Red Bank Battlefield Park** (National Park). It's a pretty spot for a picnic, too.



- The **Broadway Theatre of Pitman** is located in a historic theater that first opened in 1926. See a musical on the main stage, take a summer camp, or have fun at a children's show.

SALEM COUNTY:

Lighthouses and Cowboys

- A mule train helped bring the iron structure from New York State to Pennsville that became the **Finns Point Rear Range Lighthouse**. It's located at the Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge.
- Did you know that the oldest weekly running rodeo in the U.S. is in New Jersey? It's true! At **Cowtown Rodeo** (Pilesgrove), you can watch bull riding, steer wrestling, team roping and more!



SKYLANDS

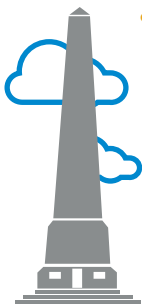
THE HIGHEST POINT OF NEW JERSEY

The Skylands is in the northwestern part of New Jersey. It's hard to believe that its rolling hills, rugged hiking trails (including a section of the Appalachian Trail), mountain lakes, river valleys and historic small towns are just 40 miles from New York City. Check out these fun attractions!



SUSSEX COUNTY:

Mountains, Mines and Monkeys



- At High Point State Park (Sussex), climb **High Point Monument**, the state's highest point at 1,803 feet. On a clear day, you can see three states (NJ, PA and NY)!
- Go to **Allamuchy Mountain State Park** (Byram) to explore **Waterloo Village**, a restored 19th-century canal village. Don't miss the recreated Lenape village.
- There's a lot to see at **Space Farms Zoo & Museum** in Beemerville, ranging from 500 live wild animals (like lions, lemurs and monkeys) to antique cars!
- Dig into the region's unique geological history at the **Franklin Mineral Museum** in Franklin and **Sterling Hill Mining Museum** in Ogdensburg. Did you know fluorescent mineral deposits glow under ultraviolet light?
- For year-round mountain fun, head over to **Mountain Creek** in Vernon: ski slopes, snowboarding park, 52 mountain bike trails, a water park with 22 rides and the new TreEscape Aerial Adventure Park with 10 rope courses.



WARREN COUNTY:

Hiking, Hatching and Howling

- Go on a "Wolf Watch" at **Lakota Wolf Preserve** in Columbia to see (and hear!) these fascinating animals.
- See what's on stage at the **Centenary Stage Company** in Hackettstown.
- Chicks aren't the only creatures to "hatch." The **Pequest Trout Hatchery and Natural Resource Education Center** in Oxford produces up to 700,000 trout each year to stock NJ's fishing spots.
- Go camping, hiking, fishing or kayaking in the **Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area** (Hardwick). Why is it called the "Gap?" The Delaware River cuts through the Kittatinny Mountains here—nearly 1,400 feet deep and 900 feet wide at water level!



HUNTERDON COUNTY:

The State's Most Photographed Spot

- Stop at the nearby **Hunterdon Art Museum** and view modern art in a historic 19th-century stone mill.
- Want to see the place that unofficially holds the title of "most photographed" in New Jersey? Head over to the Red Mill in Clinton. Explore **Red Mill Museum Village** and learn about life here from Colonial times to 1928.



MORRIS COUNTY:

Music, History and Raptors—Live

- The **Morris Museum** in Morristown features exhibits on dinosaurs, art, rocks and minerals, and more. But its most unique collection is 750 historic mechanical musical instruments and automata (mechanical figures). Did you know that New Jersey was once the home of American music box production?

- A great place to see musicals and other live performances is the **Mayo**



- Performing Arts Center in Morristown, and the **Growing Stage**, the children's theater of New Jersey in Netcong.
- Want to know where General George Washington's army slept? Visit **Morristown National Historical Park**, the site of Washington's two winter encampments during the Revolutionary War.
- Take a peek into the past at the **Museum of Early Trades & Crafts** in Madison. See the tools, toys and kitchen gadgets of early New Jersey.
- See cows milked the old-fashioned way at **Fosterfields Living Historical Farm** in Morristown, learn how flour was made at **Cooper Gristmill** in Chester, or hop on a train and learn about New Jersey's railroad history at the **Whippany Railway Museum**.



- Get up close to hawks, eagles, falcons and owls at the **Raptor Trust** in Millington. It's one of the top wild bird rehabilitation centers in the U.S. and a leader in raptor conservation.
- Here's a museum where you CAN touch the exhibits: **Imagine That!!!** in Florham Park.

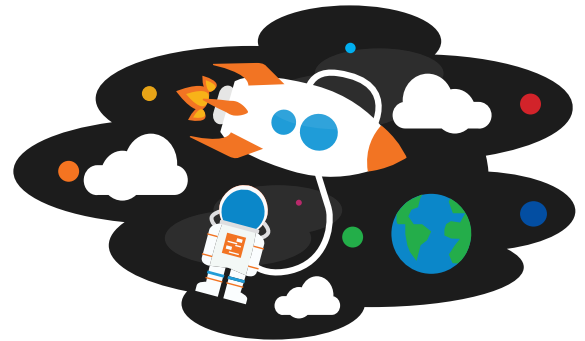
SOMERSET COUNTY:

Geocaching, Golf and the Galaxy, By George

- At **Duke Farms** in Hillsborough, you can hike, bike and explore nature over 1,000 acres. Try geocaching, a fun outdoor treasure hunting game.



- Get to know more about General George Washington at his final Revolutionary War headquarters, **Rockingham Historic Site** (Kingston).
- Take a trip into outer space at the **Raritan Valley Community College Planetarium** (Branchburg), and learn more about our solar system, the galaxy and deep space.



- Did you know that the oldest sports museum in the nation is in New Jersey? It's the **United States Golf Association (USGA) Museum** in Liberty Corner. Take a swing on the 9-hole Pynes Putting Course.



GATEWAY

THE HUB OF NEW JERSEY

Do you like to explore museums, see musicals, or watch your favorite pro football team play? The Gateway Region is the place to go! Located in the northeastern part of the state, this region also features historic sites, beautiful gardens and more. Here are a few of its many attractions.



PASSAIC COUNTY:

Legends, Labor and Natural Wonders

- Did you know that the 77-foot-high Great Falls helped power the Industrial Revolution in New Jersey? Learn more at **Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park**.



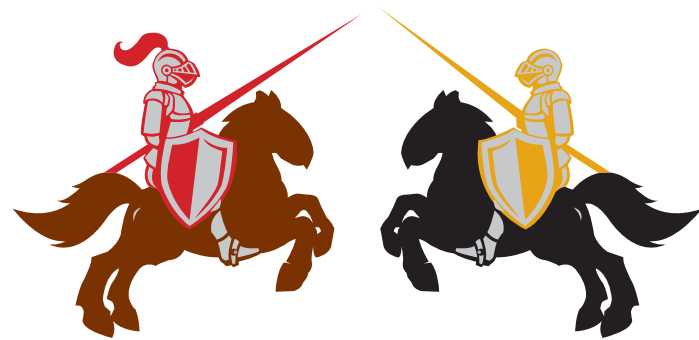
- Yogi Berra is a baseball legend. Find out more about the Yankees catcher at the **Yogi Berra Museum and Learning Center** on the Montclair State University campus.
- At Ringwood State Park, the **New Jersey State Botanical Gardens** (Ringwood) is a great spot for a family hike. Be sure to stop and smell the flowers!
- Many immigrants settled in New Jersey. You can learn about their working life at the **American Labor Museum** in Haledon.
- Go see New Jersey's castle! A Paterson silk tycoon built **Lambert Castle** to look like an English castle.



BERGEN COUNTY:

History and Nature in Harmony

- Take a hike, explore a reconstructed Revolutionary War encampment and get an awesome cliff-top view of the New York City skyline at **Fort Lee Historic Park**.
- Time travel to prehistoric times. See over 30 life-sized animatronic dinosaurs at **Field Station: Dinosaurs** (Leonia).
- Imagine what life was like for General George Washington, the Marquis de Lafayette and Alexander Hamilton at a house they all visited: **Hermitage Museum** in Ho-Ho-Kus.
- Did you know you could see a jousting match in New Jersey? Just go to **Medieval Times** in Lyndhurst for dinner and a show. For something a little more modern, go to **Bergen Performing Arts Center** (Englewood) for dance, theater, comedy or theatrical performances.



- Discover more about nature and our feathered friends at **Lorrimor Sanctuary** in Franklin Lakes. Take a bird walk!
- Learn more about ecology with hands-on programs at the **Meadowlands Environment Center** in Lyndhurst. A fun way to explore is on a pontoon boat or a canoe!

ESSEX COUNTY:

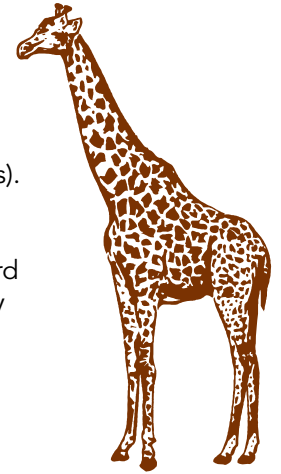
Everything from A(rt) to Z(oo)

- What's the state's largest museum? If you said **Newark Museum**, good for you! It has 80 galleries for art and science, plus a planetarium and a sculpture garden.
- At **Montclair Art Museum**, you and your family will find lots to do—like the Family Learning Lab and Drop-In Studio, where you can create your own artwork!
- Why is **Presby Memorial Iris Gardens** in Upper Montclair called "Rainbow on a Hill?" Answer: It boasts over 10,000 irises producing over 100,000 blooms!
- Sports fans can find plenty to cheer for in Essex County: The Giants and the Jets NFL teams play at **MetLife Stadium** (East Rutherford), while the New Jersey Devils (NHL) and Seton Hall's men's basketball team play at Newark's **Prudential Center**.
- Like plays and concerts? The **New Jersey Performing Arts Center** (NJPAC) in Newark, one of the largest performing arts centers in the nation, offers everything from dance performances to pop artists. The **South Orange Performing Arts Center** (SOPAC) also offers live concerts, as well as an annual performance of *The Nutcracker* ballet. And you don't have to go to New York City to see Broadway shows—the **Paper Mill Playhouse** in Millburn presents popular plays and musicals.



- Hear Edison's talking doll recordings at the **Thomas Edison National Historical Park** in West Orange. Tour his home (Glenmount) and lab, and see a silent movie from 1903!

- **Turtle Back Zoo** in West Orange cares for over 200 different species from around the world, from the very tall (giraffe) to cute and small (prairie dogs). A must-see: two very rare animals threatened with extinction, the Amur leopard and the red panda. Stop by the **Treetop Adventure Course** next door—the junior courses offer 15 unique challenges!



HUDSON COUNTY:

Gateway to Liberty

- Want to learn more about immigrant stories in the United States? Catch the ferry at **Liberty State Park** in Jersey City to the **Statue of Liberty** or **Ellis Island**, where more than 12 million immigrants passed through the Great Hall, the "Gateway to Freedom." The park also offers a bike trail, kayak eco tours, the **"Empty Sky" 9/11 Memorial** and a historic train station.
- Experiment with science and technology at **Liberty Science Center**. The Jersey City museum offers plenty of fun hands-on exhibits on inventions, the environment, health and more.
- Cheer the New York Red Bulls when they take the field at **Red Bull Arena** in Harrison, or race around the track in an electric go-kart at **RPM Raceway** indoor karting in Jersey City.



UNION COUNTY:

American History and Local Flora

- Learn how firefighters put out fires 200 years ago at **Liberty Hall Museum** on the Kean University campus in Union. You can also see two centuries of American history through the experiences of one family.
- See the home where our Founding Fathers visited. Both President George Washington and Alexander Hamilton were guests at **Boxwood Hall** in Elizabeth.
- What's growing in Union County? Take a free Saturday guided tour (May-October) through the gardens and woodlands of the **Reeves-Reed Arboretum** in Summit, and find out!

MIDDLESEX COUNTY:

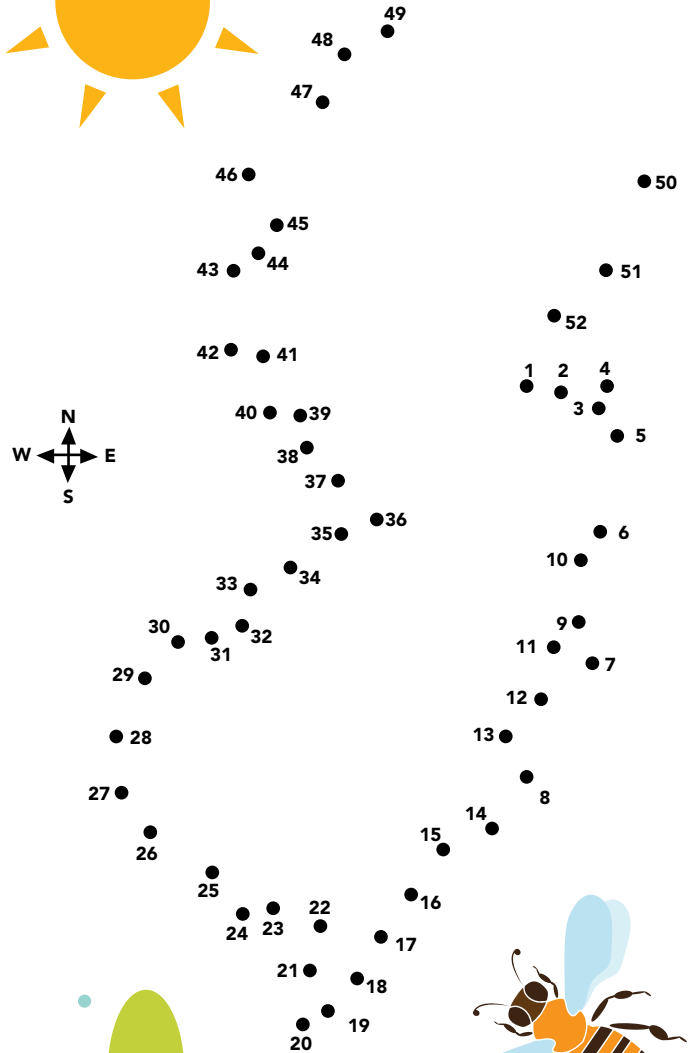
Monuments to Genius and the Arts

- Concerts, Broadway shows, family events and even movies—there's always something on stage at the **State Theatre** in New Brunswick.
- Discover the world's first research and development lab. At the **Thomas Edison Center** at Menlo Park, you can listen to sound recordings from 100 years ago and see the newly renovated memorial tower.
- Take a look at the permanent exhibit of illustrations from American children's books at **Zimmerli Art Museum** at Rutgers University (New Brunswick). You might see some favorites!

TRAVELING TO AND THROUGH NEW JERSEY

Train, bus, ferry or plane? Catch them all in New Jersey. Take NJ TRANSIT buses and trains all through the state, PATH trains from Lower Manhattan, and ferries into north Jersey from Manhattan and Delaware into Cape May. Plus fly into two international airports: Newark Liberty and Atlantic City.

CONNECT the DOTS





Liberty Science Center/Pauline St. Denis

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