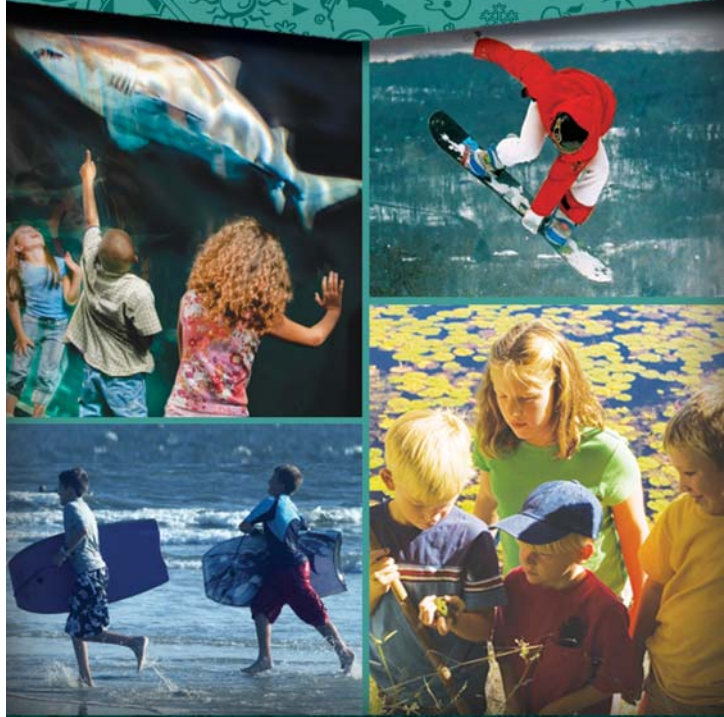


NEW JERSEY

FUN & FACTS GUIDE



COOL STUFF TO DO IN NEW JERSEY!


New Jersey
visitnj.org

It's a Fact:

New Jersey is a fun place to work and play!

Did you ever wonder why the state was named "New Jersey" or why National Geographic magazine called New Jersey "America in Miniature?" This handy "New Jersey Fun & Facts Guide" not only highlights all the fun things to see and do in the Garden State, but will also expand your brainpower about New Jersey's fun facts and figures.

The best place to start is right here.

From the enchanting blue skies along the 127 miles of beautiful, white sandy beaches to our rugged mountains and scenic forests, there's more to see and do in New Jersey than you can possibly imagine!

You can also visit Hangout NJ - a specially designed website for kids at:

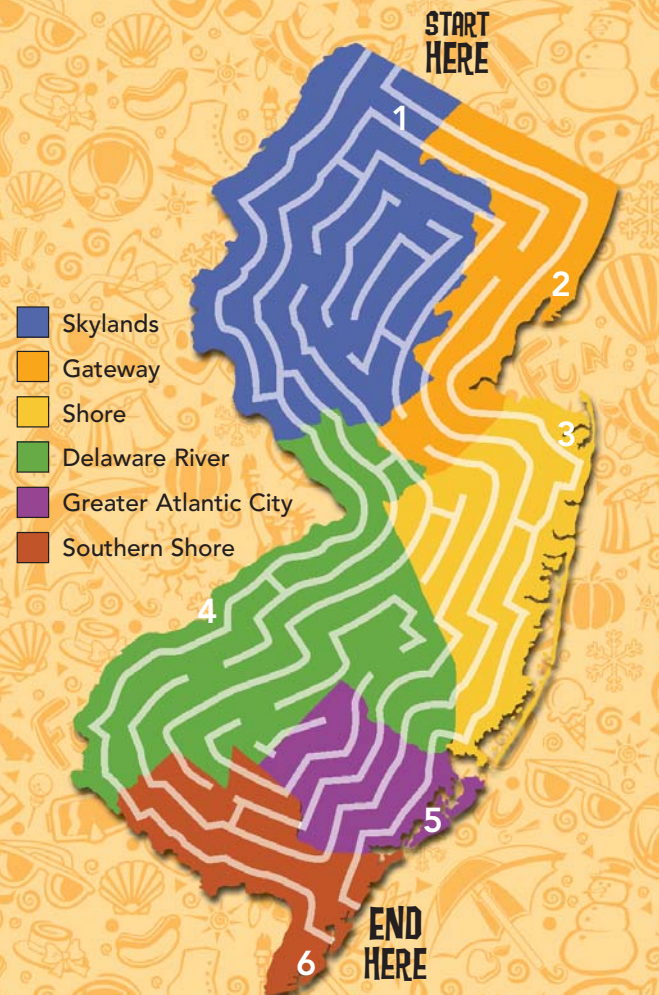
www.state.nj.us/hangout_nj/

Discover a cartoon history of our state, information on how New Jersey government operates, monthly features, games and more entertaining options.

REGION by Region

FINDING FUN FROM NORTH TO SOUTH

New Jersey may seem like a small place, yet it is brimming with so much to discover and explore. To help you get around, the state is divided into six major regions running north to south: Skylands, Gateway, Shore, Delaware River, Greater Atlantic City and Southern Shore Regions. **1.** Mountain Creek **2.** Ellis Island featuring the Statue of Liberty **3.** Twin Lights of Navesink **4.** Adventure Aquarium **5.** Lucy the Elephant **6.** Morey's Piers and Beachfront Waterparks.



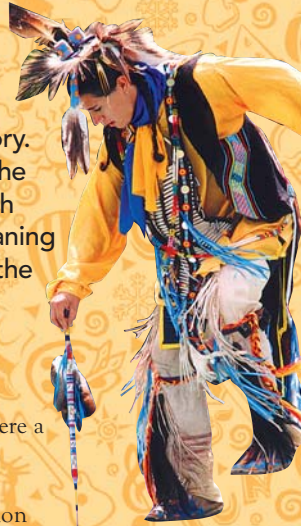
New Jersey Milestones

A History Timeline

Here are some examples of significant events you should know about New Jersey's history. They will help you appreciate the importance of New Jersey's rich history while bringing new meaning to the events that have led to the state's current conditions.

5000 B.C.E.: New Jersey's first inhabitants arrived.

The earliest residents of New Jersey were a prehistoric people who lived here earlier than 9000 B.C.E. Their descendants evolved into the population known as the Lenape, who lived here around recognizably 1000 C.E.



Powwows have become a great attraction all around the state.

1524: New Jersey: "Discovered"

Giovanni da Verrazano was the first European to explore the New Jersey coast. You pay homage to his legacy every time you cross the Verrazano Bridge between Staten Island and Brooklyn, New York.

1609: Hudson Crosses to New Jersey

Henry Hudson explored the Hudson and Delaware Bays in 1609. Later, the first houses in New Jersey were built in 1633 in the Dutch settlement now called Jersey City.

1638: Settling on the Delaware

A Swedish colony was established along the Delaware River, but was later conquered by the Dutch.

1664: Let's call it... "New Jersey"

The British took over the Dutch New Amsterdam colony and granted the land between the Delaware and the Hudson to John Lord Berkeley and Sir George Carteret. They named it "New Jersey" after the Isle of Jersey in the English Channel. (You now know for whom the New Jersey towns of Berkeley Heights and Carteret were named.)

1721: The Birth of Our Capital

William Trent was a successful merchant, who established an outpost on the banks of the Delaware around 1721, later to be known as "Trent's Town." In time, the name became Trenton and the village developed into the state's capital city. Trent's house still stands as the city's oldest historic museum.

1738: Our First Governor

The New York and New Jersey royal colonies once shared a governor prior to 1738. Lewis Morris became the first governor of the royal colony of New Jersey alone. His name is found in Morris County, Morristown, and Morris Plains.

1746: Princeton University Founded

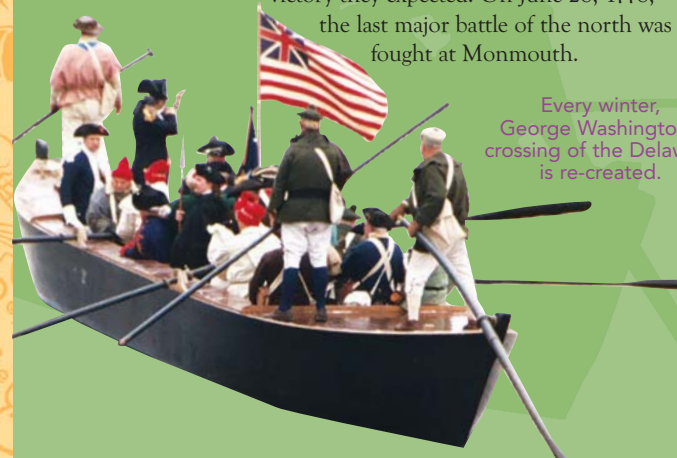
Princeton University, one of the world's most respected institutions of higher learning, was first founded in Elizabeth. The Ivy League college moved to Newark, then to Princeton in 1756.

1766: Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

From its roots as a colonial college and land-grant institution, Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, has developed into one of America's leading public research universities. With main campuses in northern, central and southern New Jersey, Rutgers is the state's premier public institution of higher education, serving a diverse community of over 50,000 students and 10,000 faculty and staff employees.

1776-1783: The Crossroads of the Revolution

New Jersey is known as "The Crossroads of the Revolution." Nearly 300 Revolutionary War battles or skirmishes took place in New Jersey. On December 25 & 26, 1776, Washington made his famous overnight crossing of the Delaware River from Pennsylvania to surprise the Hessian soldiers in New Jersey. He defeated the British forces in the Battle of Trenton. This victory, combined with the victory at Princeton a few days later, prevented the British from achieving the early, easy victory they expected. On June 28, 1778, the last major battle of the north was fought at Monmouth.



Every winter, George Washington's crossing of the Delaware is re-created.

1787: Ratifying the Constitution

On December 12, 1787, New Jersey became the third state to ratify the new Constitution of the United States. New Jersey was also the first state to ratify the Bill of Rights in 1789.

1791: New Jersey's Industrial Beginnings

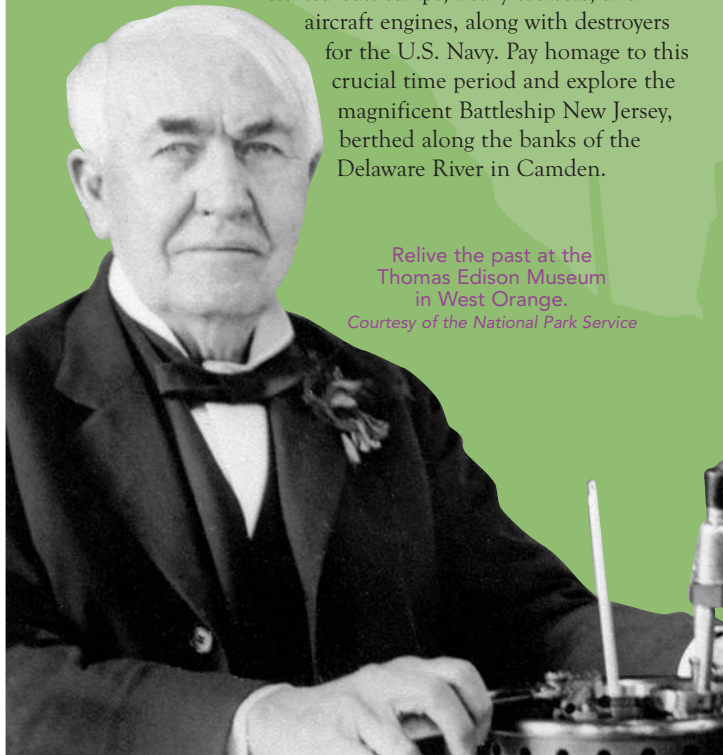
Alexander Hamilton was involved with the development of the country's first planned industrial city in present-day Paterson, near the Passaic River's 77-foot Great Falls. By the late 1880s, Paterson was so highly recognized for its silk manufacturing, that it earned the nickname "Silk City." What's more, Hamilton was the first U.S. Secretary of the Treasury and later died in Weehawken, New Jersey, in a pistol duel with Vice President Aaron Burr.

LATE 1800s: The Age of Invention

In his West Orange and Menlo Park labs, Thomas A. Edison invented the incandescent light bulb, the first commercially viable motion picture camera and the phonograph, accelerating New Jersey to the forefront of scientific innovation and discovery. To pay respect to this prominent inventor, the town of Edison proudly displays his name.

1939-1945: World War II

During this critical time period, hundreds of thousands of New Jersey residents joined in the war effort. The state crafted battleships, heavy cruisers, and aircraft engines, along with destroyers for the U.S. Navy. Pay homage to this crucial time period and explore the magnificent Battleship New Jersey, berthed along the banks of the Delaware River in Camden.



Relive the past at the Thomas Edison Museum in West Orange.
Courtesy of the National Park Service

1976: Playing in the Meadowlands

The Meadowlands Sports Complex in East Rutherford originally included the Meadowlands Racetrack and Giants Stadium, named after the New York Giants football team. Also home to the New York Jets, the team joined the Giants at the stadium in 1984. Across the road from the Meadowlands, the Continental Airlines Arena opened in 1981 and is currently the home of the New Jersey Devils hockey team, the New Jersey Nets and Seton Hall's basketball teams. This spectacular arena also features numerous other sporting events and concerts year-round. No wonder millions of sports fanatics flock to the Garden State each year!

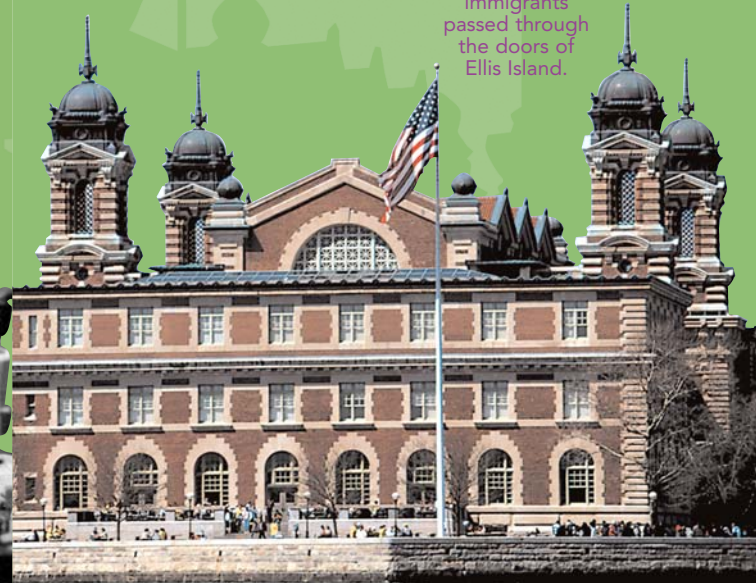
1978: Taking a Gamble

All bets were on in 1978 when gambling became legalized in Atlantic City and the Resorts International Hotel was dubbed the city's first casino. Today, the gamble has paid off. With 11 magnificent casinos generating \$85 billion in casino revenues since its doors opened, Atlantic City has become one of New Jersey's most popular vacation destinations.

1998: Welcome to New Jersey

The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that most of Ellis Island (24 acres), located in the Hudson River next to the Statue of Liberty, falls under New Jersey's jurisdiction.

Millions of immigrants passed through the doors of Ellis Island.



Did you know...

Fast Facts about State stuff.



State Seal

New Jersey's state "seal" doesn't live in the ocean! Pierre Eugene du Simitiere designed the state symbol in May 1777. The three plows in the shield honor the state's agricultural tradition, while the horse head represents speed and strength. The female figures of the seal are Liberty on the left and Ceres on the right. Liberty carries the liberty cap on her staff while Ceres, the Roman goddess of grain, symbolizes abundance and cradles a cornucopia filled with harvested produce. The banner below, "Liberty and Prosperity," is the official state motto.

State Flag

Adopted in 1896, the state flag proudly displays the official state colors: Buff and Jersey Blue. The state seal is emblazoned in blue on a brilliant buff background. The buff and blue on the flag are the same colors General George Washington selected for uniforms worn by New Jersey soldiers during the American Revolution and in 1779, the colors on the insignia were chosen from the state's early Dutch Settlers.



State Bird

The Eastern Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*) was adopted as the New Jersey state bird in 1935. Keep your eye on your bird feeder to see if an Eastern Goldfinch whistles you a "hello!"

State Tree

Once we had a state bird, we needed to give it an official place to nest. The red oak (*Quercus rubra*) was named the official state tree in 1950. We also named the dogwood as the state memorial tree in 1951.

State Flower

The state flower of New Jersey, the violet (*Viola sororia*), is just one of many beautiful flowers firmly rooted in the Garden State.



Photo by:
Nancy Bristow

State Fruit

New Jersey is the birthplace of the cultivated blueberry, thanks to the efforts of Elizabeth C. White of Whitesbog in 1916. In 2004, the blueberry (*Vaccinium corymbosum*) became New Jersey's official state fruit. New Jersey is the 2nd ranked state in the nation in blueberry production growing 38 million pounds per year.

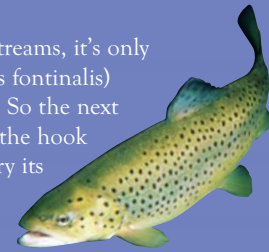


State Insect

Where would the state flower be without a state insect? In 1974, the honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) became the state insect. Give the next bee you see a big state salute, but be careful - don't get stung!

State Fish

With more than 1,400 miles of trout streams, it's only natural that the brook trout (*Salvelinus fontinalis*) became the state's official fish in 1992. So the next time you catch a brook trout, let it off the hook so it can continue to carry its prominent title from stream to stream.



State Animal

The horse (*Equus caballus*) became the state animal in 1977. Trot over to Gladstone and see where the U.S. Equestrian Team has been headquartered since 1950.

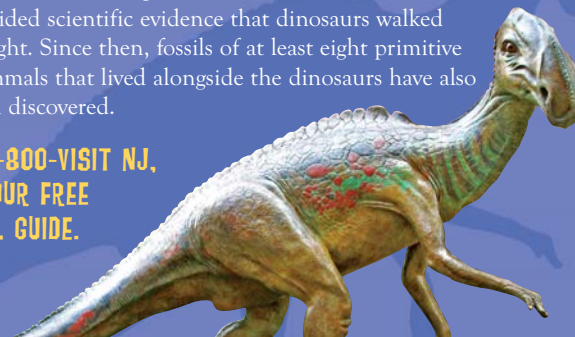
State Shell

The next time you are collecting shells at the Jersey Shore, keep your eyes open for the knobbed whelk (*Busycon carica*), the official state shell since 1995.

State Dinosaur

The *Hadrosaurus foulkii* became the state dinosaur in 1991. This historic find in 1891 in Haddonfield was North America's first complete dinosaur skeleton and provided scientific evidence that dinosaurs walked upright. Since then, fossils of at least eight primitive mammals that lived alongside the dinosaurs have also been discovered.

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TRAVEL GUIDE.





Water, Water, Everywhere

Along with the Hudson and Delaware rivers on the eastern and western borders, there are over 4,100 freshwater lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams in New Jersey. This equates to an impressive figure of almost 61,000 acres of water! The state's largest lake, Lake Hopatcong, can be found in Sussex and Morris Counties. If you are looking for saltwater fun, explore the 127 miles of our beautiful white, sandy beaches.

State Dance

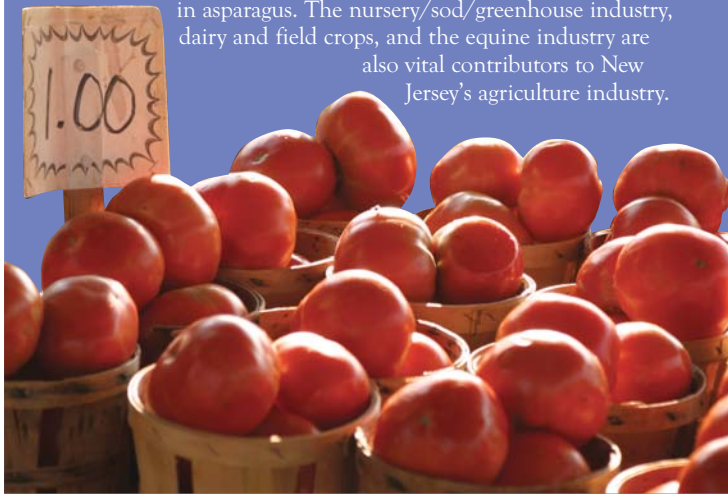
Dosí-do your partner! Dance fads may come and go, but there will always be an official state dance in New Jersey - the square dance, designated as the American Folk Dance in 1983.

Hit the Road

With over 36,000 miles of highways and roads to cruise along in New Jersey, there is something new to discover around every corner. With convenient ramps dotted all over the state, travel the 148 miles of the New Jersey Turnpike or the 173 miles of the Garden State Parkway to your next New Jersey destination.

Jersey Fresh

We don't call New Jersey "the Garden State" for nothing. There are over 100 types of fruits and vegetables grown here and in 2004, there were 9,600 farms in New Jersey. The state ranks high in cultivated and fresh market produce output for the United States, ranking second in production of blueberries; third in production of bell peppers; fourth in peaches, cranberries, spinach, head lettuce and fifth in asparagus. The nursery/sod/greenhouse industry, dairy and field crops, and the equine industry are also vital contributors to New Jersey's agriculture industry.



Wild Life

Thanks to its broad diversity of habitats, New Jersey is home to nearly 500 vertebrate species of wildlife, ranging in size from tree frogs to black bears. Watch wolves, their pups, bobcats and foxes thrive in their natural habitat at Columbia's Lakota Wolf Preserve. Grab your binoculars to view



Get up close with New Jersey wild life at the Lakota Wolf Preserve

over 200 species of birds at the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge in Oceanville, then explore the nearby Cape May Bird Observatory. While down the shore, climb aboard a whale-watching boat or visit rescued sea creatures at the Marine Mammal Stranding Center in Brigantine.

How's the Weather Up There?

From the high elevations of the Skylands Region's mountains to the Southern Shore Region situated between the Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, the temperature in New Jersey can vary greatly. The Garden State enjoys all four seasons, with an average summer temperature in July at just under 74° F and an average winter temperature in January of just over 30° F. The average annual precipitation can range from 40 inches on the southeastern coast to about 50 inches in North-Central New Jersey.

A.J. Meerwald

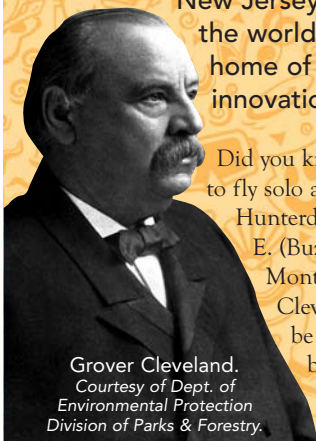
The majestic schooner, the A.J. Meerwald, was named New Jersey's Official Tall Ship in April 1998. Not only does it serve as a sailing classroom for grades four to twelve, the A.J. Meerwald has earned a place in the National Register of Historic Places.

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Made in New Jersey

Famous Firsts and Faces.

New Jersey is renowned around the world as the birthplace and home of many famous ideas, innovations and people.



Grover Cleveland.
Courtesy of Dept. of
Environmental Protection
Division of Parks & Forestry.

Did you know Charles Lindbergh was the first to fly solo across the Atlantic and later lived in Hunterdon County? Did you know Edwin E. (Buzz) Aldrin, Jr. traveled from Montclair to the moon? Or that Grover Cleveland of Caldwell proved you could be anything you want when you are born in New Jersey - he was President twice, serving as the 22nd and 24th President of the United States.

Famous Athletes

New Jersey is the proud parent of many athletes who made major contributions to sports, football and baseball in particular. Derek Jeter (Pequannock) of the New York Yankees and Joe Black (Plainfield), the first African American to win a World Series game, have made their indelible mark on baseball. Amos Alonzo Stagg (West Orange) one of the most successful college football coaches of all time, Franco Harris (Fort Dix), Drew Pearson and Joe Theisman (South River) hold football records, and Shaquille O'Neal (Newark) is one of the most dominant players in basketball today. Christie Pearce learned to excel in soccer in Point Pleasant and was a member of the USA women's soccer team in the 2000 Olympics.

Famous Singers and Musicians

You might say that folks from New Jersey can really carry a tune. Sing along with Frank Sinatra (Hoboken), Connie Francis (Newark), Whitney Houston (Newark), Paul Simon (Hoboken), Bruce Springsteen (Freehold), Dionne Warwick (East Orange), Jon Bon Jovi (Sayreville), Lauren Hill (South Orange), Queen Latifah (Newark) or groove to the sultry jazz artistry of Count Basie (Red Bank) and Bill Evans (Plainfield).

Famous Actors

According to Shakespeare, "all the world's a stage"—but many famous actors got their start on the stage in New Jersey. Remember that the next time you see a TV show or movie starring Michael Douglas (New Brunswick), Meryl Streep (Summit), John Travolta (Englewood), Danny DeVito and Jack Nicholson (Neptune), Tom Cruise (Glen Ridge), Joe Pesci, Bruce Willis, and Jon Forsythe (Penns Grove), Jerry Lewis and Eva Marie Saint (Newark), Elisabeth and Andrew Shue (South Orange), Thomas Mitchell (East Orange), Savion Glover, Ice-T, Faith Evans, Tisha Campbell-Martin (Newark), Brittany Murphy (Edison), Derek Luke (Jersey City), Christina Ricci (Montclair), Paul Rudd (Passaic), Kirsten Dunst (Point Pleasant), Frankie Muniz (Ridgewood), Kelly Ripa (Stratford), Jay Mohr (Verona), James Gandolfini (Westwood) and Tara Reid (Wyckoff).

Famous Monsters

As far back as the 17th century, people have reported seeing sea monsters in Lake Hopatcong in the Skylands Region. Monsters have also been seen on the prowl in the Great Bear Swamp in Sussex County. Of course, the most famous monster in the state remains the legendary Jersey Devil who makes his home in the Pinelands.

First College Football Game

Every Saturday in the fall, college sports fans across America participate in a tradition that originated here. New Brunswick was the site for the first intercollegiate football game on November 6, 1869, when Rutgers beat Princeton by a score of 6 - 4.



Courtesy of Rutgers, The State
University of New Jersey.

First Organized Baseball Game

Elysian Field in Hoboken was the site of the first organized game of baseball that followed modern rules. The New York Nine beat the Knickerbockers by a score of 23-1 on June 19, 1846.

First Pro Basketball Game

There were pro-basketball players here long before the New Jersey Nets. The first professional basketball game was held in Trenton in 1896. The Trentons were also the first champions of the National Basketball League during the 1898-1899 season.

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First Bulb, Phonograph, and Movie

Talk about a bright idea: The first incandescent lamp was made by Thomas A. Edison in 1879 in Menlo Park, where he also invented the first phonograph in 1877. In 1889, Edison developed the first motion picture studio in West Orange.

First Town to be Lighted

It didn't take long to put Edison's lamp to work. Roselle became the first town in the nation to be lighted by electricity in 1883.

First "Condensed" Soup

Mmm, mmm good! The first "condensed soup" was cooked and canned in Camden in 1897 by the Joseph A. Campbell Preserve Company, better known as the Campbell Soup Company.

First Cranberry Sauce

Cranberry enthusiasts can thank grower Elizabeth Lee of New Egypt, who decided to boil some damaged berries instead of throwing them away. She liked the tasty jelly so much she started a business selling "Bog Sweet Cranberry Sauce." That was the beginning of the Ocean Spray Company that still sells their delicious cranberry products!

First Boardwalk and Saltwater Taffy

The world's first boardwalk was built in Atlantic City in 1870. Here's another fact to chew on: the first saltwater taffy was produced at the Jersey Shore in the 19th century.

First National Historic Park

In 1933, the first National Historic Park in America was established in Morristown. It anchors the New Jersey section of the Crossroads of the American Revolution. Today, New Jersey has 42 state parks, 11 state forests, more than 50 historic sites and districts, 44 natural areas and three national recreation areas.

First Submarine

In 1898 John Holland launched the USS Holland, the U.S. Navy's first submarine, using both a gasoline engine for surface propulsion and an electric motor while submerged.

First Flag

History students know the legend of Betsy Ross sewing the first American flag, but did you know a New Jerseyan designed it? Francis Hopkinson, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and resident of Bordentown, designed the first American flag in 1777.

Enjoy a hot dog, crack open some peanuts and cheer on the AA League Camden Riversharks at Campbell's Field.



Skylands Region



The High Point of New Jersey.

Sussex, Warren, Morris, Hunterdon & Somerset Counties



Wawayanda Lake, Hewitt

Skylands Region

The High Point of New Jersey.



Each year millions of travelers visit the richly diverse Skylands Region, situated in the rolling hills of northwestern New Jersey. Observe nature at its finest and explore the region's healthy countrysides, dramatic river valleys, historic towns and miles of nature trails. Although it's only 40 miles outside New York City, the Skylands Region is a world away from the hustle and bustle of urban life. Here are just some of the many reasons for venturing to the Skylands.

High Point State Park

Why not start at the top of New Jersey and work your way down? The High Point Monument in High Point State Park marks the state's highest point at 1,803 feet. The 14,193 acre park lies along the Kittatinny Mountains in Sussex County and extends to the New York State line.

A Mountain of Fun All Year Round!

Whatever the season, there's always a reason to visit Vernon's Mountain Creek Resort in Sussex County. In the winter, it is one of the area's premier ski and snowboard resorts and in the summer, Mountain Creek turns into a spectacular water park with "wet and wild" rides for the whole family. From wading pools to sophisticated white-water attractions, there is something for every member of your family. If you prefer to keep dry, there are 47 trails to explore as mountain bikers zoom over the hills of Diablo Freeride Park.



Kids Kamp at
Mountain Creek.
Courtesy of Mountain Creek

Delaware Water Gap

On the border between Pennsylvania and New Jersey, the scenic Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area offers nature lovers 70,000 acres and 37 riverfront miles to explore. Naturally created by the Delaware River, the Delaware Water Gap channel cuts through the Kittatinny Mountains - nearly 1,400 feet deep and 900 feet wide at water level.

**New Jersey
FAST FACTS #1**
Mountain Creek in Vernon,
NJ is home to the only
world-class snowboarding
half-pipe on the east coast.

Culture in the Skylands

Stroll through the Morris Museum in Morristown where you'll find unique exhibits in the arts, sciences, humanities and contemporary sculpture displays. Stop at the Hunterdon Historical Museum and browse through more than 180 years of Hunterdon County's history. Enjoy the ambiance of yesteryear when you visit Clinton's Red Mill Museum Village, the most photographed spot in New Jersey. Discover the region's unique geological history at the Franklin Mineral Museum, Mine Replica and Sterling Hill Mining Museum or renew your love of the bard at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey on Drew University's campus in Madison.

Come to the Fair

The New Jersey State Fair/Sussex County Farm & Horse Show, held each summer in August, is one of the state's largest agricultural fairs. You'll discover family fun with a carnival, music and educational exhibits.

Historic Waterloo Village

Waterloo was a strategic inland port on the Morris Canal, a thriving shipping route between the Delaware and Hudson Rivers from 1836 to 1923.

Courtesy of Waterloo Village



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Plan a sky-high balloon ride for the entire family at New Jersey's annual ballooning event.

Sky High in the Skylands

The sky's the limit as hot air balloons dot the heavens with the colors of the rainbow every summer at the QuickChek New Jersey Festival of Ballooning at the Solberg Airport in Readington.

Washington Slept Here

When you come to Morristown National Historic Park, tour the site of General George Washington's two winter encampments during the Revolutionary War. Visit the Ford Mansion and lie down on a wooden hay bunk in the spartan soldiers' cabins at Jockey Hollow. In Somerville, see the sights of the historic Wallace House that served as Washington's 1779 headquarters.

Take a Hike

New Jersey has more than 500,000 acres of state and county parks, forests, recreation and wildlife management areas, so step off the beaten path and begin exploring! Day hikers can journey through the trails of the Delaware Water Gap, Appalachian Trail, the Delaware and Raritan Canal State Park and High Point State Park. New Jersey's vast regions of open space and natural areas are sure to satisfy any outdoor enthusiast.



Hike, bike, run or walk along New Jersey's scenic D&R Canal. It is a wonderful experience no matter the season.

Gateway Region



The Hub of New Jersey.

Passaic, Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Union and Middlesex Counties



Ellis Island

Gateway Region

The Hub of New Jersey.



Lining the state's northeastern border, the Gateway Region is rich in history, world-class arts and culture, professional sports and historic "firsts" – from the first organized baseball game to the steam locomotive.

Liberty State Park

See where more than 12 million immigrants passed through the Great Hall of Ellis Island, the "Gateway to Freedom" at Liberty State Park in Jersey City. Board a ferry to admire the historical, interactive exhibits on Ellis Island and experience how immigrants felt when they came looking for the land of opportunity. Access to the Statue of Liberty (lobby, museum, promenade, and pedestal observation deck), requires a time-pass and is ranger-guided. Call 1-866-STATUE4 for more information.



Gateway to Sports

What's your game? From basketball to football, ice hockey to horse racing, the Gateway Region has every sports fan covered. Trot over to the Meadowlands Racetrack for the fast-paced excitement of horse racing or cheer on the New York Giants and Jets NFL teams at Giants Stadium. Enjoy a range of activities at Continental Airlines Arena, where you can watch the NBA's New Jersey Nets, the NHL's New Jersey Devils and numerous college and other sporting and recreational events. While in the area, experience a jousting tournament at Medieval Times in Lyndhurst as you enjoy a mouth-watering cuisine.

Gateway to Culture

When it comes to Arts & Culture, the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) in Newark takes center stage. As one of the crown jewels of the state's musical and cultural establishments, this grand establishment features national and international performing artists showcasing the best in music, dance and theatre. For famous musicals and Broadway shows year-round, catch a performance at the



Courtesy of NJPAC

stately, non-profit professional theater, the Paper Mill Playhouse in Millburn. Don't miss New Jersey's longest running musical, "The Passion Play," the life story of Jesus Christ. Running since 1915, this theatrical spectacle is performed by local actors in Union City.

Gateway to History

March your way into New Jersey's history at The Hermitage, a National Historic Landmark in the Borough of Ho-Ho-Kus, once visited by George Washington during the Revolutionary War. The American Labor Museum in Haledon traces the history of the U.S. labor movement.

View the most extraordinary collection of Tibetan art in the Western hemisphere and the Victorian-style Ballantine House at the Newark Museum, one of the nation's most extensive fine arts museums. Stroll through the African Art Museum of the Society of African Missions (S.M.A.) in Tenafly and admire the vast collection of African masks, statues, textiles and crafts. In Paterson, learn about the city's vital role in the Industrial Revolution and visit the 118-acre industrial site of the Great Falls Historic Landmark District.

New Jersey
FAST FACTS #2
You can canoe and kayak on the Hackensack River in the Meadowlands.

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Gateway to Science

Featuring the nation's largest IMAX® dome theatre and hundreds of hands-on, kid-friendly exhibits on inventions, environment and health, visiting the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City's Liberty State Park is a smart idea. Slated to re-open in July 2007, the Liberty Science Center is undergoing a major building expansion. The Science Center currently houses its exhibits in the historic Central Railroad of New Jersey Terminal, also located in Liberty State Park. Another intriguing educational facility is the Hackensack Meadowlands Environmental Center, featuring various exhibits, educational programs on birds, meadowlands ecology, walking trails and pontoon boat tours.

Gateway to Getting Away

As the transportation hub of the Garden State, the Gateway Region offers fast, easy access to Newark Liberty International Airport, NJ TRANSIT, Amtrak's Northeast Corridor train line, the PATH system into Manhattan, the New York Waterway ferry service and the New York Water Taxi to Manhattan. For a behind-the-scenes glimpse at the region's transportation history, watch the state's 200-year heritage in aviation and space technology come alive at the Aviation Hall of Fame & Museum of New Jersey at Teterboro Airport.

Keep in mind the Edison National Historic Site in West Orange. This site, including the master inventor's extensive laboratory, library and displays of the first light bulb, phonograph and motion picture equipment, is closed for extensive renovations. Information on the exhibits and the life of Thomas Edison can be found at www.nps.gov/edis.

Gateway to the Garden State

Stop and smell the roses - or whatever flowers you prefer in Upper Montclair at the Presby Memorial Iris Gardens, home of over 4,000 varieties of irises. Take a short drive down Bloomfield Avenue to Branch Brook Park in Newark, the nation's first county park, for the annual April Cherry Blossom Festival or admire the scenic elegance of the New Jersey State Botanical Gardens at Skylands Manor in Ringwood State Park.

Shore Region



More Than a Day at the Beach.

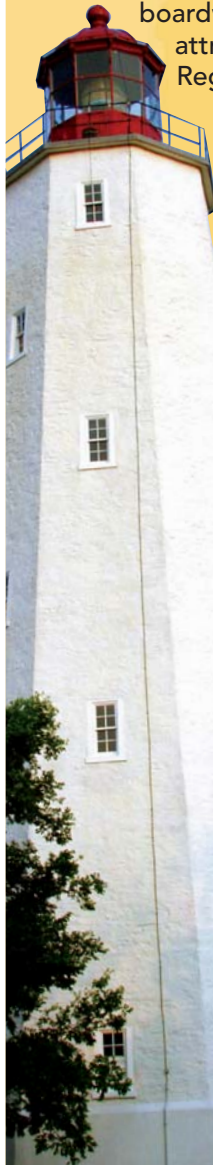
Monmouth and Ocean Counties



Belmar

Shore Region

More Than a Day at the Beach.



With over 90 miles of pristine beaches, bustling boardwalks and a vast array of activities and attractions, it's no wonder the Shore Region is one of New Jersey's most popular destinations. Composed of Monmouth and Ocean counties, enjoy the thrills of amusement park rides, discover the region's rich history at local historic parks and battlefields and pick up "Jersey Fresh" fruits and vegetables on your trip. Start at the top of the Shore region and you'll find fun all the way down the Atlantic's sandy coastline.

First Stop: Sandy Hook

The Jersey Shore begins at the Sandy Hook Unit of the Gateway National Recreation Area, lined with miles of beaches and dune trails to explore. Take a tour of Fort Hancock or the Sandy Hook Lighthouse, the oldest operating lighthouse in the country. Nearby the historic Twin Lights of Navesink stand tall, offering a beautiful panoramic view of New York Harbor.

PNC Bank Arts Center in Concert

At the PNC Bank Arts Center in Holmdel, take in concerts of the country's top music acts, ballets and ethnic heritage festivals. A night out at this spacious open-air theater is a great way to end a perfect summer day at the Jersey Shore. Visit nearby Red Bank and groove to year-round musicals and stage performances at the Count Basie Theater. The Red Bank Jazz and Blues Festival, the largest outdoor free musical event in the Northeast, marches into town each June.

Shore History

Be transported back in time at Allaire State Park in Farmingdale, a restored Mid-19th Century bog iron-producing community and home of the Pine Creek Railroad. Stop at the Longstreet Farm in Holmdel, a living-history farm restored to its 1890's glory. The Shore Region is also the historic home of Monmouth Battlefield State Park in Manalapan, a Revolutionary War site and tribute to Molly Pitcher, one of our country's first heroines.

Horsing Around

Aside from the beach, Monmouth County is also known as an equestrian paradise. Drive past the horse farms in Colts Neck and you'll think you are in Kentucky racehorse country. Visit the world-class equine center at the Horse Park of New Jersey in Allentown and attend one of their renowned horse shows.



The world-class equine center at the Horse Park of New Jersey in Allentown. Courtesy of NJDEP Division of Parks & Forestry.

Beached in Belmar

Surf and sun worshippers alike will appreciate the beautiful beaches along the Jersey Coast in Belmar. Go fishing aboard a boat at the Belmar Marina, admire the colorful skies at a kite festival, indulge at the annual New Jersey Seafood Festival and watch lifeguard and surfing tournaments. Feeling adventurous? Search for Captain Kidd's treasure rumored to be buried in the marsh areas near Belmar, but watch out for pirates!

Viva Victorian

Spring Lake, a beautifully maintained Victorian resort community, is home to awe-inspiring homes and quaint bed-and-breakfast inns. Built in 1896, marvel at the majestic beauty of the Victorian Sea Girt Lighthouse. More Victorian-era delights are waiting to be discovered just a few miles north in Ocean Grove's National Historic District. Stroll along the narrow, original streets of this family retreat and admire the exquisite Victorian architecture restorations, seaside sidewalk cafes and the Great Auditorium concert hall.

New Jersey
FAST FACTS #3
New Jersey has the most stringent testing along our coastline for water quality control of any other seaboard state in the entire country.

CALL 1-800-VISIT NJ, FOR YOUR FREE TRAVEL GUIDE.

Six Flags Great Adventure

To see more than 1,200 animals from six continents without ever leaving your car, head over to Six Flags Great Adventure, Wild Safari Animal Park and Hurricane Harbor Waterpark in Jackson. The ideal destination for fun, the thrills at Six Flags originate from their amusement rides and massive roller coasters, along with heart-pumping live action shows and musical performances. Bring the whole family for a splashing good time at the Looney Tunes™ Seaport! For 2007, Six Flags is adding newly themed area, “Wiggle World,” that offers new, pint-sized adventures. And there is the all-new Wild Safari Exploration Station, featuring hands-on Safari interactive adventures.

Point Pleasant Beach Pleases Everyone

Discover the expansive family-style boardwalk at Point Pleasant Beach. Home of Jenkinson’s Pavilion and Aquarium, this marine wonderland is packed to the gills with beautiful, mesmerizing aquatic life. Tour Bay Head, the laid back village by the sea, to marvel at quaint Victorian homes, where you can spend the night at a cozy bed-and-breakfast inn, then browse the area’s art galleries.

Seaside Heights

Ready for more action? A fast pace and energetic atmosphere go hand-in-hand with the sun and the surf at Seaside Heights. Splash away at Water Works, one of the largest water parks along the Jersey Shore, then head to Casino Pier for the latest amusement rides or soak in the sun at the pro beach volleyball championships, fish along the public pier that extends into the ocean and don’t forget your surfboard – Seaside Heights has been named one of the top ten surfing locations in the nation!

Island Beach State Park

Just south of Seaside Heights, prepare for a relaxing day at Island Beach State Park. With more than 3,000 acres of preserved barrier island ecosystems and 10 miles of pure white beaches, Island Beach State Park lures thousands of visitors and families each year to explore nature trails, swim, picnic, hike, fish and bird-watch.

Shorts on Long Beach Island

Across Barnegat Inlet from Island Beach State Park rests Long Beach Island. At this 20-mile island’s northernmost tip, you’ll find “Old Barney”—the 172-foot Barnegat Lighthouse and Museum. Across the bay sits Tuckerton Seaport, a re-created maritime village featuring Tucker’s Island Light. Take the kids to Fantasy Island Amusement Park for a family-fun day of rides and arcade games.



White tigers play at Six Flags Great Adventure.
Courtesy of Six Flags Great Adventure

Delaware River Region



New Jersey's Western Frontier.

Mercer, Burlington, Camden, Gloucester and Salem Counties



Howell Living History Farm, Titusville

Delaware River Region

New Jersey's Western Frontier.



From Revolutionary War history and the majestic Delaware River to the lush Pinelands Reserve and bustling capital city of Trenton, there is something for everyone to enjoy in the Delaware River Region. A visit here will acquaint you with our nation's historical, cultural and agricultural legacies.



Washington Crossed Here
Washington Crossing State Park in Titusville marks the spot where George Washington's troops landed after crossing the Delaware on Christmas night in 1776. From there, they went on to defeat the Hessian Garrison in Trenton.

Uncle George Wants You!
When you stop by the 1758 Old Barracks in Trenton, you'll see firsthand what life was like as a soldier. By the Barracks, admire the prominent site of the State House with its gleaming dome, refurbished with the help of New Jersey school children. Make sure you visit the Patriot's Theater at the Trenton War Memorial. This historic site is one of the state's finest concert halls and is listed on the National Registry of Historic Sites. The 1719 House of William Trent, Trenton's founder, is the oldest public accessible building in the city. While you are in the area, visit the New Jersey State Museum. This is the nation's first state museum dedicated to education, and the state's only non-university museum with active dinosaur research.

The Battle of Princeton

Princeton Battlefield State Park marks the site of Washington's victory over the British in 1777. In 1783, the Continental Congress sat in session at Princeton University's Nassau Hall.

Get into Princeton University

Princeton is the alma mater of two U.S. Presidents—James Madison and Woodrow Wilson, hundreds of U.S. and state legislators, and 44 governors (including 11 from New Jersey). While in Princeton, tour "Drumthwacket," the New Jersey governor's official residence.

Arts and Sciences

Princeton's McCarter Theater hosts a unique array of musical and dance productions, Broadway shows and multicultural theater spectacles. Princeton is also the famous birthplace of Paul Robeson, one of the most well-known and widely respected African-Americans in the 1930s and 1940s. A true modern-day "Renaissance Man," Mr. Robeson achieved fame as a singer, actor, civil rights activist, law school graduate, athlete, scholar and author.

The Pine Barrens - Explore, Discover, Conserve

Designated a National Reserve in 1978, the Pine Barrens remain the state's largest natural wonder. This rich wilderness area covers 1.1 million acres, designating it the largest tract of open space east of the Mississippi River! Explore the Pine Barrens' villages, farms and unique dwarf forests. What's more, filtered through the Pine Barrens' sand floor are 17 trillion gallons of some of the purest drinking water in the world.

"Yee-haw!" Rodeo Rides

You can find a little bit of the Old West right here in southwestern Jersey at the Cowtown Rodeo in Pilesgrove in Salem County.

See History Come Alive

Farming has played a vital role in New Jersey's rich history. At the Howell Living History Farm in Titusville, climb aboard a hayride to experience how the farmers of the early 1900's managed the land.



Collecting Honey at Howell Farm.

New Jersey FAST FACTS #4
The Burlington Pharmacy on High Street is New Jersey's oldest pharmacy - constructed in 1731 - and is believed to have once been a key station to helping slaves gain freedom via the Underground Railroad.

CALL 1-800-VISIT NJ, FOR YOUR FREE TRAVEL GUIDE.

Get Fresh With Jersey

Celebrate New Jersey's cranberry harvest every October at the Cranberry Festival at one of the country's cranberry capitals, Chatsworth in Burlington County. You'll gain a whole new appreciation for passing the cranberries at Thanksgiving!

Historic Batsto Village

When in Hammonton's Wharton State Forest, visit historic Batsto Village, a bog iron and glassmaking industrial center for over 100 years. This re-created village was a principal source of ammunition for the American Revolution.

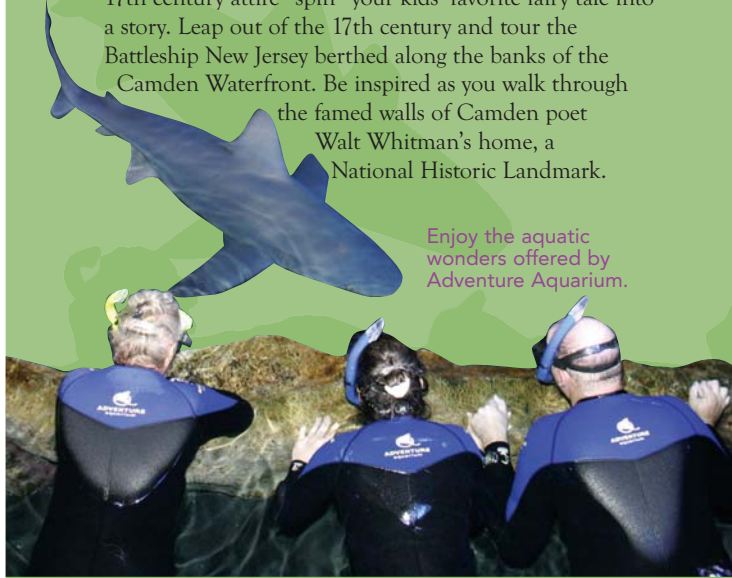
First African-American Community

In the late 19th century, an "Underground Railroad" network of safe havens was established to help African-Americans travel north in search of freedom from slavery in the southern states. One of the "stops" on this "railroad" was Lawnside in Camden County, the first African-American community to be incorporated as a municipality.

New Jersey's Fish Tank

Gaze at the aquatic wonders of the tropical fish, sharks, seals and other new exhibits at Adventure Aquarium on Camden's waterfront. Explore an incredible walk-through tunnel as sharks swim above you, then venture through a state-of-the-art West African River experience with massive Nile hippos. Sing along to the sounds of your favorite music artists at the nearby Tweeter Center. And don't forget the Children's Garden in Camden, where you can see dinosaurs and listen to women dressed in authentic 17th century attire "spin" your kids' favorite fairy tale into a story. Leap out of the 17th century and tour the Battleship New Jersey berthed along the banks of the Camden Waterfront. Be inspired as you walk through the famed walls of Camden poet Walt Whitman's home, a National Historic Landmark.

Enjoy the aquatic wonders offered by Adventure Aquarium.



Greater Atlantic City Region

A Shore Bet For Fun.

Atlantic County



Atlantic City

Greater Atlantic City Region

A Shore Bet For Fun.

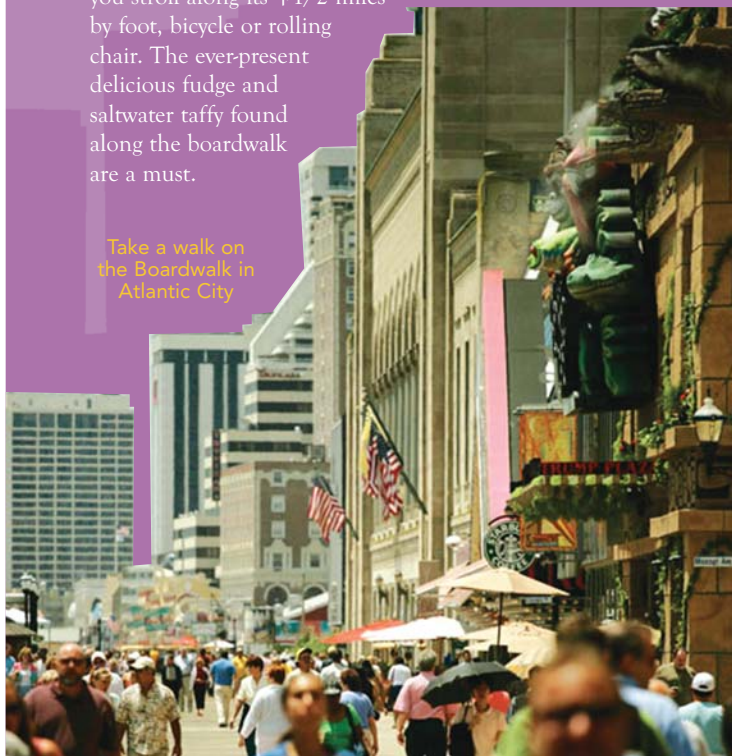


Glittering nightlife, thrilling gaming venues, upscale shopping, sparkling beaches and the world's most famous 4-1/2 mile boardwalk draws over 35 million visitors to this seaside resort annually. Even before the first casino opened its doors over 25 years ago, Atlantic City drew year-round visitors from all over the world.

Take a Boardwalk on the Wild Side

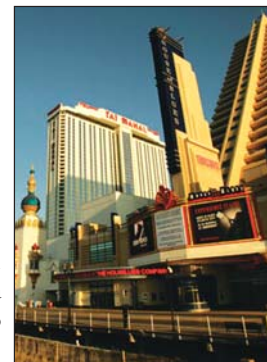
The "main street" of Atlantic City is the world's first boardwalk. Built in 1870, the boardwalk was originally constructed to keep people from tracking sand from the beach into the seaside hotel lobbies and railroad parlor cars. Today, traditions abound along the boardwalk as you stroll along its 4-1/2 miles by foot, bicycle or rolling chair. The ever-present delicious fudge and saltwater taffy found along the boardwalk are a must.

Take a walk on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City



Hit the Jackpot

Opening in May 1978, the Resorts Casino Hotel was Atlantic City's first operating casino. With 11 glamorous casinos today, Atlantic City has emerged as a world-famous, first class resort. With so much to see and do, everyone's a winner when they visit, no matter what age.



Atlantic City

An Unconventional Convention Center

The Atlantic City Convention Center is big news. With 500,000 square feet of contiguous exhibit space and 45 meeting rooms, it's one of the largest convention centers between Atlanta and Boston.

Light Up Your Life

See the modern Atlantic City skyline from an 1857 landmark, the Absecon Lighthouse on Rhode Island and Pacific Avenues. Watch your step - its 228 steps to the top!

Water, Water, Everywhere

Be sure to put the Ocean Life Center at Historic Gardner's Basin at the top of your "must-see" list. The center features "ocean-sized" exhibit tanks where kids of all ages can go eye to eye with a colorful collection of tropical fish, sharks and more. The basin is a hub for marine education programs, fun-filled cruises, sailing adventures, fishing expeditions, and annual festivals for the entire family.

Play Life-Size Monopoly

When Charles Darrow chose Atlantic City as the setting for the game of Monopoly, he never imagined that his favorite seaside resort would become what it is today. Atlantic City has been synonymous with Monopoly for over 70 years, as the board game uses the city's same street names as this glittering resort destination.

New Jersey
FAST FACTS #5
Atlantic City has the longest boardwalk in the world.

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Walk Back Through Time

The Atlantic City Art Center & Historical Museum on Garden Pier at the boardwalk is a must-see. The museum has three galleries that illustrate the resort's 100-year history with brilliant photographs of past hotels and nightclubs, gowns and crowns of past Miss Americas and exhibits on African-American history. Feast your eyes on the hundreds of exhibits at the Ripley's "Believe it or Not" Museum on the boardwalk. Atlantic City has blossomed into an exciting and unique entertainment, dining and retail center.

Elephant Climbing in New Jersey

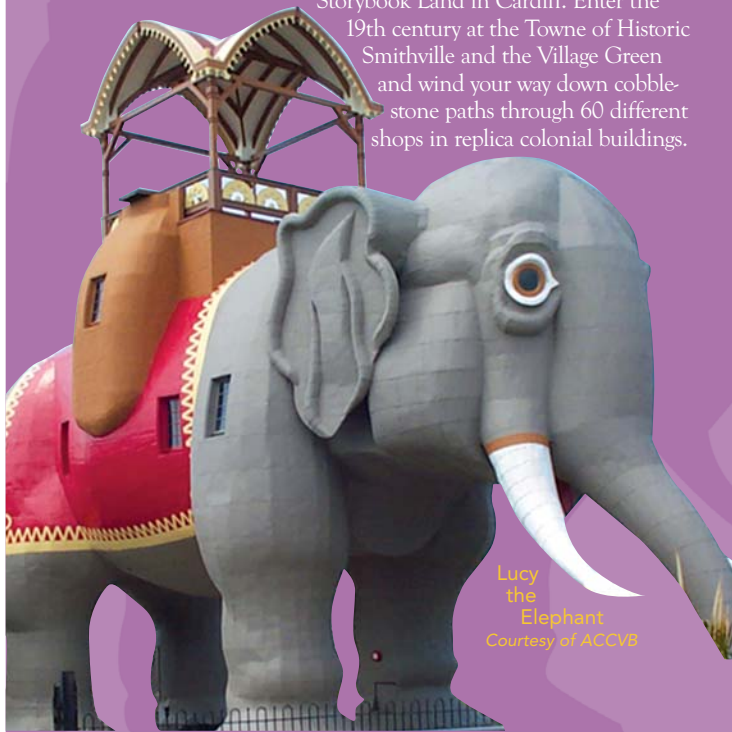
Meet Lucy - the famous 65-foot Elephant and 100 year-old museum of South Jersey history. Climb atop Lucy to enjoy the unmatched 360-degree panoramic view of the beautiful shoreline, five stories high! In nearby Oceanville, examine an outstanding display of 19th and 20th Century American fine and folk art as well as vintage bird decoys at the Noyes Museum.

Take a Nature Break

Don't forget your binoculars when you visit the Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, where over 22,000 acres of bird watching, wildlife viewing and hiking await you. Be intrigued by the Sea Life Museum Marine Mammal Stranding Center in Brigantine and witness how they rescue and return stranded marine life.

Family-Style Adventures

A few miles outside Atlantic City, family fun beckons you to Storybook Land in Cardiff. Enter the 19th century at the Towne of Historic Smithville and the Village Green and wind your way down cobblestone paths through 60 different shops in replica colonial buildings.



Lucy
the
Elephant
Courtesy of ACCVB

Southern Shore Region



Much More To The Shore.

Cumberland and Cape May Counties



Cape May

Southern Shore Region

Much More To The Shore.

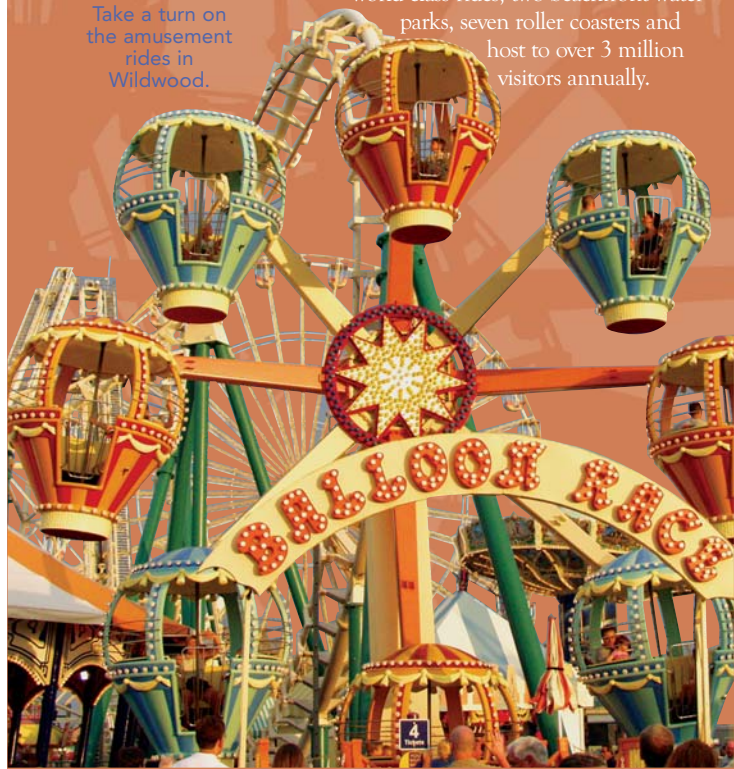


Adorned in Victorian charm and culture, find tranquility in the laid-back, relaxing realm of the Southern Shore Region. Situated between the Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, you've found the ideal setting to enjoy a quiet romantic getaway, dig your toes in the warm sand or spend quality time with family and friends.

Have Fun in the Wildwoods

The island beach resorts of North Wildwood, Wildwood, West Wildwood and Wildwood Crest are not called "Wild" for nothing. The funky and flamboyant "DooWop" architecture of the Wildwoods contain the largest collection of 1950 architecture in the nation. Stroll along the two-mile Wildwood Boardwalk or head to Morey's Piers, now featuring three amusement piers with over 150 world class rides, two beachfront water parks, seven roller coasters and host to over 3 million visitors annually.

Take a turn on the amusement rides in Wildwood.



America's Greatest Family Resort

Ocean City bills itself as "America's Greatest Family Resort" and has been living up to that reputation for generations. The core of action in Ocean City remains its boardwalk - 50 feet in width, 2 1/2 miles long and packed plank to plank with arcades, miniature golf courses, sweet shops, cafes and pizzerias. Enjoy Gillian's Wonderland Pier, with dozens of amusement rides, a miniature golf course and water park. For quiet and pristine beaches, travel south to Sea Isle City and Avalon. Nearby in Stone Harbor, bring the family to the Wetlands Institute and Museum for a "hands on" marshland experience and explore the natural beauty of coastal wetlands in laboratories and exhibits.

Historic Landmark City

Jutting out between Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean is one of the nation's oldest vacation spots, Cape May. A National Historic Landmark and one of the original seaside resorts in the country, Cape May's wicker and lace keep the enchanting Victorian-era alive year-round. Take a trolley tour through the gas-lit streets, join a walking tour of some of Cape May's 600 authentically restored Victorian homes, including the Emlen Physick Estate, a magnificent 18-room Stick Style mansion. Catch a bird's-eye view of the Cape May seascape when you conquer the 199 steps of the historic Cape May Lighthouse built in 1859.

America's Largest Garden

Leaming's Run Gardens & Colonial Farm in Swainton is further proof of why New Jersey is called "The Garden State!" Home to the largest annual garden in the nation, Leaming's Run boasts a 30-acre palette of flowers in every color of the rainbow. The garden really buzzes in August, as hummingbirds flock to the 25 gardens to sip sweet nectar. For more sensory delights, walk among the native plants, trees, and flowers in full bloom at the Old Hickory Arboretum & Display Gardens.



Courtesy of Leaming's Run

Animal Crackers

Once you've seen the flora, see the fauna at the Cohanzick Zoo in Bridgeton and Cape May County Zoo. Each zoo houses nearly 200 species of beautiful animals, birds and reptiles. The Cape May Bird Observatory remains a leader in education, research, conservation and recreational birding programs while sponsoring educational programs on the 120 species in the region's woods and marshes.

New Jersey
FAST FACTS #6
Picturesque Cape May holds the distinction of being the oldest seashore resort in the United States.

CALL 1-800-VISIT NJ, FOR YOUR FREE TRAVEL GUIDE.

A Sailing Classroom

Wouldn't it be fun to go to school on a boat? Climb aboard the A.J. Meerwald, New Jersey's official Tall Ship and authentically restored 1928 Delaware Bay Schooner. Board this 115-foot sailing classroom to learn about the Southern Shore Region's land and sea-life firsthand.

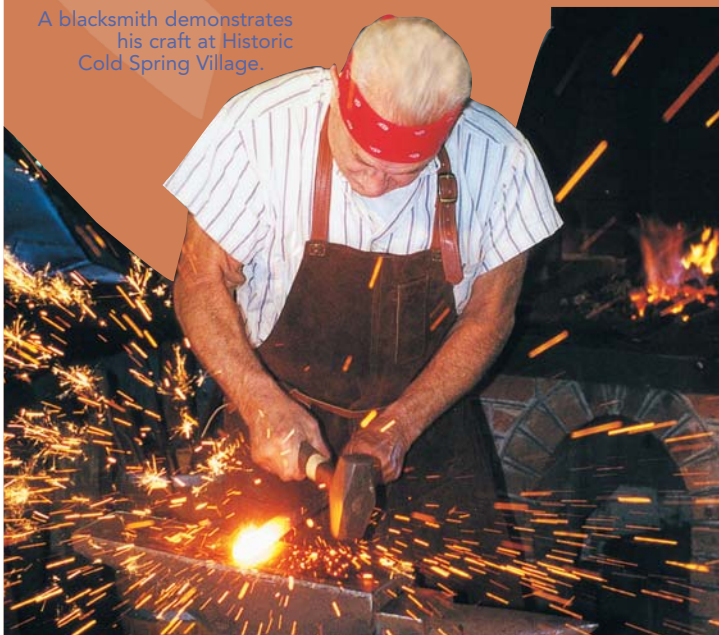
A Glass Menagerie

Make sure to visit Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center in Millville, home of the Museum of American Glass housing an impressive collection of over 7,000 glass objects. From hand-blown paperweights to Tiffany masterpieces, watch the glassblowers, potters and woodworkers demonstrate their unique skills. Wheaton Arts and Cultural Center also offers the Down Jersey Folklife Center, the state's only regional folklife center. History buffs shouldn't miss Millville's Army Air Field Museum, "America's First Defense Airport," to marvel at artifacts and photos of the 1,500 pilots who received advanced fighter training during World War II. More naval aviation history, and actual warplanes from WWII, Korea and Vietnam, can be found at the Naval Air Station Wildwood Museum in Cape May.

Spring Back into the Past

Take a trip to Historic Cold Spring Village, an authentic replica of a 22-acre South Jersey farm village, then journey to Historic Greenwich to admire a variety of museums and period homes depicting local history. With over 2,200 colonial, federal, and Victorian buildings, the Town of Bridgeton is New Jersey's largest historic district.

A blacksmith demonstrates his craft at Historic Cold Spring Village.



New Jersey Crossword Puzzle

Enjoy this New Jersey crossword puzzle. All the clues are mentioned within this guide.

ACROSS

- The USS New Jersey is this type of naval ship.
- New Jersey's state dance.
- The State University of New Jersey.
- Atlantic City, Wildwood and Point Pleasant all have them.
- He not only invented the light bulb, but also lived in NJ.
- This national icon stands in NJ and has welcomed the huddled masses for centuries.
- One of 2 rivers that makes NJ a peninsula.
- The New Jersey shore is famous for its saltwater version of this treat.
- The other river which makes NJ a peninsula, named after a famous explorer.
- NJ's state flower.
- The first NJ Governor had this first name.

DOWN

- Camden attraction that has hippos, as well as fish.
- These creatures are a big draw at the Camden Adventure Aquarium.
- NJ's state animal.
- NJ has over 127 miles of these.
- NJ has thousands of these waterbodies where you can canoe or water-ski.
- Grover Cleveland was born in NJ and later held this high-ranking office.
- NJ's state insect.
- It's said the first game in this sport was played in Hoboken, NJ.
- Many NJ castles are made of this.
- These people were the first settlers of NJ.
- This island has welcomed a countless number of people to America.
- Paterson, NJ is home to the "Great___".
- When the British took over this region they named it after the island of Jersey in England, but added this to its name.



ACROSS 1. battleship 2. square 3. Rutgers 4. boardwalk 5. Edison 6. Statue of Liberty 7. homophoe 8. basketball 9. sand 10. Dutch 11. Ellis 12. Falls 13. now
DOWN 1. aquarium 2. shark 3. horse 4. beaches 5. lakes 6. president 7. homophoe 8. baseball 9. sand 10. Dutch

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Tourist Information Centers

Bridgewater

Somerset County Business Partnership
360 Grove St.
908-725-1552

Columbia

Knowlton Welcome Center
Interstate 80 East, Mile Marker 7
908-496-4994

Cranbury

Molly Pitcher Travel Plaza
NJ Turnpike South, Mile Marker 71.7
609-655-4330

Deepwater

Interstate 295 North, 2 miles from
Delaware Memorial Bridge
856-351-0194

Jersey Gardens

651 Kapkowski Rd., (Door D)
Elizabeth
908-354-5900

Flemington

Liberty Village Premium Outlets
One Church St.
908-782-8550

Hammonton

Frank Farley Travel Plaza
Atlantic City Expressway, Mile Marker 21
609-965-6316

Jackson

Jackson Premium Outlet Information Center
537 Monmouth Rd.
732-833-0503 ext. 0

Jersey City

Liberty State Park, Central Railroad Terminal
NJ Turnpike Exit 14B
201-915-3440

Montvale

Garden State Parkway
Mile Marker 172 N/S
201-391-5737

Newark

Newark Liberty International Airport
Terminal B (International Arrivals)
973-623-5052

Ocean View

Garden State Parkway
Mile Marker 18.3 N/S
609-624-0918

Penns Grove

John Fenwick Travel Plaza
NJ Turnpike North, Mile Marker 5.4
856-299-8246

Pleasantville

Atlantic City Visitors Welcome Center
Atlantic City Expressway Mile Marker 3.5
609-383-2727

Trenton

State House Tour Office
125 West State St.
609-633-2709

Ridgefield

Vince Lombardi Travel Plaza NJ Turnpike
Mile Marker 116 N/S
201-943-8757

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Chris Christie, Governor

