

KENT COUNTY, MARYLAND IS FOR LOVERS ... WATER LOVERS

Summer on the Eastern Shore of Maryland

Whether you're looking to hook a rock-fish from the bountiful waters of the Chesapeake Bay or paddle down one of its scenic tributaries, Kent County has it all. Home to pristine rivers, picturesque harbors and charming small towns, Kent County is a top vacation destination for water enthusiasts.

Get ready to bust out your paddle and fishing rod and head for Maryland's Eastern Shore. And, of course, there are always waterfront restaurants and open-air bars to enjoy.

PADDLING. Explore the water from your kayak, canoe or paddle board. If you don't have your own, swing by Chester River Kayak Adventures in Rock Hall or Georgetown Yacht Basin in, yes, Georgetown, both conveniently located by the rivers. Chester River Kayak Adventures also has guided tours, plus sunset and moonlight paddle trips.

Another choice is the Sultana Education Foundation for themed, paddling tours (reserve early online). With a certified guide, paddlers pass wilderness landscapes and may spot nesting bald eagles that inhabit the area.

History buffs can paddle down America's first national water trail—the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail—and trace Smith's voyages. Legend has it this is where, in 1608, explorer John Smith met the Tockwogh tribe and briefly lived among them.

Paddlers may also explore Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge to see animals in their natural habitat, including more than 240 species of birds, while circumnavigating the island.

BOATING. Perhaps you prefer to kick back and enjoy the good life from the comfort of a charter boat. From April to October take a 90-minute boat tour and sunset cruise on the Chesapeake with Blue Crab Charters, departing from Waterman's Crab House. Or check out the Chester River Packet Company, where guests enjoy a

relaxing sail from the comfort of an indoor cabin with a fully stocked bar. Or head up to the top deck and grab a chair to watch the sunset.

For a private captained sail for up to six on a 43-foot sloop, contact Shardana Sailing Charters out of Rock Hall and set your own course.

Dream of sailing on a schooner? Kent County is home to Schooner Sultana 1768, a replica of a Boston-built British Navy Ship. You'll sail and learn about the history of the region and schooners.

Already a seasoned boat captain? Then rent a boat from The Landings and take the helm as your group admires the view. Find even more boating options at Haven Charters in Rock Hall and Eastern Neck Boat Rentals.

Want to learn to sail? Choose from the Maryland School of Sailing, Chester River Yacht & Country Club, Georgetown Yacht Basin and Rock Hall Yacht Club Sailing School.

FISHING. If your love of the water comes with a love of fishing, Kent County is an ideal destination! Amateurs and experts alike can fish with the help of licensed fishing captains. Or fish independently at spots throughout Kent County, including around the Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge, the Chesapeake Bay and its rivers and many creeks.

Fishing from shore is fun, too, especially at some favorite spots: bridges on the Chester River, Sassafras River and Eastern Neck Island, plus Wilmer Park and Turners Creek Landing.

BEACHES. Although Kent County is primarily known for picturesque harbors and waterfront restaurants, it's also home to two great beach areas. In Rock Hall, beachgoers and picnickers also enjoy views of the Chesapeake Bay. Or, visit Betterton Beach. Originally a fishing village, Betterton and its handicap accessible beach are home to a 500-foot boardwalk and relaxing picnic pavilion on a bay view bluff. ♦



Farm To Table Grill Night Crow Vineyard & Winery



Vineyard Walk Tour of Crow Vineyard & Winery



Pirates and Wenches Fantasy Weekend



The Artists' Gallery



"The Soul of Photography" Show at Chestertown RiverArts



"Faces and Spaces on the Eastern Shore" Chestertown RiverArts

Through December. Chestertown First Friday
Chestertown Historic District. 5 to 8 pm.
[Facebook.com/DowntownChestertown](https://www.facebook.com/DowntownChestertown).

Through October 28. Sultana Public Sails
Sail the Chester River on board a traditional schooner.
200 S. Cross Street, Chestertown. SultanaEducation.org.

Through Oct 20. Sultana-Themed Public Paddles
Kayak paddles on Maryland's Upper Eastern Shore.
200 S. Cross Street, Chestertown. SultanaEducation.org.

July 1. Waterman's Day in Rock Hall
Competitions include an anchor toss and boat docking.
Noon. *The Bulkhead on Bayside Ave.*
RockHallMD.com.

July 3. Fireworks Celebrating Independence Day
9 pm. *The Bulkhead on Bayside Ave.* RockHallMD.com.

July 4. July 4th Parade in Rock Hall
Floats and a marching band. 10 am. *Main Street and the Ballfield to the Civic Center.* RockHallMD.com.

July 6. First Friday – The Artists' Gallery, Karen Merkin
Reception from 5 to 8 pm. 239 High St., Chestertown.
TheArtistsGalleryCTown.com.

July 6. Chestertown Independents' Day First Friday
Exhibits, longer shopping hours and fun. 5 to 8 pm.
Chestertown Historic District. TownOfChestertown.com.

July 6–28. Chestertown RiverArts – "Faces and Spaces on the Eastern Shore"
Reception July 6, 5 to 8.
315 High St., Chestertown. ChestertownRiverArts.net.

July 7. Farm to Table Grill Night
Crow Angus Beef on the menu. 6 to 9 pm.
Crow Vineyard & Winery, 12441 Vansants Corner Rd.,
Kennedyville. CrowVineyardAndWinery.com.

July 14. The Mainstay Gala Fundraiser 'Rendezvous au Cabaret'
6 to 10. Dinner, open bar, music, silent auction.
Hodson Hall Commons, Washington College, Chestertown
MainstayRockHall.org.

July 14. Cornhole Tournament – Bag, Beer & BBQ
Practice at noon, bags fly at 1. Benefits Bridges at Worthmore, a certified equine-assisted therapy program.
Worthmore Equestrian Center, 11570 Still Pond Rd.,
Worton. BridgesAtWorthmore.org.

July 19–21. Kent County Fair
County fair with agriculture education, 4-H exhibits, great food and more. 21349 Tolchester Beach Rd., Chestertown

July 27. Tour the Shore Kayak Series
Turners Creek, Kennedyville. ShoreRivers.org. 6 to 9:30 pm.

Aug. 3. Chestertown RiverArts – "The Soul of Photography"
11 am to 4 pm.
315 High St., Chestertown. ChestertownRiverArts.net.

Aug. 10–12. Pirates & Wenches Fantasy Weekend
Sea shanty sing-a-long, rum tasting, decorated dinghy contest, Caribbean beach party, entertainment, Pirate performers. Town-Wide, Rock Hall. RockHallPirates.com.

Aug. 11. Vineyard Walk
Behind the scenes tour of the vineyard and winery. 6 to 9.
Crow Vineyard & Winery, 12441 Vansants Corner Rd.,
Kennedyville. CrowVineyardAndWinery.com.

Aug. 18. Legacy Day
Celebrating the heritage of Kent County. 4:30 to 10:30.
Bordley History Center, 305 High St., Chestertown.
KentCountyHistory.org.

Sept. 9. CrowFest
Live music, vendors, wine, food, tours, grape stomping, games and hayrides. 11 to 5.
Crow Vineyard & Winery, 12441 Vansants Corner Rd.,
Kennedyville. CrowVineyardAndWinery.com.

Sept. 22. Fall Wine Tasting
6:30 to 8:30. Chester River Wine & Cheese Co., 117 S.
Cross St. Chestertown. ChesterRiverGourmet.com.

hSept. 23. Farm to Table Sunday Brunch
10 am. Buffet-style brunch.
Crow Vineyard & Winery, 12441 Vansants Corner Rd.,
Kennedyville. CrowVineyardAndWinery.com.