



Day Trips and Outings

As we've done for many years, we begin our exploration of our area at the three blockbuster local sights—Longwood Gardens, Brandywine River Museum of Art and Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library. There are new reasons to return each year. Here's what to see in 2021.

TIP: We generally suggest buying a Brandywine Treasure Trail Passport for discounted admissions. This year there's a variation on that program: Brandywine Valley Adventure Pass lets you build your own plan for exploring our area's history, culture and gardens. Prices vary on these customized plans. Visit WilmingtonDE.com.

Start with the Big Three

Longwood Gardens

What comes to mind when you think of Longwood Gardens? Pierre du Pont's legacy, top garden spot in the country (or some say, in the world)? Or is it fountains and fireworks? It's the fountains.

Fountains spin and soar during the 12-minute scheduled daily fountain performances in the Main Fountain Garden, featuring 1719 jets and water reaching 175 feet high (through October 31). For the next level of fountain fantasia, visit Thursday through Saturday evenings (through September 26) for the Illuminated Fountain Performances and an extravaganza of water, colored lights and music.

For the ultimate fountain fun, make reservations for one of the six Fireworks and Fountain Shows and a dazzling evening of entertainment (check the website for dates and themes). Each show has a special theme—from Sleeping Beauty to Hip Hop Mixtape, and for Boomers, Start Me Up. All are thrilling to experience. Just reserve soon!

Terrace Café, 1906 Restaurant and Beer Garden are available for a restorative break, and a lovely Garden Shop offers souvenirs for your visit. Open daily (except Tuesdays).

Routes 1 & 52, Kennett Square. LongwoodGardens.org.

Note: Longwood Reimagined, the most ambitious garden revitalization in a century—and that's saying something—closed down parts of the west conservatory area until 2024, but there's still more than enough to see.



TIP: Stop reading and make reservations now—lawn or reserve seating—for Fireworks and Fountains. The shows sell out fast!



PHOTO BY MARK GORMEL



Brandywine River Museum of Art

Even while the converted 19th-century mill housing the museum was closed for renovations in February, this riverside home to a distinctive collection of American art—well known for its generations of Wyeth works (N.C., Andrew, Jamie)—continued to provide a treasure trove of on-line resources. We do love the nature videos, with the Brandywine River views still providing that needed moment of zen.

Now reopened, and with a towering entrance sculpture to welcome back visitors, the museum launched an on-site exhibit, "Ralston Crawford: Air & Space & War," through September 19. Trained at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts and Barnes Foundation, Crawford (1906-1978)

created art influenced by his experiences with aviation, including his assignment to document the atomic bomb test in the Bikini Atoll. The 80 works in this significant collection demonstrate Crawford's visual expression of highly abstract concepts.

For an exhibition with a very different look, see "America's Impressionism: Echoes of a Revolution," opening October 9.

Leave time to visit the Millstone Café with restful river views and walk the grounds planted with native flowers and plants, a nod to the Brandywine Conservancy, headquartered there.

Route 1, Chadds Ford. BrandywineMuseum.org.



Bikini Atoll by Ralston Crawford

Winterthur Museum

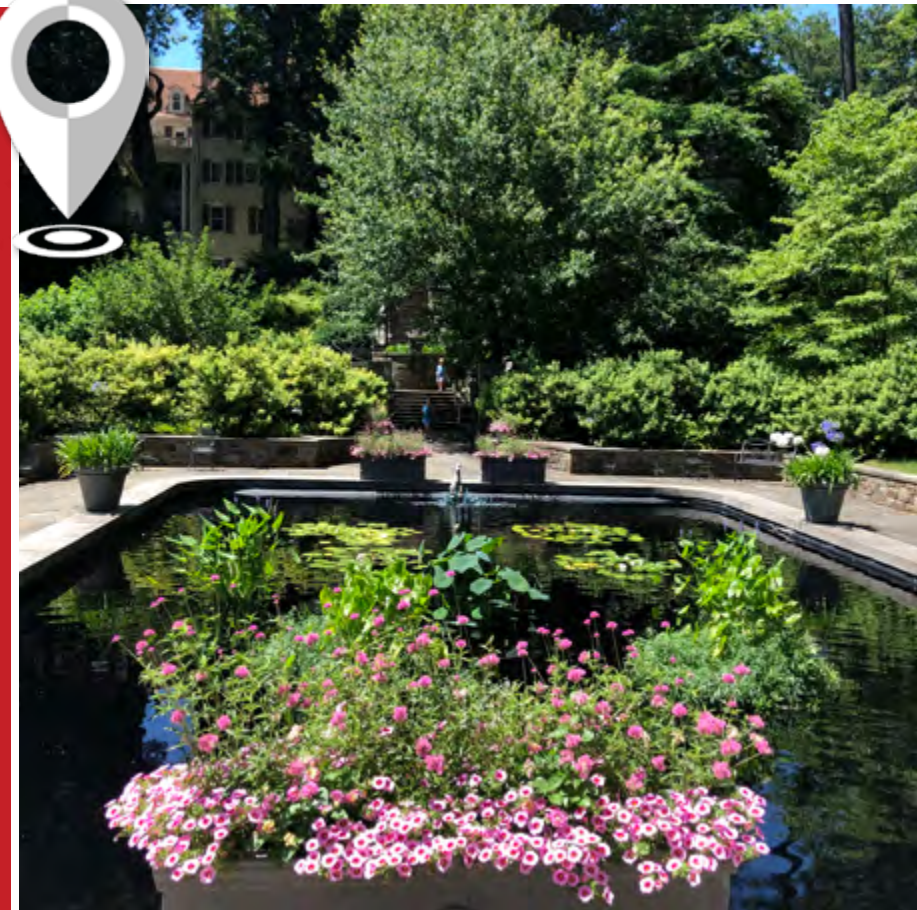
Yes, this stop offers a museum, gardens and a notable library—all superlative. First-time visitors should visit the extraordinary collection of American decorative arts displayed in the former du Pont mansion, then roam the immaculately tended gardens. Kiddos will enjoy the specially designed Enchanted Woods, a three-acre fairy garden.

For a deeper dive, visit this summer's special exhibit, "Outside In: Nature-inspired Design," ending August 3. Join a curator's gallery walk (July 6, August 3) to see how Winterthur's holdings and selections from the Delaware Museum of Natural History's collection (temporarily closed) demonstrate the connection between nature and the decorative arts.

Join the celebration of American artistry and craftsmanship at Winterthur's first Artisans Market (July 17 & 18) on the grounds. The region's most talented craftspeople present examples of modern-day artisanship. Browse and buy antiques and collectibles, including furniture and home décor, up-cycled and architectural salvage pieces, high-quality crafts, vintage clothing and jewelry, original art, garden items and more.

For a different way to enjoy the grounds, try Wine through Winterthur walks featuring cocktails, small bites, live music. You missed Wine and Daffodil Walk, but can join Mixers & Elixirs, held at a pop-up location on the grounds. Botanical Cocktail, July 23, Margarita Madness, August 27, and Nothin' But Shrub, September 24, are just a few to entice you.

5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur, DE. Winterthur.org.





Explore Chester County + Delco

Chester County has long been a destination for history buffs headed for places like Brandywine Battlefield State Park and Chadds Ford History Center, as well as lovers of special interest museums, including the Kennett Square Underground Railroad Center and Christian Sanderson Museum. The area is laced with historic markers and reminders of our past.

There's another side to Chester County—a vibrant, fast-growing community dotted with ever-changing towns to explore. Here are a few of our favorites, worth a visit or two this summer and beyond, to glimpse the future of this area.



West Chester

We'll start with the county seat and our magazine's home base for 45 years. West Chester is a picturesque and historic community boasting small-town charm and cosmopolitan flair. In addition to its many accolades, including as a Great American Main Street, West Chester was called "one of the world's most perfect small towns" by the *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

And if that's not enough to entice you, remember West Chester has long been a top area dining destination as home to about 70 eateries and drinkeries—try Wrong Crowd Beer and Sterling Pig Brewing. From Iron Hill Brewery, with 20-some years in residence, to recent arrivals including Stove & Tap, Sedona Taphouse and Greystone Oyster Bar, there really is something for every taste. Again this year, Gay Street will close to traffic to create a multi-block pedestrian mall and Open-Air Marketplace.

For more fun, there's music in Marshall Park, the return of the Turks Head Music festival on July 18 and plenty of live entertainment—Dueling Pianos, tribute bands and more—at Uptown! Knauer Performing Arts Center throughout the year. *DowntownWestChester.com*.

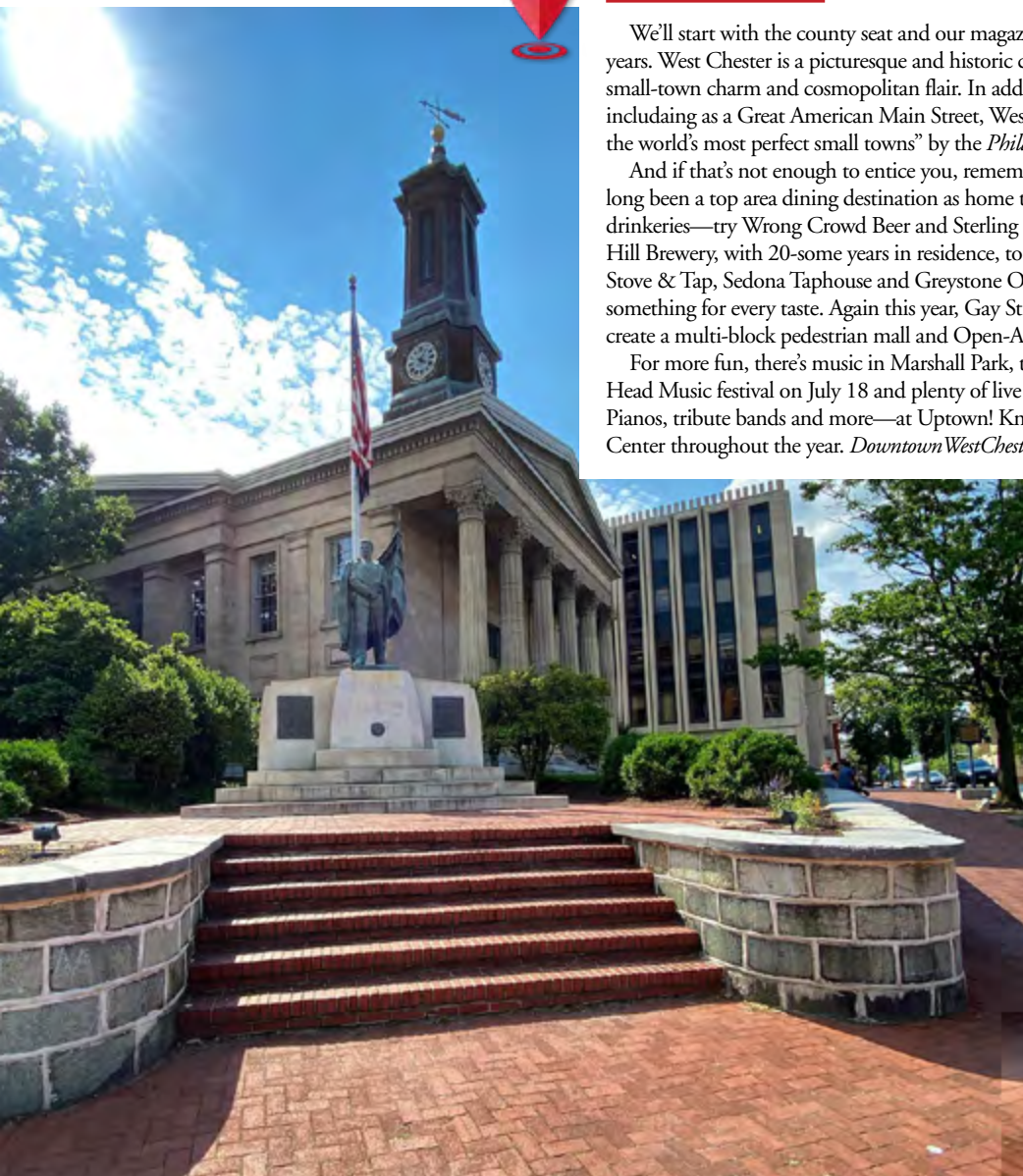


PHOTO BY CHORUS PHOTOGRAPHY



Phoenixville

It's a town on the rise after a history as an old mill town—home to Phoenix Iron Works and factories for boilers, silk and Majolica pottery. In its current renaissance, Phoenixville is a 2021 Travel Magazine "Most Charming Small Towns and Small Cities in PA."

Others may know Phoenixville for its other claim to fame: the town with the most breweries per square foot. (It's merely #10 in breweries per capita.)

To attract diners and shoppers, the town instituted Open-Air Set-Ups along two blocks of Bridge Street, the main thoroughfare. Through late November businesses can set up along the sidewalks and closed roadway. Enjoy al fresco dining at old favorites like Molly Maguire's and the Great American Pub, or newer additions like Avlos (in Majolica's former space) or Paloma's, a modern European restaurant.

Phoenixville hosts several annual festivals, but none better known than its July Blobfest, in honor of the 1950s sci-fi movie featuring scenes shot locally. The event is virtual again this year, with traditions with a twist. (Fans will film their own "Running out of the theater" footage.)

Finally, this town has its own Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon status. The well-connected star visited his grandmother here and returns from time to time.

More at PhoenixvilleFirst.org.



Media, Yes It's Delco

"Everybody's Hometown" is Delco's county seat. So it makes sense that fans of HBO's recent hit "Mare of Easttown" might want to compare authentic regional accents with a certain British film star's.

Other attractions in Media Borough include two theaters (Hedgerow and Media Theatres), two parks (Rose Tree and Ridley Creek State Park), along with Tyler Arboretum, the PA Veteran's Museum and a trolley (route 101) that runs from Philadelphia through the center of town on State Street.

State Street is home to another draw: Summer Dining, when on Wednesday evenings and Second Saturdays through September, the downtown area is closed to traffic for al fresco dining.

As the country's first Fair Trade Town, Media is also home to an eclectic collection of shops, open for browsing during Summer Dining and other times and often staffed by the owners.

Mark your calendar for several musical festivals hosted most years—May's Americana Roots Ramble, June's State Street Blues Stroll and November's Jazz by Night Celebration.

More at VisitMediaPA.com.



Kennett Square

For a taste of southern Chester County, visit Kennett Square. How long did it take you to think "Mushroom Capital of the World"? Yes, it supplies about 60% of the country's mushrooms.

There are many connections to the industry, such as the Woodlands at Phillips Mushroom Farm. This retail store with special exhibits, set in an 1828 restored family farmhouse, is worth a visit for everything from mushroom puzzles to a 4.5-pound combo box of mixed fresh fungi to take home.

Food and drink are big draws, too. October's popular Kennett Brewfest and February's Winterfest attract beer fans from far and wide as they raise funds for Historic Kennett Square.

And small local eateries have garnered high profile fame. James Beard-award finalist Talulah's Table continues to wow foodies with its hard-to-score hyperlocal Farmhouse Table dinners. *Philadelphia Inquirer* food critic Craig LaBan gave the low-key La Peña Mexicana a rave for its authentic regional fare. And La Michoacana Homemade Ice Cream shop's corn, avocado, tamarind and guava cones have wowed no less a fan than President Biden.

More at HistoricKennettSquare.com.



Drive to Delaware

The First State is one of the first we think of for nearby beaches and tax-free shopping. But there's more to discover in Delaware. From pre-Colonial history, to the Underground Railroad to a brush with current history and a chance to spot our current president, there are many reasons to take a drive there.



Tri-State Marker

Want to stand in three states at once? Then hike out to the tri-state intersection of Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland, something that until around 2015 meant you would have to trespass on private land. Now there's an official trail.

The spot, about four miles northwest of Newark, DE, can be reached after a moderate-level hike from White Clay Creek State Park. Your destination is the stone marker at the site astronomer Charles Mason and surveyor Jeremiah Dixon determined when asked to settle a land dispute between William Penn and the Calvert family of Maryland. The pair marked the spot, the northernmost point on the Mason-Dixon Line, with a wooden marker in 1765, later replaced by stone in 1849.

Our photo is from the Pennsylvania side, but don't be fooled. The other two-sides are marked with M for Maryland, since Delaware was part of Pennsylvania in 1765, so no D on this marker.



PHOTO BY SAM HOLT



Historic Towns

As expected, the First State has its share of charming preserved historic towns. We recommend the town of New Castle, established in 1651, where William Penn landed in 1682. Stroll the cobble streets to the beautifully preserved Colonial town center on the Delaware River.

Take a walking tour to get a curated introduction to the town. At a minimum, be sure to visit Immanuel Church and its churchyard (dating back to 1703), and the George Read II House, a grand Federal mansion surrounded by a handsome garden. End the day with a hearty meal at Jessop's Tavern, in a circa 1724 building and servers in period costumes. More at [NewCastleCityDelaware.gov](https://www.newcastlecitydelaware.gov).

The Historic Houses of Odessa are also worth a stop to see an outstanding collection of period household furnishings, fine and decorative arts. Odessa has five distinctive properties that

are unique examples of the architectural heritage of Colonial Delaware and tell of Odessa's role in the Underground Railroad.

For dining here, try Cantwell's Tavern, located in the center of town in a 19th-century building. Be sure to visit in September for the 8th Annual Historic Odessa Brewfest with craft beer, live music, great food, vendors and more. Date TBD. [OdessaBrewfest.com](https://www.OdessaBrewfest.com), [HistoricOdessa.org](https://www.HistoricOdessa.org).



Bump into President Biden



With a long history of Biden bump-ins at local shops, restaurants and events, Delawareans got used to having the Biden family pop up around the state—at their Wilmington home or Rehoboth beach house. If you're near the President's usual haunts and see large men in dark suits on a sweltering summer day, you just might score a spotting.

As a regular at the Amtrak station (now known as The Joseph R. Biden Railroad station), President Biden commuted between Wilmington and Washington D.C. during his tenure in the U.S. Senate. Walk (or ride) a mile in the President's shoes and give the commute a try.

A short walk from the station is the historic music venue, The Queen, where the Biden-Harris administration set up shop for their transition to the White House. Now you can watch a show and toast the President with a drink.

End the day with some presidential eats at Piccolina Toscana, a go-to Italian restaurant for the first family, and try President Biden's favorite dish, capellini al pomodoro. Or visit Café Verdi for his standard order of chicken parmigiana.



Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway

Learn more about Harriet Tubman and the courage of other enslaved people on their journey to freedom as you take a self-guided driving tour through 98 miles of Kent and New Castle Counties in Delaware before ending in free Philadelphia. Delaware was the final slave state for those headed north. (Maryland offers another 125 miles of the Byway and many of the 45 historic sites along on the way.)

The Byway includes stops at Delaware's Old State House in Dover, The Corbit-Sharp House in Historic Odessa, and the Tubman-Garrett Riverfront Park in Wilmington, where you can see the dramatic statue, "Unwavering Courage in Pursuit of Freedom." Thomas Garrett was a fierce and prominent abolitionist and Underground Railroad stationmaster who helped 2700 enslaved people seek freedom.

The Byway was in the news last year when a group of seven women, under the banner "We Walk with Harriett," completed a 116-mile fundraising walk along the Tubman Byway in September 2020, ending in Kennett Square, PA. Hats off to them!



Rediscover Lancaster County

If you still think of Lancaster County as quaint, you're out of date. Lancaster is much more than buggies, straw hats and barns. It's got art galleries, specialty museums and parks to visit. You can hike, cycle, canoe or see it all from the sky in a balloon ride!



Get an Overview

Become part of the view. And get a view. Take off in a tall, colorful airship to see the rolling countryside from on high. Let the hot air lift you and the breeze carry you over the lush farmland. Operating out of Bird-In-Hand, the U.S. Hot Air Balloon Team hosts rides. Remember to take photos!

At the other end of the county, the Northwest County River Trail is a 14-mile, mostly paved trail for hiking and bicycling that follows the Susquehanna River and route of the PA Main Line Canal. The trail starts at the Columbia Crossing River Trails Center, with canoe, kayak and bike rentals. On your trip, you'll pass through a 180-foot, allegedly haunted tunnel dug in the 1850s for the railroad. Plus there's rock climbing, if you're so inclined. At the end of the day, you can relax and enjoy a spectacular view of the river.

In Lancaster City try one of several walking tours. The Historic Lancaster Walking Tour highlights the city's architecture and tells the story of the Civil War, Underground Railroad and Colonial times in Lancaster. Several other tours are also available: the Lancaster History and Craft Beer Walk, Underground Railroad Walking Excursion, Sweet & Savory Tour, and more.

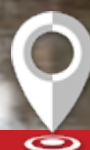


Enjoy Art

Located mainly along the first and second blocks of North Prince Street in downtown Lancaster City, Gallery Row is the heart of the thriving art scene. If you're lucky or plan well, visit on a First Friday, when the area's many galleries, shops, restaurants and entertainment venues come alive after 5.

The Demuth Museum on East King Street is in a home that belonged to artist Charles Demuth over 200 years ago. Collected worldwide, Demuth was a renowned modernist painter. That museum was joined administratively with the Museum of Modern Art, exhibiting regional, national and international works.

The Phillips Museum of Art, located on the Franklin & Marshall College campus, has a mission to foster an appreciation of the arts, including contemporary, historical and multicultural materials.



Visit More Museums

If you're honest, you didn't get much from class trips to museums of natural history and science. Certainly not compared with what they offer.

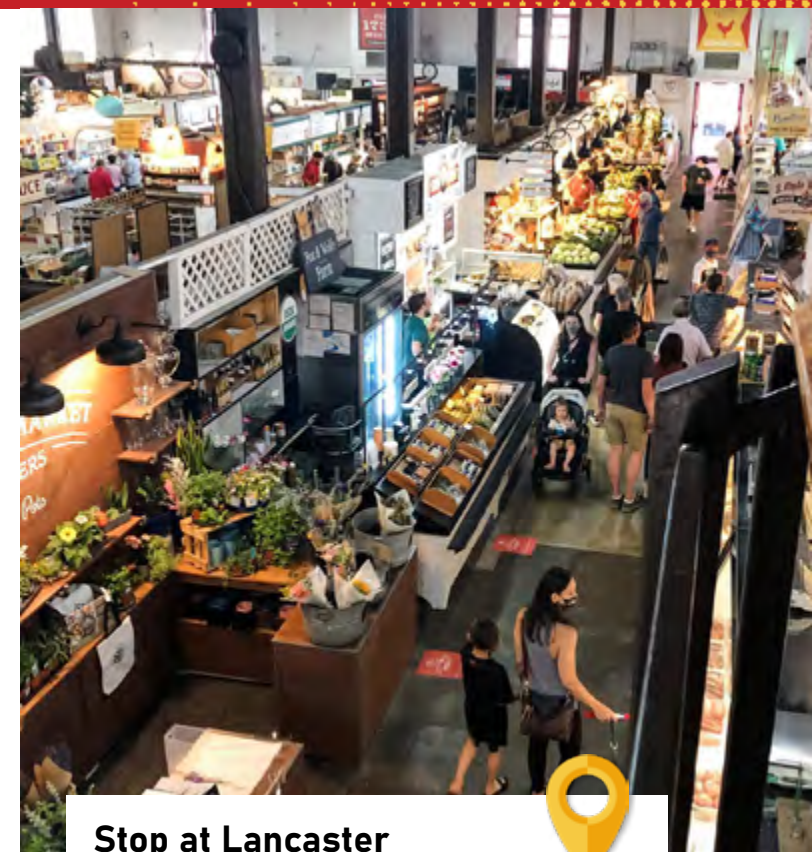
As an adult, though, you can dawdle, read the captions of the exhibits, study and appreciate. For that, we recommend the North Museum in Lancaster City. Visit the planetarium, the bug room, the dinosaur room, the bird room and more. Oh, yeah, the kids will have fun too.

If you're fascinated by railroads, the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania in Strasburg and National Toy Train Museum in Ronks are for you.

In love with automobiles? Car guys should head for Barry's Car Barn in Intercourse, specializing in muscle cars from the 1950s through 1970s.

News buffs will enjoy the Lancaster Newspaper's Newseum, which can be viewed from Lancaster City's sidewalks. The display traces the history of newspapers and their production over 200 years.

There's also the National Watch & Clock Museum in Columbia, with more than 13,000 timepieces on display. One 1878 clock is 11 feet high and 8 feet wide, shows phases of the moon, constellations and tides!



Stop at Lancaster Central Market

A must-see for any visit and open since 1730, Central Market has about 60 vendors, is owned by the public and managed by a nonprofit trust. Since 1889 it's been in its current building in downtown Lancaster City. For the last 60 years, you could buy horseradish from Long's there. For over 100 years, you could have bought produce there from Stoners.

Baked goods, cheeses, dairy, meats, poultry, fish, candy, chocolate, snacks, ice cream, coffee and tea, sandwiches, soups and salads ... You should eat there at least once for a quintessential Lancaster County experience.

More at DiscoverLancaster.com.



Kick Back the Parks

Covering 544 acres at the southern end of Lancaster City, Central Park has a pool, skate park, basketball courts and trails for hiking, cycling and horseback riding.

On the outskirts of Lancaster City is Long's Park: 80 acres of picnic pavilions, a petting farm, children's playgrounds,

tennis courts, fitness trail and a three-acre, spring-fed lake. Through the summer months, on Sunday nights for almost 60 years, musical concerts are held at its amphitheater. Long Park's Labor Day Arts and Crafts Festival draws over 200 exhibitors from across the mid-Atlantic.





Main Line and Beyond

The Main Line is still a storied place—especially for real estate brokers—though many of its finest estates have been torn down or surrounded by somewhat smaller homes. (See our article “Found Mansions on the Main Line” in our May issue.)

One simple way to get to know the Main Line is to take the SEPTA R-5 train, now known as the Paoli-Thorndale line. As you head west from Philadelphia, recount the mnemonic “Old Maids Never Wed And Have Babies” as you pass the stops for Overbrook, Merion, Narberth, Wynnewood, Ardmore, Haverford and Bryn Mawr. That leaves out Gladwyne, Villanova, Wayne, Devon, Malvern and Paoli among others that have laid claim to Main Line status.

We won’t attempt to settle the dispute here. Let’s just note that Main Line homes, schools, country clubs, public gardens, shopping, dining and general lifestyle make it a very nice place to live and visit.



From City Line to Ardmore



An easy way to visit the Main Line is to drive along Lancaster Pike, aka Route 30, picking it up at City Line Avenue and heading west.

First you’ll see St. Charles Borromeo Seminary, which, at 75 acres, was one of most valuable piece of undeveloped land left in the area. In 2019 it was sold to Main Line Health, which owns Lankenau Hospital across the street. Plans for the property have not been disclosed.

About a mile down Route 30 is Ardmore. To the north, across the train tracks, is Suburban Square, one of the country’s first outdoor shopping centers. Strawbridge & Clothier opened in 1930, but was replaced with a 70,000-square-foot athletic club in 2017.

Suburban Square now has more than 72 stores, including a farmer’s market, Trader Joe’s and more. Recently opened Lola’s Garden is a trendy spot from the folks from Morgan’s Pier and Harper’s Garden. Its popular indoor/outdoor dining space seats 237 and is committed to sustainability with local food and a lineup of PA beer, wine and spirits.



you’ll notice them—they tend to be almost 7 feet tall.

The University’s new-ish three-theater Joan and John Mullen Center for the Performing Arts is currently closed due to the pandemic, but should open in the fall.

To Haverford, Bryn Mawr, Villanova



Next up are three college towns. Haverford College’s campus has an idyllic duck pond and three-mile nature path, while Bryn Mawr College boasts one of the best sledding hills and striking dorms built by Louis Kahn. A Frank Furness-designed building at Montgomery and Morris Avenues is not part of the college, but is the Baldwin School, a top girls prep school.

The town of Bryn Mawr is stretched along Route 30 and consists largely of small shops and an international array of restaurants—Chinese, Japanese, Thai, Indian, Italian, Mexican and others.

You can’t miss Villanova University, with its 260-acre campus marked by the twin spires of St. Thomas of Villanova Church. The stadium and gym are on the east side of campus. Inside the gym, the halls are lined with trophies of the school’s athletic conquests. Keep your eyes peeled for the champion basketball team. If they’re around,

End at Area Parks

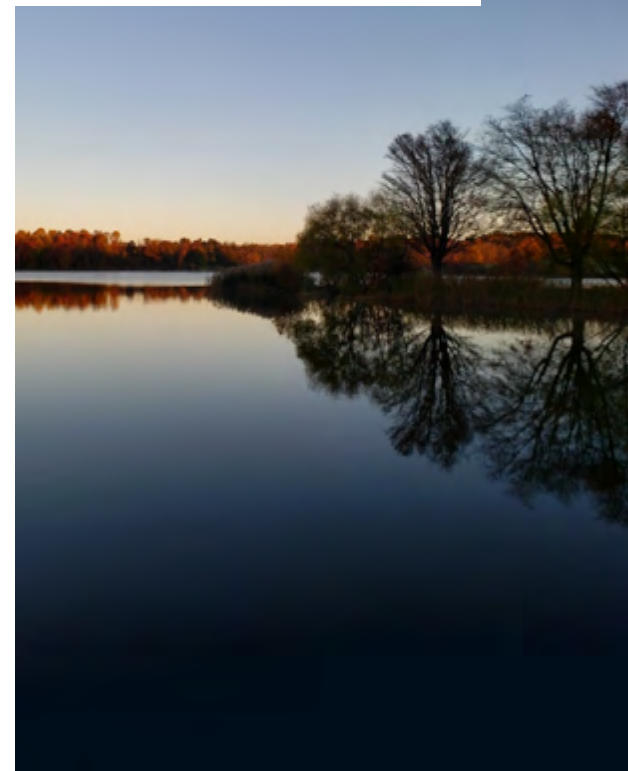


Valley Forge National Historic Park, where George Washington and the Continental Army spent the winter of 1777-78, is now a premier outdoor destination in the National Park System. It’s a great place to walk or bicycle: 3500 acres of history and nature between the Schuylkill River and Valley Creek. Learn about our troops and about the park’s 225 species of birds and 730 species of plants.

Farther west are two popular state parks. Marsh Creek State Park, near Downingtown, is 535 acres of tranquility with nearly 20 miles of trails, mostly open to horseback riding and mountain biking, a huge swimming pool, plenty of areas for picnicking. You can rent sailboats, kayaks, paddleboards and more.

French Creek State Park, near Douglassville, is on over 7700 acres, with 35 miles of trails and includes two lakes for fishing: 22-acre Scotts Run, stocked with trout, and 68-acre Hopewell, designated as a big bass lake. Rent boasts or cabins for overnight stays and play some Frisbee Golf!

Just a few of the wonderful places to enjoy a day in the country!



On to Wayne & Devon



Known for its assortment of boutiques and many restaurants—Teresa’s, Christopher’s, Margaret Kuo’s, White Dog—Wayne is worth a stop. Don’t miss new-ish Rosalie, featuring Italian soul food, at the Wayne Hotel. This historic hotel was built in 1906 and hosted notables such as Norman Mailer, Jack Nicklaus, M. Night Shyamalan, Bruce Springsteen and Stanley Tucci.

At Eagle Village Shops, you should stop at the lovely Valley Forge Flowers for all things garden related. There are also several boutiques and interiors shops to browse. Again, you’ll encounter some outstanding eateries, including Autograph Brasserie and Taste of Britain tea room.

Continue west and you’ll come to a sky blue arena and a major landmark on the left: the Devon Horse Show grounds. If there’s no current horse show, you can peek inside by turning left at Dorset Road.

For eleven days in most Mays (its been on hiatus the past two years), equestrians from around the world perform there at the Devon Horse Show and County Fair. In July, there’s the Summer Series and Brass Ring; in September and October, the Devon Fall Classic and Dressage at Devon. A special place for equestrians.



PHOTO BY BRENDA CARPENTER



Head for Maryland

Ready to venture beyond our tri-state area? Then head for Maryland, our neighbor to the south. It's close enough for a day trip or easy weekend getaway with a full range of options—from ocean beaches to mountains. Our favorite spots are those clustered along the Chesapeake Bay, which bisects the state.

Located along the I-95 corridor, midway between Baltimore and Philadelphia and close to the southern Pennsylvania border, Cecil County is a quick and easy-access tourist destination. Beautiful scenery, outdoor attractions, vibrant small towns, waterfront recreation, plus shopping, history and authentic Chesapeake Bay-inspired cuisine attract plenty of visitors each year.



Outdoor Fun in Cecil County

With five rivers, the C&D Canal and Chesapeake Bay, Cecil County has 200 miles of shoreline to explore. Want to get out on the water? Book a tour boat ride, rent kayaks, stand-up paddleboards and pontoon boats, or charter a yacht—options for all tastes and budgets. At the end of the day, get a front row seat to sunsets bursting across the horizon at one of the many waterside eateries and tuck into fresh-caught Chesapeake blue crabs.

Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy 100 miles of mixed-use trails for hiking, biking, bird watching and horseback riding at State and local parks. Outdoor activities also include paint ball attractions, foot golf, and making furry friends at Plumpton Park Zoo.



History, Farms, Towns

History lovers will want to visit Mt. Harmon Plantation & Nature Preserve, along the Chesapeake Country Scenic All American Road, located at “World’s End” in Earleville. Tour the manor house, hike the grounds, and enjoy beautiful scenic waterfront vistas.

Local farms in Cecil County offer homemade ice cream, U-pick adventures, farm markets and stands, hayrides, home-made cider doughnuts, trail rides and some make local beer and wine.

The canal-side historic town of Chesapeake City lets you see huge commercial ships from around the world pass through the C&D Canal and beneath the iconic bridge on their way to distant ports. This charming town features 1800s architecture, shops, inns and restaurants.

The town of North East offers specialty shops, antiques, award-winning restaurants, and for those with a sweet tooth, a candy shop and bakery. Other inviting small towns including Port Deposit along the banks of the Susquehanna and Elkton, the County seat with an arts district.

More at SeeCecil.org.



TIP:

Mark your calendar for the 2021 Cecil County Fair, July 23–31, at the Fair Hill Fairgrounds in Elkton, for its carnival midway, tractor pulls, demolition derby, rodeo, livestock shows, cow chip toss, pie eating contest, vendors, food, music and much more.

Eastern Shore & More

The Eastern Shore of the Chesapeake Bay is another must-see area of Maryland, and one of our favorite destinations is Kent County, just south of Cecil County. Bordered by the Sassafras and Chester Rivers, Kent County is bursting with waterfront views and boating fun along with historic buildings, military sites, art galleries and artisan markets.

In this prime sailing and boating territory—there’s even a tall ship in Chestertown—make sure to visit Rock Hall, a former fishing village turned tourist destination, and top stop for July 4th celebrations and the party on the Bay in August.



Eco-conscious Travel in Kent County

Outdoor adventures and sustainable eco-travel attract visitors to Kent County. Sustainable local cuisine—drawing from the bounty of the Bay—and environmentally friendly lodging pair well with sweeping water views and open parklands.

A crown jewel of the area, Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuge offers 2300 acres of sanctuary for migratory birds, including bald eagles. See ospreys, ducks, songbirds, geese, shorebirds and more from the many observation platforms and trails. Two favorite trails with panoramic Bay views—Tidal Marsh Overlook and Bayview-Butterfly Trail—take you to waterfowl on a pond and a butterfly garden filled with painted lady butterflies.

For sustainable accommodations—from the BayShore Campgrounds, to the Farmstay B&B at Crow Vineyard, to the historic Thornton Estate, check KentCounty.com/Visitors.



Finally, in Annapolis

A final Maryland destination and top pick is the state capital and Sailing Capital of the U.S., Annapolis in Anne Arundel County, back on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay. Called “a museum without walls,” the town boasts four centuries of architecture adapted to 21st-century living, where all roads lead to the water and a nautical heritage—the Naval Academy is here.

The historic district’s brick-lined streets are meant for wandering and browsing eclectic specialty stores. Tour Maryland’s State House or enjoy a concert at the City Dock. Cap your visit with a cruise of Annapolis Harbor for memorable water views of this distinctive town.

For more, VisitAnnapolis.org.

