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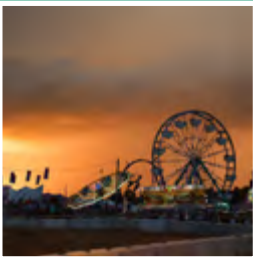
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COUNTY LINES

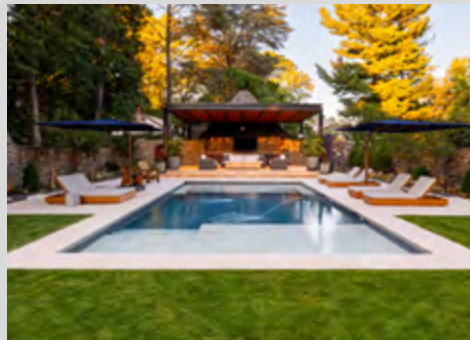
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2025-26 Guidebook





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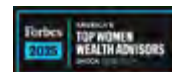


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NEW
LISTING

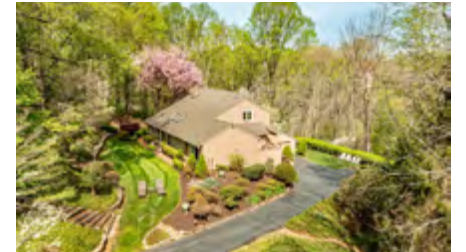


Superior Family Compound with Four Living Units

This fabulous c.1886 house features 3 BR, 2.1 BA, great Kitchen and wonderful open floor plan. Additionally, the property has 3, one or two bedroom living units, making this an exciting opportunity for a someone seeking a superior family compound! A very short walk to the Brandywine Creek & in Unionville-Chadds Ford Schools! This 3+ acre property boast super amenities and all of the mechanical systems have been updated. You will love the low taxes!

\$1,850,000

NEW
LISTING



Wonderful Home with First Floor Primary Suite

Located down a long drive in a quiet community, sits this well kept 4 BR, 4.1 BA home on 3+ acres. The light-filled home has a terrific flow and features a well-appointed first floor primary suite and finished basement. Meticulously maintained and boasting superior landscaping with mature woodlands, this property offers an incredible lifestyle opportunity for the discerning buyer. Located in the Unionville-Chadds Ford School District.

\$933,000



Historic Fairville Inn in Chadds Ford

This historic property has been transformed into a thriving business. The property features 10 tasteful guest rooms, eight of which have gas fireplaces. The Carriage Houses offers and additional 4 rooms and 2 suites. The Springhouse has another 4 rooms. The Main House features the guest reception area, a living room with a gas fireplace, an after-hours sitting room, a dining room and a commercial kitchen. The lovely Main House could easily become a thriving restaurant.

\$3,500,000



Tastefully Remodeled Home in Unionville Schools

This 4 BR, 3.1 BA home with 11 acres also has a charming barn apartment with 2 BR, 2 BA and set in Unionville-Chadds Ford School District. The home's main level has an open floor plan with beautiful marble flooring. The Kitchen offers high-end cabinetry and appliances plus overlooks the pool and terrace. The Primary Bedroom has a large walk-in closet and a wonderful bathroom. An indoor arena has been transformed into a spacious athletic space the family will love!

\$2,950,000

UNDER
CONTRACT



Stunning Home Abuts Golf Club

This is the showcase property at French Creek Village in West Nantmeal Township. The high quality of this home can be readily seen upon entry into the light-filled hallways connecting the living room, dining room, kitchen and family room beyond. Upgrades abound wherever you look and you will especially like the fabulous first floor Primary Suite and the three story elevator! Abutting the French Creek Golf Club, this is an incredible lifestyle opportunity.

\$885,000

UNDER
CONTRACT



Countryside Retreat in Horse County

This charming 3 BR, 2.1 BA home was fully renovated in 2014 while preserving the century old charm. Old beams, solid wood floors and custom trim blend with modern updates like geothermal heating/cooling and solar panels. The property has a detached garage and vintage greenhouse. There are also mature grapevines and fruit trees. There are also wonderful views of a neighboring pond. Unionville-Chadds Ford Schools.

\$650,000

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WEST CHESTER | 44 ACRES

English manor estate with stunning views of the rolling hills and countryside featuring a courtyard with fountain, timber trusses, custom millwork, gourmet kitchen, heated salt water pool, perennial gardens and three acre vineyard.



WEST MARLBOROUGH | 40 ACRES

Stone farmhouse with log cabin addition
in Unionville-Chadds Ford School District.



POCOPSON | 26+ ACRES

Magnificent estate with guest house, pool with
pool house, guest suite, art studio and vineyard.



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from the
EDITOR

July! Time for packing a family picnic, taking a summer car trip, watching fireworks, enjoying an outdoor concert and settling down with a cold one. Let us tell you how.

“A Year-Round Guide to *County Lines* Country” tours Chester County and beyond, starting with the Big Three sights — Longwood Gardens, Winterthur Museum and Brandywine Museum of Art. Then on to prime picnic places, Delaware towns worth visiting, three car trips to the south and west, plus the annual Town Tours and Village Walks. We also recommend visiting our favorite parks, nature centers, zoos, more museums and local covered bridges.

Check out more travel options in “Spend a Weekend in Wilmington” — who knew there was so much to do there? And, of course, we highlight two Jersey Shore destinations: Long Beach Island and Wildwood.

For those new to *County Lines* country, welcome! We know you’ll love it. To help you settle in, we’ve assembled a “Newcomers Guide” to local businesses, services, schools and more.

In “Tap into Summer in the Great Outdoors,” Kari Mullan rounds up beer gardens and rooftop bars in the Brandywine Valley for you to check out. Plus, we’ve got a few of the faces behind the great food profiled in our January dining guide (find it online) in “Best of the Best Photo Recap.”

Looking for a bit of serenity? Rediscover it in “Foster Wellness, Find Your Center” by Emily Hart. For a bit of history, Brandywine Stories’ “Dare to Declare” recounts Independence Day celebrations over the years as we prepare for the 250th celebration in 2026.

And for things to do, “Fall Guide to the Performing Arts” previews the upcoming season — offering our Top 10 Picks — along with outdoor summer concerts. There’s also a guide to local fireworks shows, family fun ideas and the Best Local Events anywhere.

Thank you for reading. I hope you discover a new favorite summer escape.

Jo Anne Durako
Editor

COUNTY LINES MAGAZINE

July 2025

Volume XLVIII Number 11

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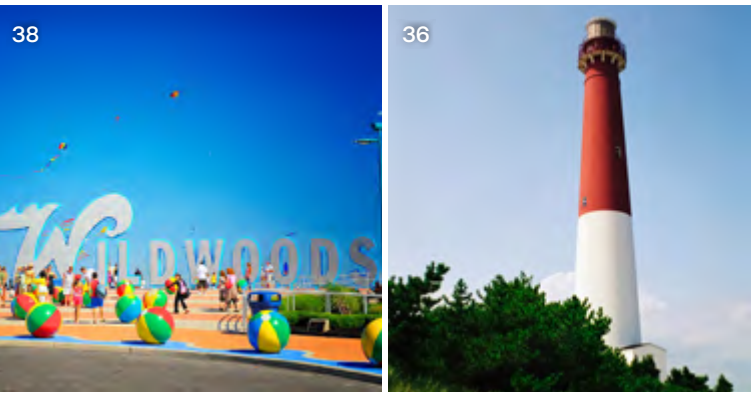
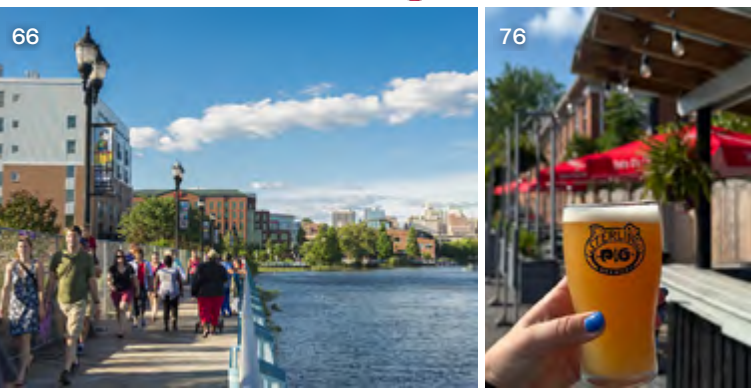


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[best Local Events]

July **Picks**
by Marci Tomassone

FIREWORKS AT A GLANCE

July 3 & 19, August 9 & 31, September 13 & 27

Fireworks and Fountains at Longwood Gardens. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. LongwoodGardens.org.

July 4

Clifton Heights. Clifton Heights Athletic Field, 212 N. Springfield Rd. On Facebook.

Good Neighbor Day in Downingtown. Kerr Park, Park Ln. GoodNeighborDay.com.

Hockessin Fourth of July Fireworks. Old Lancaster Pk., Hockessin, DE. Hockessin4th.org.

Lititz Fourth of July Fireworks. Lititz Springs Park, 24 Broad St. Rain date July 5. Lititz4thOfJuly.com.

Narberth Fireworks. Community Park, between Windsor, N. Wynnewood & Haverford Aves. NarberthFireworks.org.

Phoenixville Annual Fireworks. Dayton Street Field. Phoenixville. Online/Phoenixville-Fireworks.

Pottstown Go Fourth! Festival. Memorial Park, 75 W. King St. PottstownGoFourth.com.

Tredyffrin/Easttown Concert & Fireworks. Wilson Farm Park, 500 Lee Rd., Wayne. Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks.

Upper Merion Township Fireworks. Heuser Park, 694 W. Beidler Rd., King of Prussia. UMTownship.org.

Wawa Welcome America Celebration. Phila. Museum of Art, 2600 Benjamin Franklin Pkwy. July4thPhilly.com.

Wilmington's Celebration Fireworks. Tubman-Garrett Riverfront Park on the Riverfront. InWilmDE.com/Events.

6th Annual Ludwig's Corner Carnival

July 8-12



There's fun for the whole family with rides, food and a beer garden. Levante Brewing, Locust Lane Craft Brewery and Epicurean Garage will be pouring and mixing their handcrafted brews and cocktails at a beer garden featuring

Tito's Handmade Vodka. SALT Performing Arts and School of Rock Downingtown will perform, and carnival rides and amusements keep everyone engaged all day. 5 Nantmeal Rd., Glenmoore. Tues.-Fri., 6 to 10 p.m.; Sat., 4 to 10 p.m. Parking, \$5 donation. Armbands for amusements, \$30. LudwigsHorseShow.com.



July 12, Exton Park Community Day. 800 E. Swedesford Rd. 7 p.m. WestWhiteland.org.

July 17, Malvern Fire Co. Fair. Malvern Mem. Grounds, Monument Ave. Rain date July 18. MalvernFireCo.com.

July 25, Kimberton Fair. 762 Pike Springs Rd., Phoenixville. KimbertonFair.org.

Lafayette Bicentennial Celebration

July 26

Chester County's Town Tours & Village Walks added a special event this year, and you can have a front row seat. The celebration begins at 10 a.m. at Thornbury Farm, 1256 Thornbury Road, West Chester, on the Brandywine Battlefield. In the afternoon there's a procession to Marshall Square Park in West Chester, where Lafayette spoke in 1825, plus an event at the courthouse on High Street. The Chester County History Center hosts Lafayette's Ball that evening. For details, ChesCoPlanning.org/Historic/TownTours.



FAMILY FUN

JULY 1-13

Find Waldo Local in West Chester. Grab a passport at Bookmarks, 100 E. Gay St., or any participating business in the borough, then visit the shops to find the Waldo cutout in the store. Have your card stamped or signed, collect the designated number of stamps, then bring to Bookmarks and exchange it for stickers, coupons and entries into the grand prize drawing. Scavenger huntrees are invited to the finale party on July 20. BookmarksWC.com/Find-Waldo-Local.



JULY 4

Annual Good Neighbor Day in Downingtown. First up is the Run for Life (5K, 10K & 15K) and 5K Freedom Walk at 8 am. Then enjoy fabulous food, crafts, music, bike decorating and lots of other fun activities, all benefitting area emergency providers. *Kerr Park, Park Ln., Downingtown. 10 am, fireworks at dusk. GoodNeighborDay.com.*

JULY 4

Pottstown Go Fourth! Festival. Bring the family for live music, hot air balloon rides, food trucks, beer garden, vendors and more. *Memorial Park, 75 W. King St., Pottstown, 3 to 9:30 pm. PottstownGoFourth.com.*

JULY 4

Hockessin Fourth of July Festival. Start the day with neighborhood relays at 9 am, the parade at 3 pm and culminating with an fireworks display at dusk. *Old Lancaster Pk., Hockessin, DE. Hockessin4th.org.*

JULY 4

Lititz Fourth of July Celebration. Create new memories at this celebration featuring entertainment, a baby parade, Kids Zone, a dance party, great food and more. Rain date July 5. *Lititz Springs Park, 24 Broad St., Lititz. 9:30 am. \$8–\$20. Lititz4thOfJuly.com.*

JULY 4

4th of July Celebration at Wilson Farm Park. Bring your lawn chairs and a picnic and enjoy great music from Just For Fun DJ, Joe Griffith. Fireworks begin at dusk. Food trucks and Kona Ice will be available. *500 Lee Blvd., Wayne. 7:15 to 9:15 pm. Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks.*

JULY 4

Garrett Hill-Rosemont 4th of July Parade. Decorate your bikes and floats to ride in this year's parade. Registration and start are at Rosemont Business Campus, 919 Conestoga Rd., Bryn Mawr, at 9:30 am. The parade ends at Clem Macrone Park, where there will be entertainment, refreshments and games. *GarrettHillPA.com.*

JULY 6–SEPTEMBER 22

Sundays

West Chester Railroad Summer Picnic Special. Enjoy a train ride from West Chester to Glen Mills and return on a summer afternoon. Pack a lunch to have during our stop at the Glen Mills train station picnic grove. *230 E. Market St., West Chester. Noon. \$25. WCRailroad.com.*

JULY 11-13

The Colonial Theatre Presents Blobfest. A weekend of events surrounding the classic film “The Blob,” including a street fair, costume contest, marathons, the Blob Ball and, of course, the screening and run-out of the theater. Benefits the theater. *227 Bridge St., Phoenixville. TheColonialTheatre.com/Blobfest.*



JULY 12

Exton Park Community Day. Celebrate the community with lots of kids activities, a rock wall, petting zoo, pony rides, zip line, archery, corn hole, disc golf, food trucks, beer/wine garden and live music. *132 Church Farm Ln., Exton. 4 to 10 pm. WestWhiteland.org.*

JULY 15-19

Malvern Fire Co. Fair. A Malvern tradition with rides, games, food, bands, fireworks and every night is a Family Night. *Monument Grounds, 550 Monument Ave., Malvern. Daily 6 to 10 pm. MalvernFireCo.com.*

JULY 17-26

Delaware State Fair. Kick up some fun and enjoy concerts, exhibitions, livestock auctions, carnival rides, fair food and onsite camping. *18500 S. Dupont Hwy., Harrington, DE. 1 pm. \$5–\$10. DelawareStateFair.com.*

JULY 18-27

Cecil County Fair. There's something for everyone at the Cecil County Fair with a carnival midway, demolition derby, tractor and truck pulls, a rodeo, cow chip toss, hay bale toss, big wheel race and more. *Fair Hill Fairgrounds, 4640 Telegraph Rd., Elkton, MD. Check website for hours. \$2–6. CecilCountyFair.org.*

JULY 19

Family Mystery at the Museum. Your task is to find the missing item at the museum. End the evening with a campfire and a movie then spend the night and enjoy breakfast in the morning. Recommended for ages 4 and up—children must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration required. *DE Museum of Nature & Science, 4840 Kennett Pk., Wilmington. 7 pm. \$55. DelMNS.org.*

JULY 21-26

Kimberton Fair. Everything from 4-H livestock competitions to the Fair Queen competition, great food, rides and fireworks. *Kimberton Fairgrounds, 762 Pike Springs Rd., Phoenixville. The Fair Midway (rides, food and games) opens at 6 pm, Mon–Fri; 4 pm on Sat. KimbertonFair.org.*

JULY 28–AUGUST 2

Goshen Country Fair. An old-fashioned fair with agricultural exhibits, games of chance, amusement rides and delicious food. Check out the dog show on Mon., the goat show on Wed. and the BBQ chicken dinner on Sat. Benefits the *Volunteer Goshen Fire Co. Fair Grounds, 1320 Park Ave., West Chester. Gates open 6 pm, Mon to Fri; Sat at 5. GoshenCountryFair.org.*

Be sure to look in our special Wilmington section for events happening there.

ART, CRAFTS & ANTQUES

JULY 18-20

Artisan Market at Winterthur. Winterthur celebrates American artistry and craftsmanship at this annual market with talented artisans, workshops, wine tasting and more. Rt. 52, Winterthur. Daily 10 to 4. \$8–\$35. Winterthur.org.



JULY 19

Craft & Mercantile at River Station. A good time is guaranteed with a curated evening of local artisans, food and entertainment under the stars and twinkle lights. River Station, 200 River Station Blvd., Downingtown. 5 to 8:30. GrowingRootsPartners.com.

BOOKS.....

JULY 1-31

Main Point Books. *July 1*, Find Waldo opening event. **Book Launch:** “The Unraveling of Julia” by Lisa Scottoline, 7 pm. **Fiction Book Group:** *July 15*, “The Postcard” by Anne Berest, 1 pm. **NonFiction Book Group:** *July 31*, “Miracles and Wonder: The Historical Mystery of Jesus” by Elaine Pagels, 7 pm. 116 N. Wayne Ave., Wayne. MainPointBooks.com.

JULY 2-17

Wellington Square Bookshop. **Classics Book Club:** *July 2*, “Waiting for Godot: A Tragicomedy in Two Acts” by Samuel Beckett, 2 pm. **NonFiction Book Group:** *July 3*, “Knife: Meditations After an Attempted Murder” by Salman Rushdie, 7 pm. **Fiction Book Group:** *July 16 & 17*, “Go as River” by Shelley Read, Wed, 2 pm; Thurs, 2 & 7 pm. 549 Wellington Sq., Exton. WellingtonSquareBooks.com.

JULY 2-23

Reads & Company. **The Big Reads Book Group:** *July 2*, “The Road to Tender Hearts” by Annie Hartnett. **International Voices Book Group:** *July 9*, “Four Treasures of the Sky” by Jenny Tinghui Zhang. **Kiss and Tell Romance Book Group:** *July 16*, “Great Big Beautiful Life” by Emily Henry. **Then and Now Book Group:** *July 22*, “Martyr!” by

Kaveh Akbar. **The What's the Tea? Book Club:** *July 23*, “Disappoint Me” by Nicola Dinan. 234 Bridge St., Phoenixville. 7 pm. ReadsAndCompany.com.

EQUESTRIAN EVENTS

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28

Fridays–Sundays

Brandywine Polo. Spectators picnic and tailgate at the grounds. Fri Polo—gates open at 4:30; match at 5:30. Sat Night Starlight Polo (2x monthly), 6 pm, check schedule online. Sun, gates open at 12:30; match at 3. 232 Polo

Rd., Toughkenamon. Call for weather updates and field assignments, 833-272-7656. BrandywinePolo.com.

FESTIVALS & FAIRS

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FOOD & BREWS

JULY 3–SEPTEMBER 18

Thursdays

Sculpture Garden Happy Hour at Delaware Art Museum. Summer series features live music, local brews, lawn games, wine,

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cocktails and food vendors. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy. N. Terrace Copeland, Sculpture Garden, Wilmington. 5 to 7:30 pm. Free. DelArt.org.

FUNDRAISERS.....
JULY 20
People's Light High Five-O Event—Birthday Bash. Put on your party hats and join in for live music, food, fun and games as everyone gathers together for a parking lot barbecue. Benefits the theater. 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. PeoplesLight.org.



GARDENS
THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28
Festival of Fountains at Longwood. Stroll through the gardens with brilliantly blooming annuals and perennials. See “Some of Our Favorite Daytrips & Outings” in this issue for more. 1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. Thurs–Sat, 9:15 pm. \$20–\$35. 610-388-1000; LongwoodGardens.org.

MUSEUMS
THROUGH SEPTEMBER 7
Brandywine Museum of Art. *Through July 13,* “Tell me a Story Where the Bad Girl Wins: The Life and Art of Barbara Shermund.” *Through Sept. 7,* “This Earthen Door: Nature as Muse and Material.” 1 Hoffman’s Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. Wed–Mon, 9:30 to 4:30. \$8–\$20. Brandywine.org.



THROUGH SEPTEMBER 7
Delaware Art Museum. *Through July 27,* “Inked Impressions: Etchings in the Age of

Whistler.” *Through Sept. 7,* “Marisol to Warhol: Printmaking and Creative Collaboration.” 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed, 10 to 4; Thurs, 10 to 8; Fri–Sun, 10 to 4. \$6–\$12, Thurs, 4–8, free. 302-571-9590; DelArt.org.

MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT
See the Performing Arts Guide for more.
THROUGH AUGUST 10
Delaware County Summer Festival. This popular Delco tradition offers everything from Classical to Cajun, Motown to Broadway, Doo Wop to Rock & Pop. Visit website for concerts. Rose Tree Park, Rt. 252 & Providence Rd., Upper Providence. Free. DelcoPA.gov/Departments/Parks/SummerFestival.html.

JULY 2–AUGUST 6
Summer Concert Series at Anson B. Nixon Park. *July 2,* Renasci; *July 9,* The Whitney Project; *July 16,* Cordelia Blue; *July 23,* Carly Simmons; *July 30,* The Late Ambitions; *Aug. 6,* Bones Brigade. 405 N. Walnut St., Kennett Square. 6:30 pm. Free. AnsonBNixonPark.org.



JULY 3–23
Upper Merion Concerts Under the Stars. *July 3,* Lotus with Circles Around the Sun & Ghost-Note; *July 5,* Indigo Girls with Dar Williams and The Milk Carton Kids; *July 6,* Railroad Earth, Yonder Mountain String Band, Daniel Donato’s Cosmic Country; *July 10,* Dawes with Phosphorescent; *July 11,* The Legendary Wailers with Junior Marvin; *July 19,* Trevor Hall; *July 23,* The High Kings. Concerts through Sept. 14. Township Bldg. Park, 175 W. Valley Forge Rd., King of Prussia. 7 pm. Visit website for more and tickets. UMTownship.org.

JULY 4, AUGUST 1
Downtown West Chester Summer Concert Series. *July 4,* Kitchen Sink at Chester County Courthouse; Gardyn Jazz Orchestra at Jack Loew Plaza at 44 West. *Aug. 1,* Dave Wilson Power Trio at CC Courthouse; Acrobat Alley at the Jack Loew Plaza. 5:30 pm. Free. DowntownWestChester.com.

JULY 5–26
Kennett Flash. *July 5,* Dirk Quinn Band; *July*

Local Farm Markets



Artisan Exchange, 208 Carter Dr. West Chester. Sat, 10 to 1. ArtisanExchange.net.
Berwyn Farmers Market, 511 Old Lancaster Rd. Sun, 9 to 1. BerwynFarmersMarket.com.
Downingtown Farmers Market, Kerr Park, Log House Field, 28 E. Pennsylvania Ave. Sat, 9 to 1. GrowingRootsPartners.com.
Eagleview Farmers Mkt., Eagleview Town Ctr., 570 Wellington Sq., Exton. Thurs, 3 to 6. GrowingRootsPartners.com.
Farmer Jawn Farm Store, 1225 E. Street Rd., West Chester. Tues & Wed, 10 to 6; Thurs–Fri, 10 to 7; Sat–Sun, 9 to 5. FarmerJawn.co.
Kennett Square Farmers Mkt., 600 S. Broad St. Fri, 3 to 6. KSQFarmersMarket.com.
Lancaster County Farmers Mkt., 389 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne. Wed, Fri & Sat, 6 to 4. LancasterCountyFarmersMarket.com.

Malvern Farmers Market, Burke Park, 26 S. Warren Ave. Sat, 9 to 1. GrowingRootsPartners.com.

Media Farmers Market, Edgemont St. between Front & State Sts. Sun, 10 to 1. FarmToCityMarkets.com.

New Garden Growers Market, 8934 Gap Newport Pk., Landenberg. Sat, 9 to noon. On Facebook.

New Roots by Ramsey’s Farm, 4336 S. Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. Daily, 9 to 6. NewRootsByRamseys.com.

Oxford Village Market, 193 Limestone Rd. Thurs, 8 to 6; Fri, 8 to 7; Sat, 8 to 5. OxfordFarmMarketPA.com.

Phoenixville Farmers Market, 200 Mill St. Sat, 9 to noon. PhoenixvilleFarmersMarket.org.

Thornbury Farmers Mkt. & CSA, 1256 Thornbury Rd., West Chester. Thurs–Fri, noon to 6; Sat, 9 to 6; Sun, 11 to 5. ThornburyFarmCSA.com.

Thornton Farmers Mkt., 330 Glen Mills Rd. Sat, 10 to 1. On Facebook.

Upper Merion Farmers Mkt., Nor-View Farm, 670 N. Henderson Rd., King of Prussia. Sat, 10 to 2. UMTownship.org.

West Chester Growers Mkt., Chestnut & Church Sts. Sat, 9 to 1. WestChesterGrowersMarket.com.

Westtown Amish Market, 1165 Wilmington Pk., West Chester. Thur, 9 to 6; Fri, 9 to 7; Sat, 8 to 4. WestChesterAmishMarket.com.

For more visit the Chester County Farm Guide online, ChesCoPlanning.org/Agriculture/FarmGuide.cfm

12, Riot Act: A Tribute to Pearl Jam; *July 19,* Street Survivors: A Lynyrd Skynyrd Experience; *July 26,* Tray Wellington Band. 102 Sycamore Alley, Kennett Square. Visit website for more. Times and tickets, 484-732-8295; KennettFlash.org.

JULY 6–AUGUST 3
Long’s Park Summer Music Series. *July 6,* Ghost Note; *July 13,* Galactic; *July 20,* Alo; *July 27,* Hippies & Cowboys; *Aug. 3,* Eli Paperboy Reed. Concerts through Aug. 17. Long’s Park Amphitheater, Rt. 30 & Harrisburg Pk., Lancaster. 7:30 pm. LongsPark.org.



JULY 10, 17, 24
Summer in the Park Concerts at Wilson Farm Park. *July 10,* Barefoot Bobby; *July 17,* Bloom & Decay; *July 24,* Chico’s Vibe. Beverages and ice cream available for purchase. Wil-

son Farm Park, 500 Lee Rd., Chesterbrook. 7 pm. Free. Tredyffrin.org.

JULY 10, 25
Summer Concerts at Charlestown Township Park. *July 10,* Bright Kelly; *July 25,* The Mighty Manatees (watch Kimberton Fair fireworks from here). 100 Academic Way, Phoenixville. 7 to 9 pm. Charlestown.PA.us.

JULY 10–AUGUST 7
Music at Marshall. *July 10 & 17,* Big Boy Brass Band; *July 31 & Aug. 7,* Chico’s Vibe. Marshall Square Park, 200 E. Marshall St., West Chester. 5 to 8 pm. MarshallSquarePark.org.



JULY 11–31
The Keswick Theatre. *July 11,* Foghat; *July 15,* Ryan Adams; *July 18,* Hugo: tribute to Journey; *July 20,* Maybe I’m Amazed: tribute to Paul McCartney; *July 25,* Tusk: tribute to Fleetwood

Mac; *July 31,* Happy Together Tour 2025. 291 N. Keswick Ave., Glenside. Visit website for more. KeswickTheatre.com.

JULY 11–25
American Music Theatre. *July 11,* Terry Fator: On the Road Again; *July 12,* The Association & The Buckingham; *July 13,* Straight No Chaser; *July 18,* Eaglemania; *July 25,* Journey from the Heart. 2425 Lincoln Hwy. E., Lancaster. Times and tickets, AMTShows.com.



JULY 11, AUGUST 1
Twilight Music Series in Media. *July 11,* Ensemble Novo-Brazilian Samba & Bossa Nova; *Aug. 1,* Little Red Rooster West Coast Jump Blues. Community Center, Monroe St. between 3rd and 4th Sts., Media. 6 to 8 pm. MediaArtsCouncil.org.

JULY 12
5th Annual Odorisio Music Night. Bring

July 11 - 13, 2025

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@thecolonialtheatre @blobfest

Scan To See What's Playing

Become a Volunteer

Got extra time this summer? Consider lending a hand to those who need it most.

JULY 18

Volunteer at Chester County Food Bank for National Pennsylvania Day. In partnership with America250 PA Chester County, volunteers can help prep and package nutritious prepared meals and sort, clean and pack fresh produce for distribution. Or help harvest fresh vegetables at either Springton Manor Farm in Glenmoore or Two Gander Farm in Downingtown. Visit VHub.AtlAmerica250pa.



your own lawn chair and a picnic blanket to enjoy free musical performances. Food and refreshments will be available at additional costs. Park at Odorisio Park, W. Wayne Ave. entrance, Radnor. 6 to 8. Rain date July 13. Radnor.com.

JULY 12–AUGUST 1

Bryn Mawr Twilight Concerts. *July 12*, Steve Forbert & The New Renditions; *July 13*, Trout Fishing in America; *July 18*, Lucy Kaplansky and Liz Longley; *July 25*, Cheryl Wheeler and David Wilcox; *Aug. 1*, Folk Fest Preview Show (free show). Concerts through Sept. 5. The Gazebo, 9 S. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr. 7 pm. For tickets, BrynMawrTwilightConcerts.com.



JULY 13, 27

West Goshen Summer Concert Series. *July 13*, The Malarkey Brothers; *July 27*, A Capella Pops. Bring dry goods for West Chester Food Cupboard. West Goshen Community Park, N. Five Points and Fern Hill Rds., West Chester. Concerts through Aug. 24. 6:30. Free. WestGoshen.org.

JULY 17, AUGUST 14

East Bradford Summer Concert Series. *July 17*, Yesterday's News; *Aug. 14*, MissBehavin'. East Bradford Park, 835 Kenmara Dr., West Chester. 7 pm. EastBradford.org.

JULY 18–AUGUST 15

Concerts and Dancing in the Courtyard—Brandywine River Museum. *July 18*, Par-lour Noir. *July 24*, Salsa Lessons in the Courtyard. *Aug. 1*, Jump City 8. *Aug. 15*, Wicked Sycamore. 1 Hoffman's Mill Rd., Chadds Ford. 6 pm. \$25–\$40. Brandywine.org.

JULY 19, AUGUST 9

Summer Pop-Up Beer Garden Series at Uptown. Featuring live music, food trucks, art and lawn games. *July 19*, The Joshua Tree: A U2 Tribute *Aug 9*, The Dave Matthews Tribute Band. 226 N. High St., West Chester. 5 pm. Free. UptownWestChester.org.



JULY 20

Chesco Pops 20th Anniversary Concert. Celebrate 20 years of music with the Chesco Pops in this special anniversary concert. Featuring favorites from the past plus new works for the occasion. Immaculata University Alumnae Hall, Immaculata. 3 pm. \$25. ChesCoPops.org.

JULY 27, AUGUST 10

Miller Park Summer Concert Series. *July 27*, Local Honey; *Aug. 10*, Big House Band. Concerts through Aug. 24. Food trucks and 50/50 raffle at concerts. Albert C. Miller Memorial Park, 220 Miller Way, Exton. 6 pm. Free. WestWhiteland.org.



THEATER.....

THROUGH JULY 20

"Cats" at Fulton Theatre. The theater will

be transformed into an abandoned amusement park that will surround the audience, delivering Andrew Lloyd Webber's classic in a magical new light. 12 N. Prince St., Lancaster. Times and tickets, 717-397-7425; TheFulton.org.

THROUGH AUGUST 3

"Little Shop of Horrors" at People's Light. Follow an unfortunate florist who unwittingly cultivates a singing botanical menace. 39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. Times and tickets, PeoplesLight.org.



JULY 12, AUGUST 2 & 3

At The Grand in Wilmington. *July 12*, "Late Nite Catechism," 3 pm. *Aug. 2 & 3*, "The Lightning Thief: The Percy Jackson Musical," Sat, Sun, 2:30; Sat, 7:30. 818 N. Market St., Wilmington. Tickets, TheGrandWilmington.org.

TOWNS, TALKS & TOURS

JULY 4

1st Fridays

Coatesville, 484-786-8896; DowntownCoatesvillePA.com. **Lancaster City**, 717-509-ARTS; VisitLancasterCity.com. **Oxford**, 610-998-9494; OxfordMainStreet.com; **Phoenixville**, 610-933-3253; PhoenixvilleFirst.org. **West Chester**, 610-738-3350; DowntownWestChester.com. **Wilmington Art Loop**, 302-576-2135; ArtLoopWilmington.org.



GOSCHENHOPPEN HISTORIANS 57TH ANNUAL PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH FOLK FESTIVAL

Theme: *Wie Mir Gesse Henn - How We Ate*



16-Adult

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2-Day Pass

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Under 6 Free

Friday, August 8th, 12pm to 8pm

Saturday, August 9th, 10am to 6pm

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Donation for Parking • NO PETS ALLOWED • NO CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

For more information, call 215-234-8953,
or visit www.goschenhoppen.org



Thursdays: 5-7:30PM

June 26

July 24

August 21

September 25



**Happy Hour at the Zoo
is a lot more fun!**

Sip & Stroll through the zoo at our family friendly happy hour series. Each Sip will feature a local food vendor and live music, along with adult beverages, including craft beer and wine. **Plus**, our concession stand will be open with snacks and soft drinks. Drink and food purchases sold separately. Drink tickets (\$6) and silicone cups can be purchased at the ticket window or snack bar.



BRANDYWINE ZOO
SIP & STROLL
HAPPY HOUR



BRANDYWINE
ZOO
CELEBRATING 120 YEARS

Tickets: Non Member Adults \$10, Children \$7
Brandywine Zoo Member Adults \$5, Children \$3

Purchase tickets:
brandywinezoo.org/events/sip-stroll

FREE PARKING

Go a little wild!

The Brandywine Zoo is managed by DNREC, Division of Parks and Recreation with the support of the Delaware Zoological Society.

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- Alignment
- Brakes, Tires, Fluids
- ADAS Calibrations
- Rust Repair
- State Inspections & more!

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 9
Wednesdays
West Chester TAPS. Enjoy a borough-wide happy hour to unwind with friends every Wednesday, 4 to 7 pm. Participating locations offer select \$5 beers, \$6 wines and \$7 cocktails plus half-price appetizers. DowntownWestChester.com for locations.

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 28
Open-Air Market in West Chester. Four blocks of Gay Street (from Matlack to Darlington Street) are closed to vehicles so everyone can enjoy al fresco dining and shopping at the Open-Air Market every weekend (Fri morning through Mon morning). DowntownWestChester.com.



THROUGH SEPTEMBER
Wednesdays
Dining Under the Stars in Media. Stroll.

Shop. Dine. Restaurants set up tables on State Street, which is closed from Jackson to Orange, for this summer-long outdoor dining event. Check VisitMediaPA.com for restaurants.

THROUGH OCTOBER 6
Phoenixville Inside Out. Dine outside or enjoy a drink with friends, explore the boutiques and retail stores, or take in a show. Road closed on 100 and 200 blocks of Bridge St. from 4 pm Fri through 7 am Mon. Fri, 4 to 10; Sat–Sun, 7 am to 10 pm. PhoenixvilleFirst.org.



THROUGH OCTOBER 16
Third Thursdays on State Street in Kennett Square. Enjoy outdoor dining, extended shopping hours, live music, children's activities, pop-up vendors and more. State Street is closed from Broad to Center Sts. from 5 to 10 pm every third Thursday. KennettCollaborative.org.



JULY 2, 5, 9, 16
Underground Railroad in West Chester Walking Tours. Visit eight locations in downtown West Chester and learn about the conductors, financiers and stations that made the Underground Railroad possible. Discover the stories of those who made it to freedom and settled in West Chester. Chester County History Center, 225 N. High St., West Chester. 6 pm. \$17.25. DowntownWestChester.com. ♦

Stay in the know with everything going on in **County Lines** country. Sign up for our Events Newsletter (sent twice monthly) at Newsletter@ValleyDel.com.

Send a description of your activity to Info@ValleyDel.com by the first of the month preceding publication.

For more events visit:
CountyLinesMagazine.com

Meet Me at the Farm Market!

* Hop on the Chester County Farmers Market Trail

Through December, visit one of the 10 farmers markets across the county (marked with *) and collect a stamp at each one. Ten stamps will get you a special Ag Swag Bag with gifts and info on the freshly grown, locally produced goodies in Chester County's markets and farms. Pick up a trail map at participating markets or download at Go-AgConnect.org.

* Artisan Exchange

208 Carter Dr., Unit 13 B, West Chester
Sat., 10 to 1. ArtisanExchange.net
Celebrating different food themes each week

* Berwyn Farmers Market

511 Old Lancaster Rd.
Sun, 9 to noon. BerwynFarmersMarket.com
Live music, food trucks, weekly kids activities and rotating charity partners
July 13, *Bright Day Studio kids art activity*
July 20, *Barnstone Art for Kids*
July 27, *Fighting Back Scholarship Program*
August 3, *Easttown Library & Friends*



* Downingtown Farmers Market

60 E. Pennsylvania Ave.
Sat., 9 to 1. GrowingRootsPartners.com
Market theme days with recipe demos, live music, free yoga class, kids activities, pop-up vendors
August 9 – *Tomato Fest*
September 6 – *Pepper Palooza*

* Eagleview Farmers Market

Eagleview Town Ctr., Exton
Thurs., 3 to 6:30. GrowingRootsPartners.com
Market theme days with recipe demos, live music, free yoga class, kids activities, pop-up vendors
July 31 – *Tomato Fest*
August 28 – *Pepper Palooza*

* Kennett Square Farmers Market

600 S. Broad St.
Fri., 3 to 6. KSQFarmersMarket.com
New location outside Borough Hall
Aug. 8 – *National Farmers Market Week Celebration*
Sept. 5 – *Mushroom Market*



Lancaster County Farmers Market

Indoor farmers market.
389 W. Lancaster Ave., Wayne
Wed., Fri., Sat., 6 to 4.
LancasterCountyFarmersMarket.com
After School Story Time, Fall Fest, Trunk Shows

* Malvern Farmers Market

Burke Park, Roberts Rd. & S. Warren Ave.
Sat., 9 to 1. GrowingRootsPartners.com
Market theme days with recipe demos, live music, free yoga class, kids activities, pop-up vendors
August 2 – *Tomato Fest*
August 30 – *Pepper Palooza*

* New Garden Growers Market

8934 Gap Newport Pk., Avondale
Sat., 9 to noon. On Facebook.

* Oxford Village Market

193 Limestone Rd.
Thurs., 8 to 6; Fri., 8 to 7; Sat., 8 to 5.
OxfordFarmMarketPA.com
Locally sourced produce, handmade crafts and antiques

* Phoenixville Farmers Market

200 Mill St., under Gay St. Bridge.
Sat., 9 to 1. PhoenixvilleFarmersMarket.org
Live music, children's area with activities
Artists who make products related to food, farming and sustainability on selected Saturdays

From fresh produce, meats, cheeses, baked goods plus entertainment and special events, your local farm market offers something new every week!

And remember National Farmers Market Week, August 3–9.

Pottstown Farmers Market

100 E. High St. Every other Sat. from May 11, 9 to 1. PottstownFarm.org
July 12 & Sept. 27 – *Farm Days*
July 26 – *Christmas in July with Santa*
Aug. 9 – *Zucchini Races*
Aug. 23 – *Bee Our Guest Honeybee Day*
Sept. 13 – *Butterfly Tagging*

Thornbury Farm Market

1256 Thornbury Rd., West Chester
Thurs.–Fri., noon to 6.
Sat., 9 to 6; Sun., 11 to 5.
ThornburyFarmCSA.com
July 26 – *Lafayette Bicentennial Celebration*
Hayrides, Ghost Classes and Guided Tours

Thornton Farmers Market

330 Glen Mills Rd. Sat., 10 to 1.
[Facebook.com/ThorntonFarmersMarket](https://www.facebook.com/ThorntonFarmersMarket)
Produce and creations from local farmers, crafters and food artisans

Upper Merion Farmers Market

Nor-View Farm
670 N. Henderson Rd., King of Prussia
UMTownship.org
July 19 – *Block Party and Zucchini 500 Race*
Sept. 27 – *Chili Cook Off*

* West Chester Growers Market

Chestnut & Church Sts.
Sat., 9 to 1. WestChesterGrowersMarket.com
Live music, kids activities and giveaways

Westtown Amish Market

Indoor farmers market
1177 Wilmington Pk., West Chester
Thurs., 9 to 6; Fri., 9 to 7; Sat., 8 to 4.
WestChesterAmishMarket.com
Pig Roast and Chicken BBQ Events:
July 31–August 2
September 4–6 ♦

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A Guide to Local Farm Products in Chester County is a great resource. Visit ChesCoPlanning.org/Agriculture/FarmGuide.cfm

DARE to DECLARE

CELEBRATING INDEPENDENCE

Heather Reiffer

HUZZZZZAHHHH! ON JULY 4, we celebrate Independence Day. For most of us that means a long weekend at the shore or in the Poconos with baseball, hot dogs, apple pie and fireworks displays, both large and small.

But why? And how have our Independence Day celebrations changed over the decades?

1776: THE BEGINNING

On July 4, 1776, at the Pennsylvania State House in Philadelphia, our Founding Fathers unanimously approved the edited Declaration of Independence to boldly clarify our position to King George of England.

This historic document was authored by the Committee of Five, which started their work on June 11 with heated discussions, arguments and revisions until concluding on July 3. Colonists — patriots and loyalists alike — read it with great excitement, concern, hope and fear at street corners,

churches and taverns. The now-famous second paragraph declares: “*We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness—*”

The prior day, July 3, John Adams (who later became our second president) predicted in a letter to his wife Abigail that this momentous occasion “would be celebrated by succeeding generations ... as the day of deliverance ... with pomp and parade, with shows, games, sports, guns, bells, bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other from this time forward forevermore.”

1826: JUBILEE — THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Our nation’s sixth president, John Quincy Adams, celebrated by watching a parade headed toward the Capitol from

the White House steps, accompanied by Vice President John Calhoun. Adams later enjoyed dinner and fireworks as local celebrations involved religious services, public speeches and parades.

July 4, 1826 is also remembered for the deaths of our second and third presidents, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, who both died on that momentous date. Of Adams — who remarked shortly before his passing, “It is a great day. It is a good day.” — the official War Department announcement noted: “With a prophetic eye he looked through the impending difficulties of the Revolution and foretold with what demonstrations of joy the anniversary of the birth of American freedom would be hailed.” And of Jefferson: “The Declaration [of Independence] of which, emanating from his mind, at once proclaimed the birth of a free nation and offered motives of hope and consolation to the whole family of man.”



2

1. “Declaration of Independence” by John Trumbull, 1818

2. Opening day of the Centennial Exhibition in Fairmount Park, illustrated by James Dabney McCabe, 1876

Since then, every 50 years, Congress has authorized a federal commission with instructions to hold events in Philadelphia, where the Declaration of Independence was signed.

1876: CENTENNIAL — THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY

U.S. Representative Daniel Morrell of Pennsylvania called for “an imposing recognition of the nation’s progress during the first century of its existence.” The Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia’s Fairmount Park was also the first official World’s Fair hosted by the U.S. Over 200 buildings were constructed for it, surrounded by a nearly three-mile fence. Philadelphia also hosted the Sesquicentennial Exhibition in 1926, spearheaded by John Wanamaker (founder of Wanamaker’s department store).

Our 18th president, Ulysses S. Grant, transmitted to Congress his wishes “to display to the world the growth and progress of a nation devoted to freedom and to the pursuit of fame, fortune, and honors by the lowest citizen as well as the highest.” The World’s Fair attracted nearly 10 million visitors in its six months of operation, showcasing the nation’s scientific, cultural and artistic achievements.

1926: SESQUICENTENNIAL —150TH ANNIVERSARY

Under the leadership of our 30th president, Calvin Coolidge, the national commission promoted an eight-day themed celebration with a series of events: Patriot’s

Pledge of Faith Day on June 28; Universal Education Day on June 29; Founders’ Day on June 30; and Greater America Day, Signers’ Day, Monticello Day, Jefferson Centennial Day and Sesquicentennial Independence Day on July 1 through 5.

1976: BICENTENNIAL — THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY

Under our 38th president, Gerald Ford, the bicentennial “Festival of Freedom” was declared to “vitalize the ideals for which the Revolution was fought; a spirit which unites the nation in purpose and in dedication to the advancement of human welfare as it moves into its third century.”

Three key themes for this celebration included: Heritage ’76, which recalled our heritage and its historical perspective as we reexamined our origins, our values and the meaning of America — to take pride in our accomplishments; Open House USA, which promoted travel to programs and events, encouraging citizens to expand their knowledge of our country and extend a particular welcome to visitors; and Horizons ’76, which challenged every American to undertake at least one project which manifests the pride, the priorities and the hopes of their community — to pool resources and talents in a constructive effort to demonstrate concern for human welfare, happiness and freedom.

On the Fourth of July 2025, when you fire up the barbecue, take a moment to remember that our Declaration of Independence was more than an assertion of

2026: Semiquincentennial — The 250th Anniversary

What’s ahead for our next milestone celebration of independence? National, state, regional and local America250 Commissions abound. In our backyard, the America250 PA Chester County Commission aims to “inspire and engage all our communities in commemoration of America’s founding, connecting Chester County’s stories to the nation’s past, present, and future.”

Through 2026, the Commission urges all to hold interactive, inclusive, compelling experiences that showcase the many ways Chester County participated in and influenced our nation’s past and elevate our understanding of our continuing journey to build a more perfect union: Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness for all.

Chester County is sacred ground: decisive military actions here during the Philadelphia Campaign led to our nation’s victory, and our freedom was literally forged by our iron and steel production. Chester County was a proving ground for the “unfinished business” of the Declaration of Independence — where diverse social values influenced the end of enslavement and the beginnings of women’s suffrage, civil rights and more —and continues to shape our communities today. Huzzah!



political independence. It kindled a revolution in peoples’ hearts and minds that continues to this day. ♦

The Brandywine Stories series raises awareness of Chester County’s role in our nation’s fight for freedom, building engagement for 2026, the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Based on Congressional Research Service reports. For Friends of America250 PA Chester County. A250Friends.org.





FOSTER WELLNESS, Find Your Center



1. Sound bath at Church of the Loving Shepherd
2. Peaceful Pines Forest Therapy
3. Salt Works
4. POUND class at The Nest
5. Flour & Oats Artisan Cookies

REDISCOVER SERENITY

Emily Hart

IF SERENITY ISN'T A FEELING you've experienced recently, it's time to rediscover it. Do you feel off-balance in today's topsy-turvy world? There are places to help you find your center.

Well or unwell, if you want to feel better, explore the abundance of wellness centers and holistic therapies available locally. Animal-assisted and art therapies, forest bathing, trauma tapping technique and others take a new look at how we help our bodies heal and stay well. Some echo traditional practices and philosophies held for thousands of years. Some employ new techniques. These therapies aren't meant to replace professional mental and medical healthcare but are designed to expand opportunities for honoring and benefiting a range of cultures, beliefs and needs.

MIND, BODY, SPIRIT

"My personal exposure to sound baths and other practices came because I needed ways to reduce stress during chemo treatments and my quest for wellness," said Jill Laufenberg, pastor at Church of the Loving Shepherd. She and colleagues are helping others with similar quests. "In the community, our friends, neighbors and colleagues are trying to work through silent burdens on their own. Being able to be still, breathe and be taken away from the noise of the world — computers, phones, news bombardment — we can focus and find comfort."

Last year Laufenberg and four practitioners began collaborating to address the community's demand for stress relief. The women ended up offering wellness sessions

and mini-retreats at the barn and grounds of Church of the Loving Shepherd.

Two miles from the middle of West Chester Borough, the property serves as a haven for people and other creatures. Welcome to a stone barn with sides of rose and milky quartz, serpentine and field stones, a pollinator garden and a tiny pond where geese take refuge.

Rooms in the softly lit barn hold yoga and mindfulness sessions by Kathleen Metzker of Wolfsbane Wellness, therapeutic touch by Carol Busch of Natural Touch Works, personal development and stress management workshops by Sara Carkner of FAB Empowers, and singing bowl sound baths by Carol Metzker of Sound and Wellness.

Letting go of swirls of chaos, guests walk a labyrinth under evergreens' shade. Bird-

calls, five-foot wind chimes and crystal harp music sing in the breeze. Resonant tones of singing bowls float over barn beams and a former hayloft into a large gathering room. Yoga students of all levels gather in a grassy field, while a therapeutic massage in a small room eases chronic shoulder pain.

The feeling of belonging is palpable.

START WITH WHAT FITS YOU

Research backs many holistic practices offered throughout the Brandywine Valley. Spending time in nature, especially forests, can reduce stress hormones, found researchers at Stanford University, as does practicing yoga, according to the National Institutes of Health. A group of researchers at universities in California and Kentucky found connections between listening to singing

bowls and reduced tension and depression, plus improvement in spiritual wellbeing. Harvard studies found that music can reduce pain, even in cancer patients.

If sunlight streaming through tall trees, the scent of pines and the whisper of wind in leaves delight you, forest therapy, also called forest bathing, may be the practice you've been seeking. Among trees that release phytoncides — substances that boost the immune system, improve sleep and can help while fighting cancer — certified forest therapy guide Jennifer Lopez of Peaceful Pines Forest Therapy carefully creates contemplative multi-sensory experiences to help you slow down.

Enter a new world as you walk through the door of Salt Works in Malvern, then enter the wooden doors of the "cave." The

dim room has a pink glow and twinkle lights overhead. Himalayan pink rock salt covers the floor. Rest on a pink blanket in the salt or recline in a zero-gravity chair. Listen to Himalayan music of harp and flute. Sleep or let your mind roam or soar while very fine pink salt is piped into the room. Walk out carefree. Called halotherapy, breathing the salty air can help with certain skin and respiratory conditions and allergies, according to some studies.

The soothing sound of a small indoor waterfall greets guests to The Healing Sanctuary responding to biophilia — humans' natural desire to connect with nature and life even when indoors. The collaborative, holistic healing center in Exton offers a range of services including acupuncture, homeopathy and somatic experiencing. Jill

“ Self-care isn't selfish — it's sacred. Find a place with a community that nurtures your whole self: body, mind and spirit..

Tonachio, a practitioner at the sanctuary, leads women's circles and corporate workshops on work-life balance.

HEAD, SHOULDERS, KNEES AND TOES

It's Saturday morning, and a group of women ages 27 to 74 are rocking out to upbeat music with eye-catching neon green modified drumsticks. They're having a ball.

They're also exercising for improved cardio, strength and movement. Welcome to Sharon Kaufman's POUND class at The Nest, a collaborative wellness center in West Reading, not far from Chester County. Whether you're looking to increase or decrease your speed, The Nest offers options: a large menu of yoga choices for strength, mobility and rest, Qigong,

a women's empowerment group and POUND classes.

If your body is coming closer to a standstill than you want, Bodemotion may be what it needs. Kick off your shoes for an in-depth assessment by Andrea Littlewood — certified Pilates instructor, barefoot training specialist and functional movement screen practitioner. Educating and helping people become stronger to live everyday life, Littlewood offers a small, boutique Pilates and therapeutic and functional fitness center as an alternative to a gym. Even its atmosphere, with natural light streaming onto the wooden floor in the historic Shoppes at Pickering in Chester Springs, tells you something different is afoot.


When you're ready for a splurge, there are options for healthy eating, too. Flour

and Oats Artisan Cookies, just steps away from Bodemotion, bakes small batches of scrumptious treats. A bite of the lavender honey shortbread tastes all the better for knowing it's handmade from natural, recognizable ingredients.

MANY PATHS TO WELLNESS

“Start small,” suggested Loving Shepherd's Laufenberg. “Even a few minutes of intentional breathing or stillness each day can make a difference.” She encourages you to take a friend. Self-care isn't selfish — it's sacred. Find a place with a community that nurtures your whole self: body, mind and spirit. Whether that's a circle of friends, a church or a wellness class — healing happens in relationship.

Your center is there. ♦





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Fall Guide *to the* Performing Arts

Here's a preview of the fall season at area theaters and performance venues as well as outdoor concert venues. Be sure to check websites for even more performances and updates.

Top 10 Picks

Brandywine Valley Symphony

(formerly Kennett Symphony)

A new name and a bold new chapter ushering in a fresh era of music, vision and community. Music Director, Michael Hall. 206 W. State St., Kennett Square. KennettSymphony.org

★ *Grieg's Piano Concerto, Tchaikovsky's Serenade for Strings, Holiday Concert*

Chesco Pops Orchestra

Local musicians perform pops, jazz and light-classic repertoire.

P.O. Box 2468, West Chester. ChescoPops.org

★ *July 20, 20th Anniversary Concert at Immaculata University*

The Colonial Theatre/ Point Entertainment

Independent and classic films, concerts and community events.

227 Bridge St., Phoenixville.

TheColonialTheatre.com

★ *Blobfest, Rick Wakeman of YES, Phoenixville Film Festival*

Longwood Gardens Performing Arts

The arts at Longwood are as inspiring and

beautiful as the gardens.

1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square.

LongwoodGardens.org

★ *Rosanne Cash with John Leventhal, Mary Chapin Carpenter & Brandy Clark*

The Grand Wilmington

Presenting more than 75 shows most seasons.

818 N. Market St., Wilmington.

TheGrandWilmington.org

★ *Diana Krall, George Thorogood and the Destroyers, Celtic Thunder, Cowboy Junkies*

Main Line Music Festival, Sept. 27

Perfect for blues lovers and anyone who likes to eat, dance, shop and enjoy great music.

Wilson Farm Park, 500 Lee Rd., Wayne.

MainLineMusicFest.com

Media Theatre

Producing five musicals annually, plus children's productions.

104 E. State St., Media. MediaTheatre.org

★ *Young Frankenstein, Annie, Fun Home, 9 to 5*

Natural Lands Beats & Brews,

Sept. 20

Rock out under the stars.

Binky Lee Preserve, 1445 Pikeland Rd.,

Chester Springs. NatLands.org

★ *Music from Grateful Dead jam band Zendog*

People's Light

Contemporary plays, music theater, classics and world premieres.

39 Conestoga Rd., Malvern. PeoplesLight.org

★ *Little Shop of Horrors, Steel Magnolias, A Christmas Carol, Twelfth Night*

Uptown! Knauer

Performing Arts Center

Theater, music, dance, comedy, film in the heart of West Chester.

226 N. High St., West Chester.

UptownWestChester.org

★ *"Seussical JR.," tribute bands for Doobie Brothers, Dave Matthews, Fleetwood Mac*

Check websites & CountyLinesMagazine.com for more performances and information.



People's Light

THEATER SUBURBAN PA

Bird-in-Hand Stage

Offering live entertainment, including Broadway-style musical theater and comedy shows. 2760 Old Philadelphia Pk., Bird-in-Hand Bird-in-Hand.com

* *The Rise and Fall of Miss Fannie's Biscuits, Stolen*

Bucks County Playhouse

Located on the site of a former grist mill on the banks of the Delaware River.

70 S. Main St., New Hope. BCPTheater.org

* *She Loves Me, The Rocky Horror Show*

Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre

Top-quality productions, award-winning food and exceptional service.

510 Centerville Rd., Lancaster. DutchApple.com

* *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story, A Chorus Line*

Fulton Theatre Productions

A National Historic Landmark, considered the nation's oldest continuously operating theater.

12 N. Prince St., Lancaster. TheFulton.org

* *Driving Miss Daisy, Jekyll & Hyde, Elf*

Hedgerow Theatre

Featuring classic productions, fun-filled farces and traditional tales for the whole family.

64 Rose Valley Rd., Media

HedgerowTheatre.org

* *Check website for 2025–2026 shows*

Sight & Sound Theatres

Faith-based live theater that's been described as "Christian Broadway."

300 Hartman Bridge Rd., Ronks. Sight-Sound.com

* *David Live on Stage*

PHILADELPHIA

Forrest Theatre

1114 Walnut St. Forrest-Theatre.com

* *Life of Pi, Beetlejuice*

Walnut Street Theatre

825 Walnut St. WalnutStreetTheatre.org

* *Million Dollar Quartet, A Christmas Story*

Wilma Theater

265 S. Broad St. WilmaTheater.org

* *Can I Be Frank?*

DELAWARE

The Candlelight Theatre

Delaware's first dinner theater offers musicals, comedies, comedy club and more.

2208 Millers Rd., Wilmington

CandlelightTheatreDelaware.org

* *Escape to Margaritaville*

Delaware Theatre Company

On the Wilmington Riverfront.

200 Water St., Wilmington

DelawareTheatre.org

* *The Girls of Summer, Shrek*

The Playhouse on Rodney Square

Located in the Hotel du Pont.

1007 N. Market St., Wilmington

ThePlayhouseDE.org

TheGrandWilmington.org

* *Mrs. Doubtfire, Mandy Patinkin, Kinky Boots*

COMMUNITY THEATER

SUBURBAN PA

Barley Sheaf Players

Housed in the old Oddfellows Hall.

810 N. Whitford Rd., Lionville. BarleySheaf.org

Footlighters Theater

Since 1930, this group has entertained Main Line audiences.

58 Main Ave., Berwyn. FootlightersTheater.com

Forge Theatre

Year-round entertainment with six productions.

241 1st Ave., Phoenixville. ForgeTheatre.org

The Players Club of Swarthmore

A community-based theater with main stage shows and smaller "Second Stage" productions.

Events & Series

Musikfest, August 1–10

Eleven days of art, dance, comedy and music in many genres with a stellar lineup.

Bethlehem. Musikfest.org

* *Darius Rucker, Chicago, NELLY, Third Eye Blind*

Chester Cty. 96th Old Fiddlers Picnic

August 9

Hundreds gather for music and memories.

Hibernia County Park, Wagontown

ChesCo.org/CCParks

Phoenixville Blues Festival, September

Free event featuring local and national acts.

Main St., Phoenixville. PvilleBlues.org

South Wayne PorchFest, September 13

Community celebration with live music on the porches of private homes in South Wayne.

SouthWaynePorchFest.com

Turks Head Music Festival, June 2026

Local bands, 90 artists, craftspeople, vendors.

Everhart Park, West Chester

TurksHeadFestival.com

Clifford Brown Jazz Festival, June 2026

This tribute to Brown is the largest multi-day, free, outdoor jazz festival on the East Coast.

Rodney Square, 1000 N. Market St.

Wilmington. CliffordBrownJazzFest.org

West Chester University—WCU Live!

Live performances include music, dance, comedy and speaker events.

Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall and

Madeleine Wing Adler Theatre

West Chester. WCUPA.edu/OCA/WCULive

614 Fairview Ave., Swarthmore

PCSTheater.org

SALT Performing Arts

Live community theater, workshops, dinner theater, summer camps and community outreach.

1645 Art School Rd., Chester Springs

SALTPA.com

DELAWARE

The Brandywiners, Ltd.

Perform annually at Longwood Gardens.

P.O. Box 248, Montchanin. Brandywiners.org

Delaware Children's Theatre

Popular theater productions that entertain and educate.

1014 Delaware Ave., Wilmington

DEChildrensTheatre.org

Wilmington Drama League

Hosting volunteer-produced performances, plus children's theater performances.

10 W. Lea Blvd., Wilmington

WilmingtonDramaLeague.org



Brandywine Ballet



Musikfest 2025

NEW JERSEY

Freedom Mortgage Pavilion

Outdoor amphitheater/indoor theater complex located on the Camden Waterfront.
1 Harbour Blvd., Camden. LiveNation.com
* *Dave Matthews Band, Kidz Bop Live, Styx, Doobie Brothers, Outlaw Music Festival with Willie Nelson, Bob Dylan, Sheryl Crow*

DANCE

SUBURBAN PA

Brandywine Ballet

Providing professional training and performance opportunities.
Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall
700 S. High St., West Chester
BrandywineBallet.org

Chester County Ballet Company

A professional performance group at Chester County's oldest training school for dance.
321 S. High St., West Chester
HarrisonDanceStudios.com

DELAWARE

First State Ballet Theater

Professional ballet company presents full-length ballets and mixed-repertory programs.
818 N. Market St., Floor 3R, Wilmington
FirstStateBallet.com
* *Aug. 23: Ballet, Brews, BBQ & Blues*

PHILADELPHIA

Philadelphia Ballet Association

A premier ballet company, receiving widespread critical acclaim for extraordinary performances of a diverse classical and contemporary repertoire.
300 S. Broad St. PhiladelphiaBallet.org

MUSIC

SUBURBAN PA

American Music Theatre

Since 1997, AMT has welcomed Opry legends,

Grammy, CMA, Tony and Oscar winners, plus Broadway tours, original and Christmas shows.
2425 Lincoln Hwy. E., Lancaster
AMTShows.com
* *The Association & The Buckinghams, Kenny Rogers Band featuring Don Gailin, Trace Adkins*

Brandywine Singers

Choral ensemble with a wide musical repertoire, partnering with other groups.
TheBrandywineSingers.org

Chester County Choral Society

Led by a professional director and accompanist, performing diverse choral music.
P.O. Box 3466, West Chester. ChesCoChoral.org

Delaware County Symphony

This community orchestra performs at Neumann University.
Meagher Theatre, 1 Neumann Dr., Aston
DCSMusic.org

Kennett Flash

An all-ages, stage-centered, café-style venue showcasing professional national, regional and local music, comedy, children's programs and more.
102 Sycamore Alley, Kennett Square
KennettFlash.org
* *Riot Act: A Tribute to Pearl Jam, New Summer Sounds Series, Winslow: An Evening of the Eagles*

Keswick Theatre of Performing Arts

A 1,300-seat venue hosting well-known acts with state-of-the-art sound and light.
291 N. Keswick Ave., Glenside
KeswickTheatre.com
* *Foghat, Al Stewart, Ryan Adams, Emerson, Lake & Palmer*

Lancaster Symphony Orchestra

Entertaining and educating the community through live musical performances.
48 N. Christian St., Lancaster
LancasterSymphony.org

Opera Lancaster

Nonprofit group producing operas since 1952.
411 W. King St., Lancaster
OperaLancaster.com

Rose Tree Pops Orchestra

A community orchestra with performances ranging from classical to pops to Big Band.
P.O. Box 932, Media. RoseTreePops.org

VoxAmaDeus

Musicians known for historical accuracy, frequently performing on authentic Baroque instruments.
P.O. Box 203, Gladwyne. VoxAmaDeus.org

PHILADELPHIA

The Academy of Music

Opened in 1857, it's the oldest grand opera house in the country still used for music.
Broad & Locust Sts. EnsembleArtsPhilly.org
* *Paul Simon, Nikki Glaser: Alive and Unwell Tour, "Life of Pi," MasterChef All-Stars Live*

The Dell Music Center

This open-air amphitheater has 5,284 reserved seats and 600 lawn seats.
2400 Strawberry Mansion Dr.
TheDellMusicCenter.com
* *En Vogue, PHILADANCO*

Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts

Premier performing arts groups reside here and the Academy of Music — The Phila. Orchestra, Philly Pops, The PA Ballet, Philadanco and more.
300 S. Broad St. KimmelCulturalCampus.org
* *Check The Academy of Music*

The Mann Center for Performing Arts

Located in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park, the Mann continues its tradition as the region's premier outdoor cultural arts center.
5201 Parkside Ave. MannCenter.org
* *Phish, Cyndi Lauper, Billy Idol, Alabama Shakes*

Outdoor Concerts

Pack a meal, a blanket and a chair and head out to one of the many area parks, towns and boroughs for great music. Check websites or visit CountyLinesMagazine.com for performance and ticket information.

Bryn Mawr Twilight Concert



Anson B. Nixon Park Summer Concerts

Through August 6. 405 N. Walnut St., Kennett Square. AnsonBNixonPark.org

Bryn Mawr Twilight Concerts at the Gazebo

Through September 5. 9 S. Bryn Mawr Ave., Bryn Mawr. BrynMawrTwilightConcerts.com

Charlestown Park Summer Concerts

Through August 28. 100 Academic Way, Phoenixville.
Charlestown.PA.US/Newsletters.aspx

Eagleview Town Center Concerts

Through August. 565 Wellington Sq., Exton.
EagleviewTownCenter.com

East Bradford Summer Concert Series

July 17, August 14. East Bradford Park, 835 Kenmara Dr., West Chester.
EastBradford.org

The Met Philadelphia

The former Philadelphia Metropolitan Opera House, was built in 1908 by opera impresario Oscar Hammerstein.
858 N. Broad St. TheMetPhilly.com
* *Barenaked Ladies, Wilco, John Mulaney*

The Philadelphia Orchestra

Yannick Nézet-Séguin joined the illustrious group as the eighth music director in over 116 years.
1 S. Broad St. PhilOrch.org

DELAWARE

Brandywine Baroque

Chamber music on period instruments.
Barn at Flintwoods, 205 Center Meeting Rd. Wilmington. BrandywineBaroque.org

Delaware Symphony Orchestra

Performing classical and chamber concerts, Delaware's only professional symphony orchestra.
100 W. 10th St., Ste. 1003, Wilmington
DelawareSymphony.org

John O. Green Park Concerts in the Park

August 21. S. Matlack & E. Miner Sts., West Chester. West-Chester.com

Kimberton Park Summer Concert Series

July 17, August 2 & 21. 2214 Kimberton Rd., Phoenixville. EastPikeland.org

King of Prussia Town Center Live Music on the Green

Through October. 155 Village Dr., King of Prussia.
KingOfPrussia-TownCenter.com

Long's Park Summer Music Series

Through August 17. 1441 Harrisburg Pk., Lancaster. LongsPark.org

Miller Park Summer Concert Series

Through August 24. 220 Miller Way, Exton.
WestWhiteland.org

OperaDelaware

The only professional opera company in the state and the 11th oldest in the country.
4 S. Poplar St., Wilmington. OperaDE.org

Serafin Ensemble

Internationally acclaimed performing artists devoted to collaborative chamber music.
4101 Washington St., Wilmington
SerafinEnsemble.org

SCHOOLS

Longwood Performing Arts

Classes from experienced faculty in a variety of dance styles.
633 W. Cypress St., Kennett Square
LongwoodPerformingArts.com

West Chester Studio for the Performing Arts

Teachers are experienced professional actors who

Music at Marshall

Through August. Marshall Square Park, 405 N. Franklin St., West Chester.
MarshallSquarePark.org

Pints on the Preserve

July 12–September 13. ChesLen Preserve, 1199 Cannery Rd., Coatesville.
NatLands.org

Phoenixville Music Series

Through October 5. Multiple locations in downtown Phoenixville.
PhoenixvilleFirst.org

Rose Tree Summer Festival

Through August 10. Rose Tree Park, 671 N. Providence Rd., Media.
DelcoPA.gov/Departments/Parks/SummerFestival.html

Upper Merion Concerts Under the Stars

Through September 14. Upper Merion Twp. Bldg., 175 W. Valley Forge Rd., King of Prussia.
UMTownship.org

West Chester Summer Concert Series

July 4, August 1, September 5. Concerts at the Chester County Historic Courthouse, 21 W. Market St., & Jack Loew Plaza, 44 W. Gay St., West Chester.
DowntownWestChester.com

West Goshen Community Park Summer Concert Series

Through August 24. 1023 Fern Hill Rd., West Chester. WestGoshen.org

Wilson Farm Park Summer in the Park Concert Series

Through September 4. 500 Lee Rd., Wayne.
Tredyffrin.org/Departments/Parks-Recreation

provide a high-caliber performing arts education to students of all ages and abilities.
Held at Chester County History Center
226 N. High St., West Chester
WestChesterStudio.com

West Chester University Wells School of Music

300 student and faculty performances open to the public each year, including opera, jazz, symphony orchestra, wind ensemble, choral, vocal.
Swope Music Building and Performing Arts Ctr.
817 S. High St., West Chester. WCUPA.edu/Music

DELAWARE

The Music School of Delaware

Performances include diverse musical styles and feature expert faculty, regional artists, internationally acclaimed guests and students.
4101 Washington St., Wilmington
MusicSchoolOfDelaware.org ♦

LONG BEACH ISLAND

FAMILY FUN FOR 18 MILES

A POPULAR SOUTHERN JERSEY beach destination, Long Beach Island (aka LBI) attracts those seeking family-friendly fun to its 18-by-one-half-mile strip of land. At the northern end of the island, you can climb “Old Barney” — the Barnegat Lighthouse — for a panoramic view of the Atlantic Ocean. At the southern end is the Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, a 48,000-acre park known

for birdwatching. And in between, you’ll find miles of pristine sandy beaches and plenty of summer fun.

THE BEACHES

Most beaches have lifeguards every day during the season from 10 to 5 and are largely uncrowded, kept in check by a system of paid badges. Typically, a badge costs \$10/day, about \$20/week or \$50/season,

with discounts for youngsters, seniors and the military. Check online for details.

LBI beaches are beautiful. Wide, sandy, clean and generally uncrowded. Several, such as Harvey Cedars, Brighton Beach and Beach Haven Park, are especially tranquil. LBI’s bayside also has beaches, ideal for swimming, kayaking and paddleboarding. Beach Haven Beach and Loveladies Beach, by the way, are public, so no badges required.

THE TOWNS

Ship Bottom, at the foot of the only bridge onto the island, is known as the “Gateway to Long Beach Island.” The boat ramp hosts evening concerts throughout the summer.

To the southern end of the island is Beach Haven, a more bustling area, home to two museums including a maritime museum. The town is known for its many shopping, dining, amusement parks and nightlife options.

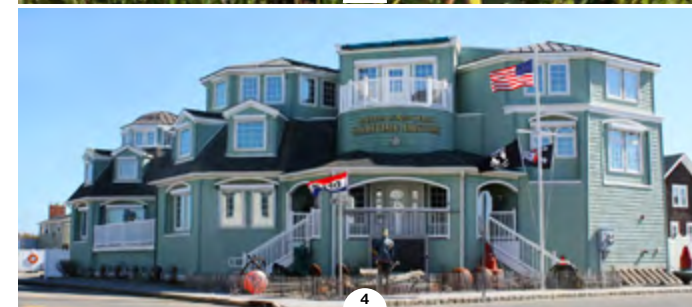
Centrally located Surf City boasts many shopping and restaurant destinations. It also hosts a less active bayside beach, excellent for younger kids, plus a designated surfing area on the ocean side.

Towards the north is Harvey Cedars, offering a quieter scene. Its Sunset Park has weekly concerts, and its downtown walking area features excellent eateries. At the northern tip is Barnegat Light, known for its peaceful, natural environment and wide beaches. It’s also the home of an active fishing community.

The largest part of LBI is Long Beach Township, including several more communities, such as Loveladies, North Beach, Brighton Beach and The Dunes.

GETTING AROUND

There are several options for touring. The LBI Shuttle operates seasonally on the



1. Barnegat Lighthouse
2. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge
3. Queen City Cycle Boating
4. New Jersey Maritime Museum
5. Fantasy Island Amusement Park

whole island from 3 to 11 p.m. (midnight on weekends) for \$5. It stops in designated areas, but you can flag one down, too.

One of the best ways to get around is by bicycle. If you didn’t bring yours, there are several rental places offering basic bikes, road bikes, kids’ bikes or bikes with electric power.

If you want to see LBI from the water, you’ve got choices. Several companies offer scheduled outings, many at sunset. Or try Black Pearl Pirate Tours out of Beach Haven — the square-rigged craft is large and the crew feisty.

Interested in some seaside aerobic exercise? Consider pedal boating. Queen City Cycle Boating offers a 35-foot pedal-powered pontoon boat that can handle up to 24 passengers.

ISLAND OUTINGS

At Barnegat Lighthouse State Park, it’s well worth the 217-foot climb to the top, though you can preview the view in the Interpretive Center. Birders will enjoy the Maritime Forest Trail for a chance to spot an osprey, egret or one of the 200+ species inhabiting the area.

The New Jersey Maritime Museum in Beach Haven has an extensive collection of maritime history and artifacts, many from shipwrecks. And the Long Beach Island Historical Museum has more historical artifacts, including a fisherman’s cottage.

Interested in fishing? Fishermen can join a party boat, rent or charter a boat. Or they can catch many species of fish in the surf or at the Barnegat Inlet bulkhead.

If you visit Barnegat Lighthouse, you’re close to Viking Village, a good place to shop for fishing gear, antiques, clothing and souvenirs. While you’re there, grab a coffee, stock up on fresh produce and seafood — scallops, monkfish, tuna, mahi-mahi, swordfish — it’s literally fresh off the boat. The Viking Dock is home port for about 40 boats, some 110 feet in length. On Fridays, you can tour the docks.

ENTERTAINMENT AND AMUSEMENT

Try one of LBI’s several public parks. Bayview Park, for instance, offers a playground plus basketball and volleyball courts. Beach Arlington Park, Sunset Park, Sunset Point and Taylor Avenue Park also

have playgrounds. Other parks feature more mature amusements: tennis courts, bocce ball, shuffleboard, horseshoes and, of course, pickleball.

Try the Fantasy Island Amusement Park, with rides, boardwalk games, arcade and eateries, to pry your kids from their screens. Or there’s Beach Haven’s Thundering Surf Waterpark & Adventure Golf with plenty of exhilarating water slides and rides, plus simulated waves for flowboarding. Book a cabana and watch. Or test your skill at an 18-hole mini-golf course.

Also in Beach Haven, the Surfflight Theatre presents live plays through August, including “9 to 5,” “42nd Street,” “West Side Story” and “The Buddy Holly Story.” In the afternoons, the Children’s Theatre is alive with shows featuring Peter Pan, Snow White, The Little Mermaid, SpongeBob, Cinderella and other characters.

Dining options range from The Gables, a romantic spot in a Victorian inn, to the Chicken or the Egg (the Chegg), known for its wings and open 24 hours on summer weekends. Oh, and there’s plenty of seafood to enjoy in every kind of setting. ♦

More at WelcomeToLBI.com.



WILDWOOD

A RETRO VIBE AT A BOARDWALK TOWN

WIDE, CLEAN, SAFE AND free beaches. No beach tags. A two-and-half-mile boardwalk, voted the best in the U.S., with 100 rides. Waterparks, amusement parks, a family atmosphere.

Plus fireworks, concerts, dance competitions, craft festivals, sand sculpting festivals, BBQ competitions, lifeguard championships, art displays, fitness and yoga, athletic competitions (running, surfing, flag football, wrestling, Frisbee, martial arts, rugby, beach hockey, baseball, Skee-Ball) and more. That's what fills Wildwood's summer calendar. Oh, and the Harlem Globetrotters play at the end of July.

Basically, it's tough to beat Wildwood for a family beach vacation. Especially if you like a boardwalk.

GEOGRAPHY AND GETTING AROUND

Wildwood — really, the Wildwoods — is a five-mile-long island, divided into the cities of Wildwood and North Wildwood

and the borough of Wildwood Crest (a dry town) to the south. It's basically an hour's drive to Atlantic City to the north, about 15 minutes to Cape May to the south. The Cape May National Wildlife Refuge is on the southern tip, and the Hereford Inlet and Lighthouse are on the northern tip.

Cycling is a great way to get around, especially in the morning. Bicycles are allowed on the Boardwalk only from 5 a.m. until 1 p.m. A bike route runs nearly the entire length of the island, beginning at the Wildlife Refuge, continuing north on the Boardwalk, then on a path parallel to the beach along JFK Boulevard. You can also ride on designated bike paths along the beachfront in North Wildwood and Wildwood Crest.

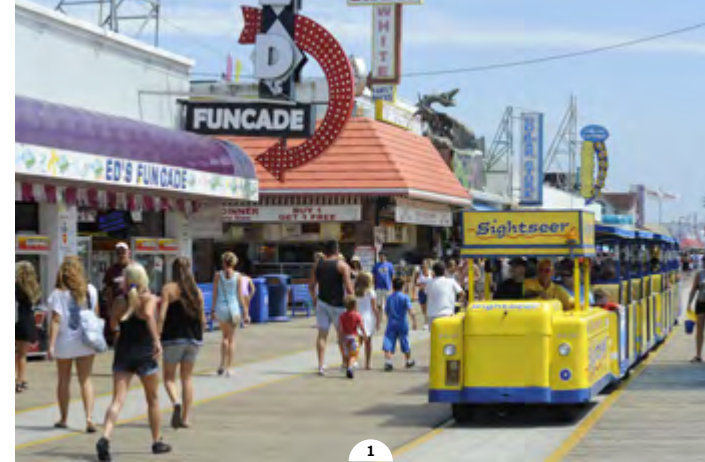
Choose from several bike rental companies — Casino, Crest, D.R. Bradley, Magnolia, Sportland, and Surf Bikes — offering a variety of styles, including beach cruisers, road bikes, trikes, two-person, surreys and more. You can also rent electric-assisted bikes, though motorbikes are barred from

the Boardwalk. Some rental spots offer golf carts, another fun option, but again not for cruising the Boardwalk.

Running from about noon until the piers close, the trackless tram is a traditional and popular way to see the length of the Boardwalk. There are several well-marked stops along the 30-minute route from Cresse Avenue at the south end to 16th Street at the north.

THE BOARDWALK

A highlight of a Wildwood visit, the Boardwalk begins north of Wildwood Crest, at Cresse Avenue at its southern point, up to 15th Avenue in the north. A key attraction is Morey's Piers, an amusement park dating from 1969 that spans 18 acres, three piers and 100 rides, ranging from mild to high-intensity. Add in six roller coasters, a huge Ferris wheel, merry-go-round, bumper cars, spinning teacups and so much more fun. Neon lights and music are everywhere, making this one of the top seaside amusement parks.



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3



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1. Wildwood Boardwalk

2. Morey's Piers

3. Wildwood beach

4. Mariner's Arcade

But the Boardwalk doesn't end with Morey's rides. The Splash Zone includes a host of water slides, flumes and a 40-foot continuous wave FlowRider. Raging Waters and Ocean Oasis also have water slides, pools and cabanas. And there's more to discover — salt water taffy, pizza, frozen custard and souvenir shops galore!

THE BEACH

For most, the beach and ocean with its gentle surf will dominate sunny days. The width of the beach is amazing: nearly a quarter mile from boardwalk to shoreline, in contrast with narrow LBI. In designated areas, fishermen will cast for stripers and other fish. Offshore, you may see whales or dolphins. Shark sightings are rare, but do occur. (There haven't been any recent attacks.)

There are several ways to enjoy the beach. Be lazy, get a tan, read a book, listen to music. Or get up and hunt for seashells, toss a Frisbee, build a sandcastle or fly a kite.

With some planning, you can organize a volleyball or soccer game. In fact, there are tournaments planned for flag football, rugby, Frisbee and other sports.

Others may merely want to get their feet wet. For them, vendors can help with fun around the water. Surfing, paddleboarding, kayaking, waterskiing, parasailing, pontoon boats, speedboats and WaveRunners: all require equipment that can be rented from local businesses. Often you can also get lessons.

WHEN IT RAINS

Rain, clouds, chilly weather or glowing sunburns will have you looking for fun off the beach.

Luckily, the Boardwalk is home to several arcades: Bobby Dee's, Mariner's and Ed's Funcade Gateway 26 have Skee-Ball, claw machines, arcade games, casino games, some with a chance for prizes. Cape Square has movies, bowling and a golf simulator. Island Bowl has ... bowling.

The classic beach pastime of mini-golf is extremely popular in Wildwood, which hosts at least nine courses, three at Morey's. Dragon's Lair has a unique blacklight experience, while others are combined with irresistible ice cream parlors.

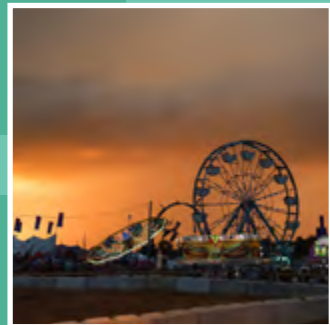
You may be surprised that Wildwood museums are worth visiting even on a sunny afternoon. Try the Doo Wop Experience and Neon Sign Garden, celebrations of architecture, design, music, pop culture and everything else that made Wildwood famous in its heyday of the 1950s and '60s. At the George F. Boyer Museum, you'll find exhibits that focus on the area's entertainment, amusements and boardwalk along with local history, including artifacts, photos and other memorabilia related to the Wildwoods' distinctive past.

Remember to check the schedule at the Convention Center for special events there. ♦

For more about this summer getaway, visit WildwoodsNJ.com.



Welcome to County Lines Country



2025-2026 Guidebook

Day Trips & Outings

Start with the Big 3

LONGWOOD GARDENS

It's official. *USA Today* named our local treasure the #1 Best Botanical Garden. But we knew that.

In our 2024 Guide, we hinted at the impact of the massive “Longwood Reimagined” project. And as always, Longwood over-delivered. Check out the 32,000-square-foot West Conservatory glasshouse with reflecting pool, plus the Cascade Gardens (preserving the design by Brazilian landscape architect Roberto Burle Marx), Bonsai Courtyard (with specimens over a century old) and revamped Waterlily Court, along with new outdoor landscapes highlighting views of the Brandywine Valley.

The final big piece of the project, the new 1906 restaurant, with bespoke furniture crafted from reclaimed wood from Longwood trees, was added to the lower level of the East Conservatory. Go there for fine dining and floor-to-ceiling window views overlooking the Main Fountain Gardens — perfect for savoring food *and* fireworks.

So, there's that to visit, or revisit if you got a preview at the November 2024 opening. Or enjoy the fan-favorite features that draw crowds every year. Come for the musical performances and theater — from the local Brandywiners to Alan Cummings and Ari Shapiro. Or the fountain performances, including evening Illuminated Fountains on weekend, daytime Main Fountain Garden shows on weekdays, special Classical Nights and the spectacular Fireworks & Fountain Shows (from the Brat Pack to Everybody Dance Now programs).

Yes, there are family nature strolls, science series, live music in the beer garden, at carillon concerts plus organ demos, free book talks, courses and workshops, plus a dahlia show in September. The treehouses and Children's Garden will always entertain the kiddos. And the café and snack huts will keep energy levels up.

Perhaps the best part, Longwood Gardens offers an escape to let you immerse yourself in nature — albeit a highly cultivated slice of it. Admire the pergolas, pillars, arches and arbors adorned with roses. Plan a few hours to wander the paths lined with a dazzling display of peak blooms, all carefully tended and artfully planted. You'll understand why Longwood is indeed #1. *Routes 1 & 52, Kennett Square. LongwoodGardens.org*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF LONGWOOD GARDENS



PHOTO CREDIT: HOLDEN BARNES



PHOTO CREDIT: BECCA MATHIAS



PHOTO CREDIT: BECCA MATHIAS

WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, GARDEN & LIBRARY

Another part of the du Pont family's local legacy — in addition to Longwood Gardens — is Winterthur. Though perhaps best known for the museum's extensive collection of American decorative arts and its annual point-to-point horse races in May, Winterthur deserves more recognition for its gardens and other outdoors activities.

The estate's thousand acres of rolling hills include 60 acres of naturalistic gardens along with 15 miles of walking trails — a wonderful setting for picnicking, birding, wellness yoga (Thursday & Saturday mornings) and forest therapy walks (July 25). A special section, the Enchanted Woods, is a three-acre children's garden that includes a Faerie Cottage, Tulip Tree House, giant Bird's Nest, Acorn Tearoom for make-believe tea parties, Fairy Ring, plus Frog Hollow and Water's Edge water-play areas.

Winterthur's grounds also host the annual Artisan Market, July 18–20, when talented artisans offer their wares, ranging from antiques to upcycled goods and original art to gourmet goodies. Sip wine, make candles, craft a signature scent as you browse the vendors or take a workshop.

And for a rainy day, stop in the museum to see exhibits like “Almost Unknown: The Afric-American Picture Gallery,” through January 2026. *5105 Kennett Pike, Winterthur, DE. Winterthur.org*

PHOTOS COURTESY OF WINTERTHUR MUSEUM, GARDEN & LIBRARY



PHOTO CREDIT: BOBLETCH



PHOTO CREDIT: CHESTER COUNTY'S BRANDYWINE VALLEY/LEIGH VOGEL



PHOTO CREDIT: ABOVE GROUND LEVEL DRONEWORKS

BRANDYWINE MUSEUM OF ART

Although less grand than Winterthur or Longwood Gardens, Brandywine Museum of Art is a gem — a right-size museum with deep roots in the local art world set on a lush 15-acre campus along the Brandywine Creek.

The museum is well known as home to art by generations of Wyeths (N.C., Andrew, Jamie, Betsy, Carolyn). See exhibits of their work (“Andrew Wyeth at Kuerner Farm”) along with work by other world-class artists (“Joseph Stella: Visionary Nature,” “Artful Deceit: Trompe l'oeil and the Pursuit of the Real”).

Explore the grounds' native plant gardens, trails and animal sculptures. Stroll down the River Trail along the Brandywine Creek, heading under Route 1, then on a wetlands boardwalk over to a meadow near the Chadds Ford Historical Society. Or choose the five-mile Harvey Run Trail through preserved open space. Enjoy a picnic on the grounds or head for the child-friendly museum café.

Other excursions outside the museum include visits to the Wyeths' former studios and Kuerner Farm, inspiration for hundreds of Andrew Wyeth's artworks. More outdoor entertainment includes summer concerts and salsa lessons in the courtyard of the converted grist mill and main building. *Route 1, Chadds Ford. BrandywineMuseum.org*

Pack a Picnic in Chester and Delaware Counties

Sunny summer days just beg to be spent outdoors. And how better to enjoy our region's natural beauty than with a delicious picnic? We've rounded up a few of our favorite places around the area to enjoy a meal beneath a tree, in a verdant meadow and on the waterfront. Wherever you picnic, be sure to leave no trace — remove all trash and, where pets are allowed, clean up after your pup.



MARSH CREEK STATE PARK

Amid the rolling hills of northern Chester County, you'll find Marsh Creek State Park. Take your pick of more than 150 picnic tables across several designated picnic areas with charcoal grills, while enjoying the view of idyllic Marsh Creek Lake.

The 535-acre lake is the perfect place to beat the summer heat. Fish for warmwater species like largemouth bass, channel catfish, black crappie and panfish, or take a boat out on the lake. A combination of good natural terrain and prevailing winds makes it great for sailing — rent a sailboat (or rowboat, canoe, kayak or paddleboard) at Marsh Creek Water Sports & Boat Rental at the East Launch.

While you can't swim in the lake, the guarded swimming pool and sprayground — plus snack bar and bathhouse — are open through Labor Day. In spring and fall, watch migrating water birds. *675 Park Rd., Downingtown. PA.gov/Agencies/DCNR*



PHOTO CREDIT: CHRISTA NEU/CHESTER COUNTY'S BRANDYWINE VALLEY

EVERHART PARK

For picnicking in West Chester, you can't beat Everhart Park. The borough's second-oldest park is on land originally owned by entrepreneur and shipwreck survivor William Everhart — read his fascinating story in our April 2024 issue. Today, the 10.2-acre park is home to over 400 trees, plus a fountain, gazebo, basketball court, amazing playground, Little Free Library and more.

Plant yourself at a picnic table or blanket and unpack your basket — or whip up burgers and dogs on the grill. Later, walk off your lunch with a stroll around the park, past the rippling stream, across the rustic footbridge and through the tranquil labyrinth.

Before you leave, take a seat on the bright red Horace Pippin bench and imagine you're in the local artist's iconic 1946 painting. *100 S. Brandywine St., West Chester. West-Chester.com*

HIBERNIA COUNTY PARK

Dine al fresco at scenic Hibernia County Park in western Chester County. Choose from several picnic areas — along the west branch of the Brandywine (a popular fishing site), on the shore of Chambers Lake (great for boating), in grassy Fiddler's Field and more.

Then take your pick of eight trails to explore over 900 acres of woodlands, meadows and open fields. For the little ones, there are plenty of playgrounds and even a children's pond. History buffs will want to explore Hibernia Mansion, home to 19th-century ironmasters. On select Sunday afternoons, you can sign up online for a guided tour of the manor, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Too weary to go home after a long day at the park? Two campgrounds — Fiddler's Campground for small trailers and RVs, Lake Campground for tents — are open through November. Reserve your spot online. *1 Park Rd., Coatesville. Chesco.org*



TYLER ARBORETUM

Dating back to 1681, Tyler Arboretum is one of the oldest public gardens in the United States. Sit at picnic tables by the Visitor Center and Lucille's Garden, or sprawl out on a picnic blanket among 650 acres of protected woodlands and charming meadows. While you savor your meal, keep an eye (and ear) out for several bird species — the arboretum is designated an Important Bird Area by the National Audubon Society, along with adjacent Ridley Creek State Park. In summer, you can spot the indigo bunting, scarlet tanager, eastern towhee and more.

Next, it's time to explore the arboretum. This month, Franklin trees, hydrangeas, meadow wildflowers and summer perennials are in bloom. Summer highlights include the Pollinator Preserve, Fragrant Garden, Edible Garden and pond. Any time of year, see the arboretum's 20 historic trees, planted by Minshall and Jacob Painter in the 19th century. *515 Painter Rd., Media. TylerArboretum.org*



ROSE TREE COUNTY PARK

While Rose Tree Park might be best known for its annual Summer Festival, bringing concerts to the park's outdoor amphitheater five nights a week, it's also a great spot for an afternoon picnic. Lay out your spread on picnic benches, sit in the gazebo, or unfurl a picnic blanket anywhere on 118 acres of rolling hills surrounded by mature trees.

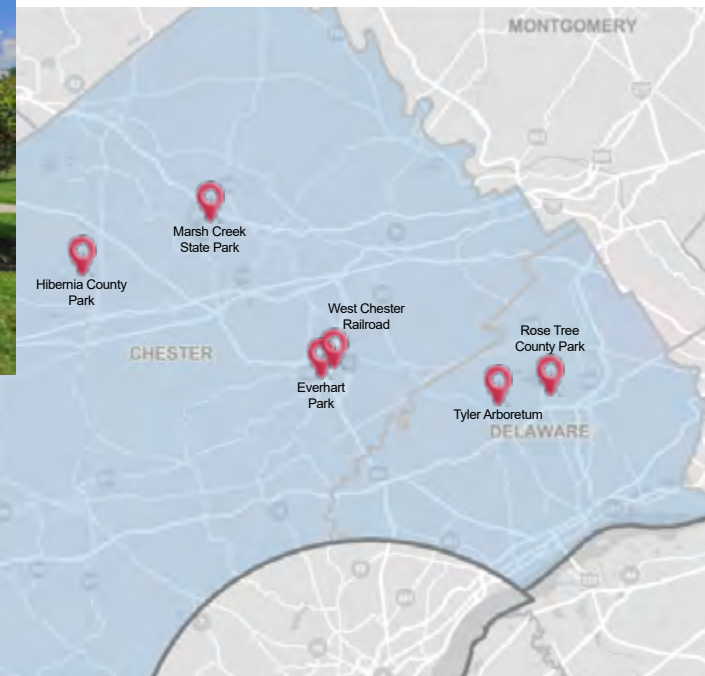
After your meal, take a stroll through the woodland trail. Kiddos will love the ADA-inclusive playground with swings, a spinning zone, a special area for tots 2 to 5, and a large climbing tower for older kids. Then nudge them toward Delaware County Libraries' StoryWalk, now in a new location right next to the playground. Kids can wend their way through 20 stations to read a story, changing seasonally — currently "Aloha Everything" by Kaylin Melia George. *1671 N. Providence Rd., Media. DelcoPA.gov*



West Chester Railroad Picnic Special

All aboard the West Chester Railroad! On Sunday afternoons through September, climb aboard a historic locomotive for a 90-minute ride to the Glen Mills train station and back to Market Street. Pack a lunch to enjoy at the picnic grove along the Chester Creek, explore the 1880s station building (thought to be designed by Frank Furness), and sample the offerings of Red Brick Winery.

The all-volunteer heritage railroad operates on the over 160-year-old former Pennsylvania Railroad tracks. On your voyage, you'll pass the historic Westtown station (now an art gallery), the 19th-century Cheyney station and village, and Locksley station (near one of the oldest iron slitting mills in the country). *Adults, \$25; children (2-12), \$20; under 2, free. 230 E. Market St., West Chester. WCRailroad.com*



Do a Day Trip in Delaware

Across the state line, adventure awaits. We're taking you on a driving tour of Delaware, highlighting three towns across the First State, one in each county. Each is perfect for a day trip — or perhaps a weekend getaway.

NEWARK

Just 12 miles southwest of Wilmington, Newark is a small city with lots to discover (including that it's pronounced "New-ark," unlike "New-erk," New Jersey). Explore the award-winning downtown, centered around Main Street.

Get a caffeine boost at Little Goat Coffee Roasting Co., then shop 'til you drop at charming stores, such as Grassroots gift shop, Bloom boutique, Rainbow Records and Switch Skate & Snow. Fuel up at one of downtown Newark's 60-plus restaurants, including the flagship Iron Hill Brewery location. Mark your calendar for the **Newark Food & Brew Fest** on Saturday, July 20.

Or choose to get in touch with nature at one of Newark's 33 parks. At **Rittenhouse Park**, meander natural trails and enjoy a picnic along the scenic Christina River. At **White Clay Creek State Park**, hike or bike over 37 miles of trails, fish for largemouth bass or play disc golf. Look for the tri-state marker, where Delaware, Pennsylvania and Maryland meet.

Of course, no trip to Newark is complete without a trip to the **University of Delaware** campus. Stroll the sprawling green encircled by Georgian-style buildings. Visit the **University of Delaware Botanic Gardens**, free and open to the public year-round — summer highlights include hibiscus, hydrangea and rose of Sharon. End on a high note with a sweet treat from the **UDairy Creamery!** NewarkDE.gov



Main Street



University of Delaware

PHOTO CREDIT: JASON SAFOUTIN

DOVER

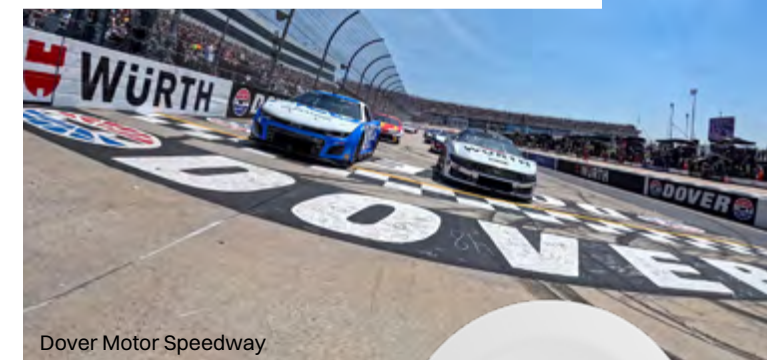
Discover the state capital of Dover, steeped in history with modern appeal. In the heart of the city lies **The Green**, a colonial town square laid out by William Penn in 1717. The Green is surrounded by 79 historic buildings, including the **Old State House**, where the Delaware congregation ratified the U.S. Constitution, earning Delaware its title of First State. It's also home to the **Biggs Museum of American Art**, featuring decorative arts from the 18th century to present.

In fact, Dover has several fascinating museums. Located in Dover Air Force Base, the **Air Mobility Command Museum** houses 30 aircraft — including a presidential aircraft and a bomber — plus exhibits on Air Force history and a flight simulator. The **Johnson Victrola Museum** highlights the legacy of Eldridge Reeves Johnson, founder of Victor Talking Machine Company and a pioneer of the sound-recording industry.

For something a bit more fast-paced, head to the **Dover Motor Speedway**. On Sunday, July 20, NASCAR drivers test their skills on the "Monster Mile" — a high-banked, one-mile concrete track — at the Autotrader EchoPark Automotive 400. Afterwards, test your luck at nearby **Bally's Dover Casino Resort**.

Before heading home, wet your whistle at Rail Haus, a German-inspired beer garden with classic pub grub and specialty wursts. Check Instagram for weekly events. VisitCentralDelaware.com

Old State House



Dover Motor Speedway

LEWES

Founded by Dutch seamen in 1631, Lewes was the first European settlement in Delaware, giving it the nickname "The First Town in the First State." Today, this charming cape town is the perfect place to get away from it all.

Situated at the confluence of the Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, Lewes has both ocean and bay beaches to enjoy. Plus, the **Lewes-Rehoboth Canal**, winding through the commercial district, is great for fishing.

Downtown, stroll past historic homes and buildings, and browse eclectic shops on Second Street, like Lewes Gifts, The Bungalow on 2nd, Lewes Mercantile Antique Gallery and The Vintage Underground. Dining options include A Touch of Italy, Mexican cantina Agave and farm-to-table Heirloom.

Don't miss **Cape Henlopen State Park**, over 5,000 acres of coastal views, pristine beaches and trails for hiking and biking. Highlights include Delaware Breakwater Lighthouse, World War II-era Fort Miles, Gordons Pond saltwater lagoon and The Great Dune, rising 80 feet above sea level. Kiddos will love getting up close and personal with critters from around the park at the Seaside Nature Center's touch tank.

Looking for more adventure? Ride the **Cape May-Lewes Ferry** to the southern tip of the Jersey Shore. LewesChamber.com

Cape Henlopen State Park



PHOTO CREDIT: MELISSA PAGUE



Second Street

PHOTO CREDIT: JARRISON KEENE

Consider a Car Trip

CECIL COUNTY, MD

For a short trip offering the delights of the northern Chesapeake Bay, plus a chance to drive on the **Chesapeake Country National Scenic Byway**, head for Cecil County. North of Baltimore on I-95, this travel destination offers walkable small towns — **Chesapeake City, North East** — plus hundreds of miles of waterfront providing the best of bay cuisine and plenty of family fun.

Add in scenic countryside and outstanding parks, including 2,370-acre **Elk Neck State Park**, with sandy beaches, hiking trails and the historic Turkey Point Lighthouse with panoramic bay views. For history, visit **Gilpin's Falls 1859 Covered Bridge** and nearby Gilpin Falls.

Visit July 18–27 for the **Cecil County Fair**, complete with carnival midway, demolition derby, rodeo, pie-eating contest and more. Or come any time to hike, bike, camp, bird watch, horseback ride, or drop a fishing line or catch the action at a casino. DiscoverCecil.com



Cecil County Fair

LEBANON VALLEY, PA

Located between Hershey and Lancaster, the Lebanon Valley is a convenient getaway offering plenty of outdoor activities, mixed with history, the arts and tasty treats.

Special things to do: bike the 20-mile **Rail Trail**, climb the **Governor Dick Observation Tower**, pose atop **Dinosaur Rock**, kayak the **Union Canal Tunnel** (guided tours only), and tout fish at **Swatara State Park**.

Catch a show at one of the oldest summer theaters in the country. The open-air **Mount Gretna Playhouse** performs “Million Dollar Quartet,” “Pete the Cat,” “Hadestown: Teen Edition” and more to appeal to all ages.

No trip is complete without sampling specialty treats — Opera Fudge (chocolate-coated vanilla centers), Jigger Shop sundaes, Shuey's pretzels (handcrafted since 1927) and, of course, Lebanon bologna. VisitLebanonValley.com



Swatara State Park



Ladew Topiary Garden

HARFORD COUNTY, MD

On the Chesapeake Bay with the Susquehanna River and Cecil County to its north, Harford County in another fun destination. Sample the eclectic charms of the **Ladew Topiary Gardens** (top 5 in North America), **Havre de Grace Decoy Museum** and **Conowingo Dam** where eagles fly (see our November 2022 article online).

Sports fans can watch the **Aberdeen IronBirds** (owned by Cal Ripken Jr.) or take a “Round-Tripper” journey along the Susquehanna River to Cooperstown, NY, with a stop at the Little League Museum in South Williamsport, PA.

Experience junkies can follow other specialty trails — Snowball Trail, Libation Trail, Mural Trail, Barn Quilt Trail, Chocolate & Cheese Trail or others.

Or if your idea of a perfect meal is whacking hard shells with a mallet or enjoying a plate of steamed crabs, crab cakes and oysters, then head for a bayfront restaurant in Harford County. HelloHarford.com

Here are three trips that take less than a tank of gas. Head south to Maryland or west to the Lebanon Valley in Pennsylvania.

Thirty-One Years of Town Tours — “Untold Stories”



Celebrating its 31st year, the Chester County Town Tours & Village Walks program is a free event featuring Chester County's cultural heritage through a series of lectures and evening strolls. You'll come away with an increased awareness of Chester County's rich heritage and historic landscape. Tours are from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.



July 10 – Warwick County Park

The forests of Warwick County Park were once used for making charcoal that fueled the iron industry through the 18th and 19th centuries. Learn about the people, their occupations, plus see where charcoal was made and how resources were used to build an industry that built a nation. *Park: Warwick County Park, 191 County Park Rd., Pottstown.*



July 17 – Valley Forge National Historic Park

Explore some of the lesser-known buildings, monuments and stories, starting at the Washington Memorial Chapel. See historic Maurice Stephens House, owned by the National Park Service and being restored as a coffee house to provide visitor services. End the walk at the Patriots of African Descent Memorial.

Chapel Parking Lot, Rte. 23, Valley Forge.



July 26 – Lafayette Day

The Marquis de Lafayette, a French aristocrat and military officer, volunteered and served in the Continental Army under George Washington. Wounded at the Battle of Brandywine, Lafayette helped to secure France as an ally and served until the end of the Revolution.

Morning events: Thornbury Farm. Park:

Thornbury Farm, 1256 Thornbury Rd., West Chester. Afternoon: Downtown West Chester: Lafayette Memorial Parade, High & Miner Sts., ends at Marshall Square Park, where Lafayette spoke to an adoring crowd.



July 31 – Barnard Station Pocopson Township

Barnard Station represents 19th-century efforts throughout Pennsylvania to end slavery and uphold the community's values and beliefs to help secure “the Blessings of Liberty” for all people. Tour Barnard Station's interior, currently undergoing restoration. Learn

about 19th-century Pocopson Township, its free Black population, agricultural highlights and the Barnard Family's anti-slavery activism. *Park: 664 S. Wawaset Rd., West Chester.*

August 7 – Oxford Region Self-Guided Driving Tour

The Oxford Area Historical Association invites you on a tour of the small villages in the Oxford region, such as Homeville, Russellville, Tweedale, Hopewell and Lewisville. These historic villages highlight the agricultural and scenic resources that characterize the area. *Driving tour start: Oxford Area Historical Association, 119 S. 5th St., Oxford.*



August 14 – Hopewell Furnace National Historic Site

The tour will focus on the lesser-known people who called the furnace their job and home. Look at colliers who made the charcoal, the drovers who shipped raw materials and finished goods, the school that served the village and the families who lived there. *Park: Hopewell Furnace Visitor Center, 2 Mark Bird Ln., Elverson.*



August 21 – Historic Yellow Springs, W. Pikeland Township

Did you know vaccinations were given to Revolutionary War soldiers at Yellow Springs? Or that patient John Knight was wrapped in spring-water-soaked sheets as part of his spa treatment? Or that Burt Bacharach wrote music here for “The Blob,” Steve McQueen raced his Corvette through these country roads, and Patty Duke, Lee Meriwether and Robert Lansing starred in movies made here by Good News Productions? Learn the many “untold stories” from over 300 years of history at Yellow Springs. *Park: 1701 Art School Rd., Chester Springs.*



More at ChesCo.org/TownTours

More Great Places for Outings

PENNSYLVANIA

See also: *Historic Sites*

Chadds Ford

Penns Woods Winery. Enjoy award-winning PA-grown wine, local beers and cheeses at this family- (and dog) friendly vineyard. Live music every weekend, wine tastings and vineyard tours. Offering a wide variety of classes all year long including yoga, candle making, painting, vegetable canning and more. *Open daily. 124 Beaver Valley Rd. PennsWoodsWinery.com.*

Glen Mills

Newlin Grist Mill Park. Visit a restored 18th-century milling community with an active 1704 water-powered grist mill. Hiking, trout fishing weekends, picnicking and nature walks are all available. *Rt. 1 & Cheyney Rd. Newlin-GristMill.org.*

Glenmoore

Springton Manor Farm. The 19th-century manor house was the country estate of a prominent Philadelphia family and is now a demonstration farm where children meet animals in a petting area and learn about farming. *Park open year-round. 860 Springton Rd. ChesCo.org/CCParks.*

Lebanon Valley

Lebanon Valley. See “Some of Our Favorite Day Trips & Outings.”

Media

Visit Media. Everybody’s Hometown! Media is Delaware County’s hub of activity and cultural center. America’s First Fair Trade Town features a unique blend of independently owned shops along with dozens of restaurants featuring cuisine from around the world. There’s always something to do throughout the year in Media’s historic State Street District, including Dining Under the Stars every Wednesday from May through September. *VisitMediaPA.com.*



Newtown Square

Colonial Pennsylvania Farmstead. See the recreation of a 112-acre working 18th-century farm with farmers and guides in period garb, Belgian horses, Red Devon milking cows, Dominique chickens and two large pigs. *Open weekends, Mar.–Dec. 3900 N. Sandy Flash Dr. ColonialFarmstead.org.*

Nottingham

Herr Foods, Inc. Factory tours show the real

operation, with real workers and include secrets like how tortilla chips get their flavor. Tours (Wed only) end at the Snack Bar and Gift Shop. Reservations required. *To schedule: 800-284-7488, or reserve tickets online, Herrs.com.*

Oxford

The Village of Oxford. Celebrate its 250-plus-year history in a charming historic district. Try the Bridge Tour to enjoy shopping and refreshments in town and take in the Oxford Outdoor Gallery. For tours, coupons, guides and more, visit *OxfordMainstreet.com.*

Perkiomenville

Goschenhoppen. One of the oldest continuously existing Pennsylvania German communities in America, preserving the folk culture of this area’s earliest immigrant settlers, known as the Pennsylvania Dutch. Today, the Goschenhoppen Historians maintain museums, a library and offer educational and seasonal events such as the 57th Annual Goschenhoppen Folk Festival, *Aug. 8 & 9, Fri, noon to 8 pm; Sat, 10 am to 6 pm. Henry Antes Plantation, 318 Colonial Rd. Goschenhoppen.org.*



DELAWARE

New Castle

Historic New Castle. The town of New Castle, established in 1651 and where William Penn landed in 1682, is a beautifully preserved Colonial town center on the Delaware River. 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. *NewCastleCity.Delaware.gov.*

Odessa

Historic Houses of Odessa. An outstanding collection of period household furnishings, fine and decorative arts. Five properties are unique examples of the architectural heritage of Colonial Delaware and tell of Odessa’s role in the Underground Railroad. Visit on September 6 for the 12th Annual Historic Odessa Brewfest with craft beer, live music, great food, vendors and more. *OdessaBrewfest.com, HistoricOdessa.org.*

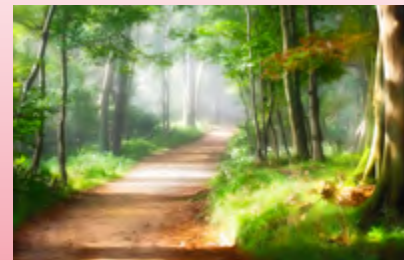
Wilmington

Delaware Park Casino. Offering live thoroughbred racing, slot machines, table games, poker, sports betting, free live entertainment and many dining choices, including the 1937 Brewing Co. with housemade craft beers and gastropub food. *777 Delaware Park Blvd. DelawarePark.com.*

MARYLAND

Cecil County

Explore Cecil County. From time to time everyone needs an escape. Imagine shimmering harbors, horses and history. Experience paddling, boat rides, hiking and fishing. Walkable small towns with shops, memorable Chesapeake Bay cuisine and scenic countryside provide a perfect backdrop for your next adventure. Just a Day-dream Away! *DiscoverCecil.com.*



Harford County

Harford County is just off I-95 — your easy summer escape. Enjoy farm creameries, breweries, waterfront dining and charming main streets. Play mini golf or tee off on scenic courses. Hike, bike or kayak along miles of beautiful shoreline. With festivals, museums and local flavor, there’s something for everyone. *HelloHarford.com.*



Amusement Parks, Zoos, Entertainment & Family Fun

PENNSYLVANIA

Downingtown

Boulder Falls Miniature Golf. A 19-hole mini golf course featuring a cascading waterfall with winding streams flowing into fountain ponds. The beautifully landscaped design provides relaxation and lots of fun. *1426 Marshallton Thorndale Rd. BoulderFallsMiniGolf.com.*

Downingtown Rock Gym. This rock gym is for people of all ages and abilities. Beginners learn the basics, and more experienced climbers test their skills in advanced climbing lessons. *462 Acorn Ln. DowningtownRockGym.com.*

Urban Air Trampoline & Adventure Park. From the obstacle course, balance beams, tubes, the runway tumble track and slam dunk zone

and on and on. Great place on a rainy day or for a birthday party. *981 E. Lancaster Ave. UrbanAir.com.*

Exton

Round 1. Fun for the entire family at this state-of-the-art entertainment arena. Mom and Dad can enjoy Happy Hour specials while kids try bowling and arcade games. *Exton Square Mall, 172 Exton Square Pkwy. Round1USA.com.*

Glen Mills

Oasis Family Fun Center. Safe, clean fun for the entire family at this indoor facility. *35 Lacrue Ave. OasisFamilyFun.com.*

Lancaster

Decades Lancaster. Experience a nostalgic adventure at Decades in downtown Lancaster. This retro haven offers over 40 arcade games, bowling, a full restaurant and a vibrant bar in the historic Stahr Armory. Open Wed–Sun, it’s family-friendly until 8:30 pm, then 21+. Just a 60-minute drive from West Chester and Kennett Square, with easy garage parking. *438 N. Queen St. DecadesLancaster.com.*



Mortonville

Brandywine Outfitters. Enjoy a scenic canoe or kayak trip with the whole family down the Brandywine River. If you’re looking for a whole weekend of fun, grab your sleeping bag and pitch a tent on the 26-acre private park in the heart of Chester County. *2096 Strasburg Rd. CanoePA.net.*

Norristown

Elmwood Park Zoo. The mission of the Elmwood Park Zoo is to foster an appreciation for wildlife and the environment that will inspire active participation in conservation. The zoo currently maintains a collection of over 100 species that hail from all over the globe. *1661 Harding Blvd. ElmwoodParkZoo.org.*

Oaks

Arnold’s Family Fun Center. Spend an action-packed day riding go-karts and other rides. Try both laser tag attractions, blacklight mini golf and bowling. Not only will the kids have fun, but parents can enjoy Arnold’s Bistro & Bar while they play. *2200 West Dr. ArnoldsFFC.com.*

Phoenixville

The Colonial Theatre Situated in the heart of downtown Phoenixville, the iconic theater operates three distinct venues and multiple event spaces in two adjoining historic buildings. Known

internationally as the mother of Blobfest, which annually celebrates the theater’s role in the 1958 sci-fi classic, “The Blob.” *227 Bridge St. TheColonialTheatre.com.*



Pottstown

Pottstown Children’s Discovery Center. The center inspires curiosity, creativity and a love of learning, empowering children to dream big, explore boldly and thrive through play. *95 S. Hanover St. Open Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat, 9 to 4. PottstownDiscoveryKids.org.*

Ronks

Paradise Station. The sprawling nine-acre property includes The Red Caboose Motel, which encompass 38 cabooses, one mail car, a baggage car, reefer car, historic farmhouse and luxurious Conductor’s Quarters; the 175-seat Casey Jones’ Restaurant and Gift Shop; and the fully restored and technologically enhanced Barn at Paradise Station, where weddings, events and inspiring musical entertainment take place.



West Chester

Northbrook Canoe Company. Cool off along the beautiful Brandywine River with a self-guided canoe, kayak or tubing trip. Continue your fun with your favorite summer foods. Reservations required. *Open daily through Oct., first trip at 9 am, last one at 4 pm. NorthbrookCanoe.com.*

West Chester Railroad. Take a relaxing 90-minute ride through the scenic countryside between West Chester and Glen Mills. Pack a lunch or purchase one from their on-board snack bar to enjoy during the stop at the Glen Mills train station picnic grove. Reservations required. *Market St. Station, 230 E. Market St., 610-430-2233; WCRailroad.com.*

DELAWARE

Wilmington

Brandywine Zoo. Located along the Brandywine River in beautiful Brandywine Park, the zoo features animals from the tropical and temperate

areas of North and South America, Asia and Africa. The animals range from more common species to the highly endangered, and all enjoy natural settings and welcome your visit to the zoo.

1001 N. Park Dr. BrandywineZoo.org.



Tatnall Playground/One Love Park. The park was named Tatnall Street Playground in 1907 and renamed in 2014 to honor singer-songwriter Bob Marley’s time in Delaware after his hit 1977 song with The Wailers, “One Love/People Get Ready.” *2316 N. Tatnall St. VisitWilmingtonDE.com*

Selected Nature Centers, Parks and Public Gardens

PENNSYLVANIA

Audubon

John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove. The fieldstone mansion, now a museum, displays Audubon’s major published works and memorabilia. The 175 acres are a wildlife sanctuary with 175 species of birds and 400 species of plants. *1201 Pawlings Rd. JohnJamesAudubon.org.*

Chestnut Hill/Philadelphia

Morris Arboretum. The official arboretum of PA. On its 92 public acres, thousands of rare plants (many of Philadelphia’s oldest, rarest, largest trees) are set in a Victorian garden. Award-winning rose garden, English landscape park, loggia and hidden grotto, Japanese gardens and swan pond. Special events. Advance tickets required. *100 E. Northwestern Ave. MorrisArboretum.org.*

Coatesville

Hibernia County Park. The park consists of over 900 acres of trails, woodlands, meadows, open fields, play areas, pavilions, camping, picnic areas and popular fishing sites. *1 Park Rd. ChesCo.org/1743/Hibernia-Park.*

Devon

Jenkins Arboretum. A 46-acre arboretum that emphasizes azaleas, rhododendrons and plants of local woodlands, including groundcovers and colorful wildflowers that bloom over a long season. From workshops to story time in the Children’s Garden to yoga, there’s always something new to learn, create or experience at Jenkins. *631 Berwyn Baptist Rd. JenkinsArboretum.org.*

Media

Tyler Arboretum. A 650-acre preserve originated with brothers Jacob and Minshall Painter. Mature plant collections are laid out in a natural setting, with 20 miles of marked trails. *515 Painter Rd. TylerArboretum.org.*

Newtown Square

Willistown Conservation Trust and Rushton Conservation Center. The Trust's programs focus on over 28,000 acres in Chester County and portions of Delaware County. Its mission is to preserve and manage the open land, rural character, scenic, recreational, historic, agricultural and natural resources of the area.

Rushton Farm is the centerpiece of the community farm, hosting a CSA, school groups, volunteer days and a "Share the Bounty" program that donates fresh food to local food cupboards. *925 Providence Rd. WCTrust.org.*

Nottingham

Nottingham County Park. The 651-acre park offers nine pavilions, an 18-station fitness trail and three modern, handicapped-accessible playgrounds. Dedicated in September 1963, Nottingham Park was the first Chester County park. *150 Park Rd. ChesCo.org/1743/Nottingham-Park.*

Phoenixville

Black Rock Sanctuary. Consisting of 119 acres of wetlands, woodlands and meadows, Black

Rock Sanctuary is dedicated to wildlife habitat and public use. The sky over Black Rock is a flyway, or air highway, for birds that migrate up and down the East Coast. *953 Black Rock Rd. ChesCo.org/1745/Black-Rock-Sanctuary.*

Pottstown

Welkinweir. This historic country estate is home to Green Valleys Watershed Association, a nonprofit dedicated to preserving the natural resources of northern Chester County. Nature walks and talks and summer camps are offered. *1368 Prizer Rd. Welkinweir.org.*

Swarthmore

Scott Arboretum of Swarthmore College. "A garden of ideas" to sustain the body, enchant the eye and soothe the spirit, it's the college campus, covering 300 diverse acres. The arboretum cultivates a variety of plants that create some of the region's most intimate, authentic and accessible horticultural experiences. *500 College Ave. ScottArboretum.org.*

Wayne

Chanticleer. Chanticleer is one of the great gardens of the region. Once the Rosengarten estate, today Chanticleer is a colorful, contemporary garden within a historic setting. *786 Church Rd. ChanticleerGarden.org.*

West Chester

H. E. Myrick Conservation Center. A 300-

acre landscape with vegetation and wildlife habitats. Part of the Brandywine Valley Assn., which has worked for over 50 years to protect the Brandywine Creek. Two marked self-guided nature trails and a 1.5-mile Old Mile Loop. *1760 Unionville-Wauaset Rd. (Rt. 842). BrandywineRedClay.org.*

DELAWARE

Hockessin

Ashland Nature Center. Headquarters of the DE Nature Society, 130 acres of meadows, forests, marshes, streams and ponds make an ideal setting for nature programs each year, geared to all ages and all levels of interest. *Brackenville & Barley Mill Rds. DelawareNatureSociety.org.*

Mt. Cuba Center. A botanical garden that inspires an appreciation for native plants and a commitment to protect the habitats that sustain them. *Gardens open Apr.-Nov. 3120 Barley Mill Rd. MtCubaCenter.org.*

Historic Sites

PENNSYLVANIA

Birdsboro

Daniel Boone Homestead. Daniel Boone was born here in 1734 in a log house built between 1730-1779. Other buildings include

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NEW YEAR'S EVE
BALL DROP

a PA bank barn, blacksmith shop, sawmill, log house and visitors center. 400 Daniel Boone Rd. DanielBooneHomestead.org.

Broomall

Thomas Massey House. One of the oldest English Quaker homes in PA, built in 1696. *Lawrence & Springhouse Rds. ThomasMasseyHouse.org.*

Chadds Ford

Barns-Brinton House. Blacksmith William Barns foresaw the need for a tavern on "ye Great Road to Nottingham." So, in 1714, he built the spacious brick building that was to become one. 630 Baltimore Pk. ChaddsFordHistory.org.

John Chads House. Built around 1725 and owned by John Chads from 1729 until his death in 1760. He operated a ferry across Brandywine Creek. The location became known as Chad's ford. 1736 Creek Rd. ChaddsFordHistory.org.

Chester Springs

The Mill at Anselma. On the Pickering Creek, the mill is an extraordinary artifact of 275 years of Chester County's industrial heritage, retaining its original Colonial-era power train and multiple layers of industrial equipment. Demonstrations and hands-on activities. 1730 Conestoga Rd. AnselmaMill.org.

Historic Yellow Springs. Originally named by Native Americans for the iron-rich "yellow" spring water, this scenic village became the principal hospital for the Continental Army during the Valley Forge encampment and an 18th-century mineral water spa. Site of art, crafts and antique shows. *Art School & Pikeland Rds. YellowSprings.org.*

Ephrata

Ephrata Cloister. William Penn's colony of Pennsylvania was the first to offer freedom from religious persecution, and historic Ephrata Cloister is an example of this religious toleration. Now a Blue Star Museum, providing free admission to currently serving U.S. military and their families this summer. 632 W. Main St. EphrataCloister.org.

Lancaster

Rock Ford Plantation. 18th-century Georgian-style home of Revolutionary War hero General Edward Hand. The estate includes the mansion, barn and Kauffman Museum of decorative arts. 881 Rockford Rd. RockFordPlantation.org.

Wheatland, LancasterHistory.org. Wheatland, the James Buchanan House, is a Federal-style house outside Lancaster City. It was formerly owned by the 15th President of the United States, James Buchanan. 1120 Marietta Ave. LancasterHistory.org.

Malvern

Historic Sugartown. Provides a window on rural 19th-century life, with several preserved buildings, including a c. 1880 General Store, Carriage Museum featuring Chester County carriages and sleighs, Bank Barn and Book Bindery. Parking at 273 Boot Rd. HistoricSugartown.org.

Paoli Battlefield. On the night of September 20, 1777, British troops attacked General Anthony Wayne's Pennsylvanians at this spot. This was one of the bloodiest battles of the Revolutionary War and was called the Paoli Massacre. *Monument & Wayne Aves. PBPFIInc.org.*

Pottstown

Pottsgrove Manor. Built in 1752, this is the historic home of John Potts, Colonial ironmaster and founder of Pottstown. Distinguished for its fine early Georgian architecture. *Rt. 100 & W. King St. MontCoPA.org/HistoricSites.*

Schwenksville

Pennypacker Mills. A Colonial revival mansion, this home of PA Governor Samuel W. Pennypacker was preserved as a country gentleman's estate. 5 Haldeman Rd. MontCoPA.org/HistoricSites.

Wayne

St. David's Episcopal Church. A stone wall encloses St. David's graveyard, memorialized in Longfellow's poem: "What an image of peace and rest is this little church among its graves ..." This park-like setting is welcoming and serene, with an intimate stone church. 763 S. Valley Forge Rd. StDavidsChurch.org.

Museums

PENNSYLVANIA

Chadds Ford

Brandywine Museum of Art. See "Some of Our Favorite Day Trips & Outings."

Christian Sanderson Museum. A private, nonprofit enterprise exhibiting the eclectic collection of historical relics, artifacts and memorabilia acquired by Christian Sanderson over more than 75 years. 1755 Creek Rd. SandersonMuseum.org.

Coatesville

Lukens National Historic District Museums. Three mansions — Rebecca Lukens House (c. 1739), Terracina (1850-51) and Graystone Mansion (1889) — plus the National Iron and Steel Heritage Museum are the highlights when you visit. "A Science Museum in a Historical Setting." 50 S. 1st Ave. SteelMuseum.org.

Radnor

Sports Legends of Delaware County Museum. Dedicated to preserving the history and memory of Delaware County sports legends. 301 Iven Ave. 610-909-4919. DelcoSportsMuseum.org.

West Chester

Chester County History Center. Their mission is to inspire, inform and build community identity by preserving and sharing the remarkable story of Chester County and its people. 225 N. High St. MyCCHC.org.

DELAWARE

Wilmington

Delaware Art Museum. Galleries featuring pre-Raphaelite art, Brandywine school illustrators and a nine-acre sculpture garden. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy. DelArt.org.

The Delaware Contemporary. A non-collecting contemporary art museum and gathering place for exploring new ideas in art, design and technology. 200 S. Madison St. DEContemporary.org.

Delaware Children's Museum. The big yellow building along the Riverfront focuses on science, math and technology and engages children in playful learning. 550 Justison St. DelawareChildrensMuseum.org.

Delaware History Museum. Originally a Woolworth's Department Store (1940), the building has been transformed into the Delaware History Museum and the Jane and Littleton Mitchell Center for African American Heritage. 504 N. Market St. DEHistory.org.

Delaware Museum of Nature & Science. Everywhere you look, our dynamic Earth is full of diverse life. At the Delaware Museum of Nature and Science, discover how nature connects us all in surprising ways. Through exhibits, hands-on activities and interactive experiences, explore how we all have a role to play in caring for our environment and the planet. Become a member and enjoy admission, discounts and reciprocal benefits all year. DeMNS.org.



Hagley Museum & Library. The former industrial site of the original black powder works of the DuPont Company, founded in 1802 and powered by the natural resources that surrounded it. Check website for events. 200 Hagley Creek Rd. Hagley.org.

Nemours Estate. Experience the 47,000-square-foot mansion with 77 rooms of remarkable collections that include art, furniture and technology, the gardens featuring 200 acres



of French-inspired formal gardens, grounds and woodlands and a vintage collection of automobiles owned by Alfred and Jessie du Pont on display in the Chauffeur's Garage. *1600 Rockland Rd. Tues-Sun, 10 to 5, last entry at 4. Nemours-Estate.org.*

Rockwood Museum. Designed in 1851 by English architect George Williams, an outstanding example of Rural Gothic architecture and gardenesque landscape design. *4651 Washington Street Extension. Rockwood.org.*

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library. See “Some of Our Favorite Day Trips & Outings.”

Yorklyn
Marshall Steam Museum at Auburn Heights Preserve. Home to the world's largest collection of operating steam cars and a 1/8-size live steam railroad on the 250-acre grounds. Visit their website to find out about special events, such as Evenings at the Museum and Steamin' Days. *3000 Creek Rd. AuburnHeights.org.*

Special Interest Museums

PENNSYLVANIA

Boyertown
Boyertown Museum of Historic Vehicles. Featuring vehicles of all types: gasoline, electric and horse-drawn, including carriages, wagons and sleighs. You'll see “high wheelers” and “safety bicycles,” vehicle builder's tools and local historic roadside architecture. *85 S. Walnut St. Boyertown-Museum.org.*

Columbia
The National Watch & Clock Museum. Featuring the treasures of time, from ancient

timepieces to modern technologies, the museum captures the evolution of timekeeping over the centuries. *514 Poplar St. NAWCC.com.*

Lancaster
Landis Valley Museum. Whether you come for the animals, to learn about early Pennsylvania German life, or to stroll the grounds and get an up-close look at the largest collection of Pennsylvania German artifacts in the U.S., there is something for everyone to enjoy. *2451 Kissel Hill Rd. LandisValleyMuseum.org.*

Malvern
The Wharton Escherick Museum. Home and studio of renowned artist and sculptor Wharton Escherick, who inspired the Studio Furniture movement. A National Historic Landmark for Architecture, housing 50 years of work. Tours by reservation only. *1520 Horseshoe Trail. WhartonEscherickMuseum.org.*

Strasburg
The National Toy Train Museum. Railroad Museum of PA. Strasburg Rail Road. Visit *NTTMuseum.org*; *RRMuseumPA.org*; *StrasburgRailRoad.com.*

West Chester
The American Helicopter Museum & Education Center. The center's mission is to preserve rotary-wing aviation history, educate society on helicopters and their missions, and inspire future generations through educational programs, events, air shows and workshops. *1220 American Blvd. AmericanHelicopterMuseum.org.*

The Antique Ice Tool Museum. This one-of-a-kind museum is dedicated to preserving the natural ice trade and houses the largest private collection of antique ice tools and memorabilia. *825 Scanneltown Rd. AntiqueIceToolMuseum.org.* ♦

Glen Hope Bridge, Oxford
First built in 1889, then rebuilt after a fire in 1987, this stone-and-wood bridge spans Little Elk Creek. *Hickory Hill Rd.*

Harmony Hill Bridge, West Bradford
The 78-foot-long Burr truss bridge was built in 1872 and crosses the East Branch of Brandywine Creek. *Harmony Hill Rd.*

Kennedy Bridge, Phoenixville
This 1856 bridge over French Creek was rebuilt after a fire, using bongossi wood, a non-flammable wood from Africa. *W. Seven Stars Rd.*

Knox Bridge, Malvern
Valley Forge National Historical Park is home to the first covered bridge (1851) to cross Valley Creek. Chester County's most photographed. *300 Yellow Springs Rd.*

Bartram Bridge, Newtown Square
This 1860 bridge connects Delaware and Chester Counties and spans Crum Creek. *4298 Goshen Rd.*

Larkin Bridge (Thomson Bridge), Chester Springs
Originally built in 1854 and rebuilt in 1818, this bridge wasn't always in its current spot. It was relocated in 2006 to be along a walking path. *Trail near Byers Station housing development.*

Linton Stephens Bridge, Oxford
This small footbridge built in 1886 sparks a spelling debate, Stephens or Stevens, and was named after the local postmaster. *1051 Kings Row Rd.*

Mercers Mill Bridge, Atglen
Named for farmer and mill owner Captain John Mercer, the 1880 bridge joins West Fallowfield and Sadsbury Townships. *3771 Bailey Crossroads Rd.*

Pine Grove Bridge, Nottingham
The longest covered bridge in Chester County and part of a historic route from New York to Washington, this bridge crosses Octoraro Creek. The current version was built in 1884. *Forge Rd.*

Rapps Dam Bridge, Phoenixville
Spanning French Creek, this scenic bridge was built by Benjamin F. Hartman in 1866. *Rapps Dam Rd.*

Sheeder Hall Bridge, Spring City
The oldest covered bridge in Chester County, constructed in 1850, its red color and unique “step-like” archways make it instantly recognizable. *10 Hollow Rd.*

Want more? Check out the covered bridge brochure at *BrandywineValley.com* ♦

Bridges for cars Pedestrians only view only



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Larkin Bridge in Chester Springs




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----- ARCHITECTS, BUILDERS, HOME IMPROVEMENT -----

B&D BUILDERS IN PARADISE

[BAndDBuilders.com](#)  See their ad on page 4

B&D Builders is a full-service custom builder with more than 20 years' experience in bringing grand projects to life. Their team of skilled designers and craftsmen have brought creativity and attention to detail to hundreds of projects, including equestrian facilities, bank barns, event venues, luxury homes, commercial properties and more.



GRIFFITHS CONSTRUCTION IN CHESTER SPRINGS

[GriffithsConstruction.net](#)  See their ad on page 13

Griffiths Construction is a team of highly skilled craftspeople dedicated to excellence in every aspect of home building. For over 30 years, they've taken pride in delivering superior craftsmanship and building lasting relationships. Their custom work has enhanced some of the most distinguished communities in Pennsylvania and beyond.



CULLEN CONSTRUCTION IN WAYNE

[CullenConstructionInc.com](#)  See their ad on page 53

Founded in 1953 by Edward E. Cullen, Cullen Construction has always been guided by a steadfast commitment to integrity and excellence. For three generations they've delivered exceptional high-end custom homes, renovations, remodels and historic restorations to clients. Today, their team carries forward the proud legacy by delivering homes and spaces with care that will be enjoyed by many generations.



KING CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN NEW HOLLAND

[KingBarns.com](#)  See their ad on page 14

King Construction Company is a recognized leader in quality design and craftsmanship for barns, arenas, garages and accessory structures. King Construction works with their clients in all aspects of the design process to provide an exceptional building experience.



DEWSON CONSTRUCTION IN WILMINGTON

[DewsonConstruction.com](#)  See their ad on page 14

Dewson Construction is a full-service custom home builder, building and renovating homes in Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland for 30+ years. From large-scale new construction and whole-house renovations to smaller-scale renovations and additions, they incorporate the same Dewson trademarks of exceptional quality, craftsmanship and customer service into every project — every time.



MCCOMSEY BUILDERS IN PARKESBURG

[McComseyBuilders.com](#)  See their ad on page 31

Chester County's premier custom builder. At McComsey Builders, they are more than just a family-owned company. They're a dedicated team committed to excellence in every aspect of their craft. With a legacy built on integrity and hard work, they pride themselves on going the extra mile for their clients. Exceptional isn't just a goal — it's a promise they keep with every project they undertake.



RENEWAL DYNAMICS IN KENNETT SQUARE

[Facebook.com/RenewalDynamics](#)  See their ad on page 8

Renewal Dynamics is an established architectural and planning firm that works with clients to address their needs for new construction, renovation, expansion and adaptive reuse of historic, forgotten or unique structures. The firm's personnel have a combined total of over 45 years of planning experience and share a dedication to addressing the particular architectural needs of each client.



SHELLER ENERGY IN WEST CHESTER

[ShellerOil.com](#)  See their ad on page 57

Sheller Energy is a family-owned and -operated heating, oil and full HVAC service provider, serving the Chester County area for 60 years. Sheller offers a wide array of heating and cooling options to meet customers' unique needs and budgets, from advanced high-efficiency systems to simple energy-saving devices. Sheller provides full service through sale, installation, maintenance and repairs, with a company culture built upon doing the right thing.



WHITE HORSE CONSTRUCTION IN PARKESBURG

[WHCHorseBarns.com](#)  See their ad on page 19

Thinking of remodeling or building a horse barn, arena, equestrian complex, stand-alone garage or agricultural building? White Horse Construction understands what you want, having a solid reputation of building outstanding equestrian facilities and agricultural structures. White Horse Construction structures will enhance your estate for generations to come. Visit their website or call them.



----- AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES -----

BARRY'S COLLISION REPAIR IN PARKESBURG

[BarrysCollisionRepair.com](#)  See their ad on page 23

Their automotive craftsmen are well equipped to repair your vehicle with excellence. Since the 1970s, Barry's has served neighbors here in Lancaster and Chester Counties, offering the following automotive services: body work, mechanical repairs, general maintenance, alignments, windshields, ADAS calibration and more.



----- CREATIVE SERVICES/TATTOOS -----

POPPYCOCK TATTOO IN WILMINGTON

[PoppycockTattoo.com](#)  See their ad on page 73

A woman-owned shop proudly serving Wilmington for nearly 16 years. Recognized as *Delaware Today's* Best of Delaware Upstate Tattoo Shop (2018–2024) and *Newark Post's* Best Tattoo Shop (2024–2025), they were also listed among *Big 7 Travel's* "Best 50 Tattoo Parlors in America." They specialize in custom, high-quality tattoos, cover-up work and permanent makeup. They're also known as a premier body piercing destination. The lobby features an art gallery hosting events with other local artists. Ready to embark on your tattoo or piercing journey? Contact them today.



----- FINANCE -----

KEY FINANCIAL, INC. IN WEST CHESTER

[KeyFinancialInc.com](#)  See their ad on page 3

Key Financial has been providing financial planning and wealth management both locally and nationally for over 35 years. Listed as one of *Forbes'* and *Barron's* Top Advisors in America, Patti Brennan and her team have helped thousands of people live the lives they planned for, create generational legacies and retire in comfort.



-- HOME FURNISHINGS, DESIGN & DECOR --

BALL & BALL IN EXTON

[BallAndBall.com](#) See their ad on page 30

Since 1932, Ball and Ball has been a family-owned business located in Chester County. They make reproductions of 17th- and 18th-century lighting, fireplace accessories, door and furniture hardware, as well as custom work. They ship all over the country. Visit their showroom in Exton or their website.



KURTZ COLLECTION IN WILMINGTON AND GLEN MILLS

[KurtzCollection.com](#) See their ad on page 70

As a second-generation family business, Kurtz Collection is more than a rug and home showroom — it is a design destination culminating from decades of traveling, collecting and elevating homes through inspiring design. Their 16,000-square-foot Wilmington showroom — home of their interior design services — and Glen Mills lifestyle boutique are filled with a variety of handcrafted rugs, fine furniture and eclectically curated decor, accessories and antiques.



PHOTO CREDIT: GENEVIEVE GARRUPPO

-----LANDSCAPE & OUTDOOR DESIGN-----

DISABATINO LANDSCAPING & PRONTO POOLS IN WILMINGTON

[DiSabatinolnc.com](#) See their ad on the inside front cover

DiSabatino, Inc. has been creating superior landscaping, outdoor living spaces, artisan masonry and pools for more than 30 years. Team members are expertly trained in all areas of design, installation, interior and exterior builds. Since their inception, they have been committed to providing an exceptional experience for clients. This has helped them grow into DiSabatino Landscaping, Esposito Masonry, DiSabatino Design-Build, Pronto Pools and Illuminations by DiSabatino.



MOSTARDI NURSERY IN NEWTOWN SQUARE

[Mostardi.com](#) See their ad on page 24

Since 1976, Mostardi Nursery has been a family-owned business convenient to the Main Line and western Philadelphia suburbs. They are your local resource for all kinds of outdoor and indoor plants, along with the expertise to help you be successful with your home gardening and landscaping projects. Their friendly service goes above and beyond your expectations.



SHREINER TREE CARE IN KING OF PRUSSIA

[ShreinerTreeCare.com](#) See their ad on page 58

The arborists at Shreiner Tree Care have been providing property owners professional arboricultural services for nearly 40 years. They look forward to meeting you to develop a tree and shrub care plan for your property. Please call or email to set up your appointment.



-----REALTORS-----

THE HOLLY GROSS GROUP

[HollyGrossGroup.com](#) See their ad on page 5

The Holly Gross Group, under the guidance of Stewart, Stephen and Holly Gross, is ranked in the top 10 realtors in Chester County. They represent sellers and buyers of all types and sizes of homes and properties, including condominiums, townhomes, single-family homes, large estates, farms, raw land and rental properties. They look forward to working with you.



KIT ANSTEY REAL ESTATE TEAM

[AnsteyTeam.com](#) See their ad on the back cover

Kit is the team leader of the nationally recognized Kit Anstey Team, specializing in West Chester and the surrounding areas. Their awards include America's Best Real Estate Professionals, Top Real Estate Producers by *Philadelphia Magazine*, Elite Circle Award top 25 medium teams by Berkshire Hathaway Fox & Roach Realtors, 10 Best in Real Estate for exceptional and outstanding client services by American Institute of Real Estate Agents, Best Realtor of Chester County by Readers' Choice from the *Daily Local* and *West Chester Lifestyle* Readers' Choice Best Realtor.



MONUMENT SOTHEY'S INTERNATIONAL REALTY

[KarenNaderProperties.com](#) See their ad on page 9

Karen Nader brings broad experience, strong communications skills and in-depth knowledge of luxury properties in both Pennsylvania and Delaware. With offices in Kennett Square and Wilmington, including a residential office at her Unionville farm, Karen is available whenever needed to assist prospective buyers and sellers, bringing to the table assurances of accomplishment and satisfaction.



- RESTAURANTS — FOOD SENSITIVITY FRIENDLY -

RON'S ORIGINAL BAR & GRILLE IN EXTON

[RonsOriginal.com](#) See their ad on page 79

Serving real food, for the health of it. Delicious meals prepared from scratch, on site daily, with all-natural ingredients and now seed oil free. American/Italian cuisine with something for everyone. Open every day at 11 a.m. Dine-in, takeout, delivery and catering. Order online or call.



-----SCHOOLS-----

ST. ALOYSIUS ACADEMY IN BRYN MAWR

[StAloysiusAcademy.org](#) See their ad on page 57

St. Aloysius Academy is an all-boys, K–8 Catholic school focused on academic excellence, leadership and faith formation. Rooted in the traditions of the Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary, they nurture boys to become confident, compassionate and well-rounded young men. Small class sizes and a strong sense of community set the foundation for lifelong success.



-----SENIOR LIVING-----

HARMONY AT HOCKESSIN

[HarmonyAtHockessin.com](#) See their ad on page 83

Opening summer 2025. Discover more than a new home at Harmony — find friendship, vibrant community and carefree living. For over 40 years, Harmony communities have celebrated the fun and connection of senior living. Enjoy spacious apartments, weekly housekeeping and exciting amenities. A full calendar of events and complimentary transportation make life easier and more enjoyable.



SENIOR LIVING

HARRISON HILL 55+ COMMUNITY IN WEST CHESTER

HarrisonHillApts.com See their ad on page 31

"Harrison Hill is more than a community; it is a neighborhood." 55+ independent residents enjoy Monday Mingle, holiday festivities, barbecues and more. A festive, family-oriented, welcoming environment features five stories that offer 114 apartment homes comprised of one bedroom and one bedrooms with a den, all with walk-in showers and washer/dryers.



WHITE HORSE VILLAGE IN NEWTOWN SQUARE

WhiteHorseVillage.org See their ad on page 58

Nestled on 109 acres of rolling countryside, White Horse Village is an active senior living community offering exceptional amenities, spacious residences, delicious food and a continuum of care. Their community is the perfect size — small enough to foster meaningful relationships and large enough to cater to diverse senior lifestyles. They cultivate an atmosphere of casual elegance, genuine warmth and unmatched hospitality.



These are just a few of the great small businesses and organizations in our area that are here to help you. Please check our website, *CountyLinesMagazine.com*, and other issues of *County Lines* for more about valuable local resources to help you get settled in your new community. Welcome to our area!

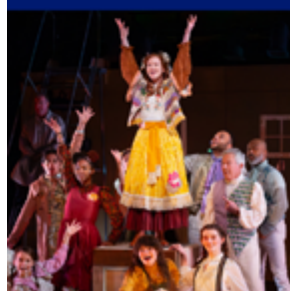
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ChesterCountyFoodBank.org





Spend a Weekend in Wilmington

YOUR GETAWAY SOUTH OF THE (STATE) BORDER

Shannon Montgomery

PHOTO CREDIT: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY

AS SUMMER ARRIVES IN EARNEST, MANY OF US dream of packing our bags and hopping on a plane, train or boat to some far-off destination. But who says you have to go far to get away?

Why not take a drive down the Brandywine Valley National Scenic Byway, aka Route 52? You'll find yourself in Wilmington, where you can stay a while and discover what the city has to offer — opulent hotels, top-notch restaurants, renowned museums and so much more.

Here's an itinerary for a weekend escape to the First State to inspire you to head out.

CHECKING IN

Book a stay at one of downtown Wilmington's elegant hotels, blending the city's past and present. Step into history at the [Hotel du Pont](#) on the corner of 11th and Market Streets. Built in 1913 as an extension of the DuPont Company headquarters, this Italian Renaissance Revival marvel — complete with imported European chandeliers, soaring ceilings, hand-carved details and sweeping staircases — will transport you to the Gilded Age.

For something a bit more modern, choose [The Quoin Hotel](#) on North Market Street. Opened in 2022, this Furness-designed Victorian Romanesque brownstone has been transformed into a boutique hotel. Each of its 24 rooms, says the Michelin Guide, is “richly

detailed,” with vintage and custom furnishings, hand-drawn floral wallpapers and live plants — plus luxurious amenities, of course.

DINNER DATE

For fine dining in downtown Wilmington, look no further than your hotel. The Hotel du Pont is home to [Le Cavalier](#), an acclaimed French brasserie, while [The Quoin Restaurant's](#) Italian cuisine has attracted plenty of local diners, including the Bidens.

Prefer a change of scenery? Take a quick walk down Market Street to [Bardea Food & Drink](#) and sample James Beard semifinalist Chef Antimo DiMeo's Italian shared plates with locally sourced ingredients. Start with snacks (try the burrata pop tart), then move on to pasta, pizza, seafood and more, including a whole or half heritage chicken with Thai chili, cashew and coconut au jus. For carnivores, try [Bardea Steak](#), DiMeo's boutique steakhouse next door.

Or opt for nearby [La Fia](#), an intimate bistro owned by Brian Sikora (Crow Bar, Noble Goat) with another James Beard semifinalist as executive chef, Dwain Kalup. Choose from a diverse menu of inventive seasonal fare, from crispy duck leg confit to grilled Spanish octopus, and pair with over 20 wines by the glass.

EVENING SIPS

Before turning in for the night, wind down with a drink at one of Wilmington's many watering holes. Here are just a few options for



PHOTO CREDIT: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY

PHOTO CREDIT: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY

Clockwise from top left: Hotel du Pont, Bardea Food & Drink, Constitution Yards, Centreville Place

late-night libations — find more in our July 2024 Happy Hour guide online.

Look out on bustling Market Street from [Merchant Bar's](#) marble-top window counter and sip a handcrafted cocktail. Choose from “Standards” — old fashioned, classic margarita — or cheekily named “Modern Delights” like the Cardi Basil (basil-infused vodka, ginger liqueur, cardamom bitters), Mile High Club (gin, crème de fraise, Aperol) and Covfefe (bourbon, coffee, coconut honey).

Or check out local favorite [Nomad Bar](#), now under all-female leadership after being purchased by a former bartender this spring. Enjoy an extensive craft beer list, plus wine and select cocktails, while listening to live music — “from jazz to bluegrass to everything in between,” their Facebook page says — every Thursday, Friday and Saturday night.

For a hidden gem, venture over to Trolley Square to find [Hummingbird to Mars](#). Roaring Twenties vibes abound at

this speakeasy above Catherine Rooney's. Wondering about the name? It comes from Texas Senator Morris Sheppard, who in 1930 proclaimed, “There is as much chance of repealing the Eighteenth Amendment [establishing Prohibition] as there is for a hummingbird to fly to the planet Mars with the Washington Monument tied to its tail.” Drop by for an impossibly delicious cocktail.

MORNING BITES AND MORE

After a good night's sleep, fuel up for the big day ahead. Sip coffee while you admire the art that adorns the walls of [Milk + Honey Coffeehouse & Gallery](#) on North Market Street. Choose from breakfast staples, avocado toast or their popular blueberry pancakes topped with lemon zest.

Or, if you're up for a little adventure, wend your way up Kennett Pike to [Centreville Place](#). This cozy café and market in a 200-year-old home serves breakfast until noon, including breakfast sand-

wiches, omelets, quiche and the Sammy — smoked salmon with wasabi, capers, red onion, tomato and cucumber on a bagel or wrap. Pair with a steaming cup of French-press coffee.

If you're staying at the Hotel du Pont, indulge in a delightful in-room afternoon tea service at 3:30. Enjoy high tea with delicate finger sandwiches, fresh-baked pastries, petite desserts and the hotel's signature macaroons. Note: 48-hour advanced booking is required.

ON THE WATERFRONT

Once you're fed (and perhaps caffeinated), it's time to take a walk on the riverfront. Stroll down the 1.3-mile Riverwalk along the Christina River, where more fun awaits.

Grab a bite to eat at [Iron Hill Brewery](#), along with one of their award-winning ales — East Side Gallery and The Cannibal recently got accolades at the 2025 World Beer Cup. If there's a Phillies game



PHOTO CREDIT: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY



PHOTO CREDIT: LES KIPP

PHOTO CREDIT: MOONLOOP PHOTOGRAPHY

Clockwise from top left: Wilmington Blue Rocks, DuPont Environmental Education Center, Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library, Nemours Estate

on, enjoy \$5 pints of Philly Phavorite IPA, \$10 growler fills and \$5 Philly cheesesteak egg rolls.

Or drop by the new-and-improved [Constitution Yards](#). Just across the street from their old location, the seasonal beer garden moved to a larger space this spring, adding 25 draft lines and a brand-new Sky Deck. As always, enjoy a rotating selection of craft beers, wine and cocktails, pub grub, live music, axe-throwing and yard games.

Work off your lunch with a round of [Riverwalk Mini Golf](#). This 18-hole mini-golf course is landscaped with many plants found along the riverfront. Then cool off with nine flavors of soft serve, milkshakes, water ice and soda.

Rather be a spectator? Catch a minor league baseball game at [Daniel S. Frawley Stadium](#). This month, the [Wilmington Blue Rocks](#) play the Jersey Shore BlueClaws, Aberdeen IronBirds and Hud-

son Valley Renegades. Special theme days include Sunday Family Fun Day (July 6), Fireworks Friday (July 18) and Celerybration (July 19) — in honor of Mr. Celery, one of the team's mascots.

At the end of the Riverwalk, you'll find the [DuPont Environmental Education Center](#), part of the Russell W. Peterson Urban Wildlife Refuge. This 212-acre freshwater tidal marsh is home to American bald eagles, wood ducks, beavers, river otters, eastern painted turtles and more. On select weekends, you can take a kayak out onto the Christina River.

DU PONT DREAMING

Of course, no trip to Wilmington would be complete without visiting a du Pont family estate. Take your pick of three gorgeous properties.

Find the du Ponts' first home in America at [Hagley Museum and Library](#).

Situated on 235 acres along the banks of the Brandywine, Hagley is the site of E. I. du Pont's gunpowder works, founded in 1802. Explore the factory's buildings and grounds, tour the du Pont home and gardens, and see the "Nation of Inventors" exhibition in the visitor center.

North of downtown, you'll find the [Nemours Estate](#), former home of Alfred I. du Pont, whose last will and testament established the Nemours Foundation to improve children's health. The estate is home to a spectacular 47,000-square-foot French neoclassical mansion, 200 acres of Versailles-inspired formal gardens, grounds and woodlands, and the Chauffer's Garage, which houses an extensive collection of rare vintage automobiles.

Just outside the city, [Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library](#) sits on a sprawling 1,000 acres of rolling hills, meadows and woodlands. Inside the former home

Yours to Love and to Know

Explore the elegance of a 77-room Mansion, a Chauffeur's Garage with vintage automobiles, and 200 acres of French-inspired formal gardens, grounds, and woodlands.



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ESTATE**
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[NemoursEstate.org](#)



Interior design by Kurtz Collection | Photography by Genevieve Garruppo

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WILMINGTON + GLEN MILLS



KURTZCOLLECTION.COM



Clockwise from top left: Delaware Art Museum, Delaware Museum of Nature & Science, Kalmar Nyckel, Brandywine Zoo

of Henry Francis du Pont, you'll find the nation's premier museum of American decorative arts, a staggering collection of nearly 90,000 objects dating back as far as 1640. Don't miss H. F. du Pont's 60-acre naturalistic garden, 25 miles of paths and trails, and the Enchanted Woods, an award-winning children's garden.

MORE FUN AROUND TOWN

Before heading home, take one last excursion to one of these special spots around the city. Experts say the most memorable part of your trip is the end, so make it count!

At the [Delaware Art Museum](#), set in a leafy green suburban neighborhood, colorful glasswork by Dale Chihuly greets you at the entrance foyer. Make your way through the museum's 12,000 pieces, including the largest collection of Pre-Raphaelite art outside the United Kingdom. Be sure to walk

through the Copeland Sculpture Garden before you go!

For left-brained folks, explore the [Delaware Museum of Nature & Science](#). Travel through Delaware and around the world to discover diverse ecosystems, go back in time to the Cretaceous period to see dinosaurs, and learn through hands-on activities and interactive experiences.

Meet animals from across the globe at the [Brandywine Zoo](#). Located in Brandywine Park, the zoo features animals from the tropical and temperate areas of North and South America, Asia and Africa, ranging from common species to the highly endangered. See lemurs, bobcats, tortoises, bald eagles, pythons and more — including one of my favorites, the red panda.

Through July 13, set sail on the [Kalmar Nyckel](#), a replica 17th-century tall ship. Known as the "Swedish Mayflower of the Delaware Valley," the original Kal-

mar Nyckel brought the first European settlers to the area, who founded the colony of New Sweden. Today, you can take a 90-minute cruise down the Christina River, then learn the history at the [Copeland Maritime Center](#).

Or end your visit with a show at one of Wilmington's many theaters and performance venues — like the [Grand Opera House](#), [Playhouse on Rodney Square](#) or [The Queen](#), to name a few. For upcoming performances, see our "Fall Guide to the Performing Arts."

As you drive back across the state line, savor memories from your Wilmington weekend — scenic strolls, innovative cuisine, brushes with history. You just might find this small city leaves a big impression ... and plenty of reasons to return. ♦

For more, go to [VisitWilmingtonDE.com](#).

PHOTOS COURTESY OF GWCVB

More Fun In and Around *Wilmington ...*

THROUGH AUGUST 27

Wednesdays

Summer Nights at Hagley Museum & Library. Bring a picnic to enjoy at the picnic pavilion on Workers' Hill or at a table along the Brandywine. Dogfish Head craft beer and Woodside Farm Creamery ice cream are available for purchase. 200 Hagley Creek Rd. 5 to 8 pm. \$5. Hagley.org.

THROUGH SEPTEMBER 7

Delaware Art Museum. *Through Aug. 24*, "John Sloan and His Students." *Through Sept. 7*, "Marisol to Warhol" photographs by Shakira Hunt. *July 13*, Family Second Saturday. 2301 Kentmere Pkwy., Wilmington. Wed, 10 to 4; Thurs, 10 to 8; Fri–Sun, 10 to 4. \$6–\$12, Thurs, 4 to 8, free. DelArt.org.

THROUGH SEPTEMBER

The Music School of Delaware. Hosting over 100 performances, events, workshops and master classes at several locations. Performances include diverse musical styles and feature expert faculty, regional artists, internationally acclaimed guests and students. Most are free. 4101 Washington St. MusicSchoolOfDelaware.org.

THROUGH SEPTEMBER

Daniel S. Frawley Stadium. Home to the Wilmington Blue Rocks, the High A Affiliate of the Washington Nationals, who play 66 home games per year. The stadium also hosts concerts and corporate and nonprofit events. 801 Shipyard Dr. FrawleyStadium.com.



THROUGH OCTOBER

Kalmar Nyckel, Tall Ship of Delaware. Find adventure and outdoor fun, maritime history and cultural events with annual community festivals. *Sept. 20*, King Neptune Gala; *Oct. 18*, Halloween Ghost Ship. Copeland Maritime Center at the Kalmar Nyckel Shipyard, 1124 E. 7th St. KalmarNyckel.org.

THROUGH NOVEMBER

First Sundays

Auburn Heights Steamin' Days. Climb into an antique automobile, board one of the trains and experience what it was like to travel at the turn of the 20th century. Tour the magnificent 1897 mansion that was home to three generations of the Marshall family. 3000 Creek Rd., Yorklyn, DE. 12:30 to 4:30 pm. \$10–\$15. AuburnHeights.org.

THROUGH OCTOBER 31

Brandywine Treasure Trail Passport. The Passport provides access to 12 of Wilmington and the Brandywine Valley's top attractions, including thousands of acres of gardens, the grand estates of the du Pont family, incredible works of art and rich American history. \$49–\$99. VisitWilmingtonDE.com.

THROUGH DECEMBER

Winterthur Museum, Garden & Library. Winterthur hosts many events throughout the season. Visit their website for everything from garden walks, special events, workshops, demonstrations and much more. 5105 Kennett Pk., Winterthur, DE. Tues–Sun, 10 to 5. \$15–\$30. Winterthur.org.

JULY 4

Hockessin 4th of July Festival and Fireworks. A community tradition for almost 50 years, the day begins with neighborhood relays in the

morning, the parade in the afternoon and an amazing fireworks display at dusk. Visit website for details, Hockessin4th.org.

JULY 10–SEPT. 25

Family Fun at Brandywine Zoo. *July 10*, Family Fun Night—special evening hours with a reduced admission fee of \$2. Enjoy \$1 hot dogs and \$1 soft drinks. *July 24, Aug. 21, Sept. 25*, Sip & Stroll—go a little wild at the family-friendly event. You'll sip, stroll and learn while enjoying beer and touring the zoo after hours. Fun animal encounters and activities for all ages. Limited number of tickets. Beer sold separately. Brandywine Park, 1001 N. Park Dr. 5 to 7. BrandywineZoo.org.



JULY 17–AUGUST 3

Delaware Shakespeare—"Twelfth Night, O Lo Que Quieras." A bilingual musical adaptation of Shakespeare's romantic comedy. Rockwood Park, 4651 Washington St. Extension. Times and tickets, DelShakes.org.

AUGUST 16

Middletown Peach Festival. Entertainment throughout the day at locations around town, featuring kids activities, local artist and historical exhibits, a peach pie contest, crafts, music, food, games and plenty of peaches. Festivities begin at 8:45 am with the annual Peach parade on Broad St. and conclude at 4 pm. MiddletownPeachFestival.com.



AUGUST 23

Annual Delaware Burger Battle. Delaware's top chefs offer their best burgers. Benefits Food Bank of Delaware and Delaware ProStart. Rockford Tower, Rockford Park, 2000 Lookout Dr. Noon to 3:30. Pay one price to sample burgers all day, \$12–\$50. DEBurgerBattle.com.

AUGUST 24–31

August Quarterly Festival Celebration. The nation's oldest African American festival celebrating freedom of religion and speech and the right of assembly. Tubman-Garrett Riverfront Park, Rosa Parks Dr. AugustQuarterly.org.



SEPTEMBER 6

Historic Odessa Brewfest. Enjoy 50 local, regional and national craft breweries, live music, gourmet food and artisan vendors. Benefits Historic Odessa Fdn. 202 Main St., Odessa, DE. OdessaBrewfest.com.

SEPTEMBER 6 & 7

Brandywine Festival of the Arts. Over 200 artisans from all over the country display and sell their work. 1001 N. Park Dr. Sat, 10 to 6; Sun, 10 to 4. \$5. BrandywineArts.com. ♦

For more fun things to do, check VisitWilmingtonDE.com.



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Back in January, we named over 100 outstanding restaurants “Best of the Best” winners for standing the test of time. In the following months, we got to meet some of the faces behind the food — presenting them with their well-deserved awards and thanking them for offering fantastic food, drinks and hospitality.



Bloom Southern Kitchen
Don't Miss Dining — Chester Springs



Cedar Hollow Inn
Best Evening Dining — Malvern



The Classic Diner
Best Morning Dining — Malvern



Dixie Picnic
Best Noon Dining — Malvern



Kooma Asian Fusion & Sushi Bar
Best Evening Dining — West Chester



La Sponda
Don't Miss Dining — Downingtown



Limoncetto Ristorante
Best Noon Dining — West Chester



The Noble Goat
Best New Restaurants



Downingtown Diner
Best Noon Dining — Downingtown



Fitzwater Station
Best Happy Hour — Phoenixville



The Flying Pig
Best Happy Hour — Malvern



Gentili's Pizza & Steaks
Best New Restaurants



Nudy's Café
Best Morning Dining — Main Line



Pomod'oro Pizza & Italian Restaurant
Best Evening Dining — Downingtown



Rakkii Sushi & Ramen
Best New Restaurants



Ryan's Pub
Best Happy Hour — West Chester



Giordano's
Best Noon Dining — Kennett Square



Jitters
Best Town Bar — West Chester



Kildare's Irish Pub
Best Happy Hour — West Chester



Kimberton Inn
Don't Miss Dining — Phoenixville



Ron's Original Bar & Grille
Best Noon Dining — Exton



Teca
Best Evening Dining — West Chester



Thorndale Inn
Best Evening Dining — Downingtown



Victory Brewing Company
Best Happy Hour — Downingtown

TAP INTO SUMMER

in the Great Outdoors

A GUIDE TO BEER GARDENS + ROOFTOP BARS IN THE BRANDYWINE VALLEY

Kari Mullan

AS THE WEATHER HEATS UP, a great way to spend time outdoors is at a local beer garden or rooftop bar with an ice-cold drink. Here are a few of our favorite local spots to check out.

AROUND CHESTER COUNTY

Brothers on the Brandywine Beer Garden. Set along the scenic Brandywine River, Brothers Kershner Brewing Co. hosts a seasonal beer garden on Sundays from 1 to 6 p.m. Enjoy live music, food trucks, wine and locally brewed beer along with special events like Christmas in July and the Brandywine Music Festival. *2100 Strasburg Rd., Coatesville. BrothersKershner.com/Beer-Gardens*

The Creamery of Kennett Square. Head to the rustic, converted former 1902 Eastern Condensed Milk Company building for a community atmosphere and great brews. Select craft beers on tap or in cans,

plus wine, cocktails, hard seltzer and kombucha. Order food from the kitchen or from the rotating group of food trucks on site on weekends. String lights + live music on the weekends = a great time. *401 Birch St., Kennett Square. KennettCreamery.com*

Levante Taproom & at Highland Orchards. Set in an industrial park and right next to the brewery, this taproom serves the freshest beer possible. Sample 20 taps plus hard ciders, frozen granitas and more options. Food trucks parked outside offer a unique food selection each visit, or BYOF (bring your own food). Also check out their Highland Orchards location for the weekend beer garden. *208 Carter Dr., Ste. 2, West Chester. 1000 Marshallton Thorndale Rd., West Chester. LevanteBrewing.com*

Longwood Gardens. Surrounded by lush greenery, the beer garden in Longwood Gardens is a real gem. Most Fridays and weekends, there's live music to enjoy

along with signature brews, including from Victory Brewing, wine and Bavarian pretzels, pizza or bratwurst. Open until August 31 (except Tuesdays), weather permitting. Garden admission tickets are required to access the beer garden. *1001 Longwood Rd., Kennett Square. LongwoodGardens.org/Dine/Beer-Garden*

The Stables Kitchen and Beer Garden. With indoor and outdoor seating, it's fun here rain or shine for the whole family — there's a kid-friendly section, plus leashed pets are welcome, and a 21+ area for adults seeking a laidback vibe. Located next to the Gunther Sunflower Field, the views couldn't be better. Go for trivia on Wednesdays, special drink deals on Thursdays or live music on Saturdays. Open Wednesday–Sunday. *160 Park Rd., Chester Springs. TheStablesBeerGarden.com*

Suburban in Sadsburyville: Beer Garden. Sip craft beers and eat the best seafood

south of Maine from the Wicked Good Food Trailer. Enjoy live music and play games with the whole family — including furry friends — as you spread out on the lawn. Open May 24 until October 27, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. *Note: the Exton location closed. 3000 Lincoln Hwy., Parkesburg. SuburbanBG.com*

WILMINGTON

Constitution Yards. The new location — just across the street — for this seasonal beer garden is set along the Christina Riverwalk. This dog-friendly spot has live music on Fridays and Saturdays along with classic American food and rotating craft beers plus specialty cocktails. Grab a picnic table or Adirondack chair and kick back. *308 Justison St., Wilmington. ConstitutionYards.com*

Makers Alley. Offering unique charm, this hip rooftop beer garden in downtown Wilmington is a great find. The 1964 converted Airstream kitchen has delicious food — crab fries, soft tacos, miso BBQ burger (2023 Delaware Burger Battle winner) — that pairs well with the wide variety of beer, wine and cocktails. Happy Hours on Tuesdays–Fridays, 4 to 6 p.m. *804 N. Orange St., Wilmington. MakersAlleyDE.com*

Wilmington Brew Works. In the style of a German beer hall and the only production brewery in Wilmington, the Brew

1. The Creamery of Kennett Square
2. Brothers on the Brandywine Beer Garden
3. Longwood Gardens

Rooftop Bars

Looking to bring the fun to new levels? Check out these local rooftop bars.

Azie. This Japanese-fusion restaurant offers a rooftop experience for taking in the action in Media. Sample premium sakes, Asian beers, Champagnes, wine and seasonal craft cocktails while indulging in an assortment of sushi. This chic spot shouldn't be missed. *217 W. State St., Media. Azie-Restaurant.com*

Bistro on Bridge. Perfect for date night, this rooftop beer garden offers discounts with a ticket from nearby Colonial Theatre. Plenty of food options — bang bang shrimp, teriyaki chicken bowls, buffalo chicken flatbreads — plus arcade games and shuffleboard to enjoy while you sip a beer from the converted VW bus on the rooftop. *212 Bridge St., Phoenixville. BistroOnBridge.com*

Buckley's Tavern. This historic spot added a renovated rooftop bar and grill, where you can enjoy casual American comfort foods like Philly cheesesteak egg rolls, chicken pot pie, Buckley's macaroni & cheese and, of course, beer. Join the locals and toast the season. *5812 Kennett Pk., Wilmington. BuckleysTavern.com*

Grain. Experience Kennett Square in a whole new way on Third Thursdays when State Street is closed from Broad to Center, and Grain opens its doors to outdoor seating. Not the

third Thursday? No worries. Enjoy the outdoors up on the roof. *108 W. State St., Kennett Square. MeetAtGrain.com*

Más Mexicali Cantina. Sample Mexican cuisine — enchiladas, burritos, fajitas, tacos y mas — while sipping specialty drinks. With over 100 tequila options and daily drink specials, there's always more to try. Watch the sunset from the rooftop for the best view in West Chester. *102 E. Market St., West Chester. MasMexicali.com*

Off the Rail. Grab a drink at the rooftop bar or dine on the rooftop patio. While you sip, enjoy live music or catch the game on a drive-in-size projector. Food options include goodies like Buffalo cauliflower, blackened blue burger and fried pickles. *109 W. State St., Media. OffTheRailMedia.com*

Station 142. One of the newest spots in West Chester, Station 142 is a popping spot for a drink. Choose the rooftop for enjoying great drinks and appetizers to snack on with live music in the background. Choose from 20 draft lines, cocktails and wine selections. *142 E. Market St., West Chester. Station142.com*

Looking for more? Check out "High Spirits" on our website, *CountyLinesMagazine.com*. Find locations in Lancaster City for a rooftop bar crawl!



1



2

3

Pop-Up Beer Gardens

Surprise! Your new favorite beer spot might be popping up near you. Check out these!

Pints on the Preserve at ChesLen Preserve — July 12, 3 p.m., Second Saturdays

East Branch Brewing Company returns to Lenfest Center pavilion for the monthly Pints on the Preserve. Bring supplies for a picnic or buy snacks (cash only) before hiking the preserve's 14+ miles of trails. Come early for the family edition with crafts, games and scavenger hunt. Until November. Free, registration required. *1199 Cannery Rd., Coatesville. NatLands.org/PintsOnThePreserve*

Third Thursdays at Nemours Estate — July 17 & August 21, 5 p.m.

Head to Nemours Estate to enjoy the gardens while sipping a beer from Wilmington Brew Works. Relax to live music and savor bites from local food trucks like Albie's Burgers, DE Mex Street Food and Ennis BBQ or pack your own picnic. \$12, free for under 6. *1600 Rockland Rd., Wilmington. NemoursEstate.org*

Summer Pop-Up Beer Garden Series at Uptown! — July 19 & August 9

Pop-up beer gardens return, and they're perfect for all ages. Come for live music like The Joshua Tree: A U2 Tribute or The Dave Matthews Tribute Band. Enjoy lawn games and treats from local food trucks. Free. *226 N. High St., West Chester. UptownWestChester.org/Summer-Pop-Up-Beer-Gardens*

Summer Pop-up Biergartens at Historic Sugartown — August 21

Come for their final biergarten of the season. Explore historic buildings while sipping drinks from Locust Lane Craft Brewery, Manatawny Still Works and Chaddsford Winery plus bites from food trucks. BYO chairs, blankets, family members — including leashed dogs — for live music and craft vendors. \$15, free for under 18. *273 Boot Rd., Malvern. HistoricSugartown.org*

Works is a great spot for a cold drink, open every day. They produce a variety of beers and hard ciders for all tastes, served on the front patio with a pergola and back patio covered in native plants (open to leashed pets). Right by Haynes Park, it's perfect for everyone! *3129 Miller Rd., Wilmington. WilmingtonBrewWorks.com*

DELAWARE AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES

Bierhaul Farmhouse. Savor delicious food and sample 22 draft beers, cider and ale. Sit on the patio to enjoy a breeze and play cornhole while you munch on inglorious bratwurst, steamed mussels or the schnitz. Head up to the attic for comedy shows, poetry readings, live music and other special events. *341 Thornton Rd., Thornton. Bierhaul.com*

Iron Gate Biergarten. Delight in freshly brewed beer and the industrial vibe. This dog-friendly beer garden is the perfect spot

to enjoy the season. Sample exclusively Pennsylvania-sourced beer and spirits while you eat food from a rotating selection of food trucks. *230 E. High St., Pottstown. On Instagram @IronGateBiergarten*

Pinocchio's Beer Garden To-Go. Media's oldest restaurant offers over 1,000 specialty beers at their to-go beer garden. Have a pint while you choose your mix-and-match six-pack or fill up a growler or crowler from 25 rotating drafts. Head into the restaurant for great pizza, stromboli and wings. Sit on the patio with your food and a cool brew. *131 E. Baltimore Ave., Media. PinBeer.com*

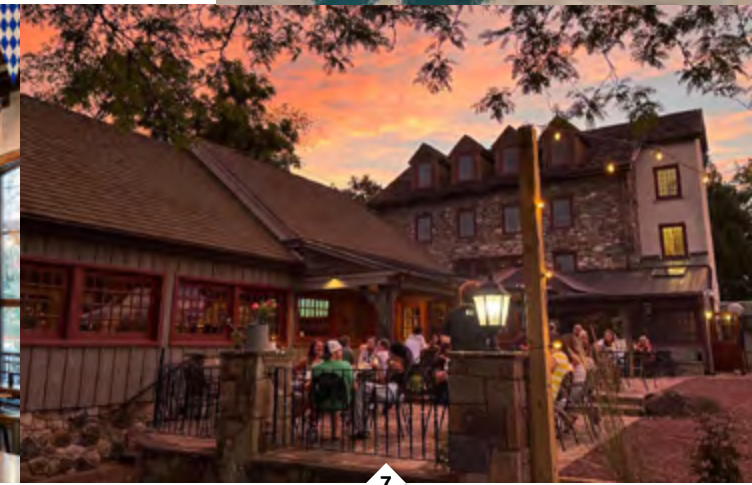
Ship Bottom Beer Garden at Linvilla Orchards. After a relaxing day at Linvilla Orchards, indulge in an ice-cold brew from Ship Bottom Brewery. Choose the specialty Linvilla Orchards hard cider or a selection of draft brews from the rad beer van. Delight in every bite of woodfired pizza while you play jumbo Connect 4.

137 W. Knowlton Rd., Media. Linvilla.com/Ship-Bottom-Brewery

Sterling Pig Brewery. Gather good friends and head to Sterling Pig Brewery to dine at the outdoor picnic tables. Food options include smoked brisket, BBQ pulled pork sandwiches and brewhouse pretzels. Enjoy cans of their specialty brews or select from their cocktail menu

for more options. *609 W. State St., Media. SterlingPig.com* ♦

4. The Stables Kitchen and Beer Garden
5. Makers Alley
6. Wilmington Brew Works
7. Bierhaul Farmhouse
8. Ship Bottom Beer Garden



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[Food News]

A few of our favorite things to share this month about local food and drink

Hungry for updates? There's a lot cooking locally, so here's your food news in an easily digestible form!

Debuting Deliciousness

- From the next gen of Azie restaurateurs, **Maison Lotus** has served up a fresh French-Vietnamese menu since its March opening. 175 Lancaster Ave., Wayne. Maison-Lotus.com
- Experience bold Thai flavors at **Manorah** in Bryn Mawr, with dishes like ginger-kissed snapper and pad thai. 656 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr. ManorahThai.com
- Expanding from Philly to Malvern, **Bao Nine** is bringing you fluffy bao buns for delivery and pickup only. 10 Liberty Blvd. Ste. 120, Malvern. BaoNine.us
- Missed in our beer garden article: **The Ridge at Chesterbrook** is yet another spot offering rotating food trucks, live music and family-friendly vibes. 1400 Liberty Ridge Dr., Chesterbrook. On Instagram @TheRidgeAtChesterbrook



Future Food Finds

- Coming soon to Downingtown, **The Borough** promises bold flavors, craft cocktails and unforgettable vibes when they open their doors. 149 E. Lancaster Ave., Downingtown. BoroughDowningtown.com
- Malvern Buttery will open a new café, **Buttery Bryn Mawr**, in the old Kindred Collective space, with the same artisanal quality as the flagship. 836 W. Lancaster Ave., Bryn Mawr. MalvernButtery.com
- Fearless Restaurants and The Radnor Hotel are partnering to bring you **Triple Crown Restaurant, Events & Garden**, reinventing all food and beverage operations in the restaurant and event spaces. 593 E. Lancaster Ave., St. Davids. TripleCrownRadnor.com
- A fresh name joins Eagleview's dining scene (in Suburban Beer Garden's space), **L'Olivio Trattoria**. The Italian eatery from the Birchrunville Store Café folks plans an early fall opening. 570 Wellington Square, Exton. Check social media for updates.
- Salt Korean BBQ is expanding to Devon with **Salt II**, with the same high-quality food and attention to detail as the original in North Wales. 840 Lancaster Ave., Devon. SaltKoreanBBQ.com



Revamped & Ready

- New digs for **Settantatré Pasta & Provisions** in Berwyn, now offering homemade pasta, pastries and coffee up front and prix fixe dinners in back. 802 Lancaster Ave., Berwyn. SettantatrePasta73.com
- Beloved SIW farmstand is now **New Roots by Ramsey's Farm**, keeping local favorites and adding new options. 4311 S. Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. NewRootsByRamseys.com
- Iconic **Hank's Place** is nearly finished rebuilding its original Chadds Ford location after Hurricane Ida. 1625 Creek Rd., Chadds Ford. HanksPlaceChaddsFord.com
- Bluebird Distillery** will launch a \$2 million renovation this winter, updating the tasting room plus adding a neo-Neapolitan pizzeria. 100 Bridge St., Phoenixville. BluebirdDistilling.com



Savor West Chester

- Donut lovers delight! **Rose's Little Donuts** returned under new management serving fresh donuts and coffee. 22 N. Darlington St., West Chester. RosesLittleDonuts.com
- Frutta Bowls**, the New Jersey chain, brought their version of acai bowls and smoothies to town. 1353 Dilworthtown Rd., West Chester. FruttaBowls.com
- Celebrate **Gemelli's** flavor, Fresh Ricotta, Rosemary & Raw Honey, which took silver at the King of Prussia gelato challenge. 12 W. Market St., West Chester. GemelliGelato.com
- Hidden on the Hotel Indigo's lower level, **Room 109** is a sophisticated speakeasy great for a night out. 39 E. Gay St., West Chester. IHG.com/HotelIndigo



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