

*It's all here.*  
**ALL YEAR!**

**OCEAN CITY**  
*Maryland*

**OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND**









# Welcome to **OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND**

Planning for a group has never been easier—or more fun! We're always happy to see you in Ocean City and even happier to help plan your trip.

From our famous free Boardwalk and 10-mile beach to wildlife areas and historical museums, you'll always find something your whole group will love. So whether you are planning for a tour group, students' trip, family reunion or women's retreat, let us be your guide. All you have to do is sit back, relax and enjoy the OC view.

Contact Norma Dobrowolski, Destination Sales & Marketing Manager at the Convention & Visitors Bureau/Department of Tourism, for assistance to learn more about Ocean City and to receive free planning materials.

*Your tour starts here!*





# We're more than **JUST THE BEACH**

Don't get us wrong. You'll love soaking up some sun on 10 miles of free beach or boogie boarding in the ocean. But that's just the tip of the sandcastle when it comes to OC. With experiences from Ghost Tours to NASA tours, here are some things to add to your list of attractions:

## **The Boardwalk**

The Boardwalk is an OC must-see. Walk, run or ride your bike alongside the shops and famous amazing food establishments. The Boardwalk buzzes with arcades, musical performers and amusement rides day and night. It is the best place ever for people watching and excitement.

## **Amusement Parks & Activities**

The southern end of the Boardwalk offers roller coasters, an antique carousel and a Ferris wheel with a bird's-eye view of OC. Or if you are looking for something with a little more splash, you'll find water parks and sports including jet skiing, kayaking, canoeing and windsurfing. And there's always time for miniature golf, go-karts and laser tag, or even a short trip to Salisbury for a Delmarva Shorebirds baseball game.

## **Golf**

Our 17 championship courses in the area make OC, a golfing destination. With beautiful designs and lush greens, you'll find a course to suit any player's taste. The town's own course, Eagle's Landing, is a top municipal layout and a certified Audubon Sanctuary.

## **Dining**

We hope you're hungry. OC has more than 200 restaurants offering everything from renowned Eastern Shore seafood fresh from the docks to a variety of



ethnic cuisines. Find fine dining or casual fare along the waterfront. And be sure to try some Maryland steamed crabs or Chesapeake Bay crab cakes. Your hotel can arrange a package custom-tailored to your group's interests—festive dinners, winery visits and more.

### Shopping

From furniture to small gifts and souvenirs, you'll find great shopping at OC's boutiques and the Boardwalk's three miles of stores. Just across the bridge you will find Ocean City Outlets. Just minutes away in Berlin, one of "America's Coolest Small Towns," you will find specialty stores from cupcakes to antiques, fine jewelry to fine stationery—all within blocks of each other and nestled within this pedestrian-friendly small town.

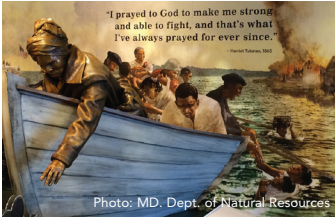
### Sightseeing at Nearby Towns

We've got some other amazing neighbors. Spend some time in Pocomoke City where you'll stroll through antique shops, historic homes or specialty stores. Also located here is the Delmarva Discovery Center, the Mar-Va Theatre, Costen House, Sturgis One Room School and the pristine Pocomoke River. Other nearby areas offer wineries and ale trails with 21 breweries on the Eastern Shore of Maryland and nine near and about OC.

### Festivals

OC holds celebrated events such as Springfest and Sunfest, four days of fun-filled arts, crafts, food and entertainment beside the ocean every May and September. Winterfest of Lights is a holiday delight with spectacular light displays and a festive holiday feeling around the town.





# A rich heritage MAKES A RICH TOUR

You can become quite the history or science buff here. There are a variety of interactive and historical museums to help you learn about the Eastern Shore's culture and heritage.

## **NASA Wallops Flight Facility**

Available to school, educational and civic groups, tours may be scheduled for areas of interest including Launch Pad Tours, Range Control Center, NOAA weather satellite data tours and others. Tours must be arranged with NASA a minimum of four weeks prior.

## **Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum**

Explore exhibits featuring the history of the U.S. Life-Saving Service and Ocean City, MD. Take a tour through our displays of mermaid collections, shipwreck artifacts, sands of the world and bathing fashions. We also have aquariums featuring local marine life. One of OC's best viewing points is right outside the museum. See for miles the Atlantic Ocean, Assateague's shore and the fishing boats as they enter the harbor.

## **Ocean City Center for the Arts**

The destination for all things art in the Ocean City community with a two story gallery, working artists studios, reception space and more.



## Delmarva Discovery Center

Learn about the lower Eastern Shore environment and early rural life at this multi-million-dollar heritage and hands-on cultural museum. The Center focuses on the history of the Pocomoke River including shipbuilding, trading, fishing and local Native American historical culture. Located in downtown Pocomoke City, it's only 30 minutes from OC.

## Museums of Worcester County

The Museums of Worcester County are made up of nine historical sites, ranging from OC to Pocomoke City. You can visit them all or just a few, including the Sturgis One Room School. It is the only African-American one-room school remaining in the county. Docents here offer a wealth of information on the rural African-American experience.

## Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art

World-renowned home of the American craft of wildfowl carving. Any age group will be enriched by a tour with an experienced docent, or a carving, sketching or journaling session.

## Dorchester County Heritage Tours

Just a short drive from OC, Dorchester County holds a treasure of heritage-based tours.

- **Bucktown Village Store:** At this quaint country store, Harriet Tubman was struck as she attempted to assist a fellow enslaved man. This has been called Tubman's first public act of defiance.
- **Vienna:** Wonderful museum holds Native American artifacts, historic photographs and equipment from the last operating manufacturer of pearl buttons, the Martinek Button Factory.
- **Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad State Park & Visitor Center:** This new facility is free and is a cultural gem for students, family reunions, women's groups or anyone wanting to learn more. Harriet Tubman's work in the Underground Railroad to help slaves move to the free north has become even more well-known in the last few years. Exhibits, research areas and the natural surroundings of this rural area all make it a must see.

## Adkins Historical Museum Complex

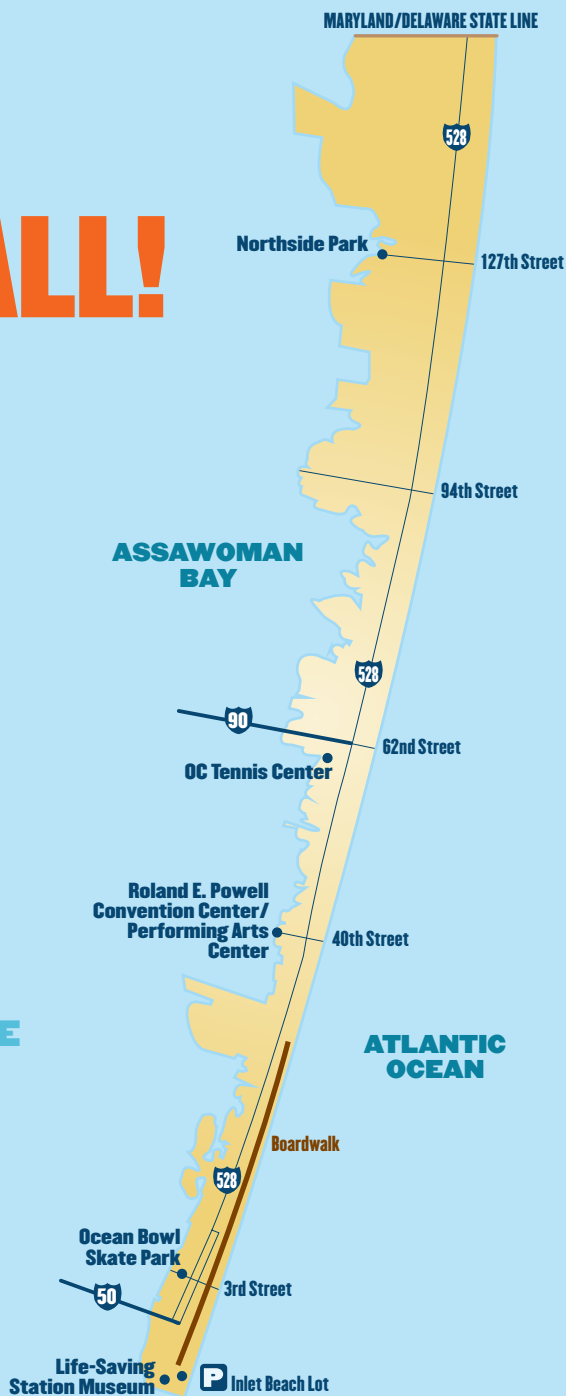
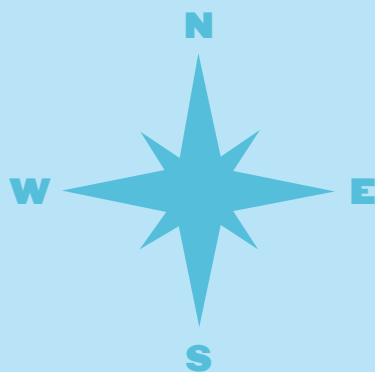
Walk through eight buildings and by the gravestones of a Revolutionary War patriot and his wife. The furnished buildings include a village store, town lodge, a livery stable and a one-room schoolhouse and farmhouse circa 1724. Located near the Mason-Dixon Marker in Mardela Springs, you're just east of Vienna.

## Chesapeake Bay Sightseeing

Explore the unique Chesapeake Bay, the largest estuary in the United States, and two of its famous islands: **Smith Island** and **Tangier Island**. Roam the historic and endangered islands, accessible only by boat, and enjoy an Eastern Shore-themed family style lunch. Experience unique dialects and glimpses into the waterman's way of life, perfect for student, community or senior travel groups, as well as spousal tours and family reunions.

# Within reach OF IT ALL!

Ocean City is convenient and centrally located along the East Coast. It's an exciting destination that's close to where you are and right where you want to be, easily accessible by car and even by air. Two well-placed routes, Route 50 and Route 90, bring you in from the east. Route 528 brings you in from the north.





## EAST COAST

Ocean City is a world away, yet it's an easy drive from most of the East Coast. Just 3 hours from Philadelphia, 4 hours from Trenton and Richmond, and 5 hours from New York City.



## MARYLAND'S EASTERN SHORE

When you've reached Ocean City, you've reached Maryland's Eastern Shore. There's nowhere else quite like it, with unique towns and geography, stunning wildlife refuges, museums, Assateague Island ponies and more, all just a short, easily covered distance from your Ocean City group event.







# Get wild WITH WILDLIFE

If the seagulls on the beach don't cut it for you, there are plenty of wildlife viewing trips you can enjoy. So grab your group and cameras and get to one of these natural treasures.

## **Assateague Island**

Home to the National Seashore Park and Assateague State Park, you'll find forests, salt marshes and beaches. Assateague Island is well-known for its wild horses and ponies you can see wandering the island. The wonderful visitor center is a must see. Talk to rangers or have a session scheduled just for your group.

## **Waterway Cruises**

Enjoy a scenic afternoon or after-dinner cruise along our waterways. You just might see a dolphin off OC's coast. Or take an inland bay cruise to search for wildlife closer to land. You'll see wild birds including pelicans, herons, egrets, piping plovers and bitterns.

## **Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge**

Also known as the "Everglades of the North," this area was established as a refuge for migratory waterfowl in 1933. It's one of the chief wintering homes for birds using the Atlantic Flyway. You can see endangered or threatened species like the bald eagle or Delmarva fox squirrel from an observation tower. Blackwater is the center of the greatest density of breeding bald eagles on the east coast, north of Florida, and sightings of bald eagles are fairly common throughout the year. Eagles can be seen soaring and hunting over the marsh or resting near their nests in tall loblolly pine trees along the wildlife drive.



# *Ideally equipped* **FOR SPORTS**

Ocean City's wide range of family activities and great facilities make it a perfect location for your sporting event. We've proudly hosted beach volleyball and sand soccer tournaments, surfing competitions and the extreme Dew Tour from 2011 to 2014. These events add vibrant energy of our wide beach and Atlantic oceanfront.

## **Northside Park**

This 58-acre complex boasts multi-sport fields including lighted fields, bleachers and concession areas. Two gyms can accommodate soccer or basketball.

## **The Roland E. Powell Convention Center**

The Convention Center is equipped to handle indoor sporting events and provide stunning views of the bay. With 214,000 sq. ft. of space, including exhibit and ballroom space, portable stages and easy move-in and loading docks, this is a premier East Coast sporting destination.

## **Ocean City Tennis Center**

The Ocean City Tennis Center is one of only 3,000 USTA Welcome Centers throughout the United States. Its six premier courts on 2.5 acres, conveniently located near mid-town, make this a great tennis venue.



### Ocean Bowl Skate Park

Our Ocean Bowl Skate Park is the oldest skate park in the country, and it just keeps getting better. The 7,000 sq. ft. park features a pool bowl with deep and shallow ends, a large vert ramp and a mini ramp.

### Mid-Atlantic Amateur Sports Alliance Partnership

Ocean City's partnership with Mid-Atlantic Amateur Sports Alliance gives you access to our entire region for planning any event from wrestling to field hockey to beach soccer. We can provide connections to fields, facilities and accommodations. Visit [playmaasa.com](http://playmaasa.com) to learn more about the Mid-Atlantic Amateur Sports Alliance.



# Perform AT THE SHORE

Performance Groups are discovering Ocean City as a great place to showcase their talents as well as enjoy the seaside resort! The use of many venues can be arranged, including:

### Performing Arts Center

The new Performing Arts Center at the Roland E. Powell Convention Center seats 1,200 in a beautiful setting with two tiers and a 51-foot high ceiling. It features a fixed stage, pre-function area and available catering by CenterPlate.

### Somerset Street Plaza

The Plaza is a pedestrian way right off the Boardwalk with a quaint main street feel.

### Sunset Park

Sunset Park, at S. Division Street and the Bay, is an outdoor pavilion facility that offers beautiful sunsets in a bayside setting. It's OC's newest park, featuring a promenade with a native shore planting area and panoramic views of Assateague Island, the Sinepuxent Bay and Ocean City Commercial Harbor.





# You're home **IN OCEAN CITY, MD**

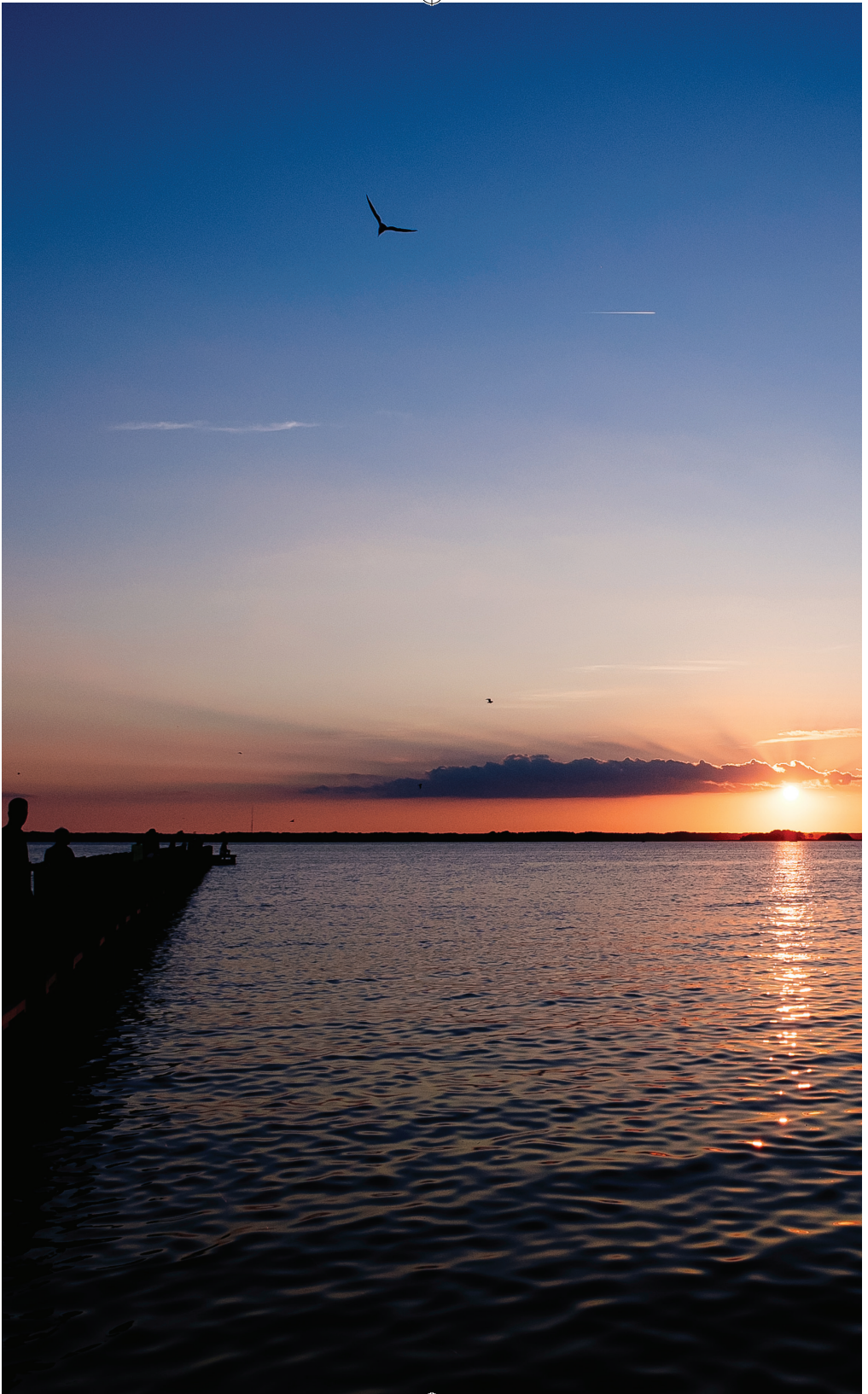
Ocean City boasts over 9,500 hotel rooms and more than 28,000 rentable condo units. You'll find a wide selection of accommodations including full-service hotels, luxurious condominiums, family-owned motels, apartments and beach houses. So no matter your group's size or preference, you'll feel right at home.

## Book now **OR FIND OUT MORE**

Contact our Destination Sales & Marketing Manager, Norma Dobrowski, at 800.626.2326/410.289.2800 or [ndobrowski@ococean.com](mailto:ndobrowski@ococean.com).

[ococean.com/group-travel](http://ococean.com/group-travel)









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