COASTAL VIRGINIA: EASTERN SHORE

A narrow 70-mile peninsula jutting out between the Atlantic Ocean and the Chesapeake Bay, Virginia’s EASTERN SHORE is a true getaway. Spend your days exploring quaint waterfront towns and nearby beaches, as pristine as they are vast. Or venture offshore to explore a paddler’s paradise of undeveloped barrier islands – the largest stretch of wild coastline remaining on the East Coast.

Chincoteague Pony Swim, Chincoteague
Gather on Chincoteague Island to watch this annual tradition, where approximately 150 wild ponies, along with their foals, cross the river with help from the Saltwater Cowboys. Have family fun at the Fireman’s Carnival while you’re there!

Antares Rocket Launches to the International Space Station, Wallops Island
Get an unbelievably unique opportunity to watch NASA rockets lift right off the Eastern Shore. Public viewing sites show off sounding rocket launches, cargo resupply missions to the International Space Station and more.

Cape Charles Beach, Cape Charles
Located 10 miles north of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel, this historic district beach is perfect for families of all ages. Peaceful, shallow waters are ideal for splashing and wading, while the town’s charming amenities make for a relaxing stay.

Kayak Tour to Chatham Vineyards with Southeast Expeditions, Bayford
Time to “Paddle Your Glass Off!” Let the pros take you on a unique adventure paddling the Chesapeake Bay, with gorgeous views of natural beauty and wildlife, before stopping along the way for a glass (or two) of award-winning wine at Chatham Vineyards.

Saxis Island Oyster Roast, Saxis
Mark the arrival of oyster season with this annual event that’ll have you gorging on steamed and single-fried oysters, clam chowder, fried clam strips and more – plus a shucking station to practice until your skills are perfected!

Add these experiences to your travel bucket list for the region!

Town of Onancock
Chartered in 1681 as a coastal commerce center, this quiet harbor town is a mile-long tributary filled with waterfront estates. Stay in a boutique B&B, enjoy waterfront eats along the wharf and wander through shops and galleries – or explore the water with a kayak rental or sailing charter. And don’t forget to visit the giant LOVEwork at Historic Onancock School to commemorate your trip.
Take a step back from your everyday, between the Chesapeake and the Atlantic. Plan your escape today...
PARKSLEY

THINGS TO DO

Eastern Shore Railroad
130 N. 1st St., Onancock; 757-787-2037; easternshorerailroad.com.

TANGIER ISLAND

THINGS TO DO

Tangier Island Museum & Interpretive Center
18210 Main Ridge Rd., Tangier Island; 757-824-2174.

WALLOPS ISLAND

THINGS TO DO

Chincoteague Bay Field Station
34001 Mill Dam Rd., Wallops Island; 757-824-5636; cbfieldstation.org.

NASA Wallops Flight Facility Visitor Center
Bldg. 145, Rt. 17, Wallops Island; 757-824-1344; nasa.gov/centers/wallops/visitor-center.

Island Getaways, &c

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