



MARYLAND
BYWAYS

Roots and Tides



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When you feel a gentle bay breeze brush your cheek, when you hear water pushing softly against a wooden pier, when you taste the unmistakable flavor of Maryland seafood, you know you've arrived in waterman's country. This Western Shore byway, which begins in our state capital of Annapolis and incorporates the Four Rivers Heritage Area, is a feast for the senses as you visit friendly Chesapeake Bay communities, and share in their warmth, absorb their culture and explore their deep maritime roots.

Step through one of the several National Park Service's designated Chesapeake Bay Gateways in the area and be introduced to the beauty of a true natural treasure. Come sailing, paddling, bird watching, museum

hopping, or just relax on a sandy beach and watch the sun set on another golden Chesapeake Bay day.

During his explorations of the bay region four centuries ago, Capt. John Smith noted, "Heaven and earth never agreed better to frame a place for man's habitation." These words have taken on added significance with the designation of the all-water Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail, which commemorates the voyages of Captain John Smith and his crew on the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries during 1607-1609. Many bayside attractions, including several from Annapolis to Southern Maryland provide additional information about Smith.



47 miles from Annapolis to Plum Point

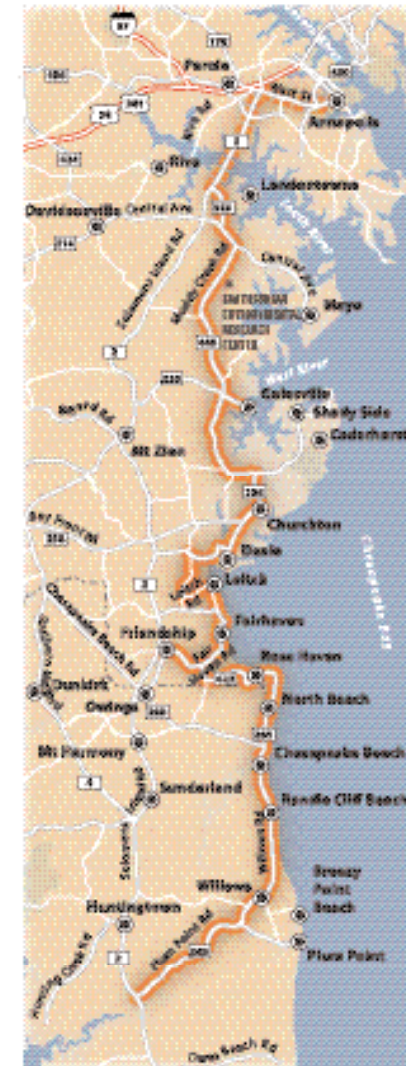


Annapolis to Fairhaven – Rowe Blvd, West St, MD 2, MD 253, MD 214, MD 468, MD 256, Franklin Gibson Rd, Leitch Rd, Town Point Rd & MD 423

Resting beside the Chesapeake Bay just south of Baltimore and east of Washington, D.C., Annapolis appears much as it did back in the post-Revolutionary War years, when it became the first peacetime capital of our new nation. Four signers of the Declaration of Independence made their home here, and today you won't find another U.S. city with more surviving 18th-century buildings still in commercial and residential use – just a couple of reasons why Annapolis has been listed among "America's Dozen Distinctive Destinations" by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Stroll red

brick streets once traveled by colonists, look up at the rare wooden dome of the Maryland State House, window-shop for everything from maritime antiques to designer clothing, or just relax in a pub and watch the world go by. At the center of the action is the U.S. Naval Academy campus, which, like the downtown Annapolis area, is a National Historic Landmark. Guided walking tours of the Academy grounds give you a taste of life as a midshipman and lead you to the crypt of patriot John Paul Jones.

Maryland's state capital is also "America's Sailing Capital," so once you've finished exploring Annapolis by land, take to the sea for fishing or sightseeing trip. From there, head toward Edgewater on MD 253 and



follow the South River into Historic London Town. Visit the early-18th-century William Brown House, take part in an “ Archaeology Dig Day,” and walk among gardens throughout the reconstructed “ lost town” of London.

Check for powerboat and sailboat rentals while you’re in Edgewater, or drive a little farther south on MD 214 east, then MD 468 south and charter a 50-foot ketch in the historic village of Galesville, where you can also visit a museum operated by the Galesville Heritage Society. Both London Town and the Galesville Heritage Museum are Chesapeake Bay Gateways, as is the Shady Side-based Captain Salem Avery House. A restored waterman’s cottage located on a peninsula east

of the West River, the Avery House returns you to bay life as it was in the 1860s.

To get an up close look at the Bay, stop at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, which encompasses 2,800 acres of land along the Rhode River, a subestuary of the Chesapeake Bay, and includes forest, cropland, pasture, freshwater wetlands, tidal marshes, and estuaries. Then proceed south on MD 256 and east on MD 261 around Herring Bay, stopping in Fairhaven to enjoy the serenity of another bayside village.

Fairhaven to Plum Point – MD 423, MD 261 & MD 263

After relaxing at a Rosehaven beach-



front inn, you can backtrack briefly on MD 423 to the Herrington Harbour North Historic Village, a collection of outbuildings that includes a one-room schoolhouse, African-American meeting house and residence. Following the bay shoreline south on MD 261, you soon come to the sister towns of North Beach and Chesapeake Beach. Enjoy charming restaurants, marinas, antiques shops and bed and breakfasts, and then step back to the early 1900s at the Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum that also serves as a Chesapeake Bay Gateway. The museum, housed in an 1898 railway station, also has exhibits on the Victorian resort and amusement park that once drew boatloads and trainloads of visitors to Chesapeake Beach from Baltimore

and Washington, D.C. Nowadays, you can treat yourself to pampering at a local spa or enjoy summer fun at a water park with eight slides, a lazy river and other attractions.

When you reach the town of Willows, sidetrack east along Breezy Point Road toward a sandy, half-mile-long public beach that is available for picnicking, swimming, fishing and crabbing. Just to the south on MD 263 east, and still hugging the bay shoreline, is the town of Plum Point, but then you’ll want to turn inland on MD 263 west and proceed toward Prince Frederick to hook up with the Star-Spangled Banner Trail (page 105).



OLD LINE LORE: *The Western Shore town of London, established as a tobacco port in 1683, virtually disappeared in the late 18th century following an economic depression brought about by the Revolutionary War. The archaeological remains of the "lost town" are now being unearthed at Historic London Town and Gardens.*

Breezy Point Beach and Campground
5230 Breezy Point Rd
Chesapeake Beach 20732

Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Trail National Park Service
Chesapeake Bay Program Office
410 Severn Avenue, Suite 109
Annapolis, 21403
1-866-BAY-WAYS (866-229-9297)
www.nps.gov/cajo

Captain Salem Avery House
1418 E W Shady Side Rd
Shady Side, 20764
410-867-4486, 410-867-2901
www.averyhouse.org

Chesapeake Beach Railway Museum
4155 Mears Ave,
Chesapeake Beach, 20732
410-257-3892
www.cbrm.org

Chesapeake Beach Water Park
4079 Gordon Stinnett Ave,
Chesapeake Beach 20732
410-257-1404, 301-855-8398

Galesville Heritage Museum
988 Main St
Galesville, 20765
410-867-0373
www.galesvilleheritagesociety.org



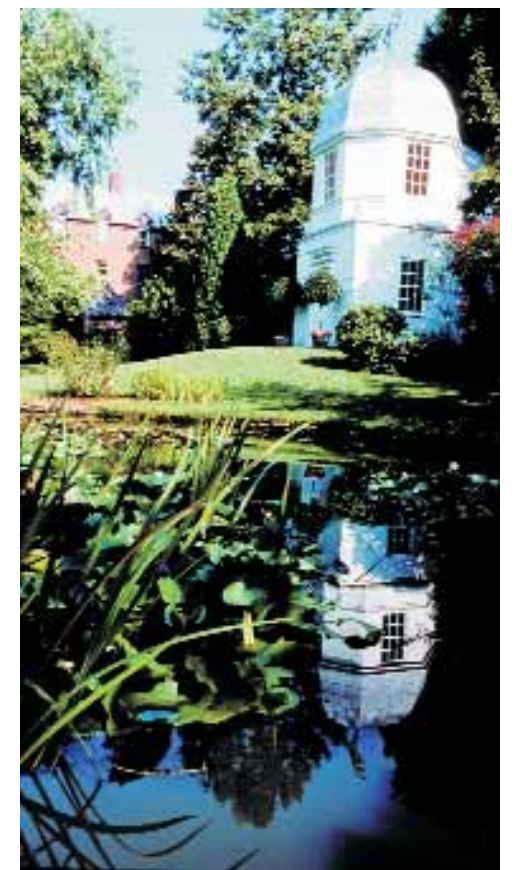
Herrington Harbour North Historic Village
389 Deale Road,
Tracy's Landing/Deale, 20751
410-867-4343

Historic London Town and Gardens
839 Londontown Rd,
Edgewater, 21037-2197
410-222-1919
www.historiclondontown.com

Maryland State House
91 State Cir,
Annapolis, 21401
410-974-3400
www.mdarchives.state.md.us/msa/homepage/html

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center
647 Contees Wharf Road
Edgewater, 21037-0028
443-482-2200
www.serc.si.edu

U.S. Naval Academy
Armel-Leftwich Visitor Center, 52
King George St, Gate 1,
Annapolis, 21402
410-263-6933
www.navyonline.com



William Brown House

The London Town Foundation
839 Londontown Road
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410-222-1919

William Paca House and Garden

186 Prince George St,
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