

# CAPE TO CAPE SCENIC DRIVING TOUR - SAMPLE ITINERARY

## DAY 1: CAPE MAY, NJ TO LEWES, DE

### Historic Cape May

Exit 0 on the Garden State Parkway, Cape May, NJ

Drive Time: 5 minutes from the ferry terminal

A charming Victorian seaside town known for its historic homes, Cape May Lighthouse, trolley tours, and scenic carriage rides. Enjoy boutique shopping and fine dining along the beachfront.

### Cape May Bird Observatory

701 E. Lake Drive, Cape May Point, NJ

Drive Time: 10 minutes **Route:** Take **New Jersey Avenue (Route 9)** south to **Cape May Point**. Turn **left** onto **Lake Drive**. The observatory will be on your right.

A center for birdwatching and conservation, offering educational programs, walking tours, and seasonal birding festivals.

### Cape May County Park & Zoo

707 US 9 - North, Cape May Court House, NJ

Drive Time: 15 minutes **Route:** Take **Route 9** North toward **Cape May Court House**. Continue for about 9 miles. Turn **right** onto **County Park Drive**, and follow signs for the zoo entrance.

A free, family-friendly zoo home to over 550 animals and featuring walking trails, picnic areas, and a playground.

### Stay Overnight: Cape May, NJ

Start your journey in Cape May, where you can explore its charming Victorian streets and enjoy the beautiful beach. With various cozy inns, B&Bs, and oceanfront hotels, it's a great spot for a peaceful night.

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## DAY 2: CAPE MAY, NJ TO REHOBOTH BEACH, DE

### Cape May-Lewes Ferry

1200 Lincoln Avenue, North Cape May, NJ

Drive Time: N/A (85-minute ferry ride)

A scenic ferry ride across the Delaware Bay, offering views of dolphins and various seabirds. This 17-mile journey connects Cape May, NJ, and Lewes, DE, providing a relaxing start to the trip

### Town of Lewes, DE Lewes, DE

Drive Time: 10 minutes from Cape Henlopen

Founded in 1631, Lewes was the site of the first European settlement in Delaware. This

gorgeous, walkable town's historical society offers walking tours and maintains a wonderful local history museum. Don't miss the Zwaanendael Museum while you're there, too.

### **Cape Henlopen State Park, Lewes, DE**

Drive Time: 10 minutes from ferry terminal Directions to Delaware Breakwater East End & Harbor of Refuge Lighthouses. **Route:** After disembarking from the ferry, head **north on Route 9** for 1 mile. **Turn left** onto **Cape Henlopen Drive** to reach the lighthouse area within **Cape Henlopen State Park**.

Iconic lighthouses marking the entrance to Delaware Bay, providing excellent photography opportunities and historical insights into maritime navigation. Also see **Delaware Breakwater East End & Harbor of Refuge Lighthouses**

### **Fort Miles Museum & Historic Area**

Cape Henlopen State Park, Lewes, DE

Drive Time: 5 minutes **Route:** Continue on **Cape Henlopen Drive** to reach the Fort Miles Museum in **Cape Henlopen State Park**.

A World War II-era fort that played a crucial role in protecting the coastline. The museum offers exhibits on wartime defense strategies and personal stories from military personnel.

### **Rehoboth Beach Boardwalk**

Rehoboth Ave & Atlantic Ocean, Rehoboth Beach, DE

Drive Time: 20 minutes **Route:** Take **Route 1** South for about 12 miles from Lewes to **Rehoboth Avenue**. **Turn left** onto **Rehoboth Avenue**, and follow the road until you reach the boardwalk.

A classic beachside boardwalk featuring shops, arcades, and delicious boardwalk cuisine. The historic boardwalk, dating back to 1873, offers a lively atmosphere for visitors.

### **Indian River Life-Saving Station Museum**

25039 Coastal Hwy, Rehoboth Beach, DE

Drive Time: 15 minutes

A restored 1876 life-saving station showcasing the history of maritime rescue operations before the establishment of the U.S. Coast Guard.

### **Stay Overnight: Rehoboth Beach, DE**

Rehoboth Beach offers a fun and lively boardwalk, with plenty of restaurants, shops, and activities to enjoy in the evening. It's a popular destination with a wide range of accommodations, from beachfront hotels to charming inns.

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## **DAY 3: REHOBOTH BEACH, DE TO OCEAN CITY, MD**

### **Bethany Beach Totem Pole**

214 DE-26, Bethany Beach, DE

Drive Time: 25 minutes **Route:** Continue on **Route 1** south for 8 miles. **Turn left** onto **DE-26 East** toward Bethany Beach.

A 24-foot statue honoring the Nanticoke Nation, created by sculptor Peter Wolf Toth as part of his series across all 50 states.

### **Fenwick Island Lighthouse**

Location: 103 146th St., Ocean City, MD

Drive Time: 25 minutes **Route:** Take **Coastal Highway (Route 1)** south for about 8 miles, crossing the state line into Maryland. **Turn left** onto **146th Street** to reach the lighthouse.

Built in 1859 to prevent shipwrecks, this 87-foot lighthouse stands near the Transpeninsular Marker, indicating the Delaware-Maryland border.

### **Ocean City Boardwalk**

Location: 4001 Coastal Highway, Ocean City, MD

Drive Time: 15 minutes **Route:** From **Fenwick Island Lighthouse**, head south on **Coastal Highway (Route 1)**. **Turn left** onto **16th Street** and head toward the boardwalk.

A lively, 10-mile stretch of free beaches and family-friendly attractions, including amusement rides, street performers, and fresh seafood restaurants.

### **Stay Overnight: Ocean City, MD or Berlin, MD**

Ocean City: Known for its lively boardwalk and many attractions, Ocean City offers an exciting place to stay with a wide range of hotel options.

Berlin: A quieter, more charming town just a short drive from Ocean City. With its historic downtown and quaint B&Bs, Berlin offers a peaceful alternative to the bustle of Ocean City.

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## **DAY 4: OCEAN CITY, MD TO CHINCOTEAGUE, VA**

### **Assateague Island National Seashore**

7206 National Seashore Lane, Berlin, MD

Drive Time: 25 minutes from Ocean City **Route:** Take **Route 50 West** from Ocean City for 15 miles. **Turn right** onto **Assateague Island Road**.

A stunning barrier island known for its wild horses, sandy beaches, and rich biodiversity. Visitors can hike, kayak, or relax by the shore.

### **Town of Berlin, MD**

Berlin, MD

Drive Time: 25 minutes from Assateague Island **Route:** Take **Route 611 North** to **Berlin**.

A charming, historic town with beautifully preserved Victorian architecture. Berlin is known for its boutique shopping, art galleries, and charming eateries. Visitors can stroll through the downtown area, which has appeared in several films.

### **Town of Snow Hill, MD**

Snow Hill, MD

Drive Time: 30 minutes from Berlin **Route:** Take **Route 113 South** to **Snow Hill**.

Description: A picturesque small town with a rich history, Snow Hill is home to beautiful 19th-century buildings, antique shops, and the historical Snow Hill District. The Pocomoke River is a perfect spot for canoeing or kayaking.

### **Pocomoke State Forest**

Pocomoke City, MD

Drive Time: 15 minutes from Snow Hill **Route:** Take **Route 113 South** from Snow Hill to **Pocomoke City**. **Turn left** onto **Route 366** to reach the state forest.

This tranquil state forest is perfect for hiking, birdwatching, and wildlife viewing. The dense forest and diverse ecosystems offer a peaceful escape with miles of trails and opportunities for outdoor activities.

### **Stay Overnight: Chincoteague, VA**

Chincoteague offers a peaceful, small-town atmosphere with cozy inns, bed-and-breakfasts, and waterfront hotels. It's an ideal base for exploring Assateague Island, the wildlife refuge, and its famous wild ponies.

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## **DAY 5: CHINCOTEAGUE, VA TO CAPE CHARLES, VA**

### **Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge**

8231 Beach Road, Chincoteague, VA

**Route:** From Chincoteague town center, take **Beach Road** to the refuge entrance.

A pristine wildlife sanctuary famous for its protected ponies, migratory birds, and scenic hiking trails.

### **Assateague Lighthouse**

8231 Beach Road, Chincoteague, VA

Drive Time: 5 minutes **Route:** Continue on **Beach Road** for a short distance to the lighthouse.

A historic lighthouse offering panoramic views of the surrounding wildlife refuge and the Atlantic Ocean.

### **Museum of Chincoteague Island**

7125 Maddox Boulevard, Chincoteague, VA

Drive Time: 10 minutes **Route:** Head back toward the town center and take **Maddox Boulevard**.

A museum featuring exhibits on the island's history, including its seafood industry, shipwrecks, and famous wild ponies.

**Route:** Head southwest on Maddox Boulevard toward Route 175 West and turn right. Continue on Route 175 for about 6 miles, then merge onto Route 13 South. Follow Route 13 South for approximately 30 miles until you reach the exit signs for Cape Charles. Turn right onto Route 184 East (Cape Charles) and follow the signs to the town center.

### **Stay Overnight: Cape Charles, VA**

Cape Charles offers a peaceful atmosphere and charming small-town vibes. It has a relaxing, scenic ambiance with waterfront accommodations and is a great place to unwind after a day of sightseeing.

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## **DAY 6: CAPE CHARLES, VA TO VIRGINIA BEACH, VA**

### **Eastern Shore Railway Museum**

Location: 18468 Dunne Avenue, Parksley, VA

Drive Time: 35 minutes **Route:** Take **Route 13 South** for about 25 miles, then follow signs to **Parksley**. A nostalgic museum featuring vintage railcars, historic railroad buildings, and exhibits showcasing the region's railway history.

### **Kiptopeke State Park**

3540 Kiptopeke Drive, Cape Charles, VA

Drive Time: 1 hour **Route:** Continue south on **Route 13** and follow signs to **Kiptopeke Drive**.

A scenic park along the Chesapeake Bay, offering fishing piers, birdwatching, and hiking trails through unique coastal habitats.

### **First Landing State Park**

2500 Shore Drive, Virginia Beach, VA

Drive Time: 45 minutes from Kiptopeke **Route:** Continue south on **Route 13**, then turn left onto **Shore Drive** in Virginia Beach.

A historically significant park where English settlers first landed in 1607, featuring miles of hiking trails and Chesapeake Bay beachfront.

### **Old Cape Henry Lighthouse**

583 Atlantic Avenue, Fort Story, VA

Drive Time: 15 minutes from First Landing **Route:** Continue on **Shore Drive**, following signs to the lighthouse.

Built in 1792, this is the oldest lighthouse on the Chesapeake Bay, offering sweeping coastline views.

### **False Cape State Park**

4001 Sandpiper Drive, Virginia Beach, VA

Drive Time: 30 minutes from Old Cape Henry Lighthouse **Route:** Continue south on **Sandpiper Drive** to **False Cape State Park**.

A secluded coastal park with hiking and biking trails, pristine beaches, and guided kayak tours, providing an immersive natural experience.

### **Optional Stay Overnight: Virginia Beach, VA**

If you want to extend your trip and enjoy the lively atmosphere of Virginia Beach, this bustling coastal city offers a wide range of hotels, restaurants, and vibrant nightlife, with beachfront views and relaxing spots.