

# Dorchester County, MD

## HEART OF THE CHESAPEAKE

**WELCOME!** Delight in endless waterviews and stunning sunsets along our 1,700 miles of shoreline. Savor Maryland crab fresh from our waters. Discover stories of Harriet Tubman, Annie Oakley, and other legendary figures.

**Dorchester is great for groups!**  
Paddlewheeler and skipjack cruises,  
seafood festivals, historic walking  
tours—it's all here!

### WE'RE HERE TO HELP

- Connections to experienced receptive operators
- Tour planning assistance
- FAM Tours
- Publications: Dorchester County Visitor Guide, Cycling guide, Water Trails Guide, Finding the Way to Freedom, Birding, and more



From Baltimore: 79 miles  
From Annapolis: 58 miles  
From Washington, DC: 87 miles  
From Philadelphia: 140 miles

**DORCHESTER COUNTY**

**EASY TO GET TO!** Dorchester County is less than an hour from the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. Group-experienced hotels and restaurants are clustered in historic Cambridge, as well as shops, galleries, and restaurants. Charming waterfront towns offer a taste of Chesapeake life with everything from historic sites to roadside produce stands.



**MORE  
ON  
OTHER  
SIDE ▶**

Dorchester County of Tourism. Amanda Fenstermaker, Director  
1.800.522.TOUR or [info@tourdorchester.org](mailto:info@tourdorchester.org)  
[www.TourDorchester.org](http://www.TourDorchester.org)

Home of the  
Seafood Feast-I-Val,  
one of the ABA's top  
100 events in 2009!

Find group highlights below. For detailed info, resources, and itineraries, go to [www.TourDorchester.org](http://www.TourDorchester.org) or call 1.800.522.TOUR or 410.228.1000.



## HERITAGE AND HISTORY

As one of Maryland's oldest counties, Dorchester is filled with history:

- Imagine the daring stories of Harriet Tubman, the heroine who led many enslaved people to freedom, through driving tours, a museum, and more.
- Explore some of Maryland's oldest towns with walking tours.
- Discover the legacy of Captain John Smith in historic Vienna, part of a new national historic trail.

## NATURE AND THE OUTDOORS

A few ways your group can experience the natural beauty of Dorchester:

- Take a sightseeing cruise on a paddlewheeler river boat and enjoy a meal or crabfeast.
- Sail on a Chesapeake skipjack and hear how oysters shaped—and divided—the community.
- Take a guided paddle through the waters of Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge (keep your eyes open for eagles, and other wildlife).
- Cycle the gloriously flat and scenic landscapes.
- Charter a fishing boat—experienced anglers will show you the best spots.



## SEAFOOD: CRABS, OYSTERS, & MORE

Nearly surrounded by the Chesapeake Bay and other waterways, Dorchester is famed for seafood—blue crab, oysters, rockfish, and more.

- Pick your way through a pile of steamed crabs or enjoy crab cakes at a waterside restaurant (including one recently featured in *Gourmet* magazine).
- Take a tour of the country's oldest continuously working crabhouse.
- Come for one of our seafood festivals.

**MORE IDEAS:** Agricultural tour, art walk through galleries, maritime tour, oyster hatchery tour, nature and birding tours, historic churches tour, Dorchester heritage tours, and more. We'll show you how you can tailor a tour just for your group.

## Group-friendly events

**Eagle Festival:** Bird walks, demonstrations, fun for kids. March.

**Senior Celebration:** Entertainment, health screenings, tours, prizes. Free. May.

**Taste of Cambridge:** Top chefs prepare crab dishes for tasting and judging. July.

**Seafood Feast-I-Val:** All-you-can-eat crabs and more on the waterfront. August.

**Wings and Wheels:** Aircraft, cars, motorcycles, boats. August.

**Native American Festival:** Traditional dancing, singing, drumming. September.

**Dorchester Arts Showcase:** Outdoor arts and crafts festival. September.

**Crabtoberfest:** Oktoberfest with an Eastern Shore twist. October.

**Schooner Rendezvous:** Historic ships offer tours, day sails, and maritime fun. October.

Travel the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway, one of only 31 All-American Roads nationwide.



## Dorchester County Visitor Center

We welcome you to stop by our Visitor Center on the banks of the Choptank River. With its dramatic 100-foot high sail, it's an Eastern Shore landmark. It also offers exhibits about the county, beautiful water views, a boardwalk, a garden, and a large playground. Plus easy parking for buses. Open daily, 8:30am-5pm.