



Delaware At A Glance

Courtesy of... Active Adults Realty

Continuing Education: Opportunities for continuing education are numerous. Coastal Delaware offers the following colleges and universities which allow people of all ages to further their education, expand their interests or offer their talents for teaching opportunities:

- ✓ [Delaware Technical & Community College](#)
Jack F. Owens Campus
- ✓ [College of Marine Studies](#)
-University of Delaware
- ✓ [Wilmington University](#)
- ✓ [Delaware State University](#)
- ✓ [Osher Lifelong Learning Institute](#)
- ✓ [Beebe School of Nursing](#)

Most Ph.D.s: According to a survey by the National Science Foundation, Delaware has more doctoral-level (Ph.D.) scientists and engineers, as a percentage of the population, than any other state. Delaware also has a higher rate of patent awards, per person, than any other state. (More... see the [State of Delaware Website](#))

DELAWARE FACTOIDS

Capital: Dover

1st State Founded: December 7, 1787

State Bird: Blue Hen Chicken

State Tree: American Holly

State Flower: Peach Blossom

No. of Counties: 3, New Castle, Kent and Sussex Counties... the fewest of any state having counties.

Largest City: Wilmington

Farmers' Markets: Delaware has 2,500 farms and a moderate climate with hot summers and mild winters. It is protected from the cold winds of winter by the mountains of Pennsylvania.

Also known as a major dairy producer, livestock, including pigs, and other related products account for 70% of Delaware's farm income with "Broilers" (young chickens) contributing the largest portion of Delaware's farm income.

Soybeans are Delaware's most important farm crop followed by corn, although farmers also grow barley and wheat. Potatoes and peas highlight the State, as its largest vegetable crops but many other vegetables and fruits including a large variety of apples (Delaware's largest fruit crop) are found at the many local farmers' markets. Greenhouse and nursery products, flowers, ornamental shrubs and young plants are also cultivated. Make the effort to visit the following markets to support our local farmers.

[Historic Lewes Farmers Market](#) –Saturday mornings, May – October, Lewes Historical Society Complex at 110 Shipcarpenter Street

[Rehoboth Beach Farmers Market](#) –Tuesday afternoons in Grove Park, starting in May.

[Bethany Beach Farmers Market](#) –Sunday mornings June - September. Free metered parking.

[Milford Farmers Market](#) –Saturday mornings, April– October.

[Milton Farmers Market](#) – Fridays late afternoon April – October, next to the Milton Historical Society (Union and Mulberry Streets)

For Detailed Farmers' Market Information,
[CLICK HERE.](#)

INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT THE FIRST STATE

Delaware was the first state to ratify the federal Constitution -- December 7, 1787, becoming the first state in the Union. And because of this, Delaware is given the first position in such national events as presidential inaugurations.

Delaware ranks 49th in the nation with a total land area of 1,955 square miles.

Delaware shares a semi-circular border with Pennsylvania. The border was drawn at the time of the original land grants to William Penn from King Charles II and the Duke of York.

Delaware is the only state without any National Park System units such as national parks, seashores, historic sites, battlefields, memorials, and monuments – but we're working on it.

Today about 500 descendants of the original [Nanticoke Indians](#) reside in Delaware. They celebrate their heritage each September with the Nanticoke Indian Pow Wow.

Finnish settlers arrived in Delaware in the mid-1600s and brought with them plans for the log cabin. One of the cabins has been preserved and is on display at the Delaware Agricultural Museum in Dover.

Tradition holds the first time Betsy Ross's famous flag was flown was at the Battle of [Cooch's Bridge](#). This historic site is located on Route 4 in Newark.

The Lady Bug is Delaware's official state bug.

"[Our Delaware](#)" is the official state song. The words are by George Hynson, music by William Brown.

In total area Delaware ranks 49th in the nation. It contains 1,982 square miles. It is 96 miles long and varies from 9 to 35 miles in width.

Ebright Road in New Castle County is the highest state elevation at 442 feet above sea level. The lowest elevation is along the coast at sea level.

Colonial blue and buff are Delaware's official state colors. Delaware was named for Lord de la Warr. He was the first governor of Virginia.

America's newest tall ship, the [Kalmar Nyckel](#) is ten stories high and 139 feet long. The original ship landed on the Christina River in 1638.

The frying pan built in 1950 for use at the [Delmarva Chicken Festival](#) is 10 feet in diameter and holds 180 gallons of oil and 800 chicken quarters.

The [Delaware Breakwater at Cape Henlopen State Park](#) was the first structure of its kind in the western hemisphere.

[Rehoboth Beach](#) is the state's largest coastal resort town. Methodists who purchase the land for a summer camp and meeting place originally constructed it.

The 87-foot [Fenwick Island Lighthouse](#) was painted in 1880 for a total cost of about five bucks.

Twelve concrete observation towers along the coast were constructed during World War II to protect the state's coastal towns from German u-boat attacks.

The peach blossom is Delaware's official state flower and has prompted Delaware's nickname as the peach state.

The state's [Coastal Heritage Greenway](#) consists of a corridor of open space running along 90 miles of coast and spanning the area between Fox Point State Park and the state line at Fenwick Island.

Thousand Acre Marsh is the largest freshwater tidal wetland in northern Delaware. The [Chesapeake and Delaware Canals](#) border the marsh.

Augustine Beach was named for Augustine Hermann. He was a Bohemian adventurer who mapped the Delmarva Peninsula and surrounding areas in the mid-1600s.

[Odessa](#) possesses one of the finest collections of late 18th- and early 19th-century architecture in the middle Atlantic region. The center of town is on the National Register of Historic Places and the entire town has been zoned as historic.

The 80-foot [Great Dune](#) is the state's highest sand dune. It is located at Cape Henlopen State Park in Lewes.

The Du Pont Laboratories first produced nylon at its plant in Seaford. This earned the town the distinction of being the Nylon Capital of the World.

In recognition of sport-fishing and its overall recreational and economic contributions to the state of Delaware and of the specific values of the [weakfish](#), the state Legislature adopted the weakfish as Delaware's State fish in 1981. This fish is also known as sea trout, gray trout, yellow mouth, yellow fin trout, squeteague, and tiderunner.

The sheaf of wheat, ear of corn, and the ox on the [state seal](#) symbolize the farming activities of early Delaware.

The [Delaware Indians](#) were one of the most advanced tribes of the eastern United States.

Wilmington's Delaware History Center is housed in a renovated, art deco former Woolworth five-and-ten-cent store.

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