



MARYLAND INSIGHTS

DIVISION OF TOURISM AND FILM
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Maryland Tourism Day Event Draws Record Crowd

February 14 was Maryland Tourism Day. The event was held at Rams Head on Stage and garnered a record-breaking crowd of nearly 250 tourism professionals who gathered in Annapolis to make the case for tourism's vital role in Maryland's economy. During the event, Maryland Secretary of Agriculture Kevin Atticks was on hand to accept the Tourism Person of the Year award and Delegate Wayne Hartman was recognized for being named the Tourism Advocate of the Year award (the awards were announced at the November 2024 Maryland Tourism & Travel Summit in Belcamp). In addition, several luminaries offered remarks, including Maryland Tourism Development Board Chairman Ben Seidel. To learn more about the Maryland Tourism Development Board visit [The Official Maryland Tourism Industry Website](#) and to learn more about the Maryland Tourism Coalition, including upcoming events, click [here](#).

Photo Credit: KKR Photography, LLC.



Maryland Office of Tourism to Host Training on “How To Manage Your Listings On Visitmaryland.org”

Tourism industry businesses, stakeholders and partners are invited to a Virtual Training with the Maryland Office of Tourism to learn how to use our self-entry database tool to effectively manage your listing, events and deals/packages on VisitMaryland.org. Get technical tips and tools on what you can do and ways to work with us. The Virtual Training will be held online on Wednesday, March 19 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. [Register here](#) and find more information on industry.visitmaryland.org.



Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church Awarded Funding from the National Trust for Historic Preservation

Quinn Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church in Frederick has received funding from the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund at the National Trust for Historic Preservation as one of its 2025 Preserving Black Churches program cohort. This year, 30 historically Black Churches across the United States will receive a collective \$8.5 million in funding to support critical preservation work from structural restoration work to enhancing stewardship planning. Quinn Chapel served as an Underground Railroad safehouse, a Civil War-era hospital, a school for Black children, and a center of educational and social activism. The building was originally constructed in 1819 and has undergone several additions over 200 years. Funding will support the restoration of the building’s bell tower, constructed in 1923. To learn more about the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund and other

National Trust for Historic Preservation programs and funding opportunities, click [here](#).



Maryland Delegation Attends American Bus Association Marketplace

From February 1-4, OTD's Travel Trade Manager Rich Gilbert and Destination Development Manager Lisa Hansen Terhune joined a large Maryland delegation attending the American Bus Association Marketplace (ABA) in Philadelphia. Gilbert and Terhune met with more than 100 tour operators during 7-minute appointment sessions during the event. Membership in ABA includes motorcoach operators, tour operators, tourism-related organizations, and products and service suppliers. This year's event was the largest in recent years with more than 3,400 attendees.

During this year's Marketplace Rich Gilbert received the Wayne Chandler "Spirit of Partnership Award." The award recognizes an individual who creatively works within the group travel industry to build partnerships to promote all tourism market segments and destinations. To learn more about OTD's travel trade activities, visit [OTD's Official Tourism Industry Website](#) or contact [Rich Gilbert](#) directly.

Pictured: The Maryland delegation at ABA.

Promote Your Events on VisitMaryland.org

Do your partners know how easy it is to add events to [VisitMaryland.org's events calendar](#)? If you or an organization or attraction in your region is hosting an



event, it's easy to get the word out through VisitMaryland.org's events calendar. With tens of thousands of regular visitors, it's a great tool, and with our self-entry portal, it's never been easier to use! If you're wondering if an event has the right stuff for the VisitMaryland.org calendar, you'll find the inclusion criteria [here](#), [follow this link](#) for a step-by-step guide for self entry, or if it's not your first rodeo, jump straight to the entry portal [here](#).

Photo Credit: Karmen Osei

IN THE NEWS

Edgar Allan Poe Museum Plans \$10M Expansion in West Baltimore

Maryland-Bred Champions of 2024 to Be Announced February 26-28

Maryland Farm & Harvest Visits Locations in Anne Arundel, Carroll, And Prince George's Counties During March 4 Episode

Baltimore Gets A Challenger In Bid To Retain CIAA Tournament

Film Village Bringing Four Major Film & Art Festivals To Southern Maryland In 2025

Anne Litz to Serve as Executive Director of Maryland Horse Industry Board

After 18 months, Revamped Jewish Museum of Maryland Opens

Thurmont, MD Has Beloved Mountain, Small-Town Charm

Maryland Casinos Generate \$151.8 Million In Gaming Revenue During January

CBMM receives state grant funding to renovate Coulbourne & Jewett Education Center

Maryland Chicken Wing Festival Returns April 5, 2025, With Dozens of Flavors and Live Entertainment

Six Maryland Hotels Earn 'Gold Badges' on National U.S. News List

Honoring the Legacy of Brigadier General Harriet Tubman

BWI Concessions Contract Awarded To Fraport Baltimore Partnership

Maryland Tourism Advocates Unite In Annapolis To Highlight Industry Growth

Make It In The Mountains Campaign Receives 2025 MEDA Marketing Award

2025 Marks The 25th Anniversary of Maryland's Scenic Byways Program

State Park About To Be Added To Last Maryland County Without One

Driving Tour Journeys Through Harriet Tubman's Life, Legacy in Maryland

Maryland Unveils Roadside Tribute to Abolitionist Frederick Douglass

Maryland Seeks to Expand Funding for Heritage Tourism

Trump Cuts Hit Maryland National Parks Hard: 'A Big Loss'

Maryland Minute

Each week, the *Maryland Minute* provides highlights and insights on this weekend's events around the state. *Maryland Minute* is featured on Audacy radio stations in Baltimore and Washington, D.C., WERQ on Baltimore's WBAL-AM 1090.

Maryland Travel Tips

For the latest on events and everything going all around Maryland, view the latest edition of [Visit Maryland Now!](#)

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Wes Moore
Governor

