

MARYLAND INSIGHTS

DIVISION OF TOURISM AND FILM
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE



Large Maryland Delegation Attends Pennsylvania Bus Association Marketplace

OTD's Travel Trade Manager Rich Gilbert and Destination Development Manager Lisa Hansen Terhune joined a large group representing Maryland at the Pennsylvania Bus Association (PBA) Group Leader Marketplace held on March 25 at the Spooky Nook Sports Complex near Lancaster, PA. This annual event attracts a wide range of destinations, hotels, and attractions who are featured in an exposition setting. Each member motorcoach company is offered the opportunity to bring their best customers to this trade show, in hopes that they will book their motorcoach for future tours. In addition, many area tour operators and travel planners attend to gather new ideas for their 2026 tour season.



Advertisement Opportunity for 2026 Destination Maryland Magazine Announced

As the official travel guide for the Maryland Office of Tourism and a key component of the state's marketing campaigns, *Destination Maryland* Magazine reaches hundreds of thousands of highly engaged travelers actively planning trips to Maryland. Distributed in both printed and digital versions, the guide represents the perfect opportunity to promote your destination, attraction, or service to visitors eager to explore Maryland. The 2026 edition of *Destination Maryland* will feature dynamic content, stunning photography, travel tips, maps, and curated listings. Take advantage of the opportunity to drive visitors to your destination by advertising in the 2026 Destination Maryland. Download the 2026 Destination Maryland Media Kit here. Please contact Carly Stedman Norosky with Miles Partnership if you have questions or need more information. Ad reservations will be accepted through August 20.



National Harbor Selected for 2033 American Bus Association Marketplace

The American Bus Association (ABA) has announced the next eight ABA Marketplace locations including the selection of National Harbor for the 2033 event. After a record-breaking 2025 event in Philadelphia, the Marketplace continues to drive economic impact for host cities while bringing together the motorcoach and group travel industries. Click here for more information.

Pictured: National Harbor



Chesapeake Gateways Technical Assistance Request for Proposals Announced

The National Park Service Chesapeake Gateways program is accepting technical assistance applications from active and aspiring members of Chesapeake Gateways in cooperation with other federal agencies, state and local governments, nonprofit organizations, and the private sector. Through this offering, NPS Chesapeake Gateways serves as a collaborative partner, providing professional services to help you achieve your vision. Click here to learn more or to apply. Applications are due by May 1.



Visit Annapolis & Anne Arundel County to Present Regenerative Tourism Program

On April 9, Visit Annapolis & Anne Arundel County will present a program with author and facilitator Michelle Holliday who will explain what a "regenerative" approach to tourism involves and how it holds the key to thriving and adapting for businesses, communities, and the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Click this <u>link</u> on April 9 at 3:00pm to join the meeting. No registration is required.

Pictured: .@ashleyarc02travels



African American Heritage Preservation Program Grant Round Open

The FY 2026 African American Heritage Preservation Program (AAHPP) round opened on March 30. The AAHPP provides grants to assist in the preservation of buildings, sites, or communities of historical and cultural

importance to the African-American experience in Maryland and is administered as a partnership between the Maryland Historical Trust and the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture. Click here for more information and to apply. Applications are due by June 30.



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



Potomac Jazz & Seafood Festival Celebrates 25th Anniversary with Four Days of Music and Cuisine

Maryland Casinos Generate \$155.2 Million in Gaming Revenue During February

Maryland's Best Seeks Dairy Farms for 2025 Ice Cream Trail and Other Summer Promotions

Royal Caribbean Cruise Ship Appears To Be Relocating From Port of Baltimore In 2026

Antietam Creek Renewal to Get Big Grant Dollars As Part of The State's First Whole Watershed Act Funding

PBS to Air New Documentary Examining Key Bridge Disaster One Year Later [VIDEO]

"Charm City 50" & MD Department of Commerce Cement Welcome Center Display Agreement

Spirit Adds Two Routes, Brings Back Six Others at BWI

New Virtual Museum Shows Artifacts From Maryland Home of Harriet Tubman's Father

Station North Will Remain A Hub For Arts And Culture With Or Without Artscape, Community Leader Vows

Hotel at the University of Maryland Named 7th-Best Hotel in State

Preakness Festival To Be Headlined By Downtown Concert Featuring DJ D-Nice and BSO

Frederick is Finally Getting A Hotel And Conference Center. It's Been A Long Time Coming

Eight Things to Know: Visit Baltimore Names Interim CEO

Seven Facts You Never Knew About Maryland

Marylanders Share Appreciation For State's Natural Beauty, Culinary Experiences in Latest UMBC Poll

MDTA Signed April Contract To Study Chesapeake Bay Bridge Vulnerability

Western Maryland Rail Trail Repaved and Ready for Spring

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 <u>Visit Maryland Now!</u>

