

Ferry Family Fun

7 Ideas for Family Fun at the Ferry



Experience Family Fun Aboard the Cape May-Lewes Ferry!

Get Ferry Adventurous This Summer!



By definition, family fun might be considered an oxymoron. What one person considers fun is rarely seen as a great activity, and negotiating a family vacation that works for everyone can be quite a feat. Beach vacations are no exception; one person may love baking in the sun, while another can't tolerate more than a few minutes of direct UV rays (even with SPF 100 slathered all over!)

For many families vacationing at the Jersey Shore or the Delaware Beaches, the Ferry becomes a great change-of-pace option and exciting new experience, with a little something for everyone. Here are 7 ways we've heard that families have made the Ferry part of their vacation experience.

For more info:
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Family Fun Idea #1



Seek Summer in the Shade!



Summer vacations are generally about spending time outside, but what if you're a bit red from spending a little *too* much time in the sun? No one wants to be stuck indoors, but if your time in the sun is done, what can you do? That's where a Ferry trip can save the day (or, vacation!)

Regardless of which side of the Bay you're staying in - Sussex County, DE or Cape May County, NJ - the Ferry is just a hop, skip and jump away. During the summer season, boats depart almost hourly, so you can put on your sunglasses, grab a hat and come on board as a walk-on passenger. Once on board, you can sit under an awning or

a covered deck area and take in bay breezes and amazing sights while staying out of the sun.

If you want even more of an indoor feel, our salons and galleys offer comfortable, climate-controlled indoor seating with a full view of the Bay. And, upon arriving at either terminal, you can sit under the comfort of an

umbrella at our On the Rocks restaurants and dine & drink in the shade, with an incredible view.

The best part? If there are people in your party who still want to enjoy the sun, they can! There are plenty of Adirondack chairs on board to soak up the sun, so those sun-seekers can relax in comfort and watch as sea birds pass by, or maybe even spot a dolphin or a whale!



Family Fun Idea #2



Picnic Potential



Picnics can always be fun, but did you know that the Ferry can take them to the next level? Plenty of tables and chairs, incredible views of the Delaware Bay, the chance to spot a whale or a dolphin in between bites of your sandwich, and... no ants or seagulls to worry about! Of course, you'll SEE seagulls, but they're too busy trying to keep up with the Ferry to actually snatch your sandwich.

Not so sure about the idea of a picnic on the water? No problem, you can keep your land legs about you and still enjoy views of the Ferry by taking a seat at a table on the boardwalks, present at both Ferry terminals. You may have to keep an eye out for a few seagulls, but trust us; the views and the breezes more than make up for the occasional wayward bird-turned-robber-baron!

Or, if you love the idea of a picnic but don't love the idea of having to prepare for a picnic, we've got you covered!

On board the vessels, you can choose from grab-n-go items from our cafeterias and either pull up a table inside the salon, or take them out onto the outside decks.

Each terminal also features an On the Rocks restaurant, with indoor and outdoor service available, picnic tables with umbrellas and a full service bar, as well as self-service grab-n-go options located inside.



Family Fun Idea #3



It's All a Game!



Although it's always fun to throw a ball, catch a ball, kick a ball or hit a ball on the beach, sometimes the combination wind, sand and sun can be a little much. In addition, sometimes it's nice to put on something other than a swimsuit. That's when it's great to grab your gear and head to the Ferry terminal! The large and spacious terminal greens allow kids to run around, kick soccer balls or play a game of catch, without worrying about getting sand everywhere. Plus,

if you work up a thirst, it's easy to run inside and grab water, soft drinks, ice cream or just cool off in the air-conditioned shade.

In addition, both terminals have an increasing array of yard games that appeal to all ages. From giant Jenga, to life-sized Connect 4 and cornhole, they provide a fun and welcome break from your typical beach games.

And for the littler ones in your group, each terminal also has a small playground, with jungle gym area, slides and mini-climbing opportunities. If you're in Cape May, there's also a free mini-golf area that's great fun for all ages. Clubs and balls are available for free at the ticket counter.



Family Fun Idea #4



Get Cruisin'

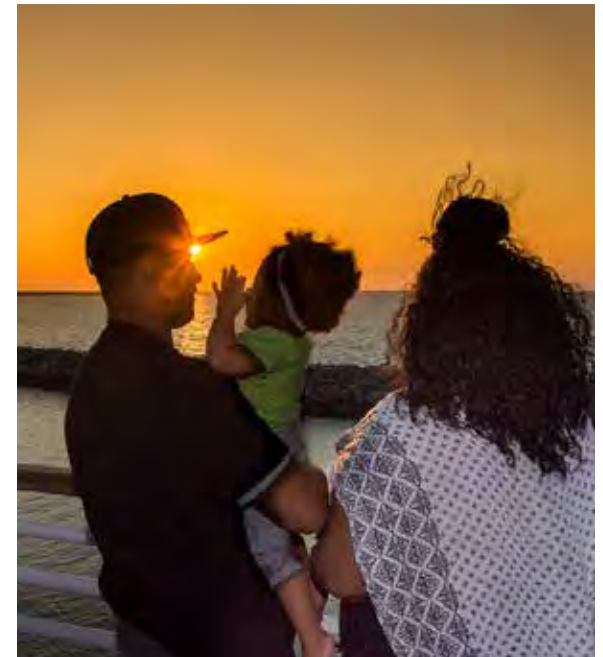


For many families, boats - especially large boats like our Ferries - aren't exactly common modes of transportation. With that in mind, the Ferry provides a taste of a cruise experience without having to commit to day(s) on the water. One round-trip cruise across the Bay and back will take about three hours if you stay on board, but don't let the shorter trip length fool you; the journey is packed with sightseeing opportunities, from lighthouses to wildlife, including the occasional whale or dolphin.

For kids, you can ask the crew for special Pirate Pete coloring books, wildlife bingo cards and other free activities including rope tying cards or boat baseball cards. If you're lucky enough to catch the Captain walking through, you can also ask for a Captain's card and get to know a little bit more about how our Captains came to "sail up" to their current positions.

In fact, many families have made annual pilgrimages to the other side of the Bay without ever getting off the boat. That said, it's not unusual for families to set sail for the other side and take a shuttle into town once they arrive. Exploration opportunities abound in both Lewes, DE and Cape May, NJ, so whether it's sightseeing, shopping or dining, there's plenty to do on both sides of the Bay. If you plan your

trip to arrive around lunchtime, you can grab a bite, explore the town, and be back to your home vacation port with enough time to clean up for dinner and reminisce about memories made and sights seen.



Family Fun Idea #5



Ferry Gazing & Pedal Pushing



It's not unusual to see families come to the Ferry terminal to just spend time on the boardwalk and watch the boats come in, without ever stepping foot on board. For many, it's the first time they get to see a boat this big, this close by. Even for the experienced sea-goer, it's a true wonder to watch the Ferry captains maneuver the vessels into the dock and hear the various horns and signals being called out as the big boats tie up.

Ferry terminal.

In Cape May, bikers more commonly pedal their own bikes to the terminal. The ride from downtown Cape May to the Ferry terminal takes about a half an hour, and once you arrive you can stay and hang out, or take your bike aboard the Ferry (bikes travel FREE, riders just pay foot passenger fare) and explore the trails on the Delaware side.

The Ferry is also a great stopping point or end destination for local bike treks, as there are numerous shoreline trails nearby. In Lewes, families can drive up and park for free at the terminal, rent bikes and start a pedal powered journey right there. Cape Henlopen State Park is an easy, flat road ride located directly down the street from the



Family Fun Idea #6



Explore Lighthouse Lore



There are people who travel across the country in an attempt to see all of the almost 1,000 lighthouses still in existence in the United States. Luckily - for them, as well as for the rest of us - there are three lighthouses not only in close proximity to the Ferry, but in easy view during a normal crossing. Each of the three is distinctive from the others, and clearly show the variety of lighthouse constructions employed over the years.

When leaving Lewes, the first lighthouse you'll spot is called the Breakwater, a reddish lighthouse that can be seen from shore. Built

in 1885, it separates the Delaware Bay on the breakwater rocks built to protect the Delaware coast from higher force waves. When visitors have a swim in the calm waters off of Lewes beach, they have the breakwater (and the lighthouse that alerts mariners to the breakwater) to thank.

Next, there's the white Harbor of Refuge lighthouse a bit farther out at the mouth of the Delaware Bay. The lighthouse is named so because it was built to protect the maritime area known as the National Harbor of Refuge. Built in 1926, it was constructed to withstand the harshest of Atlantic storms, and has already survived several fierce hurricanes.

Finally, when coming into Cape May, passengers can spot the lean and tall Cape May Lighthouse. Located in Cape May Point State Park, it is the oldest and tallest of the three, built in 1859.

Visitors to the park can climb the 199 steps to the top to get a spectacular view of the area all the way from Wildwood back to Cape Henlopen, Delaware.



Family Fun Idea #7



Kick Back and Enjoy Car Free Travel!



And besides, the kids get to move around, significantly reducing the likelihood of “Are we there yet?”

The driver gets to kick back in an Adirondack chair and relax.

Adult passengers get to stretch their legs and perhaps enjoy an adult beverage at

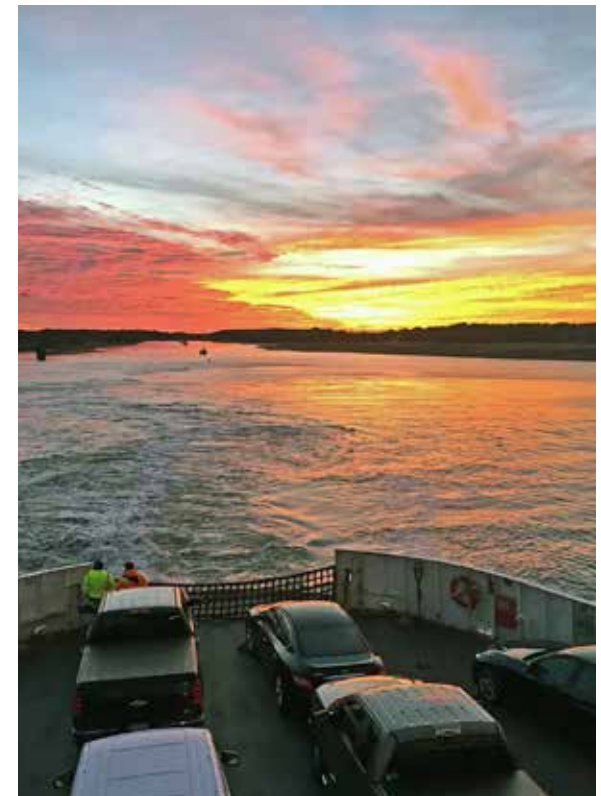
Of course, the most common way that families and vacationers experience the Ferry is as part of a longer journey to a destination elsewhere on the East Coast. We often hear things like, “Our vacation starts when we get on the Ferry!”, and the reason is simple.

The Ferry not only breaks up the trip, but it gets everyone out of the car and experiencing new sights and sounds. From the fresh bay breezes to the wildlife views, the Ferry is often one of the most memorable parts of a family’s journey.

the bar.

In fact, if you have the right frame of mind, it’s like a mini-vacation while you’re on the way to your vacation!

But don’t just take our word for it, check out our reviews on Trip Advisor and Facebook to see what passengers are saying about us, and we hope we’ll have the chance to welcome you and your family aboard this summer!



Create Your Own Unique Family Ferry Experience

From Day Trips to Longer Journeys...



Our goal is always to ensure you have the best travel experience possible, whether joining us for a day-trip or making us just one part of a longer journey.

We hope it starts with a voyage on the Cape May -Lewes Ferry with a relaxing ride across the Delaware Bay to let you arrive relaxed and with a smile.

Have more questions?
E-mail us at:
cmlfcustomerservice@drba.net



Ready to book now?

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or Call: 1-800-643-3779

