

The Eastern Shore

Cycling the southern Delmarva Peninsula

A weeklong tour with flat scenic roads, from two Eastern Shore inns

The Delmarva Peninsula : *"In the heart of the bustling East Coast there is a place where cyclists can find over 2,000 miles of rural roads through a picturesque landscape of small towns, farms, inlets, coves, and beaches. Flanked on the west by the Chesapeake Bay and on the east by the Atlantic Ocean, the Delmarva Peninsula (named for its geographic confluence of Delaware, Maryland, and Virginia) is filled with superlative cycling on flat low-traffic roads through tidal marshes and coastal forests."* -- Adventure Cycling



Getting There: From the Baltimore Washington International Airport, a 1.5 hour drive takes you across the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. to quaint Oxford in Talbot County Maryland, where we recommend the Sandaway Waterfront. Take time afternoon to explore this quaint town a bit. Our tour follows well-kept flat roads, with morning and afternoon rides of approximately 20 miles each.

Day 1: St Michaels and Tilghman Island :

Take the Oxford ferry to historic St. Michaels, home of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum, From there you can take a less-traveled road to

hidden coves on Nelson Point, and to the end of Tilghman Island. Long distance cyclists will enjoy a [60 mile loop](http://www.mapmyride.com/route/us/md/easton/259123707833532415) including Easton, St. Michaels, Tilghman Island and Oxford, which you can view at

<http://www.mapmyride.com/route/us/md/easton/259123707833532415>

Day 2: Blackwater and Hoopers Island

Morning Ride: In the morning drive half an hour, crossing the Choptank River and through Cambridge MD on our way to the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, a major stop on the Atlantic flyway, hosting 150 bald eagles, which nest in Blackwater in winter. A 22 mile loop around the refuge will offer the most outstanding scenery of this tour. Another beautiful ride from the Taylors Island Wildlife Management area takes you 20 miles Hooperville on Hooper Island, a narrow spit of land surrounded by the sea.



Cambridge boasts many small museums, including one devoted to Harriet Tubman of Underground Railroad fame and another to the craft of wooden boat making in the Chesapeake region (The Richardson Museum). You may wish to put together your own combination of routes in this phenomenal wildlife area. [View route maps from Cambridge](#)

Day 3: Easton and Trappe Today's rides explore the countryside west and north of Oxford. Ride out to nearby Trappe to enjoy peaceful roads in this less-travelled section of Talbot County, with several distance options. We also recommend cycling to Easton where you'll want to spend some time in it's charming downtown. Our return crosses the Tred Avon River on the Oxford-Bellevue Ferry . You may combine these rides into one nice day-long exploration. . [View route maps from Easton](#)



Day 4: Berlin and Assateague Island Our tour departs Oxford to Berlin, Maryland, one of "America's Coolest Small Towns" , where we recommend the newly restored Atlantic Hotel. From the hotel, set out on an extraordinary ride to Assateague Island. You'll cross Sinepuxant Bay on the half mile long pedestrian and bicycle bridge to Assateague Island National Seashore , famous for the wild horses who've roamed there since the 17th-century. The ride is 20 miles out and back.

Day 5: Snow Hill and the ViewTrail 100 For your final day on the Eastern shore, we recommend an enjoyable ride on the very quiet roads between Berlin and Snow Hill, with 25, 35 or 45 mile options. Our route generally follows the northern section of the "[ViewTrail 100](#)" , while avoiding busy highways. Sleepy Snow Hill has changed little during since the mid-20th century, and you will encounter very few cars along this route.

Eastern Neck and Chestertown. If you have time as you return from the Eastern Shore, drive to Chestertown , north of the Bay Bridge, for some scenic cycling with rolling hills and a visit to the Eastern Neck Wildlife Refuge. View this route at <http://www.mapmyride.com/ride/united-states/md/chestertown/512351865698>

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