





## Brandywine Valley Scenic Byway

Make an unforgettable journey through the rolling hills of the gentle Brandywine Valley landscape and discover the lasting influence of the du Pont family dynasty from city-side to country-side. This journey is a true Delaware original, often referred to as Chateau Country. The Byway leads to an unparalleled concentration of historic sites, magnificent estates, glorious gardens and mesmerizing museums where visions from a vanished century abound.

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# Feel the History

**V**isitors are drawn to the First State for its beautifully preserved past, filled with stories of pioneers, patriots and the promise of a better tomorrow.

The Brandywine Scenic Byway was not only selected because of its scenic beauty, but it was nationally recognized for its historical significance as well. History in Delaware does not only exist in the rolling hills and world-class museums that border the byway, but it is abundant throughout the three counties.

The First State of the 21st century – as defined by its largest city, Wilmington – is a Fortune 500 magnet setting high standards in science and technology, the financial industry, pharmaceuticals and more.

But just beyond Wilmington's boundaries, America's roots run deep. Visitors come here to stroll along pathways through centuries of progress, listening for echoes of revolutionary rallies and touching the simple tools with which Delaware built its commercial strength.

In Lewes, known as the "first town in the First State," you can visit sites like the Zwaanendael Museum to learn about the 32 Dutch settlers who stepped ashore in 1631, proclaiming the area Swandenael, "Valley of the Swans."

The Kalmars Nyckel Shipyard, named for a pair of vessels that brought those settlers to a still-prominent ledge of rocks nearby, is a living-history museum featuring an authentic re-creation of that beautiful tall ship. Gripping stories of survival in Colonial New Sweden are also told at the Holy Trinity (Old Swedes) Church and Hendrickson House Museum. Dating back to 1698-1699, the church building is said to be the oldest one in America still standing as originally built.

To become completely immersed in 18th-century life, mingle with costumed guides at Dover's John Dickinson Plantation. Dickinson himself was a farmer and signer of the U.S. Constitution, and has been called the "Penman of the American Revolution" for his many influential writings.

On December 7, 1787, Delaware officially became the "first state to ratify the Constitution. But more than a decade earlier, Delaware's Continental Regiment assembled on the Dover Green before marching off to join up with General George Washington.

From there, step into the 19th century at the Cannonball House Marine Museum, the sole remaining structure damaged during a 22-hour British naval bombardment of Lewes during the War of 1812. The attack was said to have resulted in only one casualty: a chicken.

You can trace the American Methodist church's origin to the town of Frederica and the 220-year-old Barratt's Chapel. Meanwhile, the prominent Ross family (including Delaware's youngest governor, William Ross) expressed strong Southern sympathies. For their side of the story, travel to Seaford and the Gov. Ross Mansion and Plantation. This 20-acre expanse contains a Civil War-era Italian villa and Delaware's only documented log slave quarters.

The New Castle Court House, part of a quiet heritage trail incorporating several historic sites, was recently included in the National Parks Service "Network to Freedom" program. Prominent abolitionists Thomas Garrett and John Hunn stood trial here in 1848 on charges of aiding fugitive slaves.

In Delaware City, you can board a ferry at Battery Park and cross over to Fort Delaware, the pentagonal military fort used as a Civil War prison camp for more than 33,000 Confederate soldiers. The fort has introduced an award-winning guided living history program.

Delaware manufacturing also proved lucrative for many years, as you'll learn at the Iron Hill Museum of Natural History in Newark. Hiking trails around the site pass over iron mining pits, while indoor exhibits explore Colonial iron making.

Delaware's train history, you're on the right track if you visit sites and museums in Delmar, Harrington and Western Railroad, which has been in continuous operation for more than 120 years. Come aboard for a romantic dinner, murder mystery, Civil War reenactment or other special event.

During World War II, Delaware remained busy, as evidenced by the concrete observation towers that still stand tall along the beaches of Cape Henlopen and Delaware Seashore state parks. Meanwhile, at the former hangar that is now Dover Air Force Base's Air Mobility Command Museum, you can see a scarred C-47 that carried paratroopers into battle. And a new aviation museum at the Sussex County Airport in Georgetown lets you check out refurbished airplanes like the AT-17 Bobcat.

From north to south throughout the First State, in big cities and small towns, look all around for signs of a proud, industrious people who embraced the future, but didn't forget the past.

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## Mileage Chart

APPROXIMATE MILEAGES

To determine the distance between two places, trace across the horizontal column of one town to an intersection with the vertical column of the other town. The figure is the approximate mileage between the two points.

■ Indicates travel via the Cape May-Lewes Ferry

From \ To	Delmar	Harrington	Georgetown	Seaford	Lewes	New Castle	Dover	Wilmington	Delmar
Delmar	0	11	14	17	20	23	26	29	0
Harrington	11	0	3	6	9	12	15	18	11
Georgetown	14	3	0	3	6	9	12	15	14
Seaford	17	6	3	0	3	6	9	12	17
Lewes	20	9	6	3	0	3	6	9	20
New Castle	23	12	9	6	3	0	3	6	23
Dover	26	15	12	9	6	3	0	3	26
Wilmington	29	18	15	12	9	6	3	0	29
Delmar	0	11	14	17	20	23	26	29	0

**In Case of Emergency**

Dial 911 to reach the nearest police service anywhere in the state. Additionally, many police departments monitor CB Emergency Channel 9.

**Speed Limits**

Maximum speed limits are listed below. In certain areas, the posted speed may differ from the maximum limit. Obey the limit as posted. There may be minimum speed limits as well as maximum speed limits posted in some locations. Please maintain the maximum speed limits to avoid hazardous conditions on the road.

Maximum Speed

Limited access highways, divided highways and highways with four lanes or more ..... 55 miles per hour  
Two lane roads ..... 25 miles per hour  
Business and residential districts ..... 25 miles per hour  
School zones ..... 20 miles per hour

In addition to posted speed limits, advisory speeds used along with warning signs indicate conditions may exist to make it unsafe to drive faster. These signs are black letters on yellow signs.

**Turns on Red**

You may turn right on a red light provided you come to a full stop before proceeding. You may also turn left from a one-way street onto another one-way street on a red light after coming to a full stop. Do not turn on red when the intersection is posted with a sign reading "No Turn on Red" or when traffic signal displays a continuous red turn arrow.

**VISITOR RESOURCES**

For visitor information or a free Delaware Travel Planning Kit, contact:

**DELAWARE TOURISM OFFICE**  
(302) 739-4271 or 1-866-2-VISIT-DE  
[www.visitdelaware.com](http://www.visitdelaware.com)

**NORTHERN REGION**  
Greater Wilmington Convention & Visitors Bureau  
100 W. 10th St., Suite 20  
Wilmington, DE 19801  
(302) 652-4988  
[www.visitwilmingtonde.com](http://www.visitwilmingtonde.com)

**CENTRAL REGION**  
Kent County Tourism Corporation  
435 N. DuPont Hwy.  
P.O. Box 576  
Bettany Beach, DE 19801-1450  
(302) 539-2100 or (800) 903-7873  
[www.visitkent.com](http://www.visitkent.com)

**SOUTHERN REGION**  
Southern Delaware Tourism  
103 W. Pine St., P.O. Box 240, Georgetown, DE 19947-0240  
(410) 856-1818 or (800) 357-1812  
[www.visitdelaware.com](http://www.visitdelaware.com)

**NORTHERN REGION**  
Historic New Castle Visitors Bureau  
42 The Strand  
New Castle, DE 19720-0665  
(302) 322-8411  
[www.newcastle.com](http://www.newcastle.com)

**CENTRAL REGION**  
Lewes Chamber of Commerce  
1301 N. Orange St., Suite 300, P.O. Box 671  
Lewes, DE 19958-0671  
(302) 655-7221 or (800) 250-9207  
[www.lewes.com](http://www.lewes.com)

**SOUTHERN REGION**  
Seaside Chamber of Commerce  
200 Park Highway  
Lewes, DE 19958  
(302) 648-9073  
[www.leweschamber.com](http://www.leweschamber.com)

**REHOBOTH BEACH-DEWEY BEACH**  
Greater Rehoboth Beach Chamber of Commerce  
501 Rehoboth Ave., P.O. Box 216  
Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971-0216  
(302) 227-2233 or (800) 443-1239  
[www.rehoboth.com](http://www.rehoboth.com)

**INLAND/SOUTHERN REGION**  
Bentley Brandywine Area Chamber of Commerce  
P.O. Box 416  
635 N. DuPont Hwy.  
Lewes, DE 19958-0416  
(302) 646-3336  
[www.bentley.com](http://www.bentley.com)

**Greater Georgetown Chamber of Commerce**  
277 The Circle, P.O. Box 1  
Georgetown, DE 19947  
(302) 227-2233 or (800) 443-1239  
[www.georgetown.com](http://www.georgetown.com)

**Lancaster Chamber of Commerce**  
444 N. Poplar St., P.O. Box 696  
Lancaster, DE 19904-0696  
(302) 875-9119  
[www.visitlancaster.com](http://www.visitlancaster.com)

**Greater Millsboro Chamber of Commerce**  
317 Main Street, P.O. Box 187  
Millsboro, DE 19966-0187  
(302) 934-7777  
[www.visitmillsboro.com](http://www.visitmillsboro.com)

**Milford Chamber of Commerce**  
424 Mulberry Street  
Milford, DE 19966-0076  
(302) 684-1101  
[www.visitmilford.com](http://www.visitmilford.com)

**Delaware State Visitors Center**  
416 Federal Street  
Dover, DE 19901  
(302) 739-6166  
[www.visitdelaware.com](http://www.visitdelaware.com)

**Greater Seaford Chamber of Commerce**  
221 High Street  
Seaford, DE 19973  
(302) 629-5660  
[www.visitseaford.com](http://www.visitseaford.com)

Dear Friends,

As the roads and streets of a map aren't just ways to get from here to there, they are paths to fun and art, culture, history and adventure.

One of our many roads leading to excitement has recently been given national recognition as a National Scenic and Historic Byway. The Brandywine Scenic Byway winds travelers through rolling hills and small towns that embody part of Delaware's proud history.

On behalf of all Delawarans, I extend an invitation to explore, not only the byway, but all our small but diverse state has to offer. We have pristine beaches, verdant farm fields, charming small towns, a sophisticated city, intriguing historical sites and great places to stay or to dine. Wherever you start in Delaware, everything else is within a few hours drive. And if you would like to stop for some shopping along the way, we have no sales tax.

Delaware is an easy trip from New York, Washington and all points in between. So come for a week or long weekend. Stop for a day when you're passing through. You'll be amazed at how much we pack into our small state. It knows that once you've discovered Delaware, you'll want to hold on to this map for a return trip.

We look forward to your visit.

Sincerely,  
*Frank Ann Minter*  
Ruth Ann Minter