



Back to the beach

From family fun to a romantic getaway, find the perfect shore

From staff and wire reports

Some say saltwater is the cure for anything. Whether you have something that needs to be cured or just need a break from reality, everybody goes to different beaches for different reasons. Do you travel with your family for bonding time with the kids? Or do you and your significant other just need some time alone?

Whether you're a newbie in the area or a longtime resident in search of fresh ideas, here's a guide for the various types of beachgoers. Just grab your towel, sunscreen and sense of adventure, and get out of town.

FIND YOUR PERFECT BEACH, ON D4-5

- » **FAMILY TRIP:** These beaches offer something for every member of the family.
- » **THE OUTDOORSY TYPE:** Camping and nature abound on these beaches.
- » **BEST BOARDWALKS:** The flashing lights and the smell of fries draws you in.
- » **GET ROMANTIC:** Cozy up with your loved one in this low-key town.
- » **SHOP TILL YOU DROP:** Spend your hard-earned cash on cheesy gifts or at an upscale boutique.



BEST OF BEACH EATS: Where to get your grub on

BY SUE GLEITER | sgleiter@pennlive.com

We asked readers to share their favorite restaurant stops at the beach. Here's are a few of your top spots, covering New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware and the Carolinas.

GROTTO PIZZA » grottopizza.com

Regulars at Delaware and Maryland beaches can't wait to get their fix of Grotto Pizza. The chain operates multiple locations and is a beach staple most revered for its pizzas. Grotto started as a simple takeout stand in Rehoboth Beach, Del. Dominick Pulieri, a transplant from Wilkes-Barre opened it in 1960.

THE LOBSTER HOUSE » thelobsterhouse.com

The multidining-room restaurant is built on the water's edge with views of

commercial fishing boats and the harbor in Cape May, N.J. It's a standard seafood house that hasn't changed much over the decades and has appealed to generations of locals and vacationers. Its fleet of ships brings in the fresh seafood served at the restaurant and sold at the Lobster House fish market.

HARPOON HANNA'S » harpoonhannasrestaurant.com

Harpoon Hanna's in Fenwick Island, Del., is a waterside restaurant that caters to families. Expect a wait during the busy summer season. But many claim it's worth it for the famous coconut and blueberry muffins and seafood dishes.

ORIGINAL THRASHER'S FRENCH FRIES » thrashersfries.com

Thrasher's Fries are an Ocean City, Md., tradition on the boardwalks. It started in 1929 when a Southerner, J.T. Thrasher, introduced the concession stand focused on one item: french fries. What sets them apart is that Thrasher's uses four ingredients: potatoes, peanut oil, apple cider vinegar and salt.

DIRTY DICK'S CRAB HOUSE » www.dirtydickscrabs.com

Decorated like a sailor's shanty, this restaurant in Nags Head, N.C., is big on seafood. Look for

a variety of steamed and fried seafood, including crab legs, shrimp, fish and scallops. Everyone raves about the hush puppies and bloody Marys.

SAM & OMIE'S » www.samandomies.net

S&O's started as a haven for fishermen in the Outer Banks of North Carolina. It dates to 1937, and 70 years later still maintains its beach atmosphere. The restaurant is open from breakfast through dinner, offering a menu of everything from sausage and gravy over biscuits to broiled seafood combos.

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