

TRUE TALBOT. TRUE CHESAPEAKE.

Talbot
COUNTY
MARYLAND

Easton • Oxford • St. Michaels • Tilghman Island

Talbot County is home to some of the most beautiful and historic small towns in America.

Discover the true Talbot County with fresh-from-the-Bay seafood, elegant inns, and outdoor pursuits offering picturesque views of Maryland's Eastern Shore.

STORY IDEAS

Contact the Talbot County Tourism Office:
tourism@talbotcountymd.gov
(410) 770-8000
TourTalbot.org



Celebrating the Chesapeake Bay Way of Life

With ever-changing outdoor and indoor exhibitions, scenic cruises, and numerous annual festivals such as [OysterFest](#), the [Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum](#) celebrates the Bay's culture, watercraft, seafood, and history, all set on their 18-acre park-like waterfront setting along the Miles River and St. Michaels Harbor. Their fleet of historic watercraft is the largest in existence, and a working shipyard highlights the boatbuilding traditions of the Chesapeake Bay.



Talbot County's Inns and Hotels Offer Comfort & Flavor

In Talbot County there is always opportunity to get a view of, or get on to, the Chesapeake Bay. Here, [boutique inns and charming B&Bs](#) dot the coastline, some offering sailboat tours, and bicycles and kayaks for you to seek out indigenous wildlife and abundant habitat on your own. Historic [hotels](#) with modern amenities and the finest of Eastern Shore [homes](#) await to pamper you, and if traveling by boat, full-service [marinas](#) let you park for an extended stay with easy access to amenities.



The Birthplace of Frederick Douglass

Talbot County's [Frederick Douglass Park on the Tuckahoe](#) is a 107-acre park currently featuring interpretive signs giving insight to his boyhood home and work as abolitionist, orator, Founding Father, and what's next in store for this import landmark. Public Art, also, commemorates the man, his life, and influence with a bronze statue on the Talbot County Courthouse lawn and newly unveiled mural on the Easton Rail to Trail. Take the [Frederick Douglass Driving Tour](#) for the full experience.



The Chesapeake Country All-American Road Makes the Scene

The recently designated 419-mile [Chesapeake Country All-American Road](#) spans the nine counties of Maryland's Eastern Shore from Chesapeake City to Crisfield. Passing through the heart of Talbot County, it touches the towns of Easton, Oxford, St. Michaels, and Tilghman Island, revealing the spirit and culture of each place. All-American roads are "destinations unto themselves," providing exceptional experiences so travelers make the drive a primary reason for their trip.



Oxford-Bellevue Ferry Celebrates 340 Years!

2023 marks the 340th Anniversary of the [historic ferry service](#)! Since 1683 the ferry has transported thousands of travelers in search of adventure and commerce across the Trent Avon River between the charming towns of Oxford and Bellevue. Today, Captains Tom and Judy Bixler keep it rolling for generations to come. How many Mini Coopers fit on the 9-car ferry? [Find out!](#)



Tour Historic Easton by Horse Drawn Carriage

Jessica Buchanan Tanglao opened [Easton Carriage Tours](#) in May 2021 to take people back to a forgotten pace of clopping horse hooves on city streets. Ride through the streets of Easton as guides point out historic homes and buildings, and regale you with tales of the people and events that help shape present-day Easton. *Furry friends are welcome on the carriage too!*



100 Years and Counting of Talented Musicians and Notable Performances

Easton's [Avalon Theatre](#) was completed in 1922 at a cost of \$100,000 - a bit of green back then - and immediately became, "The Showplace of the Eastern Shore." During its first 100 years, it saw ownership changes and struggled to stay viable. But thanks to public generosity and progressive visionaries, the Avalon Theatre today is a pillar of the Talbot County arts scene, producing concerts, cultural festivals, and helping address community needs.



The African-American Experience on the Eastern Shore

Maryland's founding Black families made significant contributions to Eastern Shore life, and Talbot County has a number of museums and tours that bring this history to light. This is the birthplace of [Frederick Douglass](#); the [Water's Edge Museum](#) interprets the Black experience through music and art; [The Hill Community Project](#) tours one of the oldest free Black neighborhoods in the U. S. still in existence today; and the [John Wesley Church](#) was an abolitionist and integrated church community since before the Civil War.



The Arts Capital of Maryland's Eastern Shore

Noted as one of the best small arts communities in America, Talbot County boasts an abundance of arts opportunities. The [Academy Art Museum](#) features contemporary artists and old masters, plus its annual juried craft show. Artists come from around the world to compete in [Plein Air Easton](#), the largest and most prestigious outdoor painting competition in the country, and to exhibit at the [Waterfowl Festival](#), now in its 52nd year! Plus nationally recognized musicians perform at the century-old [Avalon Theatre](#) and the contemporary [Ebenezer Theater](#).



Savor the best of Maryland's Eastern Shore Flavors

Chesapeake Bay seafood is famous the world over. Crabs, oysters, and rockfish are among the local and visitor favorites. Taste these delicacies at one of Talbot County's many award-winning [restaurants](#) and seafood markets. Special events such as [Watermen's Appreciation Day](#) and [WineFest](#) offer opportunities to enjoy the best of the region's agri and aquaculture.



Get in to the Great Outdoors

[Charter a sailing or fishing excursion](#), cheer on a log canoe (sail boat) race, ride on a historic skipjack, or [rent a kayak](#) and explore one of the region's many water trails. Take a [bike ride](#) on the back roads on one of Talbot County's 180 miles of designated trails or run in the [St. Michaels Running Festival](#). Visit the many [parks](#) to learn about the flora and fauna of the region, or stroll the streets of the county's towns and villages and visit the [shops](#) and [outdoor cafés](#).



A Waterman's World

In Maryland, people who make their living on the water are referred to as watermen. Talbot County's water-based communities were largely built by watermen. Learn about the Bay and its people with a visit to the [Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum](#). Dip for soft crabs, visit a working waterman's village, or learn about maritime life at the [Tilghman Waterman's Museum](#).