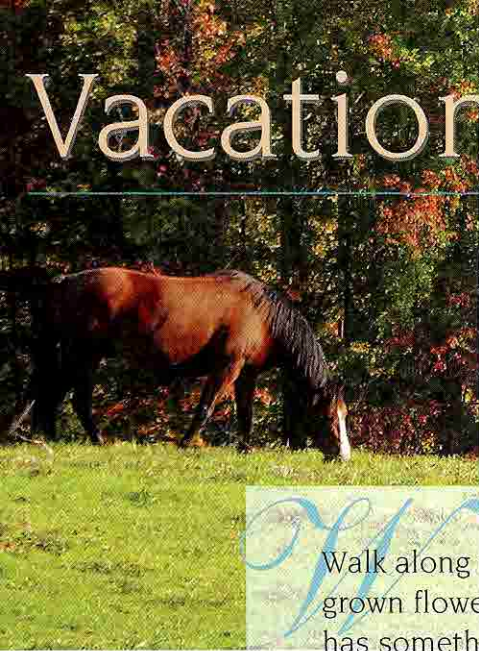


Vacation

in Monmouth County!



Paul Scharff



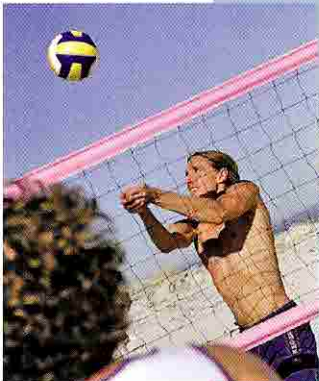
Walk along the surf, pick your own apples, clap along at a concert, purchase Jersey-grown flowers at an open-air market: every season of the year Monmouth County has something new and enjoyable for your whole family. This magazine is your vacation guide to a county whose outstanding mix of beaches, colonial history, nationally-renowned parks, and unique small towns makes it a destination families return to year after year.

This guide is for you whether you are planning your first visit to Monmouth County or your thirty-first. In its colorful pages you will find listings of:

- Hotels, bed and breakfasts, and other accommodations
- Fairs, outdoor concerts, historic reenactments, food festivals, and other events for every season
- Malls, outlet centers, museums, parks, and beaches
- Tourist and vacation contacts
- Transportation information including airports, rail lines, ferry terminals, and highways

In a phrase, whatever you are seeking in a vacation, this guide will help you discover it. A weekend getaway or a month at the shore; a couples escape or a family vacation; luxury and relaxation or an outdoors sporting adventure; summer fun or winter sports—Monmouth County has it all. The pages of this guide will help you uncover and explore the possibilities of your Monmouth County vacation. ◆

Kelly S. Andrews



Top: Fall grazing in Middletown.
Bottom: Morning waves in Manasquan.
Inset: A frequent summer scene at beaches throughout Monmouth County.

Kelly S. Andrews



Professional theatre featuring well-known actors from film and television flourishes throughout the County, from Two River Theatre in Red Bank to theatres in Manasquan, Asbury Park, and other towns.

Whatever kind of music or theatre moves you, you will find it in Monmouth County. Check out the following listings. Contact the theatres and venues for schedules and tickets.

Algonquin Arts Theatre
173 Main Street, Manasquan
(732) 528-9211
www.algonquinarts.com

Battleground Arts Center
35 West Main Street
Freehold
(732) 462-8811

Black Box Theater of Asbury Park
PO Box 955, Asbury Park
(732) 455-3060
www.blackboxap.org

Brookdale Community College Performing Arts Center
761 Newman Springs Road
Lincroft
(732) 224-2521
www.brookdale.cc.nj.us/staff/pac

Convention Hall & Paramount Theatre
1300 Ocean Avenue (Boardwalk)
Asbury Park
(732) 775-3533
www.asburyparkconventionhall.com

Count Basie Theatre
99 Monmouth Street, Red Bank
(732) 842-9000
www.countbasietheatre.org

Eatontown Playhouse
Tower Market Center
3513 Route 35 North
Eatontown
www.overtherainbowproductions.com

First Avenue Playhouse
123 First Avenue
Atlantic Highlands
(732) 291-7552
www.firstavenueplayhouse.com

Freehold Center for Performing Arts
35 South Street
Freehold
(732) 462-9093
www.centerplayers.org

Holmdel Theatre Co.
(at the Duncan Smith Theatre)
Crawfords Corner Road
Holmdel
(732) 946-0427
www.holmdeltheatrecompany.com

Lauren K. Woods Theatre
Monmouth University
Cedar and Norwood Avenues
West Long Branch
(732) 263-5730
www.monmouth.edu/woodstheatre

Metro Lyric Opera of New Jersey
40 Ocean Avenue
Allenhurst
Summer and Fall seasons at the Paramount Theatre
Boardwalk, Asbury Park
(732) 531-2378
www.metrolyricopera.org

Monmouth County Arts Council
99 Monmouth Street
Red Bank
(732) 212-1890
www.monmouthartscouncil.org

The Spring Lake Community House.

Monmouth Symphony Orchestra
Perform at Paramount Theatre
1300 Ocean Avenue (Boardwalk)
Asbury Park
(732) 758-1760
www.monmouthsymphony.org

Navesink Library Theatre
Sears and Monmouth Avenues
Navesink
www.monmouthplayers.org

New Jersey Repertory Co.
(at the Lumia Theatre)
179 Broadway, Long Branch
(732) 229-3166
www.njrep.org

Ocean Grove Great Auditorium
23 Pilgrim Pathway
Ocean Grove
(732) 775-0035
www.oceangrove.org

Phoenix Productions, Inc.
111 Monmouth Road
Red Bank
(732) 747-0014
www.phoenixredbank.com

PNC Bank Arts Center
Garden State Parkway Exit 116
Holmdel
(732) 203-2500
www.artscenter.com

Pollak Theatre
Monmouth University
Cedar and Norwood Avenues
West Long Branch
(732) 263-6889
www.monmouth.edu/arts

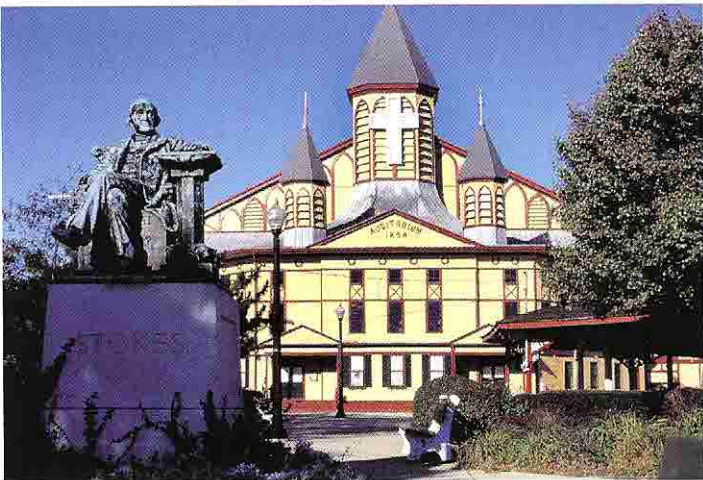
Premier Theatre Company
(at the Henderson Theatre)
850 Newman Springs Road
Lincroft
(732) 774-STAR
www.premiertheatre.com

ReVision Theatre
701 Lake Avenue
Between Bond and Main Streets
Asbury Park
(732) 455-3059
www.revisiontheatre.org

The Shrewsbury Chorale
PO Box 7984
Shrewsbury
(732) 776-5276
www.shrewsburychorale.org

Spring Lake Community House
Madison and Third Avenues
Spring Lake
(732) 449-4530
www.springlaketheatre.com

Two River Theatre
21 Bridge Avenue
Red Bank
(732) 345-1400
www.trtc.org ♦



Mike Meseroll

Ocean Grove Great Auditorium.

Theatre and Concerts

Words and Music



Kelly S. Andrews

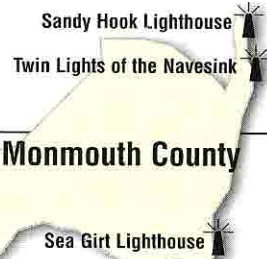
Convention Hall and Paramount Theatre in Asbury Park.

Monmouth County isn't simply the birthplace of Count Basie, Clint Black, Bruce Springsteen, Dorothy Parker, and Robert Pinsky—among other musicians, performers, writers and poets. The County is home to a rich cultural scene.



Each summer the open-air PNC Arts Center, right off the Garden State Parkway at exit 116, hosts major rock and pop performers. If your taste runs to classical orchestral and vocal music, you can enjoy a concert at Red Bank's Count Basie Theatre or Ocean Grove's Great Auditorium. The Pollak Theatre at Monmouth University in West Long Branch offers a variety of folk, jazz, and rock performances by artists known nationally and internationally, as does the Count Basie Theatre. You can even catch a poetry reading at these and other venues.

Shore Sentinels



Famous Lighthouses

And the great ships sail outward and return
Bending and bowing o'er the billowy swells,
And ever joyful, as they see it burn
They wave their silent welcome and farewells.

— From "The Lighthouse," by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

As a coastal county beside busy New York Harbor, Monmouth County boasts three historic lighthouses. Your vacation here is not complete without a visit to one of these impressive works of 18th- and 19th-century engineering. Set on hilltops and highlands, the County lighthouses offer spectacular views of the shoreline and sea.

The Sea Girt Lighthouse and the Twin Lights are open year-round for viewing. Museums and exhibits explain the history and unique characteristics of these lighthouses. A climb up the winding stairs to the viewing platform at the lighthouse top is an experience children remember for a lifetime.



Mike Meseroll

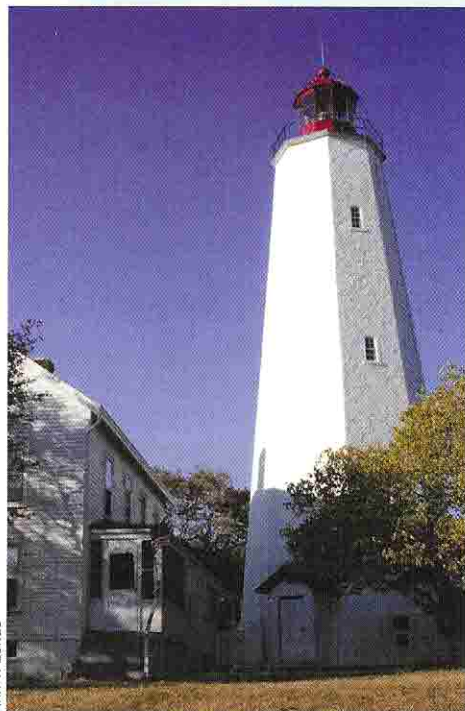
Sandy Hook Lighthouse

Notable Facts: Oldest operating lighthouse in the US, in service since 1764.

Location: Sandy Hook Unit of Gateway National Recreation Area, Atlantic Highlands.

Hours: Weekends from April – October, Noon – 4:30 PM. Keeper's House open Noon – 5:00 PM. Tour hours end 4:00 PM at the end of daylight savings time. April – October, weekday tours 1:00 – 5:00 PM.

Contact: 732-872-5970



Ann V. Lofthus

Sea Girt Lighthouse

Notable Facts: Restored Victorian structure, began service in 1896.

Location: Sea Girt

Hours: Sundays through November, 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Contact: To schedule a tour, call 732-974-0514



courtesy of Highlands Business Partnership

Twin Lights of the Navesink

Notable Facts: Double lighthouse. First fresnel lens in the US. Marconi demonstrated the wireless telegraph here in 1899. Perched 200 feet above Sandy Hook Bay. View encompasses Sandy Hook and New York Harbor.

Location: Highlands

Hours: Summer, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM daily. Rest of year, 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM Wednesday – Sunday

Contact: 732-872-1814

Historic Sites

Visit History in Monmouth County



Fort Hancock at Sandy Hook Unit,
Gateway National Recreation Area.

Founded in 1675, Monmouth County is rich in history from colonial times to the 20th century. While you relax here on your vacation, take some time to explore some of the County's historic sites. Seeing and touching furniture, clothing, weapons, and dwellings from important eras of America's past will fascinate your children and give them a special, first-hand appreciation of American history.

Monmouth Battlefield State Park in Manalapan is the site of the Battle of Monmouth, reenacted each June. Old Tennent Presbyterian Church, in Tennent, was founded in 1692 by a group of Scots exiled from their country because of their religious beliefs. Later, Jonathan Edwards preached here. The building served as a hospital for American soldiers wounded at the Battle of Monmouth.



Paul Scharff

The Memoria Project,
Highlands.

Restored farms, mills, and homes from the 18th and 19th centuries, complete with furniture and other objects from the period and with interpreters dressed in period garb, can be visited at Longstreet Farm in Holmdel and Historic Walnford in Upper Freehold Township, among other sites.

The New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial in Holmdel includes a museum explaining the history of that 20th-century war. Victims and heroes, including more than 100 County residents, of the 9/11 terror attack are commemorated in a memorial at Mt. Mitchell in Atlantic Highlands.

Explore America's history through Monmouth County. The following sites are all open to the public. Check the listings for locations and sources of further information.

Allentown

John Imlay House, 28 South Main Street. Notable 18th-century mansion, built in 1790. (609) 208-1198

Asbury Park

Stephen Crane House, 508 Fourth Avenue. Home of the author of *The Red Badge of Courage*. (732) 775-7676
www.thestephencranehouse.org

Freehold

Covenhoven House, 150 West Main Street. Used as headquarters by British General Sir Henry Clinton prior to the Battle of Monmouth. Features Revolutionary-era artifacts. Open May through September, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 1:00–4:00 PM. (732) 462-1466

The Metz Bicycle Museum, 54 West Main Street. Unique collection of antique bicycles and other mechanical devices from the 1850s and later. Featuring high-wheel cycles and antique toys. A charming, must-see museum. (732) 462-7363

Highlands

Fort Hancock at Sandy Hook Unit, Gateway National Recreation Area, Route 36. Protecting New York harbor since 1764. Buildings, defensive gun emplacements, exhibits. (732) 872-5970
www.nps.gov/gate

Holmdel

Holmes-Hendrickson House, 62 Longstreet Road. Restored 18th-century home. Open May through September, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 1:00 – 4:00 PM. (732) 462-1466

Longstreet Farm, Longstreet Road. An original 19th-century working farm, restored complete with animals, blacksmiths, and interpreters in period costume. (732) 946-3758
www.monmouthcountyparks.com

New Jersey Vietnam Veterans' Memorial and Vietnam Era Education Center, Garden State Parkway exit 116. Memorial to soldiers from New Jersey. Museum depicts history of America's involvement in Vietnam. (732) 335-0033 www.njvvmf.org

Keyport

Keyport Fire Museum and Education Center, 86 Broad Street. 19th-century firefighting equipment. Includes a steel beam from the World Trade Center, in honor of firefighters who lost their lives there on 9/11. (732) 739-5362
www.keyportfd.org

Steamboat Dock Museum, American Legion Drive. Exhibits and artifacts depicting steamboats and firefighting equipment. (732) 739-6390

Lincroft

The Monmouth Museum, Newman Springs Road, on the campus of Brookdale Community College. One of the top five Museums in New Jersey, the Monmouth Museum presents imaginative and informative exhibitions for adults and children on a variety of subjects including art, history, culture and science. The Museum's educational programs include gallery talks and lectures, guided tours and workshops and demonstrations. Admission: \$7 per person; Museum members, Brookdale students and staff with a valid I.D. and children under 2 years are free. Please visit the website for hours and details about Museum exhibitions and programs. (732) 747-2266
www.monmouthmuseum.org

Long Branch

Church of Presidents and Long Branch Historical Museum. 1260 Ocean Avenue. National Register of Historic Places. Long Branch was the summer vacation home of seven US presidents, from Ulysses S. Grant through Woodrow Wilson. They worshipped at this church. (732) 229-0600
www.churchofthepresidents.org

continued on page 46



courtesy of The Monmouth Museum

The Monmouth Museum, located on the campus of Brookdale Community College, features imaginative and informative exhibitions for adults and children on a variety of subjects including art, history, culture and science.