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Western Sussex Chamber of Commerce

Be a day tripper in western Sussex

By Terry Carson
Executive Director, Western Sussex Chamber of Commerce

“A person who goes on a pleasure trip lasting all or part of a day” is known as a day tripper. In the midst of the time of COVID-19, individuals are spending more time closer to home while looking for fun activities which make social distancing easier while still providing some summer fun. Our chamber took some time to “Day Trip” in western Sussex and here is what we found.

The roadways of our area between Greenwood and Laurel give a day tripper many stops and fun activities. You can find several places for delicious, home-made ice cream, daily made apple cinnamon donuts and other treats. As you ride down our country roads, farm animals and fields make up the beautiful landscape. The Bridgeville Kiwanis Club and the Greenwood Fire Department provide the opportunity for delicious, history tested and uniquely different bar-b-que chicken. There are many produce stands along the routes 404 and 13 which feature home grown produce, canned and baked goods. You can find treasures at our antique stories and local artisan shops and galleries.

The Nanticoke Heritage Byway features the history of our area and many places to enjoy nature. Recreational opportunities to socially distance for hiking, biking, boating, kayaking, ferry riding, fishing and camping are plentiful. For example, the Woodland Ferry is open from dawn till dusk and the ride is relaxing. This cable run ferry was founded back in 1740 and it offers its riders a lift across the Nanticoke. If you have a chance to go out on the river in a boat or kayak, you will see fish jumping, otters, turtles, beavers, many species of birds to include

eagles and osprey, and beautiful wild plants. There are several boat launches in Seaford, Blades, Bethel and Laurel. Family fishing is always a fun activity especially when you catch one. On a weekend Nanticoke River day trip, you will see many people are tubing, wake boarding and water skiing. It’s also a fun sight to see the bass boats.

Laurel’s Trap Pond is one of the most beautiful and scenic of Delaware’s state parks. You can see our country’s northern most stand of bald cypress trees. This area features boating, fishing, camping, hiking, biking, trails and opportunities for outdoor recreation.

If architecture is something you like, western Sussex has its share of unique and historic places.

All of our towns have interesting historic homes, buildings and churches featuring architectural styles to include Victorian, Federal, Colonial and Italianate. Most of our towns feature museums to visit and the ship building town of Bethel is a historic gem. Western Sussex County has also been home to many of Delaware’s governors. An active history trip could include researching and visiting all of their former homes. The history of Harriet Tubman’s underground railway and Captain John Smith’s trek up the Nanticoke provide a day tripper a chance to trace our country’s history.

You will find there are so many fun things to do in western Sussex you might need to make several day trips. If you take some pictures, please enter them in our Western Sussex Photo Contest. Details can be found on our website and Facebook page.

If you would like more information on places to visit in western Sussex contact Suzanne or Terry at admin@westernsussexoc.com. Happy traveling...



Beau, Candace and Axel from Lewes are having a family fishing day.



Sara and Ray from Milton are shown taking a boat cruise in western Sussex.

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