

Weekend Trips from New Jersey

Not all vacations need to be week long getaways. Some of my favorite trips are right here in New Jersey and the surrounding areas. Here are a few ideas when you just need a few days to disconnect.

Cape May

Exit Zero on the Garden State Parkway, Cape May is a great place to spend the night or a few days. One of the highlights of this town, and my personal favorite, are the gorgeous wineries. Cape May is a great place to visit any time of year but to really take advantage of all they have to offer head there during the spring, summer, or fall.

things to do:

- Pack a lunch and head to Cape May Winery. Here you can enjoy a wine tasting both in their tasting room or on their outdoor deck. Then pick your favorite and grab a table al fresco.
- Walk up and down Washington Street Mall and stop in the dozens of shops and restaurants open.
- Stay at one of the many bed and breakfasts in the area or if you are looking for more of a resort feel, Congress Hall has it. This resort offers guests a full service spa, fitness center, outdoor pool, and complimentary towels and lounge chairs at the beach.

Washington, D.C.

If you haven't been to the Nation's Capital in awhile it's time to make a trip! There is so much to do and see for every age and interest. One of the great things about visiting D.C. is that many of the museums are free to enter including Arlington National Cemetery, the National History Museum, American History Museum, the Air and Space Museum, the National Zoo, and many more. Be sure to get to the museums early so you won't have to wait too long to get in.

things to do:

- In the springtime you can walk around the Tidal Basin and see the cherry blossoms in bloom.
- Book a Monuments at Moonlight tour to see some of city's historic landmarks in a different light
- Head over to Georgetown for some delicious food and fun shopping, you'll definitely want to check out Filomena Ristorante.

Weekend Trips from New Jersey

New York City

We live so close to New York City and we visit from time to time but have you ever visited as a tourist? Well I did and it was so much fun! You can learn so much history about the city by taking the hop on hop off tours. You see them advertised as you're walking the streets of Manhattan, it's great to do if you have a few hours and it helps get you around the island.

things to do:

- Visit the 9/11 Museum and One World Observatory. Both require advanced tickets.
- Take a walking wine tour from City Wine Tours. It's a great way to see the city and taste some delicious wine at the same time. Tours are offered in Soho, West Village, and the Upper West Side. Book your tour in advance.
- Walk the Brooklyn Bridge. This can be a day by itself but if you have the time start on the Brooklyn side and walk the Brooklyn Bridge towards Manhattan to see a gorgeous view of the skyline. Before heading onto the bridge you can enjoy some of the local shops and eateries in Dumbo.