



featured destination

Rock Hall, MD

The Boating Capital of the Eastern Shore

Rock Hall, known as the "Pearl of the Chesapeake Bay," recently celebrated its 300th birthday. Although the historic fishing village has changed over the years, it retains the charms of a small Eastern Shore town. The focus of Rock Hall is the maritime industry and with more than 1,500 boat slips, it continues to be a favorite destination for boaters. Rock Hall's proximity to several major population centers including Baltimore, Washington, and Philadelphia, make it a popular spot for boaters to visit for the weekend or the season. Rock Hall has everything a boater could wish for from first class service and maintenance facilities, restaurants, a grocery store, and fun events all accessible by bike, on foot, or by the great trolley system that connects all of the marinas.

Today the focus on recreational boating is combined with the preservation of the unique history of Rock Hall. The history dates back to the Colonial Times when it was an important route to get north to Philadelphia (George Washington even came through the town on his way north). The Rock Hall Museum and The Rock Hall Waterman's Museum remind visitors of the important role that fishing has played in Rock Hall. Rockfish, oysters, and crabs remain the livelihood for most of the 200 core families of Rock Hall. Whether looking for a destination with plenty of activity or one that encourages relaxation and enjoyment of the natural beauty of the area, Rock Hall is the place to visit. Keep a look out for osprey, bald eagles, ducks and even a few resident swans. Enjoy all that Rock Hall has to offer.



What To Do

Museums

The Rock Hall Museum preserves and presents artifacts from a changing bayside town on Maryland's Eastern Shore so that visitors can understand its history. The focus is on community lifestyle, economy and traditions and their link with the Chesapeake Bay. (Hours: Weekends, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. and also by appointment)

The Waterman's Museum records the watermen's unique history with exhibits on oystering, crabbing, and fishing. A reproduction of a shanty house is on display, along with historical photographs, local carvings, and of course, boats. (20880 Rock Hall Ave, tel: 410.778.6697, open seven days)

Tolchester Beach Revisited is a museum showcasing the history of this popular beach resort and amusement park from the turn of the century. (Located on Main Street in Rock Hall, Open Saturday and Sunday 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. or Group visitation daily, by appointment)

Shopping

Rock Hall has many antique and crafts stores including America's Past Antiques, Fishbone's Antiques, Rock Hall Gallery and the Artists of Rock Hall Gallery. You will also find gift stores, jewelry, clothing and accessories in-

cluding Smilin' Jake's Casual Apparel on Main Street.

Events

Fireworks – July 3, 2008

Celebrate Independence Day in Rock Hall.

Pirates and Wenches, Fantasy

Weekend – August 9-10, 2008

Celebrate the pirate or wench in all of us at this town-wide theme party! Costumes and acts of piracy are encouraged. The weekend includes a decorated dinghy flotilla and kayak races, Caribbean beach party, treasure hunts, entertainment, contests and games for landlubbers & boaters alike.

Fall Fest – September 27, 2008

Enjoy food, crafts, local heritage, and music, music, and more music at this celebration of family and community. (tel: 410.778.0416, www.mainstayrockhall.org/fallfest)

Music

Mainstay on Main Street

Enjoy live music featuring world-renowned musicians. (tel: 410.639.9133, www.mainstayrockhall.org)

Where To Eat

Bay Wolf Restaurant

Located in the heart of Rock Hall within easy reach of marinas, the Bay Wolf Restaurant features Austrian and Eastern Shore cuisine. Local pick-up from



Smilin' Jake's Casual Apparel



Lankford Bay Marina



the marinas is available. (Rt. 20 and Rock Hall Avenue, tel: 410.639.2000)

Harbor Shack

Waterfront bar and grill serving seafood, steaks, and Mexican food. Enjoy their casual, fun atmosphere with live music on Saturday nights. (20895 Bay-side Avenue, tel: 410.639.9996)

Pruitt's Swan Point Inn

Relaxed dining overlooking Swan Creek. Enjoy a cocktail lounge, banquet rooms, and a large outdoor full-service deck. (Coleman Road and Rock Hall Avenue, tel: 410.639.2500)

Waterman's Crabhouse

Waterfront dock bar with 30 boat slips for dock and dine and seasonal entertainment. Known for their tasty crabs, the menu also includes seafood, steak, and pasta. (21058 Sharp Street tel: 410.639.2261)

Where To Dock

Haven Harbour Marina – located on Swan Creek and near town with easy access to restaurants by bike, this full-service marina offers many amenities for the visiting boater including a pool, picnic area, fuel, maintenance facilities, and more. (tel: 410.778.6697, www.havenharbour.com)


Lankford Bay Marina - located on the scenic Chester River, this marina

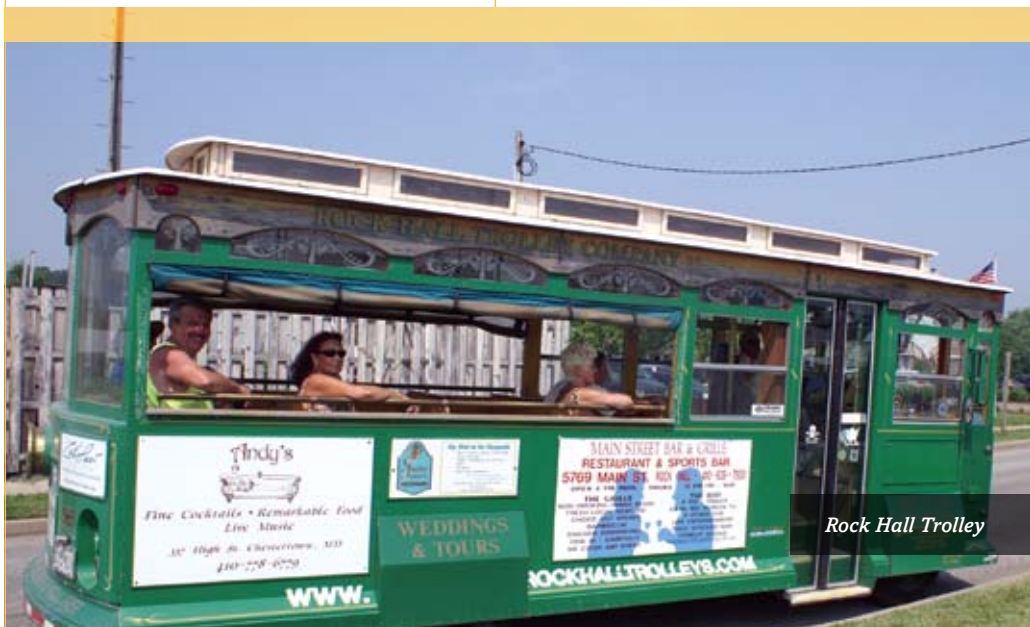
has a pool on-site and offers a very relaxing atmosphere away from the hustle and bustle of town but close enough to ride the trolley to get there. Lankford Bay is a great marina for clubs and groups with access to a covered pavilion, grilling and picnic areas. (tel: 410.778.1414, www.chesapeakebay.com/lankfordbay)

Rock Hall Landing Marina – located in Rock Hall Harbor next to Waterman's Crab House, this marina is the closest to town and offers the visiting boater access to a pool, showers, on-site motel, and more. (tel: 410.639.2224, rockhalllanding.com).

How To Explore

Rock Hall Trolley – one of the best ways to see Rock Hall. The trolleys stop at all restaurants, shops, B & B's, marinas, and even the beach in Rock Hall. (tel: 410.639.7996, <http://www.rockhalltrolleys.com/>)

Bike – several of the marinas have bikes to use while you are visiting including Haven Harbour Marina and Rock Hall Landing. Biking is an excellent way to explore all of Rock Hall! 



Rock Hall Trolley