



# Idea & Activity Starters

Longfellow House in Cape May



*Here are a few fun ideas to explore in Cape May and you can also check out the helpful guide books we've left in the welcome area and throughout the house. And of course, don't hesitate to reach out if you have any questions.*

**Shield's Bike Rental:** Riding bikes is one of the best and most fun ways to navigate Cape May, especially true as each year the traffic in Cape May gets more difficult. Not to mention, parking once you arrive somewhere can also be challenging. Bikes are fast, easy and fun for the whole family! **Shield's Bikes** is about 3 blocks away from our house so it's convenient. They may even delivery to our home but it's easy enough to walk to their storefront. If interested, definitely call in advance to line up your bike rentals. Once Saturday evening comes around they may be sold out (for weekly rentals). Shields' Bike Rental 11 Gurney Street, Cape May, NJ 08204 | (609) 898-1818 | (609) 884-2453 | <https://shieldsbikerental.com>

**West Cape May Farmers' Market:** during the summer every Tues. from 3:00 - 7:30pm, west Cape May features an outdoor farmer's market with live music, kids activities, and booths with incredible fresh produce, local arts and crafts and kettle pop corn! It's about an 8 minute bike ride from the house. You can drive, but the traffic can be heavy and parking an issue, so we recommend bikes and exploring the area and sights. West Cape May Farmers' Market | 732 Broadway, West Cape May. While you're there, stop at the West Side Market and checkout there takeout menu, and fresh meats dept. / West Side Market is located at 517 Broadway, Cape May, NJ 08204.

**West End Garage:** An artist's co-op with terrific gifts and a creative open floor plan layout, this is a perfect place to browse, shop, and tap into the local artistry that Cape May is known for. You can also enjoy a coffee and danish in shop that's attached. | 484 WEST PERRY STREET, CAPE MAY, NJ 08204 | <https://www.caperesorts.com/capemay/west-end-garage>

**Miss Chris Kayak & Paddleboard:** This is a super fun activity that kids and parents can do together. This particular business has a great location so you can launch from the protected backwaters so there's a natural shield from the high winds. They offer both kayaks and paddle boards. Miss Chris Kayak & Paddleboard at 1212 Wilson Dr, Cape May, NJ (right long the road that leads you to the Cape May bridge). 1212 Wilson Dr, Cape May, NJ 08204 | (609) 884-0997 | <https://capemaykayaks.com>

**George's Diner:** right on beach drive for diner style breakfast, lunch or dinner, with a greek flair. This is an old school Cape May establishment and the food is delicious. During the summer there's usually a line so plan accordingly, but it's a terrific spot and worth the effort to get a table.

**Lucky Bones Backwater Grill:** for family gatherings and delicious pub food (burgers, zucchini fries, clam chowder, pizza), you can't go wrong with Lucky Bones. It's located at the bottom of the Cape May bridge, to the right when you enter town. They have the only brick oven pizza in town, plus a full bar, plenty of seating and easy, plentiful parking. They are run by the Craig family who own many top restaurants in town (such as the Washington Inn, 2 minutes from our home) and also own a terrific vineyard in North Cape May worth visiting called The Cape May Winery. Lucky Bones is at 1200 RT. 109 SOUTH • CAPE MAY, NJ • PHONE: (609) 884-2663 • <https://luckybones.com>

**Beach Plum Farms:** less than 2 miles from our house, this 62-acre working farm tucked away in West Cape May features farm to fork dining and a beautiful setting. Located in West Cape May at 140 Stevens Street. phone: (609) 459-0121. website: <https://beachplumfarmcapemay.com>. Note: the kitchen is first come first serve and reservations are not required for breakfast or lunch.

**Cape May Horse & Carriage Tours:** this is a ton of fun for the family and a really neat way to see and experience Cape May. Many of the tours go right up Hughes Street and past our home. a private carriage ride through Cape May's historic district. No two tours are the same. Tours depart from Ocean & Washington Streets, which is about 2 blocks from our home. Full info on their website at <https://www.capemaycarriage.com>

**Chez Michele Bakery** — Our family loves a good coffee and sticky bun morning routine. And we think the best sticky buns are made by the authentic French Bakery that's owned and operated by Chez Michelle. The bun to order is called a "butter bun". We call it sublime. Highly recommend if these words resonate with you. Chez Michele is located about a 5 minute drive from the house. Better yet, take your bike and get a calorie burning jump start on the buns. *Chez Michele at 600 Park Boulevard, West Cape May, NJ 08204* | <https://www.michelgras.com/contact.html>

**Duckies Farm Market:** Duckie's is one of OG's of local farm markets in Cape May/ West Cape May. It's a terrific place to buy New Jersey's world class produce. When in season during the summer harvests, nothing is better and it makes for a perfect evening dinner. Our New Jersey favorites include silver queen corn and Jersey beefsteak tomatoes.

**Cape May Nature Preserve/ Cape May Point State Park:** this is such a cool place to explore and learn about Cape May's unique location and environmental bounty. It's a medium difficulty bike ride from historic Cape May (though you may want to drive/ 7 minutes if no traffic), this nature preserve is known for its world renowned fall bird migration, and monarch butterflies, the famous Cape May Lighthouse, and World War II relics such as the gun battery and fire control tower, and the educational resources where kids and parents can learn. And also it features the Cape May diamonds which wash up onto the shores at Cape May Point. You can also learn about how much work has been done to preserve the wildlife, breeding grounds and natural foliage that keeps this south jersey ecosystem alive and vibrant. Park where the lighthouse is and there's a number of hikes and trails carved out; perfect for a no-tech afternoon stroll with the family and kids. Highly recommend. | Cape May Nature Preserve 303 County Hwy 629 Cape May, NJ 08204 | <https://www.njparksandforests.org/parks/capemaypointstatepark.html>

**Key West Tacos:** If you're a fan of tacos, you'll love Key West Tacos. Their tri-tip taco plate is superb. Grab a bite and then pop over to the West End Garage, a caddy-corner half block away. There's also a series of shops right behind the Key West tacos worth checking out, including a new electric bike shop, and Cape May's best cheese shop - SeaSide Cheese.x

**The Crab House at Two Mile Landing:** Blue Claw Crabs from the Chesapeake are the best crabs in the world and are a featured menu item at the Crab House. If that appeals to you then this place is worth checking out. Go earlier than later to avoid the larger crowds. To get there it's a fun 12 minute drive towards Wildwood and through the wetlands. | 1 Fish Dock Rd., Wildwood Crest, NJ | (609) 522.1341 | <https://www.twomilelanding.com/contact>

**McGlade's Beach Front Dining:** This is a favorite for our family to grab an early breakfast on the beach (literally) and if you're lucky you might even see a pod of dolphins swim by -they love that route for their early morning swims. McGlades's is known for their omelets but the entire menu is worth trying. | [McGlade's Beach Front](#) at 722 Beach Avenue, Cape May, NJ 08204 | (609) 884-2614 | <https://www.mcgladesonthepier.com/events>

**Cape May Zoo:** Cape May has a an amazing and somewhat unknown gem amongst its midst, and that's the Cape May Zoo. I'm not going to oversell it, but suffice it to say it's such a fun experience, especially if on a not so sunny weather day. It's about a 15 minute drive up the parkway, it's not too expensive, and they animals and zoo layout are so well done. Highly recommend. | [Cape May County Park & Zoo](#) 707 U.S. 9 North, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210 | <https://nj-capemaycounty.civicplus.com/1028/Plan-Your-Visit> |

**Hot Dog Tommie's:** take-out-window setup that creates Cape May's most unique selection of hot dogs and other lunch fair. There's always a line (a good sign) but the line moves fast. Lost of fun. They have new owners but apparently they've kept the menu we love the same. The kids will love it and it's on Jackson Street which is one of Cape May's nicest streets.

**Our Neighborhood!** Don't forget, our house is in heart of Cape May's victorian district. Be sure to walk around the neighborhood. You'll see some amazing architecture and beautiful old homes like the Mainstay, the Abbey, and the Southern Mansion that are within 1 to 2 blocks from our home. One notable structure is the **Chalfonte Hotel** - Cape May's oldest hotel and a throwback to a long lost era. And it's literally a stone's throw from our house, right off the parallel street to Hughes towards to back. They have a neat little bar - the King Edward room, and sometimes during the summer they feature cheese night, and one-off theater productions. You may even want to grab a meal there as their fried chicken is world renown. Chalfonte Hotel at 301 HOWARD STREET, CAPE MAY, NJ 08204 | 609-884-8409 | <https://www.chalfonte.com>

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