



# Travel Ideas

## Vacation Planning

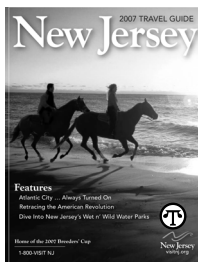
(NAPSA)—Have you ever spent the night in a former whaling captain's home? Had a sleepover on a World War II battleship?

Whatever you crave in a vacation, you just might find it by checking state travel guides and the Web sites of state tourism departments.

“Why not start with the experts for ideas that can take you beyond a state's well-known attractions,” notes Nancy Byrne, executive

director of the New Jersey Office of Travel and Tourism, who offers these planning tips:

- State tourism Web sites generally offer an annual travel guide, as well as other topic-specific guides and brochures such as



**State tourism guides and Web sites offer hidden travel treasures.**

adventures, family attractions, and cultural celebrations.

- Don't try to pack too much into your itinerary—leave extra time to get off the beaten path and explore.

- Experience local culture with alternative accommodations—a kid-friendly bed-and-breakfast or a rustic mountain inn.

- Look for “hands-on” experiences—learn to blow glass, make a wheel of cheese or feed sharks!

- Explore a famous venue—perhaps the historic horse racing park chosen to host the 2007 Breeders' Cup—at your own pace and without the crowds.

New Jersey's travel Web site features “101 Fun Things To Do”—things you might not expect to find on a New Jersey vacation—from a wolf preserve, to award-winning wineries, to an authentic rodeo. For a free guide, visit [www.visitnj.org](http://www.visitnj.org).