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## Welcome to Delaware! "The First State"

With all the Independence Day festivities, Delaware, the first of the 13 original states to ratify the constitution, makes for a fun-filled getaway for all ages. Home to the newest Wheelchair Getaways franchise, Delaware might be small (in fact, it's the second smallest state in the U.S.), but there is no shortage of things to see and do. Nicknamed "The Diamond State" by Thomas Jefferson because of its strategic location on the Eastern Seaboard, this "jewel" of a state is chock full of fun, excitement, and accessible attractions!

Delaware is probably best known for its beautiful stretch of beaches along the Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. Those who enjoy the beach atmosphere will love the plethora of beach towns dotting the coastline. According to a Delaware travel guide, these beach towns "are remarkably different, ranging from tranquil stretches of protected shoreline to low-key resort towns to busy vacation centers like Rehoboth Beach." Rehoboth Beach is one of the largest beach towns in Delaware and attracts many vacationers, especially in the summer when it can actually get a little crowded. Many of these vacationers are politicians and government workers from Washington, D.C., which is why Rehoboth Beach has been called "the nation's summer capital"! Visitors enjoy a mile-long boardwalk, shopping, fishing, fine New England dining, and, of course,



Delaware's historical sites, museums, architecture, and sandy beaches make it the perfect trip for people of all ages and interests.

the long stretch of sandy beach.

For those not interested in bumming around on the beach, the northern portion of Delaware abounds with fascinating architecture, historical sites, museums, and city life. Wilmington is an excellent Delaware destination for those who wish to enjoy shopping, a skyline of modern buildings, and diverse cultural attractions. Wilmington has several art museums, including the Delaware Arts Museum, which has an excellent collection of pre-Raphaelite and American illustrations. For the history buff, the historic district of Wilmington offers many guided tours focusing on the ship building industry and the town's initial settlement. For an extra special site-seeing tour of Wilmington, take a train ride aboard the Wilmington & Western Railroad. The railroad offers wheelchair accessible rides on a steam train from the late 1800s, which covers the Red Clay Valley, for only \$7 an hour!

*No trip is successful without safe and reliable transportation. If you are traveling with a wheelchair or scooter user or are a wheelchair or scooter user yourself, rent a wheelchair accessible van from Wheelchair Getaways of Delaware! Automatic ramps and lifts make van rentals the most convenient source of transportation, and, with daily, weekly, and long term rentals, you can stay in Delaware as long as you want! Call 1-800-221-6501 for wheelchair accessible van rentals in Delaware, or visit Wheelchair Getaways of Delaware's website at [www.wheelchairgetaways.com](http://www.wheelchairgetaways.com).*

**Have A Wonderful Independence Day!**

## Accessibility at the Airport

By Ann Bransom

The airports can be a nightmare for any traveler, but for travelers with disabilities who are newly disabled or who have simply never traveled before, the airport can be an absolute disaster without proper planning. For wheelchair and scooter users, the key to a relatively hassle free airport experience is patience and proper planning. Knowing what to expect at the airport is half the battle.

Following the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, airports were required to become reasonably accessible to disabled travelers. In light of these changes, airports now provide services to disabled travelers that include wheelchair accessible: parking near the terminal, restrooms, medical aid facilities, drinking fountains, ticketing systems, and baggage check-in and retrieval areas. Most importantly, though, airports are required to have level entry boarding ramps, lifts, or alternative ways of transporting an individual with a disability on and off the plane. All major checkpoints at the airport (check in counters, security, boarding terminals, etc.) should also be easy for wheelchair users to access.

Planning is the most important step in traveling with a disability. Well in advance, wheelchair users who are planning on flying should already have consulted their doctor about prescriptions, special equipment they might need, and how to get medical assistance while traveling, if necessary. As far as travel plans are concerned, travelers with disabilities need to make sure that their hotel has wheelchair accessible rooms available and that they have proper transportation arranged for pick-up at the airport. Wheelchair Getaways van rentals are a perfect transportation solution for travelers. Wheelchair Getaways can deliver vans right to the airport and even meet customers at baggage claim. This will eliminate one of the main hassles of traveling with a disability.

Other information that disabled travelers should gather before flying is information about the aircraft itself. Ask about limitations on the flight such as restrooms, cargo space, and the use of oxygen tanks, if required. Find out if the airline has moveable seats for wheelchair users, or if chairs have to be stored on

the plane or in the cargo bay. Most airlines require that travelers check their wheelchairs with other baggage and they will assist travelers on and off the plane. If this is the case, disabled travelers should make sure that they tag their chairs as they would other luggage and provide any special instructions for dismantling the wheelchair. Most airlines recommend that, if at all possible, passengers power their wheelchairs with gel or foam filled batteries, because normal acid filled batteries will have to be removed and specially packed for the duration of the flight. It is a good idea to call the airline 48 hours in advance to let them know that a wheelchair user will be boarding and find out about any special services needed.

On the day of the flight, make sure to arrive at least an hour in advance. At the security checkpoints, travelers with disabilities are required to undergo the same security clearances as able-bodied travelers. However airlines do treat wheelchairs as possible hiding places for narcotics or weapons, so chairs must be

searched and sometimes dismantled before the traveler can proceed. This is why it is so important to allow enough time to pass through security. Also, take into account that wheelchair users are usually the last passengers to leave the aircraft, so disabled travelers should make sure not to schedule connecting flights too close, as collecting wheelchairs between flights can be time consuming. Sometimes, flight attendants can radio ahead and have a wheelchair ready at arrival.



**Wheelchair Getaways can deliver a wheelchair accessible van right to the airport and even meet customers at baggage claim!**

Most major airlines provide information on services for disabled travelers on their websites, as well as restrictions and regulations. It is a good idea to check these out before going to the airport, in order to alleviate conflict with airline personnel. However, as with any travel situation, things do not always run smoothly. If a disabled traveler needs to make a complaint, all air carriers are required to have a Complaints Resolution Official (CRO) on staff 24 hours a day. It is the CRO's duty to resolve complaints and problems as soon as possible. If a passenger wishes to make a formal complaint against the airline, he or she needs to be sure to document the time and date of the occurrence and the CRO with whom he or she spoke. An airline does not have to respond to a complaint about an incident occurring over 45 days prior and they have 30 days to respond to all other complaints. If a disabled passenger still feels discriminated against in any way, they may contact the Department of Transportation in Washington, D.C.

It is important to remember that any travel situation is going to have its rocky places, whether a person is a wheelchair user or an able bodied person. Planning ahead, allowing plenty of time at the airport, and being patient will make the process of flying with a disability much smoother and more enjoyable. Remember, people with disabilities travel everyday and so a disability should not prevent any traveler from getting on a plane!

For accessible van rentals delivered right to the airport, contact Wheelchair Getaways at 1-800-642-2042.

## 10 Great Accessible Attractions in New Jersey - The Garden State

Whether its soaking up some sun on the beach, shopping up and down the boardwalks, or gambling at the casinos, New Jersey has something for everyone! Check out some of these great wheelchair accessible attractions in the Garden State:

### 1. Atlantic City Casinos

Atlantic City is best known for its dazzling casinos and big name entertainment. Enjoy gambling in some of the most notable casinos in the world, such as Resorts, Caesars, and Donald Trump's Trump Taj Mahal!

### 2. Beaches and Boardwalks

Up and down the Atlantic coast, New Jersey is dotted with some of the loveliest beaches and boardwalks. Enjoy the beautiful sands, fun shopping, and New England cuisine that the boardwalks have to offer. The Atlantic City boardwalk, in particular, is wonderfully wheelchair accessible and goes on for miles!

### 3. Fishing

With hundreds of charter boats and all the marlin, Atlantic mackerel, tuna, and bluefish that one can imagine, New Jersey is a fisherman's dream! Plus, New Jersey offers more than 40 wheelchair accessible fishing sites for ocean and fresh water fishing.

### 4. Southern Shore Region

Located between the Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean, the Southern Shore Region of New Jersey is a breath of fresh air from the bustling cities of Newark and Atlantic City. Besides being a nature lover's paradise, this region also boasts New Jersey's distinguished Bridgeton Historical District, which is home to more than 2200 Colonial, Victorian, and Federalist buildings.

### 5. Stockton Performing Arts Center

Located in Atlantic City, the Stockton Performing Arts Center is definitely a good stop for cultural enthusiasts. See some of the best theater and concerts that New Jersey has to offer!

### NATIONWIDE SERVICE LOCATIONS

<b>CORPORATE</b>	(800) 536-5518	Central & Southern	(888) 468-9055	<b>NORTH DAKOTA:</b> (Eastern)	(888) 256-5807
<b>ALABAMA:</b> Birmingham	(800) 554-6893	Ft. Wayne	(800) 398-5165	<b>OHIO:</b>	(800) 398-5165
Mobile	(877) 416-0175	<b>IOWA:</b>	(800) 781-0663	<b>OKLAHOMA:</b>	(866) 846-8029
<b>ARIZONA:</b>	(888) 824-7413	<b>KANSAS:</b>	(800) 781-0663	<b>OREGON:</b>	(800) 351-8267
<b>ARKANSAS:</b>	(800) 781-0663	<b>KENTUCKY:</b>	(800) 458-1115	<b>PENNSYLVANIA:</b>	(800) 221-6501
<b>CALIFORNIA:</b> Northern	(800) 638-1912	<b>LOUISIANA:</b>	(877) 416-0175	<b>RHODE ISLAND:</b>	(800) 727-1656
Los Angeles, Orange Co	(800) 659-1972	<b>MARYLAND:</b>	(800) 438-8465	<b>SOUTH CAROLINA:</b>	(866) 288-8118
San Diego, Palm Springs	(877) 388-4883	<b>MASSACHUSETTS:</b> NH, VT	(800) 727-1656	<b>SOUTH DAKOTA:</b> (Eastern)	(888) 256-5807
<b>COLORADO:</b>	(800) 238-6920	<b>MICHIGAN:</b>	(800) 887-7868	<b>TENNESSEE:</b> Eastern & Central	(888) 245-9944
<b>CONNECTICUT:</b>	(800) 228-0185	<b>MINNESOTA:</b>	(888) 256-5807	Western	(800) 781-0663
<b>DELAWARE:</b>	(800) 221-6501	<b>MISSISSIPPI:</b>	(877) 416-0175	<b>TEXAS:</b> Dallas, Ft. Worth	(877) 688-4695
<b>FLORIDA:</b> Orlando, St. Petersburg, Sarasota, Tampa	(800) 242-4990	<b>MISSOURI:</b>	(800) 781-0663	El Paso	(800) 408-2626
Miami, Ft. Meyers, Naples, Ft. Lauderdale, West Palm Beach	(800) 637-7577	<b>MONTANA:</b>	(800) 630-8267	Houston	(866) 616-8267
Pensacola	(877) 416-0175	<b>NEVADA:</b>	(888) 824-7413	San Antonio, Austin	(800) 723-6028
<b>GEORGIA:</b>	(800) 554-6893	<b>NEW JERSEY:</b> Northern NJ, NY City, Brooklyn	(800) 344-5005	<b>UTAH:</b> Salt Lake City	(866) 886-3100
Augusta	(866) 288-8118	Central	(800) 221-0034	<b>VIRGINIA:</b> Central & Southern	(877) 271-9826
<b>HAWAII:</b>	(800) 638-1912	Southern	(800) 221-6501	Northern Virginia	(800) 438-8465
<b>ILLINOIS:</b> Chicago & Northern, IL	(800) 637-2597	<b>NEW MEXICO:</b>	(800) 408-2626	<b>WASHINGTON, DC:</b>	(800) 438-8465
Central & Southern	(800) 781-0663	<b>NEW YORK:</b> Long Island, NY City	(800) 379-3750	<b>WASHINGTON:</b>	(888) 376-1500
<b>INDIANA:</b> Northern	(800) 826-9764	Upstate NY, Syracuse, NYC, Albany, Westchester Co	(866) 725-1803	<b>WEST VIRGINIA:</b>	(800) 221-6501
		<b>NORTH CAROLINA:</b>	(800) 662-7572	<b>WISCONSIN:</b>	(866) 748-3004
		Charlotte	(866) 288-8118	<b>WYOMING:</b> Cheyenne	(800) 238-6920

**NATIONWIDE RENTAL INFORMATION:**  
**(800) 642-2042**  
[www.wheelchairgetaways.com](http://www.wheelchairgetaways.com)



## 6. Powhatan Renape Nation's American Indian Heritage Museum

This Powhatan Reservation offers visitors guided tours through historical recreations of American Indian life. The museum features an American Indian art gallery, as well as several educational exhibits.

## 7. New Jersey State Aquarium

Home to hundreds of species of sharks, stingrays, turtles, and fish, the New Jersey State Aquarium makes for a day of fun for all ages. A great family trip!

## 8. Ripley's Believe It or Not Museum

Located in Atlantic City, this museum of oddities is undeniably a departure from the norm for New Jersey tourists. The museum features such peculiarities as a lock of George Washington's hair and a collection of shrunken heads!

## 9. Skylands Region

Enjoy the rolling hills and maybe even spy a bald eagle in one of New Jersey's most beautiful regions. This region is known for its hot air balloon festivals and is also home to Morristown National Historic Park.



Liberty State Park; yet another fascinating New Jersey attraction.

## 10. Monmouth Park Race Track

Indulge in a day at the tracks and see some of the greatest Thoroughbred racing in the country. The track also has special events and Sunday is Family Day!

*Wheelchair Getaways currently has 3 locations serving the state of New Jersey. For wheelchair accessible van rentals, contact Northern New Jersey (1-800-344-5005), Central New Jersey (1-800- 221-0034), or Southern New Jersey (1-800-221-6501). For more information, visit each franchise location's website at [www.wheelchairgetaways.com](http://www.wheelchairgetaways.com).*



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