Riverfront Wilmington

Riverfront Wilmington is truly one of the country’s most exciting revitalization stories. Once made up of abandoned ship-building factories, the 1.4 mile stretch along Wilmington’s Christina River is now home to a picturesque Riverwalk overlooking the scenic river. The area is filled with family-friendly restaurants offering indoor and outdoor food and drink, fun indoor and outdoor activities, live sporting events, water attractions, cultural hotspots, and nature trails.

Guests are welcome to tour the river on the River Taxi or Riverwalk with bicycle rentals, enjoy an outdoor beverage at the beer garden in summer or skate at the ice rink in winter, take the kids to Delaware’s only children’s museum, catch a Wilmington Blue Rocks baseball game, enjoy contemporary art or live theater, and experience nature at the environmental education center.

Riverfront Wilmington is convenient for a day trip, offering free and easy parking and accessibility, and features plenty of lodging options for a long weekend stay.

For more information visit - www.riverfrontwilm.com or call 302.425.4890

**TRAIL DISTANCES**

- Wilmington Riverwalk - 1.4 miles
- Jack A. Markell Trail - 5.5 miles
- New Castle Battery Park Trail - 2.1 miles
- On Road Segments in New Castle - 1.0 mile
- Total Distance from northern end of Riverfront Wilmington to southern end of Battery Park Trail - 10 miles

**TRAIL TIPS**

- Share the trail and stay alert
- Use safe speeds
- Stay to the right, pass on the left
- Give warning when passing
- Be mindful and courteous of others
- Carry out all trash and pet waste
- Smile and enjoy the trail!

**KEY ATTRACTIONS**

1. Riverfront Wilmington
2. DuPont Environmental Education Center
3. Christina River Bridge
4. Historic New Castle

**HISTORIC NEW CASTLE**

Overlooking the Delaware River, Historic New Castle is the oldest continuously occupied town in the Delaware Valley. And, thanks to preservation efforts, this vibrant, fully occupied community remains one of the most important Colonial/Federal villages in America – second only to Williamsburg, Virginia in the number and authenticity of its historic structures. The New Castle Court House Museum is part of the First State National Historical Park.

New Castle, originally named Fort Casimir, was founded in 1651 by Peter Stuyvesant, who was sent to provide the Dutch with command of all river traffic. Because of its strategic location, ownership of the settlement was constantly changing. The flags of the Netherlands, Sweden and Great Britain have all flown over New Castle.

The three counties which make up the state of Delaware were added to William Penn’s lands in America. In 1682, Penn came ashore at New Castle and took possession, but these counties, which were well established, became dissatisfied with Penn’s rule. In 1704, when he granted them a separate legislature, New Castle became the colonial capital of Delaware. The lively town also briefly served as the first state capital, and continued as the county seat until the 1880’s.

New Castle’s location made it an ideal transfer point for trips up and down the coast. As a result, New Castle was a thriving community throughout the 1700’s and early 1800’s. The courts and general assembly also attracted various judges, lawyers and government officials who built handsome houses, many of which still remain. The Great Fire of 1824, which started in the stables behind the Jefferson House, claimed many of the houses and warehouses located on The Strand. Among the buildings destroyed was the modest home of George Read, signer of the Declaration on Independence and the Constitution.

Unlike many historic communities, New Castle is a residential town where people live and work. Each house reflects the individuality of its past and present owners. Because New Castle has been named a National Landmark Historic Area, all renovations and restorations are carefully supervised.

For more information call the Visitor Center at The Arsenal - 302.322.2794

**DELAWARE GREENWAYS**

**CONNECTING EVERYONE TO WHERE THEY WANT TO GO**

We passionately promote and collaboratively develop networks of trail pathways and scenic road corridors that invite people to discover and enjoy the outdoors.

**Trails**

In partnership with others, we’re working to expedite the creation of a complete family friendly pedestrian and bicycle network connecting neighborhoods throughout Delaware to important destinations. Our statewide advocacy has played a significant role in the creation of the Northern Delaware Greenway, Junction Breakwater & Gordons Pond, Michael N. Castle C&D Canal, and Jack A. Markell (JAM) Trails.

**Become a Member**

Delaware Greenways is a member-supported 501c(3) non-profit organization. Help us continue our advocacy work for trail connections and byway protections with your membership or donation. Visit our website www.delawaregreenways.org or contact our office at 302-655-7275 to join us or donate.

Your support makes a difference!

We have on-going projects with varying needs for volunteer time and experiences. These needs include trail clean-ups, leading trail outings, event support, serving on committees, and raising community awareness. We appreciate your help!

For more information visit - www.delawaregreenways.org or call 302.655.7275