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Holly Ridge Farm

Experience Horses Up Close & Personal

Purnell Crossing Rd, Willards, MD 21874

Holly Ridge Farm Equestrian Center LLC is a certified Horse Discovery Center for the State of Maryland which invites visitors of all ages to experience horses up close and personal. Trail rides, lessons or horsemanship are offered. Reservations Only - 410-835-2596

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Pocomoke River State Park

Public Access Riding Trails

3461 Worcester Hwy, Snow Hill, MD 21863

This beautiful preserve spans both sides of the Pocomoke River from Snow Hill to Pocomoke City. With the area's unique combination of swamp and upland, the park is a favorite of campers who can bring their horses, as well as bikers, hikers, bird watchers and fishermen.

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Wicomico Hunt Club

Center for Eastern Shore Fox Chasing

7446 Queponco Road, Newark, MD 21841

Fox-chasing has engaged adventurous Marylanders since 1650. Today, the Wicomico Masters of Foxhounds welcome visitors to join in their activities or just to come and watch one of Maryland's oldest traditions.

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Where can you ride horses on the Historic Horse Trails?



Want to ride your own horse:

- ▶ **Ocean City Beach** Nov - Mar: 410-289-8221

Those wishing to ride their own horse on the Ocean City beach must complete an application. Applications can be obtained from the City Clerk's Office in City Hall at 301 Baltimore Avenue or online at www.oceancitymd.gov.

- ▶ **Pocomoke River State Park:** Public Access Riding Trails 3461 Worcester Hwy Snow Hill, MD 21863 410-632-2566 Miles of well-maintained trails dedicated for horseback riding in the Pocomoke River State Park. There are also three specified parking areas suitable for horse trailer parking.

- ▶ **Assateague State Park and National Seashore** 7206 National Seashore Lane Berlin, MD 21811 410-641-1441 Horseback riding is allowed along the beach in the Over Sand Vehicle (OSV) zone October - May. There are also Camping Sites Available off season.

What to take a trail ride or lesson on a horse:

- ▶ **Holly Ridge Equestrian Center, LLC:** 410-835-2596 36609 Purnell Crossing Road Willards, MD 21874 Horse lover's paradise. Guided horseback riding on scenic trails. Visit farm country just minutes from Ocean City. Track past tranquil waters of the Pocomoke River. Custom lessons, seasonal beach rides, clinics. Reservations only. Open year-round. Call for hours. Pony rides available by reservation.

Worcester County's Equine Economic Impact*



Nearly 1000 horses worth 3.7 Million



4 Horse Discovery Centers

- Holly Ridge Farm
- Worthmore Equestrian Center
- Talisman Therapeutic Riding
- Windy Way Horses LLC

Eight Licensed Stables

310 
Horse Farms

\$41.8 Million in assets,
- nearly a million a year



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Horses at the Beach

Worcester County, MD

Historic Horse Trials
Worcester County's First
Outdoor Museum

4 Front cover

It is all about the Horse. Historic Horse Trails are Worcester County's first Outdoor Museum. Our horse trails date back to early 1740's. From the wild horses of Assateague Island National Seashore to Native American trails, horse lovers are invited to explore this Outdoor Museum and historic heritage trails. Whether by foot, bicycle, boat, kayak or car, visitors can ramble and roam along our historically rich coastline. Discover places and stories about horses that impacted our lives in the past and now. Want more of a thrill? Ride horseback and see the Outdoor Museum from between the horse's ears on your own horse or through a licensed stable. However you choose to explore the Historic Horse Trails you will find a host of stories and sights for every horse lover to discover.



Assateague Island National Seashore
Maryland's Wild Horses

7206 National Seashore Ln, Berlin, MD 21811
Spend a few hours with the "wild" horses of Assateague. The 48,000 acre barrier island offers a rare experience as one of the few places in the United States where more than 300 wild horses can be viewed up close. Their history at Assateague dates back to the early 1700's. Wild ponies and other wildlife are often encountered when touring Assateague Island. Take time to discover the Assateague "Island" Visitors Center.

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Photo Courtesy of Robin Harrison

Rackliffe House
Horses Worked on the Colonial Plantation

11700 Tom Patton Lane, Berlin, MD 21811
Built in the 1740s, this beautifully restored estate overlooking Sinexpuxent Bay and Assateague Island is open for guided tours on a seasonal basis. Horses were listed in early inventories and used for transportation and work force. The house is located one-half mile from the Assateague Visitor Center.

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Town of Berlin
Horses Helped Evolve the Town

Main St, Berlin, MD 21811
As early as the late 1600's in the Town of Berlin, the horse was a valuable asset of the plantation owner and was used for hauling produce to shipping points and hauling products and supplies back to plantations and farms. Without horses for transportation, the Town of Berlin would not have evolved into the self-sustaining and successful community it is today.

4



The Atlantic Hotel
Horses Transported Guests; Home of the Town Livery Stable

2 N Main St, Berlin, MD 21811
The historic Atlantic Hotel, built in 1895 and recently restored, housed a livery stable in the rear of the hotel where people could rent horses and carriages to travel to Ocean City or throughout the countryside. The hotel had a horse-drawn bus which met the train on a daily basis.

5



Union Station
A Stage Coach Stop & Equine Transport Center

N. Main St. and Harrison Ave, Berlin, MD 21811
The train station was of significant note as it was used to transport horses in and out of Riddle Farm as well as used by travelers to Ocean City who traveled to Berlin and then by horse and carriage to Ocean City. A horse-drawn bus from the hotel met the train daily. Shipments of peaches and produce were sent from the station to surrounding cities.

6



Harrison Orchards
Horses Transported Peaches

208 N Main St, Berlin, MD 21811
The Harrison Nurseries dominated the U.S. peach market from 1884 until 1962 and covered over 3,000 acres of Maryland's Eastern Shore. In 1920, the Nurseries were the largest in the world. Horses were the earliest transportation used in the orchards to haul baskets of fruit as they were picked and were paramount to the early success of Harrison's Nurseries.

7



Calvin B. Taylor House Museum
Historic Horse Displays

208 N Main St, Berlin, MD 21811
Built in 1832, the restored home depicts life in and around the Berlin Community. One room is totally dedicated to the history of Riddle Farm's famous horses as well as stories of the contributions to society and the economy made by horses throughout the developing years of this coastal community.

8



Glen Riddle Farm
Home of Racing Legends Man O'War and War Admiral

11501 Maid at Arms Ln, Berlin, MD 21811
Glen Riddle Farms was home to legendary race horses. Man O'War and War Admiral in the 1920's and 30's. The history of the farm, the building and the great race horses are displayed prominently throughout the building which is now home to Ruth's Chris Steakhouse and a 36 hole championship golf facility.

9



Ocean Downs Harness Racing
Harness Racing by the Sea

10218 Race Track Rd, Berlin, MD 21811
Originally opened in 1949, Ocean Downs expanded in 2011 with its adjoining casino. While there are no horses permanently stabled at the site, they come to compete each day that races are scheduled. The original stables built in 1949 are no longer used, but are a part of The Ocean Downs heritage. Ocean Downs is now celebrating their 70th year anniversary of Harness Racing.

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Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum
Horses Vital for Early Rescue Efforts

813 S Atlantic Ave, Ocean City, MD 21842
Housed in the original 1891 station, the Ocean City Life-Saving Station Museum was initially tasked with keeping watch over the coast for shipwrecks and other maritime events. Horses were used on the beaches to assist in rescue efforts as well as to haul fish nets to aid in the early fishing industry.