



— *Visit* —  
ANNAPOLIS  
& ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

## Media Fact Sheets

Facts about Annapolis  
& the Chesapeake Bay

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## Annapolis Fact Sheet

<b>Mayor:</b>	Honorable Mike Pantelides (R) <a href="http://www.annapolis.gov">www.annapolis.gov</a>
<b>Population:</b>	62,585 (Greater Annapolis)* 33,187** (Annapolis proper)
<b>Location:</b>	Maryland's capital city is located on the Severn River where it meets North America's largest estuary, the Chesapeake Bay. It is just 26 miles from Baltimore's Inner Harbor and 32 miles from Washington D.C. Annapolis' location on the map is 38 degrees, 58 minutes, 35 seconds north and 76 degrees, 28 minutes, and 46 seconds west.
<b>Air Transportation:</b>	Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI) is located just 24 miles from Annapolis in northwestern Anne Arundel County.
<b>Rail Transportation:</b>	Amtrak passenger service and MARC commuter rail link BWI Thurgood Marshall with Baltimore and Washington, D.C. CSX Transportation and Norfolk Southern provide freight carriage.
<b>City Transportation:</b>	Visit Annapolis Transit at <a href="http://www.annapolis.gov/transport">www.annapolis.gov/transport</a>
<b>Climate:</b>	Four distinct seasons with a moderately cold winter and hot, humid summer. Average annual rainfall is 39.03 inches per year. Average temperature is 55.6 degrees F. The average low temperature (winter) is 35.5 degrees F. The average high temperature (summer) is 85.2 degrees F. Annapolis is 92 feet above sea level**.
<b>City Attractions:</b>	Known as <i>America's Sailing Capital</i> , Annapolis is home to the U.S. Naval Academy with its 4,000-strong Brigade of Midshipmen. Tours of <i>The Yard</i> begin at the Academy's Armel-Leftwich Visitor Center. Maryland's capital city boasts more 18 <sup>th</sup> -century brick buildings than anywhere else in the country. The homes of all four Maryland signers of the Declaration of Independence still grace the streets of Annapolis. Three of them are open to the public, including William Paca's. His home features a two-acre reconstructed 18 <sup>th</sup> -century pleasure garden, the only one of its kind in the country. The Hammond-Harwood House boasts the <i>most beautiful doorway in America</i> . The Banneker-Douglass Museum is Maryland's official repository for African-American history. The Historic Annapolis Museum offers

changing exhibits covering various periods in the City's history. The Annapolis Maritime Museum in Eastport, Annapolis is on the site of the last remaining oyster packing plant in the area, McNasby's.

The Maryland State House is the oldest state capitol in continuous legislative use and is the only state house ever to have served as our nation's capitol. The Continental Congress met in the Old Senate Chamber from November 26, 1783, to August 13, 1784, when Annapolis served as our nation's first peacetime capital. During this time, George Washington came before Congress to resign his commission as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army and the Treaty of Paris was ratified, marking the official end of the Revolutionary War.

Boat cruises, trolley tours and Colonial walking tours provide visitors with informative overviews of the City.

**County Attractions:**

Opportunities for shopping, boating, exploring history and discovering the rural countryside abound in Anne Arundel County. The county is home to Maryland's largest, ongoing archaeological dig at Historic London Town and Gardens in Edgewater. Popular sites near BWI Thurgood Marshall Airport include: one of the top three shopping attractions in the nation, Arundel Mills Mall; Maryland Live! Casino, the National Cryptologic Museum; National Electronics Museum, and the Benson-Hammond House. The Annapolis Countryside is home to the Captain Avery Museum in Shady Side, the Heritage House Museum in Galesville, and the Herrington Harbour North Historic Village in Deale.

**Hotels:**

More than 3,000 rooms and 68,000 square feet of meeting space in Annapolis & Greater Annapolis.

**Bed & Breakfasts:**

Annapolis is home to dozens of bed & breakfasts. Each one has its unique style and history.

**Restaurants:**

Annapolis offers international cuisine in settings ranging from simple to sublime. A tempting array of seafood, succulent steaks, and ethnic cuisine are found at a delightful mix of cafes, restaurants, and eateries.

**Brief History:**

Greenbury Point was the first settled area in what is now Annapolis. The Puritans called it Providence when they arrived on the north side of the Severn River in 1649. By 1694, the first royal assembly meeting under Governor Sir

Francis Nicholson designated the settlement on the south side of the Severn as the new capital city for the Province of Maryland. The city was rechristened Annapolis in 1695 in honor of King James II's daughter and future queen of England, Princess Anne. Its translation is *Anne's City*. The early waterfront settlement area has been designated a National Historic Landmark. Governor John Seymour incorporated Annapolis on November 22, 1708 on behalf of Queen Anne. The charter is the only one issued under the Royal seal in Maryland.

Annapolis is home to many "firsts" in Maryland. It is the oldest incorporated city in the State. It is home to the first parochial libraries, and the colony's first newspaper, the *Maryland Gazette*. The United States Naval Academy was founded in Annapolis in 1845. The State House is the oldest capitol in continuous legislative use in the country. It is topped by the largest wooden dome in the United States.

The Historic District of Annapolis is comprised of approximately 45 blocks and is 1/3 of a square mile in size. The entire City of Annapolis encompasses 6.7 square miles.

**Sports:**

*America's Sailing Capital* is home to a host of regattas and sailing competitions, including the Wednesday Night Sailing Races that take place weekly throughout the summer. The largest in-water sailboat and powerboat shows in the country are held in Annapolis each October. Annapolis hosted the around-the-world Volvo Ocean Race for the second time in May of 2006. Naval Academy sporting events attract visitors from across the county.

**Conference Info:**

Annapolis has a broad spectrum of historic, traditional and unique meeting venues.

**Colleges:**

Annapolis is home to two four-year colleges: the United States .S. Naval that are as differe States Naval Academy and St. John's College. Both are located in downtown Annapolis.

Founded in 1845 by Secretary of the Navy, George Bancroft, the Naval Academy started as the Naval School on ten acres at old Fort Severn in Annapolis. Today, the "Yard" is a 338-acre complex. The Naval Academy's mission is "To develop Midshipmen morally, mentally, and physically, and to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty, honor, and loyalty in

order to graduate leaders who are dedicated to a career of naval service and have potential for future development in mind and character to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship, and government.”

St. John’s is the third oldest college in the nation. It’s a direct descendant of King William’s School, founded in 1696. In 1784, the State of Maryland purchased the then unfinished governor’s mansion along with its surrounding four acres as the site for a new re-chartered school, which they named St. John’s College. Today, the College’s Annapolis campus covers approximately 32 acres. Four of its founders were Maryland’s signers of the Declaration of Independence: William Paca, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Thomas Stone, and Samuel Chase.

The Naval Academy’s 4,500 midshipmen follow an academic program that begins with a core curriculum that includes courses in engineering, science, mathematics, humanities, and social science. The goal is to offer a broad based education that qualifies Naval Academy graduates for nearly any career field within the Navy and Marine Corps. Midshipmen graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree.

St. John’s offers an integrated liberal arts and sciences program based on reading and discussing the great works from Western thought. It is a textbook-free institution. Instead, its 450 students garner their information from original sources and discuss them in seminar-style classes. The goal is to learn skills of critical analysis and cooperative inquiry. Rather than taking tests, the “Johnnies” write annual essays which they defend in oral examinations. St. John’s students graduate with a Bachelor of Arts degree in liberal arts.

*\*Source: Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning, March 2002*

*\*\* Source: [www.annearundelcounty.com](http://www.annearundelcounty.com)*

# Brief History of Annapolis

## Settlement

In 1650, Puritans seeking religious freedom nestled into a spot on the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay and called their new town Providence. Settlers soon spread across the Severn River to the land that now makes up Maryland's capital city.

The small settlement grew and was renamed Anne Arundell in 1694 in honor of Lord Baltimore's wife. By the late 1600s, Maryland's 25,000 inhabitants had spread from Maryland's then capital, St. Mary's City, and Governor Francis Nicholson chose the growing town on the Severn as the new provincial capital because of its central location.

Nicholson renamed the new capital Annapolis in honor of Princess Anne, who became Queen of England in 1702. He directed the city be built according to an elaborate baroque street plan, much like the ones used in great European capitals. The highest town circle revolved around the capitol building. The focal point of the second-highest circle was an Anglican church. Mixed residential and mercantile areas developed around the waterfront and along the main streets.

## Influence

By the third quarter of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, Annapolis was the center of political, cultural and economic life in the colony. Construction of what is now Annapolis' famed Maryland State House began in 1772. The state house has since hosted many significant events, including General George Washington's resignation as commander in chief of the Continental Army in 1783. Congress ratified the Treaty of Paris here on January 14, 1784, officially ending the American Revolution. In 1786, delegates from five states convened at the Maryland State House to discuss changes to the Articles of Confederation. Each of these events occurred in the Old Senate Chamber which is slated to reopen to the public in the spring of 2015, following extensive renovations.

The Maryland State House is the first and only state house to serve as the nation's capitol. It did so when the Continental Congress met in the building from November 1783 to August 1784. Today, Maryland's state house is recognized as the oldest state house in continuous legislative use in the nation.

## Growth

A naval school was established at Fort Severn in 1845. In 1850, it was renamed the U.S. Naval Academy. During the Civil War, hospitals at the Naval Academy and St. John's College treated thousands of wounded Union soldiers. Paroled Union troops camped outside the town.

In the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, the economic emphasis shifted from Anne Arundel County's successful plantations to the bodies of water surrounding and flowing through Annapolis. Water trades, including oyster packing, boat building and sail-making, emerged as major industries. Waterfront villages took root throughout the county, and shipping ports bolstered their workforce.

# Anne Arundel County, Maryland Fact Sheet

**Government:** Maryland Governor: Larry Hogan, Jr.  
[www.gov.state.md.us](http://www.gov.state.md.us)

Lt. Governor: Boyd K. Rutherford  
[www.gov.state.md.us](http://www.gov.state.md.us)

County Executive: Steve Schuh  
[www.co.anne-arundel.md.us](http://www.co.anne-arundel.md.us)

Annapolis Mayor: Mike Pantelides  
[www.annapolis.gov](http://www.annapolis.gov)

**Population:** 537,656\* -- Almost 10% percent of Maryland's total population.

**Location:** Anne Arundel is the most centrally located county in Maryland. It's surrounding neighbors are: Baltimore City and County to the north; the Chesapeake Bay to the east; Calvert County to the south; and the Patuxent River, Prince George's, and Howard counties to the west. Located in Anne Arundel County, Maryland's capital city of Annapolis is just 26 miles from Baltimore and 32 miles from Washington D.C.

**Highways:** East/West – U.S. 50/301; Routes 32 and 100; I-195 and I-695.  
North/South – I-97; Baltimore-Washington Parkway (Route 295); and Route 2. The locale provides easy access to I-95.

The Chesapeake Bay Bridge starts in Anne Arundel County and connects Maryland's Western Shore to the Eastern Shore.

**Mass Transit:** Light rail connects Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI) with Baltimore City and business and retail centers in northern Anne Arundel County. A light rail station serves the international pier at BWI. Municipal bus service links Baltimore City and Annapolis. Private bus operators provide transportation in northern and western Anne Arundel County. The Maryland Mass Transit Administration and Annapolis Transit provide transportation throughout the county. For more information, visit the Annapolis Department of Transportation at [www.ci.annapolis.md.us](http://www.ci.annapolis.md.us); the Annapolis Regional Transportation Management Association (ARTMA) at [www.artma.org](http://www.artma.org); and the Maryland Transit Administration MTA/MARC trains at [www.mtmaryland.com](http://www.mtmaryland.com).

- Air Transit:** The region's strongest airport, Baltimore/Washington International Thurgood Marshall Airport (BWI), is located in the northwestern part of Anne Arundel County.
- Rail Transit:** Amtrak passenger service and MARC commuter trains link BWI Thurgood Marshall with Baltimore and Washington, D.C. CSX Transportation and Norfolk Southern provide freight carriage.
- Water Transit:** Port of Baltimore, closest deep water port to the Midwest; served by two major railroads; immediate access to major interstate highways; six public terminals, including a state-of-the-art Intermodal Container Transfer Facility.
- Climate:** Four distinct seasons with moderately cold winters and hot, humid summers. Average annual rainfall is 41.9 inches. Average summer temperature is 74.3 degrees F. The average winter temperature is 34.8 degrees F.
- Chesapeake Bay:** Anne Arundel County is bordered by North America's largest estuary, the Chesapeake Bay. The county has more Chesapeake Bay coastline than any other region in Maryland. The Bay and its tributaries account for 534 miles of county shoreline. Maryland has nearly 4,000 miles of shoreline -- more than any other state. Elevations in Anne Arundel County range from sea level to 300 feet.
- Farming:** Over 34,000 acres of farmland. The major farm products are: soybeans, corn, hay, vegetables, and wheat.
- Land Area:** 415 square miles.
- Attractions:** Known as *America's Sailing Capital*, Annapolis is home to the U.S. Naval Academy with its 4,000-strong Brigade of Midshipmen. Tours of The Yard begin at the Academy's Armel-Leftwich Visitor Center. Maryland's capital city boasts more 18th-century brick buildings than anywhere else in the country. The homes of all four Maryland signers of the Declaration of Independence still grace the streets of Annapolis. Three of them are open to the public, including William Paca's. His home features a two-acre reconstructed 18th-century pleasure garden, the only one of its kind in the country. The Hammond-Harwood House boasts the most beautiful doorway in America. The Banneker-Douglass Museum is Maryland's official repository for African-American history. The Historic Annapolis Museum offers changing exhibits covering various periods in the City's history. The Annapolis Maritime Museum in Eastport,

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Boat cruises, trolley tours and Colonial walking tours provide visitors with informative overviews of the City.

**Hotels:** There are more than 10,000 hotel rooms in Historic and Greater Annapolis and the BWI Gateway Community. A variety of conference facilities featuring more than 200,000 square feet of meeting space is available.

**Brief History:** The first settlers in the county, a group of Virginia Puritans fleeing religious persecution, arrived in 1649. Within a year, the legislature established a new county, named after Lady Anne Arundel, the late wife of Cecil Calvert, second Lord of Baltimore and proprietor of the Maryland Colony. The area's climate and soil favored the growth of tobacco, the main Colonial cash crop. Ports including London Town and Ann Arundell Towne were strengthened by the burgeoning tobacco trade. In 1695, Ann Arundell Towne, on the south side of the Severn River, was made the new capital city and was rechristened Annapolis in honor of King James II's daughter, Princess Anne.

**Colleges:** Annapolis is home to two four-year colleges: the United States Naval Academy and St. John's College. Both are located in downtown Annapolis.

Founded in 1845 by Secretary of the Navy, George Bancroft, the Naval Academy started as the Naval School on ten acres at old Fort Severn in Annapolis. Today, the "Yard" is a 338-acre complex. The Naval Academy's mission is "To develop Midshipmen morally, mentally, and physically, and to imbue them with the highest ideals of duty, honor, and loyalty in order to graduate leaders who are dedicated to a career of naval service and have potential for future development in mind and character to assume the highest responsibilities of command, citizenship, and government."

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The county is also home to Anne Arundel County Community College.

\*Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2010

## USNA Fact Sheet

- Enrollment:** 4,400 Midshipmen
- Location:** The Naval Academy is located in the Historic District of Annapolis, Maryland, alongside the Chesapeake Bay.
- Parking:** There is no civilian parking permitted on the Naval Academy grounds. Vehicles bearing handicapped tags may enter through Gate 1. Visitors may park at the Navy/Marine Corps Memorial Stadium and take a shuttle to the Naval Academy.
- Academics:** A midshipman's academic program begins with a core curriculum that includes courses in engineering, science, mathematics, humanities and social science. The Academy offers 18 majors and an honors program.
- Athletics:** The Naval Academy offers 19 men's, ten women's, and four co-ed varsity sports.
- History:** Founded in 1845 by Secretary of the Navy George Bancroft, the Academy started as the Naval School on 10 acres of old Fort Severn in Annapolis. In 1850, the Naval School became the United States Naval Academy. Congress authorized the Naval Academy to begin awarding Bachelor of Science degrees in 1933. The Naval Academy first accepted women as midshipmen in 1976, when Congress authorized the admission of women to all of the service academies.
- Attractions:** Armel-Leftwich Visitor Center (where Naval Academy tours begin); the Naval Academy Museum at Preble Hall; Main Chapel and Jewish Chapel; Herndon Monument; Crypt of John Paul Jones; Bancroft Hall; Statue of Tecumseh.

**Source:** [www.usna.edu](http://www.usna.edu)

# Chesapeake Bay Fact Sheet

**Geography:** The watershed includes the entire District of Columbia and parts of six states: Delaware, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

**Size:** The **Chesapeake Bay** is the largest of 130 estuaries in the United States.

The Bay is about 200 miles long, stretching from Havre de Grace, Maryland in Harford County to Norfolk, Virginia.

The Bay's width ranges from 3.4 miles near Aberdeen, Maryland to a width of 35 miles near the mouth of the Potomac River.

The water in the Chesapeake is surprisingly *thin!* The Bay is generally shaped like a shallow tray. Its average depth, including all tidal tributaries, is about 21 feet with a few deep troughs running along much of its length that reach 174 feet in depth.

The square footage (surface area) of the Bay and its tidal tributaries is 200 billion square feet, or around 7,000 square miles.

The Bay and its tidal tributaries comprise an estimated 11,684 miles of shoreline. This is more than the entire West Coast.

**Environment:** The Bay receives about half of its water volume from the Atlantic Ocean. The rest drains into the Bay from a 64,000 square-mile drainage basin or watershed.

The Chesapeake holds more than 18 trillion gallons of water.

There are about 150 major rivers and streams in the Chesapeake drainage basin.

The Susquehanna River provides about 50% of the freshwater coming into the Bay – an average of 19 million gallons of water per minute.

The Bay supports more than 3,600 species of plants, fish and animals, including 348 species of finfish, 173 species of shellfish, and more than 2,700 plant species.

The **Chesapeake Bay** is home to 29 species of waterfowl and is a major resting ground along the Atlantic Migratory Bird Flyway. Every year, approximately one million waterfowl winter in the Bay's basin.

The **Chesapeake Bay** was the first in the nation to be targeted for restoration as an integrated watershed and ecosystem.

The Bay produces 500 million pounds of seafood per year.