

WALLOPS FLIGHT FACILITY LOCAL INFORMATION GUIDE

Introduction

Welcome to NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. The Wallops Flight Facility supports a wide variety of projects for a diverse customer base. These projects range from small rockets, balloons and aircraft, to orbital spacecraft. Services include project management, engineering, fabrication, testing, and operational support.

Bounded by the Atlantic Ocean on the east and the Chesapeake Bay on the West, the Eastern Shore is a quiet place of great natural beauty. A rich history graces the area with numerous historic homes, churches, museums, and landmarks inviting visitors to explore the past. Major festivals and events are staged annually by local communities to celebrate the heritage of the area. The outdoorsman will find excellent fishing, crabbing, camping, hunting, boating, sailing and swimming. A short distance to the north, Ocean City, Maryland, offers all the attractions of a seaside resort with a convention center providing name entertainment, concerts, and cultural events. The area colleges and the Salisbury Civic Center stage concerts and athletic and cultural events.

This document will acquaint you with facilities, services, and activities available at Wallops and surrounding communities for your off-duty hours.

We hope your stay on the Eastern Shore proves worthwhile both professionally and personally.

Location

The Wallops Flight Facility is located in Accomack County on the Eastern Shore of Virginia, 5 miles south of the Maryland state line, and is part of the Delmarva Peninsula (Delaware, Maryland, Virginia). The facility is approximately 90 miles north of Norfolk, Virginia, and 160 miles southeast of Washington, DC.

Wallops consists of 6,200 acres divided among three separate parcels of real property – the Main Base, Wallops Island, and the Wallops Mainland. The Main Base is home to most of NASA's administrative, engineering, fabrication, testing, and project management activities, as well as the Research Airport and Range Control Center. The Mainland and Wallops Island are located approximately 7 miles to the southeast, adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean. Wallops Island is the site of the Wallops Launch Range and many supporting facilities.

Nearby East Coast cities:

<u>City</u>	<u>Road Miles</u>	<u>Approximate Driving Time</u>
Wilmington, Delaware	142	2.8 hours
Dover, Delaware	108	2.2 hours
Washington, D.C.*	160	3.2 hours
Salisbury, Maryland	42	0.8 hour
Annapolis, Maryland*	125	2.5 hours
Ocean City, Maryland	50	1.0 hour
Baltimore, Maryland*	143	2.9 hours
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	170	3.4 hours
Atlantic City, New Jersey	209	4.2 hours
Norfolk, Virginia**	90	2.2 hours

Williamsburg, Virginia**	133	3.0 hours
Richmond, Virginia**	190	3.8 hours
Pocomoke City, Maryland	14	0.3 hour
Crisfield, Maryland	34	1.0 hour
Onancock, Virginia	25	0.8 hour

*The Chesapeake Bay Bridge has a \$2.50 toll eastbound. The *E-ZPass*SM electronic-toll-collection system is also available.

**The Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel has a \$12.00 toll one way; \$5.00 toll on return within 24 hours. See <http://www.cbbt.com/schedule.html> for more information on the toll schedule.

Climate

Wallops Island has a temperate climate with hot summers and cold winters. The prevailing wind is from the south during the summer and from the northwest during the winter months with a yearly average velocity of 8 knots (9+ miles per hour). The average annual precipitation is 37 inches. The normal high temperature during the summer months is 83°F and the normal low in the winter is 29°F.

Transportation

US Airways Express offers direct commuter air service from Salisbury-Wicomico Regional Airport to Philadelphia and Charlotte Douglas International Airport, North Carolina. Major air carrier service is also available from Norfolk International Airport. (There is no commuter service between Norfolk and Salisbury.)

Bus – Greyhound Bus Lines operates regularly along U.S. Hwy 13 from T’s Corner, Oak Hall, Virginia. Call 757-442-3537 for schedules and reservations.

Local Transit – Star Transit, Parksley, Virginia. Call 757-665-1994 for schedules and fares.

Rental Cars – Major rental car services are available in Salisbury, Maryland. Additional rental agencies are located in New Church, Virginia, and Pocomoke City, Maryland. Due to our remote location, use of an automobile is highly recommended.

- Avis Rent A Car, Salisbury Wicomico Airport, MD 800-331-1212
- Enterprise Rent-A-Car, Pocomoke City, MD 410-957-3472
- Express Rent A Car, Pocomoke City, MD 410-957-3800
- Hertz Rent A Car, Salisbury Wicomico Airport, MD 800-654-3131
- Rent-A-Ride, New Church, VA 757-824-4888
- U-Save Auto Rental, Pocomoke City, MD 410-957-1421

Lodging

Hotels, motels, bed and breakfast properties, and vacation cottages are available in the area for temporary lodging. However, because the area is rural with heavy tourist traffic during the summer months, the supply and cost of lodging vary significantly. Temporary lodging arrangements should be made in advance of any planned visit to the area. Sources for lodging can be found at the following chambers of commerce web sites:

- Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce at <http://www.esvachamber.org/>
- Chincoteague Island, Virginia, at <http://www.chincoteague.com/>
- Pocomoke City, Maryland, at <http://www.pocomoke.com/>
- Ocean City, Maryland, at <http://www.ocean-city.com/>
- Salisbury, Maryland, at <http://www.salisburyarea.com/>

- Somerset County, Maryland, at <http://www.visitsomerset.com/>
- Wicomico County, Maryland, Tourism Council at <http://www.wicomicotourism.org/>
- Worcester County, Maryland, at <http://www.visitworcester.org/>

Churches and Other Houses of Worship

Many churches and other houses of worship are located on the Delmarva Peninsula. Consult the local telephone directories for information on services.

Organizations

There are many social, civic, and fraternal organizations on the Delmarva Peninsula. See the local telephone directories for contact information.

NASA/Wallops Visitor Center

The Wallops Flight Facility Visitor Center and Gift Shop is located on Virginia Route 175 about 1 mile east of the Wallops Main Gate. The Visitor Center, Gift Shop, and Education Resource Center are part of the Robert L. Kreiger Education Center. A collection of spacecraft and flight articles, as well as exhibits about the United States space flight program, is on display. Special movies and video presentations can be viewed, and special events such as model rocket launches are scheduled. There is no admission charge. Call 757-824-1344 for details or visit the web site at <http://sites.wff.nasa.gov/WVC/>.

Beaches

There are federal, state, and local swimming beaches and parks located at Ocean City, Assateague Island, Chincoteague Island, and other points throughout the area. For further information, contact the following offices:

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| • Ocean City Chamber of Commerce | 410-213-0552 |
| • Virginia Division of Parks
Richmond, Virginia | 804-786-2132 |
| • State of Maryland Forest and Park Services
Annapolis, Maryland | 410-269-3776 |
| • Assateague Island National Seashore/Main Office
Berlin, Maryland | 410-641-1441 |
| • Assateague Island National Seashore/District Office,
Assateague Island, Virginia | 757-336-6577 |
| • Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
Assateague Island, Virginia | 757-336-6122 |

Golf Courses

There are several public golf courses on the Delmarva Peninsula. Contact each course directly for details.

<u>Golf Course</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
Captain's Cove	Greenbackville, VA	757-824-5478 http://captscove.com/index2.php
Assateague Greens	Ocean City, MD	410-213-7526 http://www.thebayclub.com/
Bay Club	Berlin, MD	800-229-2582 http://www.thebayclub.com
Beach Club Golf Links	Berlin, MD	800-435-9223 http://www.beachclubgolflinks.com/
Creek Club	Berlin, MD	877-280-4653
Deer Run	Berlin, MD	888-790-4465 http://www.golfderrun.com/
Eagle's Landing	Berlin, MD	800-283-3846 http://www.eagleslandinggolf.com/
Great Hope	Westover, MD	800-537-8009 http://www.greathopegolf.com
Horse Bridge	Salisbury, MD	410-543-4446
Nassawango Country Club	Snow Hill, MD	410-632-3114 http://www.nassawango.com/
Links at Lighthouse Sound	Bishopville, MD	888-554-4557 http://lighthousesound.com
Nutters Crossing	Salisbury, MD	800-615-4657 http://www.nutterscrossing.com
Ocean City Golf and Yacht	Ocean City, MD	800-442-3570 http://ocgolffandyacht.com
Ocean Resorts	Berlin, MD	410-641-5643 http://www.oceanresortsgolfclub.com/
Pine Shore	Berlin, MD	877-446-5398 http://www.pineshoregolf.com/
River Run	Berlin, MD	800-733-7786 http://www.riverrungolf.com
Rum Pointe	Berlin, MD	800-809-4653 http://www.rumpointe.com
Winter Quarters	Pocomoke City, MD	410-957-1171 http://www.cityofpocomoke.com/

There are also several miniature golf courses in the area, especially on Chincoteague. Consult local telephone directories for addresses and contact information.

Horse Racing

Live harness racing is available during the summer months at Ocean Downs located at routes 50 and 589 near Ocean Pines, Maryland. Ocean Downs also provides year-around satellite simulcasts from other racetracks in North America, both harness and thoroughbred. Call 410-641-0600 or visit the web site at <http://www.oceandowns.com/> for directions and current schedules.

Professional Baseball

The Delmarva Shorebirds is a Class "A" affiliate of the Baltimore Orioles. The regular season runs from April through August at the Arthur W. Perdue Stadium near Salisbury, Maryland. Call 1-888-BIRDS 96 (1-888-247-3796) for ticket information or visit the web site at <http://www.theshorebirds.com>.

Boating

Public boat ramps are available at most locales that have access to creeks, rivers, the Chesapeake Bay, Chincoteague Bay, or the Atlantic Ocean. There are several private yacht clubs throughout the area, as well. Boat (canoe/kayak) rentals and charters are available on Chincoteague Island, at Shad Landing in the Pocomoke River State Park, on the Pocomoke River in Snow Hill, in Ocean City, and at other places along the Shore.

Fishing

Fishing, clamming, and crabbing are among some of the more pleasant off-duty activities available on the Eastern Shore. Most bait shops along the Shore issue fishing licenses (licenses also available online at <http://secure01.virginiainteractive.org/horf/>). Some shops rent boats and/or promote space on party boats, especially for off-shore fishing. The local telephone directories and chambers of commerce are good sources for addresses and contact information.

Camping

Campgrounds and trailer parks are located throughout the Delmarva Peninsula. See local telephone directories for private facilities. State parks that permit camping include the following:

- Assateague. Nine miles south of Ocean City, Maryland, on State Route 611, telephone 410-641-2120.
- Pocomoke River State Park Milburn Landing. Seven miles northeast of Pocomoke City, Maryland, on State Route 364, telephone 410-632-2566.
- Pocomoke River State Park Shad Landing. Four miles southwest of Snow Hill, Maryland, on US Route 113, telephone 410-632-2566.

Museums

- City Hall Museum, Salisbury, Maryland
- Ward Foundation Museum, Salisbury, Maryland
- Oyster Museum, Chincoteague, Virginia
- Refuge Waterfowl Museum, Chincoteague, Virginia
- Julia A. Purnell Museum, Snow Hill, Maryland
- Railroad Museum, Parksley, Virginia

Library

While there is no general library at WFF, NASA maintains a very good scientific and technical library in Building E-105, Main Base. Local and national newspapers and periodicals are available on site, as well as computers with access to the Internet. The library is open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Nearby public libraries are listed below:

- Eastern Shore Public Library
Accomac, VA 757-824-5151
Chincoteague Island Branch 757-336-3460
- Wicomico County Library
Salisbury, MD 410-749-3612

- Worcester County Library
Pocomoke, MD 410-957-0878
Snow Hill, MD 410-632-2600
Berlin, MD 410-641-0650
Ocean City, MD 410-289-7297

Recreational Use of Wallops Island

Surf fishing is permitted on Wallops Island after working hours and on weekends when operations are not in progress. Salt water fishing licenses are required and may be purchased online at <http://secure01.virginiainteractive.org/horf/>. Hunting is not permitted on Wallops Island at any time.

Physical Fitness Facilities

Wallops maintains a fitness facility, which includes a gymnasium, weight room, Nautilus equipment room, locker rooms, and saunas. Guest memberships are available. The Morale Activities Committee (MAC) manages the fitness facility. Call extension 1244 for further information.

Shopping

<u>Shopping Area</u>	<u>Distance from Wallops</u>	<u>Population</u>	
Salisbury, Maryland	42 miles north	26,000	The major metropolitan area on Maryland's Lower Eastern Shore. There are several major chain department stores, three shopping centers/malls, major chain supermarkets, theaters, restaurants, banks, and specialty stores.
Pocomoke, Maryland	14 miles north	4,000	This small town provides a full service shopping area with hardware and building supply stores, discount chain store, car dealerships, drug stores, banks, and restaurants.
Ocean City, Maryland	50 miles north	7,000 winter 150,000 summer	This resort area has factory outlet stores, several shopping centers/malls, specialty shops, souvenir shops, restaurants, and movie theaters.
Chincoteague, Virginia	8 miles east	4,500 winter; 25,000 summer	This small community provides a local shopping area consisting of dry goods stores, hardware stores, drug store, gift shops, banks, restaurants, and a movie theater. Some businesses operate only during the summer tourist season.
Onley/Onancock, Virginia	25 miles south	2,000	Located on the Chesapeake Bay, these communities offer small shopping centers and a downtown shopping area, a department store, supermarkets, banks, restaurants, specialty shops, hardware stores, and a movie theater.

Annual Events

Most annual events occur between March and November. In addition to the chambers of commerce listed above, the following local web pages also provide events calendars.

- Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel at <http://www.cbbt.com/index.html>
- Cape Charles and Northampton Chamber of Commerce at <http://www.ccnccchamber.com/>
- Eastern Shore Federal Wildlife Service at <http://easternshore.fws.gov/>