

Traveling Aboard the Cape May-Lewes Ferry: Answers To Our Top 10 Most Asked Questions





Q1: Do I need a reservation?

Reservations are always recommended, particularly in the busy summer months. A reservation not only saves your spot, but also gives us information so we can contact you should there be any changes in departure schedules. Even with a reservation, we recommend arriving at the Ferry up to an hour before departure time. This allows for a comfortable check in, and gives you time to enjoy our expansive campus, replete with a full-service modern terminal, an outdoor dockside grill restaurant during the warm weather months, and free mini golf!



If you're hesitant about traffic conditions, or when you're sure to arrive on campus, we still recommend a reservation. One simple phone call to our 800 number allows us to either transfer your reservation to a later boat, or to help make alternate arrangements that work for your travel schedule.

Reservations are always recommended ... to both save your spot & so we can contact you should there ever be a schedule change.

Q2: Can I drive my oversize vehicle on board?

Yes! The ferry takes all sized vehicles from two wheel bicycles and motorcycles to 18-wheeler tractor trailers. It's common to see all sized Recreational Vehicles as well as vehicles towing boats, trailers and even other vehicles. There are a few height and width restrictions, particularly for Class A RVs, but as long as your vehicle is under 13'6", you're good to go.





Dog owners are asked to keep their pets on a leash throughout the journey.

Q3: Are pets allowed on the Ferry?

Yes! The Ferry is very pet friendly. The most common pets seen on the Ferry are dogs, but it's not that unusual to also see cats, rabbits, parrots and other rare birds. Most non-canine pets tend to stay in crates or car carriers within the vehicles, but birds in their cages have been spotted keeping their owners company in the salons.

Dogs owners are asked to keep their pets on a leash throughout the journey and be mindful of other passengers, either by staying in indoor pet areas, or walking the deck with the dog close at hand. For other tips on taking a dog on board, check out our post on best ways to prepare your dog and yourself for an enjoyable journey at [10 Tips for Taking Dogs on the Cape May-Lewes Ferry](#).

Q4: Do you sail every day and how long does the trip take?

That's two questions, but they are frequently asked together! We sail 365 days a year including all major holidays. Schedules vary by day and season, so it's always recommended to check our [sailing schedule](#) on CMLF.com.

The trip takes approximately 1.5 hours from boarding to sailing across the bay and disembarking. The time goes by quickly with lots to see on board while you're relaxing while still traveling forward!





Q5: Can I walk on, or is the ferry only for cars?

Many passengers drive on the ferry to continue on their journey to a popular vacation resort up and down the East Coast, but it's equally popular for passengers already vacationing in the area to hop on board for a fun day trip.

During the warmer months, there are [shuttles](#) that take passengers into town to enjoy either Historic Cape May or Delaware's First Town – Lewes. Both have their own charm that harkens back to Victorian and Revolutionary times. In addition, both terminals are serviced by local ride service companies, but it's not uncommon for people to walk on board and travel round trip without ever leaving the vessel!

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Q6: Are your facilities and vessels accessible for special needs passengers?

The Ferry is a favorite for many [special needs travelers](#). From elevators to the main deck and drive on services, most special needs visitors find it a wonderful experience that allows them to get out of cars and really relax.

It is also common for various special needs groups to schedule field trips and great day trip experiences. Regardless of your special requirements, we ask you to call our customer service line at 800-643-3779 in advance so we can make sure to do everything possible to assist you.





Q7: What types of security procedures should I expect?



Safety is our highest priority. All walk-on passengers must pass through a metal detectors and baggage-check line manned by our security detail, similar to airline passage.

All vehicles are also checked with metal detectors as well as manual spot checks of trunks, and closed trailers. The entire campus on both sides is under video surveillance and it's not uncommon to see our canine force also on detail. If you have concerns about items you may be considering to carry on board, we recommend calling our police dispatch before arriving on campus. Our customer service team can transfer to the dispatch unit most appropriate for your travel.

During warmer months, come early to enjoy outdoor, casual dining at our Dockside Grills.

Q8: Can I get food at the Ferry?

Another yes! During the warmer months, we recommend coming early to enjoy outdoor, casual dining at our On the Rocks Dockside Grill. The menu, known for the Best Burgers on the Bay, also includes a variety of finger food, salads, soup, and delicious sandwiches. In addition, there is air conditioned seating and service in both terminals except during the winter. Throughout the year, snacks and beverages are available on each vessel and in both terminals.





Q9: What other things are there to do at the Ferry?

Many people come to the Ferry campus on either side just to walk along, enjoy watching the water from our boardwalk, playing free mini-golf, or sitting at the outside bar for a sunset Happy Hour. With free parking on both sides, it's a fun off-the-beach water experience that lets kids run, dogs walk, and adults sit and relax.



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Q10: Can I bring my bike on board?

If your bike is a motorcycle, yes.

If your bike is a bicycle, yes again. Bikes are walked on board via the car deck and are free along with a paid foot passenger ticket. The bike trails in both Delaware and New Jersey are fun day trip ideas for many who like a different type of shore tourism experience. Bike trails start from just outside the Ferry campus in both states.

Motorcycles also drive on via the car deck and pay a special motorcycle rate reduced from the standard vehicle rate. Both two wheel and three wheeled motorcycles can be accommodated.



Have a Different Question?



Just pick up the phone and ask us or check out our full list of FAQs on CMLF.com. Our goal is always to ensure you have the best travel experience possible, and make it easy for you to experience an unforgettable journey aboard the Cape May-Lewes Ferry.

Ready to book now?
Visit: [CMLF.com/book](https://www.cmlf.com/book)

Hope to welcome you aboard soon!



For more information on creating your own Ferry Experience, contact:

Customer & Guest Services
CustomerService@drba.net
800-643-3779