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Weekend Getaway: Cape Charles, Virginia

A Cinderella of the Chesapeake, this Eastern Shore gem has transformed itself into a lively beach town with great seafood and charming historic homes. Follow our itinerary for a dreamy weekend trip.



Friday / 5 P.M.

Start the weekend with a wine tasting at **Gull Hummock Gourmet Market** (<https://www.facebook.com/Gull-Hummock-Gourmet-Market-180588737992/>), a wine, beer, and specialty foods shop in the heart of downtown. Pick up some **Seaside Gourmet Chocolate** (757-331-1500) while you're there.

Pictured: Chilling at Gull Hummock Gourmet Market



Friday / 7:30 P.M.

Saunter to **The Shanty** (<http://www.shantyseafood.com/1000/Page.aspx>), where the party continues on the open-air deck, with cold beers, cornhole, and fresh seafood (try the fried oyster po' boy with lemon-caper aioli).

Pictured: Soft-shell crab, oysters, and crab-topped burger at The Shanty



Saturday / 10 A.M.

Stroll downtown's historic district with its late 19th- and early 20th-century architecture. Key stops: **Moonrise Jewelry** (<http://moonrisejewelry.com>), Meredith Restein's gallery of coastal pieces; **At Altitude Gallery** (<http://www.ataltitudegallery.com>), which showcases Gordon Campbell's breathtaking aerial photography; and **Brown Dog Ice Cream** (<http://www.browndogicecream.com>), an elevated scoop shop that's open seasonally. (You can pick up pints at Gull Hummock year-round.)

Pictured: Sweet stuff at Brown Dog Ice Cream



Saturday / 2 P.M.

Count your blessings: This is a town that doesn't make you choose between active hour and happy hour. The **Paddle Your Glass Off** (<http://www.chathamvineyards.net/explore-the-shore.php>) guided kayak tour with **SouthEast Expeditions** (<http://www.southeastexpeditions.com>) takes you on a 45-minute paddle along the marshy banks of Church Creek (a birding mecca) and then drops you on the shores of **Chatham Vineyards** (<http://www.chathamvineyards.net>) for a wine tasting (just keep in mind you're paddling back!).

Pictured: Feeling the love every day in Cape Charles



Saturday / 5 P.M.

Catch a Chesapeake sunset while dining on fresh-from-the-bay seafood like local oysters, clams, or Maryland blue crab cakes at the just- upscale-enough- for-Saturday-night **Oyster Farm Seafood Eatery at Kings Creek**

(<http://www.theoysterfarmatkingscreek.com/Home>).

Pictured: Dockside at Oyster Farm Seafood Eatery



Sunday / 9 A.M.

Do up brunch (or just linger over coffee) at the two-story, Art Deco–style **Cape Charles Coffee House**

(http://www.thcapecharlescoffeehouse.com/Cape_Charles_Coffee_House/Welcome.html), a beloved-by-locals spot.

Pictured: Taking it easy like Sunday morning at Cape Charles Coffee House



Sunday / 11 A.M.

Cap off the weekend with a round at **Bay Creek** (<http://www.baycreek.net>), an award-winning golf resort that features signature courses, each with prime water views, from both Jack Nicklaus and Arnold Palmer. Your post-round beer awaits at **Coach House Tavern** (<http://www.baycreek.net/lifestyle/coach-house-tavern/>).

Pictured: Seeing double over Palmer Lake as the sun sinks below the horizon

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