

For Immediate Release

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Hunterdon County is a delightful destination for summer fun

U-pick farms, historic Main Streets, vineyards, a beer trail and festivals offer something for everyone

May 26, 2022 - Flemington, NJ Hunterdon County is especially appealing in the summer with Jersey fresh produce in abundance, fields of flowers in bloom, and outdoor events and activities in full swing. The County has something for everyone - farms, vineyards, historic Main Streets, craft breweries, boutiques and antiques, art galleries, live music, and the famed Delaware River towns.

“Summer is the peak season for biking, hiking, tubing and more in Hunterdon.” explained John Lanza, Director of Hunterdon County Board of Commissioners “Plus our county is heaven for foodies this time of year- farmers markets are stocked with local produce and our artisanal food and beverage producers and eclectic restaurant scene offer amazing culinary experiences.”

Located only an hour from Philadelphia and New York, Hunterdon’s reputation as a regional destination has been growing in recent years with the launch of 3 online visitor guides including the Hunterdon579Trail.com, HunterdonMainStreets.com, and most recently, HunterdonBeerTrail.com.

This summer the county will expand their tourism initiative with the launch of “Explore Hunterdon - the Other Side of Jersey,” a website, marketing campaign, and online guide to exploring Hunterdon County. The website will include maps, accommodations, attractions, events and detailed itinerary planners.

“We are thrilled that new visitors have been discovering us through these new initiatives. Explore Hunterdon will expand on these efforts and showcase *everything* the county has to offer. We invite visitors and locals to explore Hunterdon this summer, we have something for everyone,” stated Lanza.

Hunterdon 579 Trail

Hunterdon579Trail.com is a guide to farmers markets, farms, vineyards, and artisanal food and beverage makers located near County Route 579, a historic country road which meanders about 25 miles North to South from the rolling hills of Bethlehem Township to the Delaware River Valley. Visitors can tour a farm, learn about cheese making, meet cows, goats, and llamas, or even stay overnight in a restored historic farmhouse. A favorite summer activity in Hunterdon County is visiting “u-pick” farms which offer a colorful variety of fruit and flowers from May through October.

Hunterdon’s vineyards boast spectacular views, cozy outdoor seating, and award winning wines and ciders. Vineyards along the 579 trail include: [Beneduce Vineyards](#) in Pittstown, [Old York Cellars](#) in Ringoes, [Federal Twist Vineyard](#) in Stockton, [Mount Salem Vineyards](#) in Pittstown, and [Unionville Vineyards](#) in Ringoes. The summer season brings more live music, tasting events, and specialties like peach wine, Frose (frozen Rose), and wine slushies.

The Cider Garden at [Ironbound Farm](#) in Alexandria Township serves hard cider or seltzer, and simple, seasonal fare made with fresh ingredients grown on the farm and cooked outdoors over an open fire. More information about Hunterdon’s farms and vineyards can be found at Hunterdon579Trail.com

Charming Main Streets

HunterdonMainStreets.com is a guide to the charming small towns of Hunterdon County - Clinton, Flemington, Frenchtown, and Lambertville, High Bridge, Milford, and Stockton. From boutiques to antiques, Hunterdon’s Main Streets offer unique shopping at friendly independent businesses. Restaurants and cafes make the most of the local harvest, and outdoor music and street events celebrate the summer season. Hunterdon is a destination for cyclists, and they can be found relaxing at a cafe or brewery after enjoying a scenic ride through the county. Detailed information about merchants, restaurants and events in each town can be found at HunterdonMainStreets.com. Biking information and routes can be found at bikehunterdon.org.

Hunterdon Beer Trail

Launched in 2021, [HunterdonBeerTrail.com](https://hunterdonbeertail.com) is an online guide to Hunterdon County's seven craft breweries including maps, tap lists, and special events. The Hunterdon Beer Trail is comprised of [Odd Bird Brewing](#) in Stockton, [Lone Eagle Brewing](#) in Flemington, [Conclave Brewing](#) in Raritan Township, [Highrail Brewing](#) in High Bridge, [Descendants Brewing Company at the Old Ship Inn](#) in Milford, [Sunken Silo Brew Works](#) in Lebanon, and [Readington Brewery & Hop Farm](#) in Readington.

Brewery Passports are a popular seasonal promotion that invites guests to visit each of the craft breweries on the beer trail over a few weeks, get their passport stamped, and be rewarded with a commemorative pint glass. The Summer/Fall Passport launches in July 2022 and will be available through the end of the year. More information: [HunterdonBeerTrail.com](https://hunterdonbeertail.com).

Outdoor Adventures

Summer is time to play outside and Hunterdon County is home to 25 parks on over 8,000 acres of land. Visitors can stroll or ride their bikes along the scenic Delaware river beginning or ending at the famed River Towns of Lambertville, Frenchtown, Stockton, or Milford. Kayaking, fishing, and paddle boarding can be enjoyed in many streams and reservoirs, and biking and hiking trails are plentiful. More information: www.co.hunterdon.nj.us/depts/parks

Hunterdon County is home to dozens of summer festivals and outdoor events, including the acclaimed NJ Lottery Festival of Ballooning which takes place on July 29-31, 2022 in Readington. The festival features up to 100 hot air balloons, concerts, family entertainment, crafters, vendors, and fireworks. The balloon ascension and balloon glow are spectacular sights that inspire thousands of stunning photographs and selfies. More information: balloonfestival.com.

The Flemington Corn Tomato and Beer Festival returns to Stangl Road on August 13th. Popular with foodies and families, the event features corn and tomato dishes from local restaurants, food trucks, a NJ craft beer garden, artisans, live music, and family entertainment. More information: loveflemington.com

The Hunterdon County 4-H Fair takes place August 24-28 at the County Fairgrounds in Ringoes. This delightful old-fashioned country fair has it all - amusement rides, stage shows, live music, contests and awards for farmers, crafters, and cooks, and lots of animals — cows, horses, sheep, goats, pigs, rabbits, and alpacas. More information: hunterdoncountyfair.com

Hunterdon579Trail.com, HunterdonMainStreets.com, HunterdonBeerTrail.com, along with the Explore Hunterdon initiative launching later this summer, are managed by the Hunterdon County Dept of Economic Development & Tourism. Tourism has recently become a major focus of the county's economic development strategy.

Photo Captions:

Visiting U-pick farms is a highlight of the summer season in Hunterdon County. Beginning in early summer with strawberries, Philips Family Farm in Milford offers u-pick crops throughout the summer including strawberries, blueberries, cherries, blackberries, red and black raspberries, peaches, gooseberries, currants, plums, pears and apples. A complete listing of u-pick farms can be found at Hunterdon579Trail.com. Check directly with the farms for available crops.

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