

Five New Jersey Parks To Visit

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Some people think of New Jersey as just the turnpike, diners, and strip malls, but residents know NJ has more than its fair share of stunning natural beauty! Summer is a great time to check out these beautiful parks nearby.

Palmyra Cove Nature Park – Palmyra, Burlington County

Bring your camera and explore 9.5 miles of trails in this 250-acre natural area home to a variety of birds, butterflies, dragonflies, and other wildlife! Visitors can also check out the Discovery Center open daily.

Smithville Park – Eastampton, Burlington County

This 312-acre park features a diverse collection of habitats and terrain. With upland forests and meadows, freshwater streams and wetlands, creek shoreline and the 22-acre Smithville Lake, visitors can enjoy hiking, biking, fishing, and canoeing in an idyllic, natural setting. Bring the kids – there's a picnic area with grills and a playground on site!

Mannesquan Reservoir – Howell, Monmouth County

Spend a day at this beautiful and unique spot in southern Monmouth County! The 770-acre Reservoir is part of a larger 1,208-acre site that includes woods and wetlands, a 5-mile perimeter trail, fishing and boating areas, and a Visitor Center. No need to load up the car – kayak, rowboat, and bicycle rentals available!

Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge – Oceanville, Atlantic County

This refuge in Atlantic County is a great option for those with mobility issues, or those who just want to enjoy wildlife from the seat of their car. While hiking and biking are permitted, the most popular place to view wildlife in the refuge is the Wildlife Drive. This 8-mile, one-way, unpaved road leads you through beautiful wetlands and woodlands where you're sure to see lots of waterfowl and shorebirds.

Cape May Point State Park –

Cape May Point, Cape May County

There's something for everyone at this natural area at New Jersey's southernmost point. Climb Cape May lighthouse, view wildlife from the observation platforms, check out a WWII bunker, go surf fishing, or just relax on the beach!