

# A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum

THE CHESAPEAKE REGION'S FAVORITE DESTINATION



213 North Talbot Street • St. Michaels, Maryland  
410-745-2916 • [cbmm.org](http://cbmm.org)  
[facebook.com/mymaritimemuseum](https://facebook.com/mymaritimemuseum)

## MISSION

The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum inspires an understanding of and appreciation for the rich maritime heritage of the Chesapeake Bay and its tidal reaches, together with the artifacts, cultures, and connections between this place and its people.

## VISION

The vision of the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum is to be the premier maritime museum for studying, exhibiting, preserving and celebrating the important history and culture of the largest estuary in the United States, the Chesapeake Bay.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Founded in 1965, the Museum is located on 18 waterfront acres and occupies 35 buildings, 12 of which house exhibits open to the public. Its daily operation is managed by a full-time staff of 37 with the help of more than 200 volunteers. Attendance exceeds 50,000 per year and includes visitors from all over the nation and numerous foreign countries. Museum membership numbers more than 6,500, most of whom are from the Mid-Atlantic states.

The Museum is a private, nonprofit educational institution and does not receive regular operating funds from state, local or federal governments. The Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum is a fully accredited member of the American Association of Museums.

## PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

More than 20,000 children and adults participate annually in over 20 educational programs offered at the Museum. Major seasonal events include annual festivals celebrating Chesapeake Bay culture, boats, seafood, and history, as well as concerts, photography and art exhibits, and lecture series featuring nationally known authors and historians.

## EXHIBITS

Twelve exhibit buildings trace the geological, social, and economic history of the Chesapeake Bay through the age of sail and the steamboat era to the advent of gasoline and diesel-powered engines. The Museum's Howard Chappelle research library, with more than 10,000 volumes, is open by appointment.

## VESSELS

The Museum's collection of authentic Chesapeake Bay watercraft is the largest in existence. Nine of the collection's largest vessels are on floating display at the Museum's docks, and are maintained in the public's eye by our master shipwrights and their apprentices.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

May	<b>Maritime Model Expo</b> <b>Frederick Douglass Day</b> <b>Elf Classic Yacht Race</b>
June	<b>Antique &amp; Classic Boat Festival</b>
July	<b>Big Band Night</b> <b>Chesapeake Folk Festival</b>
August	<b>Watermen's Appreciation Day</b>
September	<b>Boat Auction</b> <b>Boating Party Gala Fundraiser</b> <b>St. Michaels Concours d'Elegance</b>
October	<b>Mid-Atlantic Small Craft Festival</b>
November	<b>OysterFest</b>

Visit [www.cbmm.org](http://www.cbmm.org) for dates

## HOURS OF OPERATION

April – May & September – October	9am–5pm
June – August	9am–6pm
November – March	10am–4pm

**Closed:** *Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years.*

## DIRECTIONS

**BY LAND:** Take Rt. 50 to Easton. Exit onto Rt. 322. From Rt. 322, take Rt. 33 to St. Michaels. Go through St. Michaels and turn right at Museum entrance. Free parking. Buses and vans welcome. Handicapped accessible.

**BY WATER:** On the Miles River off Eastern Bay, a tributary of the Chesapeake Bay. Overnight dockage for contributor members and above. Limited day dockage available. Call the dockmaster on VHS channel 16 for more information.