ABCCL AREA

New Jersey boasts some of the nation's most beautiful beaches, racetracks, dozens and dozens of great restaurants, amusement parks, golf courses, fabulous shopping, etc.

Here are a few ideas of things to do when not at ABCCL games: **New York City** with its fabulous theaters, museums, shopping, Yankees and Mets are only about an hour or so away by car, bus, train or ferry. **Philadelphia** and the Phillies is about a half-hour to an hour and a half away.

Of course, New Jersey is famous for its beaches:

- Sandy Hook Gateway National Recreation Area (7 mile stretch of beaches on northern tip of the Jersey Shore also includes Sandy Hook Light, America's oldest operating lighthouse)
- Point Pleasant Beach/Jenkinson's Boardwalk
- Seven Presidents Oceanfront Park in Long Branch
- Long Beach Island, Seaside Park in Toms River

The **Historic Twin Lights**, located 200 feet above sea level in the Highlands, has a spectacular view of the Atlantic Ocean, Shrewsbury River and New York City skyline. The **PNC Bank Arts Center** in Holmdel always enlivens the summer with a number of concerts featuring a wide mix of popular artists, there's also historic **Count Basie Theater** in Red Bank with many great headliners. Red Bank is a great boutique shopping town with a mix of stores from Tiffany's and Garmany to local artisan shops as well as the **Red Bank Antique Center**.

Check out beautiful **Monmouth Park's** exciting Thoroughbred racing meet with some of the best horses in the country. There's the Eatontown and Freehold Raceway Malls, premium shopping outlets in both Neptune and Jackson and many other upscale malls and outlets around the state. **The Stone Pony** in Asbury Park one of the most famous rock 'n' roll venues in the country.

If you play golf, **Hominy Hill Golf Course** in Colts Neck is widely regarded as the best public golf course in the state. You can reserve a tee time on-line at www.monmouthcountygolf.org.

There's both the Lakewood Blue Claws, single A affiliate of the Phillies and the Trenton Thunder AA affiliate of the Yankees nearby (along with 8 other minor league teams). You might also view Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson or Atlantic City which is only about 30 to 75 minutes away down the Garden State Parkway.

Some HOTELS North to South

Comfort Inn

750 Route 35 Middletown, NJ 732-671-3400

View website at www.middletowncomfortinn.com

Amenities - Completely renovated in 2007, and rated "3 Diamonds" by AAA - we are conveniently located on U.S. Route 35. Our close proximity to the Jersey Shore, metro areas of New York City, Philadelphia, and Atlantic City offers a wide range of theater, shopping, dining, and local attractions. We feature a fully equipped Exercise Room, video game room, seasonal heated outdoor swimming pool and breakfast area!

Molly Pitcher Inn

88 Riverside Avenue Red Bank, NJ 732-747-2500

View website at http://themollypitcher.com/

Amenities - Small luxury hotel, with water views, wireless, laundry service, restaurant and lounge, outdoor pool, fitness center. Located in great town with lots to do, restaurants, boutique shopping, Count Basie Theater, Antique Center, etc. on Navesink River. 20 minutes from beaches and Eatontown Mall and Monmouth Park's thoroughbred race meet.

Oyster Point Hotel

146 Bodman Place

Red Bank, NJ732-530-8200

View website at http://www.theoysterpointhotel.com/

Amenities - Contemporary hotel with water views, wireless, laundry service, restaurant and lounge, fitness center. Located in great town with lots to do, restaurants, boutique shopping, Count Basie Theater, Antique Center, etc. on Navesink River. 20 minutes from beaches and Eatontown Mall and Monmouth Park's thoroughbred race meet.

Marriott Courtyard

245 Half-Mile Road Red Bank, NJ 732-530-5552

View website at www.marriott.com

Amenities - In-poor pool, whirlpool, fitness center, business center and on-site laundry. Located near great town with lots to do, restaurants, boutique shopping, Count Basie Theater, etc. 20 minutes to beaches and Eatontown Mall.

Extended Stay America

329 Newman Springs Road Red Bank, NJ 877-432-9997

View website at: http://www.extendedstayamerica.com/hotels/nj/red-bank/middletown?mid=tabl-promo-trips1213-RBM

Amenities: Studios featuring Kitchen with refrigerator, microwave, and stovetop. Workspace with computer data port. Free local phone calls. Personalized voice mail. Iron and full size ironing board. On site guest laundry. Dining and cooking utensils provided. Wireless high-speed Internet access.

Blue Bay Inn

51 First Avenue Atlantic Highlands 732-708-9600

View website at: http://www.bluebayinn.com/

Amenities: Boutique hotel (think Soho by the sea) on the Jersey Shore. Oversized luxurious rooms, deluxe suites and fully furnished apartments. Each room has its own color scheme and custom furnishings. Within two blocks, there are great restaurants, a movie theatre, a playhouse, hair salons, artisan shops, a coffee house and the Seastreak ferry which luxuriously shuttles back and forth to Manhattan in 40 minutes. The Jersey shore is a mere 2 miles away.

Marriott Courtyard

600 Hope Road Tinton Falls, NJ 732-389-2100

View website at http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/ewrtc-courtyard-tinton-falls-eatontown/ Amenities - Café on premises, business service center, on site laundry, outdoor pool. Near Eatontown/Route 35 with Mall, many restaurants, etc. and Garden State Parkway.

Marriott Residence Inn

90 Park Road Tinton Falls, NJ 732-398-8100

View website at www.marriott.com

Amenities - Renovated in 2006, fully equipped kitchens, wireless, outdoor BBQ area, full buffet breakfast. Near Eatontown/Route 35 with Mall, many restaurants, etc. and Garden State Parkway.

Doubletree

700 Hope Road Eatontown, NJ 732-544-9300

View website at http://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/new-jersey/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-tinton-falls-eatontown-JFKETDT/index.html

Amenities - Fitness room, coin laundry. Near Eatontown/Route 35 with Mall, many restaurants, etc. and Garden State Parkway.

Holiday Inn

700 Hope Road Tinton Falls, NJ 732-544-9300

View website at http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/ewrtf-residence-inn-tinton-falls/ Amenities - Morgan's Restaurant/lounge, outdoor pool, game room, basketball court, fitness facility, gift shop, wireless service, business center. Near (10-15 minutes) Eatontown/Route 35 with Mall, many restaurants, beaches, etc. and Garden State Parkway.

Sunrise Suites

3 Center Plaza Tinton Falls, NJ 732-389-5308

View website at: http://hotels.cmac.ws/sunrise-suites-hotel/18549/

Amenities - Located approximately five miles from Asbury Park and 35 miles from LaGuardia International Airport.

This hotel is about an hour south of New York City. Hotel amenities include the fitness center, complimentary continental breakfast, and concierge. Coffee and tea are available in the hotel lobby. The hotel also offers dry cleaning and laundry valet, video rentals, and wake-up calls. All rooms feature microwaves, mini-refrigerators, coffeemakers, weekday newspapers, high-speed Internet access, and toiletries.

Sheraton Hotel

6 Industrial Way East Eatontown, NJ 732-542-6500

View website at www.sheratoneatontown.com

Amenities - On-site restaurant/lounge, internet access, indoor/outdoor pool, on-site coin laundry, fitness facility, local shuttle to mall and restaurants (5 mile radius). 10 minutes from beaches, Pier Village, etc.

Staybridge Suites Eatontown-Tinton Falls

4 Industrial Way East

Eatontown, NJ

732-380-9300

View website at

http://www.ihg.com/staybridge/hotels/us/en/eatontown/etown/hoteldetail?cm_mmc=YelpLocal-_-SB-_-Business-_-ETOWN

Amenities - Fully equipped, 24 hour Fitness Center with Universal Weight Machine, treadmills, Stairmaster, and lifecycle. BBQ Grills, outdoor pool, gift shop, business service center. Nearby shopping, restaurants, movies, Monmouth University, Monmouth Park thoroughbred race meet, etc.

Ocean Palace Resort & Spa - On the Beach

1 Ocean Boulevard

Long Branch, NJ

(732)571-4000

View website at www.oceanpalaceresort.com

Amenities: an upscale oceanfront hotel, indoor/outdoor pool, private beach, restaurant and lounge. Pier Village: Shops and restaurants all nearby. 10 minutes to Eatontown/Route 35 Mall, many restaurants, Monmouth Park's fabulous thoroughbred race meet, etc. and Garden State Parkway.

Courtyard by Marriott

1302 Campus Parkway

Wall, NJ

732-919-2780

View website at http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/ewrwt-courtyard-wall-at-monmouth-shores-corporate-park/

Amenities - Indoor pool, business service center, laundry on site, fitness center, café, lounge. 15 minutes to Eatontown/Route 35 with Mall, many restaurants, beaches and Garden State Parkway.

Residence Inn by Marriott

230 Jumping Brook Drive

Neptune, NJ

732-643-9350

View website at http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/ewrnp-residence-inn-neptune-at-gateway-centre/

Amenities - Fully equipped kitchens, wireless, pool, full buffet breakfast. 15 minutes to Eatontown/Route 35 with Mall, many restaurants, etc. and Garden State Parkway. 8 minutes to various beaches.

Comfort Inn

Route 37

Toms River, NJ

(732) 929-2900

View website at https://www.choicehotels.com/new-jersey/toms-river/comfort-inn-hotels/nj220

Amenities - Include complimentary hot continental breakfast, large in-door pool, wireless service, walk to restaurants, etc.

Ramada Inn & Suites

2373 Hwy 9

Toms River, NJ

732-905-2626

View website at http://www.ramadatomsriver.com/

Amenities - Hot buffet breakfast available for purchase, on site restaurant and lounge, fitness facility, outdoor pool, tennis/basketball court, wireless service, business center, on site coin laundry. Near beach

Red Roof Inn

2 West Water Street

Toms River, NJ (Parkway exit 81)

855-239-9400

View website at www.redroofinn.com

Amenities - Fitness facility, high speed internet -4 miles to field -less than 1 mile to Route 37 where there is plenty of shopping and restaurants.

Holiday Inn

290 Hwy 37 East

Toms River, NJ

1-800-230-4134

View website at https://www.hotelplanner.com/Hotels/25936/Reservations-Holiday-Inn-Toms-River-Toms-River-290-Highway-37-East-08753

Amenities - Palms Restaurant on site, lounge, fitness facility, wireless service, and business center heated indoor pool with sauna, outdoor sundeck. Near beach, 5 minutes to Seaside Boardwalk.

Howard Johnson

955 Hooper Ave

Toms River, NJ

732-244-1000

View website at www.tomsriverhojos.com

Amenities - Renovated in 2006, indoor pool, fitness facility, on-site restaurant/lounge and full laundry service. Near beaches.

Quality Inn

815 Route 37 West

Toms River, NJ

(732) 341-3429

View website at https://www.choicehotels.com/quality-inn

Amenities - On site restaurant/lounge, outdoor pool, buses to Atlantic City. Near beaches.

The Ocean Plaza (B & B)

18 Ocean Pathway

Ocean Grove, NJ 07756

Eat Drink and Be Merry:

Most of the area restaurants are pretty busy during the summer months, so make reservations, when you can, or arrive early at your favorite eatery. Also, keep in mind that many restaurants don't have liquor licenses, so check before you head out.

A few restaurants you should consider: **Avenue** (Ocean views) and **Sirena** (Pier Village in Long Branch); **Nicholas** (Middletown); **Moonstruck** (Asbury Park); **Undici** (Rumson).

Nicholas is among the best restaurants you will find anywhere, but is pricey. It is the state's top rated restaurant in the Zagat guide. **Undici** is a new spot in Rumson that has excellent Italian cuisine.

The town of Red Bank is a lot like Saratoga Springs. About 10 minutes from the track, Red Bank has dozens of restaurants, bars and shops and an artsy movie theater. There are also several good restaurants in the area that are reasonably priced. You can't go wrong dining at the any one of these very casual spots:

Barnacle Bills (Rumson);
Zachary's (West Long Branch);
Bahr's Landing (Atlantic Highlands); or the
Max's Hot Dogs (Long Branch)

Max's is a Monmouth County institution that sells the juiciest, tastiest hot dogs on the planet. Barnacle Bill's has some of the best hamburgers anywhere.

Jersey is the Diner Capital of America. The best in the area may be the Americana Diner on Route 35 in Shrewsbury. It's your typical diner, with lots of neon and chrome, a menu that will take you an hour to read through and huge portions.

Where to Eat - Some of our favorites ...

Avenue*

23 Ocean Avenue Long Branch, NJ 07740 (732) 759-2900

Salt Creek Grille*

4 Bingham Avenue Rumson, NJ 07760 (732) 933-9272

Rooney's Ocean Crab House

100 Ocean Avenue North Long Branch, NJ 07740 (732) 870-1200

Sawa Steakhouse & Sushi Bar

42 State Hwy 36 Eatontown, NJ 07724 (732) 544-8885

Raven & the Peach

740 River Road

Fair Haven, NJ (732) 747-4666

Molly Pitcher Inn

88 Riverside Ave Red Bank, NJ 07701 (732) 747-2500

Undici*

11 West River Road Rumson, NJ (732)-842-3880

Mister C's Corner Grille*

118 Norwood Avenue Deal, New Jersey (732) 531-3665

Moonstruck*

517 Lake Avenue Asbury Park, NJ (732) 988-0123

Nicholas*

160 Highway 35 Middletown, NJ (732) 345-9977

Turning Point (Breakfast/Brunch)

2132 Route 35 South Holmdel, NJ 07733 - also with other locations such as Little Silver (732) 615-9000

Belford Bistro (BYOB)*

870 Main St Belford NJ 07718 (732) 495-8151

Chez Catherine*

41 North Avenue West Westfield, NJ 908-654-4011

The Frog & the Peach*

29 Dennis Street New Brunswick, NJ 732-846-3216.

Poached Pear Bistro*

816 Arnold Avenue Point Pleasant Beach, NJ 732-701-1700

Zeppoli - BYOB* 618 Collings Avenue Collingswood, NJ 08107 856-854-2670

Jockey Hollow Bar & Kitchen* 110 South Street, Morristown, NJ 973-644-3180

Mistral*

66 Witherspoon Street Princeton, NJ 609-688-8808