Eat Like a Local: Delaware's Culinary Delights

Delaware, the First State, may be small in size, but it's packed with culinary treasures that will tantalize your taste buds. From the iconic crab cakes of Lewes to the award-winning brews of Wilmington, Delaware's food scene is a hidden gem waiting to be discovered.





: Enabled

: 64 pages : Enabled

Enhanced typesetting: Enabled

Word Wise

Print length

Lending

This article will take you on a culinary journey through the flavors of Delaware, introducing you to local favorites, hidden gems, and farm-totable experiences. Whether you're a foodie, a traveler, or simply looking for a delicious meal, this guide will help you eat like a true local during your visit to the First State.

Seafood Delights

Delaware's coastline is a haven for seafood lovers, with fresh catches arriving daily at local markets and restaurants. The star of the show is undoubtedly the crab cake, a crispy-on-the-outside, tender-on-the-inside delicacy that is a must-try for any visitor.

Lewes, known as the "Crab Capital of Delaware," is home to several renowned crab houses, including the iconic Lewes Oyster House. Here, you can savor the flavors of the sea as you dig into a steaming plate of crab cakes, accompanied by crispy fries and hush puppies.

For a more casual seafood experience, head to the beaches of Bethany Beach or Rehoboth Beach, where you can enjoy fresh seafood platters, fish tacos, and lobster rolls while enjoying the ocean breeze.

Farm-to-Table Flavors

Delaware's agricultural heritage is reflected in its abundance of farm-totable restaurants, where chefs showcase the freshest ingredients from local farms. These establishments offer a true taste of Delaware's terroir, with seasonal menus that change frequently to reflect the bounty of the harvest.

One such gem is the Blue Hen Farmstead in Lewes. This family-owned farm and restaurant serves dishes made from ingredients grown right on the property, including organic vegetables, free-range poultry, and grassfed beef. The menu changes daily, but expect dishes like roasted chicken with seasonal vegetables, farm-fresh salads, and homemade desserts.

Another highly-rated farm-to-table experience is Grain Craft Bar + Kitchen in Wilmington. This modern eatery serves a creative menu that blends classic and contemporary flavors, all made with locally sourced ingredients. Try the roasted beet salad with goat cheese and walnuts, or the grilled hanger steak with roasted potatoes and asparagus.

Brews and Spirits

Delaware's craft beer and spirits scene is thriving, with numerous breweries and distilleries scattered throughout the state. From award-winning IPAs to hand-crafted cocktails, Delaware has something to quench every thirst.

Dogfish Head Brewery in Milton is a must-visit for beer enthusiasts. Founded in 1995, Dogfish Head has become one of the most respected craft breweries in the country, known for its experimental and innovative brews. Take a tour of the brewery and sample their latest creations, including the 60 Minute IPA, 90 Minute Imperial IPA, and the Midas Touch Golden Ale.

For a unique spirits experience, visit the Blue Hen Spirits distillery in Smyrna. This family-owned distillery produces a range of handcrafted spirits, including small-batch bourbon, rye whiskey, and vodka. Take a tour of the distillery and sample their award-winning spirits, or enjoy a craft cocktail in their tasting room.

Local Delicacies

While Delaware is known for its seafood, brews, and farm-to-table cuisine, there are also several local delicacies that are worth seeking out.

One such delicacy is the scrapple, a pork-based breakfast meat that is a staple in Delaware homes. Scrapple is made from ground pork, cornmeal, and spices, and is typically fried and served with eggs and toast.

Another local favorite is the Delaware peach. Grown in abundance in the state's orchards, Delaware peaches are known for their sweet, juicy flavor.

You can find them fresh at farmers' markets or pick your own at one of the many orchards in the state.

Culinary Experiences

In addition to its delicious food, Delaware also offers a range of culinary experiences that will deepen your appreciation for the state's food culture.

The Delaware Agricultural Museum in Dover is a must-visit for anyone interested in the history of agriculture in the state. The museum houses a collection of vintage farm equipment, tools, and displays on Delaware's agricultural heritage. You can also learn about the state's farming practices and the importance of sustainable agriculture.

For a hands-on culinary experience, take a cooking class at one of Delaware's cooking schools. The Savory Grain Cooking School in Wilmington offers a variety of classes, from basic knife skills to advanced pastry techniques.

Delaware's culinary scene is a hidden gem waiting to be discovered. From classic crab cakes to local brews and farm-to-table experiences, there's something for every palate in this small but flavorful state.

Whether you're a foodie, a traveler, or simply looking for a delicious meal, this guide will help you eat like a true local during your visit to Delaware. So come hungry, and prepare to indulge in the First State's culinary delights!

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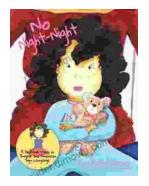
Eat Like a Local- Delaware: Delaware Food Guide (Eat Like a Local United States)

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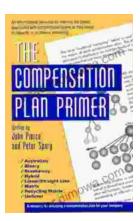
File size	:	1085 KB
Text-to-Speech	;	Enabled
Screen Reader	;	Supported
Enhanced typesetting	;	Enabled
Word Wise	;	Enabled
Print length	;	64 pages
Lending	;	Enabled





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