



RV TRIPGEN

The Complete Guide to
RV Travel in
Delaware

America's second-smallest state, the I-95 toll squeeze, Cape Henlopen and Trap Pond, and an Atlantic-beach RV culture that punches above its 100-mile width.

2026 Edition | Last verified: 25 April 2026

rvtripgen.com

RV travel in Delaware

Delaware is the second-smallest state and you can cross it north-to-south in under three hours, but its Atlantic beaches anchor an outsized RV culture every summer from Memorial Day to Labor Day. There are no National Forests, no BLM, no mountain passes, and the state's only NPS unit is First State NHP -- a multi-site cultural park, not a campground. The whole RV story is Cape Henlopen and Trap Pond on the state-park side, a clutch of commercial parks along Coastal Highway (DE-1) on the Lewes-Rehoboth-Bethany corridor, and the I-95 toll plaza at Newark that everyone heading from the Northeast to the South has to pay. Plan around summer-weekend crowds and Delaware is a quick, easy, surprisingly satisfying stop.

Delaware by the numbers

Boondocking + dispersed sites	32
Established campgrounds	8
Dump stations	3
Propane refills	5
Potable water fill-ups	5
Laundromats	3
RV showers	2
Verified-bad spots (overnight prohibited)	4

Source: iOverlander community database (62% of Delaware spots verified in the last 24 months).

Driving rules

Interstate (cars + RVs)	65 mph
Interstate (towing)	65 mph (matches posted; no separate limit)
US/State highway (cars)	55 mph (typical)
DE-1 Coastal Highway (RVs)	55 mph rural, 35-45 mph through Lewes/Rehoboth/Bethany
Built-up areas	25-35 mph (posted)
Drive on	Right
Seatbelts	Required for all front-seat occupants and all under-16
Cell phone use while driving	Hands-free only (banned hand-held statewide)

Highways

RV-friendly corridors

Highway	Note
I-95	Northeast-corridor spine through Newark and Wilmington. Tolls at the Newark Toll Plaza (Delaware Turnpike) -- E-ZPass strongly recommended. Cash lanes back up badly on summer Fridays.
I-495	Wilmington bypass for through-traffic avoiding downtown. Easy, mostly empty.
US-13	North-south spine through Dover and the western farmland. Big-rig friendly, quieter than DE-1.
US-113	Inland alternate to DE-1 between Dover and the Maryland line. Truck route, easy.
DE-1 (Coastal Highway)	Dover to Fenwick Island via Rehoboth Beach. Easy north of Lewes; in beach towns it narrows and crawls in summer traffic. Big rigs OK with patience.
DE-9 (Coastal Heritage Greenway)	Scenic alternate hugging the Delaware Bay through Bombay Hook NWR and Port Penn. Slower than US-13 but quiet and pretty.

RV-restricted segments

Segment	Restriction
Lewes-Cape May Ferry approach roads (downtown Lewes)	Narrow colonial-era streets near the ferry terminal. Use the dedicated ferry approach from DE-1; not the downtown shortcut.
Many Rehoboth + Bethany Beach side streets	Tight beach-town grids with parked cars on both sides. Stick to DE-1 and Coastal Highway, park outside town, walk or shuttle in.
DE-9 north of New Castle through Wilmington riverfront	Low-clearance railroad bridges and tight industrial roads. Use I-495 instead.

National parks + monuments

National Park / Monument	Entry fee	Reservation note
First State National Historical Park	Free entry (all sites)	Multi-site park spanning Beaver Valley, Dover Green, New Castle Court House, Fort Christina, Old Swedes Church, John Dickinson Plantation, and the Ryves Holt House. No NPS campgrounds in Delaware. Day visits only; park at the visitor center in New Castle or use nearby commercial / state-park camping.

State parks

Delaware State Parks operates 17 parks, 7 with RV-accessible campgrounds: Cape Henlopen (Lewes -- the headline beach park, full hookups, books out 11 months ahead for July-Aug), Delaware Seashore (between Dewey and Bethany, oceanfront RV sites), Trap Pond (cypress swamp in Sussex County, full hookups), Killens Pond (Felton, near Dover), Lums Pond (Bear, near Wilmington/I-95), Killen's Pond and Trap Pond. Reservations open 11 months ahead at destateparks.com. Day-use \$5-10 in-state / \$10-20 out-of-state per vehicle. Camping \$40-55/night full hookup.

Boondocking + dispersed camping

BLM: Delaware has no BLM land. Federal-land dispersed camping is not a Delaware option. Practical workarounds: Walmart / Cracker Barrel overnight (call first -- several Sussex County Walmarts have signs forbidding it during summer), Harvest Hosts at Delaware wineries and farms (Nassau Valley, Pizzadili, Fifer Orchards), Boondockers Welcome hosts in Kent County, casino lots at Delaware Park, Dover Downs and Harrington Raceway (gambling-resort rules; ask first).

National Forest: No National Forests in Delaware. Closest NF dispersed camping is George Washington NF in Virginia (3+ hour drive) or the Pinelands in NJ (state forest, not federal). State Forests (Blackbird, Redden, Taber) exist but do not permit overnight RV camping -- day use and licensed hunting only.

Stay limit: 14 days at any one location (federal rule, applies to BLM and NF dispersed).

Propane, dump stations, fuel

Propane: Available statewide but thinly. Reliable refills at Tractor Supply locations in Dover, Smyrna, Milford, Seaford and Georgetown; U-Haul in Wilmington, New Castle, Dover, Lewes and Rehoboth. Most KOA and Good Sam parks fill on-site. Coastal beach towns thin out for refills mid-summer -- top up at Tractor Supply in Milford or Georgetown before the final leg to Rehoboth or Bethany.

Dump stations: Adequate density given the state's size. Cape Henlopen, Trap Pond, Killens Pond and Lums Pond state parks all have free dump stations for registered guests. Flying J in Smyrna (I-95 / US-13) is the main interstate dump option. Several commercial parks along DE-1 (Big Oaks Family Campground, Holly Lake, Sea Air RV Park) accept non-guest dumps for \$10-15.

Fuel: Diesel and gas widely available along I-95, US-13 and DE-1. No notable fuel gaps -- the state is too small to have any. Delaware has no sales tax, which makes fuel and supplies cheaper than neighbouring Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania -- worth a stop on the way through. Fuel prices lowest along US-13 in Kent County, highest in the summer beach corridor.

Weather windows

Best months: Late April through mid-June, and September through October. Daytime highs in the 65-80 F range, manageable humidity, beach towns uncrowded.

Avoid: July and August on the coast unless you have a reservation locked in -- beach-town traffic, full state parks, 90+ F and 80%+ humidity. January and February inland are damp, grey, and many seasonal commercial parks are closed.

Climate caution

Cape Henlopen and the Lewes-Rehoboth-Bethany corridor are exposed to nor'easters Oct-Apr and the tail end of Atlantic hurricane tracks Aug-Oct. Coastal flooding warnings on DE-1 are common -- check DelDOT 511 before driving the coastal corridor in any named storm.

Emergency + road conditions

State patrol

Dial 9-1-1 for emergencies; (302) 739-5901 for Delaware State Police HQ non-emergency

Road conditions

<https://deldot.gov/travel>

How RV TripGen helps

We track the Cape Henlopen booking window

RV TripGen flags the 11-month booking-open date for every Delaware state-park overnight in your plan and prompts you the morning the window opens -- the difference between getting Cape Henlopen and not.

No-tax fuel + supply stops

RV TripGen flags Delaware fuel and supply stops on through-trips between Maryland and Pennsylvania / New Jersey -- the no-sales-tax saving on a 100-gallon diesel fill and a Costco run is real money.