

SPORTS, SHOPPING, DINING AND MORE IN ELIZABETH, NEW JERSEY



Combining a historic past with a vibrant, culturally rich present, Elizabeth has emerged as one of New Jersey's premier tourist destinations. As the new year begins, there's no better time to plan a trip to explore this Union County city and experience all that Elizabeth has to offer. Whether you're seeking cozy indoor activities or looking to embrace the season, Elizabeth provides the perfect backdrop for a memorable visit.

"Elizabeth has something for everyone," said Jennifer Costa, President/CEO of the Greater Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce (GECC)

and Executive Director of GoElizabethNJ/Tourism. "Visit our many historic sites, take part in cultural celebrations, savor delicious international cuisine, engage in retail therapy or simply explore the great outdoors. Proximity to Newark and New York City makes Elizabeth one of the region's most convenient travel gateways."

Last year marked the highly anticipated debut of the *Elizabeth Lifestyle Magazine* and Business Resource Guide, dedicated to spotlighting all the unique features Elizabeth has to offer; it even includes the latest

Elizabeth Dining Guide. Copies are available at the GoElizabethNJ Welcome Center (50 Union St.) or digitally at goelizabethnj.com.

GET YOUR KICKS: WORLD CUP SOCCER

Nearby MetLife Stadium will host several matches of the 2026 FIFA World Cup—including the final match—setting the stage for an unparalleled era for soccer fans in the region. Elizabeth is already preparing to welcome travelers who will be visiting the area for this international event.

"Elizabeth is the ideal location for travelers coming from New York, Boston, Philadelphia and beyond," Costa noted.

The city's many name-brand hotels are centrally located within one mile or less of Newark Liberty International Airport, and have convenient parking and free airport shuttles.

SHOP-PORTUNITY KNOCKS

In addition to its numerous shopping districts, Elizabeth is home to the East Coast's largest indoor premium outlet mall, The Mills at Jersey Gardens, where bargain hunters will find more than 200 stores, as well as a variety of dining options and a 20-screen AMC movie theater. Elizabeth is also home to the world-renowned furniture and home goods store IKEA, right off Exit 13A of the New Jersey Turnpike.

Those who prefer buying locally won't want to miss The Market at Elizabeth Avenue—home to family-owned and operated businesses including specialty retailers, unique shops, ethnic grocers and more.



DELICIOUS DINING

There are many ways to dig into New Jersey's "foodie city," where you can eat your way around the world through its culturally diverse dining scene of international flavors ranging from Latin, Portuguese, Peruvian to Italian, American, Mexican and everything in between. The city's bars and lounges also have curated food menus while its cafes and bakeries are sure to satisfy any sweet tooth.

EVENTS AND FAMILY FUN

From cultural parades, festivals and events to museum exhibits and athletic games, Elizabeth is always buzzing with events and experiences to kick off each season!

Enjoy the great outdoors at one of Elizabeth's more than 45 parks. Have an afternoon picnic at Mattano Park or stroll the nature trails found at Warinanco Park. Experience "Elizabeth at the Crossroads," a self-guided interactive walking tour through Historic Midtown Elizabeth. Annual events include the 15-mile Bike outing Tour de Elizabeth and many family-friendly events like the Portugal Day Parade, 4th of July celebration, Juneteenth festival and more!