



# Calvert County NEWS

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Calvert County Tourism Industry Posts Gains**

**PRINCE FREDERICK, Md. – Jan. 13, 2017** – It seems the word is out about the pristine waterways, natural parks and unique attractions that make Calvert County a favorite destination. A study on the impact of tourism, released in December by the Maryland Office of Tourism Development, shows a whopping 8.8 percent increase in visitors to the county in 2015. In addition, Calvert County tourism industry sales grew by 8 percent to nearly \$147 million, while tourism employment, labor income and tax receipts all posted gains.

Nearly 1,300 people are directly employed through the Calvert County tourism sector, representing \$38 million in labor income. Tourism tax receipts in 2015 – including federal, state, local and hotel taxes – totaled \$37.7 million, an increase of nearly 8.3 percent over 2014.

“There really is so much to do and see in Calvert County,” said Linda Vassallo, director of the Calvert County Department of Economic Development. “The county’s rich history, unique shopping, concerts, beaches, wineries and dining experiences draw more and more crowds each year. Another major lure for regional travelers and boaters is the variety of adventure to be had on the Patuxent River and the Chesapeake Bay and their many tributaries.”

Visit Calvert County’s tourism website, [ChooseCalvert.com](http://ChooseCalvert.com), for details on sites, attractions, shopping and events.

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*Calvert County is Maryland’s smallest county in land area with 213 square miles. It is home to more than 95,000 people and has one of the highest standards of living in Maryland. Major industries include defense contracting, information technology, tourism, energy, advanced manufacturing and administrative services. (LL)*