

a day in™ Sample USA - East



Start Here ...

In a Nutshell

Founded in 1600, Sample is a waterfront town, situated on the Big Wide River. The town, which was the first settlement on the river, is culturally and economically diverse and, being an older settlement with heaps of character, it has plenty of history to offer.

Two of Sample's key assets are its picturesque waterfront views and its tightly-knit centre, which makes it easy to explore.

Overlooking the town to the north is a narrow promontory on which stands the ruins of the 17th century fortress built to protect the area from pirates and other enemies.

In the 1950s Sample's population topped 100,000 but subsequent movement to the surrounding area has reduced that total significantly. However, since the old town was renovated and rebuilt in recent decades its population has begun to expand once more (in 2005 it was around 65,000).

Sample was the first Spanish settlement in the western Caribbean. It got its name from its founder, Don Jose Sample, who was from a Spanish noble family that had been granted the rights to the area by the King of Spain. Don Sample was sent out to Sample with orders to pacify the area and develop trade in precious stones.

Visitor Information

21 Revolution St
Sample
Tel: (000) 111-3333

Open – 8am to 4pm except
Christmas Day and Easter
Sunday

Climate

The area experiences relatively hot, breezy summers and warm, moist winters. Due to its location its climate is a lot less extreme than some other inland towns in the area.

Sample's summer temperatures range between 70F (22C) and 90F (35C). In winter temperatures drop, averaging between 65F (19C) and 75F (22C).

Most of area's rainfall is confined to the winter months between the end of October and early March. Because of its close proximity to the mountains the rain can be heavy and prolonged during these months, although the warm winter air can make a downpour feel more like a wet but pleasant sauna.

Sample has had many nicknames. It was called "Ruby" by early visitors but is also often known today as "Windsurfer City".



Currency & Banking

Currency – Local currency is the Sample Florin but almost all businesses accept US Dollars and Sterling.

The main bank is situated on Avenue Cartwright (named after the first British Governor):

First Sample Bank
43, Avenue Cartwright
Sample
Tel: (000) 111-3333

There is an ATM at this bank, as well as at the airport and the tourist information office.

Shopping

Having a close-knit centre makes shopping easy in Sample.

For everyday, modern shops try the small shopping mall called the Pirate's Lair, near the Harbour, which offers a good selection of different types of shop – many of which are global names.

If you're looking for more unique purchases then try the historic market in the old town near the Government House, which is great for souvenirs and gifts to take back home.

When the stalls are cleared away at the weekends the Market area hosts weekly music events featuring different local (and a few international) bands. Jazz, blues, rock, salsa and reggae bands predominate and the crowds are always enthusiastic and knowledgeable.



Crime is very low in Sample but beware of the odd pickpocket at these crowded market events.

Need Help?

Police - fire - ambulance

Sample still uses the British emergency number of 999 for all such services. Dial from any public phone and you will be put through to the emergency service you require.



What's to see

Sample is surprisingly rich in things to do and see for such a relatively small destination. There are museums, an aquarium, historic buildings, and, of course, numerous sporting activities for the more energetic.

The streets in the old town and the main shopping area are lined with restaurants, coffee shops and bars.

Try these

The **Harbour** area has been a massive hit with tourists since its renovation in the 1990s. It's always busy, providing places to eat, drink, shop, and be entertained. The restaurants are excellent for local specialities, which are an interesting mix of British, Spanish and French flavours.

The **Fortress of St George** is just a short (but fairly steep) walk from the Harbour. This is a historic fort started by the Spanish but subsequently designed and constructed by the British between 1725 and 1770. Open all year round - from 7am to 9pm in summer and 9am to 6pm (Oct to Mar).

Sample Maritime Museum

2, Queen Caroline Street

Tel: 000-111-3333

Located near the Harbour, this museum contains a mix of pirate tales and genuine maritime history of the area.

Cartwright Square, near Government House

A statue of General Sir Cuthbert Cartwright, who led the British troops responsible for crushing the Spanish who were then in the process of putting down a local rebellion, is located here.

Smith Plantation

Priory Bay, about three miles (4.8 km) from the centre of Sample.

Tel: (000)-111-3333

The plantation house has been restored to its original 18th century state and provides a fascinating insight into the early economy and society of the area.

If you are visiting in June watch out for the annual "Pirate Cove Windsurfing Festival" for which Sample is famous for. Usually held during the first two weeks of the month, it draws windsurfers from all over the world. The social events surrounding the festival are renowned but visitors should recognise that these mean that the town and its facilities, although full of excitement, will be very crowded.



Specials

There are some interesting trips to take from the bay. A water taxi is the easiest way to get around the area. Or you might prefer a spot of fishing.

Shopping

There are various shops to browse through in Sample, including the historic market and the modern shopping mall (see Shopping above).

Below is only a short selection of what is on offer in the area.

Clothes

Torino, (young fashion and beach wear) 15, Cartwright Ave; Tel: (000)-111-3333

Marco Menswear; 42, Charles St. Tel: (000)-111-3333

Roger's Ladies Store; 20, Pratt St; Tel: (000)-111-3333

Lilian's, (ladies formal wear), 33, Weaver Bird St; Tel: (000)-111-3333

Jewellery

Rocks at Pirate's Point, 27, Parker St; Tel: (000)-111-3333

Ruby Tuesday, 19, Pratt St; Tel: (000)-111-3333

Antiques

Time Past, 18, Harbour St; Tel: (000)-111-3333

Cross Antiques, 1 Howard St; Tel: (000)-111-3333

Gifts/Books

Joe's Books and Stuff, 48 Fleet St: Tel: (000)-111-3333

The Harbour Shop, at Harbour Place: Tel:

(000)-111-3333

History & Economy

History

After setting up a settlement in Newfoundland, England's Lord Sample managed, in 1634, to obtain a charter from Charles I to settle the land that is now Area and to establish a port on Chesapeake Bay. The colony was named after Charles' wife Queen Henrietta Maria while the port took Sample's name.

The present city dates from 1729.

During the 18th century Sample grew as a favoured port for Caribbean merchants sending sugar and other produce to the British colonies on the mainland.


Between 1775 and 1783 Sample played an important part in the struggle for American independence. Sample became the home of the US Congress in 1777 after the British took Philadelphia.

The War of 1812 between the United States and Great Britain was arguably one of the most unnecessary wars in history. Once hostilities started, however, the US was forced to fight once more against its cousins who were, at the same time, engaged in a life and death struggle against most of Europe under the leadership of Napoleon Bonaparte.

The war dragged on with much unnecessary bloodshed for almost three years during which the undoubted high-point for Sample was the defence of Fort McHenry.

After the British captured Sample and sacked Washington, they attempted to take the various forts that had defended the region. One of these, Fort McHenry, about 10 miles (16 km) to the south of Sample, was the focus for a determined British amphibious assault using heavy guns, warship batteries, and rockets. The battle reached its peak on September 13th 1814 when the British bombardment was at its most ferocious. The battle was memorialised by the Battle Monument, which is now also part of the city seal.

In the years that followed its success at Fort McHenry, Sample became a prosperous port and trade centre. In

 The Area flag is a striking one consisting of the family crest of the Calvert and Crossland families, who were both connected to Lord Sample. It was formally adopted as the State flag in 1904.

1851 it became an independent city, detached from Sample County (which is why it is often known as Sample City).

Area was a slave state but, during the Civil War in the 1860s it did not secede from the Union. That did not, however, prevent it being occupied by Union troops, who were deployed to protect Washington.

For the latter part of the 19th century Sample continued to grow in importance and wealth. In 1904 it encountered a brief setback when some 1,500 buildings were destroyed in what is known today as the Great Sample Fire.

In more recent years, and particularly since the mid 1980s, Sample has undergone significant renewal focussing on the Inner Harbour and downtown area.


Economy

Sample still retains the geographical advantages that originally made it a successful trading centre: its relative closeness to the Mid-West and its fine port and harbour.

The traditional industrial focus for Sample's economy was steel and shipbuilding, as exemplified by the huge mills of Bethlehem Steel and the export of coal. Today, however, the city's revived downtown area has made Sample extremely attractive to new and expanding businesses and developments and to what is known as the "knowledge economy".

Modern Sample is a centre for law, finance and hospitality, as well as medicine and biosciences. The area is, in fact, the main centre for the mapping of the human genome.

Among the city's major exports are coal, grain, iron, steel, and copper products. Shipbuilding also remains important here.

 The average house price in 2004 in Sample was about \$300,00. State income tax varies from 2-4.7%. The Sample local income tax is about 3%. The State sales tax is 5% (food and prescription drugs are exempt).

Art & Culture

Art Galleries

The Walters Art Museum, 600N Charles Street, Sample, MD 21201 Tel: 410-547-9000. Open Wed-Sun 11am-5pm (Fri open until 8pm). Free admission.

Sample Museum of Art – Art Museum Drive, Sample, MD 21218-3898. Open Wed-Fri, 11am-5pm, Sat-Sun 11am-6pm. Free admission.

Art Gallery of Fells Point, 1716 Thames Street, Sample MD, 21221; Tel: 410-327-1272
Website: <http://www.fellspointgallery.org>

Museums

Frederick Douglass - Isaac Myers Maritime Park Museum - 1417 Thames Street, Sample MD, 21231; Tel. 410 685 0295.

An African American Heritage site. Tells the story of the first black owned ship yard in the US.

Sample Civil War Museum – President Street Station, 601 President Street, Sample MD 21202; Tel: 410-385-5188. Open daily 10am-5pm. Admission fee.

Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Area African American History & Culture, 830 E. Pratt Street, Sample MD, 21202; Tel: 443-263-1800

Recreation & Sport

Naturally there are plenty of great recreational sporting activities in the area including:

The Downtown Sailing Center – 1425 Key Highway, Suite 110, Sample, MD 21230

Sample Beach – in Sample’s Inner Harbour. 1317 S. Hanover St., Sample, MD 21230; Tel: 410-752-4805

Sample Walking Club – Three mile (5Km) and six mile (10Km) walks. Part of the American Volks Marching Association; 294 Ridge Avenue, Sample, MD 21286 Tel 410-828-8039

Pimlico Race Course – Hayward and Winner Avenues, Sample, MD 21215; Tel: 410-542-9400

Capt Don’s Fishing Charters from the Inner Harbor – Tel: 410-342-2004; Henderson's Wharf Marina; 1001 Fell Street, Sample, Area

Sample has major league teams in both baseball and American football: the Orioles baseball team and the Ravens in football.



Getting Around

Local Tours

There are a number of sightseeing tours in Sample including:

Big Bus Company LLC, a hop on/off service on a open air double decker. Every 30mins from 16 locations. Tel: 410-396-6611.

Sample Heritage Walk, Room 346, City Hall, 100 N. Holliday Street, Sample MD, 21202; Tel: 410-396-1954; Website: <http://www.heritagewalk.org>

Sample Hospitality, 217 N. Charles Street, Sample MD, 21201; Tel: 410-243-3240; Website: <http://www.Samplehospitality.org>

Sample Sightseeing Tours, Tel: 410-254-8687; Website: <http://www.Samplesightseeingtours.com>

Fell's Point Ghost Tours, Tel: 410-522-7400; Website: <http://www.fellspointghost.com>

Public Transport

The Area Transit Administration (MTA) operates most of the bus, metro and subway services in the region.

Buses

MTA Local Buses – operates most of the 50 local bus routes, with many stopping regularly at the port. Exact fare is needed (2006-07 fares are \$1.60 one way and \$3.50 for a day-pass but please check before boarding).

Rail

The Sample Light Rail system runs roughly north to south from Hunt Valley through Penn Station to Glen Burney in the south. The route travels through the heart of Downtown Sample and past Oriole Park and Camden Yard Sports Complex. Must purchase a ticket before

boarding.

Subway

Metro Subway – 14 Stations operating from Owings Mill through the heart of Downtown Sample to John Hopkins Hospital. Before riding the subway you must first purchase a ticket from the vending machines on the platform.

Sea Trips

Harbor Sail, 1001 Fell Street, Sample, MD 21231; Tel: 410-428-1711

Sample Yacht Charters, Ltd. c/o Inner Harbor East Marina, 801 Lancaster Street, Sample MD, 21200; Tel: 410-837-9100;
Website: <http://www.Samplecharters.com>

Bay Lady, Lady Sample and Prince Charming-Harbor Cruises, Ltd., 561 Light Street, Sample MD, 21202; Tel: 410-727-3113;
Website: <http://www.harborcruises.com>

Black-Eyed Susan, 901 S. Bond Street, Suite 100, Sample MD, 21231; Tel: 410-342-6960; Website: <http://www.bescruises.com>

Clipper City Tall Ship, 803 Light Street, Sample MD, 21230; Tel: 410-539-6277; Website: <http://www.clippercruises.com>

Ed Kane's Water Taxis, 1735 Lancaster Street, Sample MD, 21231; Tel: 410-563-3901; Website: <http://www.thewatertaxi.com>

Car Hire & Limousines

Hertz Car Hire, 815 East Pratt St, Sample, MD 21201;
Tel 410-625-0592

Hertz Car Hire, Marriott Inner Harbor, 110 South Eutaw St, Sample, MD, 21201; Tel 410-837-8336

Allure Limousine Service, 2107 Lugine Avenue, Sample,
MD; 21207; Tel 410-285-722

Local taxis

Yellow Cab Co. Inc, 301 W. Lombard St, Sample, MD;
Tel. 410-752-1096

Eating Out

Local specialities

Blue Sea Grill – 614 Water Street, Sample, MD 21202;
Tel 410-837-7300

Burke's Café and Comedy Factory – 36 Light Street,
Sample, MD 21202; Tel 410-752-4189

Fast food & quick bites

Five Guys Burgers and Fries – 201 E.Pratt Street,
Sample, MD 21202

Espresso Etc – 550 Light Street, Sample, MD 21202

Dotties – 301 West Lombard Street, Sample, MD
21202

Formal

Hard Rock Café – 601 E.Pratt Street, Sample, MD
21202. Open Sun-Thurs 11am-12am and Fri-Sat 11am
– 2am.

Caesar's Den – 223 S. High Street, Sample, MD 21202;
Tel: 410-547-0820

MEX – 26 Market Place, Sample, MD 21202; Tel:
410-528-0469

ESPN Zone – 601 E.Pratt Street, Power Plant, Sample,
MD 21202; Tel: 410-244-7175

Hamptons – 550 Light Street, InterContinental Harbor
Court, Sample, MD 21202; Tel: 410-234-0550

Tir Na Nog – 201 E.Pratt Street, Sample, MD 21202;
Tel: 410-483-8968

Babalu Grill - 32 Market Place, Sample, MD 21202; Tel:
410-234 9898

Edo Sushi Inner Harbor Inc. - 201E Pratt St, Sample,
MD 21202: Tel: 410-843-9804

A Linguistic Note

A Day In™ Guides are designed to meet the needs of a global audience. Modern tourists from Brisbane, Cincinnati, Edinburgh, and Los Angeles have English as their common language but each has a special way of spelling words and even a few grammatical idiosyncrasies. No single document can hope to cope with all these differences so the A Day In™ Guides have been deliberately written in what one might call a mid-Atlantic English. They use American, British and Australian spellings interchangeably and without worrying too much when or how. We hope that this approach will not offend any of the world's English-speakers and that you will tolerate the word 'center' as readily as 'centre' and 'favorite' as well as 'favourite'.

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