

Tourism Means Business in Pennsylvania

Interesting Facts from the website of the new Pennsylvania Association of Travel and Tourism (PATT), using information from the Pennsylvania Tourism Coalition

- Pennsylvania is the 4th most-visited state in the country
- Tourism is Pennsylvania's largest industry, generating \$10.7 billion in wages and benefits annually. This accounts for almost 7% of all individuals employed in the Commonwealth
- Pennsylvania tourists typically come from less than 250 miles away, 80% of these visitors come by car
- State and local taxes derived from tourism grew by 16.7% from 2003 to 2007
- Without tourism, Pennsylvania households would have to pay more than \$575 per year in taxes to maintain the current level of State services. So it is evident that tourism does not compete with vital programs, but in fact helps pay for them
- Tourism is good business and produces a great return on investment.
 - In fiscal year 2008-2009, the Commonwealth's total investment in tourism was \$33 million. This is the equivalent of less than 1% of the total invested in basic education, higher education, and social programs combined.
 - In this same fiscal year, tourism delivered a return of \$28 Billion flowing into the Pennsylvania's economy.
- Tourism supports 400,000 direct tourism-related jobs right here in Pennsylvania. Adding those jobs that are indirectly related to tourism increases that number to 610,000 jobs, and almost \$19 Billion in wages.