INTRODUCTION
Washington Crossing State Park contains more than 3,500 acres in Mercer and Hunterdon counties along the Delaware River, just 8 miles north of Trenton. The Continental Army, commanded by General George Washington, landed here after its historic crossing of the Delaware River on Christmas morning in 1776. The cultural, historic, natural and recreational features of this park provide a unique blend of activities for visitors.

HISTORY
Earliest known records of the area indicate that a ferry crossing between Pennsylvania and New Jersey was established here around 1700. At this ferry location, passengers across the Delaware River. General Washington chose this strategic location to cross the Delaware River as he believed it would allow his troops to cross without detection. After successfully landing in New Jersey, the Continental Army engaged Hessian and British troops in the battles of Trenton and Princeton. These battles were the first turning points of the American Revolution.

Washington Crossing State Park was established in 1912. The original park contained 100 acres and included an overlook of the Delaware River near the place where the Continental Army landed in New Jersey.

During the 1930s, major development of the park was accomplished through the Work Projects Administration (WPA), a federal work program established during the Great Depression. Roads, trails and picnic groves were built by the WPA work force.

FEATURES AND ACTIVITIES
Visitor Center Museum - The Washington Crossing State Park Visitor Center Museum opened in 1976 in commemoration of our nation’s Bicentennial Celebration. Its main theme is the interpretation of the Nation’s “Ten Crucial Days,” December 25, 1776 through January 3, 1777. The events of these 10 days included the Continental Army’s crossing the Delaware River and the Battles of Trenton and Princeton. These battles were the first major victories for Washington’s troops against the British forces.

Swan Historical Foundation Collection - The historical collections exhibited at the visitor center museum consist principally of the Swan Historical Foundation Collection of the American Revolution—nearly 600 collectibles from the Revolutionary War. These military objects represent items used by soldiers who fought on both sides in the American Revolution.

The collection, along with an interpretive program, serve to remind visitors of the struggles that men and women endured during that era.

The visitor center museum is open seven days a week 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Please call ahead to confirm. Group tours and lectures are available by reservation only. The visitor center museum is accessible to persons with disabilities. For more information call the visitor center museum.

Johnson Ferry House - General George Washington and his staff occupied this house while the American Army regrouped after the successful Christmas night crossing of the Delaware River. Washington’s staff used the shelter of this house to finalize strategy for the attack on Trenton.

The 18th century house is furnished with colonial pieces and is interpreted as the ferry keeper’s family farm residence. The Johnson Ferry House is open Wednesday through Sunday and features living history demonstrations and special events. Guided tours are available for groups. The first floor of the Johnson Ferry House is accessible to persons with disabilities. For more information and group reservations, call 609-737-2521.

Nelson House - The Nelson House is located on the banks of the Delaware River. It is the surviving kitchen and ice house wing of the larger 19th century Alexander Nelson Hotel that was damaged in a train accident on the once-existing Bel-Del Railroad.

The Nelson House is open seasonally on fair weather weekends. For more information call the visitor center museum.

NOT PERMITTED
Alcoholic beverages, ATVs, metal detecting, swimming, smoking and vaping are NOT PERMITTED in this park.

To report an emergency or suspicious activity, call 1-877-WARN-DEP (1-877-927-6337) or 911.

Washington Crossing State Park
Visitor Center Museum
355 Washington Crossing
Pennington Road
Titusville, NJ 08560
609-737-0623

Directions: From Interstate 95, take Route 29 north. Follow signs to the park.

NJPARKSANDFORESTS.ORG
FACEBOOK.COM/NEWJERSEYSTATEPARKS
@NEWJERSEYSTATEPARKS

Hiking
The park has 13 miles of trails for hiking. Walking and jogging are very popular in the park throughout the year. During the winter months, when weather and snow conditions are favorable, these trails are sometimes used for snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Snowmobiles and other off-road vehicles are not permitted in the park. Bicycles and horses are not permitted on hiking trails.

Bicycling
Five miles of trails in the Phillips Farm area are available for mountain bike use. The New Jersey Cycling Conservation Club, through local cycling groups, has helped in the development of the trail at Washington Crossing State Park. This multiuse trail may be used by bikers.

Horseback Riding
Two and a half miles of trails are available for equestrian use. The Phillips Farm parking area is designated for horse trailers. There are no horse rental facilities in the park.

Access for People With Disabilities
Washington Crossing State Park recreational facilities are partially accessible to persons with disabilities. Please contact the visitor center museum for further information regarding disability access needs. Telemark telephone (TTY) users, call the NJ Relay at CapTel Service at 711 or 1-800-852-8797 for English or 1-866-658-7714 for Spanish.

Natural Area and Nature Center - The 140-acre natural area is located in the northern section of the park. This preserved area consists of a mosaic of mature hardwood and young successional forests interspersed with fields and a variety of attractive trails.

Located within the natural area is the Washington Crossing State Park Nature Center. The nature center contains interactive exhibits, live and preserved specimens and other nature collections, computer stations, nature books, field guides and periodicals. Visitors can participate in scheduled interpretive programs or simply enjoy the facility.

The nature center is open Wednesday through Sunday. Events are scheduled periodically and publicized in, Nature’s Cogispace, available online at njparksandforests.org/parks/docs/nature_cogispace.pdf. Nature programs for schools, scouts, and other groups are available by arrangement. For more information, call 609-737-0609.

Open Air Theater - The Washington Crossing State Park Open Air Theater is in a unique and beautiful setting. A sloping field is terraced to seat 800 spectators. Concerts, theatrical and musical performances are on a large open stage. A background of native shrubs and trees on the gently sloping hill behind the stage assures excellent acoustics and greatly adds to the atmosphere. The open air theater is partially accessible to persons with disabilities. For more information visit njparksandforests.org/parks/washingtoncrossingspark.html.

Picnicking
The park has four picnic groves with tables and grills. Knox, Sullivan and Washington Groves are first-come, first-served. Knox Grove also has a playground, making it an ideal location for family and small group picnics. Group reservations are required for the Greene Grove Day Use Area. For more information or to make a reservation call, the visitor center museum.