



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce &
Certified Visitor Center
Invites New Members**

Chincoteague Island, VA—July 9, 2020: The Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce was founded in 1954 by a group of island businessmen who saw a need for an organized support group of business leaders. In the first few months of its operation, one of the largest projects undertaken was the printing of the *Chincoteague Beacon*, a local newspaper which is still in circulation today (but not printed by the Chamber).

We are a non-profit, volunteer, membership organization serving as the leading spokesman and representative for the businesses on Chincoteague Island. We unite businesses, improving both business and economic development on the island. We play a vital role in Town issues and state legislature that could adversely or positively impact our businesses and our livelihood.

Our office, conveniently located on the way to the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, is a point of contact used to service our visitors in many ways to ensure their stay is enjoyable. We are open year-round to assist the traveling public in finding your location and learning more about the islands and our wonderful people who live and work here. The chamber became a Certified Visitor Center in 2008 by the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

We are a member of the Virginia Chamber of Commerce, the Eastern Shore of Virginia Chamber of Commerce, the Eastern Shore of Virginia Tourism Commission, the Virginia Tourism Corporation and the Virginia Restaurant Lodging and Travel Association. The chamber is governed by an 11 member board composed of a diverse group of business leaders from a variety of industry sectors.

The Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce has led the business community during the COVID-19 crisis by distributing critical resource information to the business community, promoting "Shop Local" efforts, and creating marketing videos and promotions to begin recovery. Strong social media campaigns and press releases have targeted drive markets and focused on what travelers are looking for: nature, outdoors activities, short road trips, and small-town charm. The chamber will be offering workshops, seminars, and lunch and learns over the course of the next 2 years that will focus on recovery and how to build a stronger,

resilient business after the pandemic. We invite you to become a part of the chamber team and take full advantage of these exciting opportunities. We know especially during these difficult times, you must strategically invest your financial resources, however, with a \$100 investment, you will receive the following benefits as a Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce member in 2021.

- Member referrals year-round via office, phone, emails, website and social media
- Presence on chamber website with unlimited content & photos and contact information
- Chamber website is optimized for maximum effectiveness and responsive across all platforms
- Member Badge: Backlink from your website to chamber website—offers enhanced listing to you
- Opportunity to advertise in chamber Visitor Guide (either print and/or digital)
- Regular updates from chamber staff via newsletter, letters and emails to membership
- Brochure or business card space in chamber office
- Sponsorship opportunities at Chamber fundraisers and events
- Targeted Group Tour marketing via direct mailing to leads generated from Bus and Travel Shows
- Sponsorship opportunities in community projects
- Collaboration with film, TV, and travel writers from around the globe
- Banner Ad opportunities on chamber website (www.chincoteaguechamber.com/advertising)
- Seasonal & Special Event availability surveys for accommodations and boats as needed
- Opportunity to serve on Chamber committees
- Networking Opportunities - Business Before/During/After Hours, Lunch & Learns, Luncheons
- Active Board of Directors meeting monthly
- Annual Outstanding Citizen & Business Person of the Year Awards
- Affiliation with regional, state, and national tourism organizations
- Partnership with regional towns, government agencies, and business resource branches
- Presence on 5 social media channels: Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, Instagram, YouTube

Your membership investment is for calendar year 2021, however the earlier you join, the more benefits you will receive for the remainder of 2020. Immediate placement on the chamber website, chincoteaguechamber.com; brochure placement in the chamber office; and referrals from office staff are just a few.

If you are not currently a member of the Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce team, you are missing out on fantastic opportunities to grow your business.

[CLICK HERE TO JOIN NOW](#)

Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce 6733 Maddox Boulevard Chincoteague, VA 23336
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Click the image above to view our We're Open video on YouTube.

About Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce & Certified Visitor Center

The Chincoteague Chamber of Commerce is an organization whereby many different business interests have joined together in a combined manner to maximize their ability to attract and increase the number of visitors to Chincoteague Island. The ultimate goal of the organization is to communicate the message that Chincoteague, the "Beautiful Land Across the Water," is the most desirable location to visit and/or vacation with family or friends.

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