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Harriet Tubman led many African Americans to freedom in the North along Maryland's Underground Railroad, which was not a true railroad but rather a secret network of roads, waterways and hiding places. The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway in Caroline and Dorchester Counties has over 30 sites to see along this incredible byway. Kayak through the waterways of Joseph Stewart's Canal near Parson's Creek, where Tubman learned vital survival skills, or take the family for a stroll around Adkin's Arboretum near Tuckahoe State Park in Ridgely to examine how nature both helped and hindered freedom seekers traversing this 400-acre preserve of wetlands and woodlands. The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway shares the remarkable stories of freedom seekers who risked their lives to escape slavery in the 1800s. It is approximately 95 miles long, and it takes 2 to 3 days to walk the whole way through it. Before the Civil War, African American Freedom Seekers fled north to freedom through a combination of people and landscapes that became known as the "Underground Railroad." As the last slave state, Delaware was a critical leg to freedom. Harriet Tubman and other "conductors" led more than 3,000 Freedom Seekers through Delaware. Wilmington Quaker, Thomas Garrett, was influential in orchestrating the Underground Railroad network in Delaware through organization of members and safe locations. This Byway provides the traveler with an alternative travel route through the state in a generally south to north orientation while giving opportunities to experience Delaware's Underground Railroad history through locations where this history happened. This Byway recounts the life story of Harriet Tubman and her courageous actions to rescue family and friends along the Underground Railroad – a secret network of people, places and routes that provided shelter to escaping slaves. Originating on Maryland's Eastern Shore, this 125-mile scenic road reveals beautiful Chesapeake landscapes to sightseers, bicyclists, boaters and nature enthusiasts. The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad byway traverses a living land-and-waterscape, and commemorates Harriet Tubman and everyone – black and white, enslaved and free – involved in the Underground Railroad. Not a railroad in the true sense, the Underground Railroad was the name given to the secret network of roads, waterways, trails, and hiding places, used before the Civil War by enslaved people fleeing from bondage. Threading together some of the most pristine and well-preserved working landscapes found along the East Coast, the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad captures the same culture of family farming and life on the Chesapeake that Tubman grew up in. To explore the byway landscapes is to walk in Tubman's footsteps as she grew from infant to woman, enslaved to free, ordinary to extraordinary. You'll find amenities all along the byway, but it's best to plan ahead. Welcoming towns and hamlets reflect the vernacular architecture of the Chesapeake Bay in the 1850s. In addition to driving the byway, find

ample opportunities to hike, bike, paddle, shop, dine, and attend events relating to the area's significant and unique heritage.