



## MTA Press Releases

Press Release

May 25, 2011

LIRR

IMMEDIATE

### Life's A Beach! - And The LIRR Has 12 Discounted Beach Getaways To Get You There

#### ***'Surf Into Summer with the LIRR' Event at Penn Station Launches LIRR's Popular Beach Getaways to Jones Beach, Long Beach & Fire Island Beaches***

Memorial Day weekend heralds the start of MTA Long Island Rail Road special discounted Beach Getaways to Jones Beach, Long Beach and Fire Island Beaches. But, today the beach party got started a little earlier with the LIRR's 'Surf into Summer' event at Penn Station – complete with beach sand, Caribbean music and free giveaways – to kick-off the beach season.

Throughout the day, Wednesday, at Penn Station beaches reigned supreme and LIRR customers were treated to non-alcoholic drinks from Tracks Raw Bar & Grill and Long Island wine tastings from Penn Wine and Spirits while giveaways were raffled off for OPUS Casino Cruise Lines; Polo at Bethpage State Park; VIP screening passes to the Gold Coast International Film Festival; Broadway show tickets; and even an overnight stay at The Palms Hotel in Fire Island – all this to the strains of Caribbean music provided by The Next Level Band. All prizes, giveaways and refreshments were provided courtesy of the LIRR's participating partners.

While in the beach mood, the LIRR reminds customers that beginning with the Memorial Day weekend the LIRR offers special discount packages to 12 of Long Island's great beaches – including Jones Beach State Park, Long Beach and an assortment of Fire Island beaches to suit everyone's tastes. The LIRR special beach package tickets are available on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays throughout the summer; and daily service to the beaches starts in June. So, save time, energy and avoid traffic by taking the LIRR to the surf and sand.

#### ***LIRR Beach Getaways:***

- **Jones Beach** (Freeport Station) Featuring one of the world's finest beaches, Jones Beach State Park offers miles of sandy beaches and refreshing ocean surf. A two-mile-long boardwalk, games, playgrounds, and swimming pools are also available at the park. The discounted package ticket includes round trip rail fare to and from Freeport and MTA Long Island Bus service via the N88 to and from the Central Mall, and the East and West Bath Houses at Jones Beach. The special package fare is \$17.50 from New York or Brooklyn, and \$14.50 from Jamaica. Connecting buses, from MTA Long Island Bus, leave Freeport starting every 30 minutes from 8:35 AM to 6:35 PM, the last bus leaves at 7:35 PM. From Jones Beach service will run every 30 minutes from 9 AM to 7 PM, the last bus is at 8 PM. Weekend service starts May 28 and holidays. Weekday service begins June 25 and continues through September 5.

*Note:* There is no concert service

- **Long Beach** Enjoy the ambiance of a seaside resort, just a short train ride from Penn Station, Brooklyn or Jamaica. Just a few blocks from the LIRR's Long Beach Station, Long Beach offers unsurpassed ocean swimming and a two and a half mile long boardwalk, summer concerts and Arts & Crafts Festivals. The discounted package ticket includes one-day round trip rail fare to Long Beach and admission to the beach. The special package fare is \$21.00 from New York or Brooklyn, and \$18.00 from Jamaica. Hourly service is available from Penn Station, Brooklyn and Jamaica; with direct weekend service from Penn Station. Weekend service starts May 28 and holidays. LIRR weekday service begins June 25 and continues through September 5

#### ***Fire Island Beaches***

The LIRR offers special packages to ten Fire Island beach locations. Fire Island provides an opportunity to leave the car behind and enjoy miles of boardwalk, trails and pristine beaches.

- **Kismet/Fire Island Lighthouse** (Ferry from Bay Shore) – Take the train to Bay Shore Station and board a David Brothers Taxi to the Fire Island Ferries. Intensely informal, car-free and easygoing, Kismet is known as a great community with something for everyone. Amenities include a couple of full service restaurants, two public tennis courts, a basketball court, and playground area. Just a half-mile from the beach is the over 150 year-old Fire Island Lighthouse. General admission is included in the package. A climb to the top of the lighthouse provides a panoramic view of the Atlantic Ocean, the Great South Bay, Fire Island, Long Island and the Manhattan Skyline. It's perfect for individuals, families, or groups. For information and events call 631-661-4876 or visit fireislandlighthouse.com. The special package fare is \$35.00 from New York or Brooklyn and \$34.50 from Jamaica. For children 5-11 years of age the fare is \$18.50; Children must be at least 42" tall to climb the lighthouse. For a schedule of ferry departure times call Fire Island Ferries at 631-665-3600 or visit fireislandferries.com. The LIRR package begins May 28 and continues daily through September 5.

- **Ocean Beach** (Ferry from Bay Shore) – Take the train to Bay Shore Station and board a David Brothers Taxi to the Fire Island Ferries. Home to over a dozen restaurants, hotels, and endless attractions such as sidewalk sales, live bands, and innumerable shops and boutiques, Ocean Beach is truly the 'cosmopolitan' center of Fire Island. For the ultimate seafood experience by the water, or to just unwind and take in the charming atmosphere, Ocean Beach has it all and it's a great family destination. The special package fare is \$31.00 from New York or Brooklyn and \$30.50 from Jamaica. For children 5-11 years of age the fare is \$14.50. The package includes a "LIRR Ocean Beach Deals" coupon. Customers can show this coupon to receive offers from the following participating merchants: Restaurants -- Bocce Beach, Island Mermaid, Maguires Restaurant, Matthews Seafood House, The Albatross, And The Hideaway; The Palms Hotel and the shop -- A Summer Place. For a schedule of ferry departure times call Fire Island Ferries at 631-665-3600 or visit fireislandferries.com. The LIRR package begins May 28 and continues daily through September 5.

- **Ocean Bay Park** (Ferry from Bay Shore) – Take the train to Bay Shore Station and board a David Brothers Taxi to the Fire Island Ferries. One of the most relaxed of the Fire Island communities, Ocean Bay Park has a mix of families and singles. Bay-front dining is available at two of the four restaurants. There is also a grocery store, two pizza places and a bagel shop.

For a schedule of ferry departure times call Fire Island Ferries at 631-665-3600 or visit [fireslandferries.com](http://fireslandferries.com). The special package fare is \$31.00 from New York or Brooklyn and \$30.50 from Jamaica. For children 5-11 years of age the fare is \$14.50. The LIRR package begins May 28 and continues daily through September 5.

- **Cherry Grove** (Ferry from Sayville) – Take the train to the Sayville Station and board a Colonial Taxi to the Sayville Ferry. Time has no meaning on Fire Island (just remember your ferry & train times). You'll think you've entered a different world. Lay on the beach, and let yourself go. Push your toes through the warm sand. Relax, dine and dance, and indulge yourself. The shops and restaurants are all brilliantly colored and built on multi-levels, so you can find something for everyone. For a schedule of ferry departure times call the Sayville Ferry Service at 631-589-0810 or visit their website at [sayvilleferry.com](http://sayvilleferry.com). The special package fare is \$31.00 from New York and Brooklyn, and \$30.50 from Jamaica. The LIRR package begins May 28 and continues daily through Sept. 5.

- **Fire Island Pines** (Ferry from Sayville) – Take the train to the Sayville Station and board a Colonial Taxi to the Sayville Ferry. "The Pines" named for the beautiful wind-sculpted pine trees, is truly an architectural paradise and the largest community on the Island. When you approach from the Bay side, you are reminded almost of Monte Carlo or the south of France. Colorful umbrella-spiked tables on the wide terraces of outdoor bars & restaurants form the picturesque harbor. Populated in good part by members of the world of fashion and design, it is well known for its upscale social life and beautiful harbor. For a schedule of ferry departure times call the Sayville Ferry Service at 631-589-0810 or visit their website at [sayvilleferry.com](http://sayvilleferry.com). The special package fare is \$31.00 from New York and Brooklyn, and \$30.50 from Jamaica. The LIRR package begins May 28 and continues daily through Sept. 5.

- **Sunken Forest at Sailors' Haven** (Ferry from Sayville)– Take the train to Sayville Station and board a Colonial Taxi to the Sayville Ferry. Sunbathe on a pristine ocean beach or take a nature walk through the beautiful and enchanted Sunken Forest at Sailors' Haven. The Sunken Forest is an enchanting 300 year-old primeval holly forest situated below the primary dune. The Parks Department provides free guided tours. For a schedule of ferry departure times call the Sayville Ferry Service at 631-589-0810 or visit their website at [sayvilleferry.com](http://sayvilleferry.com). The special package fare from New York and Brooklyn is \$28.00, and \$27.50 from Jamaica. For children 5-11 years of age the fare is \$15.50. The LIRR package begins May 28 and continues daily through Sept. 5.

- **Watch Hill** (Ferry from Patchogue)- Take the train to Patchogue Station. Watch Hill Ferry terminal is a short walk west on Division Street, then south on West Avenue. Lounge in the sun on a peaceful beach on the secluded shores of Fire Island or walk the nature trails. The ferry service is run by the Davis Park Ferry Company, they can be contacted at 631-475-1665 or on their website at [davisparkferry.com](http://davisparkferry.com). The special package fare is \$27.00 from New York or Brooklyn and \$21.50 from Jamaica. For children 5-11 years of age the fare is \$13.50. The LIRR package begins May 28 and continues daily through September 5.

- **Davis Park** (Ferry from Patchogue)– Take the train to Patchogue Station, and board Lindy's Taxi to the Davis Park Ferry. On one end, a huge boat-filled marina, on the other magnificent ocean waves form this community's great landscape. After swimming, walking or sunbathing on the beach, enjoy the local popular restaurant and bar, with live music and dancing on the weekends. The Davis Park Ferry Company can be contacted at 631-475-1665 or on their website at [davisparkferry.com](http://davisparkferry.com). The special package fare is \$33.00 from New York or Brooklyn and \$32.50 from Jamaica. For children 5-11 years of age the fare is \$23.50. The LIRR package begins May 28 and continues daily through September 5.

- **Robert Moses** – Take the train to Babylon Station and walk downstairs for the S-47 Suffolk Bus. Located on the western tip of Fire Island, Robert Moses State Park offers world-class sand and surf in a casual, less-crowded atmosphere. The Park has five miles of ocean beach, picnic areas and an 18-hole pitch & putt golf course. The special package fare is \$20.50 from New York and Brooklyn, and \$16.00 from Jamaica. The connecting S47 bus service, provided by Suffolk Transit, from Babylon Station to Robert Moses operates approximately every half-hour on weekends; hourly on weekdays. The last bus departs Robert Moses at 6:30 PM. Daily service begins June 20 and continues through September 5.

- **Captree Fishing** – Take the train to Babylon Station and walk downstairs for the S-47 Suffolk Bus. Fish for the big one on the Great South Bay. Captree is a fisherman's haven and a picnicker's delight, so pack a lunch and enjoy a day of fishing while taking in the beautiful views. And no need to bring fishing gear, it's all included in the package price. For a schedule of boat departures call 631-669-6464 or visit [captreefleet.com](http://captreefleet.com). The special package fare is \$45 from New York and Brooklyn, \$28.50 for children 5-11 years of age. Trains depart Penn Station at approximately 7:10 AM, 9:06 AM and 11:05 AM, weekdays and 7:10 AM, 9:10 AM and 11:10 AM weekends. The trains will depart Babylon Station (westbound) at approximately 3:00 PM, 4:35 PM, and 6:39 PM weekdays, and 3:10 PM, 5:28 PM and 6:58 PM weekends. Daily service begins June 20 and continues through September 5.

#### Beach Getaway Tickets

Beach package tickets may be purchased at gray, green or blue ticket machines and at open ticket offices. All ticket machines accept credit and debit cards; gray and green machines also accept cash. Select "Deals & Getaways," then "Beach Getaways" followed by the package of your choice. Open ticket offices accept cash, personal checks, credit and debit cards.

Rail tickets are valid for 14 days from date of sale and refundable for 30 days - subject to \$10 refund processing fee. Admission tickets are only valid on dates indicated for each package; **beaches may not have life guards before these dates and the LIRR is NOT responsible for ticket use on non-valid dates.**

Fire Island package tickets that include ferry/taxi must be used on the same day and are not valid after 5:30 PM on Fridays. Customers are advised to check ferry and connecting train information prior to their trip.

For additional information and a copy of the [Beach Getaways brochure](#) customers may call the LIRR's Travel Information Center at 718-217-5477 (718-217-LIRR). If you are deaf or hard of hearing, use your preferred relay service provider or the free 711 relay to reach LIRR at 718-217-5477. Customers can also consult the LIRR's website at [www.mta.info](http://www.mta.info) for schedule information and the "Deals & Getaways" section for details of the special beach packages.

