WELCOME
to the Bicentennial Edition of
Maine Public Radio’s
Guide to Road Trip Games!

The State of Maine is 200 years old this year and there are celebration activities taking place in every corner of Maine. All of us at Maine Public, the Maine Turnpike Authority, and the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry want you to have a wonderful summer experience here in Maine. There is so much to see and do! We also want you to have fun playing our road trip games and be safe! That starts with your car’s driver concentrating on the driving while everyone else in the car is playing the games!

SAFE DRIVING TIPS!
The Maine Turnpike Authority, the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, and Maine Public ALL agree that a great family trip starts with safe driving. Here are a few top safe driving tips:

- Get proper rest. Set aside time to pack your clothes, load your vehicle and get a full night’s sleep for you and your family so you can all set out fresh and rested.

- Store loose gear, possessions and other distractions that could roll around in the car, so you do not feel tempted to reach for them on the floor or the seat.

- Buckle up, and make sure all passengers are secured properly with safety belts and age-appropriate child safety seats before you head out on your trip. Make sure pets are secure too!

- Snack smart. If possible, eat meals or snacks before or after your trip, not while driving. On the road, avoid messy foods that can be difficult to manage.

- Fully focus on driving. Do not let anything divert your attention, actively scan the road, use your mirrors and watch out for pedestrians and cyclists.

- Put aside your electronic distractions, there is no need for the driver to make calls, text or email while driving! To avoid temptation, power down or stow devices before heading out.

LICENSE PLATE GAME

Give everyone a piece of paper and a writing implement. Work together as a team or compete against one another to see how many license plates you can spot from different states and provinces. Write down the name of each state spotted. Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Quebec should be easy to spot! The goal, of course, is to nab all 50 states and a few Canadian provinces as well. When you reach your destination, the person with the most states identified wins!
This one is easy; it’s all about spotting yellow cars. Whoever spots and claims the most yellow cars at the end of the trip wins. You claim them by loudly yelling “Banana!” any time you see one. It’s a contagious game and you’ll find yourself playing even when just running errands around town. Psst...Yellow Volkswagen Bugs are worth three points!


Tune in to 1610 AM for up-to-the-minute Turnpike traffic info.

The Turnpike’s 1610 AM radio station broadcasts emergency and non-emergency messages 24/7. Watch for a flashing light on the Turnpike’s blue “Traffic Advisory” signs telling you that we’ve added new emergency information to the broadcast.

Scout wants to know...

When did people first start growing potatoes in Maine?
A. The 1600s
B. The 1700s
C. The 1800s

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Sign up for our DAILY NEWS HEADLINES newsletter and THE TEN, our weekly newsletter, at mainepublic.org
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Call us at 800-884-1717 or email us at comments@mainepublic.org
Write to us at 1450 Lisbon Street, Lewiston, Maine, 04240-3595
Download the Maine Public App from the App Store or from Google Play
How many Maine apples does it take to make a gallon of sweet apple cider?

A. 36  
B. 60  
C. 86

Two Truths and a Lie

How well do you know your fellow travelers? Here’s a fun way to find out! Each person shares three statements, two of which are true and one of which is false. Everyone else has to guess which of the statements is the lie. The person keeps going until the untruthful statement is identified. The person who discovers the untruthful statement goes next!

Problem on the Turnpike?

Call (207) 871-7701

If you run into problems on the Maine Turnpike — a crash, medical emergency, vehicle fires, disabled vehicles, motor vehicle violations, debris in the road — call the Maine Turnpike’s Communication Center at (207) 871-7701.

PROTECT MAINE FORESTS

Use local firewood

Moving firewood long distances can bring harmful insects and diseases to your favorite campgrounds. You can make a difference.

Buy your firewood at your destination. Find local sources at FIREWOODSCOUT.org
I'm Going on a Picnic

Who has the best memory in the car? Let’s see! This alphabet-based memory game can be played with as few as two players, but it’s more fun when the whole family joins in. Here’s how it works!

The first player says, “I’m going on a picnic and I’m bringing…” followed by something that begins with A, such as apples. The second player repeats what the first person said, but adds something that begins with B. So he or she might say “I’m going on a picnic and I’m bringing apples and bananas.” And so on with C, D, and the rest of the alphabet. If someone forgets an item, he or she is out. To be fair, feel free to be lenient and give hints to younger players. The last player to be able to recite all the items on the list wins!

1819: “The Nation’s Oldest Consecutively Running Agricultural Fair” is held for the first time.

Scout wants to know...

How many varieties of apple are grown in Maine?
A. Three dozen
B. About 60
C. More than 100

$12,000,000
MTA funding for MaineDOT’s Piscataqua River Bridge wearing surface project.

9%
The Turnpike carries more than 9% of Maine’s total vehicle travel.

$0
The Maine Turnpike receives no state or federal tax dollars.

Lowest 25%
The E-ZPass rate-per-mile is one of the lowest in North America.

90,000,000
Vehicle transactions hit a record in 2019.

55%
More than half of Maine’s truck freight travels the Turnpike through Kittery.

$30,000,000
MTA covered the state’s cost for MaineDOT’s new Sarah Mildred Long Bridge on Route 1.

658
Total Turnpike lane miles.
Pop culture and news collide for a fun game of fact or fiction. You are trying to fool all of the other passengers. You start by asking, “Did you hear that ______ happened?” You then add in a few details to flesh out the story. Be careful to mix in some true, but zany stories as well as ones that you pull out of thin air. Your fellow passengers can either say, “That didn’t happen” or “That seems possible.” Whoever correctly guesses, gets two points. You get two points for every person who guesses incorrectly and they lose 1 point. First person to 11 points wins!

The Maine Turnpike is fully sustainable.

The Maine Turnpike is funded entirely by the people who drive it. The Maine Turnpike Authority does not take a single penny in state or federal taxes. In fact, the MTA reimburses the state to pay the Maine State Police who patrol the pike and contributes millions of dollars to MaineDOT.

PUNCH BUGGY, NO PUNCH BACKS!

The concept is that players keep track of how many Volkswagen Beetles they spot on the road. New Beetles are worth one point and vintage Beetles are worth three. Once a Beetle is seen by a player, it is claimed by the spotter and can’t be counted in anyone else’s totals. The first person to 15 wins! AND how do you “claim” a spotted Beetle? You tap (not punch!) another player and call out “punch buggy, no punch backs!” The game is paused when passing a Volkswagen dealership!


How many 5lb bags of potatoes does it take to fill a tractor trailer truck?
A. 1800
B. 6000
C. 8400

Scout wants to know...

wants to know...
Maine has, roughly, how many dairy farms?

A. 175
B. 245
C. 400

The Classic, I Spy

One person spies something inside the car (objects outside the moving car just wouldn’t be fair!) and recites the line, “I spy with my little eye, something BLANK.” The BLANK is some descriptor of the item that they have zeroed in on. For example, “I spy with my little eye, something green!” Everyone else takes turns trying to guess the mystery item. The person who first guesses the object correctly wins and they get to go next.


Maine has, roughly, how many dairy farms?

A. 175
B. 245
C. 400
Post Your Maine Vacation Photos Online With #maineturnpike To Win a Free 4-Lobster Dinner!

We hope your summer days in Maine are absolutely the best! Share those Maine memories with your online friends and you could win a FREE Maine lobster dinner on us!

Just post your favorite vacation photos with the hashtag #maineturnpike to be automatically entered to win a ready-to-cook, 4-lobster dinner, shipped directly to your door. (If you win, we’ll connect you with the Maine seafood shipper so you can schedule it to arrive whenever you want.)

So let’s see all those awesome Maine vacation shots. And once again, thanks for joining us this summer and traveling the Maine Turnpike.

Come back soon!

maineturnpike.com/vacay

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2012: The Maine State Aquarium frees the largest lobster ever caught in Maine, a 27 pounder named “Rocky.”

The Maine Turnpike Alphabet Game

Signs, signs everywhere! The perfect opportunity to play a game! And this one is a classic. Perform this as teams or solo players. You’ll want to utilize road signs, shop names, license plates — any reading material outside the window qualifies. You’ll be looking for every letter of the alphabet, in alphabetical order, although the letter can be located anywhere in the word. For example, say you see a sign for the city of Auburn – there’s your A and B! A sign for Construction would give you your C. The first one to the letter Z wins!

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Maine Turnpike Bicentennial Fact:

Maine has how many farmers’ markets?

A. 35
B. 70-80
C. More than 100
One of the best parts of being on the road with the family is that they get to learn a lot about the geography of the United States AND Maine! The game starts when one player names a location, for example Nebraska. The next person must name a location in the United States that starts with the last letter of that word — the letter “A.” For example, Anchorage. States, cities, rivers, counties... anything you might find on a map is fair game. You can score this game if you like — making states worth 1 point, towns or cities worth 2 points, and national parks, waterways and mountains worth 3 points. If it happens to be in Maine, add an extra point!

What is Maine’s state fruit?
A. The apple
B. The pomegranate
C. The wild Maine blueberry

Explore the backroads of Maine to discover and experience Real Maine flavor!
Where does maple syrup come from?
A. Sugar cane plants
B. Fruit trees
C. Maple trees