

# I Don't do *hostels*

LIFE'S TOO SHORT TO SHARE A BATHROOM

## The Flashpackers Guide to Atlantic City

*As the weather heats up, more and more of us are trying to find a little piece of paradise. For any budding flashpacker AC is a good stop off on your itinerary. With tons of freebies, some great cheap eats and happy-hours galore we at IDDH will have you living like royalty in no time!*

More than 32.4 million people visit Atlantic City each year. In close proximity to New York City, Philadelphia and Washington D.C., it's a great place to catch some rays, do a little shopping and try your luck at the casino gaming tables.

It is the home of the world's first ever boardwalk; it boasts four miles of pristine, protected beach; it is the home of Miss America and the creator of Salt Water Taffy. A place that has gone from strength to strength, battling and conquering the odd fall, AC continues to thrive hotting up as a new must-do destination for the budding flashpacker.

From the original inhabitants, the wandering Lenni-Lenape Indians, it grew to accommodate the wealthy leisure seekers of the early

1900s, thanks to Millie Leeds, wife of the structural pioneer Jeremiah Leeds. She introduced the first tavern in 1839, thereby creating the first business market in Atlantic City, which has flourished from then on.

In 1870, the renowned pier was built, albeit only a meager 8ft wide (a fraction of what it measures today) which quickly became *'the hotspot'*. Elegant and lavish seaside 2-3 story 'cottages' were homes to wealthy doctors and businessmen, whilst the Hollywood elite resided in beautiful hotels and ate in fabulous restaurants.

Soon, there wasn't anyone who didn't want to be in AC. However, WW2 took a heavy toll on the city's tourism, after which AC was desperate to revive the downward spiral of depression. This came in the form of the 1976 Casino Gambling



*Above: The beautiful Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa.*

*This summer check out AtlanticCityNJ.com. Under the 'Things to Do' section they have a great list of attractions, events and activities that are free or \$10 and under.*