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BUSIEST TRAVEL PLAZAS IN THE U.S. GEAR UP FOR HOLIDAY TRAVEL

Maryland House and New Jersey Turnpike anticipate big weekend

BETHESDA, MD— Labor Day, summer's culminating holiday weekend, is always busy for HMSHost Corporation's motorway division, which operates the Maryland House and Molly Pitcher, the busiest travel plazas in the U.S. The Maryland House located on the Maryland Turnpike is also one of the largest travel plazas in the U.S. at 33,000 square feet, while the New Jersey Turnpike, including Molly Pitcher, expects more than 2.5 million motorists to pass through over the holiday weekend. A world leader in travel food, beverage and retail concessions, HMSHost operates more than 100 travel plazas in the US and Canada.

The one hundred days of summer, beginning on Memorial Day weekend and ending on Labor Day weekend, is the busiest time of the year for HMSHost at the Maryland House travel plaza. "We manage about 40% of our business during this time, selling more than 89,000 cups of Starbucks coffee, for example; therefore it is crucial that HMSHost staff is ready to deliver exceptional service to travelers. This year 350 associates were trained to serve our guests," said Vern Bingham, HMSHost General Manager, Maryland House.



Maryland Turnpike travelers visiting HMSHost facilities at the Maryland House.

Travelers stopping at the Maryland House will be pleased to find Bay favorites such as signature crab cakes and butterfly shrimp at **Phillips Seafood Express**. Popular stops also include, Sbarro, Roy Rogers, Starbucks and Cinnabon.

Sold or consumed over the 100 Days of Summer at the Maryland House:

- 6,800 crab cakes at Phillips Famous Seafood Express
- 5,800 crab pretzels at Phillips Famous Seafood Express
- 42,700 buns at Cinnabon
- 48,500 pounds of chicken at Roy Rogers
- 65,100 slices of Cheese Pizza at Sbarros
- 32,000 slices of Pepperoni Pizza at Sbarros
- 12,100 slices of Sausage Pizza at Sbarros

On the New Jersey Turnpike, visitors can enjoy plaza favorites such as; Burger King, Roy Rogers, Popeye's, Sbarros, Starbucks, Travel Mart, Cinnabon, Nathan's, Dickey's Barbecue and Pizza Hut. Last year, during the holiday weekend travel plaza visitors consumed the following:

Roy Rogers hamburgers:	8,461
Burger King hamburgers:	23,917
Nathan's hot dogs:	6,061
Starbucks coffee:	12,553

"We are excited and ready for Labor Day weekend, which gives us a bigger opportunity to make the traveler's day better," said Brian Gallant, Senior Vice President, HMSHost Motorway Division.

About HMSHost

HMSHost is world-renowned for creating innovative restaurants and shops in travel venues. The company has won international recognition for its original concepts, creative store designs, and outstanding customer service. HMSHost operates in more than 100 motorway travel plazas throughout North America.

A wholly-owned subsidiary of Autogrill S.p.A., HMSHost and the rest of the Autogrill Group are recognized leaders in travel concessions. With sales exceeding \$4.0 billion, Autogrill is present in 30 countries with over 4,500 points of sale in 979 locations (including 138 airports and 645 motorways) where 51,000 employees serve over 800 million customers every year.

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