



## **Got Goats?**

### ***We Work with a Herd of Hoofed Tourism Partners***

(June 24, 2019) – [Mindy Bianca Public Relations](#) has earned a reputation for being “that PR agency that works with the goat.” It’s all thanks to an incredibly friendly nanny goat named Betty, who lives at our client resort in Negril, Jamaica. Journalists and the traveling public have followed the antics of Betty and her expanding family for the past two years, and her story has been shared all over the world. In fact, Betty helped our growing PR agency gain firm footing among the media, letting you know we have really fun clients that also have fascinating stories to share.

Betty was the first goat we worked with, but she’s certainly not the last. In fact, she’s part of a growing herd. MBPR works with several rural destinations, and it should come as no surprise that with “rural” you’ll often find goats. So for those of you who like to “kid” around a bit, here’s a quick summary of some of the other goats you can meet in our client destinations.

For more information about all of MBPR’s clients – those with goats and those who have other attributes – please visit [www.mindybiancapr.com](http://www.mindybiancapr.com).

## **VIRGINIA**

### **[My Peeps Farm](#)**

593 Rockfish Road, Waynesboro

Nestled in Virginia’s famed Blue Ridge Mountains, this small farm is home to a happy herd of Nigerian Dwarf dairy goats. The farm’s owners traded in corporate life in Arizona for the farm life in Virginia’s Shenandoah Valley and have never looked back. They breed their goats to produce milk and cheese, and they keep them highly socialized so they’re incredibly friendly. The farm operates classes about how to raise your own goats, but they always stress the responsibilities involved with caring for goats. My Peeps currently has a new batch of kids that are ready to socialize, so the farm is hosting “goat snuggling” every Friday and Saturday in June and July from 10 to 11 a.m. The cost of participation is \$20 per adult and \$10 each for children ages 12 and younger; proceeds go toward the cost of feed for the baby goats and their moms.

## **NEW YORK**

### [The Farmers' Museum](#)

5775 New York Route 80, Cooperstown

People know Cooperstown as the home of the National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. But long before this village was a mecca for baseball players and their fans, the profession that had the highest representation around town was that of farmer. Cooperstown's roots are firmly planted in a rural economy, and The Farmers' Museum pays tribute to farmers, their crops, the way they lived, and the tools that helped them accomplish everything. A favorite stop at the museum is the Children's Barnyard, where the youngest guests can learn about animals that are most at home on a farm. The museum's collection of goats – Buddy, a black-and-silver African Pygmy goat, and Casper and Bandit, a pair of Nigerian Dwarf goats – joined the Barnyard about five years ago because they're super-friendly and not intimidating to the thousands of kids who visit each year with their families or as part of a school group.

## **SOUTH CAROLINA**

### [Split Creek Goat Farm](#)

3806 Centerville Road, Anderson

Home to 500 dairy goats, Split Creek is an award-winning farm that creates cheeses that earn accolades in competitions around the country and throughout the world. The fan fave is their feta marinated in lemon-basil olive oil. Yes, it's as good as it sounds! But it's not just about goat cheese; those hard-working goats are also responsible for yogurt and – get this! – fudge. The educational, working farm is open to visitors every day except Thanksgiving and Christmas, which means that folks coming out to pick up favorite grocery items may be treated to the opportunity to spend some time with the very friendly adult goats. The farm is a bit more protective of its kids, though they have plenty of them in the springtime. (The current record is 221 in one year!) In April the farm hosts a "Spring Means Babies" event that allows humans to get a peek at the young goats.

### **Old 96 District**

In the rural region called South Carolina's "Old 96 District," two very different goat farms fascinate and educate visitors. [Emerald Farm](#) in Greenwood is a working dairy situated on 75 acres. It's home to goats, llamas, sheep, ducks, chickens and bees, and it's open to visitors who are curious about those animals and the rural lifestyle. Emerald Farms operates its own miniature train, which takes guests through woods, tunnels and rolling farm landscape. Nobody leaves without heading to the farm's shop, where they can purchase soap, lotions and other products made from the resident goats' milk. In the nearby town of McCormick, [Stonywoods Farm](#) is operated by Mea Stone, who dedicated herself to raising Angora goats in 2006. Her award-winning herd of goats is noted for their wool, which Mea turns into mohair and then creates yarn, felted animals, hats, scarves, pillows and other items. Visitors are welcome to head to the farm to visit Mea and her goats by appointment.

## **MARYLAND**

### [Three Oaks Farm](#)

1437 Sharon Acres Road, Forest Hill

This farm is located on 52 acres in Forest Hill, which is about 30 miles north of Baltimore. It's best known for the 15 alpacas that live there. Their hair is woven into sweaters, caps and even stuffed animals, making the farm's on-site store a popular stop. But on a visit to Three Oaks, visitors also get to see chickens, ducks, pigs, horses, a miniature cow and – yes – a small herd of goats. The same family has operated the farm for about 50 years, and they regularly host open houses so that other families – especially those from the city, where farm animals are a rare sight – can learn about and interact with the creatures.

## **ALABAMA**

### **[Alabama Gulf Coast Zoo](#)**

*1204 Gulf Shores Parkway, Gulf Shores*

Nicknamed “The Little Zoo That Could,” this facility is home to nearly 500 animals representing 118 species – 22 of which are classified as critically endangered, endangered, vulnerable or near threatened. Each resident of the zoo has an incredible backstory: Many were rescued after being orphaned, abandoned or abused, and others arrived when they became too old or sick to matter to their owners anymore. They've all found a safe home in the vacation mecca of Gulf Shores, Alabama, where they're visited by guests who get a heavy dose of conservation education during their time at the zoo. Though there are plenty of more “exotic” creatures on site – everything from a pair of lion cubs to an entire village of lemurs – the zoo's goats are a crowd favorite. These extremely friendly animals are among the select group of zoo residents that visitors can hand feed while learning about their behavior and habits.

## **DELAWARE**

### **[Brandywine Zoo](#)**

*1001 N. Park Drive, Wilmington*

This zoo in Delaware's beautiful Brandywine Valley is home to an array of baby animals born this spring, including wallabies, alligators and ravens. But the real stars of the baby show are a pair of Nigerian Dwarf goats that have been eating everything in sight. The newest kids, Colby and Monty, stand knee-high to human adults and eye-level to small children ... which makes them even more popular. Their mom, Brie, is part of the zoo's herd, as are two Nubian goats, Harry and Lloyd, and a pair of African Pygmy goats named Charleigh and Nike. The entire herd is happily ensconced in a brand-new home that just opened this spring, making it an ideal time to come and take a look around.

## **JAMAICA**

### **[Sunset at the Palms Resort](#)**

*Negril*

This is where our fascination with goats began, so it seems fitting that it's where our roundup ends. It all started about two years ago when this all-inclusive, adults-only, tree-house style resort ended up with a female goat through a trade with a local farmer. Young Betty joined the

resort's groundskeeping crew, helping to maintain the lush foliage that grows throughout the property. Her personality and dog-like antics quickly made her a favorite among guests, who started inviting her to their weddings and asking for ways to interact with her. From there came "Picnics with Betty," which gave the goat more time with her human admirers ... but she also really craved time with other goats. Enter a suitor named Royal Brown, who's much more reserved and less people-pleasing than Betty. But opposites attracted, the resort hosted a wedding for the pair (Betty ate her bouquet), the goats did what goats do, and within one year they welcomed two sets of twins. Those babies officially broke the rules by becoming the only "kids" allowed at the resort ... to the delight of guests and travel journalists alike.

#### **MEDIA CONTACT**

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