

BEST OF NEW ENGLAND

BEST BARGAINS

35 Don't-Miss Summer Savers

WHERE TO GO

120 Best Fairs, Festivals, and Events

BEST DINING

21 Local Foodie Destinations

YANKEE

NEW ENGLAND'S MAGAZINE

2013
TRAVEL GUIDE TO
NEW ENGLAND
SPECIAL ISSUE

3 DOWN-HOME COUNTRY STORES

14 HISTORIC INNS AND B&Bs

1 PERFECT CABINET *(p. 170)*
(Rhode Islanders know what we mean)



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EDITORS' CHOICE WINNERS!

ISLANDS YOU'LL LOVE

MAY/JUNE 2013
U.S. / CANADA \$5.99



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6 ISLAND DAYTRIPS—DAWN TO DARK *(p. 54)*
UNFORGETTABLE CHAMPLAIN ISLANDS *(p. 72)*
ISLAND FARE: 5 RECIPES FROM NORTH HAVEN *(p. 40)*

SPOTLIGHT: NEWPORT

ATTRACTIONS

BEST HARBOR TOURS

GANSETT CRUISES, *Newport*

Board the M/V *Gansett*, a beautifully rehabbed wooden lobster boat, for a 90-minute narrated tour showcasing the area's top coastal sites, plus a complimentary taste of Del's lemonade, a quahog stuffy, or a coffee cabinet. 150 *Bowens Landing*. 401-787-4438; gansettcruises.com

BEST FOOD TOUR

NEWPORT GOURMET TOURS,

Newport & Providence

From crêpes to cocktails, burgers to baguettes, these chef-run walking tours take you behind the scenes at some of the finest kitchens and specialty shops in Newport and Providence. Call for a reservation. 401-787-4058; newportgourmettours.com

BEST BEER (AND RUM) TASTING

COASTAL EXTREME BREWING COMPANY, *Newport*

Peek in on production, then sample the goods. Taste three Newport Storm brews, or if the hard stuff is more your speed, sip through three stages of Thomas Tew single-barrel rum (raw spirit, cask-strength aged rum, and final product). 293 *JT Connell Road*. 401-849-5232; newportstorm.com

FOOD & DINING

BEST BYOB RESTAURANT

THAMES STREET KITCHEN, *Newport*

It's all in the family at TSK. Chefs Chad Hoffer and Tyler Burnley, along with their

wives—twin sisters and front-of-the-house managers Julia and Anna Jenkins—have created the ultimate elevated neighborhood BYOB. The menu is small, but the food (from striped-bass ceviche to fried chicken with French toast) is as fun as it is creative. Entrées: from \$25. 677 *Thames St.* 401-846-9100; thamesstreetkitchen.com

BEST AL FRESCO DINING

THE LAWN AT CASTLE HILL,

Newport

The most scenic place in the state to grab a G&T and watch the water has upped the proverbial ante with the addition of an official moniker and a special *al fresco* menu. The view is even better when your belly is full of New England favorites such as clam chowder, lobster rolls, and just-shucked oysters. Entrées: from \$26. 590 *Ocean Drive*. 401-849-3800; castlehillinn.com

BEST SEASIDE SPIRITS

FLUKE WINE, BAR & KITCHEN, *Newport*

With almost 40 rums alone, it's clear that Fluke means business with its bar program. From classic cocktails to seasonal house signatures, non-alcoholic sippers to a wine list that's as deep as it is varied, Fluke has every beverage base covered. Cocktails and wines by the glass: from \$7. 41 *Bowens Wharf*. 401-849-7778; flukewinebar.com

LODGING

BEST (TEMPORARY) LUXE LIVING

VANDERBILT GRACE, *Newport*

Rarely does a hotel score a trifecta like this: good food, posh accommodations, and a stellar view. With a menu overseen by The White Barn Inn's Jonathan Cartwright, tastefully refurbished rooms, and a rooftop lounge that floats above the city, it's a romantic retreat for the Gatsby

crowd—and those who want to dream for the weekend. Rates: from \$520, including continental champagne breakfast. 41 *Mary St.* 401-846-6200; vanderbiltgrace.com



BEST DESIGNER HOTEL

THE ATTWATER (ABOVE), *Newport*

Self-described as “Newport unconventional,” the Attwater recently underwent a total renovation. If your weekend in Newport is half as fun as these rooms—bold fabrics, sleek furnishings, ultramodern accents—you're in for a treat. Rates: from \$179, including continental breakfast. 22 *Liberty St.* 401-846-7444; theattwater.com

BEST HOSPITALITY

LA FARGE PERRY HOUSE, *Newport*

The best of both worlds: high living with down-home hospitality. Innkeeper Jennifer Balch goes the extra mile, from booking coveted dinner reservations to fixing a healthy breakfast on request to make guests feel like VIPs. Rates from: \$289, including full breakfast. 24 *Kay St.* 401-847-2223; lafargeperry.com

fasts—from blueberry pancakes to vegetable quiche—are hearty. Rates: from \$130, including full breakfast. 11 *West Park St.* 401-351-6111; providence-hotel.com

BEST OFF-THE-GRID ESCAPE

GEORGE WASHINGTON MEMORIAL CAMPING AREA, *Glocester*

This no-frills, never-crowded campground sprawls over 100 wooded acres (part of the 4,000-acre GW Management Area) and features a lake for swimming and kayaking, a walk-

ing trail, and plenty of peace and quiet. Rates: from \$20. 2185 *Putnam Pike*. 401-568-6700; riparks.com

BEST GROWN-UP GETAWAY

HOTEL MANISSES, *Block Island*

It's a stately Victorian with 17 guestrooms dressed in wicker. The vibe is decidedly mature: A decanter of brandy awaits, there's an afternoon “wine and nibbles” hour, and a no-kids-under-12 policy. Rates: from \$220, including full breakfast. 5 *Spring St.* 401-466-2421; blockislandresorts.com

BARGAINS

BEST CITY CINEMA

MOVIES ON THE BLOCK,

Providence

The free flicks are always hits, and the food options are way better than popcorn and Jujubes. Grab some takeout from Tazza (250 *Westminster St.*, 401-421-3300, tazzacaffe.com) and break out the lawn chair. Thursdays from June through early October. *Grant's Block, jct. Westminster & Union Sts.* indowncity.com