



Portsmouth & Seacoast Media Kit 2019

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Updated May 2018

PORTSMOUTH

New Hampshire

A unique New Hampshire Seacoast experience:

Historic Working Seaport | Festivals | Family Fun | Waterfront Deck Dining
Nationally Acclaimed Chefs | Craft Breweries | Hotels, Inns, Resorts
Walking, Biking Tours & More | Live Music | Harbor Cruises | Shop Local
Tax Free Shopping | Nightlife | World Class Arts Scene | Historic Homes Strawberry
Banke Museum | Easy Access Throughout New England
The Perfect New England Seacoast Getaway



Star Island, Portsmouth, NH Photo Credit: Bridgette Desmond

The Chamber —————
COLLABORATIVE
of Greater Portsmouth

Portsmouth, NH ~ One of America's favorite towns - Travel & Leisure

New England's most appealing city - *Miami Herald*

Portsmouth - you are a charming little must - *Chicago Tribune*

A surprising little city of contrasts: touristy and local,
cultured and blue collar, historically preserved and scrappy... - *The New York Times*

Portsmouth, NH has quickly grown into one of the hippest, hottest culinary destinations in the Northeast
- *USA Today*

Welcome to *Portsmouth, New Hampshire*, a vibrant, walkable New England seacoast destination providing residents and visitors with a unique city experience: a historic working seaport, unique locally owned shops and restaurants, and an internationally recognized arts and cultural scene. The geographic location, history and cultural attractions of Portsmouth make it a New England 'must-visit.'

Portsmouth is that rare city where history and present day come together beautifully and effortlessly in red-bricked buildings and sidewalks with historic attractions for all ages, farmers' markets, nationally acclaimed farm-to-table restaurants, award-winning craft breweries, stylish wine bars, locally owned boutiques with tax-free shopping and waterfront activities.

Whether you are looking for a romantic weekend getaway, a day trip with the family, a fireside dinner or a riverside lunch; you will find this charming New England coastal city a delight.

Government Mayor, The Honorable Jack Blalock
Assistant Mayor, Cliff Lazenby
City Manager, John P. Bohenko
Councilors
Ms. Chris Dwyer
Nancy Pearson
Rebecca E. Perkins
Josh Denton
Doug Roberts
Ned Raynolds
Rick Becksted

Shop / Dine / Drink / Stay – Local

Portsmouth takes pride in everything local. From tax-free shopping in dozens of independently owned boutiques and art galleries, to the chef-owned restaurants to our own breweries – it is a small city with a welcoming town atmosphere, true to its historic charm with modern day amenities and a waterfront location.

Visitors and residents alike linger in Portsmouth’s colorful, tax-free downtown shops that stay open late during holiday and summer seasons. Ninety-nine percent of the shops are locally owned and many feature the work of local artisans – truly promoting “Shop Local.” Favorite store brands are found at the Mall at Fox Run and the premium outlets just across the bridge on Route 1 in Kittery, Maine are good for a day – or two – of shopping adventures.

The restaurant scene is vibrant, with nationally acclaimed chefs celebrating farm-to-table and sea-to-table seasonal product. Every kind of cuisine imaginable is found here, from seafood fresh off the local boats to gluten-free and ethnic options. You may have seen some of our chefs featured on Food Network, The Cooking Channel, and Bravo, or cooking at the legendary James Beard House in NYC. Our local bars, many overlooking the sparkling Piscataqua River, serve the freshest margaritas, mojitos and rum punch – perfect for this Seacoast destination. Be sure to visit the nationally acclaimed local breweries like Portsmouth Brewery, Redhook Ale Brewery and Smuttynose Brewery plus independent new breweries downtown such as Earth Eagle and Liar’s Bench. “Hop” onto the local brewery tour, Granite State Growlers for seasonal brews and fun.

Lodging is plentiful and varied, from historic inns to modern boutique hotels to full service hotels and stunning grand resorts. Kid friendly, dog friendly, family friendly and business traveler friendly - it’s all here in Portsmouth!



Portsmouth is New Hampshire's hippest town, with a food scene that hits every of-the-moment note: cold brew coffee, hyperlocal oysters, Asian street food, seasonal macarons. - *Yankee Magazine*

Small but mighty, Portsmouth has quite the culinary reputation...the quaint New Hampshire seaport is home to some of the region's best dining. Since it's barely an hour away by car (closer than many other places in MA), there's no reason Bostonians shouldn't get on the road and plan a trip to Portsmouth. *Zagat*

Portsmouth is blessed with an absurd selection of restaurants
- *The New York Times*

Arts, Culture & History

Portsmouth is recognized nationally as a center for the arts, especially its music scene and its theatrical and historic attractions. Strawberry Banke is a national treasure, with acres of living history for all ages to experience. This is a short list of the theatre, music and historical attractions Portsmouth has to offer:

- The Music Hall and The Music Hall Loft - www.themusichall.org
- Art 'Round Town - www.arroundtown.org
- Strawberry Banke Museum - www.strawberrybanke.org
- Pontine Theatre - www.pontine.org
- Discover Portsmouth Center - www.portsmouthhistory.org
- Prescott Park Arts Festival - www.prescottpark.org
- Seacoast Repertory Theatre - www.seacoastrep.org
- 3S Artspace - www.3sarts.org
- Players' Ring Theatre - www.playersring.org
- Albacore Park - www.ussalbacore.org

Annual Festivals and Events

Portsmouth is alive every weekend of the year.

Some favorite events include (*in chronological order*):

- Winter Wine Festival, Wentworth by the Sea, January
- Restaurant Week Portsmouth and the Seacoast, Spring
- Portsmouth Singer Songwriter Festival, April

The Chamber _____
COLLABORATIVE
_____ of Greater Portsmouth

- Portsmouth Farmers Market, Every Saturday, May – November
- Hit The Decks celebration, May
- Shop Portsmouth, May
- Chowder Festival, Prescott Park Arts Festival, June
- Market Square Day & 10k Road Race, June
- Taste of the Nation, June
- Prescott Park Arts Festival, June – October
- Historic Sites – Open in June to October
- Tall Ships Parade, August
- ACT ONE Summer Theatre Festival, August
- Parma Music Festival, August
- Portsmouth Peace Treaty Day, September
- Fashion’s Night Out Portsmouth, September
- Telluride by the Sea, The Music Hall, September
- New Hampshire Film Festival, October
- Scarecrows of the Port, October
- Portsmouth Halloween Parade, October
- Restaurant Week Portsmouth and the Seacoast, November
- Vintage Christmas in Portsmouth: Strawberry Banke Museum + The Music Hall, holiday shows + Candlelight Stroll, December
- First Night Portsmouth, December 31

Portsmouth’s downtown is a walker’s downtown, lined with shops, café, galleries, pubs, restaurants. Start in Market Square. From there, you can walk just about anywhere, and we’ve found some gems just strolling. – *The Boston Globe*

One of the nation’s oldest cities, this thriving seaport on the Piscataqua River boasts remarkable riches and is still incredibly welcoming to visitors and new residents alike...Portsmouth is one of the ‘Happiest Seaside Towns’ in America - *Coastal Living*

There’s a lot to love about the hip, charming coastal city of Portsmouth, New Hampshire. - *Yankee Magazine*

Don your walking shoes, breathe in the ocean air and set out to discover this picturesque maritime town. You can join one of several organized walking tours or explore on your own. - *Trip Advisor*

There is no better way to begin a tour of New Hampshire than in Portsmouth, an historic and quaint seaport. - *Ottawa Life*

Portsmouth, NH: the Christmas Capital of America! - *Travel & Leisure*



For More Information

Address *The Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth*
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Visitor Information Kiosk
Market Square, Portsmouth, NH 03801

Web Site www.GoPortsmouthNH.com

For a complete list of recommendations:

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Photos Available.



PORTSMOUTH

New Hampshire

The Culinary Scene

Portsmouth, New Hampshire, has long been a favorite stop for gourmands... and a recent influx of hot openings means there's never been a better time to take a culinary detour. – *Boston Magazine*



Restaurant Week Portsmouth & The Seacoast, Photo Credit: Rick Dumont Images

What's Cooking in Portsmouth, NH

Portsmouth is a vibrant culinary destination, creating a name for itself as one of New England's must-visit destinations celebrating regional cuisine prepared by top-notch chefs. Local chefs have earned nominations and honors by the respected James Beard Foundation and have been featured on The Food Network, The Cooking Channel and Bravo. From oysters farmed in Great Bay,

Portsmouth to locally sourced pig's head platters and vegetarian bowls, chefs here are committed to the freshest seasonal ingredients. Chefs and restaurateurs are passionate about sharing Portsmouth's culinary history and local bounty by land and sea.

Residents and visitors alike support this lively culinary scene that honors Portsmouth's colorful history, heirloom ingredients and sustainable practices.

By The Numbers

- Portsmouth has more restaurant seats than residents so if the entire town went out for supper, there would still be room for company!
- More than 75 walkable restaurants in downtown Portsmouth
- Over 100 top quality restaurants throughout the Seacoast
- Diners to bistros, coffee shops to steakhouses, wine bars to outdoor patios, Italian, Spanish, Asian, French, Hawaiian, and more...there is a menu for everyone in Portsmouth, NH

Culinary Events

- **Restaurant Week Portsmouth & the Seacoast** - 75,000 diners visit Portsmouth to dig into the creative menus at over 50 restaurants during each of these two ten-day periods in April and November.
- **Portsmouth Eats Walking Tour** - Guided groups visit three to six restaurants for small plates and discussions with Chefs. "There is no better way to get to know a destination than to taste it!" - *Colleen Westcott, of Portsmouth Eats*
- **Stonewall Kitchen Cooking School** - Fun, state-of-the-art classroom and the place to be if you love to cook, love to eat or just want to have a great time. Noted restaurant chefs, cookbook authors and cooking professionals from across the nation share their experiences and demonstrate their talents for you.
- **Locally sourced Farm-to-Table/Sea-to-Table** – In dining rooms, at the counter or on the decks overlooking the Piscataqua River, creative menus showcase local product.
- **Food & Beer Festivals** - Chili Fest, Chowder Fest, Seafood Fests, Brew Fests, Portsmouth Beer Week ...it seems like there is a festival every weekend!
- **Farmers' Markets** in Portsmouth and around the Seacoast
- **Taste of the Nation** – Annual June event bringing food, wine and spirits vendors and chefs together for one night at Strawberry Banke Museum.
- **Hit the Decks** – Annual Spring event celebrating the official opening of the decks as al fresco dining is offered on several decks and patios, many overlooking the Piscataqua River and Portsmouth Harbor.

Head to this NH city for fried oysters, craft beer and more! - *Zagat*

Portsmouth ... from a neat day trip into a hip foodie 'it' town - *The Boston Globe*

With a rich history of shipping and brewing...its dining scene exudes culture and heritage
- *The Culture Trip.com*

This historic New Hampshire town is a superior stop for exceptional architecture and fabulous dining - *Montreal Gazette*

For a complete list of recommendations:

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Photos Available.



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SHOP PORTSMOUTH

Market Square, Portsmouth, NH – One of America’s Most Beautiful Town Squares....hop aboard a trolley for a little time travel. - *Travel & Leisure*

Cozy downtown streets curve just so, with rows of adorable shops bending out of sight with the promise of more adorable shops - *Chicago Tribune*

Visitors will find no end of brick sidewalks to stroll, and boutiques to pop into
- *The New York Times*

This low-key gem is great for relaxing, shopping, and pretending you never have to go back to your real life. - *CNN*

Shop Portsmouth. Shop Local. Shop Tax Free.

In Portsmouth, NH local shop-owners create thoughtfully curated collections of unique products from original art to stylish clothing, shoes, bags, hats, creative kitchen and home goods to essential beauty products and more! In this charming city where strolling is an integral part of the experience, shop for treasures, cozy up to a warm cup of coffee and a popover at a local café, then head out again for more treasures in Market Square. Portsmouth brings the art of shopping to the most memorable level – with colorful window displays, cobblestone walkways, harbor views, gracious shop-owners and one-of-a-kind shopping experiences.

Market Square, Portsmouth is heralded as one of the nation’s most beautiful town squares, with dozens of independently owned local shops.

For bargain hunters, the nearby Kittery Premium Outlets in Maine provide more than 120 shopping choices. Explore a wealth of stores featuring name brands like Calvin Klein, Coach, Polo Ralph Lauren, and the Lindt Chocolate Factory Store.

The Mall at Fox Run, located on Woodbury Avenue in nearby Newington, NH, offers tax-free shopping at more than 100 major retail stores.

Retail Events

Fashion's Night Out Portsmouth

Fashion's Night Out Portsmouth celebrates Portsmouth as a fashion destination as shopkeepers present their collections and welcome patrons with trunk shows, demonstrations by in-store style consultants, music, special sales, nibbles and libations. It's a "see and be seen" event as fashionistas celebrate fashion on the street with iconic Portsmouth Flower Dresses, beauty pageant winners, and Portsmouth residents and visitors, all photographed by roaming paparazzi! The Nightcap Party features a Fashion Runway Show with kilted clansmen, wedding fashion, the Flower Girls and everyday style presented by local shops. The event is held every year in September.

www.FashionsNightOutPortsmouth.com #FNOPortsmouth

Shop Portsmouth

Stylish, Seasonal and Tax-Free! Shop Portsmouth events take place throughout the year. Visit www.ShopPortsmouth.org to be sure not to miss the next special retail event!



Photo: Shop Portsmouth Photo credit: Rick Dumont Images

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Photos Available.

Lodging - Portsmouth & The Seacoast

Cozy Bed & Breakfasts | Stylish Inns | Grand Seaside Resorts | Downtown Hotels
Dog Friendly | Family Friendly | Business and Conference Friendly

Welcome Every Guest & Budget to Portsmouth

The Ale House Inn is a small, hip boutique hotel located in the historic Portsmouth Brewing Company building. This hotel really offers the quintessential Portsmouth experience. -*Venuelust*

The Sailmaker's Inn, set on a quiet South End side street, has rare outdoor space. In warmer months, guests can sit in a spacious fenced-in yard among flowering perennials and fruit trees. Best of both worlds: it's a quick stroll to the city's waterfront, top attractions, and buzzing restaurants. - *The Boston Globe*

A Small Town Feel & Big City Amenities With A One-of-a-kind Seacoast Location

Portsmouth is a waterfront community with a small town feel and big city amenities, including lodging for every taste, style and budget. With stylish inns like the brand new Sailmaker's House to respected leaders like Sheraton, Hilton, Residence and Hampton Inn all located downtown, to the historic 360-year old Three Chimneys Inn in Durham, to Portsmouth's grand resort, Wentworth By The Sea, Portsmouth and the Seacoast is known for its gracious hospitality, unique settings and charming accommodations.

Some of the most popular inns, full service hotels and grand resorts include:

Ale House Inn, www.alehouseinn.com

Ashworth by the Sea, www.ashworthhotel.com

Courtyard by Marriott, www.courtyard.com/psmcy

The Exeter Inn, www.theexeterinn.com

Hilton Garden Inn, www.portsmouthdowntown.hgi.com

The Port Inn, www.theportinn.com
Portsmouth Harbor Inn & Spa, www.Innatportsmouth.com
Residence Inn Portsmouth Downtown, www.residenceinn.com
The Sheraton Harborside Portsmouth, www.sheratonportsmouth.com
The Hotel Portsmouth, www.thehotelportsmouth.com
The Sailmaker's House, www.sailmakershouse.com
Three Chimneys Inn, www.threechimneysinn.com
Wentworth By The Sea, www.wentworth.com

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Photos Available.



Family Friendly Things To Do

"I knew that I was going to enjoy my time strolling through town, visiting shops, eating at cafes and pubs, and learning about the almost 400 years of history the town has to offer, but I wasn't so sure there was a lot for the kids to enjoy.

Was I ever wrong!" *Suitcases and Sippy Cups*

Portsmouth, New Hampshire is one of our favorite destinations for a short New England getaway:

Each time we visit, we discover something new. During our most recent Portsmouth mini-vacation, we found foodie delights, explored the many wonders of Prescott Park, and had a blast at Water Country. As a seacoast city just over an hour's drive from Boston, Portsmouth is a hotspot in the summertime, and with good reason: The Prescott Park Arts Festival brings world-class live entertainment

to New England at affordable prices all season long. The lush gardens in Prescott Park and across the street at the Strawberry Banke Museum

are gorgeous oases in the summer months. Water fun abounds, whether at a water park, on one of Portsmouth's islands, or aboard a river cruise. However, the town shines in the colder months too, especially during the holidays. The annual Vintage Christmas celebration is on our must-do list. Whenever you decide to go, there is an abundance of fun for families.

Mommy Poppins

Something For Everyone...

The key to a successful family vacation is choosing a destination where there is something available for everyone to enjoy. The wider the age range (if traveling with two or three generations), the more options you may want to consider.

Portsmouth and the Seacoast is a perfect family destination with many activities to choose from – and most are within easy walking distance so that everyone in your party can find exactly what they want – from cruises to kayaking, and historic walking tours to the children's museum.

Here are some ideas for your family visit to the Seacoast!

Cruises

- Board the M/V Thomas Loughton at the Isles of Shoals Steamship Company for your tour to Star Island, where you can explore the sea gull breeding grounds and the many island pathways through historic building and markers.
- Cruise aboard the family-friendly Gundalow, a 70-foot flat bottomed sailboat, where the crew will share their knowledge about marine life and sailing.
- Take a narrated historical tour of Portsmouth Harbor aboard the Heritage with Portsmouth Harbor Cruises.

Summer Fun

- Why drive all the way to Fenway Park? You can watch great baseball on the Seacoast all summer long. Come watch the Seacoast Mavericks in Portsmouth!
- Perfect beach day? Break out your swimsuits and sunscreen for a fun-filled day at one of the many beaches from southern Maine through the 18 miles of New Hampshire sea shore.
- Hampton Beach Center has a wide variety of entertainment including beachwear shopping and arcade games.
- Water Country Water Park is a “huge, kid-friendly aquatic playground with themed pools, an adventure river, dining & slides galore.”
- Taste the award-winning Anabelle’s Natural Ice Cream, tucked alongside the Portsmouth waterfront. This favorite spot has been offering homemade rich, creamy and loaded with treats ice cream since 1982.
- Prescott Park Arts Festival produces amazing live theater for children of all ages on the outdoor stage overlooking the Piscataqua River. People plan vacations around the Prescott Park Arts Festival calendar – check it out!
- Head to York’s Wild Kingdom, located in nearby York Beach, Maine, which has something to offer every member of the family. Family rides, paddle boats, miniature golf course, a petting zoo, scenic picnic grounds, concession stands, two gift shops, and even a Haunted House.

History

- Explore the U.S.S. Albacore on a guided tour of one of the most advanced U.S. Navy submarines built before atomic submarines.
- Children’s games from days of old are a highlight at the Strawberry Banke Museum, an authentic 10-acre outdoor history museum, bringing almost 400 years of American history to life.





Strawbery Banke, Photo Credit: Strawberry Banke

Outdoor Activities

- The Seacoast Science Center at Odiorne Point State Park offers interactive and educational programs on the natural and environmental history of New Hampshire's seacoast. Include time to explore the beautiful coastal trails. It wouldn't be summer on the Seacoast without enjoying a picnic and great music at Music-by-the-Sea concerts.
- For interactive exhibits plan on a 10-minute drive into Dover, NH to spend the afternoon at the Children's Museum of New Hampshire.

The Chamber —————
COLLABORATIVE
of Greater Portsmouth

- Experience Portsmouth and the Seacoast by bicycle with a historical bike tour with Port City Bike Tours

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Photos Available.





Arts + Culture + History = Portsmouth, NH

An enviable waterfront setting, grand architecture, a booming arts and theater scene, and vibrant community spirit in Portsmouth, NH - *The Boston Globe*

There's a lot to love about the hip, charming coastal city of Portsmouth, New Hampshire, but for history and architecture buffs, it's pretty hard to top the excellent Strawberry Banke Museum. - *Yankee Magazine*

Portsmouth is packed with culture, the arts and a vibrant nightlife. - *North Shore Magazine*

A cultural hotbed on New Hampshire's Seacoast - *Canada.com*

Arts, History & Music Come to Life in Portsmouth

It's no wonder the National Trust for Historic Preservation named Portsmouth to its list of America's Dozen Distinctive Destinations, calling the city "one of the most culturally rich destinations in the country" with a "stimulating mix of historic buildings, sidewalk cafes, great restaurants, art galleries, jazz clubs and distinctive artisans' boutiques."

History comes to life in Portsmouth, with a lovely collection of historic homes and museums open for tours, and of course the acclaimed Strawberry Banke Museum, an award-winning 10 acre living history museum with historic buildings, interactive exhibits and beautiful gardens. Visitors of all ages learn something new at this historic gem. Plus experience the exciting contemporary visual art scene; from professional theater to innovative performance in Portsmouth, where there is "an unparalleled wealth of arts, culture and historical assets."
Portsmouth Historical Society



Strawbery Banke, photo credit: Strawberry Banke

This small coastal city boasts live music nearly every night with bands at local restaurants and bars, concerts year-round at The Music Hall and a popular summer series at the Prescott Park Arts Festival. Check out the theatrical productions at Seacoast Repertory Theatre, Players Ring and Pontine Theater. Enjoy entertainment on stage and on screen – from nationally known performers to home-grown talent. Watch for poetry readings in pubs, literary events and pop-up art shows.

Here are some of the arts, cultural and history that Portsmouth has to offer:

- ACT ONE (Artists’ Collaborative Theatre of New England)
- 3S Artspace
- Art ‘Round Town
- Friends of Portsmouth Harbor Lighthouses
- The Music Hall + The Music Hall Loft
- Players’ Ring Theatre

- Pontine Theatre
- Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail
- Portsmouth Harbour Trail Tour
- Discover Portsmouth Arts & Culture Center
- Prescott Park Arts Festival
- Seacoast Repertory Theatre
- Strawberry Banke Museum
- Historic Homes:
 - Jackson House
 - Moffatt-Ladd House & Gardens
 - Warner House
 - Wentworth-Gardner House
 - Tobias Lear House
 - Governor John Langdon House
 - John Paul Jones House
 - Rundlet-May House

Portsmouth celebrates its inspired, intimate urban community with
big city style. - *Art Around Town*

For a complete calendar of events, festivals and things to do in Portsmouth, please visit www.GoPortsmouthNH.com.

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Photos Available.



Honors & Awards

Portsmouth, NH has quickly grown into one of the hippest, hottest culinary destinations in the Northeast – *USA Today*, 2017

One of “21 of the Most Scenic East Coast Cities” – *Expedia*, 2017

Best Small Town Food Scene: Portsmouth #3” - *USA Today's 10 Best*, 2017

“The Most Picturesque small towns in every state” – *USA Today*, 2017

Head to this New Hampshire city for fried oysters, craft beer and more – *Zagat* 2017

This Seacoast gem’s metamorphosis from a neat day trip into a hip foodie ‘it’ town – *The Boston Globe*, 2017

One of “10 of the prettiest U.S. towns to retire” - *MarketWatch.com*, 2016

The Seacoast Gets Cooking “Portsmouth, New Hampshire, has long been a favorite stop for gourmands en route to Vacationland—and a recent influx of hot openings means there’s never been a better time to take a culinary detour.” – *Boston Magazine*, 2015

May 2015 America’s 50 best farmers markets

“With thousands of shoppers, [the Portsmouth Farmers’ Market] leaves me in awe every time. The energy, the community vibe, the direct interaction, relationship building, and the vast array of products available is just something so special I have never experienced anywhere else. Dozens of varieties of potatoes, carrots, beets, turnips, celery root, kohlrabi, salad greens, cooking greens, herbs, beef, pork, venison, lamb, mushrooms, cheeses, honey, maple syrup, kimchi, eggs, dairy...the list is endless.” —*Food & Wine Magazine*, Chef Matt Louis, *Moxy, Portsmouth, NH*

“Hot spots in summer put on events too cool to miss in winter,” February Fire & Ice Festival, *Boston Globe*, 2015



“A silver lining to winter: Outdoor ice skating rinks” Puddle Dock Pond at Strawberry Banke Museum, *USA Today Travel*, 2015

Massimo’s Ristorante in downtown Portsmouth named as one of **“2015 Diners’ Choice Award Winners for the Top 100 Most Romantic Restaurants in America”** – *OpenTable.com*, 2015

One of **“The 10 most beautiful towns in America during fall,”** *Travel & Leisure*, 2014

“Historic New Hampshire town is a superior stop for exceptional architecture and fabulous dining”– *Montreal Gazette*, 2014

“With a rich history of shipping and brewing...its dining scene exudes culture and heritage”– *The Culture Trip.com*, 2014

“One of America’s favorite towns” – *Travel & Leisure*, 2014

One of **“Ten of America’s Most Romantic Towns”** - *Travel & Leisure*, 2014

“This low-key gem is great for relaxing, shopping, and pretending you never have to go back to your real life.” - *CNN*, 2014

“Portsmouth, NH established itself as a cultural hub” – *Boston Globe*, 2014

One of **“11 coolest small cities it’s time to road trip to”** – *Buzzfeed*, 2014

Top Ten Unique Destinations of the World – *Connienice.com*, 2014

“Grab a bite in Portsmouth, which is brimming with good food.” - *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, 2013

“New England’s most appealing city” – *Miami Herald*, 2013

“...one of the nation’s most kid-friendly, walkable, food-centric, historic, livable and romantic cities. Portsmouth - you are a charming little must” - *Chicago Tribune*, 2013

“...one of the boutique cities of America, and it’s blossoming right now...a walkable city with distinct character.” – *National Geographic Traveler*

“Portsmouth is blessed with an absurd selection of restaurants...surprising little city of contrasts: touristy and local, cultured and blue collar, historically preserved and scrappy.” – *New York Times*, 2013

“...an enviable waterfront setting, grand architecture, a booming arts and theater scene, and vibrant community spirit.” - *Boston Globe*, 2013

“America’s Most Beautiful Town Squares” - *Travel & Leisure.com*, 2013

“...the kind of town that makes people love this part of the country so much” - *My Central Jersey.com*, 2013

“The third-oldest city in the country boasts an enviable waterfront setting, grand architecture, a booming arts and theater scene, and vibrant community spirit.” - *Boston Globe*, 2013

“If another city does a better job of celebrating Christmas, I have yet to find it.” - *Yankee Magazine*, 2012

“New Hampshire’s Liveliest City”- *Boston Chronicle TV*, 2012

“Portsmouth, New Hampshire: Christmas Capital of America” - *Travel & Leisure .com*, 2012

“Top Ten Romantic Cities in North America” - *MSN.Com*, 2010

“Small Town, Big Eats” - *Boston Magazine*, 2010

“Dream Town – A Seaside Gem Goes Green” - *Coastal Living*, 2010

“America’s Prettiest Towns” - *Forbes Traveler*, 2009

“An Often Overlooked Treasure by the Sea” - *Washington Post*, 2009

“Top 25 Arts Destinations” - *American Style Magazine*, 2009

“Best Place to Start a Business in NH” - *Business Week*, 2009

“Top Historic Places in the World” - *National Geographic Traveler’s List*, 2008

“Top 20 Towns in America” - *Outside Magazine*, 2008

“Top 5 Getaways in the Country” - *Samantha Brown, The Travel Channel*, 2008

“NH’s Best Walking City” - *Prevention Magazine*, 2008

For a complete list of recommendations:

The Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth

Visitor Information Center

500 Market Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801

603.610.5510

info@portsmouthcollaborative.org

www.GoPortsmouthNH.com

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Photos Available.



Tours - Portsmouth & The Seacoast

Walking....Eating...Bicycling...Kayaking...Boating & More!

Once you've arrived in New Hampshire's "Best Walking City" (*Prevention Magazine*), check out your options for touring the Seacoast – from scooters, kayaks and bicycles, to the gundalow, helicopters and steamships.

Cruises

Isles of Shoals Steamship Company - www.islesofshoals.com

Narrated history tours of Portsmouth Harbor, the Isles of Shoals and the New Hampshire Seacoast.

Portsmouth Harbor Cruises - www.portsmouthharbor.com

All aboard for the fully narrated harbor cruise, taking you through nearly 400 years of local and American history.

Gundalow Company - www.gundalow.org

Sail on the *Piscataqua*, a reproduction of the traditional flat-bottom gundalow barges once prevalent along local waterways.

Walking Tours

Art Speak Public Art Walk - www.art-speak.org

This self-guided tour features historic and contemporary works of public art.

Portsmouth Eats - www.portsmouth-eats.com

Walk, Talk, Meet and Eat - take a walking restaurant tasting tour.

Discover Portsmouth – www.portsmouthhistory.org/take-a-tour

Visit the Discover Portsmouth Center for arts, culture and history information, and for cultural



exhibitions. Walking Tours: The Stories They Could Tell – guided tours of historic neighborhoods.

Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail – www.portsmouthhistory.org

This self-guided tour tells the stories of Africans and their descendants who have been a part of this region's history for over 350 years.

Portsmouth Peace Treaty Tour – www.portsmouthpeacetreaty.org/map

Self-guided tour: Learn about one of the United States' most famous peace negotiations, securing an end to the Japanese - Russo War in 1905.

Portsmouth Harbour Trail Tours – www.GoPortsmouthNH.com

Portsmouth boasts 400 years of history, culture, architecture and scenic beauty which can be enjoyed during this walking tour.

The Music Hall Historic Tour – www.themusichall.org

Meet your guide for an historic behind-the-scenes tour of The Music Hall, a renowned performing arts center located in a landmark 1878 Victorian theater, designated an American Treasure for the Arts by the United States Senate.

Appledore Island Walking Tour - <http://seagrant.unh.edu/appledorecruise>

Spend the day on Appledore Island, one of the nine beautiful Isles of Shoals off the coasts of Maine and New Hampshire, and visit the Shoals Marine Lab. Travel out to Appledore on the University of New Hampshire research vessel, the R/V Gulf Challenger, with UNH Marine Docent tour guides. Investigate the intriguing intertidal creatures and zooplankton collected from the ocean at informal science stations on the boat.

More Tours!

Seacoast Helicopters – www.seacoasthelos.com

Tour the Seacoast from the sky on a helicopter flight with Seacoast Helicopters

Granite State Growler Tours – www.nhbeerbus.com

Discover New Hampshire's rich brewing history by bus!

Port City Bike Tours – www.portcitybiketours.com



Take a 2-3 hour historical or coastal bike tour of Greater Portsmouth.

Pickwick's Ghost and Trolley Tours - <http://www.goportsmouthnh.com/members/pickwick-s-ghost-trolley-tours>

Pickwick's Mercantile has partnered with New England Curiosities to offer walking ghost tours, as well as historical trolley tours!

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Photos Available.





Transportation - Portsmouth and The Seacoast

An easy daytrip | A fabulous weekend getaway | A memorable vacation

Check out one of America's awesome hidden gems --
it's time to road trip to Portsmouth, NH - *Buzzfeed*

Portsmouth: No Car? No Problem! - *Eater*

Portsmouth and the New Hampshire Seacoast are easily accessible by buses, planes, trains and automobiles. Located one hour north of Boston, MA and one hour south of Portland, ME, the Seacoast is easy to get to - but hard to leave!

Here's a quick look at your transportation options:

Automobile

Interstate 95 and US Route 1 are an easy drive from the north and south. NH Route 101, a four-lane divided highway, provides access from the west.

Air

Portsmouth International Airport at Pease - Located in Portsmouth, just five miles from downtown. Upon arrival at the airport, take the COAST trolley to downtown - www.coastbus.org.

Manchester-Boston Regional Airport (MHT) - Located about 50 miles west of Portsmouth and offers convenient and "hassle-free" service from major US cities.

Boston's Logan Airport (BOS) - Located about an hour south of Portsmouth, providing service from major national and international cities. Upon arrival, take the C&J Bus to Portsmouth - www.ridecj.com.

Bus and Trolley

C & J offers regularly scheduled motor-coach service from Boston's Logan Airport and



Boston's South Station to Portsmouth, and also a direct route between New York City and Portsmouth - www.ridecj.com.

Upon arrival at the Portsmouth Transportation Center, take the COAST trolley to downtown - www.coastbus.org.

Limousine and Taxi Services

Blue Star Taxi - (603) 436-2774

Elite Limousine - (888) 539-0200

Great Bay Limousine - (800) 820-6117

Seacoast Airport Service - (603) 431-9880 or (866) 431-1580

AirportLimo.com - (877) APT-LIMO (877) 278-5466

Train

Amtrak's DownEaster - Services are available from Boston and Portland, ME to nearby Exeter, Dover and Durham, NH - www.amtrakdowneaster.com. Upon arrival at these train stations, take COAST to Portsmouth - www.coastbus.org

Boat

Marinas for docking your boat are available in Portsmouth, New Castle, Newington and Hampton, NH, as well as Kittery, ME.

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Portsmouth & the Seacoast Gents' Weekend Getaway

Sports | Food Festivals and Tours | Brewery Tours
Live Music | Films | Cruises | Kayaking

"This low-key gem is great for relaxing, shopping,
and pretending you never have to go back to your real life." - *CNN*

Dining & Nightlife

BRGR Bar - www.brgr-bar.com

Expect thoughtfully prepared, unique creations from appetizers to salads, burgers and adult milkshakes. Expect an energetic social vibe with an emphasis on quality ingredients and professional staff. Expect a new kind of burger joint.

British Beer Company - www.britishbeer.com/portsmouth

You can always get what you want at the British Beer Company. Grand food and smashing music in a comfortable, stay for an hour or stay all day atmosphere.



Demeters Steakhouse - www.demeterssteakhouse.com

Discover Portsmouth's new definition of steakhouse, with all-natural cuts, local fresh seafood, casual bar fare and the largest wine selection of any Seacoast restaurant — all in a warm, contemporary atmosphere.

Library Restaurant - A Steak House - www.libraryrestaurant.com

Located in the Rockingham House, The Library Restaurant is one of Portsmouth's most valued historic landmarks. Join us for traditional New England fare, while surrounded by architectural treasures of an era gone by.

Paddy's – An American Grille - www.paddysgrille.com

Paddy's American Grille is a comfortable, casual bar and grille with a seasonal patio. American cuisine, spacious, fully stocked bar including ten beers on tap and a large billiards room with six professional tables and two new 22' shuffleboards. Plasma televisions featuring HD quality and FREE WiFi.

Portsmouth Gas Light, Co. - www.portsmouthgaslight.com

Traditional pub meals, located in the former home of the city's first utility, built in 1837. The Gas Light offers four options for dining, The Pub with brick oven pizza at the lower level, The Grill with a wood fire grill on the street level, The Deck with live music 7 days a week, and The Third Floor Night Club with dancing and special events. Reopening in 2016.

TJ's of Portsmouth - www.tjsfoodandspirits.com

A “best kept secret” among locals in town for snacks, drinks and cheering on Boston sports teams.

Beer and Brewery Tours

Granite State Growler Tours - www.nhbeerbus.com

Discover NH's rich brewing history by bus, visiting multiple micro-breweries.

Breweries - www.seacoastbrews.com

Since the early 1800's Portsmouth has been a hub for the brewing industry. Today, the craft brewing industry is thriving. Download our Seacoast Brewery Map in the above link for a list of breweries in Portsmouth and the Seacoast.

Sports and Events

Seacoast Mavericks - www.seacoastmavericks.com

The Seacoast Mavericks are a non-profit, collegiate wood bat summer baseball team that competes in the Futures Collegiate Baseball League (FCBL). Thirty-player roster consists primarily of New England athletes currently playing college baseball at the Division 1, 2, or 3 levels.

New Hampshire Fisher Cats - www.milb.com/index.jsp?sid=t463

The New Hampshire Fisher Cats are a minor league baseball team based in Manchester, New Hampshire. The team, which plays in the Eastern League, is the Double-A affiliate of the Toronto Blue Jays major league club.

Seacoast United Soccer Club - www.seacoastunited.org

For Seacoast United, the passion among its directors, players, and fans has turned this small New Hampshire soccer club into one of the most successful athletic organizations in the region. Founded in 1992 with the simple mission to advance the physical and social wellbeing of kids and adults through competitive soccer, Seacoast United has grown exponentially ever since.

New England Dragway - www.newenglanddragway.com

New England Dragway is NHRA's premier track in New England. Today, New England Dragway, still owned by many of the racers who built it along with a new crop of shareholders, is the only 1/4 mile drag strip in New England.

Cruises

Isles of Shoals Steamship Company - www.islesofshoals.com

Narrated history tours of Portsmouth Harbor, the Isles of Shoals and the New Hampshire Seacoast.

Portsmouth Harbor Cruises - www.portsmouthharbor.com

All aboard for the fully narrated harbor cruise, taking you through nearly 400 years of local and American history.

Gundalow Company - www.gundalow.org

Sail on the *Piscataqua*, a reproduction of the traditional flat-bottom gundalow barges once prevalent along local waterways.

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Photos Available.

Portsmouth NH & the Seacoast Ladies' Weekend Getaways

Spas | Food Festivals and Tours | Gardens | Shopping | Art
Live Music | Films | Cruises | Kayaking | History

“This low-key gem is great for relaxing, shopping,
and pretending you never have to go back to your real life.” - *CNN*

Shopping

Shop in unique downtown shops and boutiques in downtown Portsmouth, and find your favorite brand stores at The Mall at Fox Run, and outlets in Kittery, ME.

Portsmouth boutiques and specialty shops, 99% of which are locally owned and operated, have made Portsmouth a virtual cornucopia of styles and tastes. Stroll downtown and discover some true treasures for every member of the family.

For bargain hunters, the nearby Kittery Premium Outlets in Maine provide more than 120 shopping choices. Explore a wealth of stores featuring name brands like Coach, Polo Ralph Lauren, and the Lindt Chocolate Factory Store.

The Mall at Fox Run, located on Woodbury Avenue in nearby Newington, NH, offers tax-free shopping at more than 100 major retail stores.

Retail Events

Fashion's Night Out Portsmouth

Fashion's Night Out Portsmouth puts a focus on Portsmouth as a fashion destination as shopkeepers present their fall/winter collections and welcome patrons in for trunk shows, demonstrations by in-store style consultants, music, special sales, nibbles and libations. It's a "see and be seen" event as fashionistas celebrate fashion on the street with iconic Portsmouth Flower Dresses, and beauty pageant winners, all snapped by roaming paparazzi! The Nightcap Party features a Fashion Runway Show with kilted clansmen, wedding fashion, the Flower Girls and everyday style from local shops. The event is held every year in September.

www.FashionsNightOutPortsmouth.com #FNOPortsmouth

ShopPortsmouthDay

Stay tuned throughout the year for many retail events happening through our tax-free state. Visit www.ShopPortsmouth.org to see the most recent retail event.

Spas and Resorts

Portsmouth Harbor Inn & Spa – www.innatportsmouth.com

Classic New England bed & breakfast in Kittery, Maine, just over the Memorial Bridge from Portsmouth. Day spa with professional spa staff providing a wide variety of services, hot tub, comfortable front porch with spectacular views of the working harbor.

Stage Neck Inn - www.stageneck.com

Refreshing blend of casual comfort and sophisticated elegance, located in York Harbor, Maine. The Sandpiper Bar & Grille features cocktails, an extensive wine list, and a weekend piano bar. Exercise in the indoor pool or fitness room, then enjoy a spa or nail treatment.

Wentworth by the Sea, A Marriott Hotel & Spa - www.wentworth.com

With sumptuous accommodations, exceptional dining, and a tranquil spa, Wentworth by the Sea is an idyllic seaside retreat. Full sophisticated spa services. Visit The Foot Whisperer!

Portsmouth Spa – www.portsmouthspa.com

Day spa, salon and nail services by trained professionals. Groups, bridal parties, corporate events welcome. Located on Congress Street in downtown Portsmouth, within walking distance of all downtown hotels.

Fun and Unique Experiences

Silver Fountain Inn & Tea Parlor - www.silverfountain.com

Venue for baby and wedding showers, business luncheons or just a fun time with friends. Feel free to dress up, wear a crazy hat and/or boa! Themed parties from Victorian, Speak Easy, Cocktail, Picnic, to Downton Abbey!

Granite State Growler Tours - www.nhbeerbus.com

Discover NH's rich brewing history by bus, visiting multiple micro-breweries.

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Gundalow Company - www.gundalow.org

Sail on the *Piscataqua*, a reproduction of the traditional flat-bottom gundalow barges once prevalent along local waterways.

Arts & Culture

- ACT ONE (Artists' Collaborative Theatre of New England)
- 3S Artspace
- Art 'Round Town
- Friends of Portsmouth Harbor Lighthouses
- The Music Hall + The Music Hall Loft
- Players' Ring Theatre
- Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail
- Portsmouth Harbour Trail Tour
- Discover Portsmouth Arts & Culture Center
- Prescott Park Arts Festival
- Seacoast Repertory Theatre
- Strawberry Banke Museum
- Historic Homes:
 - Jackson House
 - Moffatt-Ladd House & Gardens
 - Warner House
 - Wentworth-Gardner House
 - Tobias Lear House
 - Governor John Langdon House
 - John Paul Jones House
 - Rundlet-May House

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Photos Available.

Portsmouth Welcomes LGBT Guests

Whether you are looking for a romantic weekend getaway, a day visit with the family, a fireside dinner or a riverside lunch, you'll find this charming New England coastal city open and respectful.

In a state that has recognized marriage equality since 2010, Portsmouth has a long legacy of welcoming the LGBT community to the city – as visitors, residents and business owners.

The city is inclusive and passionately engaged with its future, and there is a strong, visible LGBT community – those who grew up here, individuals who have visited and decided to move here and open businesses, including hotels and restaurants; individuals who serve in city government; and gay couples who have settled and are raising their children here.

Portsmouth's former Assistant Mayor, Jim Splaine, is credited with orchestrating the passage of the NH state bill that allowed for civil unions and subsequently, same-sex marriages (the fifth state in the country to do so).

This vibrant, walk-able, charming and historic city provides a unique New England seacoast experience: a historic working seaport; unique locally owned shops and restaurants; and an internationally recognized arts and cultural scene. Performances at The Music Hall by k.d. lang, Paula Poundstone, Patti LuPone, literary lions John Irving and Alison Bechdel are only a few examples of the arts scene. Portsmouth is that rare city where history and present day come together seamlessly in red-bricked buildings and sidewalks, historic attractions, locally owned boutiques, farmers markets and farm-to-table restaurants.

The culinary scene has blossomed in Portsmouth, there are more restaurant seats than residents – so the entire city can go to dinner and still have room for company! For the LGBT community, hospitality is built in – we have room at the table! And we are only 20 minutes from Ogunquit, Maine, which is well known in the LGBT community as gay-friendly.

Movoto.com even named Portsmouth as one of “The 7 Best Towns in New Hampshire for LGBT Families”, noting that Portsmouth stands out for its well-defined “gayborhood” and LGBT – friendly nightlife. <http://www.movoto.com/guide/nh/the-7-best-towns-in-new-hampshire-for-lgbt-families/>.

PORTSMOUTH

New Hampshire

Other resources for the LGBT community in Portsmouth include:

Portsmouth LGBTQ Women's Social Network, <https://www.meetup.com/Portsmouth-LGBT-Women/>

About Travel's Portsmouth Gay Bars Guide,

<http://gaytravel.about.com/od/newhampshiregaytravel/qt/Portsmouth-Gay-Bars.htm>

And, you may want to check out these events and businesses:

Portsmouth Pride event

Come join the momentum of support for today's LGBTQ community, as Seacoast Outright presents Portsmouth's annual official Pride celebration. This family-friendly event takes place in downtown Portsmouth, where groups of marchers will organize at the Portsmouth Public Library and march together to Strawberry Banke Museum. The festivities include a marketplace, food trucks, music, entertainment, specials at local businesses, a Youth Post-Party, a 21+ After-Party, and information about LGBTQ resources in the area. Everyone is welcome!

<http://www.seacoastoutright.org/portsmouth-pride-2017>.

The Music Hall, www.themusichall.org

The Hotel Portsmouth, <http://www.thehotelportsmouth.com/>

Purple Roof, There are multiple properties on this gay-friendly hotel site.

<http://www.purpleroof.com/>

BRGR Bar

<http://brgr-bar.com/>

Portsmouth Gaslight

<http://www.portsmouthgaslight.com/>

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Photos Available.

Portsmouth & the Seacoast – On the Water

“New Hampshire’s coastline packs a punch” – *Boston Globe*

“For the best views of picturesque Portsmouth, New Hampshire, spend 90 minutes on its harbor” – *The Boston Globe*

Portsmouth & the Seacoast has it all

No trip to Portsmouth is complete without viewing and taking a photo of the iconic Moran tug boats moored at Ceres Street on Portsmouth Harbor – or while they escort a tanker up the Piscataqua River through one of the fastest currents in North America. Once one of the nation's busiest ports and shipbuilding cities, Portsmouth has one of the oldest working ports in the United States. Today, the port sees five million tons of cargo on import/export ships from trading partners worldwide, and abundant pleasure boating and commercial fishing vessels. Across the Piscataqua River is the [Portsmouth Naval Shipyard](#), established in 1800 as the first federal navy yard, famous as the site of the 1905 signing of the [Treaty of Portsmouth](#) which ended the [Russo-Japanese War](#).

There are so many “on the water” options - from boarding a ship cruising the harbor or one bound for the islands, packing a picnic to eat at the Prescott Park waterfront, paddling on a moonlight kayak tour, to heading south to either Water Country water park or New Hampshire beaches for sunning and surfing.

At every corner there is a photo opportunity: “Greater Portsmouth is a world-class photography destination, offering a rich blend of historical and scenic beauty framed by stunning waterways, marshes, forests, steeples, bridges, brick walkways, gardens, lighthouses, sailing vessels, islands, and more. Bring your camera, and lots of photo storage space. You'll need it!” - *David Murray, Clear Eye Photo*

Here are a few On the Water activities:

Portsmouth Harbor Cruises

Discover the Piscataqua’s Heritage and get a first rate view of the Seacoast, Great Bay and the Isles of Shoals.

www.portsmouthharbor.com

Gundalow

Sail aboard a traditional reproduction of the flat-bottom gundalow barges that were once prevalent along local waterways.

www.gundalow.org

Isles of Shoals Steamship Company

Glide past Lighthouses, explore Star Island and Great Bay and dance on party ships. Visit the Touch Tank of living sea creatures on the dock before you board.

www.islesofshoals.com

Portsmouth's new Memorial Bridge, named one of the "Top 10 Bridges of 2013" in North America by *Roads & Bridges Magazine*, is a perfect "river walk" with wide sidewalks and lookouts of the river. Constructed for bicycle traffic also.

www.memorialbridgeproject.com

The Beaches

Perfect beach day? Break out your swimsuits and sunscreen for a fun-filled day at one of the many beaches from southern Maine through the 18 miles of New Hampshire sea shore. Great Common Island on New Castle Island has views of the harbor lighthouses; Hampton Beach Center has a wide variety of entertainment including beachwear, shopping and arcade games.

www.hamptonbeach.org

Surfing

Multiple shops both in downtown Portsmouth and along the Ocean Road, Route 1A, meet your surfing merchandise and clothing needs. Head down the scenic Ocean Road to Hampton and Rye, NH to hop aboard your rental or purchased surf board or stand up paddle board. Lessons and wetsuit rentals available.

Water Country Water Park

New England's largest water park is a "huge, kid-friendly aquatic playground with themed pools, an adventure river, dining & slides galore." – Google

www.watercountry.com

Marine activities

Explore the **Albacore Submarine Museum** on a guided tour of one of the most advanced U.S. Navy submarines built before atomic submarines.

www.ussalbacore.org

The Seacoast Science Center at Odiorne Point State Park offers interactive and educational programs on the natural and environmental history of New Hampshire's seacoast. Include time to explore the beautiful coastal trails. It wouldn't be summer on the Seacoast without enjoying a picnic and great music at Music-by-the-Sea concerts.

PORTSMOUTH

New Hampshire

www.seacoastsciencecenter.org

Blue Ocean Society for Marine Conservation

The Blue Ocean Society strives to share their love of marine life with the public in the hope of spreading greater awareness of the Gulf of Maine and inspiring environmental stewardship. They have a variety of programs that fulfill this mission including whale watches, beach cleanups and a variety of other programs perfect for families. www.blueoceansociety.org

Marinas

Marinas for docking your boat are available in Portsmouth, New Castle, Newington and Hampton, NH, as well as Kittery, ME.

For a complete list of recommendations:

The Chamber Collaborative of Greater Portsmouth
Visitor Information Center
500 Market Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801
603.610.5510
info@portsmouthcollaborative.org
www.GoPortsmouthNH.com

Social Media

Instagram: [goportsmouthnh](https://www.instagram.com/goportsmouthnh)
Facebook: [/GoPortsmouthNH](https://www.facebook.com/GoPortsmouthNH)
[#GoPortsmouthNH](https://www.facebook.com/GoPortsmouthNH)

Media Inquiries:

Cecelia Smith, Tourism Director
Cecelia@PortsmouthCollaborative.org | 603.610.5526

Martha Sullivan, Sullivan Communications
Martha@SullivanCommunications.com | c: 617.835.2264; o: 508.786.0729

Photos Available.

Our Top 5 Things to Do in Every Season at the Seacoast!

Summer

1. Take a cruise! Portsmouth boasts three cruise companies that offer tours of the Piscataqua River, Portsmouth Harbor and out to the Isles of Shoals, seven miles off the coast.
2. Come out to shop in Portsmouth! Locals and visitors enjoy TAX FREE shopping in more than 75 downtown shops offering thoughtfully curated items in each shop.
3. Relax by the waterfront on the patios and decks – over thirty Portsmouth area restaurants offer al fresco dining, some of which overlook the Piscataqua River.
4. Make plans to come to Portsmouth for [Sail Portsmouth's Tall Ships Festival](#), with beautifully crafted ships that dock in Portsmouth Harbor.
5. Settle in for the evening at the [Prescott Park Arts Festival](#) which hosts concerts, movies, and an outdoor theater production each summer in beautiful Prescott Park, located on the Piscataqua River.

Autumn

1. Make your reservations for Fall Restaurant Week Portsmouth & the Seacoast – over 40 Seacoast restaurants offer three-course lunches & dinners, \$16.95 & \$29.95. Make sure to keep an eye out for the Scarecrows of the Port, which features festive scarecrows popping up all over Portsmouth.
2. Become a movie buff at our two movie festivals – [Telluride by the Sea](#) and the [NH Film Festival](#)!
3. Halloween in Portsmouth is spooktacular. Have a ghoulishly good time at the annual grassroots, all-inclusive Halloween Parade, [Ghost on the Banke](#) and other fun activities such as parties, contests and haunts.
4. Bring an appetite for the annual highly-competitive [Chili Festival](#)! Try chili from Seacoast restaurants, and then vote for your favorite.
5. Enjoy the best craft beer New Hampshire offers, delicious food and incredible live music at the [Seacoast's Annual NH Brewfest](#).

Winter

1. Experience [Vintage Christmas in Portsmouth](#) with a holiday show at The Music Hall, Candlelight Stroll at Strawberry Banke and bring the family to skate at Labrie Family Skate at Puddle Dock Pond.
2. Shop local at over 75 locally owned boutique shops in downtown Portsmouth, or at your favorite name brand stores at the Mall at Fox Run – all TAX FREE in NH! Right across the river in Maine are the Kittery Outlets.
3. The [Winter Wine Festival](#) is a seven week event that caters to connoisseurs and novices alike.

4. The festive Holiday Parade and Tree Lighting is the first weekend in December, a must-do for friends and families. It benefits the local food pantry.
5. Ring in the New Year with First Night Portsmouth on December 31st! A family-friendly day of activities including live music, ice sculpting, fireworks and more!

Spring

1. Restaurant Week Portsmouth & the Seacoast returns! Start thinking about where you want to make reservations.
2. Portsmouth's historic homes re-open in May – explore the beautiful historic treasures from our 397 years of history.
3. Grab an area map and check out the many walking paths and forts that are located on the Seacoast, or grab a Zagster Bike Share from five locations around the city to explore on your own.
4. Hit the Decks! Kick off the summer season at our annual May event that opens the decks and waterfront dining in Portsmouth with deals and specials.
5. Come fill your belly at our [Annual Chowder Festival](#) where dozens of Seacoast restaurants compete for the Best Chowder title. Enjoy mouthwatering chowder, live music and refreshing drinks.

For a complete calendar of events, festivals and things to do in Portsmouth, please visit www.GoPortsmouthNH.com.

For a complete list of recommendations:

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Visitor Information Center
500 Market Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801
603.610.5510

info@portsmouthcollaborative.org
www.GoPortsmouthNH.com

Seasonal Chamber Kiosk
Located at Market Square
Downtown Portsmouth

Social Media

Instagram: [goportsmouthnh](#)
Facebook: [GoPortsmouthNH](#)
[#GoPortsmouthNH](#)

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