

# *Northeast Traveler*

Architecture Is Art In

# New York City

**Up on the Roof in Philly**  
**A Romantic Trip to Patriot Place**  
**Discovering Gillette Castle**  
**Serenity In Maine**  
**The Carole King Musical at TBTS**

July 2023



7

Manhattan, where  
**Architecture Is  
Art**

L,M,Brown

A Romantic Getaway  
to  
**Patriot Place**  
Paul Pence



31



53

A Monument to a  
Showman  
**Gillette Castle**  
Micheal A. Walsh



73

Escaping the City and  
Discovering  
**Maine's Serenity**

Philly's Top Bars and  
Restaurants  
**Up On the Roof**



91



107

Theatre By The Sea's  
**Beautiful: The  
Carole King Musical**  
Paul Pence

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## **Northeast Traveler Magazine**

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Warwick, RI 02886  
[www.riroads.com](http://www.riroads.com)  
401.480.9355

**Managing Editor**  
Paul Pence

**Features**  
Linda Eagleson

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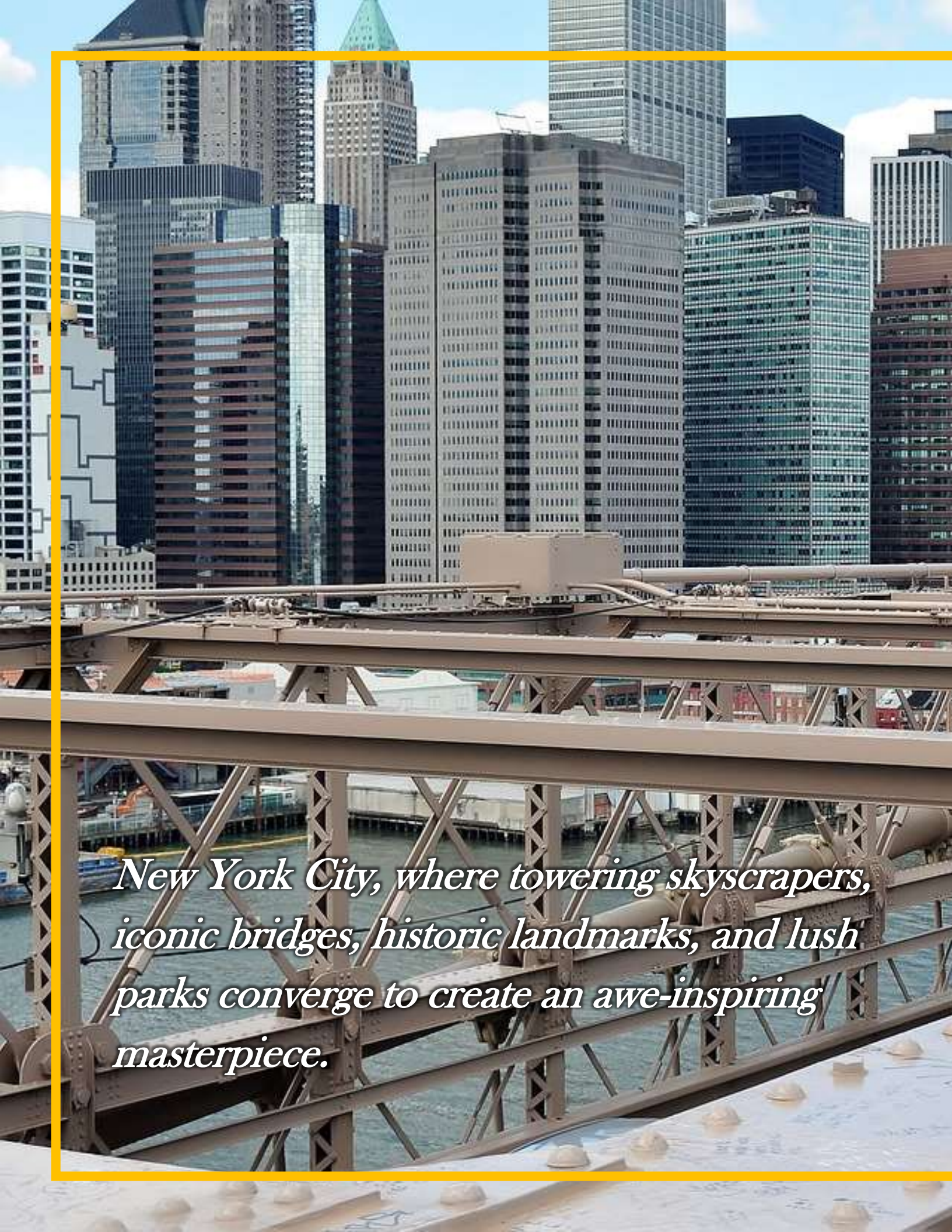
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Chapman Falls,  
Devil's Hopyard State Park,  
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*New York City, where towering skyscrapers, iconic bridges, historic landmarks, and lush parks converge to create an awe-inspiring masterpiece.*

A woman with long brown hair in a braid, wearing sunglasses, a black sleeveless top with a purple panel, and denim shorts, is sitting on a metal bridge railing. She has a brown bag slung over her shoulder and is looking off to the side. The background is a dense cityscape of Manhattan, featuring various skyscrapers and buildings under a clear blue sky. The bridge railing she is sitting on has several small, round, light-colored objects attached to it.

# Manhattan, Where Architecture Is Art

Feature by  
**L,M,Brown**



**W**elcome to the vibrant canvas of New York City, where the cityscape is an ever-changing painting, and its buildings are the colorful strokes that bring it to life. Let's immerse ourselves in the architectural wonders of the Big Apple and witness the city as a masterpiece unfolding before your eyes.

As you enter this bustling metropolis, prepare to be captivated by the architectural symphony that surrounds you. New York City is not merely a city; it is a global architectural hub where innovation, creativity, and ambition converge. Its towering skyscrapers stretch towards the heavens, their glass and steel reflecting sunlight like brushstrokes on a canvas. Graceful bridges elegantly span the waterways, connecting the boroughs and weaving together the city's diverse tapestry.

The city's best known architectural wonders reach for the heavens, transforming the cityscape into a magnificent work of art. These skyscrapers, like towering brushstrokes, paint the skyline with elegance and ingenuity.



The Empire State Building, an immortal symbol of the city, stands tall as a testament to human ambition and architectural brilliance. Completed in 1931, this Art Deco masterpiece held the title of the world's tallest building for nearly four decades. Its distinctive setback design, crowned by a grand spire and an illuminated beacon, beckons visitors to ascend to its observatories and witness breathtaking panoramic views of the city below.



The Chrysler Building emerges with a graceful silhouette and Art Deco splendor. Completed in 1930, it stands as a testament to the Jazz Age glamour and innovative engineering of its time. Adorned with stainless steel arches, soaring spires, and intricate detailing inspired by the world of automobiles, the Chrysler Building exudes an aura of timeless sophistication.

Nestled at the intersection of Fifth Avenue and Broadway, the Flatiron Building stands as a captivating

architectural gem that has entranced visitors for over a century. Completed in 1902, its distinctive triangular shape and Beaux-Arts design make it a beloved icon of New York City. The



Flatiron Building's elegant facade, rising like a monolithic canvas, captures the imagination and embodies the city's rich architectural heritage.

And rising defiantly from Ground Zero, One World Trade Center stands as a beacon of resilience and remembrance. Completed in 2014, this modern marvel pays tribute to the lives lost on September 11, 2001. With its sleek glass facade and symbolic height of 1,776 feet, One World Trade Center serves as a reminder of the strength and hope that emerged from tragedy.

Ascend its observation deck to experience sweeping views that extend far beyond the city limits.

As you explore the



vibrant streets of the city, you will encounter a diverse tapestry of architectural styles, each contributing to the city's rich visual landscape. These styles, like different brushstrokes on a canvas, reflect the evolution of design and the influence of various artistic movements.

The Art Deco style is on display throughout the city, but never showcased better than by the Empire State Building and the Chrysler Building. Sleek lines,



geometric forms, and lavish decorative elements evoke a sense of timeless sophistication. Adorned with intricate motifs, bold ornamentation, and exquisite craftsmanship, Art Deco buildings transport us back to an era of opulence, optimism, and artistic expression. Their presence adds a touch of nostalgia and grandeur to the urban fabric of New York City, reminding us of the city's rich architectural heritage and its enduring influence on

the world of design.

Beaux-Arts is embraced by the Flatiron Building. This architectural style draws inspiration from classical Greek and Roman design principles, resulting in structures characterized by grandeur, symmetry, and ornate details. The Flatiron Building's elegant facade, with its decorative elements and refined proportions, embodies the grace and sophistication of Beaux-Arts.



You could spend your entire trip studying the many different ways that architects used the various styles of their eras but still created amazing and unique works, each adding a brushstroke in the city's architectural masterpiece.

Just wandering the streets and gawking at the skyscrapers will expose you to example after example of those styles, along with Modernism, Gothic Revival, and

Neoclassical. Each style adds a unique dimension to the city's architectural palette, creating a harmonious blend of old and new, tradition and innovation.

The city's architectural wonders extend beyond its skyscrapers to include magnificent bridges that unite its boroughs. Like elegant brushstrokes on a canvas, the bridges not only serve as vital transportation links but also stand as iconic symbols of engineering prowess and visionary design.

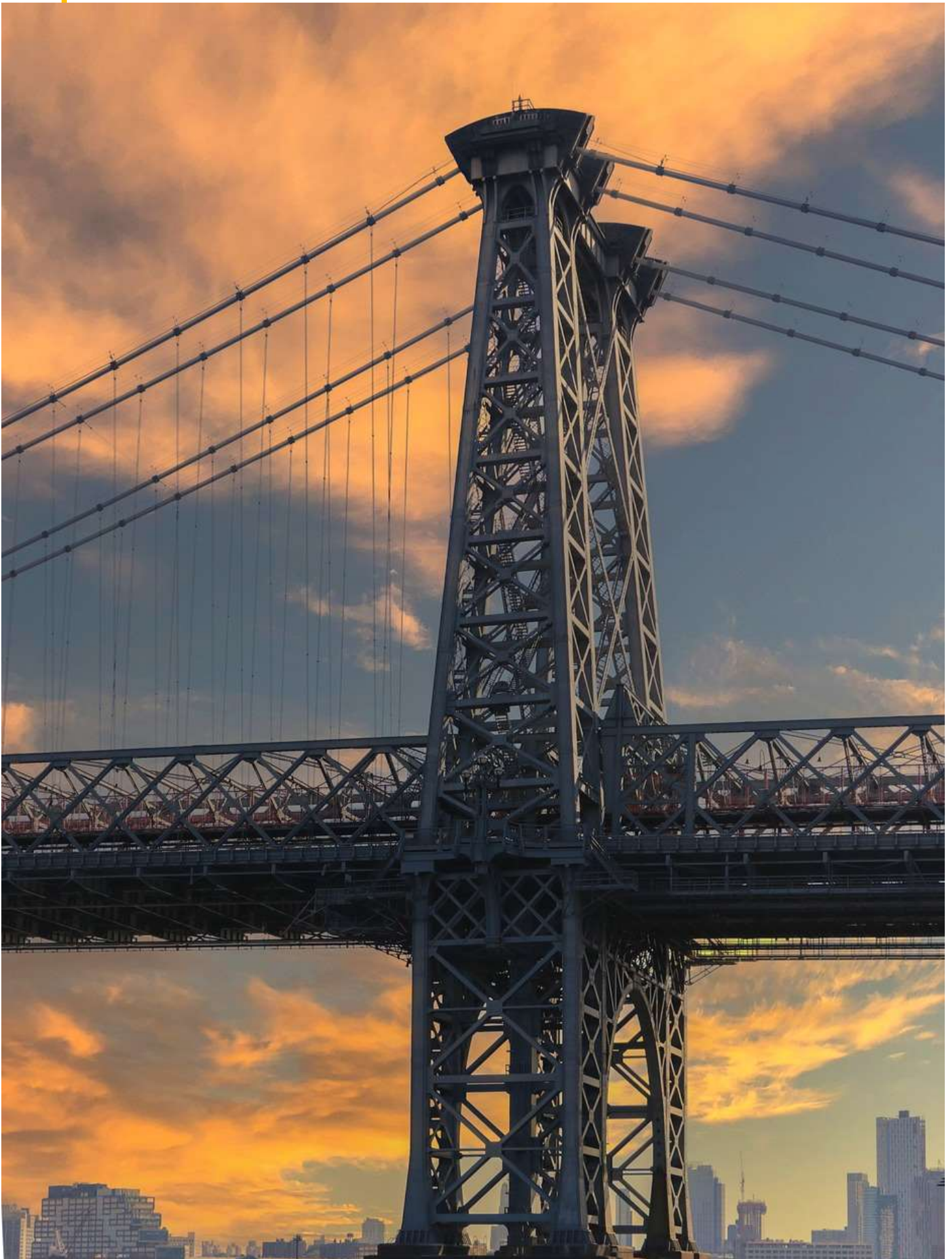
The Brooklyn Bridge, completed in 1883, stands as a testament to human ingenuity. This remarkable feat of engineering, spanning the East River, was the world's first



steel-wire suspension bridge. Its graceful Gothic-inspired towers and intricate cable patterns make it a beloved landmark, offering breathtaking views of the Manhattan skyline to those who traverse it by foot or bicycle.

The Manhattan Bridge, connecting Lower Manhattan to Brooklyn, was completed in 1909. This bridge showcases a fusion of suspension and arch bridge designs. Its vibrant red color, steel towers, and suspension cables create a striking visual impact, particularly when viewed from the surrounding neighborhoods.





Amidst the city's collection of bridges, the Williamsburg Bridge, opened in 1903, shines as a lesser-known but equally impressive marvel. Linking the Lower East Side of Manhattan to Williamsburg in Brooklyn, this suspension bridge stands as a testament to the city's industrial era. Its sturdy steel trusses and bold red color evoke a sense of strength and resilience, reflecting the spirit of the city it serves.

As you explore, pay attention to the residential buildings. These diverse structures contribute to the city's renowned skyline and offer glimpses into its architectural heritage, each with its own story to tell.

The Dakota Building, completed in 1884, stands as an iconic example of pre-war architecture. Its distinctive red-brick exterior, ornate detailing, and Gothic Revival style make it a true New York City landmark. Steeped in historical significance and architectural beauty, the Dakota Building has been home to prominent figures and remains a symbol of elegance and grandeur.

Situated on the southeastern corner of Central Park, The Plaza Hotel is an architectural gem exuding opulence and sophistication. Constructed in 1907, it features a Beaux-Arts design, boasting grand facades, intricate detailing, and an iconic mansard roof. The Plaza Hotel's luxurious accommodations and glamorous history have made it a backdrop for numerous films, embodying the epitome of elegance.

The St. Regis Hotel, built in 1904 and located in Midtown Manhattan, showcases the early 20th-century elegance of the city. With its refined Beaux-Arts style facade, adorned with intricate ornamentation and regal detailing, the St. Regis Hotel has long been synonymous with luxury and sophistication, attracting discerning guests from around the world.

Certain public spaces that epitomize the diversity and splendor of New York City's architectural landscape end up on almost every visitors' to-do list.

Grand Central Terminal, located in Midtown Manhattan, stands as a masterpiece of Beaux-Arts architecture.



Since opening in 1913, this magnificent transportation hub has welcomed travelers with its grand concourse, adorned with a celestial ceiling mural, iconic brass clock, and meticulous marble detailing. The

terminal's blend of opulence and functionality has made it a beloved land-mark, offering visitors the opportunity to marvel at its grandeur, indulge in upscale boutiques, or savor a meal

in its renowned dining concourse.



Times Square, known as "The Crossroads of the World," pulsates with vibrant energy, dazzling billboards, and

iconic architecture. This bustling public space, like an artist's bold brushstroke, captivates visitors with towering

buildings adorned with mesmerizing digital displays that illuminate the night sky. Immersing oneself in the electric atmosphere of Times Square allows one to appreciate the architectural splendor and become immersed in the heart of New York City's entertainment district.



Rockefeller Center, situated in Midtown

Manhattan, weaves together art, commerce, and urban design. Constructed during the 1930s in the Art Deco style, this captivating complex features iconic buildings

such as the GE Building (30 Rockefeller Plaza) and the beloved "Top of the Rock" observation deck. From the center's architectural charm to the iconic statue of Prometheus



and the stunning ice-skating rink, Rockefeller Center beckons visitors to

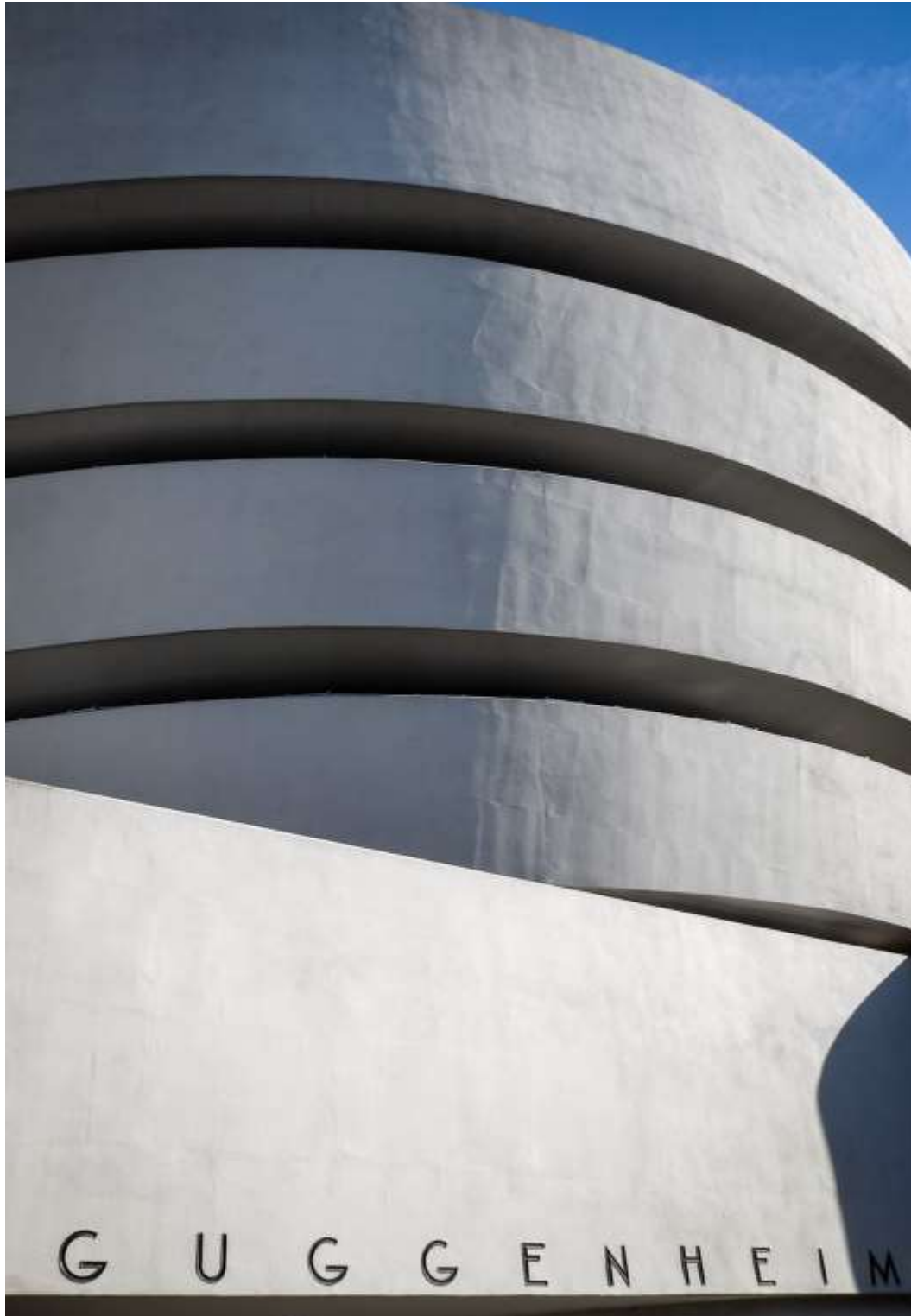


explore its extraordinary blend of art and architecture.

New York City also houses a remarkable collection of museums and cultural institutions, many of which are nestled within architecturally significant buildings. These institutions not only showcase extraordinary collections but also boast stunning architectural designs that enhance the city's cultural fabric. Let us explore three iconic museums that seamlessly blend art, architecture, and history:



The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, located on the Upper East Side of Manhattan, stands as an architectural masterpiece designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. Completed in 1959, the museum's distinctive spiral design features a continuous ramp that winds its way to the top, providing a unique exhibition experience. The



Guggenheim's white cylindrical form and innovative structure make it an enduring icon of modernist architecture, an elegant fusion of artistic vision and architectural daring.

Situated in Midtown Manhattan, the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) serves as a mecca for art enthusiasts. The museum's original building, designed by architects Philip L. Goodwin and Edward Durell Stone, opened its doors in 1939. Since then, MoMA has undergone expansions, including the recent addition of a stunning new tower designed by Yoshio Taniguchi. MoMA houses a vast collection of modern and contemporary art, and its architectural blend of the historic and the contemporary reflects its mission to showcase the evolving nature of art.

The Metropolitan Museum of Art (The Met), located on the eastern edge of Central Park, stands as one of the world's largest and most renowned art museums. Its main



building, designed in the Beaux-Arts style by Richard Morris Hunt, is a grand architectural marvel. With its iconic steps, grand entrance, and neoclassical facade, The Met exudes elegance and serves as a fitting backdrop for the remarkable artworks housed within its walls.

As the grand strokes of architectural brilliance shape the New York City skyline, there exist pockets of natural beauty that act as the negative spaces, accentuating the stone and steel with their serene allure. These iconic parks and landmarks offer a tranquil escape from the bustling metropolis, inviting visitors to immerse themselves in a world of green respite and captivating architectural elements. Let us explore two of the most famous parks that grace the city:

Central Park, a sprawling oasis nestled in the heart of Manhattan, stands as a testament to the harmonious fusion of nature and architectural splendor. Designed by landscape architects Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert



Vaux, the park spans an impressive 843 acres, encompassing a tapestry of landscapes that include meadows, woodlands, and lakes.

Within Central Park's verdant embrace, individual



architectural highlights beckon visitors with their timeless allure. The iconic Bethesda Terrace and Bethesda Fountain serve as an architectural centerpiece, exuding a sense of grandeur and tranquility.

The picturesque Bow Bridge, gracefully spanning the lake, offers a charming respite amidst the park's natural beauty. And high atop the landscape, the majestic Belvedere Castle stands as a sentinel, providing

panoramic views of the park and the surrounding cityscape. These architectural gems, interwoven with

winding paths and scenic vistas, make Central Park a cherished landmark, where the vibrant tapestry of nature and architectural magnificence unfolds in perfect harmony.

The High Line, an innovative urban park, unfurls along a historic elevated railway track on Manhattan's West Side. Conceived by landscape architecture firm James Corner Field Operations and the visionary architects at Diller Scofidio + Renfro, the High Line epitomizes the artful integration of nature, art, and architecture. Walking along the elevated pathway, visitors are enveloped in a captivating



journey, where lush greenery and vibrant blooms coexist with striking art installations and breathtaking views of

the city. The park's design ingeniously incorporates industrial elements, preserving the original railroad



tracks and structures, providing a unique backdrop that weaves together the threads of nature and urban history. As visitors meander through the enchanting gardens that float above the city streets, the High Line reveals itself as a living testament to the remarkable potential of reimagining urban spaces and transforming them into captivating sanctuaries.

Just as a skilled artist meticulously adds brushstrokes

to a painting, exploring the architectural wonders of New York City requires a thoughtful approach. To fully

immerse yourself in the vibrant tapestry of iconic structures, consider the following tips and recommendations, each one adding depth and narrative to your journey:

Start by taking walking tours, guided by experts who possess an intimate knowledge of NYC's architectural treasures. These specialized tours offer a deeper understanding of specific neighborhoods or architectural styles. As you traverse the city streets, guided commentary will unravel the stories behind the buildings, allowing

you to appreciate their design and historical significance with newfound clarity.

To witness the city's majestic skyline unfold before your eyes, embark on an architectural boat tour along the Hudson River or the East River. From this unique vantage point, you'll be captivated by the breathtaking views of skyscrapers, bridges, and landmarks that adorn



the waterfront. Knowledgeable guides will regale you with tales of architectural history, illuminating the development of this ever-evolving metropolis.



It is important to remember that the city's architectural wonders extend far beyond the boundaries these pages. While we focused on the most recognizable landmarks, the true essence of New York City's architectural legacy lies in its neighborhoods, where historic brownstones coexist with contemporary designs that push the boundaries of innovation. A true adventurer would venture off the beaten path, explore hidden gems, and become a part of the city's living artwork.

Each neighborhood in NYC has its own architectural character, waiting to be explored. Wander through SoHo's

charming streets lined with cast-iron buildings, immerse yourself in Chelsea's contemporary architecture and art galleries, or revel in the luxurious residential buildings and grand mansions of the Upper East Side. By venturing into these neighborhoods, you'll witness the kaleidoscope of architectural styles that define the city's diverse fabric.

As you embark on your architectural exploration, remember to embrace the artist's mindset. Take your time to admire the intricate details, observe the interplay of light and shadows, and let the structures reveal their hidden stories. Capture the essence of these captivating buildings through photography, allowing them to inspire your own creative spirit.

Embark on a memorable journey through the iconic architecture of New York City. Each step will bring you closer to discovering the city's rich architectural heritage and the boundless creativity of renowned architects.

Allow the captivating buildings of NYC to awaken your senses and infuse your journey with inspiration. Just as a masterpiece evolves with each brushstroke, your exploration of NYC's architecture will unfold with every step, revealing the true beauty of this extraordinary artwork we call a city.



*An anniversary trip to Patriot Place, where painting, football history, exquisite dining, and nature create a romantic journey that was 'just right'.*



# A Perfect Anniversary Trip to Patriot Place



Feature by  
Paul Pence



**O**ne of the many hard-learned lessons I've had in my life is that "just right" is the best of all possible outcomes. Our recent anniversary trip wasn't to a fancy resort, an exotic destination, or even a quaint isolated B&B. We went, unconventionally, to Patriot Place, the sprawling mall next to Gillette stadium in Foxborough. And for us, the trip was just right.

After a 45-minute drive from Rhode Island, we arrived at Patriot Place. It wasn't a game night, so parking was a breeze, right at the entrance to the Hilton Garden Inn. Upstairs, our well-appointed room offered modern amenities, including a microwave, small refrigerator, coffee maker, ironing board and iron, plenty of

convenient power outlets and a spacious bathroom. And an amazingly comfortable bed.

But there was no time for a nap, we had a reservation for a creative adventure at Muse Paint Bar. The short stroll from our hotel made it a convenient choice for our evening activity.



As we wandered through Patriot Place, our senses were tantalized by the variety of sweet treats on offer. We couldn't resist stopping for frozen yogurt at Menchie's.

As we entered the studio, we were greeted by a lively



atmosphere and the buzz of anticipation. Our cozy tables was set for two, creating an intimate setting that fostered connection and inspiration. It was heartwarming to see

couples and friends gathered together, ready to unleash their inner artists. The ambiance was charged with excitement and the shared desire to create something beautiful.

We donned the provided aprons, preparing ourselves for the colorful journey ahead. The instructor, a skilled artist with a passion for guiding others, welcomed us warmly and introduced us to the art supplies laid out before us. Canvases, paintbrushes, and an array of



vibrant paints awaited our touch. As the session began, the instructor expertly guided us step by step, sharing techniques and

encouraging us to embrace our unique artistic expressions. The room buzzed with creativity as everyone immersed themselves in their canvases, their brushes dancing across the surface. Music played in the background, enhancing the soothing atmosphere.

My wife, despite her initial reservations about her artistic abilities, dove into the painting process with

enthusiasm. With each brushstroke, she discovered a newfound confidence, bringing her creation to life. It was a joy to witness her surprise and delight as her painting evolved into a piece that reflected her personality and artistic flair.

Amidst the creative flow, we delighted in sipping wine and snacks. The occasional laughter and exclamations of accomplishment filled the room, creating an ambiance of joy and fulfillment. As we neared the completion of our paintings, a sense of pride swelled within us, knowing that we had brought something unique into the world.

Once our canvases were dry, we carefully carried them back to our room at the Hilton Garden Inn, excited to display our artistic triumphs. Along the way, we couldn't help but engage in conversations with other painters, exchanging compliments and sharing the stories behind our creations. The walk back became a mini art exhibition, a delightful connection forged through a shared experience.

Arriving at our room, we proudly placed our paintings





prominently in front of the TV, allowing them to serve as tangible reminders of our time at Muse Paint Bar. The evening had not only kindled our artistic spirits

but also deepened our bond as we embarked on this creative journey together.

The next morning, we woke up refreshed and enjoyed a delightful breakfast at the hotel. The three-egg omelets and crispy bacon provided the fuel we needed to start the day.



After breakfast, I took the opportunity to explore both the Hilton Garden Inn and the Renaissance hotel. Both offered meeting rooms, a well-

equipped  
business  
center, a  
relaxing pool  
area, and a  
fully equipped  
exercise room.  
The staff  
shared that  
Gillette  
Stadium and  
Patriot Place  
boasted



extensive meeting facilities, keeping the two hotels bustling year-round, even outside football season. During the football season, it would be easy to imagine hungry and thirsty crowds finding the bars at the two hotels the perfect final stop after the game.

Patriot Place is less about shopping and more about enjoyment. Night spots, restaurants, and sweets are in abundance.

There are still a small number of shops like Vineyard Vines and Victoria's Secret, but the mall is transitioning quickly to hospitality, the perfect



accompaniment to New England's premier sports stadium. The Old Navy store next to the Renaissance Hotel, for instance, was demolished for the construction of the Hilton Garden Inn. Patriot Place offers a diverse range of dining options to suit every palate. From familiar chains like 5 Guys and Olive Garden to unique establishments like Achilito's Taqueria and Skipjack's



found only at Patriot Place, the choices were abundant. We were still satisfied from a filling breakfast and

anticipating a great dinner that night at 28, so we easily resisted the temptation to explore the variety of culinary delights on our way to the Patriots Hall of Fame museum.

With my wife being a devoted Patriots fan, visiting the Patriots Hall of Fame Museum was like unlocking a treasure trove of football history. After a delightful cupcake stop at Cupcake Charlie's, we made our way to this iconic destination, brimming with Patriots pride.

As we entered the museum, we were immediately greeted by the sight of captivating displays that showcased

the team's rich heritage. The carefully curated exhibits took us on a journey through the Patriots' storied past, highlighting their triumphs, iconic players, and unforgettable moments that had shaped the franchise.

My wife's face lit up with sheer excitement as she stood before the exhibits, like a child in a candy store. We meandered through the halls, immersing ourselves in the world of football greatness. The museum's design and interactive elements made the experience truly engaging, appealing to both die-hard fans and casual observers.

The Patriots Hall of Fame Museum not only celebrated the team's achievements but also offered a glimpse into the world of professional football. We marveled at the extensive collection of memorabilia, including championship trophies, game-worn jerseys, and autographed footballs. The exhibits even included the oldest surviving football





from the 1800's. Each item told a story, connecting us to the triumphs, the heroes, and the legacy that had been forged over the years.

Throughout our visit, we were struck by the dedication and passion that had shaped the Patriots' success. The museum paid homage to the legendary coaches and players who had donned the Patriots' uniform,

showcasing their contributions to the team's legacy. Interactive displays allowed us to test our skills, attempting to kick field goals, plan winning passes, or call plays in virtual scenarios.

One of the highlights of our visit was witnessing my wife's determined but ill-fated attempt to kick a football while wearing sandals—a playful moment that brought



laughter and reminded us that sports can be filled with unexpected challenges.



After an unforgettable experience at the Hall of Fame, we returned to the Hilton Garden Inn to prepare for our anniversary dinner at Twenty8. While there was no strict dress code, we decided to embrace

the occasion and dress up a bit, adding an extra touch of elegance to our romantic celebration.

Twenty8's elegant dining space greeted us with warm lighting, contemporary decor, and an inviting ambiance. Seated at a cozy table, we perused the menu, which



featured a delightful fusion of modern American cuisine with seasonal influences. Our journey through the culinary offerings began with the mouthwatering starter of three seared scallops, perfectly seared to a golden brown, accompanied by

a delicate balance of flavors that awakened our taste buds. The flavors? Imagine a pomegranate molasses

glaze, a dusting of finely ground bacon, and micro-greens that included tiny watercress and cilantro, served on a canvas of golden squash puree.

As we continued our dining adventure, my wife opted for the roasted beet salad, showcasing the vibrant color of yellow beets complemented by a medley of fresh



ingredients. Meanwhile, I savored a classic Caesar salad, with crisp romaine lettuce, tangy dressing, and Parmesan cheese. Each bite was a harmonious blend of flavors and textures.

For the main course, my wife chose the succulent salmon, served with a "risotto" of riced cauliflower and coconut. The words "cooked to perfection" are overused, but I need to emphasize that too many



restaurants overcook fish. Not at Twenty8. Instead the fish was moist, delicate, flaky, and infused with subtle yet



tantalizing flavors and served with baby Bok Choy. I opted for the spicy shellfish capellini featuring a rich combination of shrimp, scallops, and lobster with roasted cherry peppers and a lemon basil sauce arranged over a bed of pasta.

No anniversary dinner would be complete without a sweet ending, and Twenty8 did not disappoint. We indulged in a tantalizing dessert featuring a citrus cake that was as visually stunning as it was delicious. The combination of tangy citrus flavors, light sponge cake, and delicate garnishes provided a delightful finale to our culinary journey.

As the night unfolded, we could have enjoyed any of the many nightlife spots at Patriot Place. Had there been live music that night, we would have been especially tempted to stay up late at Six String, but instead we returned to our comfortable room, embracing the restful slumber that is so hard to find in our day-to-day lives.



Following a very filling breakfast, feasting on the Hilton Garden Inn's breakfast buffet, we set off to discover the nature trail behind Bass Pro Shops, a hidden gem that promised tranquility and natural beauty.



As we stepped onto the well-marked pathway, we were immediately greeted by the soothing sounds of chirping birds and the rustling of leaves. The trail meandered through lush greenery, offering a respite from the bustling atmosphere of Patriot Place. It was a serene escape, perfect for reconnecting with nature and each other.

One of the fascinating facts we had discovered earlier



was that the nature trail encircled a cranberry bog. The bog played a vital role in the cranberry harvesting process, with the pond holding water to flood the bog in the autumn, allowing the cranberries to be harvested.

As we walked along the trail, we couldn't help but marvel at the diversity of plant life surrounding us. Wildflowers added vibrant pops of color to the landscape, while towering trees provided shade and a sense of serenity. The trail presented gentle inclines and declines, offering a moderate level of physical activity while still allowing us to enjoy a leisurely stroll.



We kept our eyes peeled for wildlife and were rewarded with glimpses of various bird species fluttering among the branches and enjoying the water. The trail's proximity to the cranberry bog created an ecosystem rich

in biodiversity, making it a haven for avian inhabitants. It was a joy to witness these feathered creatures in their natural habitat.



As we made our way around the pond, we couldn't help but appreciate the tranquility and natural beauty that surrounded us. It was a chance to escape the urban environment and immerse ourselves in the wonders of the outdoors. The well-maintained pathway and informative signage along the trail ensured that we didn't miss any of the unique features or points of interest.

Our exploration of the nature trail was a testament to the commitment of Patriot Place to create a multi-dimensional experience for visitors. The retail and entertainment hub seamlessly blended with the natural surroundings, providing a diverse range of activities for guests of all ages.

Our anniversary getaway at Patriot Place wouldn't be complete without a visit to "It's Sugar," the vibrant and unapologetically sweet candy store that beckoned us with its bright colors and tantalizing confections. With the promise of whimsical treats and a nostalgic trip down memory lane, we eagerly stepped inside. "It's Sugar" proudly proclaims itself as a store with no nutritional value. This tongue-in-cheek declaration set the tone for the experience that awaited us - an unabashed celebration of all things sugary, whimsical, and indulgent.

Embracing the spirit of indulgence, we carefully selected an assortment of candies and chocolates, each one representing a different flavor or texture that we couldn't resist. From gummy bears to sour candies, chocolate-covered treats to nostalgic sweets, our basket was soon filled with an enticing assortment of delights.

Not only did "It's Sugar" offer a wide variety of candies, but they also featured unique and creative confections





that were exclusive to the store. We discovered oversized gummy bears, giant lollipops, and novelty candy-themed gifts that would bring smiles to the faces of our loved ones back home.

As we checked out of the Hilton Garden Inn for our not-too-long drive home, our hearts were filled with gratitude for the cherished memories we had created during our romantic anniversary getaway at Patriot

Place. From engaging in creative pursuits at Muse Paint Bar to exploring the Patriots Hall of Fame, savoring delectable meals at Twenty8, and immersing ourselves in the beauty of the nature trail, every moment was a testament to the love and joy we shared on our special occasion. It was just right.

#### **For more information:**

- [www.hilton.com/en/hotels/bosppgi-hilton-garden-inn-foxborough-patriot-place](http://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/bosppgi-hilton-garden-inn-foxborough-patriot-place)
- [www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/bospp-renaissance-boston-patriot-place-hotel/overview/](http://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/bospp-renaissance-boston-patriot-place-hotel/overview/)
- [www.patriot-place.com](http://www.patriot-place.com)
- [www.twenty8restaurant.com](http://www.twenty8restaurant.com)



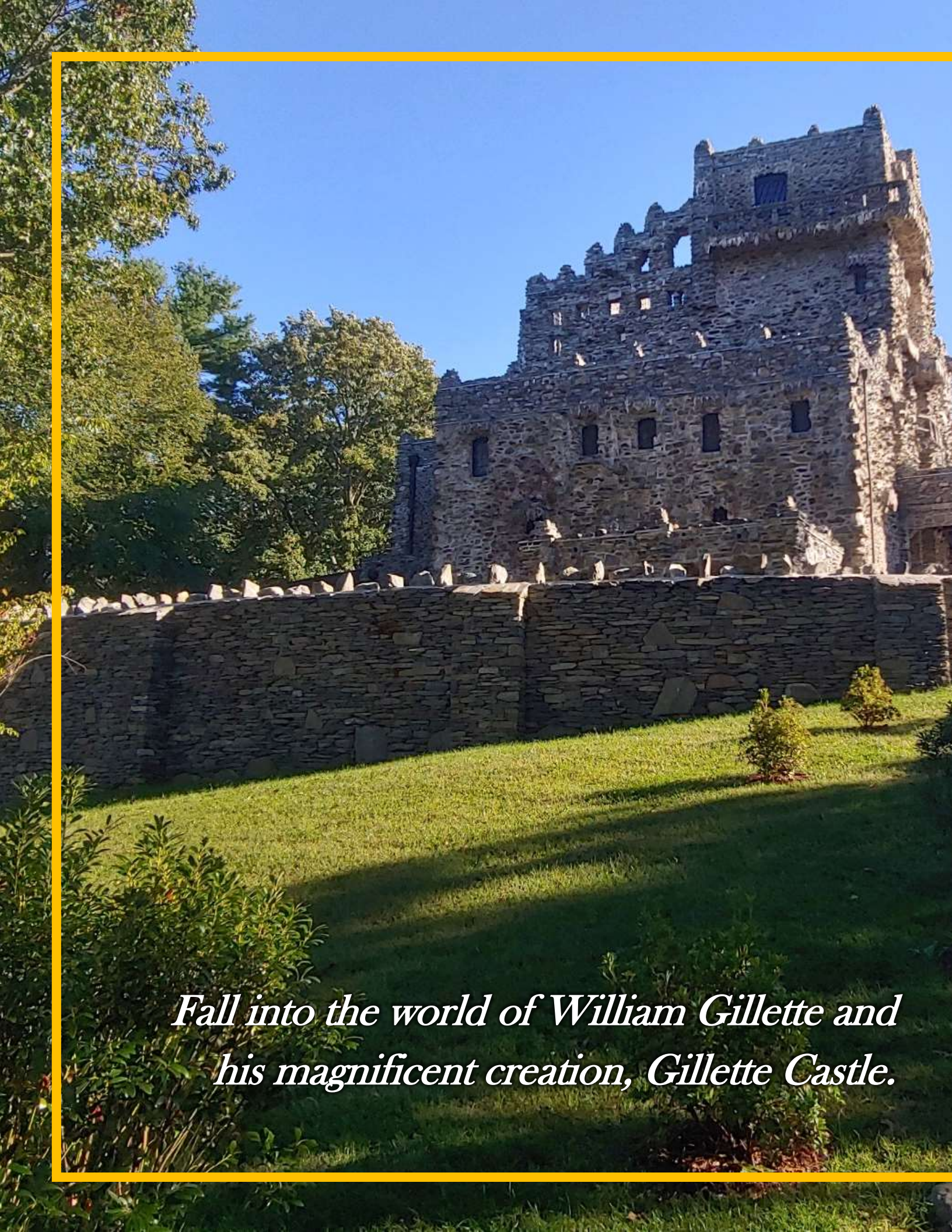
**1-Hour cruise of Ellis Island  
and the Statue of Liberty**

**Museum of Modern Art**

**Smartphone Audio App of NYC**

**Skip the lines at the Empire State Building!**





*Fall into the world of William Gillette and  
his magnificent creation, Gillette Castle.*

A photograph of a stone staircase leading up a hill towards a stone wall and a large tree under a clear blue sky. The staircase is made of large, flat stones and has black metal railings. The stone wall is made of rough-hewn stones and has a large opening on the left side. A large, leafy tree stands to the right of the staircase. The sky is a clear, bright blue with a few small white clouds. The entire image is framed by a thick yellow border.

A Monument To A Showman  
**Gillette Castle**

Feature by  
**Micheal A. Walsh**



**S**tanding in the grand hall of the huge field stone mansion called "Gillette Castle" among a group of excited visitors, it's easy to imagine being a guest of William Gillette, awaiting his entrance. Anticipation would have been palpable, whispers would have swirled through the crowd, and each person would have been wondering what spectacle awaited us. And then, as if summoned by a collective curiosity, Gillette would have appeared.

William Gillette, the charismatic and enigmatic figure, would have descended the grand staircase with a commanding presence. Dressed in his signature tweed suit, complete with a wide-brimmed hat and a perfectly groomed mustache, exuding an aura of both mystery and

charm as his eyes danced with a mischievous twinkle.

Gillette Castle folds time upon itself, transporting us back to the early 20th century, when Gillette, a renowned actor and playwright, was at the pinnacle of his career. He had captivated audiences around the world with his portrayal of the iconic detective Sherlock Holmes, a role he had made uniquely his own. But it was not only his theatrical genius that had brought us here on this day. No, it was the legacy he left behind in the form of an extraordinary creation: Gillette Castle.

The mansion holds more than just bricks and mortar. It is a testament to the life and artistry of William Gillette himself. Intriguing stories whispered through the corridors, hinting at the man who had once roamed these halls. Gillette, the consummate entertainer,

had meticulously designed every aspect of the castle, infusing it with his eccentricities and whimsical flair, from carefully placed mirrors that he used to monitor his guests and time his entrances to at least one hidden doorway to let him escape his guests unseen.



had meticulously designed every aspect of the castle, infusing it with his eccentricities and whimsical flair, from carefully placed mirrors that he used to monitor his guests and time his entrances to at least one hidden doorway to let him escape his guests unseen.

William Gillette is a name that resonates through the annals of theatrical history. Born in 1853, Gillette was



destined for a life that would forever leave an imprint on the world of entertainment. With a natural flair for the dramatic, he quickly rose to prominence, captivating audiences with his magnetic presence and unique

portrayal of characters. Gillette's career reached its zenith with his portrayal of the brilliant detective, Sherlock Holmes. He crafted a rendition of the iconic character that was entirely his own, infusing Holmes with a blend of wit, intellect, and a touch of eccentricity. Gillette's portrayal of Holmes became legendary, and he took the character on an international tour, mesmerizing audiences from London to New York.

In addition to his legendary portrayal of Sherlock Holmes, Gillette's versatile talent shone through in a myriad of other roles. From swashbuckling heroes to complex villains, he effortlessly brought a diverse range of characters to life on stage. His performances in plays such as "Secret Service" and "Too Much Johnson"

showcased his versatility and command over the craft. Audiences were captivated by his commanding presence, sharp wit, and ability to embody a character with depth and nuance. It was this multi-faceted talent that earned Gillette wide-



spread acclaim and solidified his status as one of the greatest actors of his time.

But Gillette's creativity and passion extended beyond the stage. He possessed a vivid imagination and an insatiable desire to bring his visions to life. It was during a visit on his steamboat Aunt Polly along the picturesque Connecticut River, spotting the perfect location among the Seven Sisters hills, inspiration struck, and Gillette's grandest creation began to take shape in his mind. Gillette purchased the land in 1914, envisioning a home that would be a reflection of his personality and a testament to his theatrical genius. With meticulous attention to detail, he embarked on the ambitious task of designing and constructing his castle.

The castle itself is a masterpiece of architectural ingenuity. Combining elements of medieval and Tudor revival styles, Gillette incorporated whimsical features and intricate woodwork that showcased his unparalleled creativity. The castle's exterior, adorned with sturdy locally-foraged fieldstone walls and towering turrets, exudes a sense of grandeur and mystery, as if guarding the secrets held within.



Inside, every room tells a story. Gillette meticulously planned the layout and design, ensuring that each space had its own distinct

character. From the opulent library, adorned with floor-to-ceiling bookshelves to the great hall, with its majestic fireplace and intricate wood-carvings, every corner of the castle reflects Gillette's artistic vision.

Even Gillette's own sleeping room tells a story, where his room is barely big enough to hold a modest bed, but his closet had better light and was much larger to accommodate his extensive wardrobe.

As visitors, our journey began at the entrance, where we were greeted by the remarkable hand-carved wooden doors, each intricately crafted with meticulous precision.



These doors serve as a gateway to a realm that blends reality and fantasy, where the lines between theater and life become beauty-fully blurred. Inside the castle, we discover an array of unique features that transport us deeper into Gillette's theatrical world. The electrical switches, designed to resemble stage lighting controls, evoke a sense of being backstage, poised to illuminate the next act. With each flick of a switch, the castle comes alive, bathing its halls in a warm glow that enhances the ambiance.

One particular delight for





Gillette was his trick liquor cabinet, impossible for thirsty visitors to open and giving Gillette a delight watching them fumble and get frustrated, unseen from his balcony. He'd appear and trigger a hidden mechanism to reveal its hidden contents, a playful surprise that exemplifies Gillette's playful nature and penchant for mystery.

Mirrors strategically placed throughout the castle offer a glimpse into Gillette's genius for stagecraft. These reflective surfaces, seemingly innocent, serve a dual purpose. Behind their glass, Gillette could discreetly monitor his guests, planning the timing for his next appearance.

From the library, adorned with floor-to-ceiling bookshelves and adorned with Gillette's personal collection of literary treasures, to the grand hall, boasting



a majestic fireplace and intricate woodcarvings, each room in the castle has its own story to tell. The library, a sanctuary of knowledge, beckons us to delve into the literary world that shaped Gillette's creative mind. The great hall, with its soaring ceilings and ornate detailing, invites us to imagine the grand gatherings and performances that once graced its expanse.

No exploration of Gillette Castle would be complete without stepping onto its balconies, where breathtaking views of the Connecticut River unfold before our eyes. Here, Gillette sought inspiration from nature's beauty, allowing the serenity of the landscape to infuse his creative spirit.

With each room and every hidden nook, Gillette Castle reveals itself as a testament to William Gillette's



artistic vision and unparalleled craftsmanship. It is a place where history and imagination converge, offering visitors a unique glimpse into the world of a man whose legacy continues to captivate us to this day.



Having marveled at the wonders within the castle, I stepped outside and immerse myself in the breathtaking beauty of the surrounding grounds. Gillette Castle State Park, encompassing acres of pristine natural landscapes, offers a plethora of experiences that complement the castle's allure.



I discovered a treasure trove of activities to indulge in. Trails meander through the park, weaving their way through forests and along the riverbank. Hikers can embark on scenic adventures, discovering hidden nooks and crannies that offer moments of solitude and tranquility. For those seeking a leisurely escape, Gillette Castle State Park boasts

idyllic picnic spots. Spread a blanket on the grassy expanse, savor a delectable feast, and relish the gentle breezes that carry the essence of the surrounding nature.

The park amenities cater to visitors' needs, ensuring comfort and convenience during their exploration. Visitor centers provide a wealth of information about the park's history, flora, and fauna, enriching our understanding of the surrounding ecosystem. Gift shops offer mementos and souvenirs, allowing us to take a piece of Gillette Castle's magic home with us. And for those in need of a brief respite, well-maintained restrooms offer a moment of reprieve amidst the adventure.



Throughout the year, the State Park plays host to a myriad of events and festivals that bring the grounds to life. From outdoor concerts that harmonize with nature's melody to art exhibitions that blend with the park's beauty, these events offer a chance to experience the castle and its surroundings in new and captivating ways. They provide an opportunity to connect with fellow visitors and celebrate the spirit of creativity and community that echoes through Gillette's legacy.

Castle State Park is nestled in East Haddam, Connecticut, offering easy access to visitors from near



and far, especially with GPS systems to guide you to the park's entrance, and signage along the way will ensure you're on

the right track. Gillette Castle State Park typically welcomes visitors from morning to late afternoon, although seasonal variations may apply. As for admission fees, there is usually a nominal charge to tour the castle, but the park itself is free to all visitors.

As I departed, an elderly couple dressed as Mr. and Mrs. Gillette, the gentleman wearing Holmes' trademark deerstalker cap and holding a meerschaum pipe, waved goodbye to me and the other visitors -- one last touch of the magic the Gillette brought to the quiet countryside of Connecticut.

**For more information:**

[portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Parks/Gillette-Castle-State-Park](http://portal.ct.gov/DEEP/State-Parks/Parks/Gillette-Castle-State-Park)



Cape Cod's Iconic Town:

# Chatham

*Discover the picturesque coastal town of Chatham, Massachusetts, where small-town charm meets nature and rich maritime history.*



**C**hatham, Massachusetts, located on the southeastern tip of Cape Cod, is a charming coastal town that blends small-town charm, natural beauty, and a rich maritime history. With its picturesque streets, stunning beaches, and vibrant downtown, Chatham offers an unforgettable New England vacation experience. Whether you're looking for relaxation on pristine shores, a journey through maritime heritage, or a culinary adventure, this captivating destination has something for everyone.

Visitors delve into Chatham's rich maritime history with a visit to the Chatham Marconi Maritime Center, where they discover the fascinating story of Guglielmo

Marconi and his groundbreaking wireless telegraphy experiments. The Chatham Railroad Museum offers insight into the town's connection to the rail industry and provides a glimpse into its transportation history. Don't miss the Atwood House and Museum, which showcases Chatham's past through captivating exhibits and artifacts.

But you don't have to go into a museum to see the history of Cape Cod. Chatham's downtown exudes quintessential New England

charm with its historic buildings, boutique shops, and local eateries. Take a leisurely stroll along Main Street, lined with captivating art galleries, antique shops, and unique boutiques. Indulge your taste buds with freshly caught seafood from renowned seafood shacks or savor a farm-to-table culinary experience at one of Chatham's



top-rated restaurants. With local flavors and international cuisines, there's something to satisfy every palate.

Chatham boasts enchanting beaches that invite visitors to unwind and enjoy the serenity of the Atlantic Ocean. Lighthouse Beach, with its iconic Chatham



Light, provides a breathtaking backdrop for leisurely walks along the shore and mesmerizing sunsets. For a more secluded escape, venture to North

Beach Island, accessible only by boat, where you can revel in tranquility, explore tidal pools, and observe playful seals in the distance.

Nature enthusiasts will be captivated by the stunning landscapes surrounding Chatham. Embark on a scenic hike through the Monomoy National Wildlife Refuge, where you can spot a variety of bird species, seals, and other wildlife. Visit the Chatham Fish Pier to witness local fishermen unloading their catch of the day, providing a glimpse into the town's fishing industry. Explore the enchanting forests and salt marshes at the Cape Cod National Seashore, or enjoy a leisurely bike ride along the picturesque Cape Cod Rail Trail.

Chatham offers a range of accommodation options to suit every traveler's preferences. From luxurious waterfront resorts with panoramic ocean views to cozy bed and breakfasts tucked away on quiet streets, there's something for everyone. Immerse yourself in the town's maritime heritage by staying in a historic inn or opt for a

charming cottage rental near the beach. Many lodging options in Chatham boast unique amenities such as private decks, fireplaces, and



access to exclusive facilities like spas or golf courses. Whether you're seeking a romantic escape, a family-friendly retreat, or a solo adventure, Chatham's lodging options provide comfort and convenience for a memorable stay in this captivating coastal town.

One great example is the newly renovated Greyfinch Chatham Inn, right in the heart of Chatham. It's a coastal haven that offers a refreshing take on the quintessential Cape Cod experience. Formerly known as the Chatham Highlander Village Inn, Greyfinch Chatham Inn has undergone a stunning transformation, combining Chatham's seafaring legacy with modern elegance. With its stylish décor, relaxing atmosphere,

and proximity to nearby beaches, coastal activities, and the Wild Goose Tavern, Greyfinch Chatham Inn promises a truly unforgettable seaside oasis and a picturesque escape on the Cape.



Under the expert guidance of General Manager Cletus Pancham, boasting over 25 years of experience in the hospitality industry, Greyfinch Chatham Inn embodies the spirit

of Cape Cod. The newly transformed property blends modern elegance with the area's rich maritime heritage, creating a unique ambiance that draws visitors year

after year. Guests are invited to immerse themselves in the local life and take advantage of the inn's prime location, just steps away from Chatham's top beaches and attractions.



Greyfinch Chatham Inn offers an array of new programming and partnerships with local businesses, providing guests with enriching experiences during their stay. From art and floral workshops to food tastings and wellness offerings,

there are plenty of opportunities to engage with the vibrant culture of Chatham. The inn's interior, designed by Caroline Rennie of Group One Partners, showcases four distinct room categories, each boasting spacious layouts, custom-designed furniture, updated bathrooms, and the convenience of a kitchenette in the suites. With its dedication to tradition and timeless coastal location, Greyfinch Chatham Inn invites -guests to enjoy a classic Cape Cod experience and forge lasting connections with the captivating island life.

So find your way this summer too Chatham, Massachusetts, the quintessential New England coastal town

that offers a perfect blend of natural beauty, rich history, and a warm, welcoming atmosphere.

Lose yourself in its charm, immerse yourself in its captivating history, and create lasting memories

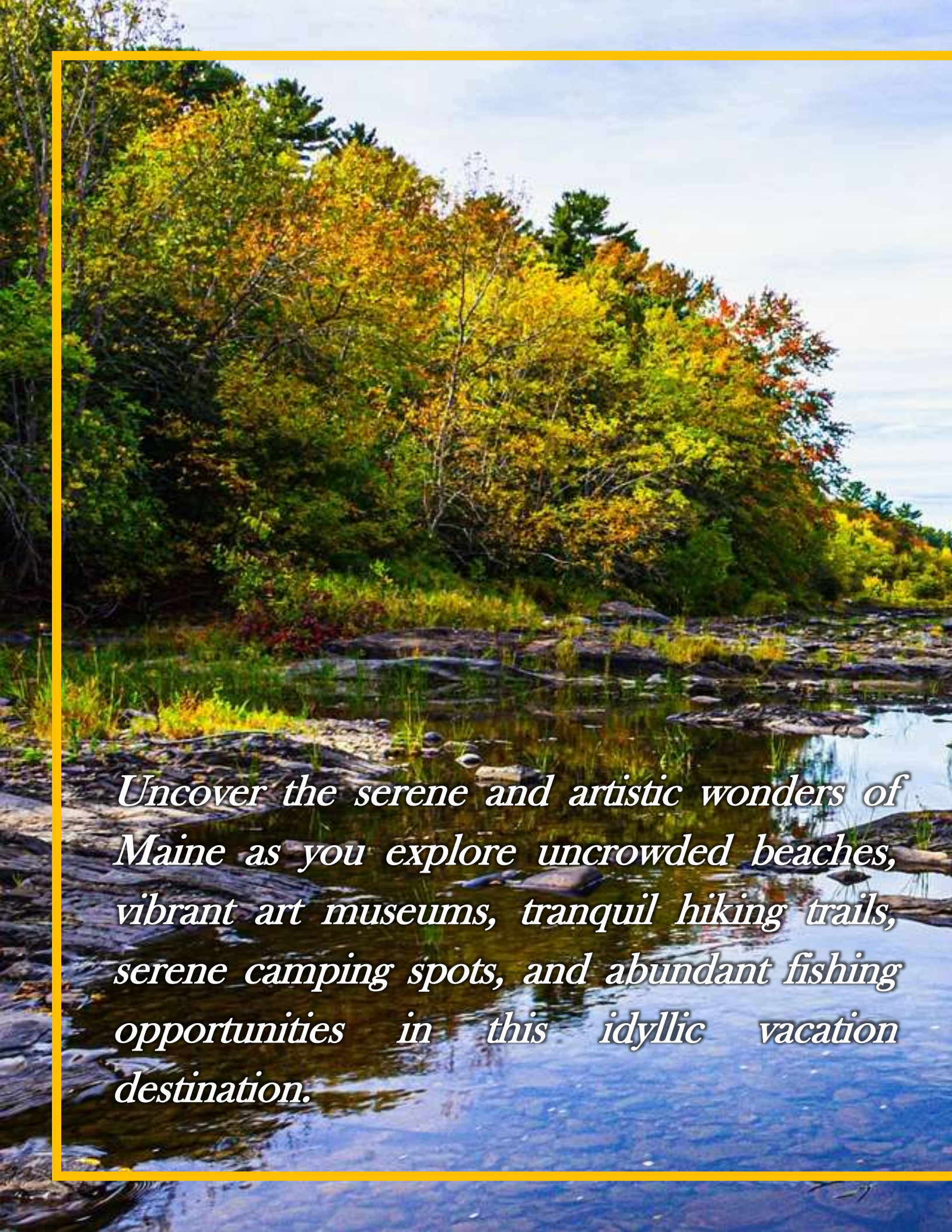
against the backdrop of its stunning coastal vistas. Chatham promises an unforgettable travel experience that will leave you yearning to return time and time again.



### **For more information**

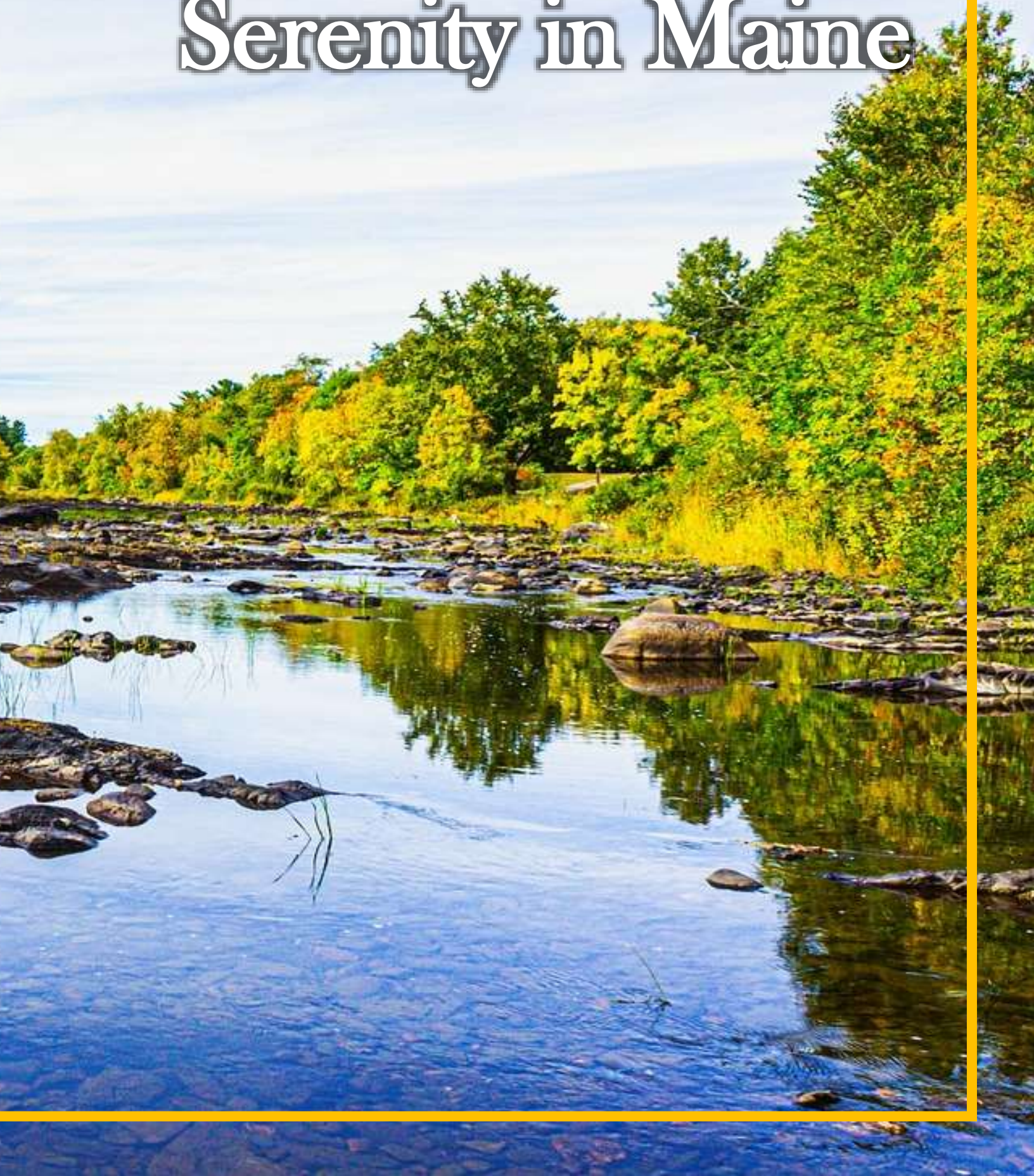
- [www.chathaminfo.com](http://www.chathaminfo.com)
- [www.greyfinchchatham.com](http://www.greyfinchchatham.com)





*Uncover the serene and artistic wonders of Maine as you explore uncrowded beaches, vibrant art museums, tranquil hiking trails, serene camping spots, and abundant fishing opportunities in this idyllic vacation destination.*

Escaping The Crowds and Finding  
**Serenity in Maine**





**I**n a world where bustling museums, crowded beaches, and busy outdoor trails have become the norm, Maine stands out as a refreshing escape. This expansive state, larger than the combined area of the other five New England states, offers experiences and locations where crowds are the exception rather than the rule.

While many visitors flock to the coastline, there is so much more to explore in this vast state. Maine allows you to stroll into an art museum without the need for timed reservations, discover uncrowded beaches, and embark on hikes or fly-fishing trips with only the wilderness as your companion. Here, we present five incredible experiences that visitors can enjoy without

feeling hurried or confined to a schedule.

Beyond its tranquil atmosphere and lack of crowds, Maine boasts a thriving arts scene that invites visitors to immerse themselves in creativity and expression. Among the many hidden gems scattered throughout the state, you'll discover a collection of exceptional art museums that offer intimate and peaceful encounters with captivating artwork. These cultural havens provide a seamless transition from the serene landscapes of Maine to the captivating world of artistic inspiration.

Maine is fortunate to be home to several exceptional art museums scattered throughout the state. These facilities strike the perfect balance, featuring impressive collections while providing intimate and serene art-viewing experiences.

In  
Portland,  
the  
Portland  
Museum  
of Art  
serves as  
the  
cultural  
heart,  
boasting  
an  
extensive  
per-



manent  
collection that includes American, European, and  
contemporary art, as well as iconic pieces from Maine.

The museum also curates engaging ongoing exhibitions and oversees the nearby Winslow Homer Studio. Dating back to 1811,



The Bowdoin College Museum of Art in Brunswick is one of the oldest collegiate art collections in the country. It has grown to house over 20,000 objects, including paintings, sculptures, works on paper, decorative arts, and artifacts spanning prehistory to the

present.

The Center for Maine Contemporary Art is in Rockland, known for its cutting-edge exhibitions.



Venturing inland, the Bates College Museum of Art in Lewiston, with its collection of over 5,000 works, and the Colby College Museum of Art in Waterville, a teaching museum dedicated to the preservation and

interpretation of visual arts, are both worth exploring.

In coastal Rockland, the Farnsworth Art Museum celebrates Maine's significant role in American art. With over 20,000 square feet of gallery space and more than 15,000 works in its collection, this museum offers a comprehensive experience. Adjacent to it lies the Wyeth Center, showcasing the art of Andrew, N.C., and Jamie Wyeth. The museum complex also features two historic buildings—the Farnsworth Homestead and the Olson House—along with Julia's Gallery for Young Artists.

And on the southern coast, the Museum of American Art showcases the works of artists from the Ogunquit Colony, a prominent artistic community from a century ago. The colony's allure stemmed not only from its stunning surroundings but also from the sense of camaraderie and artistic exchange that permeated the community.

Artists gathered in Ogunquit to share ideas, collaborate on projects, and critique each other's work. The free-spirited and bohemian atmosphere nurtured creative experimentation, pushing boundaries and forging new artistic movements.

Prominent artists such as Charles Woodbury,



Courtesy of the  
Ogunquit Museum

Hamilton Easter Field, Robert Laurent, and Rockwell Kent were among those who made significant contributions to the



the Ogunquit artist's colony. They created works that celebrated the unique character of the Maine coast, capturing its rugged beauty, the interplay of light and shadow, and the daily lives of the local communities.

As you soak in the rich artistic heritage of Maine, allow your journey to seamlessly transition from

the captivating strokes of paint on canvas to the vast stretches of serene coastline that await. Beyond the walls of the art museums, Maine's beaches beckon with

their uncrowded allure, offering a tranquil retreat where you can unwind and connect with the raw beauty of nature. From secluded sandy shores to hidden coastal gems, these beach destinations provide the perfect complement to your artistic exploration, inviting you to experience the harmony between artistic expression and the natural world.

If you're seeking uncrowded beaches, Maine offers a multitude of options. Birch Point Beach State Park at Owls Head is a local favorite, boasting stunning views of the

Muscle Ridge Islands. Sandy Point Beach Park near the town of Stockton Springs is rarely crowded. While Wells attracts its fair share of



visitors, nearby Laudholm Beach remains blissfully serene with only a fraction of the crowd. Roque Bluffs, nestled along Englishman's Bay, features a half-mile



stretch of pristine sand. Lamoine State Park, situated across from the bustling Mt. Desert Island, offers ample space to relax and enjoy a picnic in the shade.

For those yearning to escape the crowds completely, a hike to Seawall Beach in Phippsburg or a journey to remote Barred Harbor on Isle au Haut—accessible via the mailboat from Stonington—will provide a truly secluded beach experience.

Continuing our exploration of Maine's tranquil wonders, let us venture from the artistic coastline to the verdant landscapes that await your discovery. Step away completely from humanity and immerse yourself in the breathtaking beauty of Maine's hiking trails,



walking paths, and mountain biking routes. Offering a peaceful respite amidst nature's splendor, these well-maintained trails invite you to wander at your own pace, guiding you through lush forests, beside cascading waterfalls, and up panoramic vistas. Embark on a leisurely stroll, challenge yourself with an invigorating hike, or feel the thrill of biking through unspoiled wilderness, as Maine's outdoor treasures embrace you with their serene and unspoiled majesty.

When you plan your summer hike, the Maine Trail Finder website provides comprehensive details on hundreds of non-motorized trails throughout the state. This user-friendly, interactive mapping site is designed

to assist Maine residents and visitors in finding hiking, walking, and mountain biking trails across the state. It unveils hidden gems such as lesser-known reserves, parks, and preserves that are absent from guidebooks.

These trails cater to casual walkers seeking a leisurely pace, offering quiet and serene settings ideal for forest bathing. Additionally, the Maine Land Trust Network comprises over 75 land trusts that provide

public access to more than 1,260 miles of walking and hiking trails, 275 miles of mountain biking trails, and



over 200 beaches—perfect for cooling off after a woodland adventure.

After a day spent traversing Maine's picturesque trails, it's time to embrace the serenity of the great outdoors and find solace under a starlit sky.

Camping in Maine offers an opportunity to immerse yourself in the untouched beauty of the state's diverse landscapes. With a wide array of options, from coastal parks where crashing waves lull you to sleep, to lakeside havens where tranquil waters mirror the starry

night sky, Maine's camping destinations provide a peaceful retreat for nature enthusiasts. Whether you prefer pitching your own tent, opting for a cozy cabin, or indulging in the comfort of glamping, each camping experience promises to rejuvenate your spirit and deepen your connection with the unspoiled wilderness that makes Maine truly remarkable.

While Acadia National Park is well-known, there are 48 state parks in Maine waiting to be explored. From coastal parks like Cobscook Bay to lakeside parks like Mount Blue and Lily Bay, a wealth of natural beauty awaits. This summer, Tentrr introduces glamping options at select Maine state parks. Visitors can indulge in canvas-wall tents complete with queen-size bunk beds, wood stoves, fire pits, picnic tables, benches, Adirondack chairs, and even Coleman sun showers. The first location opened at Bradbury Mountain, and others have recently become available at Rangeley Lake, Camden Hills,



Mount Blue, Lamoine, Peaks-Kenny, and Warren Island.

As the dawn breaks and paints the horizon with hues

of gold, another tranquil adventure awaits in the pristine waters of Maine. From serene lakes to winding rivers and secluded fishing spots, this state is a paradise for anglers seeking solitude and the thrill of the catch.

Casting your line into Maine's fabled waters, you'll discover a fishing experience that goes beyond the mere act of reeling in fish. It becomes a meditative journey, an opportunity to immerse yourself in the rhythmic dance of nature. Embark on a fishing expedition

accompanied by knowledgeable guides or retreat to one of Maine's time-honored sporting camps, where a century-old tradition of fishing and camaraderie lives on. Whether you seek the elusive brook trout, the powerful salmon, or the spirited bass, Maine's waters beckon with their tranquility, promising an unforgettable fishing experience in harmony with the untouched beauty that surrounds you.

Maine offers a wealth of options for pursuing its





renowned brook trout, landlocked salmon, and large or smallmouth bass. To enhance your fishing experience, consider staying at one of Maine's sporting camps. These camps not only provide rustic lakeside cabins but also serve as part of a century-old tradition that remains vibrant to this day. Sports enthusiasts venture out for the day, often accompanied by registered Maine guides, exploring different waters by boat, canoe, or even floatplane. With over 40 members scattered across the northern half of the state, the Maine

Sporting Camp Association offers some of the finest fishing Northeast.

While art, beaches, hiking, and fishing may be the stars of Maine's serene landscape, there is so much more to discover beyond these enchanting realms. Take the opportunity to chart your own path and explore the myriad of treasures that lie within this captivating state.

Delve into the culinary scene and savor the flavors of fresh seafood, farm-to-table delicacies, and traditional Maine fare. Immerse yourself in the rich



cultural heritage by visiting historical landmarks, charming coastal towns, and vibrant local festivals. Uncover the fascinating history of Maine, from its maritime

roots to its role in shaping the nation.

Whether you find yourself wandering through quaint villages, visiting captivating museums, or embarking on scenic drives, let your curiosity guide you to the hidden gems and unique experiences that await your discovery. Maine is a tapestry woven with countless threads of wonder, ready to unravel before those who dare to

venture beyond the beaten path.

However you explore the state, Maine stands as a haven for those seeking a vacation away from the crowds. Its vast landscapes, rich art scene, tranquil beaches, extensive trail networks, serene camping spots, and abundant fishing opportunities make it an ideal destination for those yearning to escape the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Whether you're strolling through intimate art museums, exploring uncrowded beaches, immersing yourself in nature on hiking and biking trails, unwinding in a glamping experience, or casting your line in pristine waters, Maine offers a sense of peace and tranquility that is becoming increasingly rare in today's world. So, consider Maine for your next vacation and indulge in a truly rejuvenating and crowd-free experience.

### **For more information:**


- [Ogunquitmuseum.org](http://Ogunquitmuseum.org)
- [Portlandmuseum.org](http://Portlandmuseum.org)
- [Bowdin.edu/art-museum](http://Bowdin.edu/art-museum)
- [Farnsworthmuseum.org](http://Farnsworthmuseum.org)
- [CMCANow.org](http://CMCANow.org)
- [Bates.edu/museum](http://Bates.edu/museum)
- [Colby.edu/museum](http://Colby.edu/museum)
- [Visitmaine.com/places-to-go/the-maine-beaches](http://Visitmaine.com/places-to-go/the-maine-beaches)
- [Maintrailfinder.com](http://Maintrailfinder.com)
- [Maine Land Trust - Mltn.org](http://MaineLandTrust-Mltn.org)
- [Maine.gov/dacf/parks/about/state\\_parts.shtml](http://Maine.gov/dacf/parks/about/state_parts.shtml)
- [Mainesportingcamps.com](http://Mainesportingcamps.com)



Thomas Edison's Home

# “Glenmont”, West Orange, NJ





Edison's primary home from 1886 until his death in 1931.

The Queen Anne style mansion has 29 rooms, including a laboratory (of course).

The library has over 10,000 books for Edison's personal reading and research.

The home, now a museum, boasts an impressive collection of Edison's inventions and artifacts.

Knowledgeable docents guide visitors through the house, showcasing Edison's life and work.

Edison didn't invent the lightbulb, or many of his other "inventions". Instead he made them commercially viable.

A photograph of a rooftop bar in Philadelphia during sunset. In the foreground, a woman with long brown hair, wearing a black top and a black bag, is smiling and talking to a man in a black leather jacket. They are standing at a bar counter with drinks and plates. In the background, other people are dining, and there are large patio heaters. The view from the rooftop shows a cityscape with buildings and a large classical building with columns. The sky is filled with soft, golden light from the setting sun.

*Discover the heights of culinary delight and breathtaking views in Philadelphia as we unveil the city's top rooftop bars and restaurants.*

Philly's Bars and Restaurants

# Up On The Roof

Photos Courtesy of  
Visit Philadelphia



**E**xperience the soaring heights of Philadelphia's hospitality scene at the city's best rooftop bars and restaurants. As the temperatures rise, it's time to elevate your happy hour game and indulge in alfresco dining with breathtaking views. Whether you're in the heart of the city or exploring the Greater Philadelphia region, these establishments offer a mix of delectable bites, craft cocktails, and a refreshing ambiance.

As the sun sets over the vibrant city of Philadelphia, the enchanting world of rooftop bars and restaurants comes alive. From stunning skyline views to delectable bites and refreshing drinks, these elevated destinations offer an experience like no other. Whether you're

seeking a lively beer garden in South Philly, a chic lounge with craft cocktails in Center City, or a romantic terrace overlooking the river, Philadelphia has a rooftop spot to suit every taste and occasion.

Indulge in the modern luxury of Assembly Rooftop Lounge, where panoramic views of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway complement craft cocktails and delectable small plates. Experience the retro charm of The Continental Mid-town's rooftop lounge, complete with comfy sofas and firepits, perfect for enjoying a Sunday brunch. And don't miss the vibrant atmosphere of Bok Bar, a seasonal beer garden atop a former high school, where you can savor local brews and take in breathtaking skyline views.

Beyond the city limits, the Greater Philadelphia region offers its own rooftop gems. From Downingtown's East Branch Brewing Co., where you can enjoy laid-back craft beer and mouthwatering bar fare while witnessing beautiful sunsets, to West Chester's Más Mexicali Cantina, where rooftop tacos and margaritas await with a view of downtown, these destinations combine culinary delights with captivating scenery.

**Assembly Rooftop Lounge:** Alfresco drinks and small plates nine floors up.



Photo by G. Widman  
for Visit Philadelphia®

Modern luxury is what it's all about at Assembly Rooftop Lounge at The Logan, Philadelphia's Hotel. Far beyond your average hotel bar, Assembly is situated nine floors above street level, is open year-round, and offers plenty of seating nests and firepits. As if picturesque views of the Benjamin Franklin Parkway aren't enough, craft cocktails (frozé, anyone?), charcuterie, fondue and more add to the appeal. Assembly Rooftop Lounge, 1840 Benjamin Franklin Parkway

**Attico Rooftop Lounge:** A stylish rooftop bar with prime balcony seating.

Perched on the 16th floor above the Cambria Hotel on Broad Street, Attico offers Center City views from dozens of feet over the street. The stylish year-round outdoor balcony is the perfect spot for epic parties, including brunch parties (arguably the best kind of party), as well as happy-hour selections like \$2 oysters,

\$3

shrimp cocktail, and \$6 baked ham and cheese, or eggplant toasts.

Attico, 219 S. Broad



Photo by J. Fusco  
for Visit Philadelphia®

## Street

**Bok Bar:** A bustling rooftop beer garden in South Philly.

Each spring, summer and fall, the rooftop of South Philadelphia's former Bok High School turns into a spacious beer garden with stellar skyline views. The seasonal watering hole serves a variety of drinks (including a mostly local can list) alongside bites from monthly chefs in residence. Even better? No reservations are required, so drop in whenever you'd like to feel the wind in your hair and a cold drink in your hand. Bok Bar, 800 Mifflin Street

**The Continental Mid-town:** Retro rooftop vibes in Rittenhouse Square.

Just off Rittenhouse Square, Stephen Starr's classic eclectic restaurant features a retro rooftop lounge — the spot's pièce de résistance. With its 1960s vibe (think comfy sofas and firepits), the rooftop is partially enclosed so that it's serviceable year-round. The lush deck area is uber popular during warmer months, particularly with the Saturday and Sunday brunch crowd. The Continental Mid-town 1800 Chestnut Street

**East Branch Brewing Co.:** Breezy brews and bites in Downingtown.

Chester County brewery East Branch Brewing Co. is one of those neighborhood spots you hit up for

laidback craft beer and bar fare. On warm days (double check their straight-to-the-point Instagram account), the brewery's rooftop is opened for diners and drinkers. While there aren't skyscrapers to gaze upon, there are great sunsets to watch. The menu includes banh mi, burgers, mac and cheese and, of course, beer and cocktails. East Branch Brewing Company, 202 E. Lancaster Avenue, Downingtown



**El Techo:** Rooftop tacos and tequila in Center City.

Queso fundido, tacos, frozen cocktails, oh my! Add in the smattering of downtown skyscrapers peering overhead and you've got yourself the whole package at El Techo. Condesa's taqueria spans the 11th floor and offers rooftop dining all year long thanks to a retractable glass roof. Reservations aren't mandatory, but it's smart to have one – especially for brunch. El

Techo, 1826 Ludlow Street

**Emmy Squared Rooftop:** Rectangular pizza served rooftop.

Detroit-style pizza and frozen cocktails on a roof? Yes, please. In the warmer months, Emmy Squared offers tons of rooftop seating at its spot in Queen Village, where diners can take their pick from the seasonal cocktails and beer list and, of course, pizza. Seating is first come, first served. Emmy Squared Pizza: Queen Village - Philly, 632 S. 5th Street

**Far East Descendant:** Cantonese cuisine on a private rooftop patio.

Chinatown's Far East Descendant specializes in Cantonese fare, with a menu of small plates, claypot rice, Montao sandwiches, family-style meals and unique cocktails. We suggest sampling all of it up on their rooftop, a year-round oasis tucked between buildings and removed from the bustle down below. Far East Descendant, 251 N. Clarion Street

**The Great American Pub Rooftop:** Great pub food and drink served sky-top.

The Great American Pub is a Conshohocken staple, and guests looking to pair their pub fare with some sunshine can opt for a spot at the rooftop bar. Cocktails, wine and beer go well with the Montgomery County views. Roof seating is first come, first served, so get it while it's ... hot. The Great American Pub,

## 123 Fayette Street, Conshohocken

**Irwin's:** Sicilian tastes and vino with a view.

Bok Bar's more formal counterpart, chef Michael Vincent Ferreri's Irwin's – named one of the best new restaurants in the country by Bon Appétit – serves Sicilian cuisine paired with natural wines – that are



best enjoyed on its eighth-floor rooftop terrace. The outside space – open May through September – isn't available to walk-ins, so be sure to make a reservation. Irwin's, 800 Mifflin Street

**Lark:** Rooftop romance in Bala Cynwyd.

The rooftop terrace at this restaurant offers stunning views of the Schuylkill River. On the menu: seafood-forward cuisine such as striped bass ceviche

or squid ink chitarra decked out with mussels, black truffle, preserved tomato and chili. Lark, 611 Righters Ferry Road, Bala Cynwyd



**Liberty Point:** Wind down on the waterfront.

Billed as the city's largest restaurant, Liberty Point has enough space to seat 1,400 people across three indoor-outdoor levels. The Delaware River waterfront-located establishment boasts multiple elevated outdoor deck areas for dining, dancing and live entertainment – perfect for views of the river while vibing and sipping. Liberty Point, 211 S. Christopher Columbus Boulevard

### **Más Mexicali Cantina: Rooftop tacos, anyone?**

Taco 'bout a view. The fiesta goes outdoors at Más Mexicali Cantina in West Chester. The expansive rooftop can fit 150 people eager to catch a glimpse of downtown West Chester from above over a pitcher of margaritas and enchiladas. Más Mexicali Cantina, 102 E. Market Street, West Chester

### **Off the Rail: A down-the-shore feeling in Delco.**

With a huge rooftop patio giving off major shore vibes – but in Delco – Off The Rail is a spring and summer staple for those looking for warm-weather vibing and imbibing. Live bands and DJs set the scene on weekends and for more chill nights, there's plenty of seating, lawn games, beer, wine, cocktails and pub fare to go around. Sports fans can catch all the action alfresco on an impressively large projector. Off the Rail – Media, 109 W. State Street, Media

### **Patchwork at the Hyatt Centric Center City: Locally sourced eats in a central location.**

On the second floor of the Hyatt Centric Center City is the New American spot Patchwork. In addition to the menu, focusing on locally sourced ingredients, the restaurant has a tight list of cocktails, wine and beer – all available to be enjoyed on the patio. Smack dab in the middle of Center City high rises, you'll feel teeny tiny – in the best way – among all the brick, glass and steel. Patchwork, Hyatt Centric Center City, 1620 Chancellor Street

## **Positano Coast by Aldo Lamberti: Elevated Italian eats.**

Positano Coast's Italian eats taste even better from the elevated seating on the spot's second floor. While taking in

great views of Old City — and admiring the restaurant's stylish new renovations — diners can enjoy tasty



Photo by G. Widman  
for Visit Philadelphia®

snacks such as seafood boards and burrata paired with fine wines or signature cocktails from the bar. Positano Coast by Aldo Lamberti, 212 Walnut Street

## **Rams Pint House and Rooftop Lounge: Beer and American fare in the open air.**

With its impressive beer list and laid-back vibes, Rams Pint House and Rooftop Lounge is a top pick in Perkasié. Guests find fresh air at the spot's rooftop lounge, where burgers, beers and frozen cocktails await. Rams Pint House and Rooftop Lounge, 606 W. Chestnut Street, Perkasié

**Revolution House:** For comfort food and creative cocktails overlooking the Historic District.

On warmer nights, patrons of Old City's Revolution House take advantage of the spot's roof deck, offering



a prime view of Christ Church's steeple. (Christ Church is where Ben Franklin, Betsy Ross and many other

colonial notables worshiped.) The restaurant's full menu of comfort food and creative cocktails are all available from the higher perch. Revolution House, 200 Market Street

**Standard Tap:** Widely considered one of the first gastropubs in America.

Tucked away from the bustle of 2nd Street in Northern Liberties is Standard Tap's always inviting, always laidback second-floor porch. The neighborhood mainstay serves up delicious gastropub fare and a thoughtful supply of craft beer that serve as

a perfect pairing to the breezy balcony. Standard Tap, 901 N. 2nd Street

**Stratus Rooftop Lounge:** A posh spot atop the Hotel Monaco.

The trendy Stratus Rooftop Lounge sits on the 11th story of the Kimpton Hotel Monaco Philadelphia. A curated cocktail menu pairs perfectly with light bites and shareable snacks. Adding to the ambiance: leather seating, low lighting and a “green wall” that serves as an Instagram-friendly backdrop. Stratus Rooftop Lounge, 433 Chestnut Street

**Sunset Social:** A high-altitude hangout in West Philly.

High atop West Philly's Cira Center,

Sunset Social offers drama and relaxation in equal measure. The fast-casual menu includes a selection of bowls, burgers and fries, plus beer, wine, and frozen and bottled cocktails that patrons can enjoy along with the epic view. Sunset Social, 129 S. 30th Street



**Vango Lounge and Skybar:** Rende-zvous with a view all year long.

Drinks, hookah and rooftop views: There's little else you need at Center City's Vango Lounge and Skybar. The restaurant and hookah bar keeps its third-story deck open all year round for eats, drinks and high style. Vango Lounge and Skybar, 116 S. 18th Street

**Victory Brewing Company Philadelphia:** What's better than craft brews with a view?

As if its 14,000-square-foot interior wasn't enough, Victory Brewing Company taproom on the Benjamin Franklin Parkway boasts a rooftop patio with panoramic views of the Parkway. In addition to all the Victory beers you could ever imagine, guests can fill up on brisket meatballs, kebab naan, smoked chicken pot pie and more. Victory Brewing Company Philadelphia, 1776 Benjamin Franklin Parkway

**XIX (Nineteen):** French Renaissance rooftop vibes.

High above the city streets, this spot on the 19th floor (hence the name) of The Bellevue Hotel features a balcony over-looking Broad Street. Enjoy pre-dinner drinks with a view, or get gussied up and grab a few friends for a picture-perfect happy hour. XIX (Nineteen), 200 S. Broad Street



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Whether you're a local seeking a new favorite haunt or a visitor looking to experience Philadelphia from a different perspective, these rooftop bars and restaurants are the perfect backdrop for memorable moments. So grab your sunglasses, embrace the warm weather, and elevate your dining and drinking experiences in the City of Brotherly Love.

Cheers to rooftop revelry and the stunning views that make it all the more extraordinary.



*The transformative life, music, and legacy  
of Carole King, on stage at TBTS.*





Theatre By The Sea Presents

# Beautiful: The Carole King Musical

Feature by  
**Paul Pence**  
Photos by  
**Mark Turek**



**I**n one of many captivating moments of "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" at Theater By The Sea, we found ourselves immersed in the creative process as Carole King and her husband sat at the piano, pouring their hearts into crafting the melody and lyrics for "Up On the Roof." Then, as if the veil between imagination and reality lifted, four remarkably talented performers appeared, embodying the spirit, style, and choreography of the legendary Drifters.

With impeccable precision and soulful renditions, they recreated the magic of the song, their voices blending, filling the theater with a nostalgic melodies

that have touched the hearts of generations. It was a moment of transcendence, one of many throughout the play, where the creative process seamlessly intertwined with the artistry of the performers, leaving us awestruck and deeply moved.

My wife knew of Carole King's songs as a singer, a fan of her empowering messages as well as the artistry of the songs themselves, including *So Far Away*, *Natural*

Woman, I feel the Earth Move, and You've Got A Friend. She has a copy of her top-selling album *Tapestry*, cherished despite the fact that we no longer have a turntable to play vinyl records.

Carole King's music held a deeply personal significance for my wife, and many

people of the era. But while my wife had been a long-time admirer of Carole King as a singer, drawn to the



empowering messages and the artistry of songs, I have a personal quirk where I rarely connect a performer to their songs. I hadn't even realized that those iconic songs were all crafted by the very same person. But an even larger



realization hit both of us, taking us both by surprise -- by delving deeper into Carole King's musical journey through this performance, we discovered the sheer magnitude of her songwriting prowess. From enchanting compositions like "Some Kind of Wonderful," "Will You Love Me Tomorrow," "Chains," and the infectious "Loco-motion" to a staggering repertoire of over 100 other Billboard hits, Carole King's creative genius and impact on the music industry left us in awe of her extraordinary talent.

As "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" unfolded before our eyes at Theater By The Sea, it became apparent that the production not only celebrated Carole King's musical achievements but also offered a profound glimpse into her personal journey. The narrative took us on a captivating ride through the ups and downs of her life, revealing the resilience and determination that propelled her from a young and ambitious songwriter to a revered icon in the music

industry.

The play artfully depicted Carole King's early years, showcasing her innate talent and unwavering passion for music. We witnessed Carole King (performed by Monet Sabel)



and her collaborative partnership with her husband, Gerry Goffin (performed by Timm Quartier), as they navigated the dynamic world of the Brill Building, where some of the greatest hits of the era were crafted. The challenges they faced both personally and professionally, the triumphs and setbacks, all contributed to the narrative tapestry of the musical.

The musical's narrative arc took us on a transformative journey, witnessing Carole King's evolution from a young woman grappling with self-doubt and adversity to a confident and empowered artist who found her own voice. This personal transformation, beautifully depicted on stage, mirrored the transformative power of Carole King's music itself. Her songs became anthems of self-discovery, resilience, and the pursuit of one's dreams, resonating deeply with audiences around the world.

It would be a mistake to think that "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" is simply a biographical portrayal of Carole King's life. In truth, it served as a captivating exploration of the art of songwriting during a transformative era spanning the do-wop of the 1950s to the 1970s pop rock often showcased



by the Monkees. The musical offered a glimpse into the evolving landscape of popular music, reflecting the changing times and the voices that shaped the industry alongside



Carole King. It showcased the contributions of other key figures of the era, such as Gerry Goffin who struggled with mental health issues, and best friends and friendly rival couple Cynthia Weil

and Barry Mann, all of whom were instrumental in defining the sound and spirit of the time.

By exploring the lives and collaborations of key figures like Gerry Goffin, Cynthia Weil (Alaina Mills), and Barry Mann (Andrew Poston), "Beautiful" showcased the interconnectedness of the songwriting community and the enduring impact of their collective work. It emphasized the power of collaboration, innovation, and the ability of music to transcend boundaries and resonate with audiences on a universal level.

During this period, popular music underwent a remarkable transformation, transitioning from the simpler melodies and romantic themes of the 1950s to the more introspective and socially conscious songs of the 1960s and 1970s. The musical beautifully captured this evolution, highlighting the impact of artists like The Drifters, The Shirelles, The Righteous Brothers, and Aretha Franklin, among others.



The Brill Building, where Carole King and her contemporaries worked, served as a creative hub that



birthed countless hits and showcased the collaborative nature of the songwriting process. The musical underscored the collective effort and cross-pollination of ideas that occurred within this vibrant community of songwriters, where creativity and competition thrived side by side.

As always, we eagerly anticipated the performance of "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" at Theater By The Sea, where the extraordinary talents of the cast and crew would bring this captivating story to life on

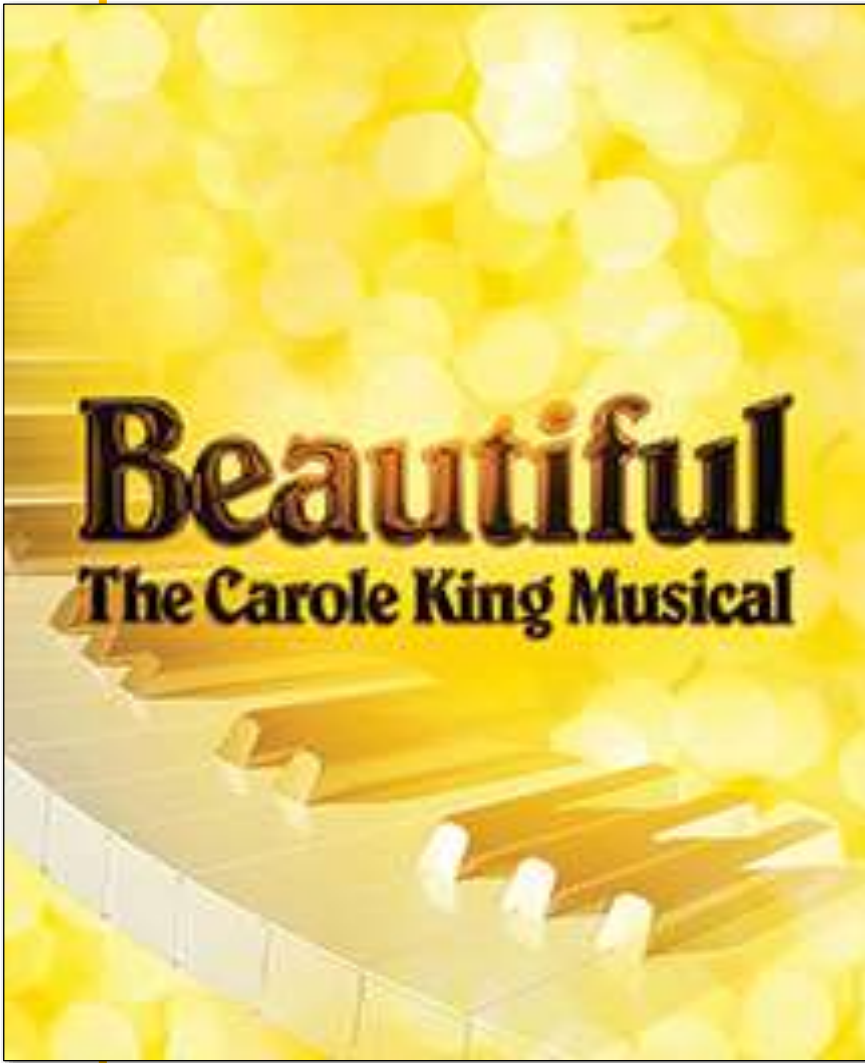
stage. TBTS holds a rich history as one of Rhode Island's most beloved cultural institutions. Nestled in the picturesque seaside town of Matunuck, this enchanting theater has been entertaining audiences since its establishment in 1933. Originally built as a barn, TBTS underwent a transformation in 1967 to become a professional summer theater, and it has been captivating theater enthusiasts ever since.



The venue itself exudes a unique charm, combining the rustic elegance of its origins with modern amenities. Set against the backdrop of serene coastal landscapes, the theater's intimate setting creates an immersive experience for attendees. With its picturesque outdoor courtyard, adorned with lush greenery and vibrant flowers, theatergoers can enjoy pre-show gatherings or post-performance conversations in a truly enchanting atmosphere.

Inside the theater, the audience is greeted by a warm and inviting space. The seating arrangement ensures an intimate connection between performers and spectators, allowing for an immersive theatrical experience. The acoustics are carefully designed to deliver pristine sound quality, enhancing the magic of the performances. From the cozy seating to the detailed stage design, TBTS creates an ambiance that invites audiences to become fully immersed in the world of the production.

The diverse repertoire of shows at TBTS is a



testament to its commitment to providing a varied and captivating theater experience.

Known for its summer season, the theater hosts a range of productions, including Broadway musicals, classic plays, and contemporary works. Audiences can delight in the enchantment of beloved musicals, experience the drama and intensity of thought-provoking

plays, or immerse themselves in the world of vibrant dance performances. With a lineup that caters to diverse tastes and interests, TBTS has established itself as a cultural hub, fostering a deep appreciation for the performing arts.

Over the years, Theater By The Sea has a rightly earned reputation for exceptional productions and commitment to artistic excellence. Its stage has been graced by the talents of renowned performers and emerging stars alike, all contributing to the theater's vibrant legacy. With its rich history, stunning setting, and a dedication to delivering outstanding theatrical experiences, TBTS continues to be a cherished destination for theater lovers seeking unforgettable performances in the heart of Rhode Island's scenic

coastal beauty.

Attending a play at Theater By The Sea is an experience that should not be missed for any avid theater enthusiast. While the limited run of specific productions means that your chance of catching "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" may have already passed, but fear not, TBTS consistently delivers exceptional shows throughout the summer that are sure to captivate and entertain. To plan a visit, it is advisable to regularly check the theater's website or sign up for their newsletter to stay informed about upcoming productions and ticket availability. When a show catches your interest, it's best to book your tickets in advance to secure your preferred seating. Whether it's a beloved Broadway musical, a thought-provoking play, or a dazzling dance performance, Theater By The Sea has a reputation for consistently delivering high-quality productions that leave audiences in awe. So, while "Beautiful" may depart on July 8, rest assured that every show at TBTS promises to be an unforgettable experience, ensuring that you'll leave the theater with cherished memories and a newfound appreciation for the performing arts.

When you go, catch a meal before or after the play at the on-site restaurant Bravo by the Sea. Or relax in the gardens and stroll under the arbor like we did as we reflected on the magical world of "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" at Theater By The Sea. As we explored the gardens, we realized that we had discovered a profound truth: the music we have cherished throughout the years would never have come to be without the remarkable talent and indomitable spirit of Carole King and the other creators in the musical.

**For more information:**

- [www.theatrebythesea.com](http://www.theatrebythesea.com)





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