

Northeast Traveler

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Maine's Crown Jewel Acadia National Park

**Adventure and Relaxation in Waterville Valley
King Richard's Faire is Calling!
Rhode Island's Swamps, Bogs, and Wetlands**

August 2022

Northeast Traveler

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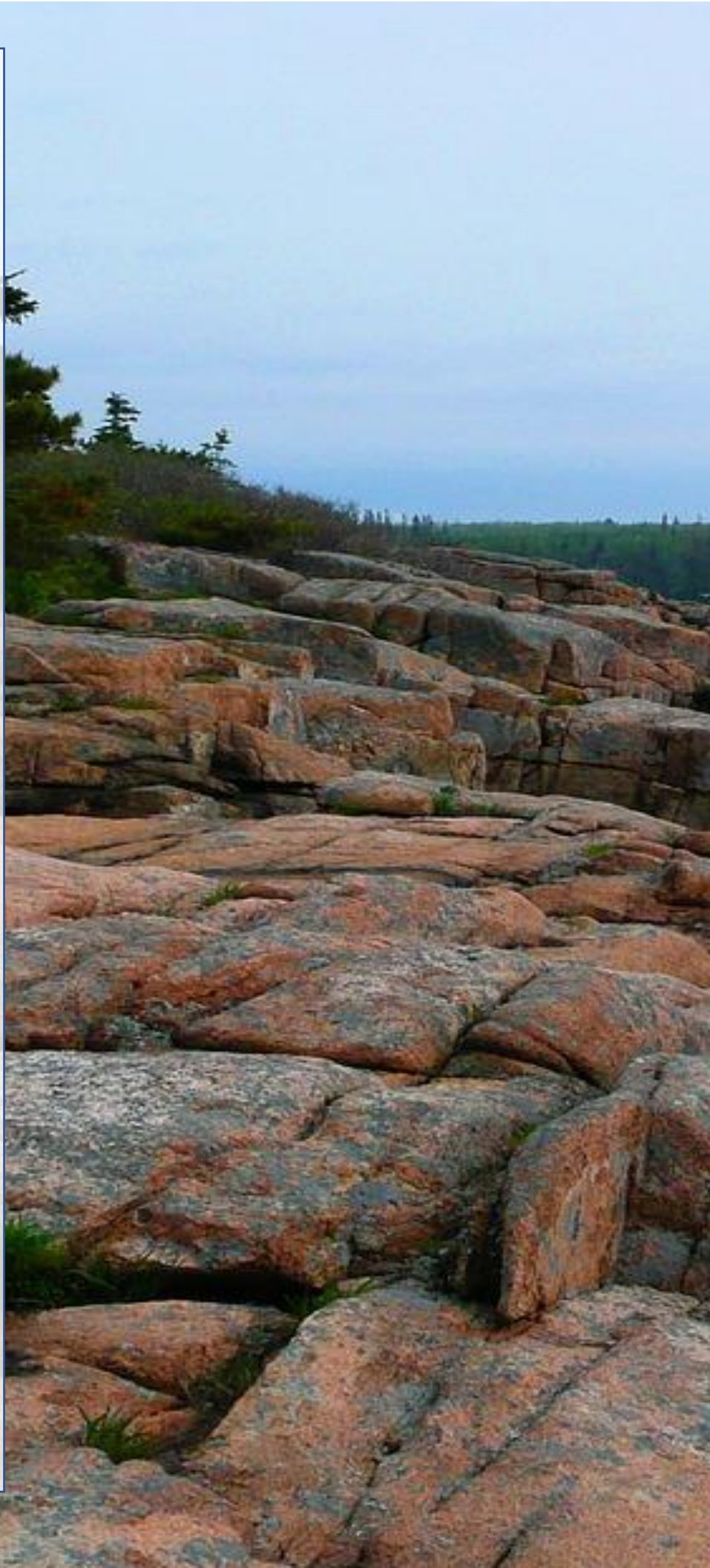
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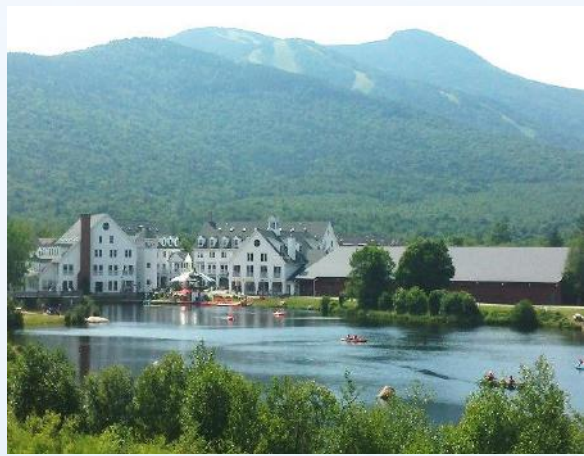
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Waterville Valley, NH Relaxation and Adventure

Feature
Story and Photos By
Paul Pence

*A summertime visit to New
Hampshire's four-season
destination*



A quiet village, surrounded by New Hampshire's White Mountain National Forest may seem like a nice place to escape this summer, but when you add mountain biking on 100 miles of trails, golf, canoeing, swimming, and tennis to a town square filled with shopping and dining, there's no doubt that you've found a really great place to escape this summer. Waterville Valley Resort has the perfect mix of activity and relaxation to make a terrific summer.

Waterville Valley's Freedom Pass make the active part of a trip to the White Mountains simple -- with the Freedom Pass, guests can enjoy a 2-hour standard mountain

bike rental each day of their stay

Waterville Valley is surrounded off-road trails in the White Mountain National Forest, making it the perfect destination for



you may be serenaded by a retired opera singer who helps riders find their feet at the top of the lift.

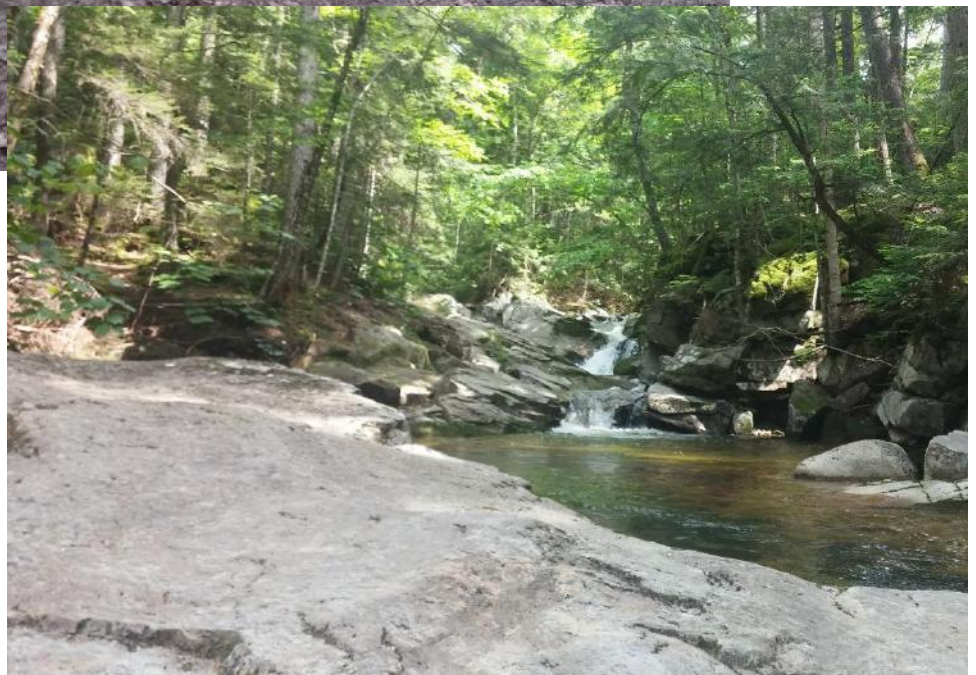
Or use the pass to hit the links at the resort's historic 9-hole golf course.



The course was created in the late 1800s by the summer residents looking for another fun outdoor activity. It

mountain biking and hiking enthusiasts, but the pass also lets guests ride the chairlift up Snow's Mountain, making a mountain biking adventure almost entirely downhill.

The chair lift ride by itself is a relaxing adventure, gliding slowly up the hill over wildflowers and among treetops -- and with lucky timing



officially opened in 1898, making it one of New Hampshire's oldest courses.

The open and casual atmosphere of the early days has carried through to today welcoming people of all ages and abilities. At each turn onto the next hole, golfers are treated to another spectacular view of the White Mountains surrounding the valley. This par 31 layout has four par-4 holes, providing a challenging golf experience for everyone.

Not a golfer? Then play tennis on the 18 award-winning clay tennis courts. Waterville Valley Tennis Club is one of the top tennis



resorts in the country for its facilities, value and programs for children. For years, it has been recognized by Tennis Magazine as one of the Top 50 tennis resorts in America, and was also named by the magazine as one of the Top 5 Best Bargains and one of the Top 5 Family Resorts. The Club was also just ranked number 13 in the world by Tennis Resorts Online. But don't let all the honors intimidate you.

This down-to-earth club welcomes tennis players of all abilities. Owner and Head Pro Tom Gross has designed a program that introduces new players to the game while



allowing more experienced players a chance to work on their serve and back hand.

Parents can enjoy the afternoon volleying with the kids or sneak away for a quick game. The pass also lets visitors rent a canoe, kayak, pedal boat or stand-up paddle board on the spring-fed pond, the perfect way to cool down. Or even cool way way down at the indoor ice arena. Yes, ice skating in the summer, even if you don't have skates, since ice skate rentals are available for a small fee.

With the Freedom Pass guests have access to the White Mountain

Athletic Club's indoor and outdoor pools, whirlpools, saunas, steam rooms, indoor jogging track, and strength & cardio centers. Whether you're looking to get a good sweat in the cardio room or want to lounge by the outdoor pool, the White Mountain Athletic Club has it all

Enjoy indoor and outdoor swimming pools, whirlpools, saunas, the cardio and weight rooms -- even an indoor climbing wall!

Families with younger children can enjoy a Curious George storytelling every Saturday at





11am and 4pm, where parents and children can curl up and listen to the classic story of that mischievous monkey. The story tellings are at the Margret & H.A. Rey Center located in Town Square. The center is dedicated to the authors of the beloved children's book, Curious George, promoting both the arts and sciences, featuring reading, art, nature and astronomy seminars. The non-profit Rey Center is named for the authors of the popular Curious George books. The Rey family owned a home in Waterville Valley, which is now

open to the public as the Curious George Cottage.

Of course there is a lot more to do in Waterville Valley -- special events like concerts, festivals, and theater, art exhibits, nature presentations, competitions, and celebrations are on the calendar throughout the summer. The Town Center holds most of the village's shops, including outfitters, a country store, gift shops, café, and ice cream shop.

The Coyote Grille, located on the second floor of the village's Athletic Center, features a country décor features wooden beams from

a 200-year-old barn. Chef and owner Sean Stout has created a comfortable, casual, pub atmosphere, with live music on Fridays. But the food is the reason to visit – Scott brought his talent with seafood from Rhode Island and Cape Cod to the west side of the White Mountains. The Point Judith calamari is prepared Rhode Island style – tender and spicy, and the Prince Edward Island mussels were sautéed in a white wine garlic sauce.

Appetizers also include a salad made with a julienne pink lady apple, baby greens, shaved red onion, candied pecans, and cave aged bleu cheese in a roasted shallot vinaigrette and a Thai spring roll made with marinated grilled chicken and julienne vegetables.

Of course, after a wonderful dinner, a comfy bed is called for. There are multiple lodgings throughout Waterville Valley, but the Freedom Passes are available to guests staying at Town Square Condos, Black Bear Lodge, Golden Eagle Lodge, Best Western Silver Fox Inn, Village Condominium and Valley Inn. Each of the lodgings are different -





- the Town Square Condos are above the shops in the Town Center, while all of the other lodgings are nearby.

Valley Inn, located in the middle of the village, a short stroll from the athletic center and the Town Square. This modern family-owned hotel features hotel rooms and suites, many with kitchenettes.

Our room's sleeping area was separated from the living area by glass sliding doors and looked out toward the mountain. The living area included a kitchenette, breakfast table, and for extra



guests, a sleeper sofa.

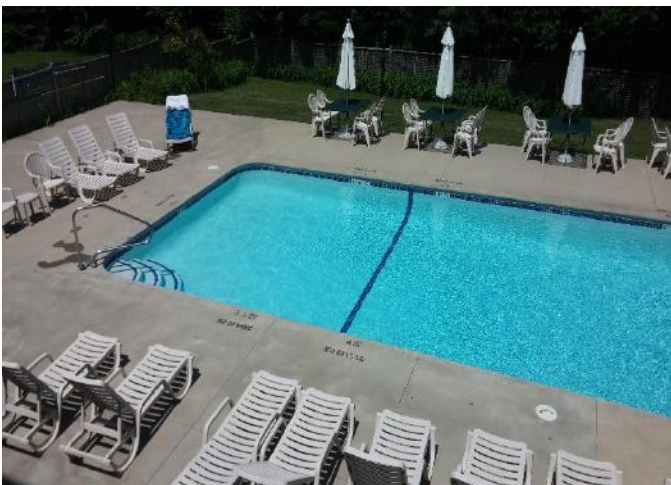
In the lobby, Steve Cahill and his friendly staff kept the atmosphere welcoming and cheery, with hot popcorn and smiling faces. The common areas of the Valley Inn include fireplaces and cozy couches. There is also a guest laundry, seasonal outdoor pool, and meeting spaces.

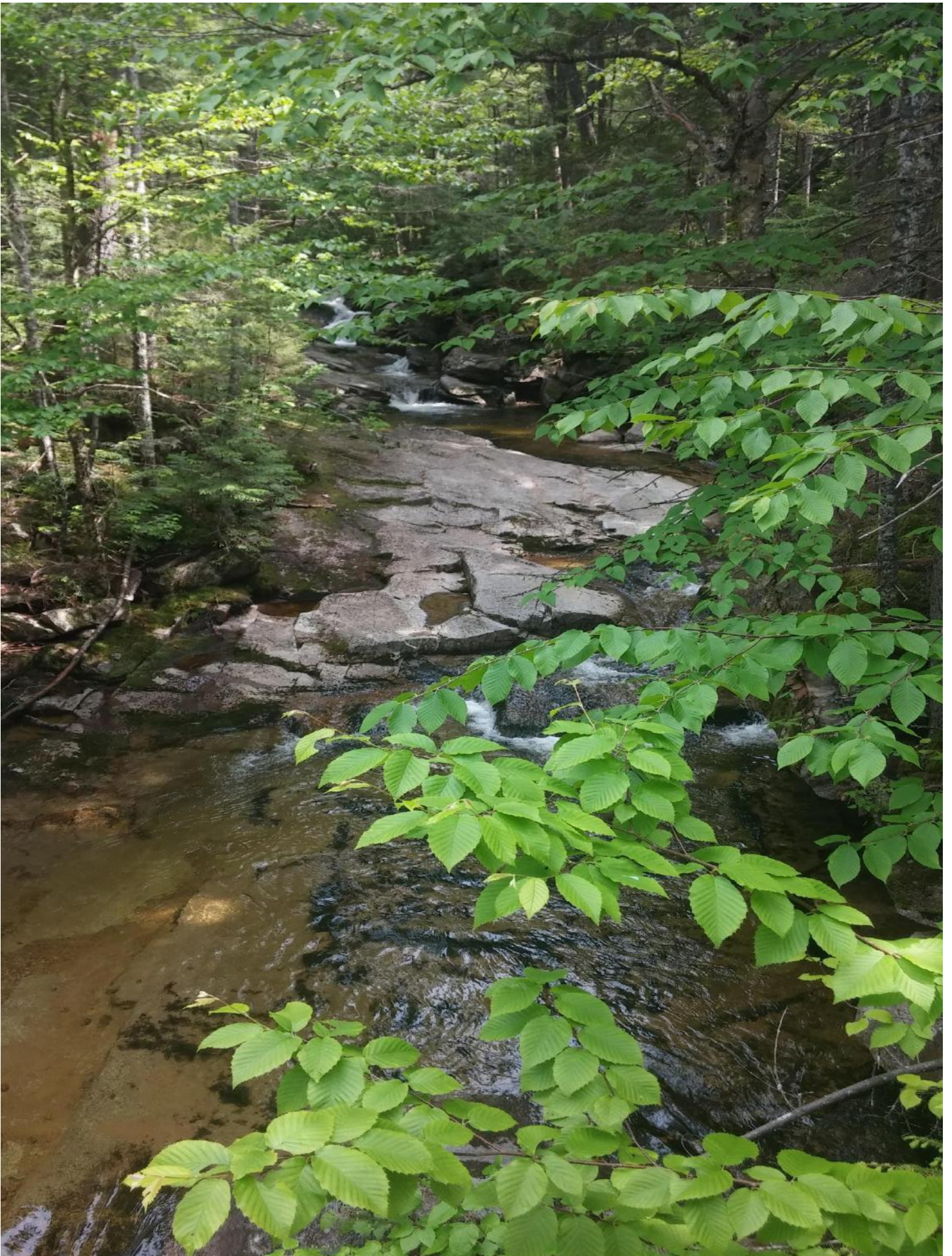
So this summer, look for adventure and relaxation in Waterville Valley Resort.

For more information:

1-800-GO-VALLEY

www.visitwatervillevalley.com.









Acadia National Park Coastal Maine's Crown Jewel

Feature
Story and Photos By
Debbie Stone

*Coastal New England charm,
nature, and history*



The popovers at the Jordan Pond House in Maine’s Acadia National Park are famous. But until you try them, you might be skeptical of their reputation. After all, they’re popovers. How good could they be?

It only took one bite of my Jordan Pond House popover to know that the glowing accolades were true. I was an instant convert. The muffin-like baked treat was light and fluffy with a delicious buttery flavor, and served piping hot. Of course, I slathered it in butter and strawberry jam. A glass of blueberry lemonade made the

perfect accompaniment, as did the beautiful view of Jordan Pond and the Bubble Mountains. And when the server asked if I wanted another popover, I eagerly replied, “Yes, please!”

The Jordan Pond House traces its history from 1847, when settlers established a small mill near the foot of the pond. As to its name and



the country's Atlantic coastline (oh, those jagged pink granite formations!), a rich cultural heritage and an abundance of diverse environments. There are 27 miles of historic roads, 158 miles of hiking trails and 45 miles of unique carriage roads in the park.

that of the pond, credit goes to the Jordan family, who built the original farmhouse on the property. The place became a restaurant in the early 1870s, which is when the custom of serving tea and popovers outside on the lawn overlooking the pond was established.

People come from all over, not only to experience this popular tradition and walk the trail around picturesque Jordan Pond, but to explore the rest of glorious Acadia National Park. With an average of 3.5 million visits a year, Acadia is one of the top ten most-frequented national parks in the U.S. It boasts the highest rocky headlands along

Acadia encompasses nearly 50,000 acres, including Mount Desert Island, Schoodic Peninsula, Isle au Haut and other outer islands. Most of the park is located on Mount Desert Island, the largest island off the Maine coast. And this is the area where most visitors opt to spend their time.



The Park Loop Road is an effective way to get around this part of Acadia by vehicle, as it offers dramatic views and access to notable highlights, as well as to various hiking trails. It winds through forests, past lakes and mountains and along the shoreline of this natural paradise.



One of the highlights of Acadia is Thunder Hole, a natural rock formation that is affected by sea conditions. Big, crashing waves move into the hole and cause a thundering boom and a boisterous splash. Time it right – about two hours before high tide – for the most impactful experience.

Sand Beach is another point of interest. The beach is primarily made up of crushed shells. You can swim here, and “polar bears” do, but know that the warmest water temps are between 55-60 degrees in August. Brrr!

Don’t be disappointed if you’re not able to spot sea otters at Otter



Point and Otter Cliffs. There are none here, nor anywhere in Acadia. It’s possible these places were actually named for river otters. Wildlife aside, both these locations offer spectacular views and make rewarding stops. At impressive Otter Cliff, the granite



formations rise way above the water. Take the trail further on to Otter Point, where you can laze on the rocks and explore tide pools.

Monument Cove is known for its namesake pillar, which is the result of storm wave action over centuries. This stalwart sentinel has stood in its current form for 500 years, guarding the cove from above. Nearby is the unofficially-named “Boulder Beach,” where you’ll see a section of shoreline covered in bowling ball sized rocks.

Hiking trails range from easy to challenging, depending on the

terrain. Some go through forests or along the coastline, while others loop around lakes. You can also scale cliffs to reach mountaintops for dramatic panoramas.

Favorites include Gorham Mountain, Beehive Loop, Beech Mountain South Ridge Loop, Cadillac North Ridge and Bubbles Nubble Loop. At 1,530 feet, Cadillac Mountain is the highest point in the park and on the eastern seaboard. It’s the first place you can see the sunrise in the U.S. from early October to March. If you’re short on time or don’t want to hike up to the summit, you can always

drive to the top and get the same awe-inspiring vistas.

Biking is another popular activity at Acadia, particularly on the rustic carriage roads. We have John D. Rockefeller Jr. to thank for the construction of this system. The famed philanthropist was an adept horseman, who wanted to travel on motor-free byways via horse and carriage into the heart of Mount Desert Island. His efforts resulted in Acadia's beloved carriage roads. Check out the handsome stone bridges – all seventeen of them! And the large, cut granite stones lining the road are called

“Rockefeller’s teeth.”

For another view of the park, I suggest taking a boat trip, where you can see Mount Desert Island and the shores of Acadia from the water, along with lighthouses and landmarks of Frenchman Bay. Bar Harbor Whales offers several seasonal excursions that you can board at the docks in the town of Bar Harbor – the gateway to Acadia.

I took the Somes Sound, Lighthouses & Acadia Park Cruise, which provided a thorough overview of the area. You'll ride in a state-of-the-art catamaran, with



knowledgeable guides and crew, who'll regale you with details about the history, geology, wildlife and more of this special place. Along the way, they'll also point out any wildlife that choose to make an appearance, including seals, eagles, seabirds and harbor porpoise.

It was surprising to learn there are over 4,000 islands off Maine's coastline. Amusingly, more than thirty of them have "sheep" in their name. Mount Desert Island is the largest in the state, and the second largest off the U.S. outside of Hawaii and Alaska. Only Long

Island is bigger.

Interesting to note is that Cadillac Mountain was named for French explorer Cadillac. Though not born of nobility, he convinced the King at the time that he was of royal blood. He devised his own Coat of Arms which you can still see on the hood of Cadillac cars.

I loved hearing about "Millionaire's Row" and gazing at some of the more notable residences. Kenarden, for example, belongs to the Campbell Soup family and during the summer, they fly a flag that is white with a big red tomato on it. Another, the





sold to Edsel Ford. The last T-bird made was delivered here to this house and given to Josephine Ford, great-granddaughter of Henry Ford.

The most expensive house on the island is now owned by a venture capitalist. It's worth a mere \$40,000,000.

High Seas Estate, was built for a professor from Princeton. Story has it that he constructed the house to entice his fiancé to move here from Europe and marry him. The good news – she agreed. The bad news – he booked her on the Titanic!

In Seal Harbor, the lifestyles of the rich and famous are on display.

Martha Stewart's home, "Sky Land," which is set on 63 acres, was originally built in 1925 by Edsel Ford. During the summer, you may see her wooden picnic boat in the water.

The estate on the Point is called "The Anchorage." Nelson Rockefeller was the first owner, but it was later

As for the lighthouses, we saw several of these romantic icons, including my favorite, Bass Harbor Light. Widely regarded to be one of the most photogenic lighthouses in the country, it dates back to 1858. Some say it's haunted at night by the ghost of a construction worker





Staying in Bar Harbor makes the most sense when you visit Acadia, as it's mere minutes to the park. This charming community has a colorful harbor scene, numerous shops and eateries, and options galore when it comes to accommodations.

who disappeared during the construction of the site.

Our guide told us about the rigors of a lighthouse keeper's life, which was full of rules, regulations and inspections. They were busy from morning to night caring maintaining the upkeep of the tower, the keeper's house and all the buildings and grounds, while ensuring that the light operated properly through the night. They made about \$1 a day and were not given pensions or compensation for injuries. The powers in charge at the time encouraged the keeper to have lots of kids to help with all of the chores.

If you want to be steps from all the action, I recommend staying at the Harborside Hotel, Spa & Marina. This highly rated resort is a relaxing retreat with all the bells and whistles, including oceanfront swimming pools and hot tubs, fitness facilities, a spa for some personalized pampering and



a private marina.

Accommodations in the newly-renovated property are spacious and elegantly-appointed with natural wood touches, plush bedding and a lux marble bathroom with upscale bath products.

The hotel also has its own onsite restaurant. La Bella Vita is a cozy Italian trattoria, complete with copper pots, Italian mosaics and picture-perfect harbor views.



Authentic Old-World recipes are the mainstay here with brick oven pizzas, antipasti and pastas. Specialties include chicken piccata, chicken parmigiana, grilled ribeye, surf and turf, East Coast halibut and a Sicilian ocean stew that's chockful of mussels, clams, shrimp, lobster and haddock.

Save room for dessert and order the blueberry pie with lemon curd. It's swoonworthy! Actually, I've found that anything blueberry in Maine – blueberry pancakes, blueberry cobbler, blueberry fudge, blueberry beer – is a winner because the berries have such an intense flavor.

In town, dining choices are numerous. Naturally, fresh fish and shellfish abounds, with lobster the



avored crustacean on the menu, but there are plenty of other choices if creatures from the sea aren't your thing.

Being a pescatarian and seizing every opportunity to eat Maine "lobstah," I had it in every form possible, from simply steamed to stuffed in tacos and enchiladas, grilled cheese, bisque and stew, ravioli and omelets. I even tried lobster ice cream, which is the only form of lobster I discovered I

didn't like. Somehow, frozen lobster tidbits in vanilla ice cream...

For more information

Acadia National Park -

www.nps.gov/acad

Harborside Hotel -

www.harborsidehotel.com

Bar Harbor Whales -

www.barharborwhales.com

For all things Bar Harbor:

www.visitbarharbor.com



Debbie Stone is an established travel writer and columnist, who crosses the globe in search of unique destinations and experiences to share with her readers and listeners.

A man dressed in a white shirt, dark suspenders, a white apron, and a black top hat is leading a walking tour. He is gesturing with his right hand towards a historic building. The building has a brick facade on the left and a light-colored facade with dark-framed windows and doors on the right. A yellow light fixture is mounted on the brick wall. In the foreground, the backs of several people's heads are visible, indicating they are part of the tour. The scene is set outdoors during the day.

Touring Albany's Brewing History

*Summer walking tours highlight
Albany's rich history and long-
standing brewing legacy.*



Discover Albany is hosting a series of guided walking tours this summer, highlighting Albany's unique brewing history. Led by Craig Gravina, Albany Beer Historian and co-founder of Albany Ale Project, the tours will be held monthly through September.

The \$15 tours are offered in three distinct neighborhoods in Albany, which was once the center of the North American beer industry.

“Beer and Albany go hand in hand. Brewing has been part of Albany's history and culture since the earliest Dutch settlers, and by the 1800s the city had become one of North America's most prolific brewing centers. Albany Ale could be found all over the Western Hemisphere!” says Gravina.

“We are so excited to bring our popular Neighborhood Brew

Tours back to the community,” says Discover Albany Community Engagement Manager Maeve McEneny. “It’s such a joy to see our guests walk streets they’ve explored 100 times and watch their amazement when we uncover a history they never knew about. And when we can do this while supporting our local businesses? Well, that’s even better!”

For more information:
[eventbrite.com/o/discover-albany-visitors-center-9885091639](https://www.eventbrite.com/o/discover-albany-visitors-center-9885091639)







King Richard's Faire
Old Old Style Romance

Feature
Story and Photos By
Linda Eagleson

*Spending the day in fantasy, in the
age of knights and chivalry!*



Billowing gowns draped along the hay-encrusted grounds as two exuberant women, clad in velvet capes, made their way past us to gain entrance to the Faire. My husband and I both knew what to expect, as both having been to King Richard's Faire in our prior lives. And as usual, we were not disappointed.

We decided to have our youngest tag along with us. He hasn't been to the Faire since he was a youngin, sporting swords and armor, ready to battle with the king himself, if necessary. This time, grown now, he opted for shorts and t-shirt, and asked us to

do the same, probably embarrassed by the costumes that we had wanted to wear. (If you would like to rent a costume for the day, you can do so from a vendor located immediately after the entrance to the faire).

The Faire grounds were filled

with people from all facets of life, some in costume, some with children dressed as little darlings from period times, and others just there for a good ol' drinking festival, clutching elongated flasks filled to the brim with dark ale.

The air was crisp, with a light chill of autumn resting on our shoulders. The aroma of freshly baked bread drifted, making us scurry to the nearest vendor to satisfy our cravings

We opted for the White Chowder in a bread boule, which is freshly baked bread hollowed out, with a creamy, white sauce

chowder and an abundance of clams poured into the bread and served with the lid for spooning out the chowder.

Succulent, mouthwatering turkey legs, freshly cut fruit in cups, 'The King's Nuts' (which was my favorite) -- roasted pecans with a sugary topping, crispy fried dough showered with powdered sugar and cinnamon, homemade fudge, 'spirits', water and sodas.

You never have to worry about going hungry in this place!

Still licking our lips from our delicious meal, we wandered around the faire, hoping to spot a





view of the king and queen. We encountered minstrels strumming on their instruments, wizards, cloaked in decorative costumes, wenches willing to chat (or so they say) with you, knights and barbarians, offering to battle it out to the end, and costumed vendors offering their hard worked items for a reasonable price.

Rides are also accessible throughout the faire grounds, keeping in mind that they have adapted the rides to the theme of the Renaissance times. One ride in particular caught my eye, and that was the 'merry go round', which

instead of horses had canvassed chairs that the children could sit in.

Being that there weren't many machines back in the Renaissance period, the ride was powered by two burly tartan-clad lads, pushing and pulling a wheel of sorts, which powered the ride, emitting squeals of laughter from the children on board. As the lads brushed their beads of sweat from their thick, muscular arms, and tousled their thick hair, it was a sight to be seen!

We knew we wanted to experience every event that we could, so we continued along our way. Paul and Craig decided to try

their hand at the archery stand, showing off their perfect skill at hitting the bulls eye, after about ten attempts.

Well, let's say that they were sort of close.

If archery is not for you, there are many other events, all designed to test your strength and skill; prizes are awarded for some events.

We stopped to witness the red tailed hawk, swooping around the jousting arena, exciting the viewers. There were other animal exhibits, which included the extraordinary lions, Bengal tigers, Ligers (yes, lions and tigers do sometimes interbreed), Snow leopards, Chinese leopards, White Siberian tigers, jaguars and golden tigers; and their adorable tiger and lion cubs.

There were performers throughout the faire grounds; mimes, jugglers, street entertainers, talented musicians and even some surprise guests.

We couldn't stay for the jousting event, which was the ever-popular "battle to the death", as we had to head home soon...

Believe me, you are well entertained when you attend the King Richard's Faire!

So, it was time to head home,





and we were quite exhausted from walking around the faire grounds. We had just about made our way to the exit, but paused for a moment as we starred in awe! There they were; clad in soft, velvet robes, flowing gowns, adorned with rubies and diamonds, ornately decorated crowns, and a large court that followed. The King and Queen of the faire. People everywhere, bowed and curtsayed to the royal couple, as they headed to the jousting arena for the battle to the death from the mighty knights of the king's table.

Now our day really was

complete, having seen the King and Queen of the realm, and we could head on home, knowing that the events of the day would linger in our thoughts.

So, if you want to spend a day, free from the stressful events of everyday life, wipe all your worries away, and be entertained for a minimal cost, then come to King Richard's Faire in Carver.

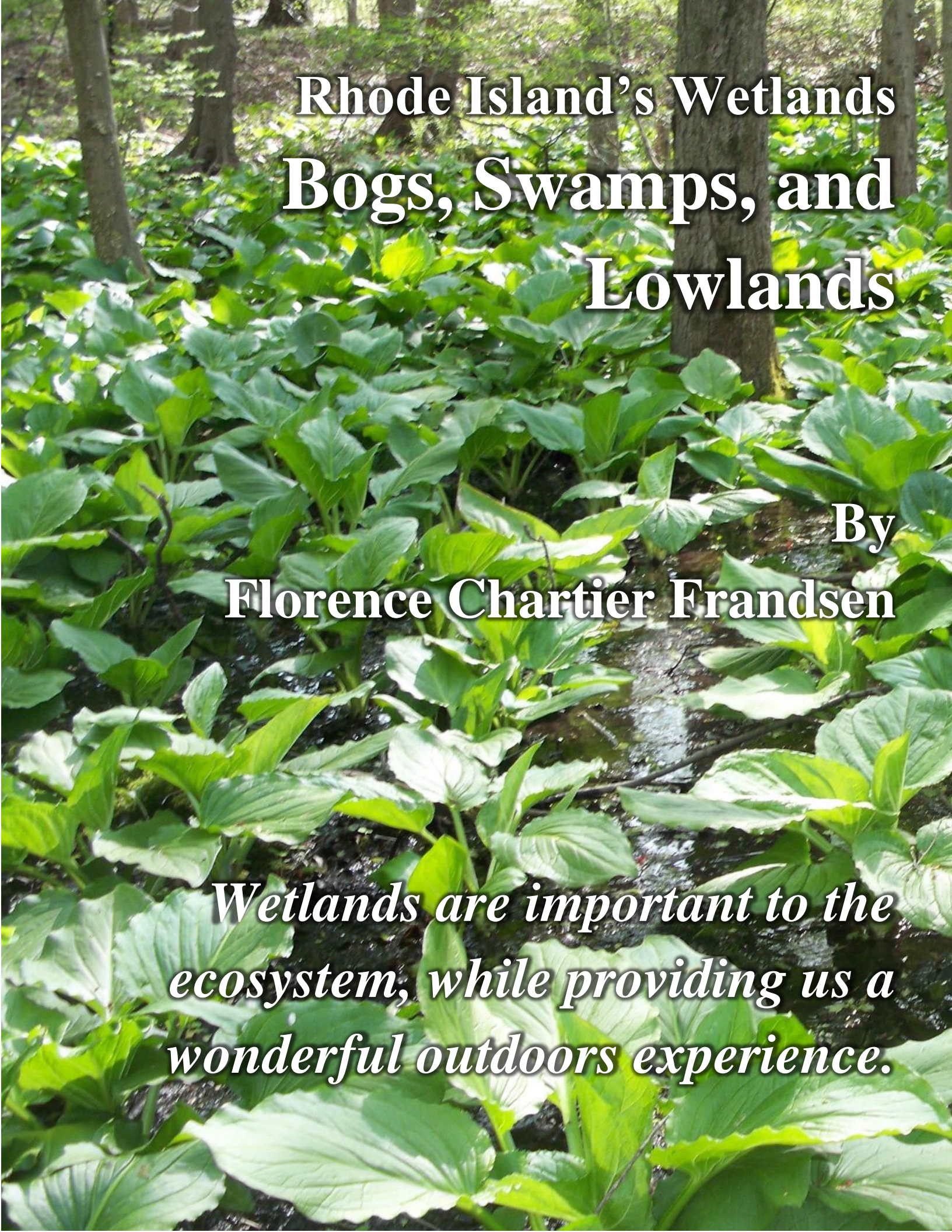
You won't be disappointed!
www.kingrichardsfaire.net

For more information:

King Richard's Faire
www.kingrichardsfaire.net







**Rhode Island's Wetlands
Bogs, Swamps, and
Lowlands**

**By
Florence Chartier Frandsen**

*Wetlands are important to the
ecosystem, while providing us a
wonderful outdoors experience.*



Rhode Island may be a small state but it is a land of diversity. We have colorful hills of foliage, waves crashing on rocky seacoasts, and lots of low-lying areas in between. I mean lots. Water is one thing we've got, and along with water comes mud. Sometimes the mud gets quite powerful. Powerful enough to suck your shoe off your foot when you sink in really good. Then you stand there trying to figure out what to do with the foot that only has a sock left on it. Do you try to put it back in your shoe which now has mud in it, or do you put your poor foot down in the cold damp mud so you can pull your shoe out with your hands?

Either way, you're stuck in the mud.

So what does all this wet stuff mean? Well, Merriam-Webster's Online Dictionary offers up that a swamp is "a wetland often partially or intermittently covered with water; especially: one dominated by woody vegetation".

They could easily have been talking about an area like The Great Swamp Management Area in South Kingstown. The area contains over 2000 acres of wetlands, including swamps of red maple and cedar. Freshwater wetlands like these are not only beautiful to hike, but they also offer

activities like fishing, bird watching and wildlife.

Our friends at Merriam-Webster go on to say a bog is "wet spongy ground; especially : a poorly drained usually acid area rich in accumulated plant material, frequently surrounding a body of open water, and having a characteristic flora (as of sedges, heaths, and sphagnum)". In other words, a wet area that might be covered in soggy mats of dead plant material that squish and move when you walk on them leaving you with wet feet. You could find



blueberry bushes or cranberries in a bog. Historic cranberry bog farms dot the Rhode Island landscape. You can find them in areas like Tiverton, Coventry/West Greenwich, and the south county areas as well. Some are open for tours. Some are private.

Areas like the Norman Bird Sanctuary in Middletown, offer hiking trails, nature walks, conservation, and environmental education programs. This area offers both marsh areas and views of the ocean.

The area surrounding and protected by the sanctuary offers a beautiful walk-through marsh area. Merriam-Webster defines a marsh as a “tract of soft wet land usually characterized by monocotyledons (as grasses or cattails)”. Wow, that’s a big word for flowering plants, like grasses! Here in Rhode Island, one thing I’ve noticed over a few years’ time is the sudden lack of cattails. Where usually you would have seen both reeds and cattails together, the reeds had taken over. Last year, I noticed the cattails started making a comeback, popping up among the reeds. It is surprising how nature makes things right again.



Swamp, bog, marsh – they all fall under the category of wetlands. ‘Land or areas (as marshes or swamps) that are covered often intermittently with shallow water or have soil saturated with moisture — usually used in plural’. At least, that is what the dictionary has to say. A good indication that you may have wetlands is that there is standing or flowing water, ponds, or your feet get wet walking across an area. Soft, wet, muddy ground, or if when you dig a hole it fills with water, are other indications of possible wetlands. Vegetation could also be a telltale sign. Trees or shrubs like red maple, cedar, blueberry, and certain ferns or mosses are commonly found in Rhode Island wetland areas.

The Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management takes it even further, including lakes, ponds, rivers, streams and floodplains as wetlands. They



include areas you wouldn't expect. The RI DEM considers ‘perimeter wetlands’ as “land within 50 feet of swamps, marshes, bogs, and ponds”. RI ‘riverbank wetlands’ include “land within 100 or 200 feet of rivers and streams”. They go on to explain that perimeter and riverbank wetlands may be dry land, but they are needed to provide protection to our wetland areas.

What's so important about wetlands? The benefits are many. In July of 1971 Rhode Island passed a Freshwater Wetlands Act giving the government authority to preserve, protect, and restore our freshwater wetlands. Wetlands are a unique form of landscape. They supply us with drinking water, help control flooding, provide unique wildlife habitats, and offer natural areas for activities like water sports, hiking, and bird watching. Wetlands play such an important role, that other states and even the Federal

government have enacted similar laws to protect wetlands across the country.

Preservation of our Rhode Island wetlands is key to maintaining our water supplies, wildlife, and the value of the recreational activities we enjoy. One way to help do this

is to maintain an area surrounding a wetland area by leaving the vegetation so it provides a buffer between the wetland and recreational or other activities. So go out and play in the wetlands.

Remember to wear your boots!



Florence Chartier Frandsen is a native Rhode Islander who loves the fact that we have distinct seasons. A creative person by nature, she likes trying new things. She has worked in computers for over 30 years, she also owns a home-based business as an Independent Creative Memories consultant. Her writing topics vary broadly as do her interests. Florence has been a resident of Newport for over 20 years. Originally from West Warwick, she moved to Newport after she was married and enjoys living here.

Vermont's Fox Run Golf Club

Golf and Scenery

*Scenic Views, Challenging Golf
and Outstanding Cuisine are teed
up in Vermont*





If you love golf and stunning scenery, we have the perfect place for you: Fox Run Golf Club, located in Ludlow, Vermont, that incorporates the best of the natural beauty from the Green Mountains and the Okemo Valley, attracting visitors from all over New England and beyond.

Each of the 18 holes has difficult, natural elements that highlight the breathtaking mountainside terrain. The greens are undulating and fast, putting all golfers' skills, talent, ability, and competence to the test. Fox Run's greens, tees, and fairways are all

bent grass, and there are multiple tee areas. Fox Run also has a 9,200-square-foot clubhouse with locker rooms and a well-stocked pro shop stocked with fashionable and functional apparel as well as the most recent cutting-edge equipment.

For beginners and seasoned golfers looking to improve their game, Fox Run has the best training facility in the region. Their pro, Mark Senecal, leads small teaching classes and clinics, as well as providing quality individual instruction. A four-hole practice course allows new golfers and families to get a feel for the game by playing shorter holes, while also allowing other players to work on various skills.



The driving range is one of the most scenic and well-kept in New England. It is 6 acres in size and offers golfers the opportunity to practice on grass tees or mats. They have a putting green, a pitching area, and several manicured practice bunkers in their chipping area. During the winter and inclement weather, they have an indoor golf simulator and an indoor practice putting green where participants can virtually play more than 20 courses. Golfers can compete with their friends on some of the best courses in the world (Pebble Beach, Pinehurst, Troon,

Harbour Town, Bay Hill, Torrey Pines, and others). The Golf Simulator is an excellent tool for practicing or playing golf. Stroke, skins, or match play for four teams of up to four players each. Bocce courts, horseshoe pits, and cornhole toss are all part of their new Field of Games.

During the winter, visitors can also visit the Fox Run Nordic Center, which has 7 kilometers of well-marked and manicured Nordic Track Trails and skating lanes that wind along the Black River. Snowmobiling and snowshoeing are also available at Fox Run.

Businessman Troy Caruso bought the resort in April 2021 and immediately began improving the facilities, from new GPS-tracked golf carts to a total renovation of the restaurant Calcuttas, which includes a bar, full-service restaurant, and a patio. After a round of golf, golfers can relax with a glass of wine, live music, and a delicious meal. On the patio, guests can enjoy the firepits and

take in the amazing views of the golf course and Okemo Ski Mountains.

The restaurants at Fox Run are led by Culinary Director, Andrew Molen, the handsome Chef who previously manned the stoves at East Hampton's The Maidstone Inn. Andrew has also made an impact as a leader at some of New York's finest restaurants, including Todd English Group.

Fox Run just opened the second of their two newly renovated restaurants: the Alta Tuscan Grille. Molen will also be at the helm of this modern Italian steakhouse and Bar that offers a tasty selection of



perfectly grilled meats, fresh fish, and al dente creative pasta dishes.

Fox Run is also renovating a sixty-room inn that should be open by 2023, as well as wedding facilities that can accommodate large weddings.

Their goal, with meticulous attention to detail, is to create a club that members will be proud of.

Come to Fox Run Club and find why it has been noticed as one of the best new courses and most scenic courses by both Golf Week and Golf Digest.

For more information:
Fox Run Golf Club -
www.foxrungolf.org



A low-angle shot of a roller coaster car at the top of a tall drop. The car is filled with people, and the track is a mix of blue and orange. The sky is blue with some clouds. The text is overlaid on the top and bottom of the image.

HersheyPark Let's Have Fun Again!

*Some quieter parts of HersheyPark
you may have missed*



If it has been a while since you've been to Hershey Park, you might have missed something. In addition to the 13 thrilling roller coasters and 58 other rides, the "Sweetest Place on Earth" is constantly adding new and exciting developments, and here are a few quieter, more relaxing developments you may have missed.

HERSHEY'S® CHOCOLATE WORLD® Attraction

The most-visited corporate visitors' center in the world has a free Hershey's Chocolate Tour ride which has been simulating the

chocolate-making process for visitors since Chocolate World opened in 1973. The ride has undergone several revisions in its 43-year history, including a major \$4.5 million update in 1988.

Animatronic singing cows named Gabby, Harmony, and Olympia are help guide you through the chocolate-making experience. The year-round attraction located at the entrance to the park welcomes 3,000,000 visitors annually.

Hershey's Water Works Indoor Water Park

“Hershey's Water Works” is making a splash with guests at the Hershey Lodge. The indoor pool complex includes many special attractions and themed features including two zero-entry indoor pools, whirlpool, Twizzlers Twists Slides, Reese's Water Walk, Water play structure, and Outdoor splash pad. The water park is part of the 665-room Hersey Lodge and includes a fitness center, game room, full-service food and bar offerings.

Hershey Gardens Conservatory

The Milton & Catherine Hershey Conservatory at Hershey Gardens stands in honor of the conservatories built by the Hershey family in the early 1900's. The elegant 16,000-square-foot facility, inspired by one such structure built in 1909, serves as the entrance to

Hershey Gardens and includes an indoor Butterfly Atrium, Welcome Pavilion, and an Educational/Horticultural Wing. The year-round facility hosts several hundred North American and tropical butterflies, educational programming and events, and provides visitors with a scenic overview of the town of Hershey from an outdoor terrace.

The Hershey Story Museum Chocolate Tastings for Kids

Sample exotic warm drinking chocolates made from cacao beans grown in one specific region of the globe at Tastings, located in the Grand Lobby of The Hershey Story Museum. Tastings chocolates are made with beans sourced from just one country, resulting in a distinctive artisanal flavor. Common flavor notes include licorice, fruit, caramel and vanilla. A sampling of drinking chocolate made from Hershey's chocolate is also included in Tastings. Tastings for Kids offers youngsters the opportunity to try their hand at making warm drinking chocolate by swirling a white or milk-chocolate stirring lolly in a mug of warm milk.




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