12 BEST LOBSTER SHACKS

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ENGLAND’S MAGAZINE

Top Outdoor Enjoys Best gains

BEST OF NEW ENGLAND

275 reasons to travel this summer

Editors’ picks and local secrets for food, lodging, places to go, stuff to do p. 85


Now Get Crackin’!
NEW HAMPSHIRE

OD & DINING

ARLEY HOUSE, Concord
A go wrong with any of the seven variety—famous here—all ground fresh in house. Yes, that’s the “McBarley Burger,” and the Russian dressing, pickles, roasted onions, house-cured bacon, and cheese, takes its name from the restaurant. Cost: from $8. 132 North Main St. 603-228-3267

AN JOHN’S BAKERY, Hillsborough
Authentic German pretzels come in traditional shapes (laugenbretzeln), rolls (laugen-), and even bread (laugenstranger). They come unsalted, and with unsalted butter, but never, per the owner, with mustard. Single pretzel: from $1.50. 5 West Main St. 603-464-5079; germanjohnsbakery.net

LATITUDES, New Castle
At this Wentworth by the Sea restaurant, every seat here offers prime views of the hotel’s marina. Watch the yachts come and go while sampling dishes such as filet mignon, pan-seared Atlantic salmon, and oven-roasted halibut. Entrées: from $25. 588 Wentworth Road. 603-422-7322; wentworth.com

MORANO GELATO, Hanover
With flavors such as Sicilian cannoli with sheep’s-milk ricotta, candied orange and pistachio, and almond- and- rum crunch, is it any wonder this place is the best? Gelato: from $3.57

PICKITY PLACE, Mason
This little red cottage, which served as inspiration for illustrator Elizabeth Orton Jones’s 1948 version of “Little Red Riding Hood,” offers five-course gourmet luncheons featuring herbs and edible flowers harvested on site. Little ones are treated to a basket filled with homemade cookies and an apple. Entrées: $21.95; children’s menu: $8.95. 248 Nutting Hill Road. 603-878-1151; pickityplace.com

SPOON REVOLUTION VEGAN BISTRO, Concord
Formerly Rasa’s Vegan Kitchen, this go-to destination for vegan cuisine participates in farm-to-table movements.
local, organic produce are just what the yogi ordered. Three-day weekend retreat rates: from $349 per person, including two nights lodging, five meals, and daily yoga classes. 2807 Beavertail St, 603-707-5729; drongoforyoga.com

BEST COSMETIC SURGEON

SIXTH STREET HOTEL, Newport

Pulling inspiration from its Ivy League neighbor, this hotel was made to resemble an upscale academic setting. Polished black granite at front desk, vaulted glass partitions in the lobby, and bold red barrel chairs visitors know they're in for a sophisticated stay. Rates: from $259. 6 South St, 603-421-9070; sixths.com

BEST THING FOR GHOST HUNTING

THE SPOULDING INN, Portsmouth

Ghost-hunting gurus Jason Hawes and Grant Wilson and their crew purchased the inn to achieve a dream of owning a L.9D—and for its paranormal activity, of course. Rate assured: A full investigation found the inn’s “ether” visitors to be nothing but friendly. Rates: from $189 (May), from $129 (June–Sept), including continental breakfast. 199 Mountain View Road, 603-877-9300; thespoulding.com

BEST SLAND ESCAPE

UMBAGOG LAKE STATE PARK, Cambridge

Enjoy the relative serenity of the base pat’s 27 campsites and three cabins, or get away from it all at one of 33 remote campsites accessible only by boat. Swimming, fishing, kayaking, canoeing, and wildlife watching are steps from your tent; make this an ultimate island getaway. Rates: from $24 (campsite), from $27 (cabin). Route 26, 603-462-7795; nhstateparks.org

ATTRACTIONS

BEST SCULPTURE PARK

ANDRES INSTITUTE OF ART, Brookline

Art and nature colulate beautifully in the Bear Mountain Park with more than 60 sculptures of animals from around the world. Elastic trail leads visitors by works such as Osamu Udono’s, a couch fashioned from slate of rock and metal, or Miro’s Horse, a bronze horsehead with sunflower seeds to promote peace and friendship. Fees: $95 Route 12, 603-277-0444, andresart.org

BEST STONE-AIR EXPERIENCE

AMERICA’S STONEHENG, North Salem

No need to cross the big pond to experience Stonehenge: This maximum maze of walls, rock formations, and chambers will at the very least pique your curiosity to see what might have been responsible for this man-made monumentally aligned calendar. 155 Hunters Rd, 603-977-8300; stonhengusa.com

BEST BOARDWALK

FLUME GORGE, Lincoln

The Jersey Shore it’s not, but New Hampshire’s version of a boardwalk abounds visitors along a natural gorge dropping 800 feet. Listen for the thunder of 65-foot Lincoln Falls at the top of the Flume. Off Route 3, 603-445-4393; nhstateparks.org/explore/tour/parks/lincoln-gorge

BEST UPHEALED JOURNEY

RHODODENDRON STATE PARK, Plymouth

Nestled in its 16-acre grove, a National Natural Landmark, hugging with Rhododendron monsoon blooms in mid-July, the 2,732-acre reserve is the state’s only botanical park. Look for wildflowers such as Indian pipe and woodland asters also blooming throughout the park, and listen for ruffed grouse, winter wrens, savannah sparrows, woodpeckers, and wrens. Route 3, 603-968-1194; nhstateparks.org

BEST UNCONVENTIONAL ZOO

SQUAM LAKE NATURAL SCIENCE CENTER, Sandwich

Visitors here get a closer look at animals basking from the Granite State. Meander along north beaches, meadows, and forests to see river otters, bobcats, black bears, and more, or cross Big Squam Lake to spy loons and bald eagles. 33 Science Center Rd, 603-968-1194; nhstateparks.org

BEST ARCHITECTURAL GEM

ZIMMERMAN HOUSE, Manchester

Add to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979, this is the only Frank Lloyd Wright home in New England open to the public. Built in 1956, all of the interiors, furniture, gardens, and even the railings were designed by Wright. 299A Abn Rd, 603-656-2644, carrie.org

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