



# Connecticut

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## Best Places to Eat

- » Abbott's Lobster in the Rough (p300)
- » Valencia Lucheria (p316)
- » Belgique Patisserie & Chocolatier (p331)
- » Frank Pepe's Pizzeria (p312)
- » Mystic Drawbridge Ice Cream (p300)

## Best Places to Stay

- » Copper Beech Inn (p320)
- » Hopkins Inn (p331)
- » Study at Yale Hotel (p311)
- » Silvermine Tavern (p316)

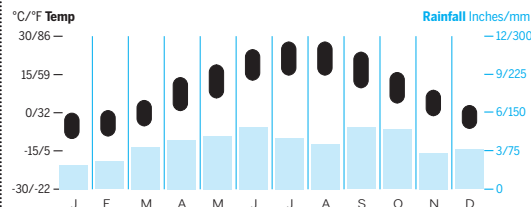
## Why Go?

On the far southern edge of New England, Connecticut is often seen as a bedroom community to nearby New York City and a mere stepping stone to the 'real thing' to the north. Ironically, the comparative lack of tourist interest has saved the state – three quarters of which is rural – from the overexposure of its more 'New Englandy' neighbors.

The Litchfield Hills, with lakes, vineyards and hiking trails, and the Quiet Corner, with its orchards and rolling meadows, capture Connecticut as it's been for centuries. The pristine scenery of the Connecticut River Valley began luring artists in the 1900s, and it's easy to see what inspired them. Long Island Sound, meanwhile, is home to watermen whose lobster and oyster harvests can be savored at countless coastal restaurants and sea shacks.

## When to Go

### Hartford



**June** Enjoy New Haven's Arts & Ideas Festival and beachgoing along the coast.

**August** Hit the great outdoors in the Litchfield Hills – and take in the Litchfield Jazz Festival in Kent.

**Fall** Norwalk Oyster Festival in September and seasonal color in October.



## Connecticut Highlights

**1** Explore **New Haven's revitalized downtown** (p308), with its hopping bars, smart-kid cafes, fantastic galleries and museums and thriving food scene

**2** Admire fine art at the **Wadsworth Atheneum** (p322) in Hartford

**3** Scoff down lobster or juicy bivalves at a down-home sea shack such as **Captain Scott's Lobster Dock** (p306) in New London