

Connecticut

860, 203 / POP 3.5 MILLION

Includes ➔

Hartford.....	244
Chester.....	251
Old Lyme.....	252
New London	253
Groton	256
Mystic.....	257
Stonington.....	260
New Haven	262
Norwalk	269
Greenwich	271
Litchfield Hills	272

Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Frank Pepe's Pizzeria (p266)
- ➔ The Whelk (p269)
- ➔ River Tavern (p252)
- ➔ Ford's Lobster (p260)
- ➔ Sharpe Hill (p261)

Best Places to Stay

- ➔ Inn at Stonington (p262)
- ➔ Chez Fiona (p270)
- ➔ Stanton House Inn (p271)
- ➔ Inn at Kent Falls (p275)
- ➔ Hopkins Inn (p273)

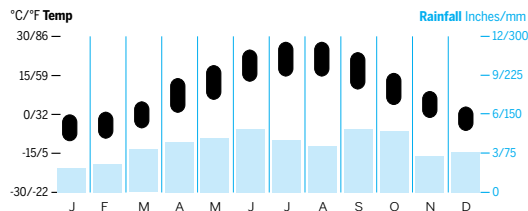
Why Go?

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 over-exposure 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. Dense with historical attractions, don't be fooled into thinking Connecticut is all about the past, the state has an impressive record of innovations from the revolver and the nuclear submarine to one of the nation's first public museums and the cutting-edge Mystic Aquarium, where Dr Robert Ballard (discoverer of the *Titanic*) resides.

When to Go

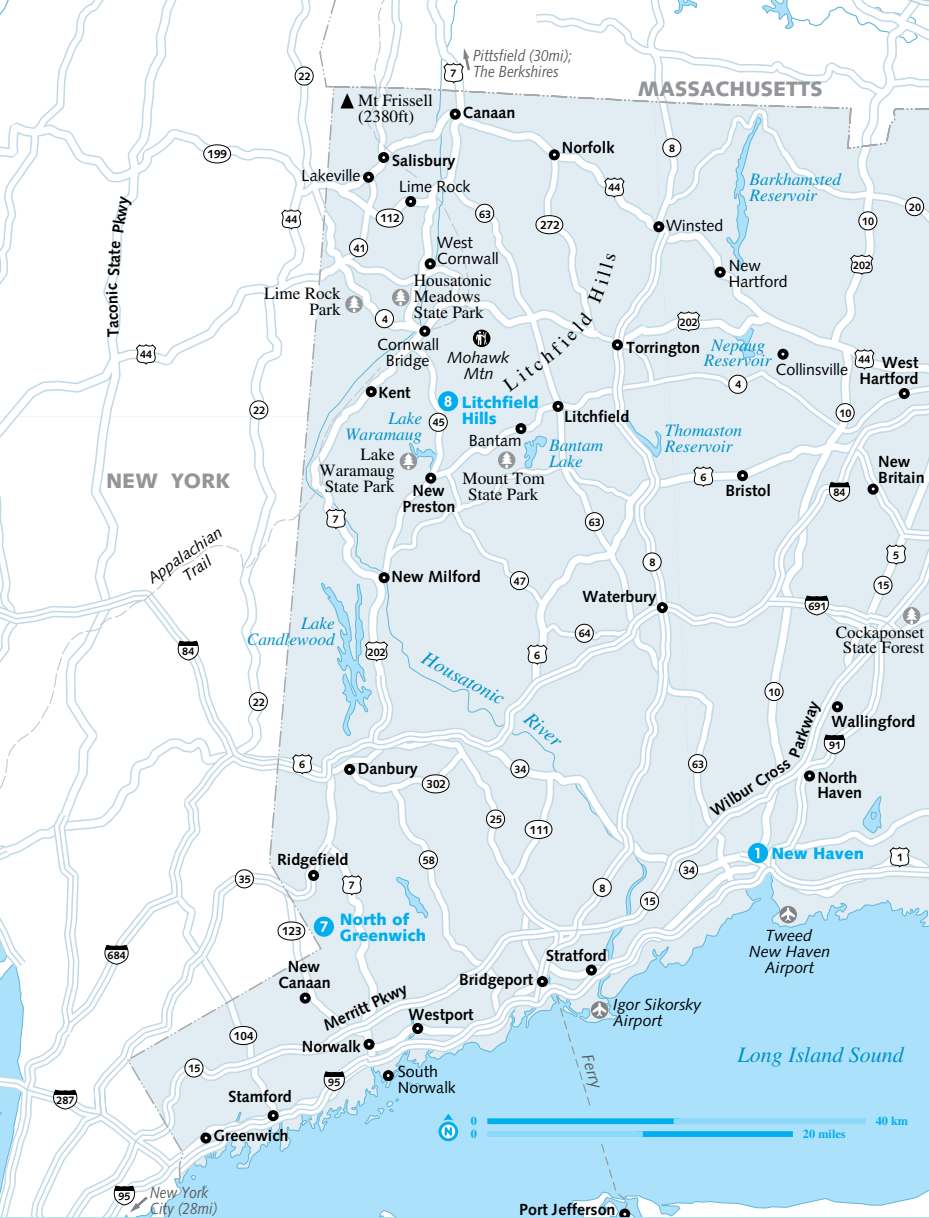
Hartford



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

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

Fall Norwalk Oyster Festival in September and fall foliage in October.



Connecticut Highlights

1 Exploring the excellent museums, bars, galleries and thriving food scene in **New Haven** (p262)

2 Discovering Mark Twain's penchant for fine furnishings

and browsing fine art at the Wadsworth Atheneum in **Hartford** (p244)

3 Scoffing down lobster dock side at Ford's Lobster shack in **Noank** (p260)

4 Casting off amid the salt marshes and paddling for miles in utter tranquillity in the swampy acreage of Stonington's **Barn Island** (p261)