

Connecticut

POP 3.6 MILLION / 203, 860, 959

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Best Places to Sleep

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Why Go?

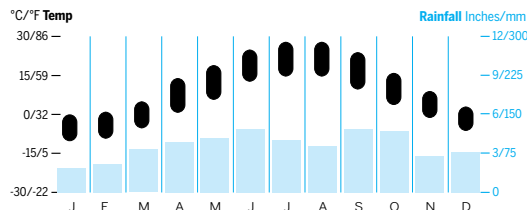
Known for its commuter cities, New York's neighbor is synonymous with the affluent lanes and mansions of *The Stepford Wives* and TV's *Gilmour Girls*. In old-moneyed Greenwich, Litchfield Hills and the Quiet Corner, these representations ring true, although many regard the state as a mere stepping stone to the 'real' New England, of whose tourist boom Connecticut was spared.

The upside is that Connecticut retains a more 'authentic' feel. The downside is a slow decaying of former heavyweights like Hartford and New London, where visitors can ponder the price of progress and get enthused about urban renewal. New Haven, home of Yale University, is one such place rewiring itself as a vibrant cultural hub.

Dense with historical attractions and the kind of bucolic nature that continues to inspire artists as it has for over a century, Connecticut begs for your attention and a well-deserved spot on your New England itinerary.

When to Go

Hartford



Jun Enjoy New Haven's International Festival of Arts and Ideas and coastal beach-going.

Jul The Litchfield Jazz Festival briefly interrupts the peace and quiet of the Litchfield Hills.

Sep-Oct Norwalk's much-loved Oyster Festival and brilliant fall foliage across the state.



Connecticut Highlights

- 1 Yale University** (p261)
Exploring world-class museums and New Haven's student scene.
- 2 Mystic Seaport Museum** (p256)
Delighting budding mariners with Mystic's marvellous maritime world.

- 3 Wadsworth Atheneum** (p245)
Gawking at this magnificent historic collection of art and artifacts in Hartford.
- 4 New London** (p253)
Marveling at faded architectural

- gems and pondering progress before dining by the waterfront.
- 5 Essex Steam Train & Riverboat Ride** (p252)
Jumping on board for the romance of steam along the Connecticut River in Essex.