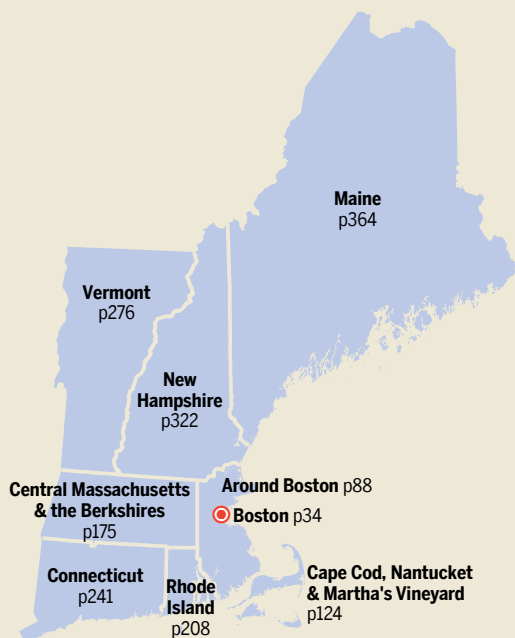




# New England



THIS EDITION WRITTEN AND RESEARCHED BY

**Gregor Clark,**

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## PLAN YOUR TRIP

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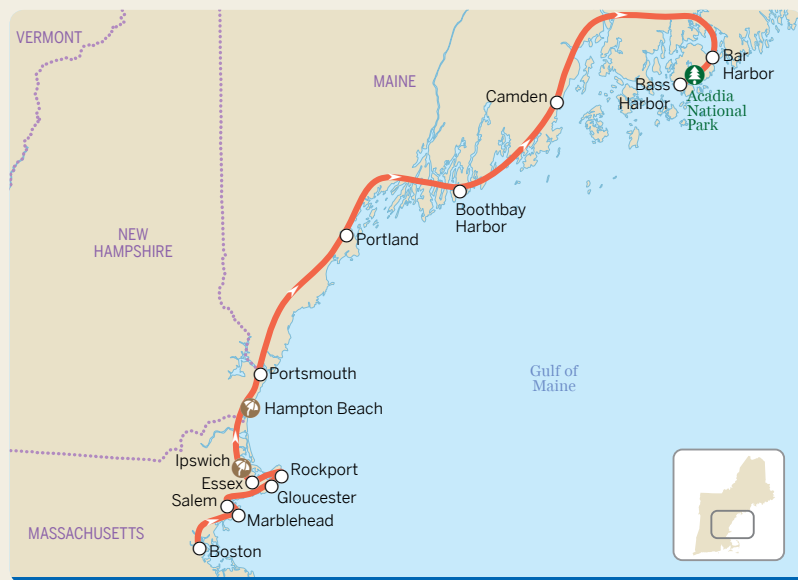
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# Plan Your Trip

# Itineraries



2  
WEEKS

## Coastal New England

New England is intrinsically tied to the sea – historically, commercially and emotionally. To see this connection firsthand, just follow the coastline.

Start in **Boston**, a city that has recently rediscovered its connection to the sea. Follow the HarborWalk along the water's edge from Christopher Columbus Park, stopping at the New England Aquarium and the Institute for Contemporary Art. The following day, board a ferry out to the Harbor Islands.

Continue northward to **Marblehead** and **Salem**, both rich in maritime history. Don't miss the Peabody Essex Museum and its wonderful maritime exhibit. To glimpse New England's fishing industry at work – and to sample its culinary treats – journey to **Gloucester**. This is also your jumping-off point for a whale-watching cruise to Stellwagen Bank.

Circle around Cape Ann to discover the charms of **Rockport** and the mysteries of Dogtown. Then continue up the coast to frolic in the waves at Crane Beach in **Ipswich** and feast on fried clams in **Essex**.





Acadia National Park (p399)

The New Hampshire seacoast is scant, but not without merit: walk the boardwalk at **Hampton Beach** and admire the old houses in historic **Portsmouth**. Continuing into Maine, spend a day or two exploring **Portland**. Eat, drink and shop the Old Port District and check out the Portland Museum of Art. Don't leave town without snapping a photo of the Portland Head Light on Cape Elizabeth. Continuing north, stroll around lovely (but crowded) **Boothbay Harbor**, perhaps stopping for a seafood lunch on the harbor.

Don't miss a stop in pretty **Camden**, where you can take a windjammer cruise

up the rocky coast. When you return to dry land, clamber to the top of Mt Battie in Camden Hills State Park for sweeping views of Penobscot Bay.

End your trip in beautiful **Bar Harbor** and **Acadia National Park**, which are highlights of the New England coast. You'll have no problem occupying yourself for a weekend or a week, exploring Mt Desert Island's beautiful scenery while hiking, biking, kayaking, camping and more. For a delicious detour, head to Thurston's Lobster Pound overlooking **Bass Harbor**. This is your last chance to get your fill of fresh Maine lobster, so tie on your bib and enjoy.





10  
DAYS

## Fall Foliage

The brilliance of fall in New England is legendary. Scarlet and sugar maples, ash, birch, beech, dogwood, tulip tree, oak and sassafras all contribute to the carnival of autumn color.

Start in Connecticut's **Kent**. Hike up Cobble Mountain in Macedonia Brook State Park for views of the forested hills against a backdrop of the Taconic and Catskill mountain ranges. Heading north on Rte 7, stop at **Housatonic Meadows State Park** to snap a photo of the Cornwall Bridge, then continue into Massachusetts.

Blanketing the westernmost part of the state, the rounded mountains of the Berkshires turn crimson and gold as early as mid-September. Set up camp in **Great Barrington**, a formerly industrial town now populated with art galleries and upscale restaurants. It's a good base for exploring **October Mountain State Forest**, a multicolored tapestry of hemlocks, birches and oaks. This reserve's name – attributed to Herman Melville – gives a good indication of when this park is at its loveliest.

Cruising north from Great Barrington, you'll pass through the Berkshires' most charming towns: **Stockbridge**, **Lenox** and **Williamstown**. Stop for a few hours or a few days for fine dining, shopping and cultural offerings. Dedicate at least one day to exploring **Mt Greylock State Reservation**: the summit offers a view stretching up to 100 miles across more than five states.

Cross into Vermont and continue north through the historic villages of **Bennington** and **Manchester**. For fall foliage views head to the top of **Mt Equinox**, where the 360-degree panorama includes the Adirondacks and the lush Battenkill Valley. Continue north to **Burlington**, your base for frolicking on Lake Champlain, and sail away on a schooner for offshore foliage views.

Head southeast through Montpelier and continue into New Hampshire. Your destination is **Bretton Woods**, where you can admire the foliage from the porch of the historic hotel or from a hanging sky bridge. Then make your way to the summit of **Mt Washington**, whether by car, by train or on foot. When you're ready to come down from the clouds, descend into **North Conway**. Many of the town's restaurants and inns offer expansive views of the nearby mountains, making it an ideal place to wrap up a fall foliage tour.



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MICHAEL WERNICK / SHUTTERSTOCK ©

Top: Cornwall Bridge (p274)  
Bottom: Fall foliage





## Mountain Meander

If you're longing to breathe pure mountain air and gaze over mountain majesty, follow this route through the region's most glorious peaks.

Start your mountain meander at **Franconia Notch State Park**, where you can hike down the Flume, ride a tramway up Cannon Mountain and see what little remains of the Old Man of the Mountain. Spend a few nights at one of many welcoming inns in **Franconia** or **Bethlehem** and don't miss dinner at the creative Cold Mountain Cafe.

The next day, journey east on Rte 302, relishing the spectacular views of the White Mountains. Stop at the historic Mount Washington Hotel at **Bretton Woods**. This is the base for a ride on the Cog Railway to the top of **Mt Washington**, New England's highest peak. Or, if you prefer to make the climb on your own two feet, continue on Rte 302 to **Crawford Notch State Park**, the access point for many hikes in the area.

To give your legs a break, drive west across the White Mountain National Forest on the scenic **Kancamagus Highway**. This route offers countless opportunities for hiking, camping and other outdoor adventuring. Otherwise, just enjoy the scenery and motor through to I-93, continuing southwest into Vermont.

Expansive vistas unfold with abandon as you approach the Green Mountains on US 4. Continue on to **Killington**, for a day of wintertime skiing or summertime mountain biking.

Continue north on VT 100, which is often called 'the spine of the state.' Snaking north through the mountains, this classic route feels like a backcountry road, littered with cow-strewn meadows and white-steepled churches. Spend a few hours or a few days exploring, turning off on the gap roads and stopping in any number of tiny towns along the way. Don't miss **Warren** and **Waitsfield**, excellent for browsing art galleries and antique shops, while the nearby ski resorts offer mountain biking and horseback riding.

Side up to **Stowe**, where the looming **Mt Mansfield** is the outdoor capital of northern Vermont. After exerting yourself sledding or skiing, biking or hiking, indulge in some Ben & Jerry's ice cream from the factory in **Waterbury**. After climbing many peaks, skiing many slopes and snapping many photos, you've earned it.

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PHILIP RICHARD SENK / SHUTTERSTOCK ©



Top: Cannon Mountain (p351)  
Bottom: Mount Washington Cog Railway (p360),  
Bretton Woods





# Map Legend

## Sights

- Beach
- Bird Sanctuary
- Buddhist
- Castle/Palace
- Christian
- Confucian
- Hindu
- Islamic
- Jain
- Jewish
- Monument
- Museum/Gallery/Historic Building
- Ruin
- Shinto
- Sikh
- Taoist
- Winery/Vineyard
- Zoo/Wildlife Sanctuary
- Other Sight

## Activities, Courses & Tours

- Bodysurfing
- Diving
- Canoeing/Kayaking
- Course/Tour
- Sento Hot Baths/Onsen
- Skiing
- Snorkeling
- Surfing
- Swimming/Pool
- Walking
- Windsurfing
- Other Activity

## Sleeping

- Sleeping
- Camping

## Eating

- Eating

## Drinking & Nightlife

- Drinking & Nightlife
- Cafe

## Entertainment

- Entertainment

## Shopping

- Shopping

## Information

- Bank
- Embassy/Consulate
- Hospital/Medical
- Internet
- Police
- Post Office
- Telephone
- Toilet
- Tourist Information
- Other Information

## Geographic

- Beach
- Gate
- Hut/Shelter
- Lighthouse
- Lookout
- Mountain/Volcano
- Oasis
- Park
- Pass
- Picnic Area
- Waterfall

## Population

- Capital (National)
- Capital (State/Province)
- City/Large Town
- Town/Village

## Transport

- Airport
- BART station
- Border crossing
- Boston T station
- Bus
- Cable car/Funicular
- Cycling
- Ferry
- Metro/Muni station
- Monorail
- Parking
- Petrol station
- Subway/SkyTrain station
- Taxi
- Train station/Railway
- Tram
- Underground station
- Other Transport

## Routes

- Tollway
- Freeway
- Primary
- Secondary
- Tertiary
- Lane
- Unsealed road
- Road under construction
- Plaza/Mall
- Steps
- Tunnel
- Pedestrian overpass
- Walking Tour
- Walking Tour detour
- Path/Walking Trail

## Boundaries

- International
- State/Province
- Disputed
- Regional/Suburb
- Marine Park
- Cliff
- Wall

## Hydrography

- River, Creek
- Intermittent River
- Canal
- Water
- Dry/Salt/Intermittent Lake
- Reef

## Areas

- Airport/Runway
- Beach/Desert
- Cemetery (Christian)
- Cemetery (Other)
- Glacier
- Mudflat
- Park/Forest
- Sight (Building)
- Sportsground
- Swamp/Mangrove

*Note: Not all symbols displayed above appear on the maps in this book*



## OUR STORY

A beat-up old car, a few dollars in the pocket and a sense of adventure. In 1972 that's all Tony and Maureen Wheeler needed for the trip of a lifetime – across Europe and Asia overland to Australia. It took several months, and at the end – broke but inspired – they sat at their kitchen table writing and stapling together their first travel guide, *Across Asia on the Cheap*. Within a week they'd sold 1500 copies. Lonely Planet was born.

Today, Lonely Planet has offices in Franklin, London, Melbourne, Oakland, Dublin, Beijing and Delhi, with more than 600 staff and writers. We share Tony's belief that 'a great guidebook should do three things: inform, educate and amuse'.

## OUR WRITERS



### Gregor Clark

**Vermont, New Hampshire** Gregor Clark has been exploring New England's back roads since childhood, when he rode bikes through Cape Cod's dunes, skated on frozen ponds in northwestern Connecticut and saw his first shooting star in Vermont's Green Mountains. A lifelong polyglot with an insatiable curiosity for what lies around the next bend, Gregor has contributed to over three dozen Lonely Planet guides, with an emphasis on North America, Latin America and Europe. He

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### Carolyn Bain

**Cape Cod, Nantucket & Martha's Vineyard; Maine** Australian-born Carolyn worked a glorious season on Nantucket a decade or so back – and like countless visitors before her, she fell in love with Cape Cod at first sight. Sand dunes and salt spray, history and wholesomeness, cozy inns and seafood feasts: this was (and still is) the USA at its most charming. On this trip, Maine made an awesome adjunct, and she relished the chance to go beyond lighthouses and lobsters to uncover craft

brews, moose trails and road-tripping nirvana.

Read more about Carolyn at:

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### Mara Vorhees

**Boston, Around Boston, Central Massachusetts & the Berkshires** Born and raised in St Clair Shores, Michigan, Mara traveled the world (if not the universe) before settling in the Hub. The pen-wielding traveler covers destinations as diverse as Belize and Russia, as well as her home in New England. She lives in a pink house in Somerville, MA, with her husband, two kiddies and two kitties. Mara also wrote the Plan Your Trip, Understand and Survival Guide sections.

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### Benedict Walker

**Rhode Island, Connecticut** Born in Newcastle, Australia, Ben holds notions of the beach core to his idea of self, though he's traveled hundreds of thousands of kilometers from the sandy shores of home. Ben was given his first Lonely Planet guide (*Japan*) when he was 12. Two decades later, he'd write chapters for the same publication: a dream come true. A communications graduate and travel agent by trade, Ben whittled away his twenties gallivanting around the globe. He thinks the

best thing about travel isn't as much about where you go as who you meet: living vicariously through the stories of kind strangers enriches one's own experience. Ben has also written and directed a play, and toured Australia managing the travel logistics for top-billing music festivals.

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