

Destination

Maine

Memories of its harsh winters can sometimes leave a frozen edge on minds when they think of Maine. It might even hold a misleading reputation as a lost land—one with too many secrets to uncover under all the snowdrifts and hidden among the sprawling woods. It's home to rough-and-tumble lobster fishahmen, brazen moose, and spooky horror fiction tales from a famous native. But this neighbor to the north has a gentler side—a quiet but playful demeanor that welcomes you and begs to be explored during the more seasonable seasons. Get to know this introspective state, and you'll like what you see.

By Cheryl Fenton





Where to Stay

Cradled between lush green hills and the blue waters of Penobscot Bay in Rockport lies the recently restored **Samoset Resort Hotel**, a wonderful retreat for a romantic getaway, family vacation, or group outing. A \$3 million guest room refurbishment puts even more luxuries within reach—flat-screen TVs, granite vanities, luxurious down bedding, and marble-top mahogany furniture. Set upon 230 oceanside acres, the hotel also offers championship golf, which boasts the first New England home of ESPN Golf Schools resort programs. Play around in the Ultimate Backyard. It's everything you wish your own backyard had—basketball, shuffleboard, volleyball, badminton, croquet, horseshoes, and tetherball, while indoor pools and hot tubs create the perfect escape. For the truly romantic, there's the exclusive Flume Cottage, built over the ocean for a unique hideaway with spectacular views.

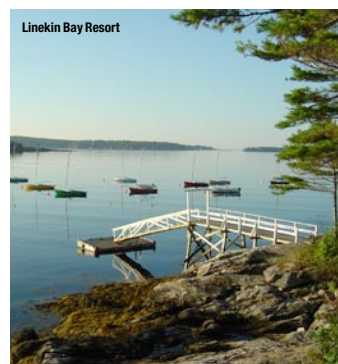
Just moments away from Acadia National Park, the **Harborside Hotel & Marina** is the newest luxury hotel in downtown Bar Harbor. Visitors enjoy breathtaking views of the picturesque Frenchman's Bay and ocean beyond, as they prepare for their relaxing stay in guest rooms, studios, or deluxe penthouse suites. Water views are never too far, with a Jacuzzi available right on the ocean's edge. Get right in the thick of things with an exciting whale-watching excursion. Boats set sail daily from the Harborside Pier for an Atlantic adventure.

Sharing scenery with the Harborside Hotel on the edge of Maine's spectacular coast, the nearby **Bar Harbor Regency** offers guests classic New England style and luxury. Hotel guests visiting Bar Harbor by yacht or sailboat can enjoy all the amenities of the Bar

Harbor Regency, while docking at the Harborside marina in Frenchman's Bay, which accommodates vessels from 30 to 150 feet. Enjoy the oceanfront view overlooking the private marina from the Tiki bar area as you relax in the new heated pool. Or maybe warm up after dark in the Jacuzzi hot tub. Enjoy a game of tennis on one of the two courts, and practice your swing at the putting green.

The seaside community of **Sebasco Harbor Resort** is located on 575 shoreline acres by the Casco Bay. Enjoy quiet stays in luxury suites, cottages, lodges, or book a room in the resort's very own lighthouse. Your stay at the resort will be as busy as you desire, with a full-service harbor with overnight moorings, boat rentals, a saltwater pool, sailboat tours and sailing lessons, a nine-hole championship golf course, and tennis courts. The Quarterdeck recreation center is a fun house of candlepin bowling, Ping-Pong, arcade, and pool. The Village Green combines yesteryear charm and today's tech savvy with its croquet court, ice cream shop and Wi-Fi gazebo. Sebasco has even gone to the dogs, with its Very Important Pet (VIP) policy that allows pets in select cottages. No more leaving Fido behind!

For a real "Down East" family vacation, travel to the secluded shores of Boothbay Harbor to **Linekin Bay Resort**. You'll find sports and activities or rest and relaxation—everything any member of your



family is ready for. Choose a stay in one of the bay lodges or cottages scattered through the pine grove. Relish in this lovely natural setting as you swim in the heated saltwater pool overlooking the bay. Offering the largest resort sailing fleet on the East Coast, Linekin also invites you to sail "on your own" in one of 20 Rhodes 19 sailboats. Moorings are available if you wish to bring your own vessel. Build up strength for the weekly regatta (or even a leisurely canoe trip) with a feast on mussels and lobsters fresh from the bay. Cap off the evening with a good book or a card game fire-side. You might get in the mood for music, as guests gather around the piano to sing.

The **Harraseeket Inn** offers true Maine hospitality as only a Maine family-owned business can. Voted by *Condé Nast Traveler* as one of the Top 50 Resorts in the United States, the Freeport inn is filled with antiques, 23 fireplaces, Jacuzzis, and an indoor pool. The Maine Dining Room and the Broad Arrow Tavern are set against a backdrop of lovely grounds and gardens for dining in quiet, subtle beauty. For those special evenings where romance is in the air, spend the night in one of the Honeymoon Suites, complete with fireplaces and Jacuzzis. Guests can opt for any of the inn's unique Maine vacation packages, perfect for any and all tastes. The popular "The Serious Shopper!" satisfies the bargain hunter in all of us—taking advantage of the inn's location just two blocks from **L.L. Bean** and more than 170 outlet shops.

Things to do

The name of Freeport's Harraseeket River is derived from an American Indian dialect meaning the "river of many fish." What better location for Leon Leonwood Bean (L.L. Bean) to establish his world-famous hunting, fishing, and sporting business? More than 3 million people visit the flagship store each year, open 24 hours a day. The extensive camping, boating, and biking departments put you on the right path for a great experience outdoors. The neighboring Hunting & Fishing Store offers everything for a successful trip (except the game and fish—those

you have to supply), and the newly opened Bike & Boat Store attracts people of all ages. Enjoy fun family events on the L.L.Bean Campus, including the 25th annual Maine summer PaddleSports Festival on June 24 and 25. A summer concert series in the Discovery Park delights listeners every Saturday night from July 4 through Labor Day weekend with jazz, folk, blues, and zydeco.



Green Design Furniture Co.

For an elegant side of Maine, travel to Portland's historic Old Port district to **Green Design Furniture Co.** Founded in 1993 by inventor and designer Douglas Green, it's one of the few remaining artisan furniture manufacturers that produce the work of a contemporary designer. Each solid cherry piece is crafted by talented hands within the lines of Green's exclusive, patented system of construction. When you purchase Green Design's furniture, you're in a select group, as fewer than 1,000 pieces are crafted each year. Continuing with tradition, the first 100 pieces of a new design are numbered and signed by Green and the craftsman. Entertainment gurus rejoice in Green Design's proud introduction of its new Neehi series. The collection's pieces are created for owners of thin-profile televisions in search of a beautiful and efficient all-in-one package to display them.



Well-known **Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers'** Freeport flagship showroom is a 19th-century home restored to its historic grandeur and furnished with two floors of Moser's exquisite pieces. The classic furniture style is guided by the mission to build furniture that celebrates the natural beauty of wood with a simple, unadorned, graceful line. Thos. Moser ties several mindsets together—the discipline of classic Japanese joinery, the untutored aesthetics of the American Shaker period of the 1830s and 1840s, and the sophisticated German Bauhaus of the 1920s. The showroom also boasts a wide selection of fine crafts, hand-woven Swans Island Blankets, hand-blown glass lamps and glassware from Simon Pearce, as well as more than 40 works by the state's most prominent artists, celebrating

the beauty of Maine. Stop in and after browsing, have the folks there direct you (via pretty backroads) up to the store's Auburn headquarters to see the pieces crafted and meet some of the woodworkers.

Take a ride down memory lane at the **Owls Head Transportation Museum.**

In the heart of Maine's midcoast, conveniently close to beautiful Penobscot Bay, the museum is home to an operating collection of 75 antique autos, 25 antique planes, bicycles, carriages, and motorcycles. Experience the "open flightline," with a stroll along the grass airstrip for a close up look at the airplanes and meet the museum's pilots when they aren't flying above during the Antique Aeroplane shows. See what it was like in the Tin Lizzy days with a free ride in a classic Model T. A must-see stop is the Engine Room, home to more than 30 vintage engines, many of them operable. Springtime brings great outdoor opportunities, including the Hot Rods, Customs, Muscle Cars & Antique Aeroplane Show on June 11 and the Convertible Meet & Antique Aeroplane Show on June 25.

Forget about the winter woes that Maine conjures in your memory. With all these lovely outdoor adventures, who has time to think of flurries and flakes? There is sunshine for the taking!



Owls Head Transportation Museum

Destination Maine Resource Directory

Bar Harbor Regency

123 Eden Street
Bar Harbor, ME
800.23.HOTEL
barharborregency.com

Green Design Furniture

267 Commercial Street
Portland, ME
866.756.4730
greendesigns.com

Harborside Hotel & Marina

55 West Street
Bar Harbor, ME
800.328.5033
theharborsidehotel.com

Harraseeket Inn

162 Main Street
Freeport, ME
800.342.6423
harraseeketinn.com

Linekin Bay Resort

92 Wall Point Road
Boothbay Harbor, ME
866.847.2103
linekinbayresort.com

L.L. Bean

Flagship Store
95 Main Street
Freeport, ME
800.559.0747
llbean.com

Owls Head Transportation Museum

117 Museum Street
Owls Head, ME
207.594.4418
ohtm.org

Samoset Resort

220 Warrenton Street
Rockport, ME
800.341.1650
samosetresort.com

Sebasco Harbor Resort

29 Kenyon Road
Sebasco Estates, ME
800.225.3819
sebasco.com

Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers

Flagship Showroom
149 Main Street
Freeport, ME
800.708.9041
thosmoser.com