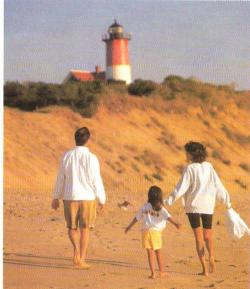


the spirit of summer NEW ENGLAND

During the summer months, the navy-colored Atlantic Ocean shimmers in a lighter shade of blue, the sun catches glints of silver in the rocky granite coast, and the pale sand feels warm under your toes. Cartons of freshly picked strawberries and blueberries sit next to home-baked pies at farm stands and just-hauled in lobsters and clams are served at charming seaside restaurants with distinctive New England pride.









MASSACHUSETTS

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From the moment the first pitch is thrown at the historic Fenway Park until the final crescendo of the Boston Symphony at Tanglewood, Massachusetts brims with quintessential summer pastimes. When the warm weather starts, locals will proudly boast that New

Englanders consume more ice cream than any other region in the U.S. and then promptly send you to one of their favorite spots, like Richardson's Ice Cream in Middleton and Reading. Even in the state's cosmopolitan hub, Boston, you can enjoy simple summer pleasures, including whale-watching tours from Rowes Wharf and Red Sox home games (catch them playing their legendary rivals, the New York Yankees, June 9 to 11).

Just south of Boston, visit Plymouth Rock and get a sense of the coastal life that inspired *Moby Dick*. To the north of the city in the Greater Merrimack Valley, take lovely day trips to beautiful harbors punctuating 30 miles of rocky coastline and continue on to the North Shore for delightful beachside communities, such as Marblehead and Ipswich, famous for their delicious fried clams. Inland, kayak along peaceful stretches of the Ipswich River or go further west to the Berkshires. These artistic communities tucked in the hills host fantastic summer festivals, such as Jacob's Pillow Dance opening June 20 and the legendary Tanglewood Festival kicking off July 3.

Curling out into the Atlantic Ocean, Cape Cod, Nantucket, and Martha's Vineyard are characterized by rolling dunes, sun-soaked beaches, gray-shingled houses, and a calm that hangs in the sea breeze. On cobblestone roads and old-fashioned main streets, wander through quaint shops and wonderful seafood restaurants. Whether it's exhilarating outdoor adventures, lazy beach days, elegant B&Bs, or arts and culture, Massachusetts has just the right pace for summer.

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Midway between Falmouth and Provincetown on Cape Cod's so-called elbow, Chatham is a serene beach community which earned the prestigious Distinctive Destination Award two years ago from The National Trust for Historic Preservation. Experience the outdoor, cultural, and historical activities that make Chatham stand out at the exquisite Wequassett Resort and Golf Club. Set on Pleasant Bay, the fourdiamond luxury resort is listed among Cape Cod's most premier resorts for its championship golf, sophisticated dining, and lavish clapboard cottages dotting 22 acres of garden.







NEW HAMPSHIRE

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When school lets out, New Hampshire's pristine outdoors become a playground for classic family vacations and romantic escapes in picturesque mountain towns, peaceful lakeside communities, and colorful New England seaside villages. There is a timeless appeal to the adventures waiting in New Hampshire from sunbathing on a glimmering lake beach to roasting marshmallows around a flickering campfire.

Among New Hampshire's spectacular state parks and natural beauty, the White Mountains National Forest in the north offers 800,000 acres of wilderness, which you can explore by car on the scenic 100-mile

loop or by foot on one of the many easy hiking trails. Close by, stay at two historic grand hotels, The Mount Washington Resort in Bretton Woods, which sits at the base of New England's highest peak, and The Mountain View Grand Hotel. Driving down the historic Kancamagus Highway, you'll find amazing scenery and a delicious culinary trail, ranging from homey delights to gourmet cuisine.

Along New Hampshire's lighthouse-dotted coastline, lobster boats bring in their daily haul and sailboats explore hidden coves. This classic red, white, and blue New England setting is home to Portsmouth, which has become a hot spot for distinctive shopping, great restaurants, and nightlife. Further south in Hampton Beach, walk along the boardwalk and enjoy the long sandy stretches. Head northwest into the state's picture-perfect Lake Region to spend your days peacefully floating on the shimmering Lake Winnipesaukee or enjoying the exciting amusement parks, soft beaches, and arcades of Weirs Beach. There are more than 1,000 lakes and ponds scattered in the heart of the state, providing everything from quiet havens to exciting beachfronts. In New Hampshire, a vacation today becomes the fond memories of tomorrow.

