



Major Tourist and Cultural Attractions in Rhode Island

OCEAN BEACHES: More than 400 miles of shoreline features over 100 salt and fresh water beaches in the resort communities of Newport, Narragansett, Watch Hill and Block Island. Facilities for swimming, picnicking, camping, horseback riding, surfing, skin diving, boating and water skiing are complimented by a large selection of public and private accommodations and dining facilities.

NEWPORT MANSIONS: These fabled mansions, the extravagant “summer cottages” of America's Gilded Age portray the opulence of a bygone era. Five of these palatial estates are owned, maintained and operated by the Preservation Society of Newport County. Privately owned mansions include: The Astors’ Beechwood, where costumed actors recreate the fabulous 1890's lifestyle; Rough Point, former home of tobacco heiress, Doris Duke; the American Illustration Museum, and Belcourt Castle, summer residence of Oliver Hazard Perry Belmont.

PERFORMING ARTS: The performing arts are also a big part of Providence culture, led by Tony Award-winning Trinity Repertory Company. Music lovers will enjoy the Rhode Island Philharmonic and Opera Providence. Theatergoers can enjoy performances from companies such as the Perishable Theater and the Providence Black Repertory Company. For dance enthusiasts, there is the Festival Ballet of Rhode Island and the Groundwerx Dance Theatre. Two impressive venues, the gold-gilded Providence Performing Arts Center and Veterans Memorial Auditorium, are not only historic landmarks, but also feature Broadway musicals, children’s performances, popular seasonal ballets, opera, plays and musical concerts. The Dunkin Donuts Center draws big name performers and shows from around the world.

BENEFIT STREET’S MILE OF HISTORY: The most impressive concentration of original Colonial homes in America. Beautifully restored houses, churches and museums overlook the city's historic waterfront. Walking or escorted bus tours are conducted by the Providence Preservation Society.

INTERNATIONAL TENNIS HALL OF FAME: For tennis lovers, the oldest grass courts in America, and the only ones open for public play, can be found at the International Tennis Hall of Fame, located in the historic Newport Casino. The Hall of Fame brings world-class tennis competition to Newport each year. In addition, the Tennis Hall of Fame Museum features displays, artifacts and exhibits covering over a century of tennis history.

PROVIDENCE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM: The Providence Children's Museum is designed for children ages 1-11, the museum features fun and educational hands-on exhibits including a time traveling adventure; a wet and wild exploration of the ways of water; a hands on geometry lab and much more.

ROGER WILLIAMS PARK: Rhode Island's capital city is home to Roger Williams Park & Zoo, a veritable playground for the young and young at heart. This beautiful 430-acre Victorian park (1878) is comprised of waterways, walks, outdoor gardens, and a Carousel Village, Museum of Natural History, and the park's crown jewel, Roger Williams Park Zoo. Other children's activities in the park include paddleboats, a carousel, miniature train ride, pony rides and a jungle gym.

PAWTUCKET RED SOX: Kids and kids-at-heart will love the old-time stadium of the Pawtucket Red Sox, the AAA affiliate of the Boston Red Sox. Some of the Red Sox's most famous players have played at McCoy Stadium before moving to Boston's Fenway Park, including Nomar Garciaparra, Trot Nixon and Johnathan Papelbon. Built in 1942 and renovated during the 1998 and 1999 seasons, it was also the site of the 2004 AAA All Star Game and a USA Baseball National Team game against Italy in 2005.

BLOCK ISLAND: Virtually unspoiled by progress, this Victorian "treasure island" is located ten miles south of Rhode Island's southern coast. Accessible by ferry or air, the island features quaint architecture, spectacular vistas and delicious native seafood. Charming inns, beaches and biking offer something for everyone. The Mohegan Bluffs rise abruptly to a height of 200 feet above the sea and stretch for nearly three miles along the island's southern shore.

For more information, visit us on the Web at www.visitrhodeisland.com.

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