

Top Things to See and Do in Maine



Acadia National Park – Acadia National Park abounds with an endless variety of sights, attractions and activities. Outdoor enthusiasts can try biking, hiking, rock climbing, kayaking and sailing. The third-largest island on the east coast of the United States, Mt. Desert is home to Cadillac Mountain, the highest mountain on the east coast north of Rio de Janeiro. From atop Cadillac Mountain’s 1,532-foot summit visitors are the first to watch the sun rise each day in the United States.

Appalachian Trail/Mt. Katahdin – Maine’s 281 miles of the Appalachian Trail are generally considered the most challenging of all fourteen states. Lakes, streams, and bogs abound, and moose and loon sightings are common. Maine’s crown jewel, Mt. Katahdin is the northern terminus of the AT.

Art Museum Trail – With more than 73,000 works of art, the Art Museum Trail provides a unique look at Maine artists over the centuries, and paintings and sculpture from numerous American artists, as well as Degas and Renoir. Eight museums – including the beloved Farnsworth and Portland Art Museum – offer art lovers so much to enjoy.

Beaches – The sandy beaches of southern Maine offer 30 miles of charming coastal towns and soft white sand ideal for relaxation. Looking for something different? The rugged rocky coast that sweeps north is perfect for sitting and watching the sea life and boats pass you by. Discover your favorite lighthouse perched on the granite cliffs.

Beer and Wine Trails – Maine’s celebrated beers and wines are the star of these trails. With more than 60 brewers to sample and more than two dozen wineries, you will visit all regions of the state and experience what quality, craftsmanship and passion bring to your cup.



Birding Trail – With most of the state heavily wooded and the coastline dappled with islands, it’s no wonder Maine is a birder’s paradise. Year-round, birders come to Maine to watch migrating birds, and see the state’s famous loons, puffins and sandpipers in the Birding Trail’s 82 sites.

Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens – With 127 acres to explore, visitors can spend the whole day at the Maine Botanical Gardens. With walking trails, a meditation garden, amazing children’s garden and more, and art and sculpture installations throughout, this gem is not to be missed.

Lighthouses – More than 60 lighthouses dot the scenic coast of Maine. By taking a trip along Maine’s coastal Route 1 and exploring the rocky shores and peninsulas along the way, visitors can experience a true sense of Maine’s maritime heritage by discovering its lighthouses. Perhaps there is no better way to view a lighthouse than from the water. The Maine Maritime Museum in Bath and the Penobscot Marine Museum in Searsport offer lighthouse cruises.

L.L. Bean – Open all day, every day, L.L. Bean’s flagship store in Freeport is the place to buy quality outdoor apparel and Maine-made gifts, even at midnight. Don’t miss the trout pond!



Moose Safaris – Maine’s 75,000 moose are residents of the state year-round but the best times to go on a moose safari are mid-May to July and early fall. Have your experienced guide take you to the best viewing spots and teach you all about this oddly majestic animal for a true Maine moment.

Penobscot Narrows Bridge & Observatory – Gorgeous views are everywhere in Maine but perhaps none as unique as the one from the Penobscot Narrows Bridge Observatory, the world’s tallest bridge observatory. The observatory’s 360° view of the Penobscot River and glorious Bay and surrounding Western Mountains is nothing if not breathtaking.

Windjammer Fleet – A perfect way to see and explore the more than 5,300 miles of Maine’s beautiful coastline is doing so by water. All along Maine’s coast there are opportunities for tour boat excursions, sailing trips, and cruises lasting anywhere from one hour to one week. One of the most unique ways to cruise the coast is aboard one of Maine’s historic windjammers. Maine is the only place in North America with such a large, historic fleet of traditional sailing vessels. Windjammer cruises offer an experience of a lifetime as you visit tiny fishing villages, explore islands and lighthouses, view whales, seals and puffins up close, or relax accompanied by dramatic scenery and salt air. You can even help the crew sail the ship if you choose.



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