



## Maine Story Ideas and News for 2022

### **OUTDOOR CAPITAL OF THE EAST**

[Saddleback Mountain](#) broke ground on its new Mid Mountain Lodge, which is planned to be finished fall of 2022. The lodge is located in Bicknell's thrush habitat and the resort is working with the Maine Audubon Society to protect the birds' habitat. They are also building new mountain bike trails and adding a solar farm.

September 2021 marked the grand opening of the [Great Circle Trail](#), a new 30-mile hiking trail loop on the Nahmakanta Public Reserved Land in the heart of the Katahdin Region. The Great Circle Trail connects the Turtle Ridge Loop, Debsconeag Loop and the Appalachian Trail into one large network. The loop trail can be hiked in bite-sized sections or a multi-day adventure, utilizing eight remote campsites.

[Acadia National Park's](#) Eagle Lake Carriage Road restoration project is complete and the road will be fully open in 2022. Hikers, bikers, and horseback riders will once again have access to this beautiful part of the park.

The [Katahdin Woods & Waters National Monument](#) is known for its hiking, paddling and all-around epic outdoor recreation. And now, [The International Dark-Sky Association](#) has designated the monument as an [International Dark Sky Sanctuary](#). Only 13 exist throughout the entire world. In the U.S. there's only one east of the Mississippi.

The International Dark Sky Association has designated the [Appalachian Mountain Club's Maine Woods](#) property as an [International Dark Sky Park](#). The property is within Maine's famed 100-Mile Wilderness and includes part of the [Appalachian Trail](#). The park is the first of its kind in New England.

### **CULTURAL NEWS**

[Maine Preservation](#) has created [historic driving tours](#) as you travel by some of the state's best examples of mid-18th- and early-19th-century architecture. There are 26 tours organized by region and range from 30 minutes to four hours. Travelers will experience some of Maine's most beautiful and historic downtowns, many of which are nationally accredited [Main Street](#) communities and are vibrant places to find local food, shops and cultural happenings.

[The Maine Children's Museum & Theatre of Maine](#) opened in the summer of 2021. Located in a new 30,000-square-foot home at Thompson's Point in Portland, the museum has reopened with interactive exhibits that have been designed to create experiential learning and fun for a hands-on and family-centered experience. Coming from points south? [Amtrak's Downeaster](#) station is just steps from the museum. Make the day extra special by riding the train! The Thompson's Point area also includes the [Cryptozoology Museum](#), Rosemont Market, Bissell Brothers Brewing and Rwanda Bean.

The [First Amendment Museum](#) is now open in Augusta in what was once the home of newspaper mogul and creator of the Portland Press Herald, Guy Gannett. Extensive historical restoration work has secured the structure's architectural integrity and the museum is open for visitors to take a free, guided tour. The museum shares the story of the Gannett legacy and highlights the importance of a free press in a democracy.

The [Bar Harbor Historical Society](#) has moved to a stunning waterfront location in the historic La Rochelle Mansion. Exhibits highlight a historic look at life in Bar Harbor and the Cottage Era. Planned exhibits will cover the Wabanaki

people, rusticators, the fire of 1947, and local industries, along with landscape designer Beatrix Ferrand and preservationist George B. Dorr.

### **GASTRONOMY HIGHLIGHTS**

The [Maine Oyster Trail](#) is a new way to enjoy Maine oysters whether you want to shuck, taste, learn from the experts or just grab and go. Featuring 75 one-of-a-kind Maine oyster businesses to experience, the trail has [options for everyone](#) including farm tours, purchasing tips, boat tours, and raw bars. As you travel the trail, you have the option to use your [Maine Oyster Passport](#) to check in at participating businesses, keep track of your visits and earn rewards.

Manhattan chefs Colin Wyatt and Daniel Gorlas have teamed up with Portland Prentice Hospitality Group for the much anticipated restaurant, [Twelve](#), located on the Portland waterfront in the old Portland Company industrial complex, which is going through a massive renovation as [Portland Foreside](#) – Portland’s newest neighborhood.

[Paper Tiger](#) is a new cocktail and oyster bar currently under construction in Portland’s Old Port. It will boast a 12- to 14-person bar, seats along the front window, plus booths and outdoor tables. Menu is inspired by American fast food, oyster bars and late-night Chinese takeout.

[Batson River](#) has two locations opening during the summer of 2022, Batson River Fish Camp is coming to Wells and will be offering brewery tours, and Batson River Brewing & Distilling expands with a full tasting room and rooftop bar in the heart of Biddeford.

### **NEW LODGING**

The [Federal Hotel](#) has just opened in Brunswick in the former Capt. Daniel Stone Inn, a 19th Century historic home and historic inn turned boutique hotel and restaurant (opening in April).

[Experience Maine](#), a Portland-based travel concierge and event planning company, has re-opened [The Mill Inn and Café](#) in Dover-Foxcroft. The six-room boutique hotel in a historic mill building is centrally located with easy access to the Moosehead Lake and Katahdin regions, as well as Acadia National Park.

The Bagley-Bliss House is a 1772 farmhouse located in Durham, with close proximity to Freeport, has been renovated and reopened as the [Bliss Farm Inn](#). Four beautifully appointed guest rooms and a candlelit breakfast every morning make this a luxurious getaway.

[The Lincoln](#) is a mixed-use redevelopment of the former Lincoln Mill in Biddeford. The Lincoln will be home to a new 33-room boutique hotel, a restaurant, conference and events center, as well as a rooftop pool and bar. The Lincoln brilliantly combines the charm of the historic mill era with all modern conveniences.

[Queen Anne's Revenge](#) is set to open during the summer of 2022 on a quiet side street in downtown Bar Harbor. Originally built as five separate Bar Harbor summer "cottages" the inn is being meticulously renovated to soon welcome guests.

### **ALL MAINE**

[The Maker's Galley](#), a new tasting lounge, café, and marketplace, opened in Portland in November. Located on the city’s waterfront, The Maker’s Galley is an experiential space showcasing products by Maine makers, artisans, and farmers, and is intended as a gathering place where customers can experience the sights, sounds, tastes, and smells of Maine on Portland’s waterfront.

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