

Maine – A Four Season Destination

Maine's seasons are as distinctive as the state itself, from the lakes and mountains to the sea. And with attractions and activities unique to each season unfolding throughout the year, Maine offers an escape from the everyday all year long.

Winter

[Winter in Maine](#) is a snow-lover's playground, whether seeking the thrill of a ski run, serenity of a cross-country ski or snowshoe trek, or the rush of a snowmobile or dogsled trip on Maine's 14,000 miles of snowmobile trails, 575 downhill skiing and snowboarding trails and 21 Nordic ski areas. The state's lakes and ponds become popular spots for ice fishing and skating, and a walk in the woods becomes a whole new adventure when undertaken on snowshoes. Staying in Maine during the winter months find accommodation rates are often lower and there may even be off-season specials in coastal areas – think winter beach walks. Cities like Portland embrace the season – great restaurants and shopping are fantastic all winter long. Toward the end of winter, [Maine Restaurant Week](#) celebrates local cuisine throughout the state.

Spring

Maine Maple Sunday, held annually in March, marks the beginning of [spring in Maine](#). Maple syrup, maple sugar candy, and handmade maple ice cream make mouths happy at sugar houses. Maine's abundant rivers and streams are known for a longstanding tradition of salmon and trout fishing which begins each season on April 1. Maine also is home to 97 percent of the wild brook trout in the United States, and the Penobscot River is renowned as one of the best salmon fishing rivers in the Northeast. Maine's diverse habitat creates a popular stop for the early spring bird migration. Spring bulbs, azaleas and rhododendrons are in bloom at the [Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens](#) in Boothbay Harbor and at the [Asticou Azalea Garden](#) and Thuya Garden near Acadia National Park on Mount Desert Island. In June, Maine roadsides are lined with flowering lupine in shades of purple, pink, and white. Spring is also the best time to see moose, especially in the mountains from Bethel to Baxter State Park.

Summer

Lie on a white sandy beach, visit one of 64 lighthouses, hike a 4,000-foot mountain, visit a lobster shack, or board a historic windjammer and let the wind set your course. [Summer in Maine](#) offers a range of activities for those seeking adventure or respite. Sea-kayaking is an ideal way to explore off-shore islands and view maritime wildlife. Downtown art walks proliferate as well as outdoor dance and musical performances. Festivals celebrating everything from moose to hot air balloons are held annually. With so much to do and see, here are just a few suggestions: [Whitewater rafting](#), [Maine Art Museum Trail](#), [Maine Fiber Arts Studios and Farm Tours](#), [Lighthouse Cruises](#), [Appalachian Trail](#), and [Mt. Katahdin](#).

Fall

Maine has the longest foliage season in the nation – almost six weeks from first color to past peak, from Ft. Kent to York. Experience the vibrant colors and you'll understand why many Maine residents consider [fall](#) their favorite season. Fall's brisk air makes it a great time to experience the beauty of the outdoors by bike, and no trip to Maine during fall is complete without taking in the bounty of the harvest at a traditional agricultural fair, including some of the longest running agricultural fairs in New England. Other fall fun not to miss: [Sunday River Chondola Rides](#), [Maine Wine Trail](#), and [scenic byways](#).

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