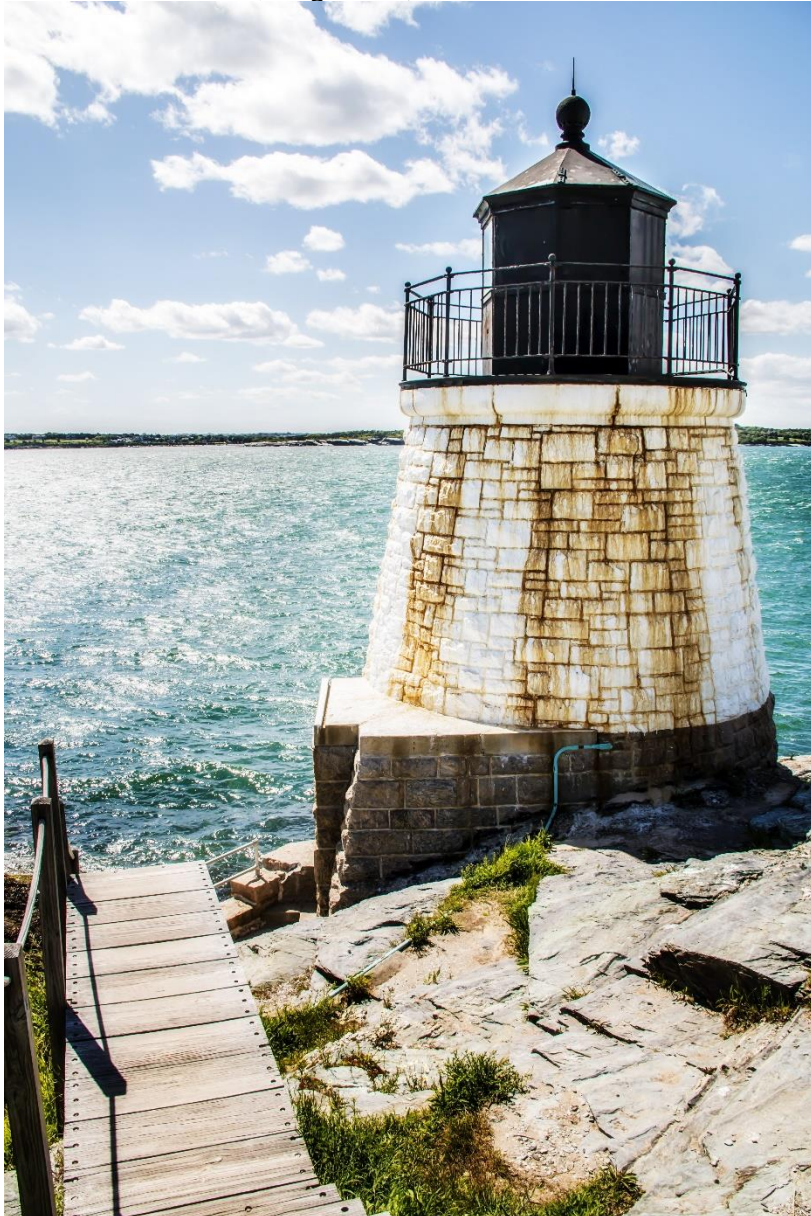


VOGUE

Out of Things to Do in Montauk? Head to Newport, Rhode Island

LILAH RAMZI, August 31, 2019 7:00 AM



Castle Hill in Lighthouse at Newport, Rhode Island.
Photo: Getty Images

It's summer's end (say it isn't so!), and if you've spent your weekends zigzagging across Long Island and enjoyed a healthy amount of time in Hamptons East, South, and Bridge, you might have run out of things to do. It's not a bad problem to have, but if you're looking to shake things up, head to the end of the world (aka Montauk), which is not really the end at all.

From there, you can shake your Hamptons fatigue and take a ferry to Block Island (just over an hour away). The charming summer-time destination is populated with Victorian Ginger Bread houses painted in shades of New England grey. But while Block Island teems with charm, it is limited in attractions, so hop on yet another ferry (operated by Block Island Ferry) headed to Newport, Rhode Island, where there's more than enough to do. Depending on the ferry schedules, the journey can average around 2.5 hours, but those looking to splurge can get there in just 20 minutes. Gurney's operates a helicopter service from Montauk to its Newport location that's as scenic as it is time-efficient. (It's operated by Newport Helicopter Tours and a charming man named Jeff will happily give you a history lesson as you hover towards the Ocean-side city.)

No matter how you get there, it's a town that makes for an ideal day or weekend trip. Aesthetes can tour the Gilded Age elite's imposing "summer cottages," nature-buffs will enjoy the water views from the famed Cliff Walk, and just about everyone can appreciate a lobster roll on the Wharf. Below, recommendations from our staff on their favorite spots in Newport.

Stay



The outdoor patio at Gurney's Newport.
Photo: Courtesy of Gurney's Newport

Gurney's Newport

If you prefer modern slickness to historic charm, Gurney's is the spot. Located on Goat Island, the buttercup yellow-colored hotel houses all the amenities for a super cushy stay. There's a pool, spa, the buzzy Scarpetta restaurant (the bone marrow pasta is really quite something), and plenty of outdoor space—I witnessed multiple weddings take place on the waterfront lawn. Most rooms offer coastal views of Newport's famous bridge and miniature lighthouse. - *Lilah Ramzi, Features Editor*

The Viking

Located in downtown Newport, the brick-clad Viking is almost 100 years old. In terms of opulence, it's nothing compared to say, Marble House, but with neat box hedges lining the entrance, it's as grand of a hotel as you'll find in town. - *Elise Taylor, Living Writer*

Eat



The Lawn at Castle Hill Inn
Photo: Getty Images

The Lawn at Castle Hill Inn

Indulge in the panoramic views and the expansive raw bar at Castle Hill's famous summer spot, The Lawn. Outfitted in charming white Adirondack chairs, The Lawn overlooks neighboring beach towns and sits at the Atlantic entrance of Newport's bustling harbor. Order a dozen oysters with a bottle of bubbly and watch the sailboats and mega-yachts pass by all afternoon. And should you feel inspired to stay a little longer than lunch, it's also a hotel—check-in and stay all weekend.

- *Elisee Browchuk, Editorial Assistant*

The Black Pearl

On the wharf, you'll find The Black Pearl, a Newport culinary institution that delivers casual dining on their outdoor patio (burgers and clams) and inside, drinks at their cozy Tavern bar.

Come dinnertime, the Commodore dining room serves up catches of the day on white tablecloths—order the classic Black Pearl Clam Chowder! - *Lilah Ramzi*

Root

Vegans, vegetarians, and anyone else who can't abide seafood should already be familiar with Root. Make a quick stop for freshly pressed juice, or settle into its cozy, low-key quarters for a hearty salad or grain bowl. Sweetgreen, eat your heart out. - *Marley Marius, Features Associate*

Clarke Cooke House

There's nothing better than local-caught sushi at the Clarke Cooke House on a summer Friday. The seasonal sushi bar hosts a few heavily sought after seats that have a straight-shot view of the incredible sunset over Bannister's Wharf. If you can snag one, order the Rainbow and Lobster roll but save room for their famous "Snowball in Hell" for dessert - you won't regret it! - *Elisee Browchuk*

Sky Bar and the Boom Boom Room

Regarding nightlife, there's really only one place to go in Newport, or rather two. Come nightfall, the town's go-to restaurant, Clarke Cooke House, welcomes the late-night crowd to their top floor aka Sky Bar, and downstairs aka the Boom Boom Room. Social butterflies will float between the two of them all night, which, speaking from experience, will likely end with a midnight dip in the ocean. - *Lilah Ramzi*

Shop



The wares on offer at the Newport Lampshade Company
Photo: Courtesy of the Newport Lampshade Company

The Newport Lampshade Company

Christopher Spitzmiller lamps, antique Chinese pottery, and more giftable knickknacks fill this jewel box store. If you're in town as a lucky house guest, get your hostess present here! - *Anny Choi, Fashion Market Editor*

Spring Street Bookstore

It's a literary treasure chest with enough charm to put Kindles to shame. Spring Street Bookstore offers new and used titles inside its quaint shop. Whatever you want to read this September—a rare volume of poetry or this year's bestseller— you will surely find it here. - *Ian Malone, Fashion Assistant*

Shopping at the Wharfs

Beyond the restaurants and raw bars, Bannister and Bowen's wharves have some of the best boutiques and art galleries in all of Newport. Check out Monelle's for chic yachting-themed accessories and the perfect cashmere sweater to stay warm on chillier nights. If you're looking for more of a French Riviera meets Saint Barth's vibe, pop into Mandarin Boutique for a new beach suit or bohemian evening look. For men's and women's outerwear, Royal Male pulls from the best local and European designers. At the top of Bannister's wharf, Sheldon's Fine Art Gallery always catches the eye with gorgeous oil pieces and the nautical photographs at the award-winning Onne Valderwal Gallery feel very Newport. - *Elisee Browchuk*

Bodhi Spa

Further down from the busier shops on Thames Street, Bodhi Spa might be Newport's best-kept secret summer escape. Get The Water Journey, a multi-step hydrotherapy treatment which comes with a plunge pool eucalyptus steam room that rejuvenates sun-kissed skin and helps preserve your tan. The spa also offers hot stone massages and custom facials to keep your muscles and pores happy too. - *Elisee Browchuk*

See



The historic Rosecliff Mansion.
Photo: Getty Images

Bellevue Avenue

Thanks to the Preservation Society of Newport, Rhode Island, those Gilded Age-era estates famous for their grandeur have been preserved. Think of Bellevue as 5th Avenue, but instead of Gucci and Louis Vuitton, you have Marble House (the embarrassment of riches built by Alva and William Kissam Vanderbilt), Rosecliff (the house where the original *Great Gatsby* was filmed) and The Breakers, The Elms, and more. If you do one thing in Newport, it's to visit all these! - *Lilah Ramzi*

Whitehorse House Museum

I love a good house museum—The Frick, the Morgan Library, Madrid's Museum of Romanticism, London's Leighton House Museum —and the Whitehorse (at 414 Thames Street) is an extremely charming one. The focus of its collection is 18th-century furniture made in Newport, and to creep down its halls is to be thoroughly transported to this nation's earliest days. Yes, Newport has much grander and flashier houses than this one, but none place such compelling emphasis on local craftsmanship. Drop by (admission is free until September 1), and soak it in! - *Marley Marius*

Redwood Library

Bibliophiles, get ready to geek out: The Rosewood Library in Newport is half library, half museum, and with a founding date of 1747, it's the oldest lending center in the United States. The Peter Harrison-designed building holds a treasure trove of rare books and artifacts, including letters from Edith Wharton and a “how-to” guide by England's most beloved gardener, Lancelot “Capability” Brown. - *Elise Taylor*

International Tennis Hall of Fame

Newport is known as the sailing capital of the world, but the city is also deeply rooted in another go-to summer activity, tennis. Pop into the International Tennis Hall of Fame on Bellevue Avenue for a tour of the famous grounds or, if you're up for it, book a grassy court with friends for a doubles match. Remember to pack your whites or stop into The Shop to pick up a new look to take on the turf. - *Elisee Browchuk*

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