

Coastal Refuge in Westerly



PHOTO COURTESY

The Weekapaug Inn seen from Quonnie Queen

LISE GIGUÈRE

Saturday, September 7, 2019 01:00
UPDATE Saturday, September 7, 2019 01:00

WESTERLY, Rhode Island | Small community by the sea and, of course, seaside resort, Westerly offers beautiful beaches, beautiful nature walks and a unique charming inn.

This region, best known for its granite industry - used in many government buildings in many states - is located on the southwest coast of Washington County and borders Connecticut.

Its Pawcatuck River, which flows inland and empties into Little Narragansett Bay, was also famous for its former salmon. But today, it is especially its long white sand beaches (Weekapaug, Misquamicut State Beach, East Beach and Watch Hill) that attract tourists to double the population in summer.



PHOTO COURTESY

Gentle relaxation on the edge of the Atlantic

Like at home

In 1899, in order to accommodate more and more tourists, a small family inn opened, the Weekapaug Inn. Located on the banks of Quonochontaug Pond and just steps from the ocean, the Weekapaug Inn enjoyed hours of glory before being closed in 2007.

Fortunately, a resident of Weekapaug, Langdon Wheeler - and his wife - to whom Rhode Island owes the rehabilitation of 21 other buildings, transformed the place to meet the needs of today's clientele while preserving its warm tradition of hospitality.

Although you are in a Relais & Châteaux member inn, the luxury is discreet. It feels more like being in a typical coastal residence. The common rooms have carpets, fireplaces, old books, a piano, in short, it feels like a cocoon that you would not want to leave.

Steeped in history, the hostel is open all year and invites to swimming, long walks on the private beach, various water activities, not to mention hiking and watching many species of birds.



PHOTO COURTESY

The region of Westerly

A rewarding walk

Our visit taking place in the spring, we drop the bathing and opt for a small cruise aboard the Quonnie Queen, with a naturalist captain passionate about ornithology and wildlife. Not only are there birds and marine life, but you can also admire the splendid residences, deserted in this season, awaiting the return of their owners.

On the way, we see a group of seals having deserted the cold waters to lie on the rocks warmed by the rays of the sun.

Returning from this peaceful activity, we learn that the hotel is providing guests with a brand new BMW model, which allows you to explore the surroundings and visit Watch Hill's Ocean House. These two establishments belonging to the same group, the guests can enjoy free of charge the facilities of both establishments.

We benefit!

- **Information:** <https://weekapauginn.com> and www.visitrhodeisland.com