



RHODE ISLAND IS BACK AS AN AFFORDABLE DRIVE-TO-DESTINATION

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Tags: #Newport #Providence, #Oceanstate #RhodeIsland #summer2021



photo credit: Brian Anthony Lima

Travelers looking for a safe domestic getaway this summer can look no further than the Ocean State. With new hotels, new restaurants and signature summer events returning for the first time since 2019, Rhode Island has plenty to offer.

In addition, the seasonal Seastreak Ferry allows for easy accessibility between Providence and Newport to enjoy all that the two destinations have to offer this Summer.



BLOCK ISLAND:

- New Hotel
 - **Champlin's Marina and Resort:** Opening this Summer, the only hotel with a pool on the island, Champlin's Marina will be a brand new destination for travelers. Complete with 44 guestrooms, a full-service marina with 120 fixed slips, beach access and multiple dining options, Champlin's Marina and Resort aims to "Be the best!" the island has to offer.

NEWPORT:

- Events
 - **Newport Flower Show** (June 18-20): Due to COVID-19, a reimagined presentation of The Newport Flower Show will happen this year. Back in Bloom: A Ballroom Floral Fantasy will be an indoor, self-guided tour of floral design exhibits and garden vignettes on the first floor at Rosecliff Mansion.
 - **Newport Folk Festival** (July 23-25 & 26-28): Newport Folk will be doing things a little differently this year. The festival will be extending dates to present two unique 3-day events of surprise performances, storytelling, and workshops at Fort Adams – July 23rd through July 25th and July 26th through July 28th. Details on performances and ticket information coming soon!
 - **Newport Jazz Festival** (July 30-August 1): This year, the Jazz Festival will be focusing on creating three intimate days of amazing Jazz performances and surprise collaborations at Fort Adams. Details on performances and ticket information coming soon!
- F&B
 - **La Vecina Taqueria:** Originally debuted as a pop-up ghost kitchen this winter, La Vecina Taqueria is now sticking around for good and opening in June next to BarCino in the heart of Newport's historic Washington Square. Serving authentic Mexican street tacos, margaritas and other traditional dishes.



SOUTH COUNTY:

- **Charlestown Seafood Festival** (August 6-8): The 36th annual award-winning festival is the first of its kind in the country and is now one of the biggest events in New England. Attendees will indulge in a gastronomic extravaganza of Rhode Island's best seafood including lobsters, steamers, chowder, fish & chips, clam cakes, corn on the cob and a raw bar. With a wide variety of arts and crafts on display, amusement rides, car show entertainment and more – there is something for everyone
- **Washington County Fair** (August 11-15): Celebrating the 55th year this Summer, The Fair offers good old-fashioned fun for the whole family. Enjoy rides, pie-eating contests, live country music, livestock shows, fair food, games and more!
- **Rhythm & Roots Festival** (September 3-5): This three-day Charlestown festival showcases a wide array of musical styles on three stages. Attendees who want to experience festival life to the fullest can camp onsite or arrive daily. In addition, enjoy a wide variety of festival favorite food vendors, artisans showcasing handmade crafts and plenty of activities and exhibits to enjoy between sets. Tickets can be purchased [here](#).

- F&B

- **Ocean House** Sipping Terrace: New this summer, Ocean House is unveiling the next wave of its renowned seasonal culinary pop-up series with the introduction of the enchanting summer Sipping Terrace. In partnership with distinguished gin distiller Sipsmith, London's first copper distillery for nearly 200 years, the Sipping Terrace will feature epicurean delights and Sipsmith cocktails for afternoon tea and dinner parties of up to six people, allowing for intimate socially distanced soirées.



PROVIDENCE:

- Events

- **PVDFest:** Since 2015, PVDFest has filled the streets of Providence with a global and local blend of creativity. This year, the event has been reimagined as a summer-long celebration. Live music, dance, food, and visual art installations transform the city into a season-long, multi-arts take-over of public spaces, parks and outdoor spaces throughout Providence neighborhoods.
- **Providence Restaurant Week** (July 11-24): Restaurant Week is back this summer! Enjoy two weeks of dining special offers. Participating local restaurants will feature deals and specials for breakfast, lunch or dinner. Whether you choose to dine inside, outside or take it to go, enjoy a well-deserved break from the kitchen while showing support for Rhode Island's amazing restaurants.

- Hotel News

- Graduate Hotel's New Spa and Restaurant: **The Norwich Spa** at Graduate Providence recently opened in April. Guests will find pampering treatments developed and refined by leading professionals in skincare, body care, make-up and the art of massage. The new restaurant on site, Reiner's Bar & Game Room, will be opening late Summer 2021.

BLACKSTONE VALLEY:

- Events

- **Millrace Music Series** (May 7 – June 25): On Friday nights in May and June, enjoy local live music for an eight-week series. This outdoor, family-friendly event series is free to the public and is located on 40 South Main Street in Woonsocket. Attendees can enjoy delicious food for purchase from Cuffs Counter or bring your own food and drinks. Masks and social distancing are required.
- **Levitt Music Series** (July 9 – September 17): After a summer of virtual performances, the Levitt AMP Woonsocket is returning in Summer 2021 as live and in-person performances. Held on Friday nights at River Island Art Park, the shows will feature a local opener along with a headliner. Food will be available for purchase from a variety of on-site vendors. Masks and social distancing are required.