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48 Hours In Narragansett, Rhode Island

Judy Koutsky Contributor
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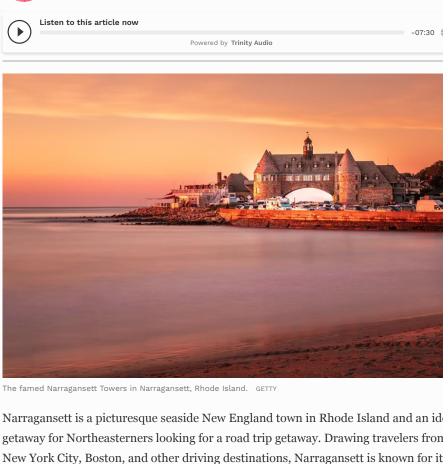
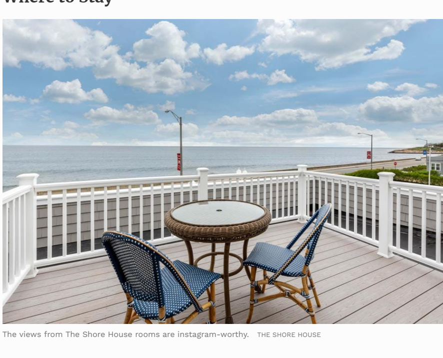

The famed Narragansett Towers in Narragansett, Rhode Island. GETTY

Narragansett is a picturesque seaside New England town in Rhode Island and an ideal getaway for Northeasterners looking for a road trip getaway. Drawing travelers from New York City, Boston, and other driving destinations, Narragansett is known for its clean beaches and walkable downtown with plenty of boutique shops and culinary delights. Active-adventure enthusiasts will find it all here: biking, hiking, kayaking, swimming, fishing, and sailing. There's plenty to see and do on a fun-filled weekend.

Where to Stay


The views from The Shore House rooms are Instagram-worthy. THE SHORE HOUSE

The Shore House, a boutique hotel, has a prime location in the heart of Narragansett overlooking the water. It's just a short walk to The Towers at Narragansett, the Narragansett beach literally just steps away from the ocean. The Shore House reopened after a complete renovation and name change (it was formerly the Ocean Rose Inn).

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The historic property dates back to 1901, when it was built as a private residence. It then became a speakeasy in the 1920s, where the vacationing elite would come for some under-the-radar fun. There were secret passages in the basement, and the bedrooms were turned into small gambling rooms. As years passed, the property morphed into a hotel.

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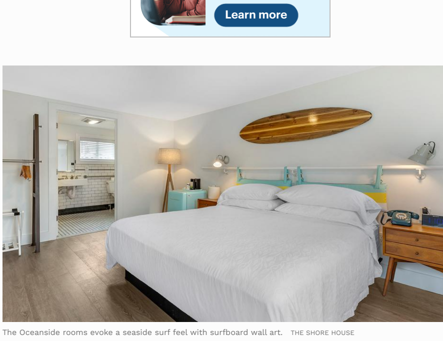
The Oceanside rooms evoke a seaside surf feel with surfboard wall art. THE SHORE HOUSE

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Today, the Shore House consists of three buildings: The Shore House, the main inn that holds nine recently-renovated rooms; The Oceanside, housing 18 unique and newly-renovated rooms that evoke a seaside surf feel with surfboard wall art and retro-chic mini-refrigerators (plus, rooms have either a patio or balcony); and The Shore Cottages, a traditional New England cedar shingle cottage offering four king-sized accommodations, including two ADA compliant rooms.

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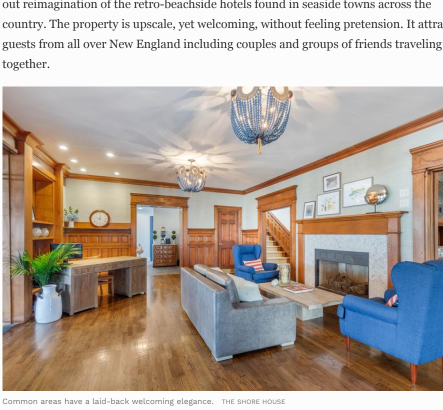
In total, the property has 31 rooms, giving it a very intimate and cozy feel. The modern, yet nautical design pays homage to the area through the vision of leading interior designer David Ashen, founder of Dash Design.

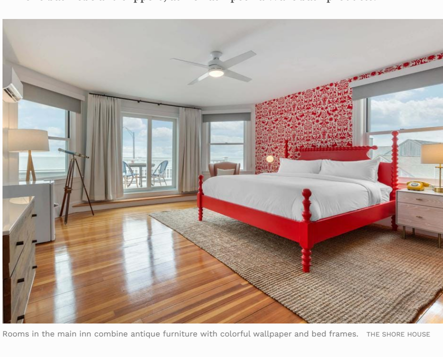
The goal of the renovation was to invoke laid-back elegance through a well-thought-out reimagination of the retro-beachside hotels found in seaside towns across the country. The property is upscale, yet welcoming, without feeling pretension. It attracts guests from all over New England including couples and groups of friends traveling together.


Common areas have a laid-back welcoming elegance. THE SHORE HOUSE

The living room area, just off the front desk, has teas, coffees, and water all day as well as a variety of board games for guests. It's an ideal spot to chat or relax with friends; it has antique tables, wicker chairs, and Chesterfield sofas. Continental breakfast is served in this room daily and includes freshly brewed coffee, oatmeal, muffins, fruit, cereal and yogurt.

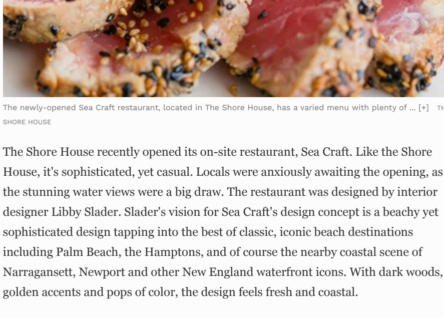
The downstairs library is worth a visit; it has oak trim wood floors that support shelves stocked with a wide range of books, some with a publishing date as old as the hotel.

The seaside patio and garden area often have live music. It's a good spot to enjoy a bite to eat or a cocktail at happy hour. Amenities at the hotel include complimentary WiFi; Keurig coffee in room; luxurious linens and pillowtop mattresses; Frette Kimono bathrobe and slippers; as well as Apothia Wave bath products.


Rooms in the main inn combine antique furniture with colorful wallpaper and bed frames. THE SHORE HOUSE

Guest rooms in The Shore House are equipped with king-sized beds, glass-walled rainfall showers, hardwood floors and marble vanities. Merging a connection between past and present, the rooms feature upholstered, antique furniture among a whimsical backdrop of quirky wallpaper, from beautiful botanicals to illustrations of the sea, as well as colorful walls and bed frames. An example of this is the Orange Room, which pairs eye-catching pops of orange with wicker chairs. Bathrooms are dressed in neutral tones and floored with glistening marble.

Drawing inspiration from Narragansett and the shore, the guest rooms in the Oceanside building exude beachside elegance and a natural simplicity, with light woods, both as floor material, and in unique forms including surfboard wall art that hangs above beds. The hotel maximizes its location as every room in this building has a view of the sea; first-floor rooms have private patios, and second-floor rooms boast standalone balconies.

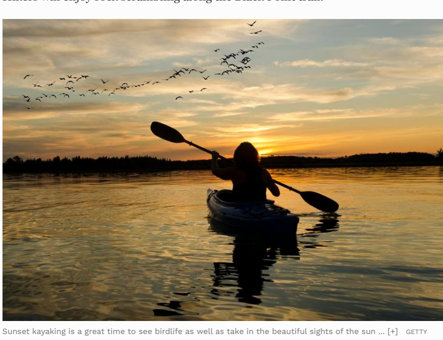

The newly-opened Sea Craft restaurant, located in The Shore House, has a varied menu with plenty of ... [+] THE SHORE HOUSE

The Shore House recently opened its on-site restaurant, Sea Craft. Like the Shore House, it's sophisticated, yet casual. Locals were anxiously awaiting the opening, as the stunning water views were a big draw. The restaurant was designed by interior designer Libby Slader. Slader's vision for Sea Craft's design concept is a beachy yet sophisticated design tapping into the best of classic, iconic beach destinations including Palm Beach, the Hamptons, and of course the nearby coastal scene of Narragansett, Newport and other New England waterfront icons. With dark woods, golden accents and pops of color, the design feels fresh and coastal.

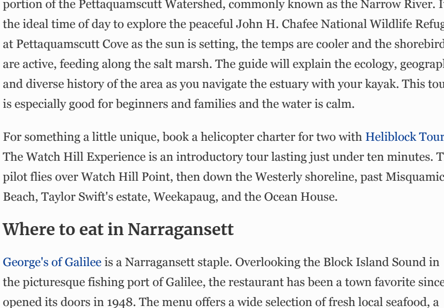
Narragansett is famed for its impressive array of seafood restaurants and Sea Craft is sure to become a popular choice on that list. The menu features an expansive raw bar, as well as classic New England seafood dishes but with a unique spin, bringing something new to the Narragansett dining scene. Popular dishes include the lobster roll, locally caught day-boat fish, and creative ceviche and crudo plates. Sea Craft is also a popular spot for drinks, with hand-crafted cocktails and a nice wine and beer selection.

While Sea Craft is currently only open for lunch and dinner, it will soon be serving outdoor brunch on the weekends as well as private dining for up to 12. The restaurant is also slated to offer in-house hotel guests a special "Beach Fair" continental breakfast as well as takeout service. The restaurant offers both indoor and outdoor seating and fire pits are a nice touch for cooler temps.

What to do in Narragansett


Point Judith lighthouse GETTY

The Shore House has complimentary on-site bicycles which are a great way to get around. The four stylish Shore House Cruisers by Priority Bicycles, are lightweight, custom-designed and ready for an adventure. These bikes are available from 6 am to 8 pm on a first-come, first-serve basis. The hotel also offers complimentary helmets and day-use locks. Travelers can bike to Point Judith Lighthouse and Black Point Ruins. Hikers will enjoy rock scrambling along the Black Point trail.

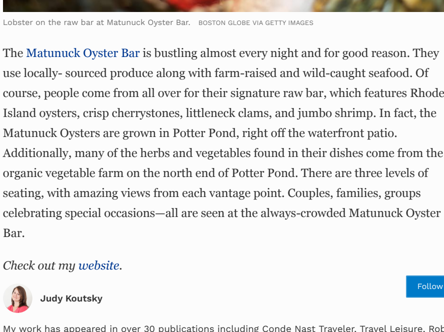

Sunset kayaking is a great time to see birdlife as well as take in the beautiful sights of the sun ... [+] GETTY

Narrow River Kayaks offers a two-hour roundtrip sunset tour that explores the lower portion of the Pettaquamscutt Watershed, commonly known as the Narrow River. It's the ideal time of day to explore the peaceful John H. Chafee National Wildlife Refuge at Pettaquamscutt Cove as the sun is setting, the temps are cooler and the shorebirds are active, feeding along the salt marsh. The guide will explain the ecology, geography, and diverse history of the area as you navigate the estuary with your kayak. This tour is especially good for beginners and families and the water is calm.

For something a little unique, book a helicopter charter for two with Heliblock Tours. The Watch Hill Experience is an introductory tour lasting just under ten minutes. The pilot flies over Watch Hill Point, then down the Westerly shoreline, past Misquamicut Beach, Taylor Swift's estate, Weekapaug, and the Ocean House.

Where to eat in Narragansett

George's of Galilee is a Narragansett staple. Overlooking the Block Island Sound in the picturesque fishing port of Galilee, the restaurant has been a town favorite since it opened its doors in 1948. The menu offers a wide selection of fresh local seafood, a new sushi menu, lobster specials, as well as hand-cut fresh rib-eye steaks.


Lobster on the raw bar at Matunuck Oyster Bar. BOSTON GLOBE VIA GETTY IMAGES

The Matunuck Oyster Bar is bustling almost every night and for good reason. They use locally- sourced produce along with farm-raised and wild-caught seafood. Of course, people come from all over for their signature raw bar, which features Rhode Island oysters, crisp cherrystones, littleneck clams, and jumbo shrimp. In fact, the Matunuck Oysters are grown in Potter Pond, right off the waterfront patio. Additionally, many of the herbs and vegetables found in their dishes come from the organic vegetable farm on the north end of Potter Pond. There are three levels of seating, with amazing views from each vantage point. Couples, families, groups celebrating special occasions—all are seen at the always-crowded Matunuck Oyster Bar.

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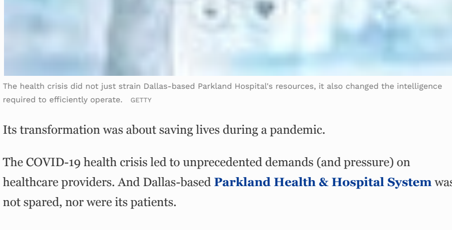
The health crisis did not just strain Dallas-based Parkland Hospital's resources, it also changed the intelligence required to efficiently operate. GETTY

Its transformation was about saving lives during a pandemic.

The COVID-19 health crisis led to unprecedented demands (and pressure) on healthcare providers. And Dallas-based **Parkland Health & Hospital System** was not spared, nor were its patients.

Some may recall Parkland as the place where surgeons worked tirelessly to save the life of President John F. Kennedy after he was struck by an assassin's bullet on that November day in 1963. Others know Parkland primarily as the safety-net hospital system that has successfully served the Dallas County residents for over a century.

Today, it employs over 13,000 employees and healthcare providers, and operates one of the busiest Emergency Rooms (ER) in the country. (In the year *preceding* COVID, Parkland's ER saw more than 240,000 visitors!)

Business-as-usual was no longer cutting it

Once the pandemic hit in March 2020, Parkland found itself on the frontline of the battle. However, management and staff quickly realized they were not prepared to handle the influx of COVID-19 patients and lacked key data to assist in managing their care.

Parkland's mission is "Dedicated to the health and well-being of individuals and communities entrusted to our care." But perhaps for the first time in its 127-year history, they would be challenged like no other time.

COVID-19 changed the rules

The health crisis did not just strain Parkland's resources, it also changed the intelligence required to efficiently operate the hospital.

Literally overnight, the hospital required **real-time access** to data and insights such as how many COVID-19 beds and ventilators were readily available, how many COVID patients were already there, how many new COVID patients were being admitted, and many other constantly changing variables.

Parkland understood it had to make informed decisions and take actionable insights based on real-time data. They also needed to use data to proactively provide care for COVID-19 patients while keeping employees safe in the midst of the pandemic.

Countdown to Solutions

Time was critical. Each day mattered. So, Parkland pushed itself to come up with concrete solutions in under a month.

To get things rolling, Parkland utilized Qualtrics to **survey inventory** versus surveying patients on their hospital satisfaction.

Ultimately, three crucial COVID co-innovations were delivered – and in just four weeks!

1. Parkland's analytics team created an actionable **COVID Command Center dashboard** built with SAP HANA and SAP Analytics Cloud. They then changed how they provided care by mapping where COVID-19 positive patients live to identify COVID community hotspots. The mobile testing unit and education testing teams are then dispatched to these neighborhoods, resulting in early COVID identification and reduced spreading. Parkland also built its own surge prediction model that proved to be more accurate than the Penn Medicine industry standard – which serves as the source of truth for county, state, and federal reporting.

2. Parkland needed to track supplies such as Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Ventilators and COVID test kits which they previously did not track real-time. Using Qualtrics, Parkland built a **Critical Inventory Tracker**, enabling staff to use mobile devices to quickly determine current critical supplies. This data is updated real-time in the COVID Command Center.

3. Then there's Parkland's COVID Call Center which was quickly overwhelmed with inquiries leading to long wait times. By leveraging SAP Conversational AI, Parkland built a **COVID symptom checker chatbot** in English and Spanish that patients could access. This ensured patients with COVID symptoms had swift access to healthcare practitioners.

Moving years ahead

These COVID-19 co-innovations propelled Parkland forward 3-4 years in its digital transformation. This moved the hospital to a more proactive place by leveraging real-time data to plan and manage patient care and hospital operations during the pandemic and beyond.

To learn more about Parkland's amazing digital transformation, see their Innovation Awards 2021 pitch deck.

Michael Kure
Michael Kure is the lead marketing copywriter for the Customer Marketing Content Creation team at SAP. He has over 20 years of marketing communications experience, and... Read More

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