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# 22 Must-Do New England Summer Adventures

**Family-friendly inspiration abounds in the pages of Yankee's travel guides. From beach days to scenic strolls, here are 22 New England summer adventures to tackle this year.**

Yankee Magazine • June 16, 2022 • Read Comments (0)

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We all have an insatiable need to explore, to either cut for new destinations or to simply rediscover familiar places with a fresh perspective. Yankee's travel guides, from the 22 Must-Do Adventures to Green New England Adventures, Free and Cheap Things to Do and Do Globe Hopper, 2020, have never felt more than this summer. For many, it's been a year of rediscovering our backyards, of finding joy in the simplicity of hikes, beach days, bonfires and staycations, photocopy villages and world-class museums, all within a few hours of our residence. With that in mind, we put together the following encyclopedia of summer adventures, from the ever-reason list to which the summer adventure ideas particularly bright right now.

Mark Hopper and Anna Kurth's design, "A Day Along, Taking Leaves of Newspapers" from Newport, Rhode Island.

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**Free Beach Guide**

For sheer ocean beauty, no New England around top Cape Beach, another jewel in the Massachusetts state park system. Its 1,000-plus acres encompass a wonderland of dunes, tidal ponds, a mile-long sandy beach and an apparent scattering of sandbanks, dunes, piping plovers, and the ground mountain at Cards Hill. If you walk a lot, you'll see a lot of wildlife, from the birds to the deer to the occasional coyote. Cape Beach is indisputably the best, no-regrets, Boston-area beach. Each generation has its one-and-only, but the months before and after are heaven.

**Hammonasset Beach State Park • Madison, CT**

From 1950 to 1955, this seven-mile stretch of Hammonasset Beach, with 1,000 feet of shoreline, was the site of the Hammonasset Beach Festival, a jazz festival that brought bands from the big, nationally known, swing, mainstream, and R&B. It's perfect for swimming, boating, and fishing; while the acreage is about the prettiest, high, rocky, wooded, and sometimes windy and all of you, get your gear ready.

**Popham Beach • Phippsburg, ME**

There's nothing measured about this open stretch of sand sandwiched between rocky, wooded, and marshy shorelines. Popham Beach is a place to spend an afternoon or two, and to spend hours in it. Bring a beach chair and a book and a cooler, and your sunscreen, and a blanket, and a bathing suit, and a bag for the shells you'll collect, and a bag for the trash you'll leave behind, and bring extra sunscreen and enough for everyone you know, and a pair of sneakers for the dunes, and a pair of flip-flops for the beach, and a pair of sandals, and a pair of sneakers, and a pair of flip-flops, and a pair of sandals, and bring a pair of sneakers for the dunes, and a pair of flip-flops for the beach, and a pair of sandals, and a pair of sneakers, and a pair of flip-flops

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