

Winter 2020 Scoop: Lodging Update

Renovations are full steam ahead at The Mainstay, which will transition to [The Wayfinder Hotel](#) in May. The hotel's 197 spacious guest rooms and 30 suites will feature toiletries by Newport's Shore Soap Co. in addition to locally made linens, retail and artwork by local female artists. The hotel's full-service restaurant, "Nomi Park," will be led by the successful team behind popular Newport restaurants Mission, TSK and Winner Winner. The hotel's lounge will feature local craft brew and spirits from Ragged Island Brewing, based in nearby Portsmouth, and neighboring Newport Craft Brewery and Distillery. Additional amenities include in-room offerings for pets and a seasonal outdoor pool with fire-pit, crushed oyster shell bocce ball court, live music and movie nights.

Construction of the [Brenton Hotel](#), located at corner of Long Wharf and America's Cup Avenue, continues with the luxury boutique hotel's 57 guest rooms and suites' floor to ceiling windows inviting natural light and expansive views of Newport Harbor. The hotel is on track for a June opening.

Locals are witnessing the daily progression of [Hammetts Hotel](#), comfortably nestled between America's Cup Avenue and the waterfront. Its 84 guest rooms, flexible gathering spaces, and private deck for hotel guests will be in the epicenter of downtown Newport with a new restaurant, marina and retail spaces giving the property a vibrant social sensibility. The hotel is on schedule for its May opening.

Congrats to all three properties above for being recently featured in Travel + Leisure article, ["The Best New Hotels to Book Around the World in 2020."](#)

[The Chanler at Cliff Walk has introduced a Winter Respite Package](#) which includes a 3-course dinner for two in [Cara](#) (excluding alcohol and tax) and a room rate discount of 15%. All twenty guestrooms have fireplaces (and heated bathroom floors) to set the mood and keep you cozy. When you are ready to socialize, relax in the bar next to a roaring fireplace prior to dinner. With its own signature fireplace and classic French, Italian and Spanish influences, Cara is the portrait of Newport indulgence. Finally, enjoying a drink next to the roaring fire pit overlooking the Atlantic Ocean is the perfect way to complete the evening.

The [Newport Harbor Hotel and Marina](#) has teamed up with The Bodhi Spa for a *Heat up, Cool down, Relax, and Repeat* package which features an overnight at the hotel for two guests. Be welcomed upon arrival with infused water then experience The Water Journey, a hydrotherapy experience at the nearby Bodhi Spa, and return to your guestroom where you can relax and restore with turn down service with a bottle of lavender spray.

The popular igloos at [Gurney's Newport Resort & Marina](#) will be transformed into **Valentine's Day-themed igloos** complete with candles, flowers, love letters and hanging quotes. During the Newport Winter Festival, Gurney's will also be a hub of activity with the return of **Polar Pineapples**, serving signature cocktails and eleven firepits overlooking the bay will warm you up

(Friday, 2/14 and Saturday, 2/15, 3pm to 11pm). The property will be hosting the winter festival's 25th annual [Chili Cook-Off](#) (Saturday, 2/15, 11am to 3:30pm) and other family-friendly events. Gurney's will also be hosting a [Kick It By Eliza Wellness Pop-up](#). This Boston-based fitness studio brings its 50-minute class that begins with a warm-up, kicks it into high gear with cardio, and ends with low impact work and a meditation (Saturday 2/15 and Sunday 2/16).

[The Vanderbilt](#) is a feast for the senses this time of year. The Bar has introduced a daily oyster feast with \$1 oysters from 5pm to 9pm daily along with \$12 glasses of Mötet & Chandon and \$30 glasses of Dom Perignon. The full bar menu of beer, wine, cocktails and bar bites like Cheddar Churros will also be available. Later in the month, take a global cheesemaking journey: ["Sheep is Chic"](#) is a guided tour of the Mediterranean with cheese expert Michele Buster, head treasure hunter of Forever Cheese Inc., an importer of unique high-quality cheeses and specialty foods from Italy, Spain, Portugal and Croatia. Michele will lead a tasting of six cheeses, pairing them with specialty accompaniments. Special guest appearance by Chef Cesare Casella, a renowned chef who now uses heritage pigs to make prosciutto and other salami locally in Rhode Island (Feb. 29, 3pm to 4:15pm, \$35 per person). ["Journey to the Center of the Curd"](#) is a 4-course cheese pairing dinner with a tasting menu by Executive Chef David Crone exploring some of Forever Cheese's most sought-after cheeses (Feb. 29, 6pm to 9pm, \$95 per person). On Saturdays through February, The Vanderbilt Explorer's Tea brings you [Deep Blue Tea](#), inspired by Pantone's Color of the Year, Classic Blue. Enjoy accompanying sweet and savory treats created by Executive Chef David Crone, all influenced by the color blue. Add the signature cocktail, the "Winter Harbor," which features Empress Gin, to dive deeper into blue. Saturdays through Feb. 29, 12pm to 4pm, \$45/person with cocktail, \$30/person without cocktail).

The Hotel Viking's Lobby Bar has undergone renovations complete with a new menu offering a unique variety of whiskey-based cocktails, house-infused bourbons, and new signature cocktails. The hotel's annual Fire + Ice bar returns for the Newport Winter Festival serving craft beer and invigorating cocktails inspired by Hotel Viking's expert mixologists. Also, [Spa Fjör](#) has new spa specials for the month of February:

Couples Therapy: Reconnect with this special package which includes an 80-minute couples relaxation massage enhanced with aromatherapy and a 30-minute infrared sauna session for two. After enjoying a complimentary glass of champagne to toast your love for one another.
\$330.00

Single & Loving It: This package includes a milk & honey body wrap, 30-minute infrared sauna session and a signature manicure and pedicure. Top off the day with a glass of champagne.
\$240.00