

# Acadia National Park

Acadia National Park falls in the top ten list of most visited parks in the United States, welcoming more than three million travelers every year.

Early risers can drive, bike, or walk to watch the sunrise along Acadia's beautiful rocky shoreline on Ocean Drive. They'll be among the first in the United States to see the dawning of a new day. Later they can enjoy dinner or simply stop in for popovers and strawberry jam at the famous Jordan Pond House, a delightful restaurant founded in the early 1870s.

Established by Woodrow Wilson in 1916 with 6,000 acres, Acadia now covers more than 49,000 acres thanks to the remarkable dedication and philanthropy of wealthy private citizens such as Charles W. Eliot, George B. Dorr, and John D. Rockefeller, Jr. The park encompasses nearly half of Mount Desert Island, a scattering of smaller islands, and the Schoodic Peninsula.

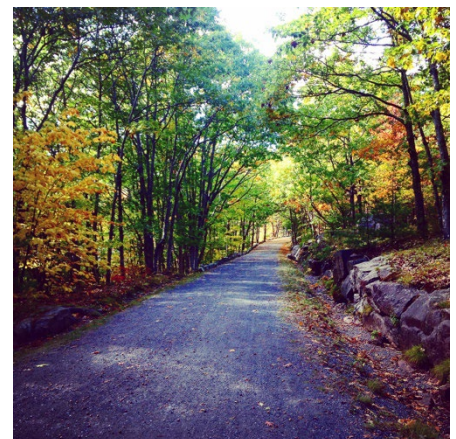
- **Since Acadia is so popular in the summer, plan ahead to avoid traffic congestion and long waits. Hike, bike, or walk to popular attractions in the early morning or late afternoons to avoid crowds or take the fare-free\* Island Explorer bus instead of driving.**
- Motorists who drive the Park Loop Road enjoy a 27-mile ride along oceanside cliffs and through mountain forests, stopping at scenic turnouts and notable attractions along the way, such as the mighty Thunder Hole and Sand Beach. The trip is a must. One of the most amazing features of Acadia National Park is the interlaced system of hiking trails and carriage roads. With varied lengths and levels of difficulty, the 125 miles of trails appeal to everyone from casual walkers to seasoned triathletes. Hike, bike, snowshoe, cross country ski – or go by horse-drawn carriage.

You'll love your visit to Acadia, and you'll want to come again to enjoy every amazing season.

During your stay...

- Take a step back in time when you walk, hike, bike, snowshoe, or cross-country ski the carriage roads of Mount Desert Island. You can choose to go by horse and carriage, the way John D. Rockefeller, Jr. intended when he built the 45 miles of crushed stone roads between 1913 and 1940. No matter how you experience the carriage roads, you'll enjoy the magnificent beauty that surrounds them.

Though sometimes called carriage trails, the word trail is truly a misnomer. The historic carriage roads are 16 feet wide with generous crowns that keep them well drained. Considered the best example of broken stone roads in the United States, they are, indeed, an engineering wonder. Local workers quarried granite right here on the island to build the



intricate network of roads and 17 spectacular stone bridges. In fact, the stone cutters developed such skill that Rockefeller asked them to create a more rustic look. He also took care to preserve trees and to landscape with native plants— ferns, sheep laurel, and blueberry bushes—so the roads blend naturally with their surroundings.

The well-marked roads wander through Acadia National Park, covering long, shady stretches of woodland, skirting peaceful lakes and ponds, circling mountain elevations, and showcasing breathtaking views of the Atlantic and nearby islands.

More than 60 years ago Rockefeller donated 11,000 acres to Acadia National Park, complete with the road system he planned, funded, and constructed. Today both Mainers and visitors enjoy the quiet beauty of Acadia's beautiful carriage roads.

If you would like to visit Cadillac Mountain, you will need a Park Pass and Reservation. These are sold in advance, with additional availability being released at 10AM the morning of. Please visit <https://www.recreation.gov/timed-entry/400000>.

# Land Activities



## Adventure Golf

There's really no adventure like Pirate's Cove! Come test your skills on 36 challenging holes and explore the wonderful hideout of Pirates!

368 State Highway 3, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-2133



## Acadia Bike

Acadia Bike features the largest bicycle rental fleet in New England, so you're sure to get the bike you want. Enjoy Acadia's natural wonders as you pedal the car-free carriage roads or Park Loop Road.

48 Cottage Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-9605



## Acadia GEM.

100% electric vehicles for rent  
195 Main Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-8983



## Tour Acadia

Tour Acadia offers a range of tours that showcase the beauty of Acadia National Park and Mount Desert Island. With small groups in mind, daily vehicle tours are offered as well as customized private tours.

106 Cottage Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-9605



**Oli's Trolley Inc.** A fully narrated tour of Bar Harbor and Acadia national Park are a fun, relaxing way to discover the unique treasures of our area.

1 West Street 55 West Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-9899



**Scenic Flights of Acadia.** Experience the Island the Best Way - See it from above! Hop aboard a closed cockpit, Cessna aircraft with an experienced Commercial Pilot, who will point out sights you can only view from above.

112 Caruso Drive, Trenton ME 04605  
(207) 667-6527



**Island Time Ebike Rentals & Tours**

Ebike rentals & Tours in both Bar Harbor and Southwest Harbor.  
16 Village Green Way Southwest Harbor ME 04679  
(207) 779-4665



**Oceanarium and Education Center**

1351 State Highway 3 Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-5005

# Water Activities



**Lobster Fishing and Seal Watching.** Haul traps with a local captain aboard the Downeast lobster boat the Miss Samantha!  
1 West Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-2386



**Puffin and Lighthouse Cruise.** Puffins, lighthouses, Acadia National Park and breathtaking coastal scenery!  
1 West Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609,  
(207) 288-2386



**Bar Harbor Whale Watch.** An adventure to remember! Head offshore in search of whales while your guide educates you about the whales and other species of the Gulf of Maine.  
1 West Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-2386



**Bar Harbor Whale Watch - Historical Lighthouse and Acadia National Park Cruise.** A boat cruise that features spectacular historic lighthouses, wildlife and amazing views of the landscape of Mount Desert Island and Frenchman Bay!  
1 West Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-2386



**Bar Harbor Whale Watch - Nature Cruise & Sunset Nature Cruise.** A spectacular nature cruise among the islands and shorelines of beautiful Acadia National Park and Mount Desert Island!

1 West Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-2386



**Downeast Windjammer Cruise**

Morning, afternoon, and sunset cruises along Frenchman Bay with beautiful views of Acadia National Park from the sea.

1 Newport Drive, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(2047) 288-4585



**Cranberry Cove Ferry**

Passenger Ferry to the Cranberry Isles.

182 Clark Point Road, Southwest Harbor ME 04679  
(207) 244-5882



**Acadia Stand Up Paddle Boarding**

Bar Harbor and Acadia's only surf and paddle shop.

200 Main Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 610-2970

# Eat & Drink

## Restaurants

Below are a few of the many options for local restaurants and cocktails.

(Megan's Picks \*)

Please know there are SO many more wonderful spots, there are too many too include all of them.

## Pub Style & Happy Hour



**Leary's Landing Irish Pub.** Authentic Irish Pub . Craft Beer and Whiskey Bar . Irish Favorites and Fresh Local Food . Burgers  
156 Main Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609



**\*The Thirsty Whale.\*** Eat hearty and enjoy the charming pub atmosphere. We are known for our lobster rolls, famous fish sandwiches, homemade chowders, seafood, burgers and more.  
40 Cottage Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609, (207) 288-9335



**Geddy's.** Experience the #1 Restaurant & Bar in Bar Harbor, Maine. Relax & enjoy the local vibe of this lively waterfront eatery - famous for fresh seafood, Maine lobster, lobster roll, American eats, local beer, cocktails, gluten free, harbor views & more.  
19 Main Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609, (207) 288-5077



**Bar Harbor Lobster Company**  
297 Main Street Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-2529

# Cocktails Only



**\*Cottage St. Pub\***  
21 Cottage St, Bar Harbor ME 04609



**\*Ivy Manor Garden Bar\***  
194 Main Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609, (207) 288-2138

# Finer Dining

*Reservations  
Recommended*



**The Reading Room Restaurant.** Elegant Oceanfront Dining at the Bar Harbor Inn  
1 Newport Drive, Bar Harbor ME 04609, (207) 288-3351



**CIAO.** Small Plates, Big Flavors, Full bar, house-made desserts  
135 Cottage Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609, (207) 801-9110

*Reservations  
Recommended*



# La**bella**VITA RISTORANTE

## La Bella Vita at the HARBORSIDE

Savor Authentic Italian Fare at La Bella Vita.

55 West Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609, (207) 288-5033



**Project Social Kitchen & Bar.** Large Garden . Happy Hour +  
Dinner . Indoor Bar . Bar Garden . Covered Patio  
278 Main Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609

Reservations  
Recommended



**Galyn's Restaurant.** A local favorite since 1986, Galyn's offers a relaxed yet elegant atmosphere, attentive service and consistently well-prepared food, hand-crafted cocktails, and fine wines.

17 Main Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609, (207) 288-9706

Reservations  
Recommended



## Merchant & Frye

8 Cottage Street Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 801-9042



## \*Havana\*

318 Main Street Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-2822

Reservations  
Recommended

# Coffee, Breakfast, & Bakeries



## **\*Acadia Perk\***

5 Firefly Lane Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-9306



## **\*Choco-Latte\***

240 Main Street Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 801-9179



## **2 Cats**

130 Cottage Street Bar Harbor ME 04069  
(207) 288-2808



## **Cafe This Way**

14 Mt Desert Street, Bar Harbor ME 04069  
(207) 288-4483

# Ice Cream & Sweets



**Ben & Bill's Chocolate Emporium**  
66 Main Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-3281



**Mt. Desert Island Ice Cream**  
7 Firefly Lane, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 801-4007



**Jordan Pond Ice Cream & Fudge**  
45 Main Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-2422



**\*CJ's Big Dipper Ice Cream\***  
150 Main Street, Bar Harbor ME 04609  
(207) 288-2128

# Sunrise & Sunset

## Sunrise & Sunset Alternatives to Cadillac Mountain and Bass Harbor Head Light

Many know Cadillac Mountain as the place in Acadia to enjoy the sunrise or sunset, but did you know that there are numerous other spots to catch those golden rays? Similarly, Bass Harbor Head Light is one of the most popular sunset destinations on the western side of Mount Desert Island and has extremely limited parking. With Acadia National Park's new vehicle reservation system for Cadillac Mountain beginning May 26, 2021 through October 19, 2021, and Bass Harbor Head Light's limited parking, we're sharing alternative locations to take in the glorious beauty of sunrises and sunsets on Mount Desert Island.

### Sunrise

Within Acadia National Park, the first thing you need to do is make sure you are on the "correct side of the island." Locations along the eastern half of Mount Desert Island offer fantastic vistas perfect for viewing the sunrise.

- Enjoy the sunrise from your car: Parking alongside Ocean Drive or at Schooner Head Overlook is a sure bet for some amazing views of the sunrise! Bring [coffee and breakfast to-go](#) for an extra enjoyable experience.
- Hike! For the adventurous, consider a morning hike to the summit of your [favorite mountain](#) where you can take in the first glimpse of sunshine.
- Relax downtown: If you're feeling like a more leisurely start to your day, downtown Bar Harbor offers spectacular sunrise opportunities!
  - Shore Path: Grab your morning [coffee or breakfast to-go](#) and take a stroll along the coast-hugging trail, which faces due east and makes for the perfect sunrise location.
  - Grant Park: There are park benches and plenty of manicured lawn space that make for an ideal sunrise picnic location.
  - The [Town Pier](#): Go for a dazzling sunrise display over the water.



## Sunset

To catch an unforgettable sunset on Mount Desert Island, choose one of several westward-facing locations in Bar Harbor or a place on the western side of the island.

- The Town Pier and Agamont Park: Both offer beautiful views of the sunset and make for a convenient location—a perfect place to relax before or after dinner (if after, ideally enjoyed with an ice cream!)
- The Bar Harbor Sand Bar: If you're up for a stroll and the sunset coincides with low tide, walk out on the Sand Bar for a stunning sunset from the heart of downtown Bar Harbor.
- Book a sunset cruise: Feeling inspired to get out on the water? Find a [boat tour](#) and book your ticket to golden hour!
- If you're unable to get a parking spot at Bass Harbor Head Light, consider dinner or dessert on the patio at one of Bass Harbor's or Bernard's restaurants (both located in the town of Tremont) where you can enjoy your meal with a stunning sunset view.

