

DEPARTURES

—— Travel ——

Easy Escapes Along the Atlantic Coast, From Maryland to Maine

Who's ready for an East Coast road trip?

By The Editors on October 16, 2020

Tiny Rhode Island Delivers Big When it Comes to Hotels



At The [Preserve](#) in Richmond, RI you'll find the welcoming mix of [unspoiled nature](#) and [luxury accommodations](#)—think luxe adult camp. The property, previously a private members-only club, has recently partnered with Ocean House Management and now offers lodging for rental or for purchase. This resort, just 30 minutes from the beloved Ocean House Watch Hill, will keep even the most vigorous outdoor enthusiasts busy with activities including fly and ice fishing ponds, an 18-hole golf course, and more than 100 miles of hiking and horseback riding trails. The newly built cabins and houses, spread across the 3,500-acre property, give an upscale log cabin vibe and are designed to blend in with the surrounding nature.

Many herbs and spices are plucked right from their kitchen garden where fennel, chives, mint, fennel and other botanicals grow. In fact, the food served here typically doesn't travel more than 150 miles from the Inn.



Because I'm very COVID conscious, I prefer to social distance to the extreme. The Weekapaug Inn makes this easy, especially by delivering our meals either to our suite or a picnic table set on the picturesque manicured lawn along the shore of the pond. One morning, I relax on the deck and dig into a creamy yogurt parfait for breakfast with layers of homemade granola and heaps of sweet raspberries and blackberries, along with an iced almond milk latte. Another day, it's crispy home fries along with thin slices of cantaloupe and honeydew melon.



At one of the well-spaced picnic tables, we find our lunch waiting for us in several stylish, black bento-type boxes decorated with red trim. I notice another local clamming while a pair of azure blue kayaks float by as I nibble on decadent lobster mac and cheese and a Caesar salad with tasty anchovy bits. However, the part of any meal that's often a disappointment for me is the dessert. Even Michelin-starred restaurants have failed in this regard. But not here at the Weekapaug where I indulge in my most fave dessert: strawberry shortcake. The chef created this scrumptious delicacy with short dough sweet biscuits that sandwich vanilla chantilly.



Despite a chilly breeze, we decide to have our dinners on the expansive lawn that's especially inviting at night when there's nothing to distract us but the sounds of the sea and the bright full moon. We both order plump Little-neck clams with cocktail sauce, and mustard crusted salmon with a side of delicata squash. And, because I'm feeling a bit hedonistic, I can't resist the mouth-watering chocolate chip cookie that's baked in a cast iron skillet and served with vanilla ice cream and caramel sauce. (It's crunchy and moist, the only way I like it.)

With the cornucopia of sensory delights, the Weekapaug Inn makes it hard to leave.

