



November 2010

10
*easy escapes
to take
right now*

New Zealand

Island hopping in the
southern sun

plus

- **NORWAY**

Take a spectacular Arctic trip

- **NEW ENGLAND**

Leaf peeping and haunted inns

- **KRAKÓW**

Your perfect winter city break

- **NORTHEAST INDIA**

Experience life in the clouds

6 SUGAR HILL INN PAGE 94

MINI GUIDES TO KEEP

BRATISLAVA ● TUNIS ● DURHAM ● BUENOS AIRES ● GALICIA ● STRATFORD-UPON-A

MAKE IT HAPPEN

NEW ENGLAND



While spectacular autumn foliage is New England's most famous draw, don't miss out on great seafood, outdoors activities, beaches and (at times utterly strange) historical attractions all year round



ESSENTIALS

Getting there

British Airways flies from London to Boston (from £448; ba.com). For visa information, check with the US State Department (unitedstatesvisas.us).

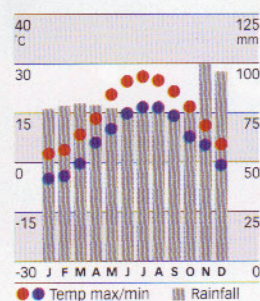
Getting around

A hire car is the easiest way to tour about, with many options at Boston Logan International Airport (from £30 per day; avis.com).

Further reading

See Lonely Planet's *New England* (£14.99) and *New England Trips* (£14.99) guides or download individual chapters from lonelyplanet.com (£2.99). For more on Massachusetts, see massvacation.com.

Climate



THE FINAL WORD

'One of the brightest gems in the New England weather is the dazzling uncertainty of it.'
Mark Twain

9 STEPS ALONG A SPOOKY TOUR OF MASSACHUSETTS

1 The characterful and welcoming

PAQUACHUCK INN in Westport

Point is a wonderful way to ease yourself into a road trip around Massachusetts. Antiques and tales of the village's seafaring past abound (from £80, with shared bathroom; paquachuck.com). Feast on locally sourced oysters, clams, scallops and lobster nearby at **THE BACK EDDY** (mains from £12; thebackeddy.com).



2 Learn of New England's

maritime history and connections to far-off lands at the New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park. Highlights are the atmospheric

SEAMEN'S BETHEL

(pictured right; donations; portsociety.org) and the grand **NEW BEDFORD WHALING MUSEUM** (adults £6; whalingmuseum.org).



3 While a visit to a murder scene isn't your typical holiday outing, there is something peculiarly compelling about a guided tour of the **LIZZIE BORDEN B&B AND MUSEUM** in Fall River.

The gruesome talk reflects on events that have now become an infamous aspect of American folklore. Spookily fixated visitors can also brave staying here overnight (tours £8; rooms from £95; lizzie-borden.com).



4 Serving travellers along the Old Boston Post Road since 1716, **LONGFELLOW'S**

WAYSIDE INN in Sudbury lays claim to being the oldest inn still operating in the USA. Typically hearty dishes served in the rustic dining rooms include lobster pie and Yankee pot roast of beef. Accommodation is available for those too stuffed to move (mains from £8; rooms from £80; wayside.org).

5 Prepare for real fires, gigantic beds and many floral trimmings at the **BEECHWOOD INN**, in the lovely Cape Cod village of Barnstable.

This former sea captain's home is shared with golden retrievers and a reputed 'mischievous' lady ghost. The breakfast prepared by innkeeper Debra Traugot often includes pancakes or freshly baked muffins, and ranks among New England's finest (rooms from £85; beechwoodinn.com).



7 Salem is a world of witch kitsch, and also home to the incredible **PEABODY ESSEX MUSEUM**. The vast collections include documents and artworks of local significance, plus the only complete Qing Dynasty house (below) outside China (£10; pem.org).

The **SALEM INN** is an easy walk away (from £90; saleminnma.com).



BARGAIN!

8 Just east of Salem awaits the relative calm of Cape Ann. Enjoy the technicolour sunsets and white sand beach at Beverly Farms before heading to the **HALE ST TAVERN, SUSHI & OYSTER BAR**. Save space for the freshest oysters and the (life-changingly delicious) Hale St bbq plate, including steak, chicken, pulled pork and more (mains from £10; hale-street.com).



BARGAIN!

9 **STONE'S PUBLIC HOUSE** in Ashland is a small town pub with an Irish American flavour reflected in its menu, the choice of beers (Guinness and locally brewed Mayflower Golden Ale among them), and the regular live music nights. Ask for a peek at the haunted former gambling rooms (mains from £7; stonespublichouse.com).





THE ART OF LEAF PEEPING

Autumn; the time of conkers, gloves and a farewell sigh to the summer. But over in New England, instead of mourning the loss of the sun, the natural beauty of seasonal change is embraced. Leaf peeping, a well renowned activity in the region, involves viewing and photographing the leaves as they turn from greens to crisp, fiery reds, oranges and yellows; then onwards to crunchy rusts and browns. Forget the winter blues: think blazes of awe-inspiring colour. Yankee Foliage will provide you with the wheres and whens of leaf peeping, as this varies considerably across the region (yankeefoliage.com). If you've landed in Boston, you're already spoilt for choice with the 50-acre Boston Common and the Charles River Esplanade. Further afield, head south for the seaside town of Little Compton in Connecticut: the village greens burst with colour in sharp contrast to the town's old, grand estates. If you're travelling north, the winding Kamcamagus Highway across the White Mountains boasts uncountable occurrences. Leaf-peeping season usually falls between late September and mid-October, but enthusiasts can catch the bejewelled trees earlier by travelling north, or higher in altitude.

EXPLORE MORE OF NEW ENGLAND

Spooked yourself silly? Now see some of New England's more traditional highlights



ACADIA NATIONAL PARK

WHY GO? Famed for its unparalleled coastal beauty, New England's only national park is set on Mount Desert Island, offering forest-covered mountains and placid lakes. Venture in and you'll unearth a feast of activities – the park has more than 20 miles of hiking paths, you can rent mountain bikes (barharborbike.com), while the more adventurous can try kayaking (acadiakayak.com), rock climbing (acadiaclimbing.com) and scenic gliding (acadiaairtours.com). Wind down with world-renowned Maine lobster or clam chowder and enjoy views over Bar Harbor.

STAY 2 Cats, in Bar Harbor, is a cosy guesthouse with a café. The three rooms have wooden floors and four-poster beds. Try its trout omelettes, muffins and cappuccinos (from £80; 2catsbarharbor.com).

GETTING THERE

Drive from Boston. Take the I-95 N and follow the ME-3 E to Bar Harbor. The journey takes about five hours.



MARTHA'S VINEYARD

WHY GO? A favourite with locals, day-trippers and even celebrities, New England's largest island is both charming and beautiful. It's a far cry from the commercial mainland, and that's what makes it popular with the resident artists and musicians. The island's five lighthouses are must-sees, as are the vineyards, with the added temptation of free tasting tours. If you're after sand and sun, head out to Katama Beach. Avoid the rough surf by staying on the inland side where you'll find protected salt ponds.

STAY Crocker House Inn, in the town of Vineyard Haven, is snug but elegant. Rooms are suitably beach summer fresh, in whites and pastels (from £80; crockerhouseinn.com).

GETTING THERE Cape Air flies from Boston to Martha's Vineyard Airport in the centre of the island (40 minutes; from £157 return; flycapeair.com).

From the airport, public buses run to all of the island's villages and several of its beaches (60p per trip each way).



FRANCONIA

WHY GO? Once the home of American poet Robert Frost, this tranquil New Hampshire town offers beautiful views. It's set in the vast White Mountain Region; a spectacular array of soaring peaks. Depending on the season, you can either canoe, horseback ride or mountain climb or ski, skate or snowshoe. If you're in for something less strenuous, visit Frost's farm, the Frost Place (frostplace.org). And with the picturesque towns of Bethlehem and Sugar Hill nearby, take an afternoon to explore the country roads, antique shops and farm stands.

STAY Sugar Hill Inn is a restored 1789 farmhouse, which sits atop a hill lined with sugar maples (see Leaf Peeping, right). The 14 rooms are beautifully furnished and some come with Jacuzzis (from £85; sugarhillinn.com).

GETTING THERE

Drive, or Concord Coach Lines run to Mac's Market in Franconia from Boston Logan International Airport (£40 return; concordcoachlines.com).

