

by Joel Crabtree + Will Grunewald + Brian Kevin + Frances Killea + Virginia M. Wright

The Great Maine Scavenger Hunt

... of 2017 ...

SEE THE
SIGHTS

GET
OUTDOORS

HIKE

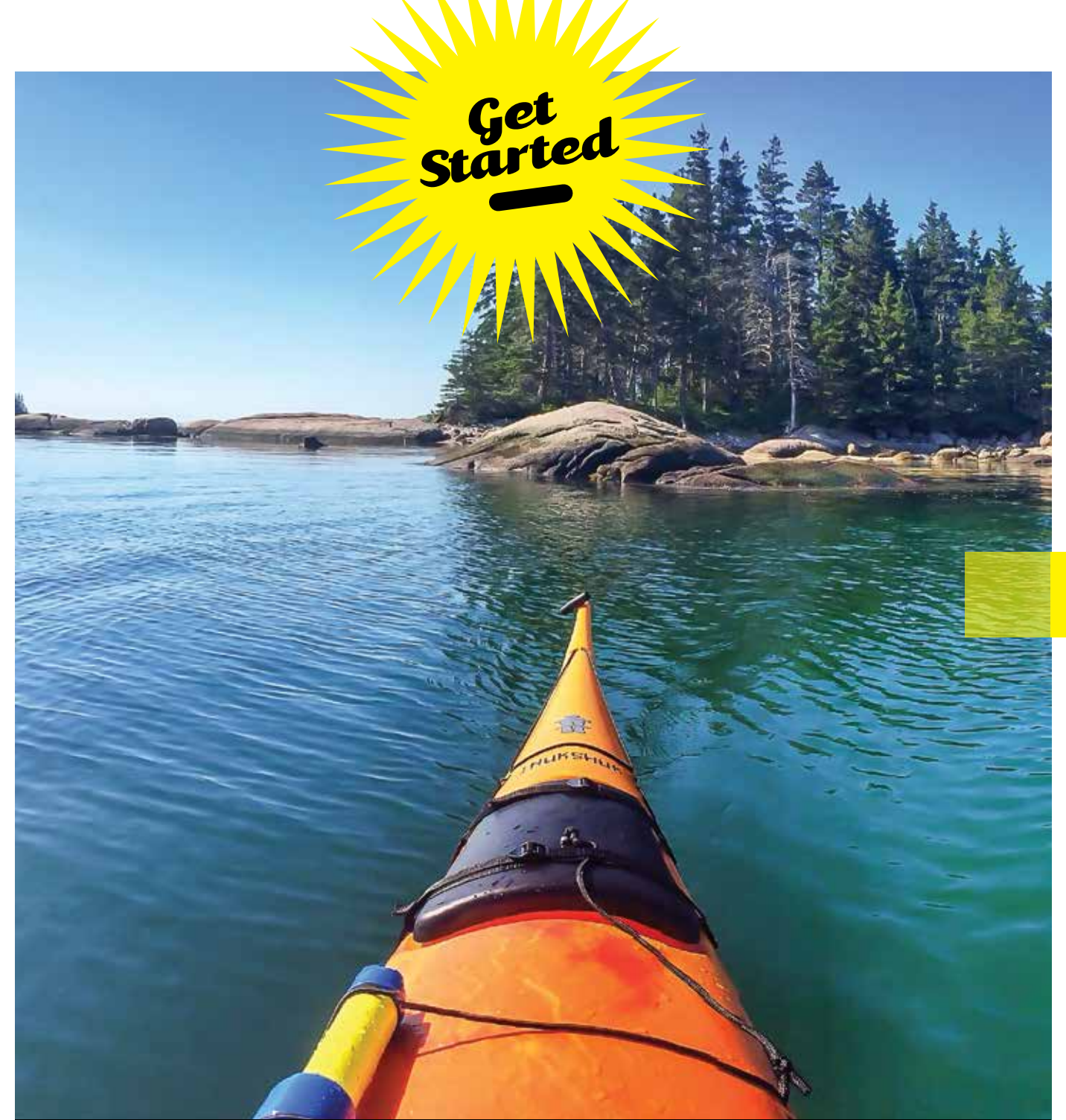
EXPLORE
HISTORY

EAT
& DRINK

CATCH
A SHOW

GET A
LITTLE
LOST

DON SEYMOUR



TECHNICALLY, WE ARE AWARE THAT MAINE HAS THREE OTHER SEASONS. Four if you count spring and mud separately. But summer is when Maine sings, and for this special issue, we wanted to give you a taste of its music. The next 30 pages are your stop-by-stop road map to everything the Pine Tree State has to offer when the sun is shining, the ocean is warm(-ish), the festivals are plentiful, and the dining is al fresco. Join us on the hunt for the best Maine summer ever.

That's right, we're sending you out to explore all **35,385 square miles** of Maine — from mountains to sea, from potato fields to city streets — in pursuit of the best Maine summer ever. There are **three ways you can win** our Great Maine Scavenger Hunt.

How to Play

#1

Do any combination of activities that happens to interest you on the following pages. Pick a bunch of places and pursuits that sound fun — be sure to include a few you've never tried before — then hit the road and enjoy! You're out having a fun Maine summer, and that, my friend, makes you a winner! You don't get any prizes, of course, but can you believe some people are stuck trying to enjoy themselves in other states?

#2

Finish all of the tasks in a single category. So you're a foodie, an outdoorsperson, or a history buff? Complete all of the activities in any one of the seven categories that follow (Outdoors, Food & Drink, History, Arts, Events, Family, and Landmarks), and you'll win a handsome matted print of this month's cover, along with a photo and shout-out in

a forthcoming issue of *Down East*, in which we'll salute all summer scavenger hunters.

How to show us you've really completed these undertakings? Each entry includes an explanation of a corresponding selfie request. Grab your phone and shoot a picture of yourself as the entry describes. Then, when you've taken a selfie for each and every activity in the category, visit the form we've set up at downeast.com/greatmainescavengerhunt and upload all of your photos as a batch.

For example, once someone has completed the Outdoors category, he or she will upload six selfies, one corresponding to each of the tasks on pages 76–79. We will confirm with all winners within two weeks of receiving your selfies. Complete all of the activities in more than one category (but fewer than all seven) and we will admire you that much more, although the prize is the same.

#3

Complete all 40 fun, eye-opening, challenging, delicious, adventuresome items on this list. Wow. We honestly have our doubts about whether anyone can even do this. But if you head out and complete all 40 of these activities — across all seven categories — and upload 40 corresponding selfies, matching each task's selfie description, to downeast.com/greatmainescavengerhunt, you will have won our undying admiration. And truly enjoyed the best Maine summer ever.

Here's what else you'll win: 1) a 10-year subscription to *Down East*, 2) a matted souvenir photomosaic of your 40 selfies, 3) an open invitation to visit the editorial offices of *Down East* in Rockport, where an identical photomosaic of your achievement will hang in a place of highest honor for one year. Upon such visit(s) you will be feted and hailed as a conquering hero.

About Those Selfies

A “selfie” means you have to be in it, with the exception of any of the entries in the Family category, for which having your kids in it is a totally acceptable alternative. If you'd like to squeeze other people into your selfies, then terrific — the more the merrier. If somebody else actually takes the photo of you, that's perfectly fine too. But please do read the description of the selfie requirement for each item — each pic should show an attempt to include what we've asked for in the background. If it's imperfect — a sign is out of focus, a mountain gets cut off — that's okay. Don't panic. We're only taking this so seriously. No selfie requirements are contingent upon a purchase or payment of an admission fee. If an act of nature or unforeseen disaster or closure prevents the execution of a selfie requirement as we've described it (say, a sign we've asked you to photograph has somehow been destroyed), use your best judgment and take a photo that otherwise shows us you've completed an activity — you'll be able to include an explanatory note with your photo uploads.

—To read the full official rules and disclaimers, visit downeast.com/greatmainescavengerhunt, where you'll also find an interactive map and a link to contact us. And most importantly, have a great Maine summer!



ISTOCK.COM: WINS 86

CATEGORIES

Outdoors

SPONSORED BY
Mount Desert Island Hospital

- 1 Climb on Tumbledown
- 2 Bike in Carrabassett Valley
- 3 Swim in South Oxford
- 4 Hike in Baxter
- 5 Paddle in Stonington
- 6 Stretch Your Legs on MDI

Food & Drink

SPONSORED BY
Cellardoor Winery

- 7 Pie in Machias
- 8 Al Fresco in South Bristol
- 9 Beer on Monhegan
- 10 Hot Dogs in Brunswick
- 11 Whoopies in Newry
- 12 Moxie in Union
- 13 Wine Tasting in Lincolnville

History

SPONSORED BY
Maine Maritime Museum

- 14 Lighthouse on Burnt Island
- 15 Trains on the Allagash
- 16 Historic Manor in South Berwick
- 17 Maritime History in Bath
- 18 Old Fort in New Harbor

Arts

SPONSORED BY
L.L.Bean

- 19 Murals in Portland
- 20 Multimedia in Eastport
- 21 L.L.Bean's Summer in the Park in Freeport
- 22 Shakespeare in the Kennebunks
- 23 Fast Eddie's in Winthrop
- 24 Gallery Art in Lovell

Events

SPONSORED BY
LAUNCH! A Maritime Festival

- 25 Fourth of July in South Portland
- 26 Yarmouth Clam Festival in Yarmouth
- 27 LAUNCH! A Maritime Festival in the Kennebunks
- 28 Sweet Chariot Festival on Swan's Island
- 29 Acadian Festival in Madawaska

Family

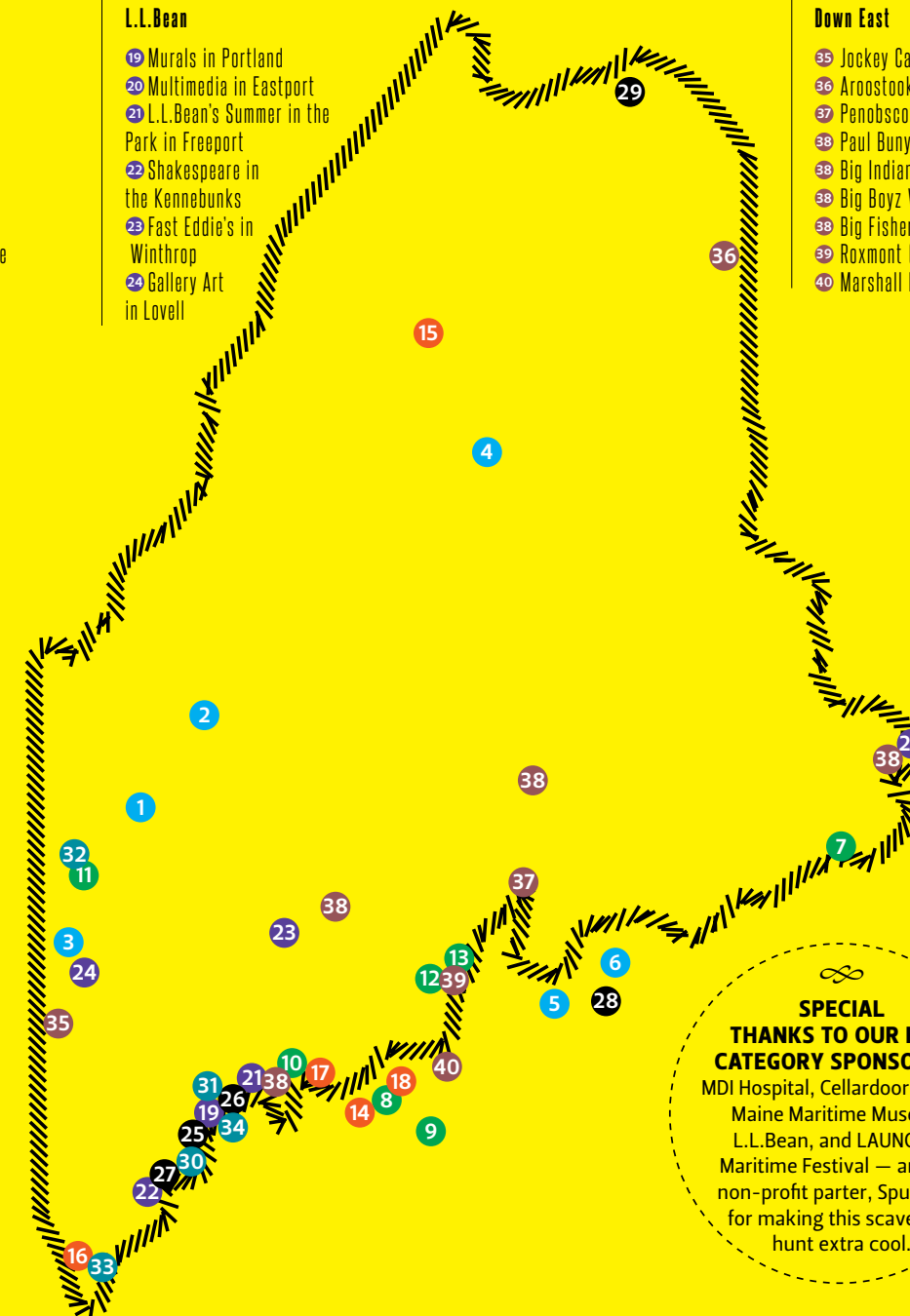
SPONSORED BY
Spurwink

- 30 Palace Playland in Old Orchard Beach
- 31 Hadlock Field in Portland
- 32 Step Falls Preserve in Newry
- 33 Fun-O-Rama in York Beach
- 34 Backpack Stuffing in Portland

Landmarks

SPONSORED BY
Down East

- 35 Jockey Cap Mountain in Fryeburg
- 36 Aroostook County's Solar System
- 37 Penobscot Narrows Observatory
- 38 Paul Bunyan in Bangor
- 38 Big Indian in Freeport
- 38 Big Boyz Worker in Augusta
- 38 Big Fisherman in Eastport
- 39 Roxmont (Us!) in Rockport
- 40 Marshall Point Light in Port Clyde



SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PAID CATEGORY SPONSORS — MDI Hospital, Cellardoor Winery, Maine Maritime Museum, L.L.Bean, and LAUNCH! A Maritime Festival — and our non-profit partner, Spurwink, for making this scavenger hunt extra cool.



Outdoors

1

Get Through a Tight Spot on Tumbledown

“It’s a boy!” we once heard a hiker exclaim as her friend’s head popped out of Fat Man’s Misery, a narrow, vertical fissure in the steep field of boulders just below the gorgeous summit of Tumbledown Mountain in Township 6, near Weld. “Baby boy” then tossed his backpack onto the ledge and climbed out – the chimney-like passage being too tight for backpack wearing. Located on the rugged 2-mile Loop Trail, Fat Man’s Misery is studded with helpful, ladder-like iron rungs, but it’s still a knee-quaking experience (did we mention it’s often slick with trickling water?). To our minds, it’s the only way up Tumbledown that counts. *Find the trailhead on the Weld-to-Byron Rd., 5.7 miles west of Rte. 142 (the second trailhead, coming from the east).*

SELFIE: We’ll accept a shot taken from below, as you climb through the opening, or one from above, as you emerge, ready to be baptized a Fat Man’s Misery survivor.



BENJAMIN WILLIAMSON (TUMBLEDOWN); JAMIE WALTER (BIKING); CAIT BOURGALT (SWIMMING)

2

Ride Carrabassett Valley

In the summer, the Sugarloaf Outdoor Center is the hub of a 100-mile trail network that’s emerged as one of New England’s prime mountain-biking destinations. A mix of singletrack trails, rugged Jeep paths, and gravel roads, the potential routes are varied, flowy, and as welcoming to beginners as they are fun for veteran shredders. Try the Jabba the Hut trail, a 3-mile ride through mixed woods and the occasional rock garden, showing off views of the surrounding mountains. Or pedal in the shadow of Bigelow Mountain to grab lunch at Maine Huts & Trails’ Stratton Brook Hut. The Carrabassett Region of the New England Mountain Bike Association has detailed maps for download, and the pop-up Carrabassett Valley Bike Shop can rent you everything you need right out of the Outdoor Center. *3001 Touring Center Rd. 207-237-6830. carrabassett.nemba.org*

SELFIE: Safety first! We want to see you with your helmet on, next to a Sugarloaf Outdoor Center map kiosk. Bonus points if you’re really muddy and/or sweaty.



3

Take a Dip in Rattlesnake Pool

A swim in the bracing, emerald waters of Rattlesnake Pool is practically a mandatory finish to the 4-mile romp over Blueberry Mountain at the southern end of Evans Notch. The easternmost pass through the White Mountains, the notch is one of Maine’s most beautiful pockets, yet it’s tranquil, drawing only a fraction of the crowds that flock to the coast or the nearby Presidential Range. Hidden pools and cascades abound; Rattlesnake, fed by a flume and waterfall, is among the easiest to access. That’s right: you can skip the mountain hike altogether (though we highly recommend it) and go straight to the pool from the Shell Pond Road gate, an easy, mile-long stroll along the Stone House Path. And relax, there are no rattlesnakes. *Find the trailhead on Shell Pond Rd., about 22 miles north of Fryeburg on Rte. 113.*

SELFIE: We want to see you in that pool (don’t drop your phone), but we’ll settle for a shot with the pool behind you. (Your hair had better be dripping!)



4 Summit a Baxter Peak That's Not Katahdin

Upwards of 30,000 hikers will climb Katahdin, Maine's highest peak, this summer, reserving coveted campsites at Baxter State Park months in advance or queuing up before dawn to claim trailhead parking before the mountain reaches capacity. You know how many will see the knockout Katahdin views from the twin peaks of neighboring Doubletop Mountain? Or feel the winds atop 4,151-foot North Brother, Maine's fifth-highest peak? Or enjoy 5 hard-earned and breathtaking miles above timberline along the Traveler Loop? Maybe 1,000 hardy souls. Baxter is about wilderness, and wilderness is (in part) about solitude, so ditch the Katahdin mule trail and explore one of Baxter's less-heralded trails. baxterstateparkauthority.com

SELFIE: A dozen-plus summits over 3,000 feet comprise the points in Baxter's crown. Say cheese standing next to a summit sign or marker atop any one of them. South Turner Mountain is a fave, a steep 2-mile jaunt that rewards hikers with a summit vista of both Katahdin's Pamola Peak and glittering Kathadin Lake.



MARK H. JONES (BAXTER); DON SEYMOUR (KAYAKS); GREG HARTFORD (SHORE PATH)



5

Paddle to Green Island on Merchants Row



Composed of more than 50 islands just off Stonington, beautiful Merchants Row is legendary among sailors, attracting cruisers from around the world. It's sweet for paddling too, especially since 10 islands are preserves owned and managed by the Maine Coast Heritage Trust and 20 are open for camping, thanks to the Maine Island Trail Association. It's an easy mile-long paddle from Stonington's public landing to reach the 47-acre Green Island Preserve. Land your boat in the cove on the island's southeastern side and climb the ladder on the granite wharf to access the trails. Don't skip the swimming hole, one of Green Island's several abandoned 19th-century granite quarries. *Rentals and guided trips from Old Quarry Ocean Adventures, 130 Settlement Rd. 207-367-8977. oldquarry.com*

SELFIE: You'll find gorgeous scenery on Green Island for your Instagram, but to show us you were there, stand next to the "Welcome to Green Island Preserve" sign.

— CATEGORY SPONSOR: Mount Desert Island Hospital —

Get Physical on Mount Desert Island

Graceful peaks, challenging trails, some of the country's loveliest coastline – MDI already had all this in 1897, when locals and summer rusticators came together to found Mount Desert Island Hospital. Now celebrating its 120th anniversary, the island's oldest nonprofit is still bringing islanders and visitors together in appreciation of Maine's quintessential outdoor playground. "People come here to live the outdoor lifestyle," says wellness coordinator Kathy Mulligan. "There's a connection between nature, health, and wellness that's important to our community, and it's central to our mission." Last year, hospital staff demonstrated this commitment by launching the MDI Hospital Acadia National Park Centennial Challenge, hiking 145 miles in the park in a single week – then challenging other local groups to do the same. You don't have to go that hard, but you're not doing Maine summer right until you've gotten outside to play on MDI.



SELFIE: A mid-stroll shot from Bar Harbor's historic Shore Path (pick it up at Wayman Lane or the town pier). There's no better way to experience town as the rusticators did. With historic estates on one side and stunning coastline on the other, it's like stepping back in time. Think of it as your own personal walking tour, brought to you by our active friends at MDI Hospital.



The
Great
Maine
Scavenger
Hunt

Food & Drink

Eat a Slice of Blueberry Pie at Helen's

When husband-and-wife co-owners David and Julie (pictured) Barker reopened Helen's Restaurant in 2015 after a devastating fire the year before, pie aficionados across Maine (and elsewhere) loosened their belts a notch in celebration (and anticipation). The 67-year-old diner is a mainstay on the New England dessert-pilgrimage circuit, and while the cream pies are luscious and the meringues immaculately peaked, this is blueberry country, bub. The oh-so-tart lowbush bluebs spilling out of Helen's pies are picked 7 miles up the road, in Roque Bluffs, and the pies come in two varieties: top crusted (a tasty, if sober choice) or topped with a quivering mound of fresh blueberries and whipped cream (om nom nom nom). 111 Main St. 207-255-8423. helensrestaurantmachias.com

SELFIE: Helen's has a totally respectable Ellsworth location, but scavenger hunters need to visit the rebuilt original in Machias. Stand in front of the heavily shellacked blueberry pie that survived the restaurant's 2014 fire, now mounted to the wall like a holy relic.

7

8

Dine with the Boating Crowd at Coveside

Imagine if Jimmy Buffett ran Cheers. South Bristol's Coveside Restaurant is out of the way – at land's end, more or less, a half-hour south of Route 1, where the Damariscotta River meets the sea at Christmas Island – and its menu isn't particularly adventurous, just solid upscale pub chow and seafood (it's never unwise to order oysters this close to the Damariscotta). But the savvy seafarers who crowd the on-site marina all summer know that Coveside's vibe is coastal Maine mellow, perfectly distilled. Weekly "Sunday deck parties" are where it's at – the live bands trend crunchy-acoustic, and the view over Christmas Cove is all granite-and-pine splendor. Inside, the lively bar is festooned with burgees, colorful boating pennants contributed by loyal clientele, and the traditional house cocktail, the Dark 'N' Stormy, is so popular that Gosling's Rum reps swear little Coveside outsells any other restaurant in New England. 105 Coveside Rd. 207-644-8300. covesiderestaurant.com

SELFIE: We'll accept a shot with a view of Christmas Cove or a selfie with a burgee of your choice. (Dark 'N' Stormy optional.)

9

Have a Pint at Monhegan Brewing Company

At last count, there were roughly 70 breweries and taprooms on the Maine Beer Trail, scattered across the state, as the Maine Brewers Guild says, "in city pubs and river lodges, revitalized mills and old barns, along downtown storefronts and hidden dirt road hideaways." But only one of them requires a boat trip over 10 miles of open ocean. Since Matt and Mary Weber opened their brewery on Monhegan Island in 2013, MBC has become the island's living room, a hangout for locals and a clutch pre-ferry gathering spot for week-enders and day-trippers. Grab a Balmy Days Citra Kölsch, if it's pouring, and bring it out to a picnic table in a "beer garden" surrounded by lobster traps. For the teetotalers, MBC also makes mean root beer and ginger beer. 1 Boody Ln. monheganbrewing.com

SELFIE: The handsome sign out front shows Monhegan Island in profile, capped by an outsize Monhegan Island Light. Stand alongside and say "Cheers!"

10

Chow Down at Danny's Dogs

Danny McDonald was 9 years old when he started selling hot dogs at his great-aunt and -uncle's Brunswick bowling alley in the 1950s. In the early '80s, he staked out a spot on the town green. Today, it ain't really summer in Brunswick until you've snagged a park bench under a shady tree and downed a couple of Danny's dogs. Beloved by legions of regulars and admired for sponsoring youth sports and giving free dogs to the needy, Danny passed away earlier this year. His sons, Jeff and Sean, have been running the stand for 17 years, though, and the dogs are as delicious as ever. Steamed or grilled, the tender sausages nearly melt into their warmed, split-top buns. Then there's the snap of the casing, the tang of mustard and relish, the crunch of chopped onions – perfection. Lower Mall park, where Maine St. meets Everett St.

SELFIE: Over the years, other vendors have come on the scene, but just follow the longest line – often a dozen deep at lunch hour – to the front of Danny's red-and-white trailer, where you can get a shot with Jeff and Sean nimbly assembling dogs in the background.

11

Eat a Pie Treat on the Honor System

With your GPS fading in and out on the winding roads around Newry, you may only catch the little self-service pie stand out of the corner of your eye. Hit the brakes. Pull a U-turn. Puzzle Mountain Bakery's pastry-filled lean-to is too good to miss, chock-full of fruit pies, preserves, and other goodies. At \$10 a pop, the pies are a steal to take home (really, though, don't steal them – put your money in the huge steel jug), and the whoopie pies are a perfect road snack in the meantime. These gourmet gobs are the apotheosis of the form – semisweet pastry shells, dense but cakey, bound by a filling rich and smooth like buttercream frosting. The perfect reward or motivation for a calorie-burning hike a few miles down the road in Grafton Notch State Park. 806 Bear River Rd.

SELFIE: Local black bears like pie as much as humans do (which is why the owners shutter the stand at dusk). Arrive in daylight and snap a pic as you do your best hungry bear impression, ogling the mouthwatering baked goods.

12

Sip a Moxie at the Matthews Museum

To the chagrin of its (many) detractors, Moxie is the summer beverage of choice for some die-hard Maine-ophiles. The Matthews Museum of Maine Heritage in Union has an entire Moxie wing, welcoming fans, foes, and the merely Moxie curious. Exhibits exploring the history of the soft drink and its brand include a portrait of Moxie founder and native Unionite Dr. Augustin Thompson, an old-school "pumpkin seed" bottle from 1904, and an empty can from Moxie's ill-fated experiments in energy drinks in the mid-2000s. Of course, you can grab a Moxie and enjoy it in front of the world's largest Moxie bottle, a 32-foot wooden structure brought to Union by George and Judy Gross, both members of the New England Moxie Congress. July-Aug. \$5 adults, \$3 seniors and children. 1 Fairgrounds Ln. 207-542-2379. matthewsmuseum.org

SELFIE: The three-story Moxie annex was custom-built to house the giant wooden bottle. Take a shot inside, next to the monumental Moxie, or outside, where a bright-orange flag summons the faithful.

13

Sip Wine at Cellardoor Winery



Step onto the porch of Cellardoor Winery in Lincolnville and you may think you've been transported to Tuscany. Carved out of the surrounding forest, a lush vineyard stretches out before you. Green-blue hills rise and roll in the near distance. But tear yourself away from that view, because the gracious Cellardoor team waits inside the refurbished 200-year-old barn, offering complimentary tastings. You'll sample several varieties, get a little education in viticulture, and be welcomed to linger as you like. The hospitable vibe is literally inscribed in the space itself – Cellardoor's logo and philosophy are modeled on a symbol etched into the barn door by a hobo who found work on this farm 100 years ago. He was letting other travelers know they'd be welcome here. 367 Youngtown Rd. 207-763-4478. mainewine.com

SELFIE: Cellardoor has an uber-popular location at Portland's Thompson's Point, but scavenger hunters should head to Lincolnville, where the wine is made. For your photo, stand next to that old barn door with its inspirational code.



The
Great
Maine
Scavenger
Hunt

History

14

Motor Out to Burnt Island Light

One of Maine's cooler and lesser-visited state historic sites, rugged little Burnt Island, about a mile out from Boothbay Harbor, is home to a nearly 200-year-old lighthouse that saw 30 keepers come and go between 1821 and when it was automated in 1988. Guided tours on Mondays and Thursdays in July and August offer visitors a glimpse at a solitary keeper's life in the 1950s, complete with guides in period garb. There's good hiking and picnicking opportunities around the 5-acre island as well, with plenty of rocky shoreline to explore. Boothbay's Balmy Days Cruises leads trips on tour days (\$25 adults, \$15 children), but recreational boaters can also help themselves to moorings and a dock. 207-633-9559. maine.gov/dmr/education

SELFIE: Definitely get some shots of the stout white lighthouse, but for your selfie, find the tire swing on the island's perimeter trail, installed by Randy Griffin, lighthouse keeper from 1974–1977. Take a ride and snap a photo while you do.

15



Visit the Eagle Lake Locomotives

They're a classic entry in the logbook of rural Maine curio: a hulking pair of turn-of-the-(20th-)century steam engines, marooned in a clearing on the edge of Eagle Lake, deep in the Allagash wilderness. How'd they get there? Dragged over ice by tank-like carts called Lombard log haulers in 1926, the locomotives allowed lumber barons to transport wood across 13 miles of rail between Eagle and Chamberlain lakes. When demand for pulpwood tanked during the Great Depression, they were simply left behind. How do you get there? Technically, you can hike a tangle of old logging roads and overgrown footpaths, but the going is rough, and it's easy to get lost. Better to put in a canoe on either lake and paddle to the site – and you might as well camp a night or two on the Allagash while you're at it. *Find maps, camping info, and access details at maine.gov/allagashwildernesswaterway*

SELFIE: Stand in front of the old logging trains, then make like a chainsaw and show us some teeth.

Go Big on Maritime Culture in Bath

It's a big summer at Bath's Maine Maritime Museum. How big? Try 73 feet, the sparred length of the two-masted clipper ship *Mary E*, built in Bath in 1906 and brought to the museum this summer to be restored in full public view. Or 1,800 pounds, the weight of the Frensel lens that shone from 1874 to 1994 in the east tower of Cape Elizabeth's Two Lights. It's now the centerpiece of *Into the Lantern: A Lighthouse Experience*, a whole new museum wing and a very cool immersive re-creation of the tower's lantern room, opening June 17. Of course, the sculpture of the *Wyoming* – a museum highlight, with its 120-foot flagpole masts – still evokes the scale of the largest wooden ship ever built in the U.S., and the MMM's Lobstermobile is still the biggest crustacean on four wheels. \$16 (free for members), \$14.50 seniors, \$10 kids 6–12. 243 Washington St. 207-443-1316. mainemaritimemuseum.org

SELFIE: The first artifact most visitors see is the 1912 Fiddler's Reach fog bell, outside the front entrance. Get a shot alongside it before you head in.

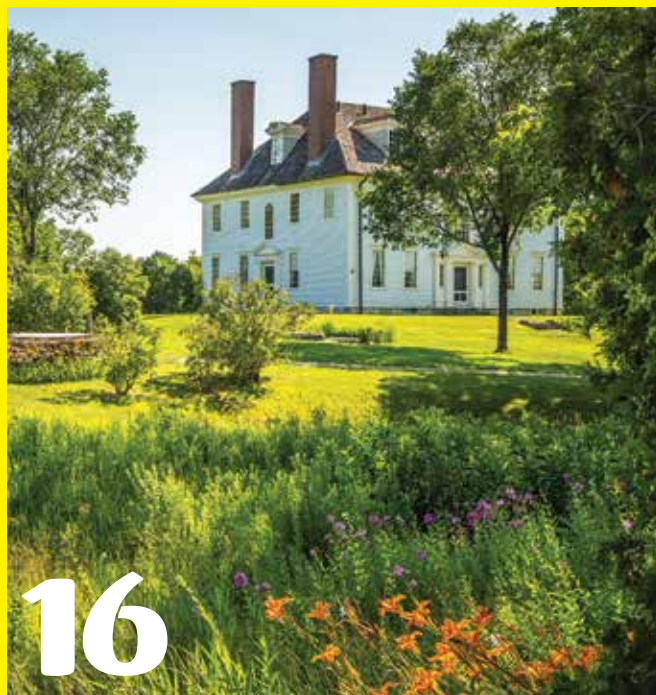


16

Score Tickets to Hamilton (House)

Can't beat the location of the grand 18th-century Georgian manor known as the Hamilton House, built by shipping merchant Jonathan Hamilton and overlooking a wide and forested stretch of the Salmon Falls River in South Berwick. Can't beat the wallpaper either, alternately covered in baroque patterns and two elaborate murals commissioned by the home's genteel residents in the early 20th century. The Hamilton House cuts a stately and impressive figure from outside, and you can easily lose an afternoon perusing the period furnishings inside. (Great gardens too!) The property opens in June, and Historic New England leads hourly tours Wednesday through Sunday. \$10 adults, \$9 seniors, \$5 students. 40 Vaughan's Ln. 207-384-2454. historicnewengland.org

SELFIE: Stand outside and see how many of the four giant chimneys you can get in one shot.



17



COURTESY MAINE MARITIME MUSEUM (SCULPTURE AND LOBSTER CAR); SUSAN COLE KELLY (HAMILTON HOUSE); BENJAMIN WILLIAMSON (FORT WILLIAM HENRY)

18

Scout for French Ships from Atop Fort William Henry

Sunbathing on the white sand at Bristol's Pemaquid Beach, it's easy to forget that this quiet confluence of Johns Bay and the Pemaquid River once hosted frequent skirmishes. Throughout the 17th and 18th centuries, everyone from Native Americans to pirates to the French navy attacked the tiny British colony here. Fortifications were razed and rebuilt several times over, and the tower that now stands at Fort William Henry houses a museum detailing the rocky history of this stretch of coast. The original structure was commissioned by the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1692 and destroyed by French and Wabanaki forces in 1696. In 1908, the state of Maine rebuilt it, and the tower has perched peacefully above the scenic harbor ever since. \$3 Maine resident, \$4 nonresident. Colonial Pemaquid Dr., New Harbor. 207-677-2423. friendsofcolonialpemaquid.org

SELFIE: Any shot with the battlements in the background will do. One cool perspective is actually outside the site's grounds, 100 yards past the entrance gate, down Old Fort Road. You'll find a nice view just before the road dead-ends at a private drive.





19

Take the Bayside Culture Crawl

The revitalization of Portland's Bayside neighborhood continues apace, with restaurants, breweries, boutiques, and start-ups continuing to fill former industrial and seen-better-days commercial spaces – not to mention an increasingly engaged populace. When artists and Portland Murals Initiative founders Will Sears and Tessa O'Brien looked around at Bayside's cinderblock buildings two years ago, they saw canvases. Today, five former ugly ducklings boast bright murals, abstracts to seascapes, by Maine art up-and-comers like Greta Van Campen and Ryan Adams. 207-253-9633. portlandmuralinitiative.org. For a trail map, visit [Portland Trails at trails.org](http://PortlandTrails.org)

SELFIE: "Our idea was to bring art to areas that were visually disengaging," Sears says. Get visually engaged with a stroll along the Bayside Trail, from which you can spot all five, and get a shot in front of your favorite.

COURTESY PMI (MURALS); COURTESY TIDES INSTITUTE (MUSEUM)

Arts

20



Gallery Hop Way Down East

The Tides Institute and Museum of Art presides over Eastport's downtown from the junction of Water and Sea streets. The 130-year-old brick building, a former bank, was buckling when Eastport native Hugh French and his wife, Kristen McKinley, rescued it in 2002 with plans to create a space dedicated to the art, architecture, and history of the Passamaquoddy region. Today, the Tides Institute hosts seasonal exhibits of fine art, folk art, and vintage photos and artifacts – plus a residency

program drawing artists from around the world. With six 19th-century buildings in various stages of restoration, it's at the crest of the wave of Eastport's comeback. *Free admission. 43 Water St., Eastport. 207-853-4047. tidesinstitute.org*

SELFIE: Stand under the sign at the entrance of the Water Street headquarters – but don't leave Eastport without visiting the institute's Free Will North Church Project Space, where resident artists Charley Young, a Nova Scotia sculptor, and Shoshannah White, a Maine photographer, are collaborating on a work about climate change.

21

— CATEGORY SPONSOR: L.L.Bean —

Find Outdoor Tunes (and Gear, Of Course) at Bean's

No Maine summer is complete without a stop at L.L.Bean's Flagship campus in Freeport, open 24/7, 365 days a year. It's been a favorite for visitors and locals alike for over a century, with four distinct stores, famously friendly service, and the biggest boot you've ever seen. (Not to mention eye-popping taxidermy displays.) Stock up on summer gear, from stand-up paddleboards to totes to sandals, and don't miss L.L.Bean's season-long Summer in the Park celebration, a series of free, family-friendly festivals and outdoor happenings, including big-name concerts in Discovery Park. Check the web for this year's schedule of shows. 95 Main St. 877-755-2326. llbean.com/freeport

SELFIE: Take a break from the outdoor festivities and head inside to find L.L.Bean's giant fish tank, across from the customer service area (hint: look for a crowd of awestruck kids). Snap a shot inside the beloved fish "bubble" for a one-of-a-kind souvenir.

22

Catch Some Shakespeare in the Park

Heading into their seventh season, the MaineStage Shakespeare players of the Kennebunks are once again packing up the Bard-mobile (sets, costumes, concessions, the works), bringing free and lively performances into the community. Managing artistic director Chiara Klein calls this year's slate a "season of seasons," featuring *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Winter's Tale*. "It's an escapist season," she says, "a season that's in our world, but not in our world." Starting July 13, audiences can soak up the romance, faerie magic, and lyrical prose every Wednesday through Saturday at sites around the Kennebunks. 207-613-6225. mainestageshakespeare.com

SELFIE: Stick around after the show, as the actors mingle with the audience — then find one in full period garb and ask if they doth mind to pose with you.



23



Step Into a Novel at Fast Eddie's

Hey, is that Miles Roby slinging burgers at Fast Eddie's Drive-In in Winthrop? Unfortunately, no. The bighearted diner cook from *Empire Falls* still lives only in fiction — but the booths from his Empire Grill have improbably managed to merge with reality. When HBO turned novelist Richard Russo's Pulitzer-winning *Empire Falls* into a miniseries, starring Ed Harris as Miles, the production crew refashioned a Skowhegan pizza joint into a real-world Empire Grill. Seven years later, in 2010, the place went out of business, and its contents went to auction. Fast Eddie's acquired the booths, and the vintage eatery, where patrons can dine in their cars or inside, feels like proper digs for the literary/cinematic artifacts. Roby would certainly feel right at home with the menu of burgers, clams, and shakes. 1308 Rte. 202. 207-377-5550. fasteddiesdrivein.com

SELFIE: Frame yourself in front of the dark-blue awning that announces "Car-Hop Service" in bold, yellow print, with the pic of a tray-wielding waitress alongside a chromed-out ride.



COREY TEMPLETON (SHAKESPEARE); COURTESY OF L.L. BEAN (STAGE);
LYNDA RASCO (HARVEST GOLD)

Find Art as Compelling as the Landscape

24 Owners Bill Rudd and Lynda Rasco have been creating jewelry together for decades, but when they relocated their studio from Portland to the western Maine mountain town of Lovell two decades back, they wanted to branch out. Their Harvest Gold Gallery showcases the work of more than 200 artists, with Mainers well represented, in every medium you can think up. (Painting and sculpture? Check. Woodworking and glassblowing? Check. Salt shakers and yard ornaments? Check and check.) The gallery also showcases Kezar Lake — there's a view from the deck out back that'll knock your socks off on a sunny day. 1082 Main St. 207-925-6502. harvestgoldgallery.com

SELFIE: Get a shot with the lake and the White Mountains out back or the yard art out front. Patron's choice.





EVENTS



Watch the Fireworks from Bug Light

25 For years, folks in the know had a front row seat on Portland's spectacular July 4 fireworks show, even while managing to avoid the hordes on the Eastern Prom.

Where'd they go? Bug Light Park in South Portland, home to the diminutive Portland Breakwater Light (aka Bug Light, because of its size). It's still the best seat on the bay, although it's not so much a secret anymore – these days, Independence Day at Bug Light is an official celebration, with live music, kids' activities, and food trucks all day. *40 Madison St. southportland.org*

SELFIE: Stand on the granite pier with the adorable beacon behind you. (If you can get exploding fireworks in there, so much the better!) And don't stay outside the thing – the lighthouse is open to the public for the occasion.

BENJAMIN WILLIAMSON (BUG LIGHT); MICHAEL LEONARD (CLAM FESTIVAL)

26

Shuck a Clam at the Yarmouth Clam Festival

On the third weekend in July, some 100,000 revelers descend on Yarmouth to see a loooong parade, browse handicrafts, catch some live music, but mostly, to feast on Maine clams. You'll find the bivalves steamed, caked, and fried in both batter and crumbs. The main event is the Maine State Clam Shucking Contest, in which the champions in the amateur division might shuck a dozen clams a minute (the best pros can nearly double that). *July 21–23. 207-846-3984. clamfestival.com*

SELFIE: Technically not a selfie, because we want to see you in the shucking contest. See the festival website for registration details and have a friend take the photo.



27

— CATEGORY SPONSOR: LAUNCH! A Maritime Festival —

Celebrate the Sea at the Kennebunks' LAUNCH!

A freewheeling celebration of all things seafaring, LAUNCH! A Maritime Festival is in its second year and already a southern Maine summer highlight. Five days of salty shenanigans around the Kennebunks include an open-invite lobster bake, a slate of nautical kids' activities (buoy decorating! knot tying!), and a none-too-serious beachside 5K (with mermaids beckoning and pirates jeering as runners pound sand). Kennebunkport Brewing Company, a branch of the pioneering Shipyard Brewing Company, is turning out a special ale for the occasion, and there'll be other libations aplenty at Saturday night's VIP Rock the Boat party, aboard the *Spirit of Massachusetts* in the Kennebunk River, along with live music and specialty bites. June 14–18. Various sites around Main Street Kennebunk, Lower Village and Dock Square, Arundel, and Cape Porpoise. 207-967-0857. launchfestme.com

SELFIE: The River Lights Boat Parade, after dark on Saturday the 17th, turns the Kennebunk River into a surreal and celebratory light show. Find a good spot to watch and grab a selfie with the glowing, flowing river.



Get Serenaded at Sweet Chariot

28 Soon after musician Doug Day moved to Maine from Chicago, he was smitten by our windjammer fleet. So he befriended some captains and invited them and their passengers to music nights in his barn. From those get-togethers emerged the Sweet Chariot Music Festival. Every summer, the fleet, along with scores of smaller vessels, sweeps out to Swan's Island in Penobscot Bay for a three-night fest at Odd Fellows Hall, starring folk musicians from around the country. Since there's limited lodging on the island, most people spend the night on board among the fishing boats in Burnt Coat Harbor. Aug. 1–3. sweetchariotmusicfestival.com



SELFIE: You don't need to be a ticketed show-goer to enjoy the most charming tradition: a serenade by Day and his conspirators from the deck of schooner *Redbird* in Burnt Coat Harbor. Each afternoon, "we go around shanty caroling," he says. "We sing to every boat in the harbor." Get your selfie with the *Redbird* as it passes by.



29

Join the Tintammare at the Acadian Festival

You should also come for the terrific music, the spectacle of the poutine-eating contest, and the ployes (light and yummy little buckwheat pancakes, just like Mémé used to make). But the highlight of this 40-year-old family-friendly fest in the St. John Valley, celebrating the culture and traditions of the descendants of French settlers, is the closing night tintammare, a traditional Acadian parade that's all participants and no spectators, big on makeshift instruments, drums, and other noisemakers. Rolling in a noisy throng down the streets of Madawaska, you'll notice that an uninhibited whoop sounds the same in English as in Acadian French. Aug. 11–15. 207-728-6250. acadianfestival.com

SELFIE: No standing on the sidelines — we want to see you in the crowd.

Family



Defy Gravity at Palace Playland

30 Old Orchard Beach is to Maine family fun what Daytona is to stock car racing. It's a pilgrimage site, and while the beach is lovely and the boardwalk a kitschy hoot, it's the classic beachside amusement park of Palace Playland that really packs them in. The thrill machine pictured here is known as the Power Surge, but you'll also find a classic steel coaster, a swinging pirate ship, and kid-friendly rides like carousels, tea cups, and an LED-lit Ferris wheel offering a great view of the whole glittery OOB spectacle. 1 Old Orchard St. 207-934-2001. palaceplayland.com

SELFIE: You or your kids, on or in front of your favorite ride, look of sheer terror optional. We would also accept one of you clutching a giant stuffed animal won in a midway game.

JACK MILTON (PALACE PLAYLAND); STEVE YENCO (BASEBALL)

Cheer on the Sea Dogs

31 There is no baseball like minor league baseball, and cozy Hadlock Field is one of the country's great little ballparks. From the foghorn that sounds after a homer to the between-inning antics of Slugger the 6-foot seal (one of the minors' most beloved mascots), this is a ballgame as it should be: fun. The Portland Sea Dogs, affiliated with the Boston Red Sox, are coming off a rough year, but fans are excited to see power hitter Rafael Devers step to the plate, a 20-year-old top prospect expected to spend much of his summer on the Sea Dogs' roster. Another MVP: the Sea Dog Biscuit, a scoop of Maine-churned vanilla ice cream between two chocolate chip cookies. 271 Park Ave., Portland. 207-879-9500. portlandseadogs.com

SELFIE: You (or your kids) and Slugger. If you can't get the mascot himself to pose, the giant statue on the sidewalk outside the ballpark will do.



32

Enjoy the Natural Waterslides at Step Falls

Nothing screams summer like a backyard slip-and-slide or a Griswold-style visit to a waterpark, but you can find the uniquely Maine equivalent at the Step Falls Preserve in Newry, where water cascading down smooth granite creates short and twisty natural waterslides, emptying into shallow pools. It's a short hike in from the parking area, and on a hot day, you won't be alone. 8 miles northwest of Newry on Rte. 26. 207-824-3806. mahoosuc.org

SELFIE: You can take your selfie anywhere you like around the preserve, but you'd best be pretty soaked from riding one of the watery shoots.



Sink a Few Skee-Balls at the Fun-O-Rama

33 We'll grant you, playing video games is not the highest and best use of your Maine summer. But plunking in a few (dozen) tokens at the Fun-O-Rama on Short Sands Beach is an exception to the rule. York Beach's classic boardwalk arcade, overlooking a stretch of sand dotted with beach blankets, is a throw-back to the early days of gaming. Old-school faves like *Pac-Man* and *Donkey Kong* share space with air hockey and vintage pinball and throw-back midway-style games with crazy mechanical moving parts. A robot Zoltan will tell your fortune, if you can hear him over the sound of skee-balls rolling into the corral. It's 10,000 square feet of bleeping, clanging nostalgia. 7 Beach St. 207-363-4421. funorama.us

SELFIE: The Fun-O-Rama facade is perfectly retro — the bold red letters above the big bay doors. Hit the beach and get a shot of yourself with the arcade in the background.

GREG PARSONS (STEP FALLS); JASON PAIGE SMITH (FUN-O-RAMA)

→ CATEGORY SPONSOR: Spurwink ←

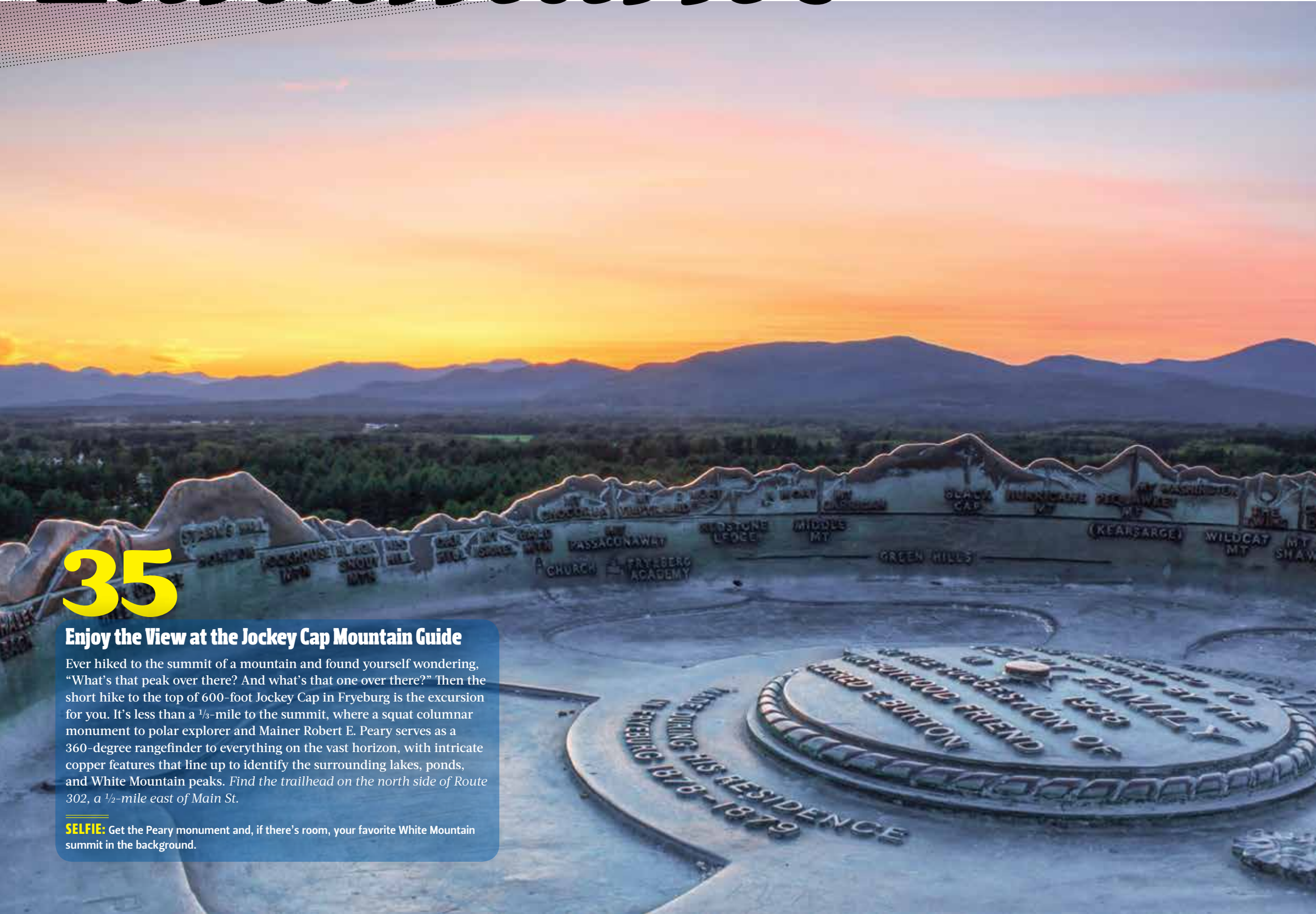
Volunteer For Kids (Without Your Kids)

34 Since the 1960s, Spurwink has made Maine's families a priority. The state-wide non-profit, based in Portland, provides behavioral health and education services for children, adults, and families at 37 homes for children and more than a dozen for adults. On June 22, Spurwink hosts its annual Brews and Backpacks event at Shipyard Brewing Company in Portland, a community event where grown-ups help assemble backpacks full of care items for kids entering Spurwink's foster care, child abuse treatment, and residential programs. Parents, leave the kids at home for this one and enjoy a brew or two while pitching in. It's good to be reminded: part of a perfect Maine summer is giving back. *Details at 207-871-1200 or spurwink.org/events*

SELFIE: We want to see you filling a knapsack at Spurwink's Brews and Backpacks — but if you can't make it, we trust you to pick another volunteer opportunity this summer (with or without your kids). Snap a pic while you're out lending a hand.



Landmarks



35

Enjoy the View at the Jockey Cap Mountain Guide

Ever hiked to the summit of a mountain and found yourself wondering, “What’s that peak over there? And what’s that one over there?” Then the short hike to the top of 600-foot Jockey Cap in Fryeburg is the excursion for you. It’s less than a 1/3-mile to the summit, where a squat columnar monument to polar explorer and Mainer Robert E. Peary serves as a 360-degree rangefinder to everything on the vast horizon, with intricate copper features that line up to identify the surrounding lakes, ponds, and White Mountain peaks. Find the trailhead on the north side of Route 302, a 1/2-mile east of Main St.

SELFIE: Get the Peary monument and, if there’s room, your favorite White Mountain summit in the background.



36

Tour the Solar System in Aroostook County

The scale model of our solar system stretching across 40 miles of Route 1, from Presque Isle to Houlton, is the brainchild of UMaine–Presque Isle geography professor Kevin McCartney. He’s no astronomer, but he has a passion for informal education and community-building projects, and his cosmic brainchild became a reality in 2003, after some 700 County residents volunteered to help build and place the planets – each is 1/93,000,000th its actual size. The largest installation, of course, is the sun, located at Folsom Hall on the UMPI campus. The outermost, Pluto, is just a 1-inch wooden ball housed at the Houlton Information Center. pages.umpi.edu/nmms/solar

SELFIE: You have 9 planets and one yellow dwarf star to choose from – pick your favorite and orbit it.

Ascend the Penobscot Narrows Bridge Observatory

From 420 feet above the Penobscot River, you can easily see Cadillac Mountain and even Katahdin on a clear day – the observatory offers one of the state’s most spectacular views. Even during middling visibility, the minute-long ride aboard the “fastest elevator in Maine” yields a panoramic view out floor-to-ceiling windows of the river and surroundings (and looking down is cool too). \$4–\$8. 207-469-6553. maine.gov/mdot/pnbo

SELFIE: Get a shot from up top or standing at the lookout off Route 1 on the bridge’s Prospect side, the best place to snap a selfie with the obelisk behind you (and you can pretend to lean on it, Pisa style).

37

STEPHEN BECKWITH (JOCKEY CAP); AP PHOTO/ROBERT F. BUKATY (SOLAR SYSTEM); GRETA RYBUS (BRIDGE)



38

Stand By Your (Very Big) Man

Maine is rich in roadside oddities – in particular, statues depicting gargantuan, industrious men. Among these giants is Bangor’s Paul Bunyan (519 Main St.), reputed to be the country’s tallest statue of the legendary lumberman. Freeport has its Big Freeport Indian, installed in 1969 in front of Casco Bay Trading Post (now Winter People Clothing Company, 125 Rte. 1). In Augusta, you’ll find the 21-foot-tall, big-headed, big-bellied, big-armed Big Boyz Worker next to the former Big Boyz Cycle Shop (685 Riverside Dr.). Eastport’s very bearded, 12-foot Big Fisherman (51 Water St.) is a relative youngster, created in 2001 for a quirky TV reality show called *Murder in Small Town X*. Shall we go on?

SELFIE: Cozy up to any one of these big weirdos. Get shots next to all four, and you have earned our respect.



→ CATEGORY SPONSOR: *Down East* ←

Come Visit Us at Roxmont

39 Huh? How can *Down East* sponsor a category in its own scavenger hunt? Look, it’s our magazine, and we make the rules. Besides, we toil each day inside a midcoast landmark of no small repute, a gray-shingled 114-year-old “summer cottage” known as Roxmont, built by Gilded Age West Virginia lumber baron Frank O. Havener. You can already visit us anytime you like – our first floor is a bookstore with regular public hours – but this summer, we’re also hosting a Good Things From Maine pop-up market, full of Maine-made goods curated by our editors, and inviting readers to join us here in Rockport on a handful of Fridays for free outdoor mingles, with food trucks, lawn games, music, and more. 680 Commercial St. 207-594-9544. Details and a schedule of Friday events at downeast.com/market

SELFIE: Stop by Roxmont during one of our events or regular business hours, nab any *Down East* staffer, and have him or her pose with you. We’ll be glad to meet you!



BENJAMIN WILLIAMSON (PAUL BUNYAN, BIG INDIAN, BIG BOYZ); DOWN EAST; MARSHALL POINT); ADAM WOODWORTH (BIG FISHERMAN)



40

Run, Forrest, Run – to Marshall Point Light

If you’ve seen *Forrest Gump*, you might recognize this lighthouse, a simple white turret at the end of a wooden runway – it’s where Forrest concludes his cross-country run. Whether you’re into history, the ’90s filmography of Gary Sinise (or that other fellow), or just striking seascapes, this 159-year-old tower is worth a run to Port Clyde. Or, you know, a drive – the road to the tip of the St. George Peninsula is gorgeous. *Marshall Point Rd.* 207-372-6450. marshallpoint.org

SELFIE:

Park your car, then run to the point and down the runway, where you can pose with your trainers at the edge of the sea.