LONG ISLAND

2027 DEVELOPMENTS

Fresh energy is coming to **Long Island's** entertainment and dining scenes in 2027. In Port Washington, the historic Beacon Theater is expected to reopen in spring, 100 years after it first welcomed audiences. The $15 million renovation will introduce a supper club, dinner theater, event spaces and a speakeasy. In Sagaponack, New York City restaurant Jean's will expand with a year-round concept highlighting seasonal produce and seafood from the East End.

Beyond these openings, the year will bring championship racing, professional soccer and milestone anniversaries. In June, the Belmont Stakes will return to Belmont Park in Elmont for its 159th running after three years at Saratoga Race Course. The reimagined park reopened in September 2026 and features a new five-story grandstand and clubhouse, expanded green space, infield access and four racing surfaces designed to support year-round racing. In July, The Island FC will begin play in MLS NEXT Pro at a new 2,500-seat stadium at Mitchel Athletic Complex in Uniondale. Long Island will also commemorate the 100th anniversary of Charles Lindbergh's historic May 20 departure from the area, while the Hamptons International Film Festival marks its 35th year in October.

DESCRIPTION

Though located just outside one of the world's most-visited metropolises, Long Island stands out on its own with 120 miles of sparkling ocean beaches, unique historic sites, quaint downtown villages, exclusive shopping and some of the best farm-to-table fare anywhere courtesy of incredible farmlands and bountiful waters. World-renowned Long Island Wine Country is rated one of the "Top 10 Wine Regions in the World" by *Wine Enthusiast* and of course, the Hamptons on the island's South Fork are always buzzing.

In the fall, travelers can visit one of the many pumpkin patches and apple farms, such as Harbes Family Farm & Vineyard in Mattituck or Lewin Farm in Calverton. During the colder months, Long Island offers a unique charm that draws travelers in with its historic sites, quaint downtown villages and seasonal experiences.

Not far from NYC on Long Island's North Shore, travelers can discover Gold Coast mansions. Built during the opulence of the "Roaring Twenties," nearly 200 of 500+ original mansions and estates still exist today. Discover some of the region's rich Revolutionary War history with General George Washington's "Culper Spy Ring," a secret group of men and women who

ferried details of British activity to the Continental Army. Associated sites open to the public include the Stony Brook Grist Mill and Three Village Inn in Stony Brook and Raynham Hall in Oyster Bay.

Come summertime, the oceanfront is the place to be with Jones Beach and Fire Island state parks famed for miles of white-sand beach for swimming, surfing, fishing and bird watching. East Hampton's Main Beach and Cooper's Beach at Southampton consistently are ranked among the Top 10 Beaches in America by Dr. Beach. Montauk Point boasts some of the world's best fishing, with special events at Montauk Point State Park and many options for deep-sea fishing charters and excursions. One can even saddle-up and ride on the beach at Deep Hollow Ranch, the oldest cattle ranch in the country.

Long Island is also a golfer's paradise, with an 18-hole pitch and putt at Jones Beach, one of America's top public courses at Montauk Downs and the challenging Black Course at Bethpage State Park Golf Course which has twice hosted the U.S. Open Championship and hosted the Ryder Cup in September 2025. Bethpage State Park also hosts world-class polo with a family-friendly setting.

With the Town of Southold, Long Island's oldest dating from 1640, there is plenty of history to go around. Take in the Sag Harbor Whaling & Historical Museum set in an 1845 whaler's mansion designed by prominent American architect Minard LaFever; Montauk Point Lighthouse on the eastern tip of Long Island, commissioned by George Washington in 1792; Walt Whitman State Historic Site in Huntington Station, the birthplace of one of America's great poets, with a restored farmhouse, c. 1819, featuring 19th-century furniture and an interpretive center filled with artifacts. There is also the Joysetta & Julius Pearse African American Museum of Nassau County in Hempstead, which was named by *American Legacy* as one of the Top 10 unique and less well-known Black history museums in the U.S.

Surrounded by water and boasting one of New York State's largest and most preserved agricultural areas, Long Island has a rich tradition of offering the freshest seafood and farm-to-table dishes, all set against breathtaking views. Dotted with popular restaurants along its long stretch, visitors will enjoy delectable dishes from The Frisky Oyster in Greenport, Prime in Huntington, Joe's Crab Shack in Babylon or Off the Hook in Hampton Bay. Launched in 2025, the Long Island Seafood Cuisine Trail runs from Bay Shore to Montauk, highlighting establishments proudly serving and selling locally raised and sustainably harvested wild-caught seafood.

WHERE TO STAY

From luxury escapes to cozy retreats, Long Island offers an array of accommodation options for winter travelers. Oheka Castle on the Gold Coast offers a magical winter retreat where guests can take a guided tour of the castle's exquisite gardens or enjoy fine dining at the Oheka Bar & Restaurant. The Garden City Hotel, an iconic AAA Four Diamond property, features an indoor pool and acclaimed dining at the Red Salt Room by David Burke. For spacious, comfortable rooms with views of the Peconic River, Hyatt Place in Riverhead is an ideal option, while Sound

View Greenport offers waterfront accommodations with panoramic views, a private beach and seasonal dining at The Halyard Restaurant for a serene winter getaway.

GETTING THERE

- 30 min-2 hours from NYC
- 9 hours from Niagara Falls
- 7 hours from Montreal
- Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) with service to 134 stations
- JFK International and LaGuardia Airport located in Queens accessible from Long Island Expressway (I-495) as well as Long Island Islip MacArthur Airport

COUNTIES

Nassau, Suffolk

MAJOR CITIES & TOWNS

Babylon, Bridgehampton, Fire Island, Greenport, Huntington, Jones Beach, Long Beach, Montauk, Northport, Oyster Bay, Sag Harbor, Setauket, Shelter Island, Southampton and Westhampton

CLIMATE

The diverse climate of New York State has four distinct seasons. Summers on Long Island are comfortable and warm, with daytime temperatures averaging in the mid-70s to mid-80s (degrees F.) and cooler evenings. The weather is moderately cool and sunny in springtime and autumn, when spectacular fall foliage attracts thousands of visitors. Cold, snowy winters create a wonderland of magnificent scenery in parks and villages.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more travel ideas and information, visit iloveny.com or Long Island's regional website: discoverlongisland.com.

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