

# Condé Nast Traveler

## These Are New England's Most Scenic Fall Foliage Destinations, From Coastal Cities to National Forests

*Plus, the best hotels to see it all from.*



## Rhode Island

Since it's more **about the coast** than the forest in the country's smallest state, Rhode Island may not be an obvious choice for fall—but it's prime time to experience "locals' summer." Split your days between walks on vast, near-empty beaches and drives along colorful, canopied country roads. Head down the oceanfront Scenic Route 1A from Westerly to Wickford—it's 39.6 miles, a long distance in Rhode Island terms—for the ultimate juxtaposition of seaside backdrops and changing leaves. Connect to Route 102, which passes through the best of the state's quiet two-lane roads, featuring quintessential New England architecture, towering red maple trees, country stores, and some supposedly haunted taverns (pop into the early-18th century Tavern on Main in Chapeacet to amp up your pre-Halloween jitters).

### Where to stay and eat

Base yourself at **Ocean House**, overlooking an exquisite swathe of beach and Block Island Sound. The hotel sports a fresh take on coastal New England glam as envisioned by noted designer Peter Neimitz. After watching an amazing sunset from the hotel's private Ocean House beach (and waving to Taylor Swift, whose mansion is next door), savor a multi-course tasting menu at the hotel's locavore flagship restaurant, **Coast**. The menu changes nightly, based on seasonal produce from neighboring farms and the catch of the day.

Take advantage of Newport's shoulder season rates at the **Cliffside Inn**, an adorable, fully restored 1876 Victorian mansion in the heart of Newport's Historic District. In the fall, the streets grow wonderfully quiet, making it a rewarding time of year to go on long, ambling walks through Newport's cobblestoned streets. With just 16 rooms, each with a unique layout and furnishings, this inn feels more like your glamorous, eccentric friend's weekend escape than a "historic Newport hotel." For dinner, stroll over to downtown and book a table at **Giusto**, where the "Freestyle Italian" cuisine uses Italian influences on local and seasonal ingredients.