



FURTHERMORE
FROM EQUINOX

SURF AND SIP

Wine and waves are best enjoyed back to back.

BY [CASSIE SHORTSLEEVE](#) | PLACES

August 27th, 2018

[Wine tasting](#) and [surfing](#) may seem like unrelated experiences, but they have more in common than you think. If anyone has the knowledge to speak to both, it's Erin Swain, recreational surfer and a [sommelier](#) who has worked at properties like [Ocean House](#) in Watch Hill, Rhode Island.

"It takes time to understand the nuances of the ocean, and when surfing, you're forced to be in the element," she says. The same can be said of wine. "It can overwhelm you with its beauty and power. You need to stay present to pay attention to the aromas that are expressive right under your nose."

And it's not uncommon to find people who appreciate both activities. Kyle Knox, former pro surfer and founder of [J. J. Knox Wine](#), is another surf-and-sip enthusiast: "There's nothing better than a glass of world-class wine and good eats after a solid surf session," he says. "I look for those made by winemakers who sustainably farm and believe in minimal manipulation to let the grapes show their natural territory."

When the weather cools, Swain follows fall storms up the coast. In New Hampshire, she rides the swells at Rye on the Rocks before getting a glass at [Bridge Street Bistrot](#); in Maine, she surfs at Higgins and York beaches, then unwinds at [Old Vine's Wine Bar](#).

Here are five more places that attract surfers with a love for wine.



 VIEW ALL



3/5



Watch Hill, Rhode Island

Where to surf: For solo surfing, Swain favors the nearby breaks of Point Judith (where you can catch a ferry to Block Island) and Matunuck.

Where to sip: Swain recommends tasting wines from near (Long Island) and far (New Zealand) at [Matunuck Oyster Bar](#), which overlooks a pond where the shellfish are raised. Ocean House and its quieter sister property, [Weekapaug Inn](#), also host Sip and SUP (stand up paddleboarding) events, where you can taste rosé after a session in the water.