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These Coastal New England Hotels Are Perfect For An Off-Season Escape

It's the most wonderful — and low-key — time of the year by the shore.
by LINDSAY COHN

Seaside hotels in beach towns across New England buzz in the summer. Once the crowds depart in September, things begin to slow down. And just because the temps drop and the chilly air sets in, doesn't mean you don't have plenty to enjoy or views to take in. Some might argue this region is at its best in the final months of the year. By the time winter rolls in, it's all about brisk walks on empty beaches (with a cup of hot coffee or cocoa in hand) and soaking in the littoral loveliness sans, well, anyone else.

A handful of hotels around the region remain open year-round. So there's no off-season for a seaside escape. Some of our favorite shoreline respites don't just welcome guests but also turn up the cozy vibes with fireside cocktails, spa treatments, and snuggly bedding. The ocean views hit differently without another soul on the sand. And off-peak rates certainly don't hurt either.

The next time you're looking for a less-obvious [winter getaway](#) that doesn't involve [skiing](#) or holing up at a [luxury mountain lodge](#), consider these coastal New England hotels, from Cape Cod to Newport. It's never too late to indulge in a long weekend getaway and these properties make the case for planning one now.

[Weekapaug Inn](#): Westerly, Rhode Island



Weekapaug Inn sits on Quonochontaug Pond with the Atlantic Ocean in the distance and supplies water views at every turn. Sightlines aside, it's a heritage-rich and halcyon place to trade chaos for quiet in the winter months. The distinctive combination of New England charm, warm hospitality, and serene ambiance that enchanted the likes of Eleanor Roosevelt so many years ago remains in full effect today. Rooms are refined yet relaxed with subtle nautical nods, antiques, and luxurious linens. Nature walks around the grounds and farm-to-table dining makes for a memorable experience in any season.

Ocean House: Watch Hill, Rhode Island



The stately grand dame of Watch Hill stands tall as a bastion of seaside elegance in all seasons. It's a summer hotspot that draws an upscale crowd of well-dressed travelers who play croquet and catch rays on the serviced beach. In the winter, the fireside restaurant is the perfect spot for classic American bistro fare and hot toddies. The hotel also hosts wine tastings and movie screenings in the theater. The spa beckons with massages and caviar facials, plus a saltwater lap pool, fitness center, and a movement studio for yoga. Rooms flaunt gas-burning fireplaces, king-size beds, and comfy sitting areas to watch the waves of the Atlantic Ocean batter the sand.

The Brenton Hotel: Newport, Rhode Island



Over the last few decades, Newport — the Seafaring Capital of Rhode Island — has established itself as much more than a well-heeled summer resort. The Brenton Hotel channels the maritime heritage of its environs in a fresh, contemporary way that feels very of the moment. Not surprisingly, the property's approach to all-season hospitality mirrors its modern mindset. Travelers are invited to enjoy spacious accommodations, in-room massages, and sips and small plates in the lounge throughout the year. Even when the thermometers dips, proximity to the harborside shops and seafood restaurants ensures a pleasant — albeit frosty — stroll.