

THRILLIST

LIFESTYLE

HOW TO SEE THE MOST BEAUTIFUL FALL FOLIAGE IN NEW ENGLAND

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POLO LAKE IN ROGER WILLIAMS PARK IN PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND | DAN LOGAN/SHUTTERSTOCK

Rhode Island

Little state, big-leaf impact

Iconic: There is no more iconic foliage drive than that which ends in Newport. So how to get there? Start in Woonsocket on Route 146, taking time to grab a candy apple at [Jaswell's Farm](#), and continue through Providence for a double-dose of autumnal vistas and classic New England architecture. Then turn onto Route 114 and meander into Portsmouth for a leafy pedal aboard the [Rail Explorers](#). Eventually you'll end up in "America's First Resort" for two archetypal leaf-peeps: a slow car crawl down Ocean Drive and a stroll along the [Cliff Walk](#) (which is actually maneuverable this time of year).

Overnight splurge: This is why you end in Newport. Book a room at [Gurney's](#) for the party scene or [Hotel Viking](#) for a more adult evening (though the activity atop the rooftop deck is hardly a snoozefest).

Lesser known: Take I-95 south to Blackstone Valley for a twofer of leaves and water. The Scituate Loop takes you around much of the serene Scituate Reservoir (just brake for bikers, as it's a favorite motorcycle ride). And here there are two more creative ways to reach your foliage quota: [a cruise on the Blackstone River](#) (available through mid-October) and the [daylong fall train tour](#) (which actually crosses into Connecticut).

Overnight splurge: [NYLO Warwick](#) is equal parts industrial history and boutique chic.