

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.



By Margot Dougherty

0 COMMENTS

July 17, 2018 2:45 p.m. ET

AMERICA'S GILDED-AGE industrialists knew a little about curb appeal, as their Newport, R.I., “cottages” attest. These architectural grande dames, their endless rooms outfitted with museum-quality art and furnishings, endure on landscaped lawns—designed by the likes of Frederick Law Olmsted of Central Park fame and his sons—that sweep to dramatic cliffs and a feisty Atlantic. An additional cache of restored colonial houses make Newport a mecca for “heritage tourists.” In summer, the harbor draws droves of gawkers, eager to see the phalanx of yachts that idle between outings. Onshore, bars, restaurants and shops, including those on a newly invigorated stretch of Broadway, are easily navigated on foot. As the 1875 travel guide “Popular Resorts and How to Reach Them” put it, Newport “is the fashionable queen of all American watering resorts.” Some things never change.



The Green Animals Topiary Garden. PHOTO: CHRISTIAN HARDER FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

THE MERCHANTS

Kiel James Patrick and Sarah Vickers

Owners of Kiel James Patrick clothing store

COAST TOAST / Antique Yacht Collection Book a Newport Harbor sail with the owner, Greg James. He has so much knowledge about the area, and beautiful antique boats. Bring Champagne and cheese. 31 *Bowen's Wharf*; antiqueyachtcollection.com



Jumping off the Temma, one of the boats in the Antique Yacht Collection, in Newport Harbor. PHOTO: CHRISTIAN HARDER FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

CUTTING EDGE / Green Animals Topiary Garden All the hedges are cut in the shapes of animals, like something out of a Tim Burton movie. It's fun to bring children here. newportmansions.org

PAPER CHASE / Kristen Coates Art & Home It's a gift shop on Bowen's Wharf with a lot of paper goods and artwork. Kristen has a great eye for interior design. 57 America's Cup Ave.; kristencoates.net

DESSERT IMPERATIVE / Clarke Cooke House Order the Snowball in Hell—chocolate cake, cookies, pudding and ice cream all in a bowl—be sure to ask for the sparklers. 26 Bannister's Wharf; clarkecooke.com

THE BARTENDER

Ric River

Clarke Cooke House

FRESH START / The Corner Café It's my favorite place for breakfast—pancakes, French toast and oatmeal. They use a lot of fresh fruit. They're always busy, but it's worth the wait. *110 Broadway;* cornercafenewport.com



A housemade burger at Mission. PHOTO: CHRISTIAN HARDER FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

RIDE SHARE / Newport Harbor Shuttle The water taxi starts at Perrotti Park in front of the Marriott. It's \$12 per person for the whole day, and you can hop on and off wherever you want. newportharborshuttle.com

BOOK IT / The AIA Guide to Newport The guide's divided into neighborhoods, and when you're walking along and notice the gingerbread trim on a house, you can look it up and find the architect, the year it was built and the history. amazon.com

PREMIUM PATTIES / Mission They cook the burgers perfectly and use excellent quality ground beef. They also have hot dogs. Everything is made in-house. *29 Marlborough St.;* missionnpt.com

THE FUNDRAISER

Liz Drayton

Patron Relations, Newport Opera House Theater & Performing Arts Center

TREE POSE / Arboreta Tours There are 15 estate properties designated as arboreta here—the beech trees are a particular hallmark. In August, the Newport Tree Society does a tour, and the arboreta are open to the public. newportarboretumweek.org

ART FIX / William Vareika Fine Arts This extraordinary collection includes Hudson Valley illuminist painters. William Trost Richards is a specialty as is the stained-glass artist and painter John La Farge. 212 Bellevue Ave.; vareikafinearts.com



Hunter House of Newport Mansions. PHOTO: CHRISTIAN HARDER FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

MUST-SEE MANSE / Marble House Fashioned after Versailles's Le Petit Trianon, Marble House really sparkles. newportmansions.org

CLOCK IN / Hunter House Sometimes overlooked, Hunter House represents the mansions of the colonial era, with beautiful displays of Townsend-Goddard furniture and Claggett clocks.
newportmansions.org

THE SAILOR

Brad Read

Executive Director, Sail Newport

O'ER THE RAMPARTS / Fort Adams Tour You'll see an amazing fort [built in 1799] and some of its tunnels. Go inside the recently restored barracks and the refurbished ramparts and get an unbelievable look around Newport. 90 Fort Adams Dr.; fortadams.org



The lawn at sunset at Castle Hill Inn. PHOTO: CHRISTIAN HARDER FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

ROCK THE BOAT / Newport Shipyard There are more superyachts here than anywhere else on the East Coast. And Belle's Cafe is wonderful for breakfast and lunch. *1 Washington St., newportshipyard.com*

SITTING PRETTY / Castle Hill Inn You cannot leave Newport without going to Castle Hill to sit in an Adirondack chair and watch the sun go down over Narragansett Bay. *590 Ocean Dr.; castlehillinn.com*



Newport's Cliff Walk, a 3.5-mile oceanfront path, winds past Bellevue mansions. PHOTO: CHRISTIAN HARDER FOR THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Plus, Don't Miss...

Cliff Walk The 3.5-mile oceanfront path starts at Easton's Beach and winds along the shoreline, and the backs of the [Bellevue mansions](#), to Ocean Drive.

/The Attwater The Lark hotel group's cheery, 17-room boutique is on a small side street, just a quick walk from Bellevue Ave and First Beach and includes great breakfasts. *From \$139 a night.*

theattwater.com/**Stoneacre Brasserie** One of the newer restaurants in town, this handsome spot sources its farm-to-table fare locally and brings the same fresh aesthetic to a

creative cocktail menu. 28

Washington Square; stoneacrebrasserie.com/**NewportFILM Outdoors** The documentary film festival runs through the summer, with screens set up at mansions, parks and working farms. Live music before; Q+A with filmmakers after. Bring a picnic. newportfilm.com