

Two Night Break in Donegal
from **only €29.75 pps per night**

This week in the News Letter, Waterfront Hotel Dungloe is offering News Letter readers the opportunity to enjoy a breaks in North Donegal.

How The Offer works: A Token will be printed in the News Letter every day this week, simply collect four out of the six tokens printed & attach them to the booking form printed below. One set of tokens entitles up to 2 people to book a standard, twin or double room.

HOW TO BOOK: To book you may call and make a reservation quoting News Letter Reader Offer, you must confirm your booking by posting the official completed booking form complete with four tokens within 14 days direct to the Hotel. A deposit may also be required. Reservations must be made by phone before posting the booking form. All bookings must be made before **5th June 2019** offer is available on selected dates up until **12th July 2019** (limited weekend availability, excludes key dates).

News Letter Hotel Breaks Booking Form
Once you have made your phone booking please send this voucher complete with 4 tokens to the Hotel, or present at time of check in.

Title: _____
Surname: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____ Email: _____

News Letter HOTEL BREAKS TOKEN 6 \$

The News Letter and the JPI Media Group are constantly running great offers. If you are not interested in receiving details of them by email, post, phone, SMS or via social media, please tick here. If you are not interested in receiving details on offers run by our business partners please tick here. For your information for quality and branding purposes, we may monitor communications.

2 Nights BB for €119 Midweek or €169 weekends
(total for 2 max guests per room sharing). Reservations must be made before **5th June 2019** and guests must uptake the stay before end **12th July 2019**



Waterfront Hotel, Mill Road, Dungloe, Co. Donegal, Ireland
Tel: + 353 (0) 74 95 22444
Web: www.waterfronthoteldungloe.ie
Awarded best newcomer by Irish Restaurant Awards

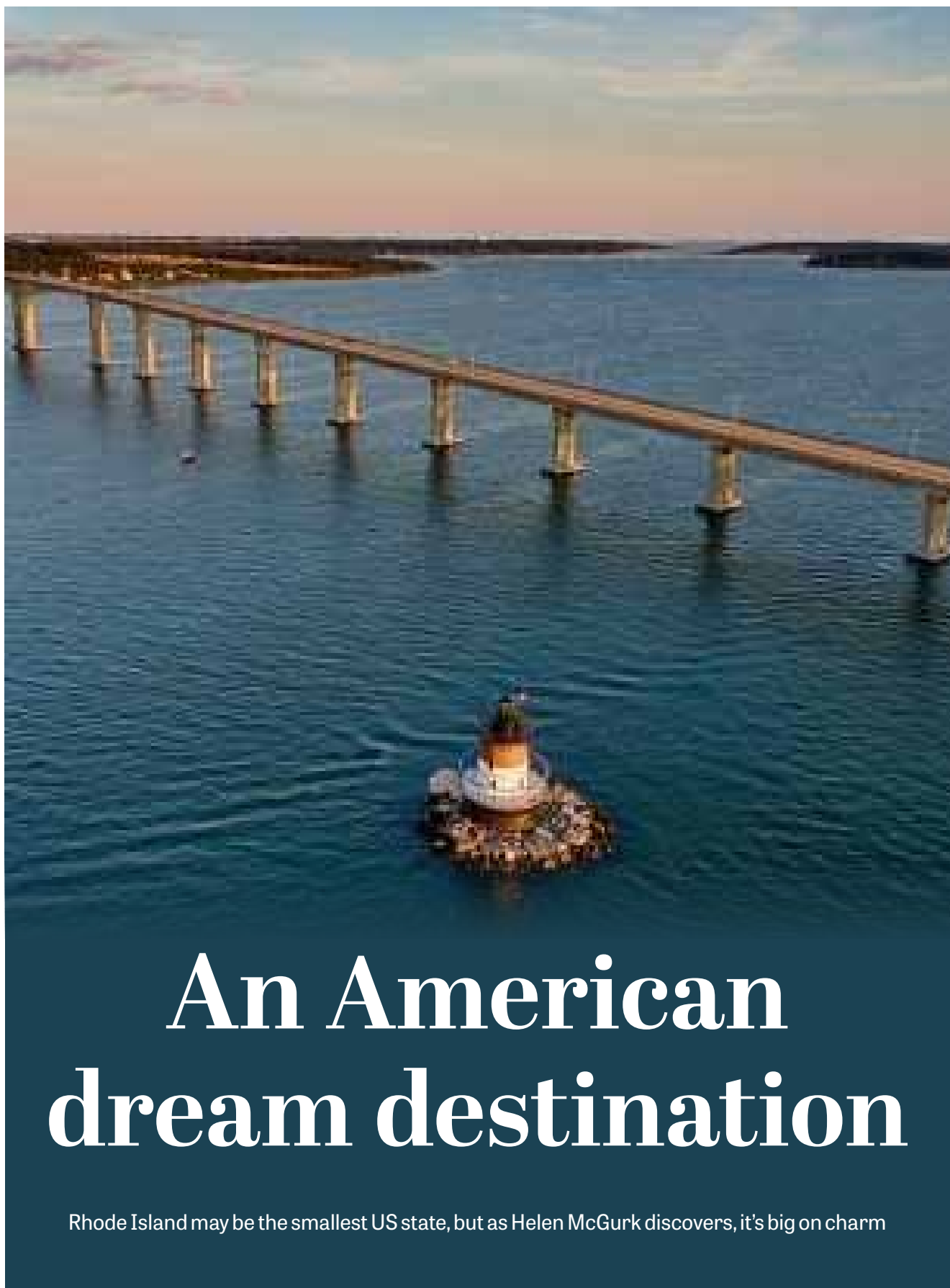
TERMS & CONDITIONS: Reservations must be made before **5th June 2019**. This offer is subject to availability. Contact the Hotel for further details. Guests must uptake the stay before end **12th July 2019**. This offer includes a minimum 2 nights midweek or weekend break (see Hotel for details) for 2 people sharing on a bed & breakfast basis, Midweek (Sun-Thurs) Weekend (Friday & Saturday). Photocopies are not accepted. No cash alternative. Euro rate applies. Exchange rate subject to change. The double occupancy advertised rate also applies for single occupancy rooms, also with supplements from €30.00 per room per night apply for upgraded room requests.



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An American dream destination

Rhode Island may be the smallest US state, but as Helen McGurk discovers, it's big on charm

Travel news

Airline named best low-cost carrier

Norwegian has been named 'Best Best Low-Cost Carrier in Europe' at the prestigious 2019 Passenger Choice Awards. The APEX Passenger Choice Awards represent one of the highest accolades in the industry as winners are directly voted for by passengers and take into account factors such as seat comfort, cabin service, food and beverage, entertainment, and Wi-Fi. Norwegian was the first airline to offer passengers free in-flight Wi-Fi on all European flights in 2011. The airline became the first to introduce live television over the skies of Europe in 2015 and in late 2018 it took delivery of its first Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner equipped with inflight Wi-Fi. In 2019 Norwegian became the first low-cost airline to offer

customers free Wi-Fi for the full duration of intercontinental flights. Customers can choose the service that suits their requirements between a completely free package to a premium service allowing the streaming of video and other multimedia content. Bjorn Kjos, chief executive officer at Norwegian said: "It is truly an honour to receive such recognition from our passengers who value not only the excellent service, product and network that Norwegian offers but also the benefits such as free Wi-Fi that put us ahead of the competition. We would like to thank everybody who voted for us and for choosing to fly Norwegian. We will continue to innovate and invest in our passenger journey to provide an industry leading benchmark for others to follow."

travel & days out

Much has been written of New England in the fall, when the season of mists and mellow fruitfulness transforms the foliage into an astonishing arboreal palette of blood-reds, russetts, golds and oranges - a phenomenon which attracts thousands of 'leaf-peepers', as they are known, every year.

But autumn is not the only time to witness the splendour, or sample the many charms, of this beautiful region.

My family and I visited Rhode Island, the smallest of New England's six states, at Easter, when the daffodils were Wordsworthian and the temperatures mild.

Getting to this part of the east coast is as easy as (American) pie; low-cost airline Norwegian operates a popular service from Dublin to Providence Airport, Boston. With the time difference, our 3pm departure meant we arrived in the US at 5pm feeling perky and pre-ordered meals meant we didn't go hungry on the seven-hour flight. After picking up an Avis hire car we were soon on our way to the city of Newport, about 40 minutes away.

Newport, which hosts the granddaddy of all jazz festivals ever summer, is a delightful port city of mansions, buzzy pubs, interesting shops, renovated wharfs and narrow streets.

It features several fine beaches, rocky cliffs and much history including America's oldest synagogue, oldest lending library, oldest library building in continuous use, and the oldest surviving tavern building in the US, which it would have been downright churlish not to visit.

The White Horse Tavern was built before 1673, so it seemed only right and proper when we visited, to enjoy a couple of Old Fashioned cocktails in our old-fashioned surrounds.

Our base for three days in the city was the Newport Marriott, a lovely, nautical-themed hotel set on the waterfront in the historic downtown district, just a short dander to the shops and restaurants, and right next door to the Newport Welcome Centre. Parking is free in low season in an ad-



The Breakers mansion in Newport, Rhode Island, credit PSNC_Gavin Ashworth

acent garage, but the big plus for my kids was the swimming pool, not to mention the cool, ceiling-suspended chairs in the uber stylish lobby.

A great way to get your bearings in the city is on board the Viking Trolley bus (catch it at the Newport Welcome Centre) which takes passengers on a 10-mile ocean drive, where you can observe the city's historic architecture, marvel at the beautiful ocean views and rubberneck as you pass the magnificent mansions.

Newport was a watering hole for America's aristocracy (JFK and Jackie married and summered there) and it is famous for its over-the-top properties, where the money made in the country's Gilded Age was spent on all kinds of unnecessary architecture.

We gawped at the grandeur on Bellevue Avenue, a tree-lined street that stretches down to the Atlantic, with each palatial 'cottage' - as the well-heeled high society chose to think of these houses - seemingly an attempt to outdo the Joneses. And then some.

Undoubtedly, the grandest of these seaside cottages is The Breakers, a 70-room Italian Renaissance-style palazzo, perched above the crashing waves and the most visited historic building in the state. In the 1890s it was the summer home of mega rich, Cornelius Vanderbilt II.

The audio tour managed to keep my kids, aged 11 and 6, enthralled for the duration as we marvelled at this

with the Save The Bay Seal Watch; taking a boat from Newport Harbour, and bestwed with binoculars, we toured the waters around Rose Island and Newport Bridge, spotting at least six of these gorgeous creatures with their puppy-dog looks.

The International Tennis Hall of Fame museum (Bellevue Avenue) is well worth a visit, even if you aren't an aficionado of the sport. In 1881, it hosted the first US National Lawn Tennis Championships, which has evolved into today's US Open. There are more than 2,000 unique objects on display, from racquets, to clothes, to trophies, as well as a variety of interactive exhibits - my son loved being a tennis commentator, whilst mummy loved the Roger Federer hologram.

Just a few steps up the street is the Audrain Automobile Museum. You don't have to be a petrolhead to enjoy this quirky little museum. When we were there there was an exhibition called 'Horseless to Horsepower: the Gilded and Golden Age' and a parade of gleaming cars.

There are any amount of wonderful places to eat in Newport; we had belly-busting breakfasts in the Corner Cafe, dinner in Brick Alley, a vibrant and bustling place with an extensive menu and lots of local ales.

The town is also home to some very decent chain stores that haven't made it over here (yet), including J Crew and Banana Republic and the

cathedral of excess.

A great way to observe the architectural artistry of the mansions is by taking a stroll along Newport's gorgeous Cliff Walk. The rich and famous built their properties by the Atlantic Ocean, and this 3.5 mile pathway is a nosey parker's dream, allowing a sneak peak into the mansions' grounds.

Another stunning mansion which is open to visitors is Rosecliff, which was used as the backdrop for popular films including The Great Gatsby.

Besides big houses, Newport has a wealth of attractions to keep families and individuals of all ages occupied.

My two were particularly taken



Helen's son Hugh at the International Tennis Hall of Fame

beauty chain, Sephora.

Between Newport and the Connecticut state line to the west lie a string of gorgeous beaches with poetic names like Narragansett and Misquamicut. We visited the latter, staying at the fantastic Hotel Maria (much to the delight of my daughter Maria). Here you'll find a beachy, contemporary vibe, with an Italian-inspired menu and wonderful staff. Our ocean-front room was just stunning, with ice-cream coloured furnishings, a handy microwave and even an Etch-a-Sketch for our young'uns.

If seafood is your thing, a visit to Matunuck Oyster Bar in nearby South Kingstown, is a must. The oysters are grown in a pond right off the restaurant's waterfront patio and many of its herbs and vegetables are grown in its own vegetable farm. When we visited the place was thronged with diners - no wonder, as the food is superlative.

Rhode Island is home to the wealthy Watch Hill resort, Taylor Swift has a home here, and previous residents included Clarke Gable and Henry Ford.

Perched high on the bluffs is Ocean House, an iconic luxury hotel, where, sadly, we didn't stay, but did enjoy a memorable Easter afternoon tea. On a tour of the suites, jaws dropped in unison at the ultra-luxe modern amenities - private terraces, fully-equipped kitchens, palatial bathrooms, and on, and on.

Should we ever return to this part of the Ocean State - I'd like to 'summer' there.

*Next week Helen McGurk continues her Rhode Island trip with a visit to the capital city, Providence.

Factfile:

Norwegian fly a nonstop service between Dublin and Providence Airport, Boston. Fares start from €210 one way / €400 return including all taxes and charges. To book visit www.norwegian.com/ie or call 0330 828 0854. For car hire visit www.avisworld.com/norwegian-reward. For more info on Rhode Island visit www.visitrhodeisland.com

Late deals

Bargain breaks at home and abroad

CO LONDONDERRY: The Ultimate Showstopper, Everglades Hotel, pictured, from £100 per person sharin. Offer includes luxury overnight accommodation, a cocktail masterclass, a hot finger buffet, entrance to the Abba Experience Tribute Show and a full Irish breakfast the next morning. To book call 028 7132 1066. Offer available until June 1, 2019.

CO DOWN: Indulgence Package, The Old Inn from £75 per person sharing. Offer includes an overnight stay, a cocktail each, a three-course meal with a bottle of wine and a full Irish breakfast the following morning. To book call 028 9185 3255. Offer available until 30 November 2019.

CO ANTRIM: Couples Offer, Greers Cottage, from £89 per night. Offer includes overnight accommodation, a



bottle of Prosecco, chocolates and logs for stove. To book call 078 1013 4608. Offer available until 14 June 2019.

COSTA BLANCA: From Belfast, May 28, Hotel Riudor, Benidorm, 3 Star, AI, 4 nights from £429pps. To book visit

www.tui.co.uk or visit your nearest TUI Store.

ALGARVE: From Belfast, May 29, Yellow Alvor Garden, Alvor, 3 Star+, AI, 4 nights from £449pps. To book visit www.tui.co.uk or visit your nearest TUI Store.

LANZAROTE: From Belfast, May 23, Tabaiba Apartments, Costa Teguisse, 3Star, SC, 7 nights from £289pps. To book visit www.tui.co.uk or visit your nearest TUI Store.

PORTUGAL: Faro City, Faro City, 3 star Stay Hotel Faro Centro, 3 nights bed and breakfast departing from Belfast International on May 27.

Price: £269 per person based on 2 sharing, includes a 22kg baggage allowance. For more information or to book, freephone 0800 408 5594, visit your local travel agent or click on www.jet2.com or www.jet2holidays.com.

www.jet2.com or www.jet2holidays.com.

TURKEY: Dalaman Area, Marmaris, 3 star Amaris Apartments, 7 nights self-catering departing from Belfast International on May 27. Price: £219 per person based on 2 sharing, includes a 22kg baggage allowance and return transfers. For more information or to book, freephone 0800 408 5594, visit your local travel agent or click on www.jet2.com or www.jet2holidays.com.

SPAIN: Costa Brava, Malgrat De Mar Girona, 4 star Alegria Maripins, 7 nights bed and breakfast departing from Belfast International on May 27. Price: £359 per person based on 2 sharing, includes a 22kg baggage allowance and return transfers. For more information or to book, freephone 0800 408 5594, visit your local travel agent or www.jet2.com or www.jet2holidays.com.