

# **The**Beacon

City Guide

**THIS IS NOT CAMPING** It's glamping—and it's fabulous. Book one of these New England getaways and fall in love with the great outdoors all over again. No gear required. *By Madeline Bilis and Brittany Jasnoff* 

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Not very outdoorsy? The fire starters are complimentary at AutoCamp Cape Cod.

COURTESY PHOTO



× THE Elevated WOODSY SFTAWN

City Guide

# **TOPS'L FARM** WALDOBORO, MAINE

WHERE YOU SLEEP These tiny A-frame cabins nestled in the woods of MidCoast Maine are practically torn from the pages of an L.L.Bean catalog: Inside, the sloping ceilings are clad in natural wood, while two twin beds offer plush bedding and plaid pillows. There's no electricity in the cabin, but an oversize window lets in lots of light during the day, while lanterns emit a soft glow at night. You'll head to the common bathhouse for phone charging, hot showers, dishwashing, and more.

WHAT YOU EAT When you're not roasting marshmallows over your campfire with a kit from Tops'l, you'll want to reserve a spot at one of the property's stunning barn dinners. For more-casual bites, venture over to Rockland for something seasonal at SAMMY'S DELUXE, then wash it down with a glass of natural wine from



OYSTER RIVER WINE-GROWERS. You can peek inside its shop and tasting room in Camden or enjoy pétnats in its converted barn in Warren.

WHAT ADVENTURES ARE NEARBY An invigorating walk along the rocky coast of Maine is always a good idea,

but for a little something extra, go for a stroll at **PEMAQUID** POINT LIGHTHOUSE. Brave souls can climb to the top to glimpse striking views of the Atlantic. For a more low-key afternoon, consider Maine's role in American art at the FARN-SWORTH ART MUSEUM. topslfarm.com.

CARLEY RUDD PHOTOGRAPHY (TOPS'L FARM)





SPLASHY Downeast

SURRY, MAINE

WHERE YOU SLEEP Salt air is good for the soul-especially when you're sleeping just steps from the water. Savor the ocean breezes from the comfort of your safari-style tent, which comes equipped with a king-size bed, a plush en suite bathroom, and a wood-burning stove for those chilly Maine evenings. Upgrade to the Stargazer tent for crystal-clear views of the constellations.

WHAT YOU EAT How does a lobster bake right on the water sound? It's just one of the many dining options available right on-site at Under Canvas, where you'll find cheffed-up selections for breakfast, lunch, and dinnernot to mention gratis s'mores kits for all. "OP); KRISTINE DANIELS (NORMANDY FARMS, BOTTOM)

ACADIA); ASHLEY SCHNEIDER (NORMANDY

CANVAS

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# WHAT ADVENTURES

ARE NEARBY You're about an hour door-to-door to Acadia National Park here-but if you don't feel like making the drive, there are plenty of other ways to get your heart pumping close by. Trek up BLUE HILL MOUNTAIN or check out the many nature preserves of DEER ISLE, which also boasts charming art galleries and shops when you're ready for a slower pace. undercanvas.com.



# **NORMANDY FARMS**

FOXBOROUGH

### WHERE YOU SLEEP

Want to live out your *Dirty Dancing* fantasies (complete with a gigantic recreation lodge)? Book a week at Normandy Farms. Though it's been around since the '70s, the place has accommodations that are anything but oldschool, with updated cabins, yurts, and safari tents equipped with water and electricity. Deluxe cabins offer a queen bed and a sleeping loft for kids, while the cozier ones have bunk beds and a screened-in porch. The property's yurts, meanwhile, overlook a nearby pond and feature wraparound decks stocked with a grill, a dining set, and an outdoor cooler.

### WHAT YOU EAT

Craving a respite from campfire cuisine? South Shore bar pizza and other local delicacies are available at KAMPER'S KITCHEN, the campsite's open-air snack bar. Or head off-site to the aptly named STATION ONE: Opened recently in Foxborough's former fire station, it operates as a craft brewery, winery, distillery, and restaurant all in one. Sample local brews from Shovel Town Brewery or a cocktail made with house bourbon, then soak it up with a dip flight, which is exactly what it sounds like—French onion dip, hummus, smoked spinach dip, and guacamole.

### WHAT ADVENTURES ARE NEARBY

Swimming, tennis, disc golf, fishing—it's all right at Normandy Farms. But on a rainy day, there's plenty to see and do at Patriot Place. At the top of the list is **FREEDOM WIND TUNNEL**, an indoor skydiving center slated to open this summer. For less adrenaline and more precision, try an archery lesson at **ACE ARCHERS**, housed inside a brick factory building. normandyfarms.com.









ing is a vibe-after all, the retro-style lodging options here were designed by professional interiors whiz Krista Stokes, Choose from a selection of chic options to hit the hay, from safari tents and cottages to Airstream trailers, A-frame "hideaway huts," and even Conestoga wagons. Family glamping tents can fit up to five people and offer a kingsize bed, two twin beds, overhead lighting, and an indoor mini fridge. Draped in string lights, each tent also comes with its own fire pit. not to mention a picnic table and bever-

WHERE YOU SLEEP At Sandy Pines, glamp-

# WHAT YOU EAT

age cooler.

Tuck your flannel safely in your backpack before setting out for a fine-dining experience at nearby EARTH AT HIDDEN POND, where the dishes incorporate fresh herbs, heirloom vegetables, and edible flowers from the on-site garden. Plan for a nightcap at BATSON RIVER BREWING & DISTILLING's stately flagship taproom near Kennebunkport's Dock Square. Try the Whitecap, a cocktail made with Fruity Pebblesinfused el Jimador tequila, Combier triple sec, lemon, lime, and demerara sugar.

# WHAT ADVENTURES

Lounge in the supersoft sand at Goose Rocks Beach, just a mile from the campground-or cruise the waterways via a kayak or standup paddleboard from KAYAK EXCURSIONS. When the sun sets, catch a tribute band or local talent in concert at VINEGAR HILL MUSIC THEATRE in Arundel. sandypinescamping.com.



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# **HUTTOPIA** ALBANY, NEW HAMPSHIRE

# WHERE YOU SLEEP

Leave your smartphone behind, breathe in the fresh mountain air, and take in the majesty of the White Mountains from the comfort of a tent or chalet at Huttopia. Situated on an ultra-clear lake, several of the tents come with brand-new wood stoves, while the chalets boast full bathrooms and wellequipped kitchens.

# **WHAT YOU EAT** When you're not grabbing a bite at Huttopia's

on-site Airstream trailer café, fuel up for the day with a tofu scramble wrap and ginger energizer shot at **TABLE + TONIE**, located in nearby North Conway. Once you're finished hiking, unwind with a heaping plate of fish and chips from **MAY KELLY'S COTTAGE** the closest you'll come to feeling like you're in Ireland in a 100-mile radius.

# WHAT ADVENTURES ARE NEARBY Rent a canoe, kayak, or paddleboard from

Huttopia's new beach hut on the lake, or take a dip in the heated saltwater pool. If you prefer to take in mountain views without breaking a sweat, board a train on the CONWAY SCENIC RAILROAD for picturesque vistas and a dose of vintage flair. The Mountaineer train recreates the experience of a post-World War II transcontinental train ride with repurposed passenger cars from the 1950s. And don't leave without venturing to **DIANA'S** BATHS, a series of cascading waterfalls at the end of a short trail. canada-usa.huttopia.com.

# TERRAMOR OUTDOOR RESORT

BAR HARBOR, MAINE

### WHERE YOU SLEEP

After a day exploring New England's only national park, Terramor's spacious canvas tents beckon with plush beds, reading lamps, lounge chairs, and fire pits overlooking the towering trees of Mount Desert Island. Bringing the whole fam along? The Moosewood tent boasts two bedrooms plus a private bathroom with an indoor and outdoor shower.

# WHAT YOU EAT

Wander over to Terramor's glass-walled lodge for a quick bite, a take-and-explore lunch, or a glass of seasonal wine, cider, or beer. Over in

### WHERE YOU SLEEP

Check in at the ultra-modern clubhouse overlooking Buzzards Bay, then load up the wagon and make your way to your gorgeously appointed Airstream trailer, which comes equipped with a gueen bed, a high-end full bath, and a kitchenette perfect for prepping burgers and dogs for the campfire grill. If you have older kiddos who like an adventure, book a "Basecamp" mini suite, which adds a tent featuring two twin beds to the setup. The cabin-like Vista X suites are a little bigger; the luxury tents, meanwhile, are the only accommodations on-site without private bathrooms (though once you see the clubhouse's spa-like shower area, you won't mind).

# WHAT YOU EAT

With grill kits available onsite, there's no need to pack a downtown Bar Harbor, **SALT 5 STEEL** has been delighting locals and visitors alike since it opened in 2019; don't miss the Maine lobster Bolognese with house-made *gnocchetti*. And you can't leave town without stopping for a drink at **PARRILLA**, the outdoor tapasbar offshoot of Latin restaurant Havana. Maine charcuterie, a few oysters, and a mojito are in order.

# WHAT ADVENTURES ARE NEARBY

The unspoiled beauty of **ACADIA** is calling your name. You could hike to the iconic "bubble" rocks, bike the park's carriage roads, or simply drive to the top of Cadillac Mountain. Once you're sufficiently tuckered out, book a tour aboard the lobster boat *LULU* to learn about Maine's crustacean and marine life. terramoroutdoorresort.com.

cooler. You'll also find satisfy-

ing breakfast, lunch, and din-

ner options in the clubhouse,

not to mention complimentary

coffee and granola in the morn-

ture out for the night, there are

plenty of excellent restaurants

within a short drive, including

the sea-to-table WATER STREET

KITCHEN in Woods Hole (hello,

grilled Wellfleet oysters and

The best part about a stay at

AutoCamp? The resort is situated right on the Shining Sea

Bikeway, and bikes for guests

along the coast into Falmouth and Woods Hole, enjoy acous-

classes on the lawn, and easy

access to Falmouth's shore-

line. autocamp.com.

are offered free of charge.

When you're not pedaling

tic music by the fire, yoga

bluefish pâté).

ARE NEARBY

WHAT ADVENTURES

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COURTESY PHOTOS (HUTTOPIA, AUTOCAMP CAPE COD); TERRAMOR OUTDOOR RESORT/NICK LAVECCHIA (TERRAMOR OUTDOOR RESORT)

