

CULTURAL WALKING ADVENTURE

# Maine's Acadia National Park

## Historic Villages & Scenic Coasts

CLASSIC JOURNEYS  
THE WORLD'S FINEST WALKING TOURS





“

*Classic Journeys  
provides unbeatable  
access to experiences  
around the globe.”*

TRAVEL + LEISURE

## Where the Mountains Meet the Sea

When explorer Giovanni Verrazano sailed past in 1524, he was so astounded by the beauty of the coastline that he declared it “Arcadia”— ancient Greek for “idyllic place”. The name may have evolved without the ‘r’, but that cinematic splendor of Acadia National Park lives on, in rugged rose-tinted cliffs, islands scattered along the coast, glacial lakes and quintessentially New England coastal villages. Songbirds join hundreds of other bird species, from bald eagles to peregrine falcons. Otters and seals play in the waters around your kayak. From a culinary standpoint, you decide if the area should be known as the lobster, blueberry or craft beer capital of the world... or all three. Journey with us through maritime Maine, where ocean meets coastline, coastline meets mountains, and New England charm meets you at every turn.

## The Classic Journeys Difference

- ACTIVE HIKING & WALKING
- LOCAL WELL-CONNECTED GUIDES
- PREMIERE HOTELS
- FOODIE FOCUSED
- HANDCRAFTED TRIP DESIGN
- MORE IS INCLUDED

## What's Included

- All breakfasts, 2 lunches and 2 dinners
- Full-time experienced guide(s) who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to tastings, historic sites and other scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

## Above & Beyond Benefits

### → PRIVILEGED ACCESS EVENTS

One-of-a-kind access to remarkable people, places and activities arranged just for you.

### → INVISIBLE CHECK-IN

When your group arrives, we whisk you and your bags to your room immediately. No waiting – no tipping.

## Terrain

Easy to moderate on good trails.

CLASSIC JOURNEYS ITINERARIES MAY BE SUBJECT TO SLIGHT CHANGES, HOTEL SUBSTITUTIONS, AND OTHER MODIFICATIONS.

DAY 1 »

## Penobscot Bay

Portland has the most microbreweries per capita of any city in the U.S. Put that in the back of your mind as you join your guide for a riverside walk along the banks of the Damariscotta River that leads to your first taste of Maine. The coastline's long, rocky estuaries, sheltered coves and salty water provide ideal conditions for oysters, and local friends in Edgecomb have been perfecting the cultivation process for over thirty years. Hear how, and learn the art of oyster farming and tasting, when you visit their artisanal farm just in time for lunch.

Later, sail one of Maine's signature schooners in one of the world's most photogenic bays. Penobscot is known as "the jewel of the Maine coast", and with your captain and crew, you'll navigate past rocky shoreline and sculpted narrows, over glassy open waters scattered with dozens of islands—some wild and uninhabited, others home to charming fishing villages, lonely lighthouses, and mysterious mansions. The wildlife scene here is diverse and fascinating—watch out for puffins, seals, porpoises and whales as you sail along.

MEALS: L

OVERNIGHT: CAMDEN

DAY 2 »

## Camden / Mount Battie

Many of the exploits of Teddy Roosevelt would be difficult or impossible to replicate today. But one way to follow in the Rough Rider's footsteps is to join your guide for a scenic morning walk to the top of Mount Battie. There you'll find a picturesque stone tower rich in legend and history, as well as incredible views of Maine's magnificent meandering coastline and the seven glorious peaks surrounding Camden. Wild, wonderful nature fills your sightline as you walk the trails, so stay on the lookout for birds and wildlife.

Did you know that Mainers make wine? They do. From small one-acre farms tucked into inland valleys to bustling regional vintners along the coast. Terroir, as everywhere grapes are grown, is the key here, as the temperature of coastal climates varies greatly compared to the cold highlands inland. The state may be known for blueberries, but lately wine makers have been crafting varietals designed specifically for the state's microclimates. From Chardonnay to Sauvignon Blanc, and Merlot to Shiraz, they're making Maine a tasting destination even for wine lovers with the most discerning palates.

This afternoon visit vintners at their 200-year-old timber barn on a Lincolnville hillside, home to the Cellardoor Winery. Your hosts welcome you to the estate on a private tour of their five-acre vineyard and state-of-the-art facility. Along the way, they'll share how they make their award-winning wines. Then, they'll host you to a wine tasting, paired with locally grown produce.

MEALS: B, D

OVERNIGHT: CAMDEN

DAY 3 »

## Acadia National Park

Just north along the Atlantic coast is Mount Desert Island. Acadia National Park covers more than half of the island and protects its immense natural beauty, including pink granite cliffs, glassy glacial lakes, soaring mountains, wooded valleys and blueberry meadows. Following the coastline, you get a great introduction to how wild and scenic it is. So wild in fact that you might spot a Maine moose during your walk.

Midday, stop along the way to soak up the staggering scenery, including a favorite beach between the mountains and rocky shores where a picnic of fresh local specialties is waiting for you. Refreshed, join your guide on a cinematic oceanside path to Thunder Hole—named for the way seawater hurls itself into a cave with an almighty boom—first up close at the cliffside, then looking down from the summit of Gorham mountain.

It's simple. The farther north you find yourself, the more likely you'll spy the Aurora Borealis. And in the continental U.S., you can't go much farther north than Maine. The tiny towns and vast wilderness mean little light pollution, so even if the dancing green waves of the Northern Lights don't make an appearance tonight, you've got the shimmering quilt of the Milky Way overhead. The locals take the star gazing so seriously that they passed a light-pollution ordinance in Bar Harbor that mandates "night sky-friendly" outdoor lighting on all new construction. That law even helped to inspire the annual Acadia Night Sky Festival.

MEALS: B, L

OVERNIGHT: BAR HARBOR

DAY 4 »

## Bass Harbor / Frenchman Bay

It may be hard to conceive, but Maine has 3,478 miles of coastline. Not as the crow flies, but certainly as the sandpiper scampers. With so much territory to protect, lighthouses are a must, and the state has 65 scattered strategically along the coast. These glowing citadels may provide protection for ships, but they also offer an unforgettable experience for explorers visually for photography and for the tales that your guide shares with you on walks all week. The Bass Harbor Head lighthouse is a legendary Acadia—and Maine—landmark, and you'll see it perched on craggy coastline, looking out to the endless Atlantic from the very southernmost tip of the island, as you enjoy a scenic walk this morning. This area is also known for its songbird population (watch, and listen, for warblers, kinglets and more), as well as tremendous coastal tide pools, formed in pink granite and home to vibrant algae, barnacles and marine snails.

Enjoy lunch in the colorful fishing village of Bass Harbor, before paddling onto Frenchman Bay on sea kayaks. Jellyfish, seals, porpoises and humpback whales can be seen in these waters and with the help of your guide's well-trained eye, you'll have some fantastic marine life sightings. You may even see a swimming deer, making its way to Bar Island. That's your destination too, for fine views back over Mount Desert Island. And if you'd prefer not to paddle, you can reach Bar Island on foot at low tide, when the ocean reveals a sand bar.

Spend the evening in the town of Bar Harbor on the island's charming eastern shore. While island resident Martha Stewart has not redone the entire town, it certainly has some of the glamour as if she has. Maybe you even follow Barack and Michelle Obama's lead and stop in at the Havana Bar for a Paloma, la Bruja or Latin Spritz nightcap, with oysters.

MEALS: B, D

OVERNIGHT: BAR HARBOR

DAY 5 »

## Cadillac Mountain

You'll have seen the bald treeless summit of Cadillac Mountain throughout your time in Acadia. But this morning, you can see it in a whole new light if you'd like. For early risers, grab a cup of coffee and join your guide before breakfast to watch the first light of sunrise in the United States. This is the highest point on the Eastern Seaboard, and we can tell you from experience that it's pretty special the way the morning glow breaks through the horizon, dancing on the ocean ripples ahead of you. On the mountain itself, the granite, forged in fantastical shapes by geological forces, seems all the more striking in the first light of day. As more of the landscape lights up, enjoy views over Bar Harbor, Frenchman's Bay, the Gulf of Maine and the Porcupine Islands that punctuate the ocean.

After a spectacular morning, bid farewell to Bar Harbor, before you transfer back to Bar Harbor, Portland or Bangor Airport for your onward flight home. (Unless you are so close that you just hop in your car for the drive back to other parts of New England, Boston or the New York metro areas.)

MEALS: B

## Tour Hotels



### [Captain Swift Inn](#)

Located in Camden's charming seaside village, the Captain Swift Inn offers boutique accommodations, friendly service with candlelit breakfasts, and a relaxed upscale environment to enjoy your time in coastal Maine.

NIGHTS: 2 nights



### [West Street Hotel](#)

Overlooking Frenchman's Bay, the West Street Hotel offers genuine 'Down East' hospitality and nautical-inspired accommodations. Each nautically-themed guest room boasts private balconies overlooking the harbor or the ocean with modern amenities.

NIGHTS: 2 nights

# Arrival & Departure

## → ARRIVAL DETAILS

START LOCATION: **Lobby of Portland Harbor Hotel, 468 Fore**  
START CITY: **Portland**  
START TIME: **9:00 AM**

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## → DEPARTURE DETAILS

END LOCATION: **City center or airport**  
END CITY: **Portland**  
END TIME: **12:00 PM**