

Fine Living - Travel

Places to Stay | Kennebunkport, Maine by Caren Baginski

Vacationing at the town of Kennebunkport, Maine is like stepping back in time. There are no hokey beachside t-shirt shops or proliferations of scantily-clad beachgoers. Instead, you'll find grown-up romantic charm in a town that has lobster on its mind. And while temperatures only peak at 75 degrees in summer (and reach a chilly 30 in winter) there's plenty to explore indoors at "The Kennebunks:" Kennebunk, Kennebunkport and the surrounding Cape Porpoise, Goose Rocks Beach and Arundel.

Separated by the Kennebunk River, Kennebunkport is lined with waterfront clothing boutiques and fine dining restaurants. The "port" is on the east side of the river, while the west is home to the Lower Village. Dock Square is a popular pass-through on the way to the Lower Village, and is home to a variety of New England restaurants and shops. Relax on the peaceful Kennebunk Beach that borders the Atlantic in the Lower Village, or go north to the larger Goose Rocks Beach, a three-mile crescent with sand dunes. The area is accessible via the Maine Turnpike or the Portland International Jetport, just 30 miles away.

The White Barn Inn

Romance is definitely in the air at the White Barn, where a five-star restaurant and full spa await. Each room (choose from a loft suite, cottage or inn room) includes details like a flat screen TV, fresh fruit and terry robes and all include a continental breakfast and afternoon tea.

37 Beach Ave., Kennebunkport, ME 04046

207-967-2321

www.whitebarninn.com.

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