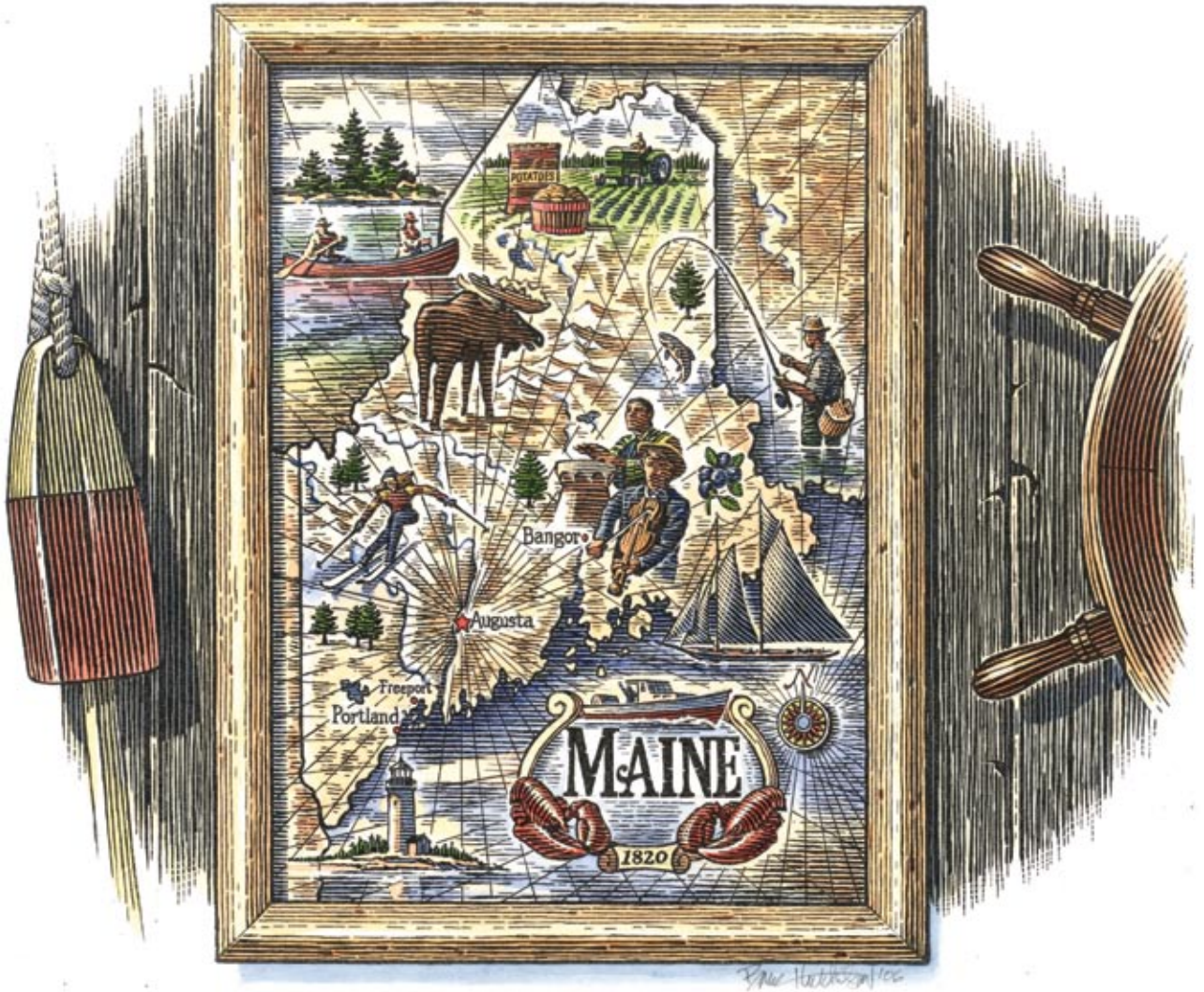


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# COASTAL COMFORT

Modern Technology Helps the Pine Tree State Come Into Its Own

**RECREATION** Lure of the Woods **BOATBUILDING** Old Industry Goes High Tech  
**BUSINESS** Research and Development Build Upon Tradition

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

**WORD OF MOUTH**

*Swan Island;  
Duckfat, the restaurant;  
Cold River Vodka*

**140 IN DEPTH**

*Statewide flavors, from  
farmstand to dining table*

**142 IN DEPTH**

*A look at Portland, Bangor,  
Augusta, and Freeport*

**144 RECREATION**

*Experience the lure of  
Maine's woods*

**147 BUSINESS**

*Technology and research  
build upon tradition*

**151 BOATBUILDING**

*An old industry  
goes high-tech*

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## WORD OF MOUTH



Swan Island volunteers Rusty Dewshap and Jennifer Kinney

## Island from another century

*No electricity but plenty of history and natural beauty make  
SWAN ISLAND a captivating, seasonal place to visit and explore.*

A distance of some 800 feet changed everything for Swan Island. That's about the width of the Kennebec River between the island and the shore, a tidal-water divide that has given the island, which is roughly 20 miles from the open ocean near Southern Midcoast Maine, its separateness for centuries.

"I would move there tomorrow," says Bruce Trembly, president of the Friends of Swan Island, a nonprofit group that works to improve the historic buildings and explore the cultural history of the island.

But he can't. And no one else can either, making Swan Island all the more captivating.

The narrow island is less than 5 miles long and a half-mile wide. It is flanked on either side by the small towns of Richmond and Dresden, and it is protected as a state-owned wildlife management area. The number of daily visitors is capped at 60, and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife reports between 2,000 and 4,000 visitor reservations each year.

Besides the natural beauty of tall pines, hill-top meadows, and expansive river views, there's

a decidedly human presence to the island, even though electricity has never been brought across the river.

People once settled here, and some of their homes and other traces remain. Native American tribes roamed the island and even met with Captain John Smith in 1614. In the mid 1700s, colonists built homes, and eventually a town of about 30 homesteads was formed. By the 1940s, the population of the once self-sufficient community had diminished greatly, and the state began to buy up property from the remaining landowners.

Today, as visitors walk along a path that runs the spine of the island, it's easy to wonder about those who lived in the white clapboard houses. Volunteers such as Trembly help repair and raise money to benefit the historic structures.

Swan Island is open for visitors from May to September. Overnight camping in Adirondack-style shelters is available for a nominal fee. Ferry reservations are necessary for all visits: call 207-547-5322. For general information, visit fosigroup.com. — *Sandy Lang*



This is a gratuitous mention of our incredible lobster  
(mmm, mmm).



Now that we have that out of the way, check out the other reasons to visit Maine.

# DAYS of LOBSTER

Most mornings before dawn, there's a rumble of engines around the fishing village of Stonington. First, fishermen drive their trucks and cars down to the docks, past the old Opera House and the Harbor Café. Then lobster boats chug out of the rocky sheltered harbor en route to lobster traps marked with colorful buoys. Earnest crew members hope they will return later in the day with hundreds of pounds of prized crustaceans.

Jeff Legere of Little Bay Lobster, one of the seven companies in Stonington that buys live lobsters from independent fishermen, says Stonington is one of Maine's prime lobstering communities. He adds that hundreds of lobstermen make their living from the sea, following in the footsteps of their ancestors from many generations past.

Each year, their livelihood and traditions are celebrated in the charming village where fishing boats outnumber yachts. This year's festivities are slated for July 23. For more information, visit [deerisle.com](http://deerisle.com). —SL



## WORD OF MOUTH



Duckfat sandwiches are pressed and toasted, panini-style.

# Portland's got Duckfat

*The restaurant's got a made-from-scratch menu and plenty of personality. Its food features MAINE INGREDIENTS.*

To start another business was his idea. What to name it was hers. That's how Eurostyle sandwich shop Duckfat came to be in the winter of 2005, in an old Portland burger joint across from a defunct hot dog factory.

Chef Rob Evans and partner Nancy Pugh had already developed a following and reputation at Hugo's Restaurant, on Middle Street. After Evans worked as a chef at the Inn at Little Washington in Virginia and at the French Laundry in the Napa Valley, the two purchased Hugo's in 2000 and spent countless hours transforming it from a no-frills Irish eatery to a premium service, four-course-minimum, prix-fixe-menu kind of place.

Later, they became captivated with the idea of revamping another, smaller space into something totally their own. It took a few months to clean out and create a new dining area for Duckfat. Meanwhile, they'd heard plenty of comments about the new shop's moniker. "Initially, people were disgusted, confused, hungry, or excited," Evans says. "But once they heard it, no one ever forgot the name."

When Duckfat opened, guests found a comfortable space with welcoming touches such as a wall of write-your-own-poetry magnets, a framed portrait of Pugh's dog, and handmade pottery vases filled with fresh flowers.

Evans was particularly playful when it came to developing the made-from-scratch menu.

He and Pugh had just visited Europe, and he decided to serve the kind of french fries they'd tried in in the Netherlands — those which are twice-fried in duck fat (hence the name), and presented in a paper cone. They would also make fresh beignets and serve black-and-white milkshakes in tall, ice cream parlor glasses. Wholesome Maine ingredients would serve as the base for soups such as rutabaga bisque and

tomato with fennel.

Most important, says Evans, they'd serve a good, hot sandwich. "I like things toasted," he says. So that's the way Duckfat sandwiches are made — on pressed, panini-style bread. A thinly sliced meatloaf version tastes like French onion soup. Another is made with duck confit, of course. —Sandy Lang



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## WORD OF MOUTH



Chris Dowe and Bob Harkins

# Extra potatoes? Make vodka

*A team of entrepreneurs harness the power of the tuber to create COLD RIVER VODKA.*

A couple of years ago, a Maine potato farmer called a friend with a business start-up idea. “He needed to do something with all the potatoes,” says Bob Harkins, then a ski executive. “The market was flooded with product ... potato farmers were getting kicked in the pants by the Atkins Diet.”

It was then that three Mainers — Donnie Thibodeau (the one with the potato farm), his brother Lee (a neurosurgeon), and Harkins — decided to try their hand at producing batch-distilled potato vodka. A fourth partner, an experienced beer brewer named Chris Dowe, joined them, and together they figured out how to make the spirit using Maine potatoes, water, and homegrown talent.

Today, they call it Cold River Vodka, named for a river at the Fryeburg farm where the potatoes are grown.

To get started, Harkins and Dowe went to Germany to look at fermenting and distilling equipment. They tasted vodkas, looked at bottle designs, and chose a distillery site in an old barn on U.S. Route 1, just a few miles south of



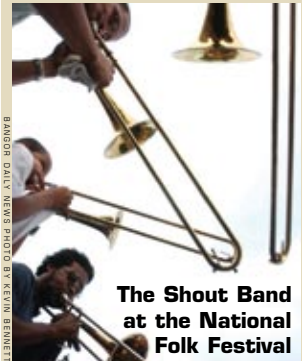
Freeport. They found that potato vodka is more labor-intensive than grain-based versions, and that there is only one other producer of potato-based vodka in the United States. Undaunted, they stayed the course. By the fall of 2005, they were ready to bottle a premium vodka “with a subtle nose of caramel and vanilla.” The first batch of 600 bottles of Cold River Vodka was shipped in November, a bright debut just in time for the holiday season.

Dowe says Cold River’s distinctive taste comes from the potato flour, and that even after a triple-distillation process, there’s still some glucose in the vodka to “coat the tongue and cut the bite,” making it perfectly suited for sipping. Harkins agrees. “It sips neat incredibly well,” he says.

“We’ve heard from several single-malt drinkers that they are making the switch.”

The handcrafted vodka is available only in Maine and New Hampshire. Free tours of the gleaming distillery — but no tasting, since that’s against state law — are available several days per week. For more information, visit [coldrivervodka.com](http://coldrivervodka.com). — *Sandy Lang*

## BANGOR FESTIVAL PLAYS ON



For three days in August, the grassy riverfront in Bangor will fill with music from around the world, and as many as 150,000 are expected to come.

That’s pretty good for this city of about 32,000, which has hosted the Americal Folk Festival since 2002.

“The first year, no one knew what to expect,” says Heather McCarthy, festival director. But when it opened with a group from Mexico who climbed and “flew” from 100-foot poles as part of a sacred tradition, festival attendees quickly realized they would experience cultural traditions unlike any they’d seen before.

This year’s August 25–27 line-up includes bluegrass and polka bands, Japanese drummers, Mongolian “throat” singers, and a costumed Bahamian parade band with so much musical power that, McCarthy says, “They could perform at the Super Bowl and not need amplification.”

Thanks to civic, corporate, and philanthropic support, admission is free. Visit [americanfolkfestival.com](http://americanfolkfestival.com) for more information. — *SL*

IN DEPTH



# LOBSTERS & BEYOND

By Sandy Lang

prices are usually more than reasonable, and the produce is some of the best you have ever tasted.

It's worth noting that vegetables can do well in Maine's rocky soil. Even with the short growing season, summer days are long, bathing plants in up to 16 hours of daylight. And organic farming has long been a widespread practice. The state's organic growers association is one of the oldest and largest in the United States.

Maine also is well known for its prepared foods, found at grocery stores and smaller shops throughout the state. Some to look for include maple syrup, tapped from Maine sugar maples and bottled in early spring; spreadable fruit concoctions from small jelly

kitchens like Nervous Nellie's Jams and Jellies on Deer Isle; New England Style Indian Pudding, a molasses-rich, canned custard from Look's Gourmet Food Company in Whiting; and coffee beans from small-batch roasters like Carrabassett Coffee in Kingfield and Rooster Brother in Ellsworth.

If you're adventurous, you can order live Maine lobsters for home delivery just in time for tomorrow's dinner.

To locate Maine foods, check out [getrealmaine.com](http://getrealmaine.com), a searchable database created by the Maine Department of Agriculture. The site includes contact information for Maine growers and producers of berries, salmon and other smoked fish, chowder, coffee, garden seeds, dried mushrooms, cheese, cookies, jams, maple candies, and breads.

prepared foods available in Maine. Along with collected recipes, there are interviews, excerpts and anecdotes on the interesting ways that Maine chefs are cooking with local produce (like the wild nettle soup and wood-oven roasted

scallops at Primo in Rockland) and instructions on how to collect and prepare fiddleheads, the woody Maine spring delicacy of still-coiled ostrich ferns.

"What's going on with food in Maine is terribly exciting," Dojny says. "Sure, we have traditional lobsters, baked beans, clams, and blueberry pie. But

there is also a groundswell of small farms and very good artisanal foods."

The result of that back-to-basics focus is that Maine residents and visitors can still have a personal connection with food. They can go to a

farmers market for produce, to the docks to buy fresh lobsters and seafood, or to a goat farm for cheese.

Then there's the Maine phenomenon of "honor stands,"

unattended roadside table displays of strawberries, carrots, cucumbers, or whatever else someone has grown in their garden. Passersby will find a price list and a cash box. The



# Where to Eat

By Sandy Lang

Is it considered "dining alfresco" when you're sitting at a roadside picnic table with a milkshake or beer and a basket of clams?

Maybe not. But if you're in Maine on a summer afternoon or evening, you probably won't rush that milkshake, or mind the worn wooden table. From takeout to new cuisine, flavorful and memorable dining experiences abound in the Pine Tree State.

Portland is said to have more restaurants per capita than any other East Coast city, with cafes lined up three and four in a row on some blocks. At the acclaimed

**Fore Street Restaurant**, the seafood, game, and meats are cooked and flavored by fruitwood fires. **J's Oyster** draws a steady crowd to its dockside bar, with lobster served at least eight different ways. Then there's **Local 188**, where you can sit along the bar with a glass of wine (or a tall-boy Schlitz), eat a bowl of good olives, and watch the chefs cook up paella. At breakfast, you just might have to wait for a stool at **Becky's Diner**, where you can order up coffee, eggs, and a grilled muffin while sitting side-by-side with "old salts" from the working waterfront.



A-1 Diner

Beyond Portland, some others to seek: **Harraseeket Lunch & Lobster** in Freeport (featuring lobster rolls and whoopee pies), **Momma Baldacci's** in Bangor (which is owned and operated by the governor's family), **Robinson's Wharf** in Southport/Boothbay Harbor (with an old-school lobster pound), and **The Liberal Cup** in Hallowell (with an extensive selection of house-made brews).

Finally, a legendary favorite for both food and character is **the A-1 Diner** in Gardiner, near Augusta on the Kennebec River. There, in a 1940s railway car, entrees such as chicken leek shortcake, and steak au poivre are served as regularly as diner standards such as fried eggs and chicken salad plates. And, as most who've been there will tell you, the warm brownie cup alone is worth the drive.

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IN DEPTH

# YES, MAINE HAS CITIES

By Sandy Lang

In Maine's cities, a sophisticated food scene, arts culture, and shopping mix can be found in concentrated batches, with the call of the wild easily heard in the distance. Here's an overview of what to do and see in the Pine Tree State's largest cities.

## PORTLAND

Maine's largest city is a hilly enclave of industry, fishing, and commerce. A historic seaport, the cobblestone streets found in the Old Port area are favorite place to stroll. Cafes and pubs line each block, with locals happy to include visitors in communal fun.

The official Arts District edges Congress, Cumberland, and Spring streets, and includes small galleries plus the Portland Museum of Art. For unconventional art, the SPACE Gallery on Congress Street offers ever-changing shows and installations. A recent exhibit showcased murals painted on fragments of old Maine barns and boats.

Shopping options in this city are as varied as the art scene. Two favorites are Decorum, with its deep farm sinks and specialty hardware, and Portmanteau, where visitors can watch artisans stitch

up a custom handbag from upholstery, leather, and Italian tapestry.

## BANGOR

Since 1959, a 30-foot statue of Paul Bunyan has greeted visitors to Bangor, Maine's gateway to the North Woods and timber country. In the 1800s, more than 300 sawmills buzzed in this city on the Penobscot River.

Today, where narrow historic streets wind and cross the river, there's ample green space, and several outfitters and sporting goods stores stand at the ready to equip cyclists, runners, campers and paddle sports athletes.

For the kids, the Maine Discovery Museum is the largest children's museum north of Boston. It makes its home in a restored downtown department store.

Bangor is also the home and source of inspiration for novelist Stephen King. In summer and fall, the city's Convention and Visitors Bureau offers a monthly "Tommyknockers and More Tour."

## AUGUSTA

The Maine State House, built of Maine-quarried granite on a hill above the Kennebec River, can be seen for miles. The dome rises 185 feet and is crowned with a statue of Minerva, the Roman goddess of wisdom. Pines and other trees dot the garden-like grounds, and tours of the 19th century chambers are offered on weekdays.

Also in the capital city is the Maine State Museum and the Blaine House, where the state's governors have resided since 1919.

## FREEPORT

Historic U.S. Route 1 goes through Main Street in Freeport, bringing thousands of travelers past L.L. Bean and 170 other upscale shops and outlets. Just north of Portland, Freeport is credited for being the state's birthplace; Maine leaders met at a Freeport tavern to plan the state's 1820 separation from Massachusetts. The town has less than 10,000 residents, but summer days can be bustling.

On the Fourth of July, Labor Day weekend, and every Saturday night in between, L.L. Bean sponsors

free outdoor concerts in a park outside its store. Music ranges from jazz to rockabilly, Cajun, and blues.

Visitors should also check out the gardens, trails, and grounds at Pettengill Farm, a circa-1810 saltbox farmhouse, which is roughly a 15 minute walk from the gate off Pettengill Road.

## PORTLAND, MORE TO LOVE



Rippling on flags around the city, the civic slogan for Portland these days is a simple one: "Love downtown more." How? Some ideas:

Take an afternoon tour and try some freshly bottled beers at the Shipyard Brewery, 86 Newbury Street. While in the neighborhood, visit some of the quirky shops and cafes on nearby India Street.

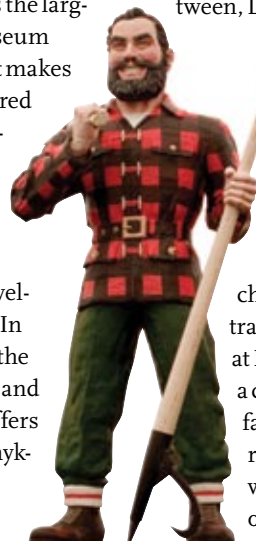
See the centuries-old lighthouse just south of Portland at Cape Elizabeth. The Portland Head Light is open dawn to dusk. For more information, 207-799-2661, portlandheadlight.com.

Stroll along the Western Promenade and enjoy the grassy public park. Then wander the adjoining West End neighborhood — some 175 feet above sea level and lined with brick townhouses, many from the 1800s.

Monday evenings between July 18 and August 15, visit Congress Square for the Movies in the Park outdoor film series.

If you're in town on the right day, take part in the First Friday Art Walks, a roving monthly tour of Portland galleries. Artists open their studios, and some even exhibit in the back of pick-up trucks.

For more information, firstfridayartwalk.com. —SL



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— Chris Frank, *President Intelligent Spatial Technologies Orono, Maine*

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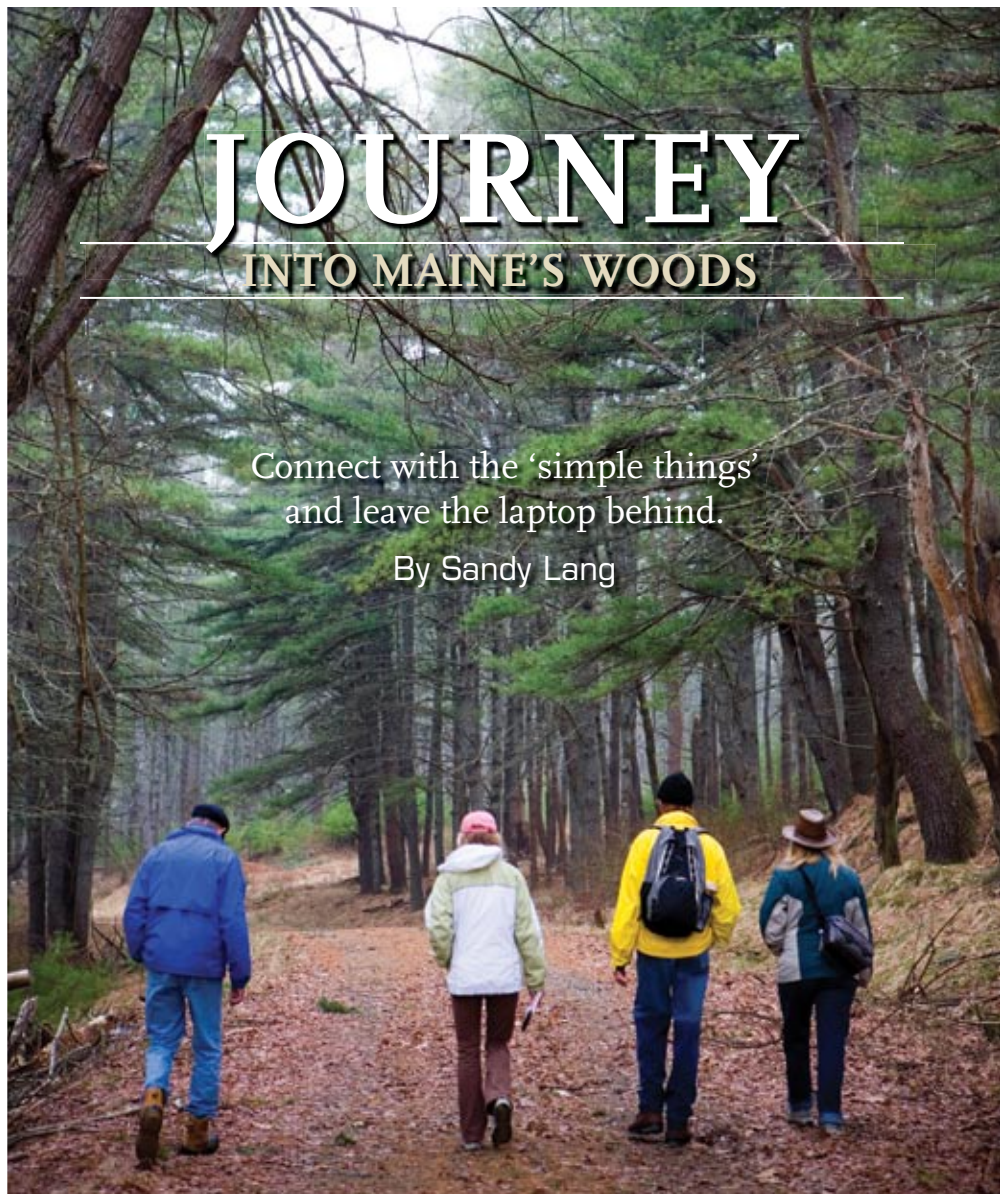
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IN DEPTH

# JOURNEY INTO MAINE'S WOODS

Connect with the 'simple things' and leave the laptop behind.

By Sandy Lang



a lot of folks come to sporting camps is the sensation of stepping back a little bit ... to have some of the experiences that Grandma and Grandpa used to have," says Steve Norris, a second-generation camp host, and a past president of the Maine Sporting Camps Association.

At the camp that he and his wife now own — the two met and fell in love while working summer jobs at his parents' lodge at Baxter State Park — Norris says guests return year after year to "enjoy the simple things, to kick their feet up on porch rail and listen to the loons."

The Norrises' place, The Pines Lodge and Camps, is a lakefront, deep-woods property that was visited by Andrew Carnegie and President Calvin Coolidge in its heyday, and includes a large, circa-1884 lodge and seven guest cabins.

The couple bring their two children with them to The Pines each summer, and they say many of their guests

where mobile phones often don't work, where a floatplane might be the best way to arrive, and where the less that

**"A prime reason why a lot of folks come to sporting camps is ... to have some of the experiences that Grandma and Grandpa used to have."**

— Steve Norris

changes from year to year, the better.

"Today, a prime reason why

are families, too. "These are parents who want to quiet things down for their kids,

It began as a quest of the wealthy leisure set, this journeying to the woods of Maine to hunt, fish, and canoe. Faded photographs and oral histories tell us that beginning in the mid-1800s, the travelers arrived by train to the Pine Tree State and then boarded boats or stagecoaches to get to remote lodges and sporting camps with names like Moosehead and Bay View.

Once at camp, they'd reel in trout, perch, pickerel, and

salmon by the birch basketful. They'd hunt for moose and bears and dine in lodges built of thick pine logs. They'd tell stories by stone fireplaces, and sleep in cabins under wool blankets.

These days, the modes of travel are different, and wild-life watching has replaced hunting in many places, but you can still find plenty of rustic sporting camps by the lakes, ponds, and mountains of Maine. These are places

## SPORTING CAMPS

### North Woods

**Bradford Camps**  
bradfordcamps.com

**Fish River Lodge**  
fishriverlodge.com

**Munsungan Hunting and Fishing Club**  
munsungan.com

### Belgrade Lakes

**Castle Island Camps**  
castleislandcamps.com

**Allagash Region Loon Lodge**  
loonlodgemaine.com

### Downeast

**The Pines Lodge and Camps**  
thepineslodge.com

For more information, contact the Maine Sporting Camp Association, 207-723-6622, mainesportingcamps.com.

are open only after ice-out, generally from May or June to September or October. Nearly all camps provide canoe and motorboat rentals and can arrange for outings with a Maine Registered Guide.

Several sporting camps are listed to the right, or contact the Maine Sporting Camp Association, P.O. Box 119, Millinocket, Maine 04462, 207-723-6622, mainesportingcamps.com.

to get them away from their computers for a while," Norris says. "You can't take it for granted that kids already have experienced things like skimming rocks across a lake, catching frogs."

According to the Maine Sporting Camps Association, camp hosts across the state still offer the hospitality and home-cooked meals of camps of years' past, but also provide an ever-growing range of

activities for guests, including hiking, mountain biking, photography trips, bird watching, moose watching (sometimes called "moose safaris"), cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, and ice fishing.

Accommodations at Maine sporting camps can be very rustic — no electricity, no telephone — or may have all the amenities of home. Some are open year-round, but many



Kayak touring through L.L.Bean

## READY, SET, AIM

Always wondered what it would be like to pull an arrow back in a bow and see if you can get near the bull's-eye? Perhaps the easiest and most risk-free way to try archery and other Maine outdoor activities is through the \$12 Walk-on Adventures at L.L.Bean.

Offered May to September, the mini-adventures in kayak touring, fly-casting, archery, and clay shooting last from 90 minutes to 2.5 hours. All adventures depart from L.L.Bean's huge Freeport retail store. No reservation needed, as participation is first-come, first-served.

For more information, 800-559-0747, ext. 37222. — SL

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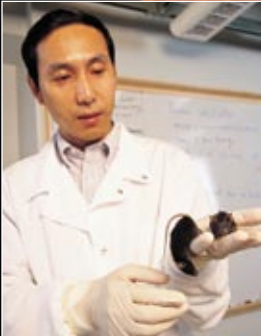
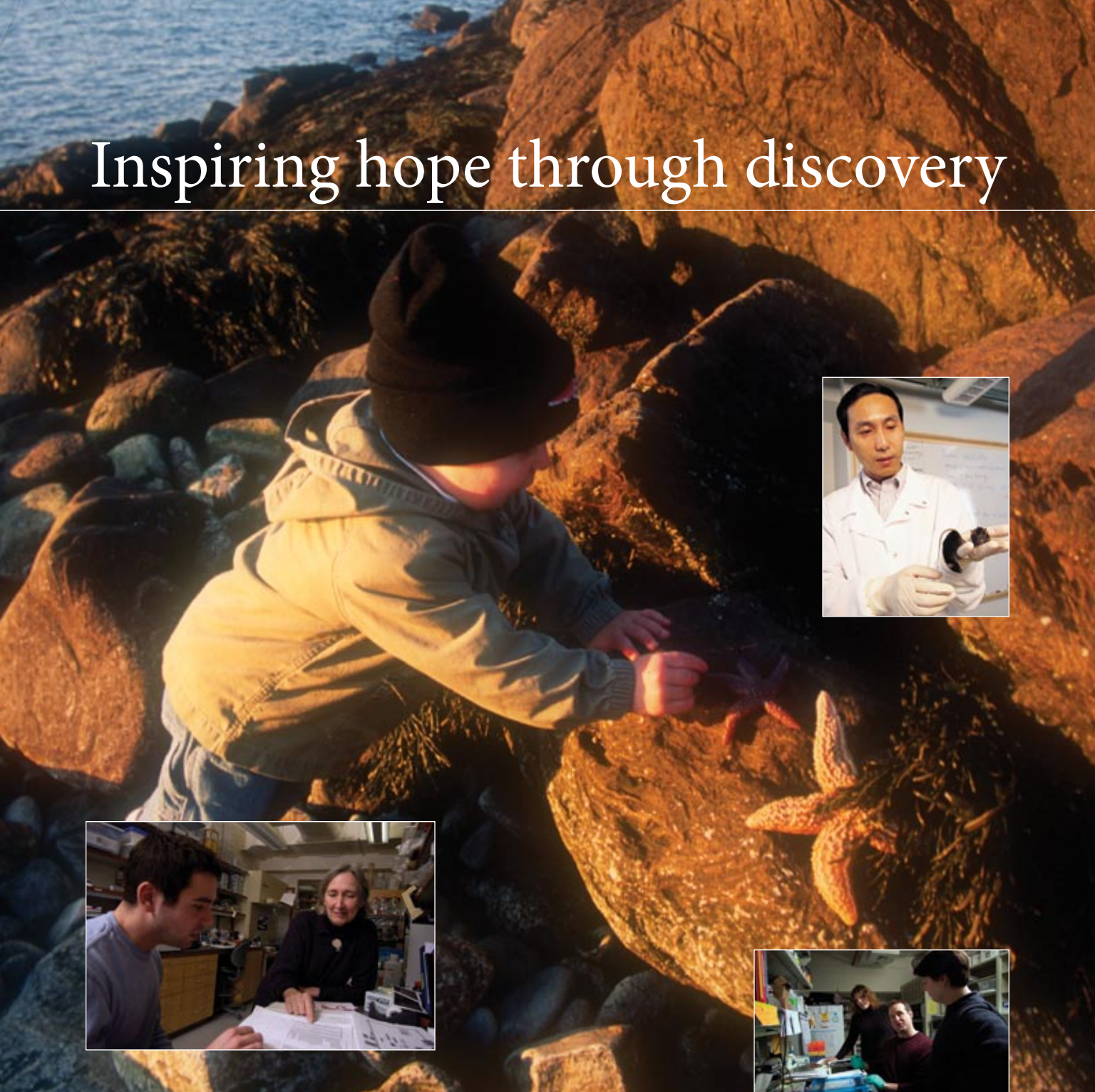
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PROFILE: *Maine*

## MAINE EMBRACES 'KNOWLEDGE-BASED' BUSINESS



### Traditional industry transforms as the Pine Tree State sparks innovation.

By Rick Ramseyer

In the fall of 2003, more than 200 workers at Biddeford Blankets in Biddeford lost their jobs when the plant closed due to overseas competition.

The following summer, Correct Building Products, a fast-growth company that since its launch in 1999 has received several state-sponsored grants, bought the 125,000-square-foot plant, spent almost \$3 million on renovations, and moved in last year. Correct Building Products, which produces composite decking materials from recycled sawdust and polypropylene, even hired some former Biddeford employees.

That switch — an innovative business replacing a traditional one — underscores a broad effort in Maine to transition from longtime industries such as papermaking, shoes, and textiles to more promising high-tech opportunities.

The Maine Technology Institute (MTI), created in 1999 to stimulate tech-driven investment, has awarded nearly \$30 million to more than 500 companies. Another program, Pine Tree Development

Zones, sparks economic growth by giving tax breaks to businesses in certain parts of Maine. The state also funds research and development at the University of Maine, a key resource for companies statewide.

"Overall the state is very supportive," says Martin Grohman, president and cofounder of Correct Building Products, a business he established seven years ago to provide a durable alternative to pressure-treated wood.

The company is growing about 30 percent per year and now has nearly 60 employees making its products for customers in the United States and abroad.

That success cheers Betsy Biemann, president of MTI, which was an early backer of Correct Building Products.

"We're helping start-up companies develop technologies and grow a new generation of employers," she says. "And we're helping traditional Maine industries to innovate to remain competitive."

In 2004, Portland-based Tex Tech Industries — a maker of tennis-ball felt, ballistics-safety materials, and specialty

fibers and fabrics — received Pine Tree Development Zone status. It used the incentives to add manufacturing equipment and hire more employees at its facility in North Monmouth, where there are now more than 250 workers.

Tex Tech has come a long way from its founding in the late 1880s as Annabessacook Mills, a woolen mill that supplied uniforms to baseball teams. Earlier this year, Tex Tech won a contract from Airbus to provide fire-barrier materials for Airbus' new and existing aircraft.

"Tex Tech has evolved from traditional textiles to high-performance materials," Biemann says. "It's stayed on the cutting edge of innovation."

Maine has invested about \$150 million in R&D since 2000, attracting an additional \$610 million in grants and other funds.

"The amount of funding the state provides is 30-fold higher than it was in the early '90s," says Janet Yancey-Wrona, director of the Maine Office of Innovation, which coordinates research investments.

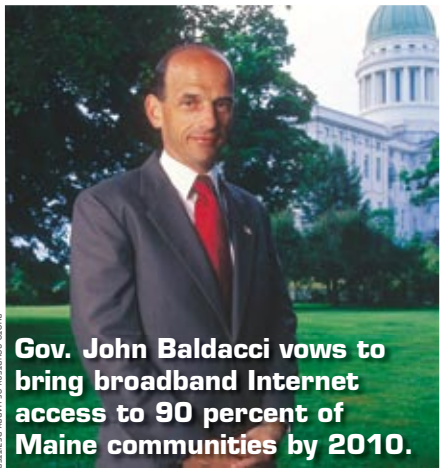
Though she'd like to see more support, Yancey-Wrona says solid infrastructure is in place. "We've made significant strides," she says, stressing that MTI-backed businesses average 11 percent job growth.

The University of Maine System is playing a significant role as well. It receives \$12 million annually from the state to seed R&D, the bulk of it destined for UMaine's Orono campus.

"We then leverage that into nearly \$50 million per year in federal grants and contracts," says Jake Ward, executive director of UMaine's Office of Research and Economic Development.

Those funds, in turn, bankroll up to 700 researchers across a host of industries, ranging from biorefinery products, composites and aquaculture to semiconductors and biomedicine. Maine, in fact, is home to Jackson Laboratory, the world's largest mammalian-genetics research institution. Located in Bar Harbor, the lab is the global source for about 3,000 strains of genetically defined mice.

Maine Gov. John Baldacci, who faced a budget shortfall when he was elected in 2002, took some heat when he pushed for R&D initiatives. "But now people are recognizing that, 'Hey, we need this more than ever,'" he says.



**Gov. John Baldacci vows to bring broadband Internet access to 90 percent of Maine communities by 2010.**

Baldacci championed the conversion in 2003 of Maine's seven technical colleges to community colleges; enrollment since the switch is up nearly 40 percent. He's also a proponent of Maine's first-in-the-nation school laptop program, which provides Apple computers to all 7th and 8th graders. In addition, he signed an executive order last year vowing to bring broadband Internet access to 90 percent of Maine communities by 2010.

"We're working towards a knowledge-based economy," he says.

## COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

Maine is home to 35 higher-education outlets. Here's a sampling of Maine's lineup:

### The University of Maine

Headquartered in Bangor, UMS has branches in Orono, Augusta, Farmington, Fort Kent, Machias, Presque Isle, and Portland — plus a law school and 11 University College regional outreach centers. [www.maine.edu](http://www.maine.edu)

### Bates College

Bates, founded in 1855 by Maine abolitionists, has long attracted students from diverse ethnic and religious backgrounds.

Lewiston, [bates.edu](http://bates.edu)

### Bowdoin College

Chartered in 1794, Bowdoin graduates include U.S. President Franklin Pierce, Nathaniel Hawthorne, and explorer Admiral Robert E. Peary.

Brunswick, [bowdoin.edu](http://bowdoin.edu)

### College of the Atlantic

At COA, all students major in human ecology, with the professional objective of helping to solve problems that challenge communities everywhere.

Bar Harbor, [coa.edu](http://coa.edu)

### Maine College of Art

Occupying three landmark buildings in Portland's Arts District, MECA offers bachelor's and master's degrees in fine arts, along with a range of continuing education classes.

Portland, [meca.edu](http://meca.edu)



PHOTO BY TONEE HARBERT, COURTESY OF MAINE COLLEGE OF ART

### University of New England

With two campuses and 3,200 students, UNE lays claim to Maine's only medical school, the College of Osteopathic Medicine. The school's Marine Science Education and Research Center is internationally renowned for its marine animal rehabilitation program.

Biddeford and Portland, [www.une.edu](http://www.une.edu)



## AQUACULTURE'S BIG CATCH

Maine's aquaculture industry, already well established with species such as Atlantic salmon and blue mussels, is gearing up for big growth. In Franklin, a Downeast community with strong ties to University of Maine aquaculture researchers, the U.S. Department of Agriculture recently established North America's largest coldwater marine finfish hatchery, which will raise species such as halibut and cod.

Sebastian Belle, the executive director of the Maine Aquaculture Association in Hallowell, pegs the industry's annual sales at \$80 million and says it's "poised for a quantum leap." — RR

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If you have ever looked out across Sebasco Harbor at Harbor Island and wondered "what is out there?" The answer could be, "home!" Sebasco Harbor Resort is making four parcels of four to seven acres available for home sites in 2006. The island has an environmentally sound development plan that includes designation of 25% of the land for conservation purposes. All lots feature a Casco Bay exposure for spectacular sunsets over water. Offered at \$695,000 - \$795,000. For more information please contact [homes@sebasco.com](mailto:homes@sebasco.com); or call us at 207-389-1161.



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And let's not forget the actual view — UNE's two campuses include a beautiful, traditional New England campus located in the waterfront city of Portland, Maine and another in Biddeford, situated directly on the ocean with dorm's-eye views of the Atlantic.

University of **NEW ENGLAND**  
BIDDEFORD AND PORTLAND, MAINE

For a more in-depth view, check out [www.une.edu](http://www.une.edu) or call 1-800-477-4UNE.

PROFILE: Maine



# BOATBUILDING

A MAINE TRADITION

Greg Danico of Atlantic Boating Company in Brooklin waxes a mold

Wood- and composite-made watercraft sales garner up to \$650 million annually for 190 companies statewide.

By Rick Ramseyer

**A**t Rockport Marine in Rockport, boatbuilders recently finished the *Godspeed*, a 74-foot replica of one of the wooden ships that in 1607 brought the first English colonists to Virginia's Jamestown settlement.

To the south, employees at Lyman-Morse Boatbuilders in Thomaston are working on the *Baraka*, a 62-foot racing-cruising sloop with a cutting-edge infused carbon-fiber hull.

In southern Maine, meanwhile, Echo Rowing in Eliot makes 18-foot shells

that sell for about \$3,500. In the heart of the state's Midcoast, Hodgdon Yachts, a fifth-generation business, produces custom-made, multimillion-dollar luxury vessels.

Those contrasts — in scope, materials, size and budget — capture the breadth of Maine's boatbuilding industry, which ranges from small shops designing dinghies to large boatyards crafting custom yachts for the likes of Jimmy Buffett, Billy Joel, and Martha Stewart.

Boatbuilding here dates back nearly

four hundred years, when the pinnacle *Virginia* was completed at the mouth of the Kennebec River. The industry has been a mainstay in Maine ever since, bolstered by a bountiful supply of timber and ready access to scenic, challenging sailing grounds off the 5,500-mile coastline. And though most boats nowadays are made with materials such as fiberglass, that sense of tradition remains.

"What's great about the boats built in Maine, and what sets them apart, is that no matter how they are constructed, they



Setting up for a hull infusion at Lyman-Morse Boatbuilders

all have within them this history, this sense of craftsmanship and skill,” says Paul Rich, president of Maine Built Boats, a nonprofit group formed in 2005 to boost the industry’s profile.

Roughly 190 companies statewide identify themselves as boatbuilders, making hundreds of watercraft per year and generating annual sales of \$600 million to \$650 million. (An estimated 450 businesses fall under the broader umbrella of Maine’s marine-trades sector, which employs 5,000. A study under way should soon provide more accurate statistics about boatbuilding’s economic might.)

“When you look at what the Dutch and New Zealanders and Italians have done in terms of boats and revenue, we’re still a small player,” says Rich. “But if you ranked us in terms of customer satisfaction, I’ll bet we’re the best in the world.”

Despite the state’s long ties to wooden boats, advances in technology have led to the use of other construction materials.

“When I started in this industry there were still a lot of wooden boats being built,” says Susan Swanton, executive director of

the Maine Marine Trade Association in Portland. “Then there was the big move to fiberglass, and now what we’re seeing is the [shift] to different kinds of composites.”

Brooklin Boat Yard, for example, on the Eggmoggin Reach in Brooklin, focuses on cold-molded, or wood epoxy, construction that creates an exceptionally light, stiff hull. The yard, founded in 1960 by Joel White, son of author E.B. White, is now run by Joel’s son Steve.

“They’ve really made a name for themselves with those projects,” Swanton says.

Some companies, of course, still have stakes in both camps. Earlier this year, Rockport Marine was completing the \$2.6 million plank-on-timber replica of the *Godspeed* in the same shop as a cold-molded schooner that’s based on a Bermudian ship from the early to mid-1800s.

“To have those types of diverse projects going on simultaneously is terrific,” says Taylor Allen, Rockport’s owner.

Moreover, a few Maine boatbuilders are tapping true state-of-the-art applications.

By midsummer, Lyman-Morse will finish the *Baraka*, a cruiser-racer with one

of the first cored carbon epoxy-infused hulls produced in the United States.

“Everybody [wants] faster, lighter, stronger boats,” says JB Turner, the company’s managing partner. “So you have to use advanced composites.”

Lyman-Morse isn’t alone. Hodgdon Yachts, which has been building ships in Maine since 1816, is working on a Special Operations craft for the U.S. Navy. Called the *Mk V.1*, the 82-foot vessel — set for launch in the fall of 2007 — will use new-age composites.

“We’ve done traditional wooden and wood-composite construction for years, coupled with reinforcement fabrics and techniques like carbon fiber,” says Tim Hodgdon, president. “But this is something brand new for us.”

Custom boatbuilders aren’t the only players making a splash. Bass Harbor-based Morris Yachts, which specializes in semi-custom fiberglass sailboats, received *Cruising World* magazine’s 2006



Unveiling *Godspeed*

Domestic Cruising Boat of the Year award for a new 42-footer that one of the judges called “absolutely awesome.”

Founder Tom Morris, echoing his Maine competitors, says quality comes down to craftsmanship.

“If you build one of our boats today,” Morris says, “five generations of your family can sail it.”

## WHEN WOOD WORKS

Ralph Stanley figures he’s built around 70 boats since 1946 — rowboats, lobster boats, and more. While designs vary, there’s one constant: They’re made of wood.

“When I started building boats, everybody was using wood,” says Stanley, 77, founder of Ralph W. Stanley Inc. in Southwest Harbor.

Times have changed, though, and most boats today are constructed with composites. Materials aren’t the only difference. “Years ago, boats were simple and plain,” he says. “Today, they’re much more complex, with...electronics and fixtures and such.”

Stanley is retiring at the end of June, but his legacy continues through his sons Edward, a naval architect, and Richard, a boatbuilder. “There’ll always be a place for wooden boats,” he says. — RR



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## [ I N D E P T H ]

# WHERE TO STAY

Several years ago, it was easy to be completely unreachable during vacations in Maine. Now even the most quaint B&Bs offer Wi-Fi access. Chain hotels are rare, though, except on the interstate. Instead, there are plenty of small, family-owned motels, B&Bs, campgrounds, cottages, and cabins. —*Sandy Lang*



The White Barn Inn

COURTESY OF THE WHITE BARN INN

## AUGUSTA AREA

**MAPLE HILL FARM BED & BREAKFAST** Perched on a hill on the site of a historic Kennebec Valley homestead, this renovated farmhouse B&B in Hallowell has a state legislator as one of its hosts. Made-to-order breakfasts with homemade specialties such as apple butter and hot biscuits, 3.5 miles from downtown Augusta. 800-622-2708, 207-622-2708, or maplebb.com

## BANGOR

**NONESUCH FARM** A restored farmhouse with a view of Six Miles Falls, this inn is known for its homemade breakfasts, fresh cut flowers, and ultra-luxurious bedding. 207-942-3631 or bangorsfirstbedandbreakfast.com

## CASTINE

**PENTAGÖET INN** Built circa 1894, a porch-wrapped inn with a dining room that features local seafood, game, and produce. Wonderful flower garden and a cozy pub, too. 207-326-8616 or pentagoet.com

## FREEPORT

**HARRASEEKET INN** A classic lodge with 23 fireplaces, a restaurant, and the popular Broad Arrow Tavern. On Condé Nast's list of "Top 50 Resorts in the United States." Four Diamond AAA rated. 800-342-6423, 207-865-9377, or harraseeketinn.com

## KENNEBUNKPORT

**THE WHITE BARN INN** Set in a seaside village, and not far from former President Bush's summer home, the circa 1860s, 25-room White Barn Inn in Kennebunkport offers fine gourmet dining (just recognized with a Mobil Five Star Award), spa treatments, and even a luxury charter yacht. 207-967-2321 or whitebarninn.com

## MILLINOCKET

**BIG MOOSE INN, CABINS & CAMPGROUND** Guest rooms, cabins, lean-tos, and tent camping on Millinocket Lake, near Baxter State Park and Mount Katahdin. 207-723-8391 or bigmoosecabins.com

## MONHEGAN ISLAND

**THE MONHEGAN HOUSE** A family guesthouse since the 1870s on an island accessible only by ferry. Dining room, library (but no television), hall baths, and guestrooms without door locks. 207-594-7983 or monheganhouse.com

## PORTLAND

**INN ON CARLETON** B&B in a restored 1869 Victorian home in the quiet Western Promenade. Chock full of antique furniture, paintings, and clocks. A short walk to the Portland Museum of Art. 207-775-1910 or innoncarleton.com

**THE EASTLAND PARK HOTEL** A high-rise on High Street in the arts and shopping district, with the city's only rooftop lounge. 888-671-8008, 207-775-5411, or eastlandparkhotel.com

## STONINGTON

**BOYCE'S MOTEL** Comfortable 1960s motel in the heart of the fishing village. Several rooms have kitchenettes (just ask if you'd like to borrow a lobster pot). 207-367-2421 or boycesmotel.com

[ I N D E P T H ]

# THE CARE UP THERE

Maine Medical Center, already the state's largest hospital with 606 beds, is in the midst of a \$100-million-plus renovation project that's set for completion by fall 2008. The project includes a helipad — a first for Portland — and a five-story birthing center and nursery.

The helipad, which will be on the roof of a parking garage about 11 stories high, should be ready for use in late 2007. Hospital officials are projecting one flight per day, the vast majority of them by the LifeFlight of Maine medical helicopter service in Bangor and Lewiston. (In 2005, LifeFlight completed an average of 83 missions monthly statewide.)

For now, trauma patients being air-transported to Portland will continue to land at the Portland International Jetport, and then be driven four miles by ambulance to Maine Med. — *Rick Ramseyer*



Maine Medical Center

US AIRWAYS

154

JUNE 2006

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HOSPITAL	FAST FACTS
<b>Maine Medical Center</b> Portland, mmc.org	606 acute-care beds. The premier referral hospital for Maine and northern New England, MMC is also a teaching hospital and an active research center.
<b>Eastern Maine Medical Center</b> Bangor, emmc.org	411 acute-care beds, 288 long-term-care beds. Part of Eastern Maine Healthcare Systems, EMMC is the first trauma center in Maine to be designated a Level II Trauma Center, making it one of only eight in New England.
<b>MaineGeneral Medical Center</b> Augusta and Waterville, mainegeneral.org	287 acute-care beds, 220 long-term-care beds. Created by the merger of Kennebec Valley and Mid-Maine medical centers.
<b>Central Maine Medical Center</b> Lewiston, cmmc.org	250 acute-care beds. A health care resource in the state's second-largest city, CMMC serves central and western Maine.
<b>St. Mary's General Hospital</b> Lewiston, stmarysmaine.com	233 acute-care, 238 long-term-care beds. The flagship facility of the Sisters of Charity Health System, St. Mary's serves the Androscoggin County area.
<b>Mercy Hospital</b> Portland, mercyhospital.com	230 acute-care beds. The city's community hospital, Mercy recently received the Governor's Award for Business Excellence. It was the first hospital to receive the award.
<b>Southern Maine Medical Center</b> Biddeford, smmctr.org	150 acute-care beds. A full-service medical center, SMMC has diagnostic and therapy centers in Saco and Kennebunk.

SOURCE FOR BED COUNTS: MAINE HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION, 2005



**AD INDEX**

- Aroostook Partnership for Progress/  
Aroostook County Tourism  
*page 138*
- BGR Bangor International Airport  
*page 141*
- Camden National Bank  
*page 145*
- Chilton Furniture  
*page 149*
- Greater Bangor Convention & Visitors Bureau  
*page 141*
- Jackson Laboratory, The  
*page 146*
- Maine & Company  
*page 137*
- Maine Made/Maine Department of  
Economic and Community Development  
*page 155*
- Maine Medical Center  
*page 155*
- Maine Office of Tourism  
*page 135*
- Mary D. and Company/Keller Williams Realty  
*page 145*
- Pierce Atwood LLP  
*page 150*
- Sebasco Harbor Resort  
*pages 148-149*
- The Maine Highlands  
*page 141*
- University of Maine  
*page 143*
- University of New England  
*page 150*

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Our overall cardiac and orthopedic services both received 5-Star ratings from HealthGrades, which ranked them in the top 10% of hospitals nationwide and number one in Maine. Within these programs, cardiology services, coronary interventional procedures, and joint replacement scored among the top 5% in the country. These ratings reflect our quality of care as a whole and more importantly, our commitment to you.

The people of Maine deserve a hospital where competence and compassion go hand in hand. And you deserve the peace of mind of knowing it's right in your own backyard—right here at Maine Medical Center.



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