

best kept secrets

**WAY
DOWNEAST
MAINE**

Saint Croix Valley



2026

FREE

St Croix Valley Chamber of Commerce

Photo by Kalleigh Deacon



International Commerce

A crossroads to grow your business

With a bustling border on the St. Croix River, Calais offers a unique opportunity for your business to build an international client base.

Whether you own an established business looking to expand its offering, or you're just breaking into an international market, the city of Calais offers the location and support to grow your business.

Quick Facts

- Over one million cars carrying 1.5 million people cross the Calais border every year
- The Calais port of entry is the eighth busiest Canada/U.S. border
- Border crossing open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

Bridging Culture and Community

We invite you to live, work and play in Calais

Rich with stunning architectural treasures, overlooking a rugged and beautiful coastline, Calais has a remarkable endowment of historical buildings, natural beauty and a friendly, welcoming community.

Calais now has fiber-optic high speed internet. The advantage of high speed internet is the ability to work from home. The small town feel with global connections.

For the outdoor enthusiast, Calais is surrounded by a wealth of natural wonders including: lakes, streams, hiking trails – perfect for fishing, hiking, paddling, biking and exploring.

Quick Facts

- Settled in 1779, incorporated as a city in 1850
- Population of 3,123; 1400 households
- Mayor/Council form of government

Education

- Calais is home to an elementary, middle and high school, as well as regional technical school and community college

Development Office:
11 Church Street, Calais, ME 04619
T: + 1 207.454.2521

Open 8am - 5pm EST, Mon-Fri

www.calaismaine.org

Calais ▪ Baring ▪ Baileyville ▪ Princeton Indian Township ▪ Pembroke ▪ Dennysville
 Grand Lake Stream ▪ Vanceboro ▪ Perry
 Robbinston ▪ Eastport ▪ Pleasant Point
 Charlotte ▪ Machias ▪ Cooper ▪ Marion
 Crawford ▪ Waite ▪ Alexander ▪ Cathance
 Meddybemps ▪ Jonesport ▪ East Machias
 Jonesboro ▪ Lubec ▪ Whiting ▪ Trescott
 Addison ▪ Columbia Falls
 Harrington ▪ Cutler ▪ Basco ▪ Northfield
 Whitneyville ▪ Wesley ▪ Brookton ▪ Cherryfield
 Columbia ▪ Danforth ▪ Deblois ▪ Milbridge
 Machiasport ▪ Marshfield ▪ Beddington
 Roque Bluffs ▪ Steuben ▪ Talmadge
 Topsfield ▪ Codyville ▪ St. Stephen
 Milltown ▪ St. Andrews
 Campobello - New Brunswick, Canada

St. Croix Valley Chamber of Commerce
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If you are interested in advertising for the 2027 season, email us!

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What to do ONGOING

CHOCOLATE MUSEUM

Hands-on exhibits, vintage chocolate boxes. Open year round, 73 Milltown Boulevard, N. Canada. Admission fee. 506-466-7848. www.chocolatemuseum.ca

THE HUNTSMAN FUNDY DISCOVER AQUARIUM

Mid May to Mid October. Open 10 to 5 daily; St Andrews, NB 506-529-1200; www.huntsmanmarine.ca

MCCURDY SMOKEHOUSE MUSEUM & ART GALLERY

June 1 opening, Lubec ME: Tours daily 11-4. Adjacent McCurdy Art Gallery: local artisans, photographers, crafters & painters. Admission FREE. www.lubeclandmarks.org

MUSIC ON THE GREEN

June to September, 6:00 pm, Tuesdays, downtown at Flat Iron Park. Weekly concert series hosted by Calais Downtown Revitalization Coalition. Admission FREE. See the facebook page for a schedule of performers.

PASSAMAQUODDY CULTURAL HERITAGE MUSEUM

Open Mon-Fri, 10-3. See artifacts of the Passamaquoddy, birch bark baskets, woven baskets, beadwork, and much more. 197 Rt 1, Princeton, ME 207-796-5533.

SEASONAL FARMERS STANDS

See listing on page 33.

ST CROIX COUNTRY CLUB & GOLF COURSE

Nine hole golf course, pro shop, full service bar, lounge and grill, youth clinics (free), and lessons. Right on the St Croix River, Rt 1, Calais, ME. Open seasonally. 207-454-8875. www.stcroixcountryclub.com

ST CROIX HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Main St, Calais, ME. Offering literature and public meetings. Open during the summer months or by appointment for tours. Admission FREE

ST CROIX INTERNATIONAL PARK

International historic site with sculptures, tours, exhibits, book sales, youth programs, restrooms, picnic areas and rudimentary boat launch. Rt 1, Calais, ME 207-288-3338. www.nps.gov/sacr

SUMMER MUSICAL CONCERT SERIES

St Stephen NB David Alison Ganong Chocolate Park. Local talent for free public concerts every Thursday night through summer months. Admission FREE.

So I go North to get Way Down East? That Seems Odd!

The term "Down East" or "Downeast" is most often defined in Maine as the eastern coastal region of the State in Washington and Hancock Counties. Way Down East would then refer to the northern most section of this area. The description leaves many visitors scratching their heads trying to figure out why the most northeastern area of the United States is referred to as Down East.

The origin of the phrase "Down East" is typically traced to nautical terminology referring to direction, rather than location. In the warm months most suitable for sailing, the prevailing winds along the coast of New England and Canada blow from the southwest, meaning ships sail downwind to go east. As such, the northeastern stretches were said to be "Down East" in relation to major western cities such as Boston. Correspondingly, sailors spoke of going "up to Boston" from Down East ports, a phrase still common in Maine, despite the fact that Boston is around fifty miles to the south of Maine. The term can be used as an adverb, adjective, or noun. The Oxford English Dictionary traces the earliest known use in print to 1825. The phrase "down-easter", meaning a person from "Down East", appeared in print in 1828.

Downeast Maine is characterized by its stunning natural beauty, including rugged rocky coastlines, charming harbors, and mountains-to-the-sea views. The area is a hub for outdoor activities like fishing, hunting, hiking, and boating. It's also known for its vibrant farming, fishing and lobster communities, as well as a thriving grass roots arts and food scene. Way Downeast Maine is within Washington County, which is referred to as the "Sunrise County" because it includes the eastern most point in the United States. The area is full of beautiful scenery, but it is also a place with a long history and a proud heritage. Living here can be a unique and exciting experience full of rural charm. Visiting here can bring tranquil peace and a chance to recharge before returning to the hustle and buslte of a busy life. The area is full of down to earth people, small town charm and a friendly community atmosphere. To experience it best you just have to put yourself out there, take part, and join in.

Welcome to Downeast Maine!



CALAIS



Calais Skatepark All are welcome - skateboards, bmx, rollerblades and scooters. Open dawn til dusk. Use at own risk - helmets recommended. Proudly built and maintained by volunteers. FMI visit: <https://www.brendanleddymemorialfund.org>



Calais Free Library 9 Union St., Calais • computer access • free wifi • summer programs • the 2nd floor children's section • book sales www.calaisfreelibrary.com

Calais Riverfront Walkway travel along the International Saint Croix River, separating Calais, Maine and New Brunswick, Canada. The 1.5-mile rail-trail marks the first mile of the East Coast Greenway, a project envisioned as a 3,000-mile off-road trail for non-motorized transportation, stretching from Calais to Key West, Florida; this section has many highlights, view some of the river's rapids; a special section located in front of the Wabanaki Cultural Museum has been dedicated to Ken Berry by the city, for his hard work and dedication to the trail; the section is lined with rose bushes and gives a close view of the old working waterfront from the past, and often views of bald eagles resting www.greenway.org/states/maine

St Croix International Historical Society was formed to preserve, protect, and promote the history of the St. Croix Valley, through literature, public meetings, participation and preservation. The Society publishes a quarterly newsletter, sells books and cards, has a large collection of photos and an extensive research library. The Society owns and maintains the Whitlock Mills Lighthouse, the Holmes Cottage and the Holmestead on Main Street, Calais. These buildings contain our artifacts collection. FMI: <https://stcroixhistorical.com/>

Thomas DiCenzo Athletic Complex 54 Calais Ave, Calais; two baseball diamonds, batting cages, tennis courts, basketball court, public playground, skatepark and Howard Fox Memorial Pool (public pool). The entire compound is located in one large squared off section.

St Croix Country Club & Golf Course US Rte 1, Calais; nine hole golf course; pro shop; full service bar; FREE youth clinics; lounge and grill; directly on St. Croix River, seasonal; FMI call (207) 454-8875 or visit www.stcroixcountryclub.com

Whitlock's Mill Lighthouse Located on the south side of St. Croix River, Calais. The lighthouse and grounds are not open to the public, but can be viewed from the St. Croix River rest area on Route 1 or be seen from the river. The lighthouse was named after Colin Whitlock, who tended the lantern before the lighthouse was built. Its location makes it the northernmost lighthouse in New England; stcroixhistorical.com/?page_id=28

Wabanaki Culture Center 39 Union St., Calais; Monday - Friday 8am - 4pm, marine touch tank, exhibitions featuring the history of St. Croix Valley and shipbuilding, Wabanaki baskets, beadwork and artwork; FMI call (207) 454-7878

State Cinema 239 Main St, Calais; watch a movie; visit www.statecinemascalais.com for a full movie listing or call (207) 454-8830



Calais Riverfront Walkway
Photo by Amie Flowers

WCCC Disc Golf Located in the middle of WCCC's campus is a 9 hole disc golf course available to the public. Course has par 3s and 4s to practice long and short distance game. Rental equipment available, including drivers, mid range discs, and putters. This course is usually open all year-round. visit wccc.me.edu/oac or call (207) 454-1060

Keenes Lake Family Campground 70 Keenes Lake Rd., Calais; (207)454-2022; open early May to late October, swim for the day, play volleyball on the beach, rent a SUP or paddleboat, offers a variety of camp sites, dog friendly, small store, offers ice, drinks, pizza, souvenirs, propane is available to fill up your tanks before you hit the road; FMI visit keeneslakecampground.com

Holmes Cottage & Museum 527 Main St., Calais • The museum is open during the summer months or by appointment • monthly presentations are given on the first Monday of the month. <http://stcroixhistorical.com>

Calais Memorial Park Located on Main St, Calais, ME 04619; a playground for younger kids, featuring Civil War monument; picnic area and gazebo; FMI visit: www.maine.gov/civilwar/monuments/calais.html



Downtown Mural by national award-winning artist Amy Bartlett Wright is courtesy of a grant received by the local food pantry from the George G Wright Endowment for the Humanities Fund. The mural includes a 30' rendition of the famous local steamship, the Rose Standish.

What to do EVENTS & FESTIVALS

JANUARY

Sardine & Maple Leaf Drop New Year's Eve celebration; music, kids crafts in Bank Square, downtown Eastport, ME; from the third story of the Tides Institute & Museum of Art; FMI visit <https://www.tidesinstitute.org/new-years-eve/>

FEBRUARY

Hearts for the Arts; An auction of heart themed artwork by local artists to benefit the Eastport ArtWalk Weekends. Reception held first weekend of February; FMI www.eastportartwalk.com

Annual Frozen Mosin midwinter shoot; Feb 15; Pleasant River Fish & Game presents the most unusual shooting event in the Northeast. Columbia; events include 100 yard rifle match, 25 yard rapid fire match, 200 yard off hand gong shoot, and surprise matches. FMI www.prfgca.org

MARCH

WCCC Annual Polar Dip is held yearly, often around the first Friday in March – the event fundraises for the Ronald McDonald House and Sarah's House of Maine. FMI see the WCCC website www.wccc.me.edu

Low Low Tides Seaweed Harvesting. A week of learning, harvesting, processing, and eating seaweed together! We will cover the ecology and biology of the seaweed ecosystem, hand-harvest techniques, regulations, drying, processing and culmination of the wild algae species that abound in our area. Workshop fees are sliding scale; FMI (207) 726-4442 | office@greenhorns.org Register at <https://greenhorns.org/lowlowtides> Mar 19-24, Apr 17-21, May 15-21, Jun 13-19, or Jul 13-18

Maine Maple Sunday Weekend is held the fourth Sunday in March. Sugarhouses across the State open to the public and hold a variety of activities. Search the web to see locations in the area with festivities planned.

APRIL

Boyden Lake Half Marathon brings together runners, walkers, and ruckers to the scenic roads surrounding Boyden Lake in Perry the first Sun in April. Organized by the Bold Coast Runners in partnership with Pottle Tree Farm, this event offers participants an opportunity to challenge themselves while supporting veterans and their families. FMI, runsignup.com/boyden-lakehalf.

Join Maine Master Naturalists as we observe a rite of Spring and watch for the **Evening Dance of the American Woodcock** and new sounds of Spring. Apr 2, 10 & 24 7 pm Meet in the upper parking lot by bathrooms. Bring a flashlight with red covers, binoculars provided, and dress warm. Walk cancelled in the event of heavy rain or snow. FMI Bill at 207-904-7023 or check Moosehorn Refuge Facebook

Low Low Tides Seaweed Harvesting, See Mar events for more info Apr 17-21, May 15-21, Jun 13-19, or Jul 13-18

Downeast Salmon Federation's Smelt Fry takes place in Columbia Falls on April 25. This popular community meal coincides with many fun and educational events, including learning about raising Atlantic salmon, the importance of marshes and river habitats, and how to tie a fly. There will be live hatchery tours, music, a touch-tank, a mobile smoker, and many other activities for the entire family to enjoy. FMI, visit mainesalmonrivers.org/annual-smelt-fry.

MAY

Community Dinner, Game Night & Fiber Circle; free home-cooked meal, games, music and fiber; First Monday of the month 5pm-8pm; FMI cobscookinsitute.org

Huntsman Marine Science Centre | Fundy Discovery Aquarium St. Andrews, NB, Canada; open for season from 10 am-5 pm daily from mid May to Oct; FMI visit www.huntsmanmarine.ca/

Low Low Tides Seaweed Harvesting, See Mar events for more info May 15-21, Jun 13-19, or Jul 13-18

Pennamaquan Alewife Festival May 23, 2025, in Pembroke from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. This free family fun features smoked fish, free lunch, biologist talks, art activities, music, and more. For more information, visit www.greenhorns.org/alewife-festival

West Quoddy Head Lighthouse Open for season Memorial Day weekend; 973 South Lubec Rd, Lubec, ME; FMI visit visitlubecmaine.com

Opening Day St Croix Island Park; Memorial Day Weekend; US Rte 1, Calais; Saint Croix Island International Historic Site, part of the National Park Service system opens for season; FMI www.nps.gov/sacr

Downeast Spring Birding Festival Memorial Day Weekend, a unique birding experience during spring migration and the breeding season with guided hikes and boat tours, Over 400 bird species have been sighted in Maine. There are a full list of events, many are free. Register to see a full list of events, times and locations call (207) 733-2233, or visit www.thecccl.org/birdfest

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Labor Day Weekend!

38th Annual Salmon & Seafood Festival

Largest Fundraiser for the Eastport Area Chamber of Commerce

Funds raised support local festivals, holiday lights, downtown beautification, and more.

visiteastport.com/salmon

There's Nothing Like a County Fair!

Washington County Fair

By Kaileigh Deacon

Way Down East in Pembroke, Maine, the Washington County Fair stands as the only fair in Washington County—and has been a treasured tradition since 1849. Nestled in the historic fairgrounds of Pembroke, this down-home style fair is as picturesque and heartwarming as a scene from a classic movie.

Perfect for a family weekend of fun, the Washington County Fair celebrates the transition from summer to fall at the end of August. The fairgrounds come alive with craft vendors offering an array of homemade goods, includ-



ing jams, soaps, and unique crafts, making it the ideal spot to prepare for the upcoming autumn season.

Across the grounds, the excitement continues with activities like the Hay Bale Obstacle Course, Skillet Toss, and Hammer Throw.

Guests can also engage in hands-on experiences, such as cider-making, watching a



blacksmithing demonstration, or enjoying live music. For equestrian enthusiasts, harness racing offers a captivating case of the agility and

speed of

driver. Looking for something even more unique? The pig scramble promises entertainment for all ages. Children race to catch piglets in a pen, and the lucky winner earns their prize—a piglet to take home!

This year, the Washington County Fair will take place on August 24 and 25, welcoming everyone to join the festivities. Thanks to the dedication of the Pembroke Trotting Association, this beloved event continues to preserve a piece of history and foster family fun in the heart of Downeast Maine.



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What to do EVENTS & FESTIVALS

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Benefit Dinner for Cobscook Bay Fish Fight May 30, 5pm Farm Tour, 6pm Dinner Join us at the timber frame kitchen at Smithereen Farm for a dinner to benefit the Cobscook Bay Fish Fight with chef La Mason of Fête. Learn more about our efforts to protect the diverse fisheries of the Cobscook Bay here. Cost: \$150 per person, 25 person limit, 767 Leighton Point Road, Pembroke

All the Fishes Concert, May 31, River Park Machias and Machias Grange Hall. Join us for an event celebrating the traditional fisheries and wild fish of Downeast Maine. Our marine economy relies on the clean cold water, productivity, biodiversity and health of this ecosystem, and it's our job to maintain it. We are hosting a FREE concert and teach-in, with local food, fish and beverages for purchase. FMI www.greenhorns.org

JUNE

Community Dinner, Game Night & Fiber Circle; free home-cooked meal, games, music and fiber; First Monday of the month 5pm-8pm; FMI cobscookinsitute.org

Summerkeys Concert; free admission; mid Jun through Aug, Wednesdays, 7:30 pm; Congregational Christian Church, Lubec; www.summerkeys.com

Beginner Hand-Built Garden Pottery Class Mondays in Jun, 6-8 pm, Unleash your creativity and add a touch of magic to your garden; register at cobscookinsitute.org

Rhubarb Festival is celebrated annually on the first Saturday in Jun at Kendall Farm, 20 Kendall Land, Perry. Demos on planting and caring for rhubarb and it's versatility in food and drink, Local vendors, music, kids' games, a rhubarb tasting table, crust making, and all things "rhubarb" are celebrated FMI, visit kendallfarmcottages.com

Down East Hospice Volunteers Annual Race (cobscook Bay Road Races) held each year the first Sunday of Jun - run, walk or stroll; 10K / 5 K; one mile fun run - kids ten and under; FMI call (207) 214-2877 or emaucicette90@gmail.com; register: www.cobscookbayroadraces.org

Orange River Community Paddle, Jun 13 Join local conservation partners for a paddling celebration, lunch, and hike on the Orange River in Whiting. More information at mcht.org.

Low Low Tides Seaweed Harvesting, See Mar events for more info Jun 13-19, or Jul 13-18

St Croix Idol, Mondays Jun 15-Aug 3, 6 pm, Flat Iron Park Calais. After a standout first year filled with impressive local talent and incredible community support, St. Croix Idol is coming back even bigger. The 2nd Annual St. Croix Idol takes the stage celebrating music, community spirit, & hometown stars from across the St. Croix Valley.

Wings & Wheels - Airplane & Car Show, All day Saturday Jun 20 at Eastport Municipal Airport. Fun for all ages, FMI visit @EastportAirport on Facebook

Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge's Annual Childrens Fishing Derby; Jun 13, 10 am-12 pm, Cobscook Bay State Park; prizes, family fun, food, drinks and even some fishing supplies. FMI www.fws.gov/refuge/mossehorn

Spring Clean-up in Grand Lake Stream Jun 13, 8:30 am – 2 pm. Celebrate spring by helping pick up trash along the roads and trails. Gloves, trash bags, water and lunch included. FMI visit info@downeastlakes.org

Margaretta Days Festival, is held annually on the 3rd Fri/Sat in June and commemorates the Battle of the Margaretta as the first Naval Battle of the American Revolution. The event demonstrates life as it was in the colonial era, using reenactment and demonstrations. Also taking place as part are artisan and food vendors, exhibits, and more. Hosted by the Machias Historical Society, the festival is free to the public. FMI, visit machiashistoricalsociety.com.

Intermediate Pottery Class: Wednesdays in Jun, 6 pm, register at cobscookinsitute.org

Bay of Fundy International Marathon Jun 21. FMI visit www.bayoffundymarathon.com

ATV Jamboree Jun 26-27; 9am - 8pm; Machias, ME; craft fair, food vendors, benefit ride for The Ark Animal Shelter in Cherryfield, live band; Middle River Park. FMI www.machiasatvjamboree.com/

DownEast Pride, June 28-29, Events in Eastport all day Saturday, and Lubec all day Sunday. Rainbow themed art activities, craft vendors, live music, and the "Curbside Queens" drag show. FMI: www.downeastrainbowalliance.com

JULY

St Croix Idol, Mondays Jun 15-Aug 3, 6 pm, Flat Iron Park in Calais. After a standout first year filled with impressive local talent and incredible community support, St. Croix Idol is coming back even bigger. The 2nd Annual St. Croix Idol takes the stage on celebrating music, community spirit, and hometown stars from across the St. Croix Valley.

The Eastport Arts Center presents:
Eastport Artfests
eastportartfests.org

DOWNEAST RAINBOW ALLIANCE
downeast pride
Sunday June 28 Eastport

Mermaid Ball July 31
Festival & Parade Aug 1
Mermaid Festival

Witches of Eastport
Saturday Oct 31st
Festival, Pumpkin Derby, Witches Parade & Haunted Ball!

Passamaquoddy Days

By Kaileigh Deacon

Along the Maine coast, where Canada meets the United States, lies Passamaquoddy Bay. Just before crossing the causeway into Eastport, visitors pass Sipayik—the Pleasant Point Reservation. Each year, on the second weekend of August, the waterfront at Sipayik comes alive as the community welcomes all to celebrate Passamaquoddy heritage and history. The celebration begins the preceding Wednesday with the Ancestors



Paddle, a powerful journey that starts at the Indian Township bridge and follows the St. Croix River down to Passamaquoddy Bay.

Passamaquoddy Days is a vibrant celebration of living history that invites both tribal and non-tribal members to take part in a meaningful and inclusive weekend. Throughout the event, attendees have the opportunity to experience and learn about Passamaquoddy culture through traditional dances, artwork displays, drumming, and ceremonial practices. The weekend

also features local vendors, live art demonstrations, and fire-

works, creating an atmosphere that is both festive and culturally rich. Beyond the entertainment, Passamaquoddy Days serves as an important opportunity to honor, preserve, and share the enduring history of the Passamaquoddy people along the Maine coast. In 2026, the celebration marks its 60th anniversary, highlighting decades of community, tradition, and cultural pride.

Summerkeys Concert; free admission; mid Jun through Aug, Wednesdays, 7:30 pm; Congregational Christian Church, Lubec; www.summerkeys.com

Community Dinner, Game Night & Fiber Circle; free home-cooked meal, games, music and fiber; First Monday of the month 5pm-8pm; FMI cobscookinsitute.org

Canada Day Jul 1; celebrations St Stephen NB – beginning at 8am; at the waterfront; farmers market, water inflatables for kids, live music, cake.

Eastport 4th & Homecoming; Jul 1 - 5, Eastport, Maine; art, music, food vendors, fireworks, 7 mile race, sail boat, bike and Cod races; Admission FREE; FMI call (207) 853-7076 www.eastport4th.com

Machias 4th Jul 4; Machias, Maine; parade at 6 p.m. followed by fireworks at the dike

Independence Day GLS; Jul 4, DLLT, race for Grand Lake Stream, 3 mile foot

race, beginning at the shores of Big Lake, and ending in the village; afternoon parade, and then grab a tube and float down the river. FMI visit info@downeastlakes.org

Crush Cancer 5K Sat Jul 11; Jonesboro, hosted by Jonesboro Grange. Craft-fair, kids fun run, raffle, spaghetti dinner. More info at <https://runsignup.com/Race/ME/Jonesboro/CRUSHCancer5kWalkRun>, or email crushcancer@outlook.com

Low Low Tides Seaweed Harvesting, See Mar events for more info Jul 13-18

Loon Count w/ Maine Audubon Society; Third Sat of Jul, 7am, West Grand Lake. FMI on helping: conserve@maineaudubon.org

Puckerbrush Primitive Gathering; Third weekend of Jul; Pleasant River Fish & Game Conservation Assoc, Columbia; celebration of traditional archery, bushcraft, art, outdoors, and ancestral skills; “hands on” event, kids encouraged to get their hands

dirty; food options available. Bring a musical instrument for afterward! FMI <https://www.prfgca.org>

Grand Lake Stream Folk Art Festival; Jul 25-26; Grand Lake Stream, Maine; music, folk art, crafts, activities; FMI call (207) 796-8199 or visit <https://grand-lakestream.org/events>.

Campobello Island Fog Fest Jul 29-Aug 2; Campobello, NB. Five days free music performances, art and cultural events. Admission FREE; FMI visit <https://campobellofogfest.org>

Mermaid Festival; Jul 31-Aug 1; Celebrate our creative connection to the sea. Mermaid Ball at the Eastport Arts Center on Friday evening. Float making, art activities, live music, and the Mermaid Parade all day Saturday.. FMI: www.eastportartfests.org

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GRAND LAKE STREAM



The reflection of celebration at Grand Lake Stream.

Photo by Julie Keyes

Little Falls Recreation Area Located two miles southeast of town, accessed by Water Street; public access area managed by Maine IF&W, and provides great access to the stream to fish

Middle Walk & Childrens Canal A wooded walkway alongside the canal; each year the canal is stocked with brook trout for children's fishing only (15 and under)

Tennis, Pickleball & Basketball Courts located off of Milford Road (before you get into town); open to the public, visit the GLS Chamber of Commerce website FMI: grandlakestream.org

Downeast Land Lakes Trust has eleven water-accessed sites on several area lakes and streams. Two sites on Rolfe Brook are drive-up only, about four miles west of town, both are available for day-use and camping. Each site has a privy and picnic tables. Camping at DLLT sites is free, available on a first-come basis; three -night maximum stay. Campfires are allowed with a permit from the Maine Forest Service at (207) 827-1800.

Geocaching the DLLT Geocache Challenge consists of 25 geocaches placed in different areas throughout the Downeast Lakes Community Forest; sites highlight the local history, ecology, and geology of the Grand Lake Stream region. Find the list under the title "dlltgeochallenge" by visiting www.geocaching.com

Swimming available at the town beach, located off of Shaw Street

Fishing & Hunting a destination for fishing and hunting since the first "sports" hired Passamaquoddy guides in the 1800s. The Community Forest is open to the public and adheres to all federal and state laws. Regulations and licenses are available online or at the Pine Tree Store. Find a Registered Maine Guide to lead your next adventure at grandlakestreamguides.com

Historic Museum Open Sundays or by appointment. Memorial Day to Labor Day 1-3 pm

Fish Hatchery Operated by Maine IF&W, the Grand Lake Stream Fish Hatchery was established in 1936. Call (207) 796-5580 to schedule a tour.

Fly fishing West Grand Lake has more than 14,000 acres of clear stream-fed waters. It has been regulated as fly fishing only since 1903 and the salmon for which it's famous follow the smelt up river each spring, in waters that anglers dream about. Of course, there are other lakes as well, including Big Lake and Love Lake, where trout, bass and togue are plentiful. Hire a fishing guide to help you improve your casting and find the best spots.

Hiking and Camping There are an abundance of hiking trails, day use and camping areas in Grand Lake Stream. See the Trails and Camping sections for more information.



Since 1941, Downeast Credit Union has proudly supported **Maine communities**—building **trust**, strengthening local **relationships**, and putting people **first**. Our **award-winning culture**, recognized as a *Best Place to Work in Maine* for nine consecutive years, reflects our **commitment** to our **team**, **members**, and **communities**.

If you're looking for a **trusted financial partner**—or a place to **grow your career**—we invite you to consider Downeast Credit Union & Insurance.

Local. Loyal. Where you belong.

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Pocomoonshine Lake Boat Launch from Calais go north on US Route 1/US-1 N towards Baileyville; continue to follow US-1 N, pass through the roundabout, (9.15 miles), turn slight left onto S Princeton Rd., (2.30 miles), S Princeton Rd becomes Woodland Rd. (2.13 miles), Woodland Rd becomes Lake Rd., (0.34 miles), Pocomoonshine Lake Boat Launch; your destination is just past Seamans Rd. If you reach Shore Dr you've gone about 0.1 miles too far.

Lawrence Lord Old Farm Museum 1260 Airline Road, Alexander; two barns full of unique and interesting farm tools, lanterns, wagons and antiques; farm museum is open by chance, and a suggested donation of \$5 is always nice. If you are interested in this unique museum visit Lawrence Lord & Sons Inc (next door) or call (207) 454-2612

Pleasant Lake Campground 371 Davis Rd, Alexander, 04694; swim area / beach; FMI check Facebook page

Passamaquoddy Cultural Heritage Museum 197 Rte 1, Princeton, Maine; open Mon - Thurs, 10am - 3pm; see artifacts of Passamaquoddy, birch bark baskets, woven baskets, beadwork and much more.

Woodland Parks and Recreation Department part of the town of Baileyville - offers a variety of activities for children and adults. Tennis, pickle ball and basketball courts, softball and baseball fields can all be found around town. FMI see the Facebook page.



ART TRAIL 70 Barrows Lake Road, Alexander, features a large, hand-carved, outdoor sculpture collection; For more information look up the Alexander Art Trail on Facebook or www.arttrail.net

Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge is a northern treasure in the National Wildlife Refuge System at 103 Headquarters Rd, Baring. It consists of nearly 30,000 acres of federally protected lands. The refuge provides nesting, feeding and breeding habitats for many different species, from tiny golden crowned kinglets to black bears and bobcats. Visitors can enjoy the refuge by car, foot, bike or horseback. A large portion of the refuge is a designated wilderness area, and provides an escape from the chaos of modern life. Hiking trails provide access to remote areas of the refuge. See the Trails section or website for more info. <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/moosehorn>



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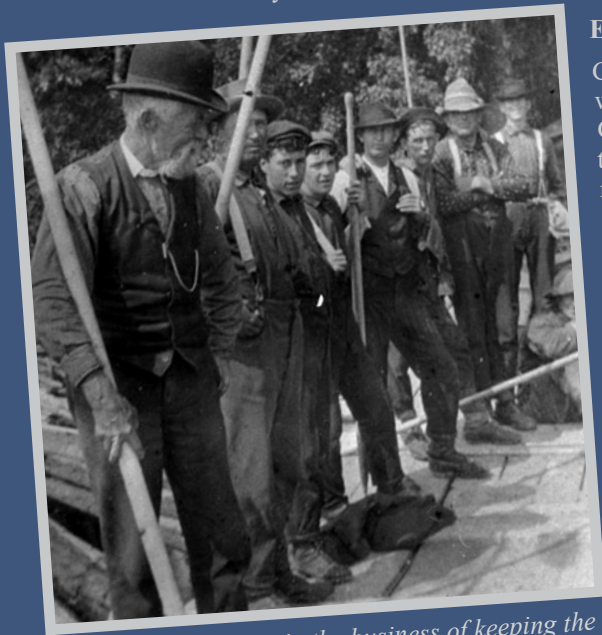


Photo courtesy of St Croix Historical Society

Let's Talk History - Calais Logging Heritage

Originally published by Wild Maine at www.WildMaine.com. Republished with permission.

There's a certain quiet resolve to standing on the banks of the St. Croix River in Calais, Maine, where the international border with Canada feels as close as the next ripple in the water. This isn't the dramatic coastline of Acadia or the towering peaks of Katahdin, but a place where history flows like the river itself—steady, unyielding, and deeply tied to the wild woods that surround it. Founded in the late 18th century, Calais embodies Maine's logging legacy, from colonial settlements to the booming lumber industry that fueled shipbuilding and economic growth well into the 20th century. As you wander its streets, lined with Victorian homes and old mills, you can't help but feel the pull of those bygone days, when the river ran thick with timber and the air buzzed with the ambition of early Mainers.



These log-drivers are in the business of keeping the logs moving down the St. Croix. Their stoic expressions are understandable as log driving was one of the most dangerous professions of the time. Overly difficult log jams often called for someone to climb across the logs and manually loosen them. Photo courtesy of St Croix Historical Society.

Early Settlement and Colonial Roots

Calais, pronounced "CAL-iss" by locals, traces its origins back to 1779 when it was first settled as Plantation Number 5. Nestled in Washington County on the St. Croix River, about 90 miles northeast of Bangor, the town was strategically positioned at the head of tidewater, making it a natural hub for trade and transportation. Early inhabitants, many fleeing the turmoil of the American Revolution, were drawn to the area's abundant natural resources—dense forests of pine, spruce, and hemlock that promised livelihoods in logging and milling.

In those colonial days, the river served as a vital artery, connecting inland wilderness to coastal markets. Settlers built simple sawmills along the banks, harnessing water power to process timber for homes, ships, and export. The town's name, inspired by the French port of Calais, reflects the influence of European explorers and Acadian refugees who passed through, adding layers to its cultural tapestry. Historical markers around downtown Calais, like the Calais Historic District listed on the National Register of Historic Places, offer glimpses into this era—think Federal-style buildings that whisper stories of hardy families braving harsh winters and forging communities from the frontier.

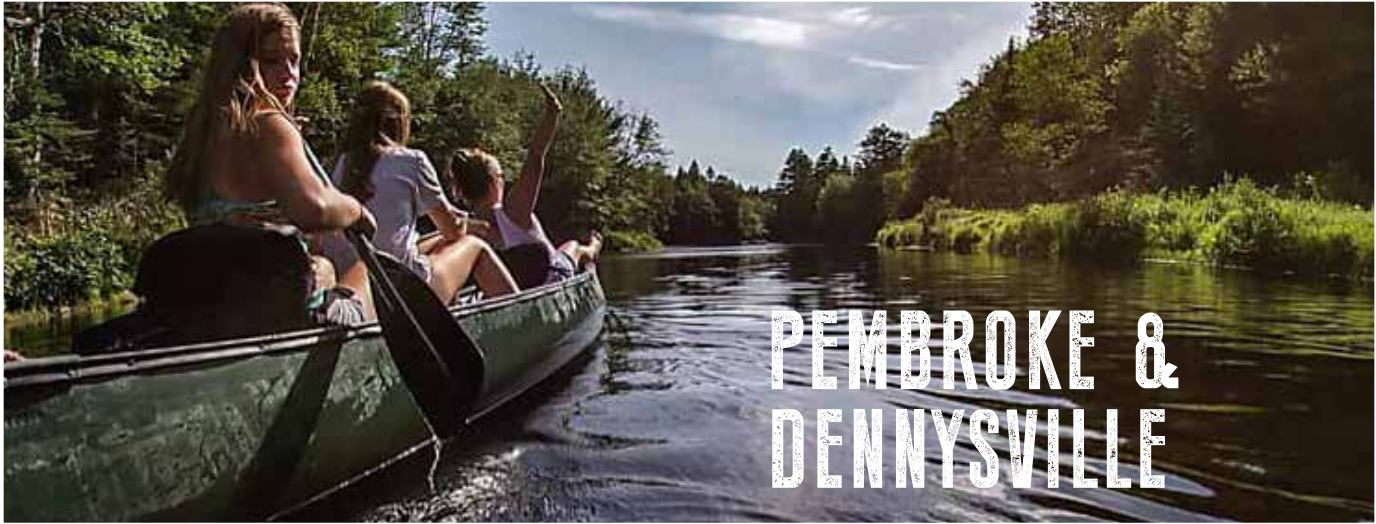
One practical tip for visitors: Start your exploration at the St. Croix International Historic Site, just across the river in St. Stephen, New Brunswick (bring your passport for the quick border crossing). It's a joint U.S.-Canadian effort highlighting the shared history, with exhibits on early trade routes that set the stage for the lumber boom.

The Lumber Boom of the 19th Century

By the mid-1800s, Calais had transformed into a powerhouse of the lumber industry, riding the wave of America's insatiable demand for

timber. The St. Croix River became a superhighway for log drives, with millions of board feet floating downstream each spring thaw. Lumber barons like Jonathan Delesdernier and later figures such as the Todd family amassed fortunes, building grand mansions that still stand today as testaments to their success.

Imagine the scene: Rivermen, clad in wool and wielding peaveys, guiding massive rafts through rapids and eddies. The air would have been thick with the resinous scent of pine, mingled with the shouts of workers and the crack of axes. At its peak in the 1870s,



Complimentary canoes are provided at Robinson's Cottages to enjoy the Denny's River

Smithereen Farm 4 Leighton Point Rd, camping accommodations, pick berries at the farm, join a seminar or event or check out their website for more information greenhorns.org or email office@greenhorns.org



Lincoln Memorial Library 17 King St, Dennyville, hours: Mon: 4-7, Tue: 1:30-4, Fri: 1:30-4; FMI call (207) 726.4750

Dennys River from the outflow of Meddybemps Lake in Meddybemps, the river runs about 23 miles southeast and east to Dennyville; where it becomes tidal and soon joins the Hardscrabble River estuary to form Denny Bay. An Etchemin tribe arrived first by coming up the winding Denny River from the coast and set up camp on shore, west of the rapids.

Reversing Falls is an unusual phenomenon on the coast, whirlpools, and turning tides in Pembroke, Maine. The walking trail begins at the eastern parking lot, continues along the wooded shore, two spur paths lead off the trail onto peninsulas that provide varying views of the falls and a panorama of Cobscook Bay. Directions: Take Route 1 to Pembroke; turn east onto the extension of Route 214, (immediately beside the construction spot of the new Freshies); turn right at the stop sign, take an immediate left up a small hill onto the Leighton Point Road; continue 3.3 miles, then turn right onto Clarks Road; continue for 1.2 miles; at the end of Clarks Road, turn left onto a dirt road and continue for 1.5 miles to the parking area.

Atelier LaForest Gallery located at 3 Cemetery Rd, Dennyville, the building boasts a beautiful gallery space. For info on upcoming exhibitions or to see the in house collections email melindajaques620@gmail.com.

Patrick Lake Boat Landing Picnic area (for day use only) and privy at Patrick Lake; take coastal US Rte 1; turn right on Route 86 at the Denny's River, follow the winding road, and Patrick Lake is on the right.

Sawyer Observatory America's most easterly observatory; several different types of telescopes including reflectors and refractors; FMI email [Charlie Sawyer csawyer7@roadrunner.com](mailto:Charlie.Sawyer@roadrunner.com)

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Smithereen Farm. Photo by Rinne Allen

Farmers Markets

Calais C&E Feeds 482 North St, Open daily 8 am-5pm. We work closely with Washington County farmers and artisans to provide you with the best Maine made products. Our community market boasts the largest selection of local produce and meats in Calais.

Pembroke Smithereen Farmstore 12 Little Falls Rd, May 1–Oct 1, check website for up-to-date hours. Offering hundreds of local food items produced in Washington County, including fresh produce grown on our super diverse saltwater farm and our value-added products. Enjoy organic produce, baked goods, frozen meats, seafood, prepared meals, cheeses, wine, beer, and more!

Eastport Saturdays, 11am-1pm in the Port Authority Parking Lot

Lubec: “the Easternmost market in the U.S.A.,” every Saturday, May - Oct; 10 am - noon; Lubec Community Outreach Center, 44 South St, Lubec

Machias Valley, May - Oct; Fridays, 9 am-2 pm perennial plants, seafood, a food truck, wild blueberries, mixed produce.

Milbridge 29 Main St (Camden National Bank parking lot on Route 1) 04658 • every Saturday 9 am - 12 pm

Franklin open Late July - early October, every Saturday, 9 am - 1 pm, 33 Blackwood Road (Rt. 182)

MACHIAS



Mahoney Gaming Emporium 4 Main St, Suite 2, Machias; a public space to utilize board games (free), shop for Magic, Star Wars Legion and Dungeons & Dragons or Pokemon official cards and events; get lessons on gaming or meet people with like interests, FMI call (207)814-8112 www.mahoneysgamingemporium.com

Wild Blueberry Land 1067 US Hwy 1, Columbia Falls; Wed-Sun, 9am-2pm; museum and shop; FMI visit <http://www.wildblueberryland.com>

Sunrise Canoe and Kayak guided trips on the Machias River; Maine master guides, 20+ years experience; custom itineraries available for large groups; delivery system for canoes and kayaks to numerous lakes, rivers and bays of the region; St Croix River expeditions are also available; they have a base camp at Cathance Lake; call (207) 255-3375 or visit www.sunrisecanoeandkayak.com or www.sunriseexpeditions.com

Historic Railroad Station 2 Kilton Ln, Machias; historic railroad station near the junction of Court and Main Streets; built in 1898; one of five surviving stations built by the ambitious but unsuccessful Washington County Railroad. The station is used as a visitor center and community meeting space.



Bad Little Falls Park bridge and platform over Machias river, overlooking waterfall; short path; Machias grange; open year-round at the intersection of Rtes 1 & 192 www.downeastfisheriestrail.org

Porter Memorial Library 92 Court Street, Machias; public hours: Tues – Fri, 10am to 5 pm; Sat 10 am - 1 pm; www.porter.lib.me

Burnham Tavern dates back to the American Revolution; filled with artifacts; the Daughters of the American Revolution give tours; call for reservations



Pictured above is the sandy beach of Roque Bluffs State Park

Photo by Jessica Griffin

Roque Bluffs State Park 274 acres on Schoppee Point (south of Machias); coast of the Atlantic Ocean; 274-acre state park overlooks Englishman Bay from Schoppee Point and includes 60-acre Simpson Pond and six miles of walking trails; inspect glacial striations attesting to the Ice Age history of the Maine coast. The park is managed by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry.

Roque Bluffs Community Center Roque Bluffs; all are welcome; some programs you'll find at the community center are Barre Workout, Line Dancing, Yoga, watercolor painting, and photography. During the year the organization also hosts an Annual Quilter's Show in June, Artists and Crafters shows, and gallery exhibits. FMI see the Facebook page or call Bob McCollum – bob81848@msn.com or 207-263-8579

Hickey Island Located near the entrance to Little Kennebec Bay, Hickey Island is a quiet 12 acre oasis of open meadows, rocky shoreline, and gravel beaches. Visitors to the island typically come ashore on the northern gravel beach.

MACHIASPORT

Jasper Beach Machiasport; rocky shoreline; singing rocks, since (they create a melodic tone when the tides move); the beach is backed by fresh and saltwater lagoons and a salt marsh

Gates House 344 Port Road (Maine State Route 92), Machiasport; museum built in 1807; listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1975; FMI <https://www.machiasporthistoricalsociety.org>

Fort O'Brien State Historic Site Machiasport; constructed in 1775, the fort is open to the public as a state park during the summer months; overlooks the site of the first naval battle of the Revolutionary War, June 12, 1775, between the British armed schooner *Margaretta* and the colonist's sloop *Unity*, which emerged victorious.

JONESBORO

A town in Washington County, incorporated on March 4, 1809; previously known as Chandler's River. Hannah Westin, and her sister, carried 50 pounds of lead through the woods from Jonesboro to Machias to support the effort to capture the British vessel *Margaretta* in 1775.

Barren View Golf Course Jonesboro, Maine (Machias Bay area); nine-hole, par 35 course plays to 5,622; driving range, putting green, practice sand trap, Pro Shop, snack bar, electric carts; late April – Nov. 1st; FMI call (207) 434-6531

Hatch Knoll Farm 29 Hatch Knoll Rd., Jonesboro, Maine; a small diversified family farm specializing in award winning Goat Milk Cheese, Blueberries, Pasture raised meats; open by chance, baby goats, and home to Garden Side Dairy and Woodland Oasis Camping; FMI call (207) 434-2674



JONESPORT

A fishing town neighboring Beals Island, Jonesport offers quiet nature trails and scenic vistas complete with colorful lobster boats bobbing in the harbor. Jonesport stakes its claim as home to the world's fastest lobster boats. The Annual Lobsterboat Races are posted in the calendar of events. Ask the locals to tell you about Tall Barney, one of the town's colorful characters, perhaps on a local boat tour charter. There is also a public boat launch if you wish to ply the waters of Moosabec Reach yourself. Drone photo by Laurie Churchill

Downeast Institute Black Duck Cove, Great Wass Island; Year-round (M-F 9-3); Since 1987, the Downeast Institute for Applied Marine Research and Education has worked with fishermen to enhance populations of marine species that sustain the Downeast Maine economy. With

sters, all in partnership with fishermen and growers. Tour the hatchery or learn how the Institute engages students of all ages in their work at the annual Shellfish Field Day. FMI call (207) 497-5769 or visit www.downeastinstitute.org



Kyle Pepperman gives tours of the institute, shown here is where they grow the algae to feed shellfish. DEI uses various different methods to circulate water and feed the young clams, oysters, mussels, and scallops.

origins in the development of methods to raise and grow soft-shell clams, the Downeast Institute for Marine Research and Education has provided juvenile or "seed" clams to replenish clam flats in more than 60 Maine coastal towns and has expanded to study hard clams (quahogs), European oysters, Arctic surf clams, sea scallops, and lob-

Maine Coast Sardine History Museum- Jonesport; open from the third Sunday in June through Sept; Tues through Fri and Sat from 12 - 4 pm.

Jonesport Historical Society Sawyer Building at 21 Sawyer Square; open to visitors from May to Oct; discover the history of the area; FMI call (207) 497-3003 or email jonesporthistoricalsociety@peabody.lib.me.us



The Scissor Wall is a tribute to all of the sardine packers, originals used by the ladies in the factory, with their names displayed.

LUBEC & CUTLER



Perched atop the rocky black cliffs of the bold coast, *Quoddy Head State Park*
Photo by Nicole Michaud

16 Loon Lane,
Lubec Maine 04652
207-214-5653
www.westquoddygifts.com

Stockford Park is a park located on Lower Water Street. The park features a stage, the “Beyond the Horizon” sculpture by Valerian Jikia, a picnic area and a view of Campobello Island, NB. Free concerts are held during the summer. FMI see the Facebook page.



Lost Fisherman’s Memorial The names of the lost fishermen are honored on the park’s Wave sculpture created by Jesse Salisbury. Lost fishermen who perished in the waters of Washington County, Maine or Charlotte County, New Brunswick, or fishermen that lived in those two counties and were lost in other waters while fishing are displayed. The list also includes those lost since the year 1900.

*Little River Light Station, Cutler, ME;
American Lighthouse Foundation photo*

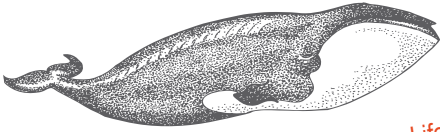


Gateway Campobello Island International border crossing; the largest and only inhabited island in Campobello, New Brunswick, Canada. The island was originally settled by the Passamaquoddy Nation, who called it Ebaghuit. It’s only highway, Route 774, is connected by the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Bridge to Maine – the easternmost town in the continental United States. The only transportation link with the rest of Canada is a seasonal ferry service to Deer Island Point, New Brunswick.

Mowry Beach Take U.S. Route 1 to Lubec village, bearing right on Washington St, take third right onto Pleasant St. (just before the International Bridge) and continue to the end (0.3 mile) to the beachside parking lot and trailhead; 48-acre Mowry Beach Preserve; convenient public access to one of the easternmost sandy beaches in the country. Situated along the edge of the village; this location protects 1,800 feet of shoreline along a 1.2 mile beach overlooking Lubec Channel and Campobello Island. Within the inland portion of the preserve, a 1,700 foot wooden boardwalk passes through coastal-scrub woodland and skirts a sphagnum bog and cattail swamp. Along the lower portions of the beach at low tide, the remains of ancient tree stumps can be seen indicating the location of a primeval forest. This preserve was acquired with the support of the Land for Maine’s Future program in 2004.

Little River Lighthouse Cutler, Maine; FMI visit www.littleriverlight.org/

See the Trails and Camping sections as well for many other points of interest in these towns.



Canadian Whale Institute Marine Life Interpretation Centre on Mulholland Point, Campobello Island; education on North Atlantic right whale biology, research and conservation, as well as local marine life on the Bay of Fundy shore.

Mulholland Point Lighthouse 1B4, Narrows Rd, Welshpool, NB, Canada; built in 1885, Mulholland Point Lighthouse overlooks the narrow Lubec Channel between Lubec and Campobello

Carriage Roads & drives a variety of scenic views; bike along: soft and hardwood forests, salt water coves, sand and gravel beaches, cliffs, offshore islands, and an array of migratory birds and wildlife. Vegetation is allowed to remain close to the road to retain the original character of the drives. Please note the carriage roads are not suitable for campers, buses, or recreational vehicles.



CAMPOBELLO

Roosevelt Campobello International Park NB, Canada; park is open May-Oct. The park is a singular example of international cooperation - jointly administered, staffed, and funded by the peoples of Canada and the United States. Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt's magnificent summer home is preserved here in a combination indoor museum and outdoor nature park.

Sunsweep sculpture along the Raccoon Beach trail; aligned to trace the sun's path; only three in the world, spanning across North America; all three carved from a single slab of polished Canadian black granite, all three laser etched, an image of a woman's hand (traced by concentric rings fanning to resembling a topographical chart,

each ring becoming more circular to form a perfect circle with the last ring); along the Raccoon Beach trail; Roosevelt Campobello International Park's Sunsweep sculpture features an arc of polished granite truncated with a rough granite edge at the high point of the arc, which faces inland. Sculptor, David Barr John 1939-



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East Quoddy Lighthouse Head Harbour (or East Quoddy) Lighthouse, built 1829; accessible by land (only at or near low tide) by a road between the north end of the island and Wilson's Beach. The first lighthouse constructed in New Brunswick outside of the Saint John Harbour; provides a daymark for navigating the St. Andrew's portion of the Bay of Fundy; various steam whistles, signal guns, and lamps to help aid navigation; the oldest surviving lighthouse in New Brunswick; received classified status from the Federal Heritage Building Review Office

What to do SUMMER CAMPS

CALAIS RECREATION DAY CAMP from 7:30 am - 4:30 pm for ages 6 years and up; weekly fee; includes swim lessons; and field trips and other activities. FMI call (207) 454-2761 or email calaisrec@calaismaine.org

DOWNEAST LAKES LAND TRUSTS CHILDREN'S AND FAMILY PROGRAMS happening all summer long, events vary each year. Past events have included camping, tours, crafts, geocaching, and many more public events in the 57,703-acre Downeast Lakes Community Forest. Stay tuned to www.downeastlakes.org, and follow Downeast Lakes Land Trust on social media for further details. To register for an event or FMI, email info@downeastlakes.org, or call (207) 796-2100

UNIVERSITY OF MAINE 4-H CAMP & LEARNING CENTERS at Bryant Pond and Greenland Point coed; resident; many different types of camps such as leadership, woodcraft, wilderness survival, art exploration, aqua adventure, naturalist, warden, fishing, conservation, science adventure, hooked on bass, hunter appreciation, and others, 1-6 weeks; ages 6-18; FMI call (207) 665-2068 or visit umaine.edu/bryantpond or umaine.edu/greenland-point.

OUTDOOR SKILLS CAMP June 22-26; 9 am - 3 pm; grades 6-8; Cobsccook Institute, Trescott; Learn and practice basic skills to keep you safe and fun

in the woods and on the water; learn basic canoe skills; mess around building shelters in the woods; visit some of Washington County's amazing wild places; hike, hang

out on beaches and swim; gather wood and learn to build fires, with s'mores of course; learn about "Leave No Trace" ethics and techniques, build personal camp stoves & survival kits; FMI visit <https://cobsccookinstitute.org>

CANOE CAMP July 6-11; grades 7-9; learn canoe skills, wilderness camping skills, food cooked on an open fire, participants sleep in tents, swim, fish, journal, and play games; FMI visit cobsccookinstitute.org

DOWNEAST TEEN LEADERSHIP CAMP July 20-24; Cobsccook Institute, Trescott; in-person; grades 7-9; DownEast Teen Leadership Camp (DETLC) is Healthy Acadia's annual, five-day

residential summer camp program for teens entering grades 7 through 9. DETLC primarily serves the youth of Washington County Maine, though teens from Hancock County and beyond are also welcome. DETLC offers five action-packed days filled with games and team building activities, amazing motivational speakers, and daily workshops focused on social issues that are important to you, like tackling peer pressure, substance use, embracing diversity, and more. And, of course, it wouldn't be summer camp without a pizza party, s'mores, and bonfires! FMI call (207) 255-3741 or e-mail me at sara@healthyacadia.org

YOUTH & ADULT SAILING CAMPS: Camps held in Jul and Aug including beginner, intermediate and intensive levels held at Keene's Lake, Calais or Indian Lake, Whiting cobsccookinstitute.org

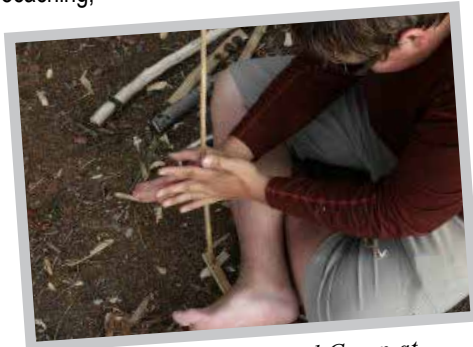
AQUATIC ECOLOGY CAMP July 13 - July 17; ; grades 7-10; 9 am - 3 pm. Explore lakes, streams, rivers, estuaries, and bays of Downeast Maine through an ecological and conservation lens and meet with local

experts to learn about the ways that people are working to promote healthy waterways while building outdoor and ecological science skills! FMI call (207) 255-7348 or visit cobsccookinstitute.org

CAMP EAGLE WING Gardner Lake, Marion Township, Maine; traditional summer camp; coed; 150 acre; 75 campers; 25 staff members from all over the country; 1 to 6 weeks; FMI visit <http://www.campeaglewing.com>

WATERSHED CAMP Aug 10-13 Held in partnership between Maine Coast Heritage Trust and Maine Outdoor School. A summer day camp for youth, ages 10-13, along the Orange River in Whiting centered around the discovery of the local Orange River watershed which includes miles of fresh water, marsh, and forest teeming with wildlife – the perfect setting to explore, get inspired, learn, and have lots of fun! Registration opens in April. More information at mcht.org.

LOW LOW TIDE SEAWEED HARVESTING Join Smitheren Farm and other curious people for a week of learning, harvesting, processing, and eating seaweed together! We will cover the ecology and biology of the seaweed ecosystem, hand-harvest techniques, regulations, drying, processing and culmination of the wild algae species that abound in our area. Workshop fees are sliding scale; sign up online at the link below. Dates: March 19-24, April 17-21, May 15-21, June 13-19, July 13-18, 12 Little Falls Road | Pembroke. (207) 726-4442 | office@greenhorns.org | <https://greenhorns.org/low-lowtides>



4-H Wilderness Survival Camp at Greenland Point



Sailing Camp held at two locations in the area.



Seaweed Harvesting, pc: Chris Battaglia



Seaweed Harvesting, pc: Justin Smulski

Orange River Water Trail Boasts Paddling, Camping, Picnicking, and Wildlife Watching

By Downeast Coastal Conservatory

The Orange River Water Trail, located in the town of Whiting, is an easy to access, easy to paddle 9-mile flat-water trail including miles of fresh water teeming with wildlife. Paddlers have multiple access points and can begin their adventure towards the top of MCHT's Rocky Lake Preserve or by using the day use boat launch managed by IF&W at the end of Halls Mill Road to access Rocky Lake. Featuring miles of lakeshore, Rocky Lake is a fantastic place to load your canoe or kayak with camping or fishing gear and start exploring. Outdoor enthusiasts can extend their trip spending a night at one of the two reservable lakefront campsites or continue their journey portaging into Orange Lake for a day use picnic site provided by DSF or reserve an overnight stay at the Orange Lake Campsite, ideal for group camping.

The adventure can continue downstream through the Orange Lake Outlet and into the Orange River. The marshes and wetlands that fringe the river provide excellent habitat for nesting ducks, as well as beavers, muskrat, otters, mink and many other kinds of animals. The shoreline of the water trail has several designated day-use areas to enjoy picnicking, wildlife watching, and relaxing. DCC maintains paddle-accessed hiking trail leading to the summit of Estey Mountain, which offers stunning views of Roaring Lake and the surrounding wild landscape; and maintains two additional two established campsites on a first-come, first-serve basis. Paddlers can take out at Cobscook Shores' Reynold's Brook Picnic Area or continue to a hand-carry access point at Playhouse Lane.

The Orange River Water Trail is brought to you by a partnership of organizations including: Maine Coast Heritage Trust, Downeast Coastal Conservancy, Cobscook Shores, Downeast Salmon Federation, and Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Access points to the Orange River Water Trail are on U.S. Route 1 about 13-16 miles east of Machias, Maine or about 3-5 miles west of Whiting, Maine. For more information, please visit: <https://www.orangeriverwatertrail.org/>



EASTPORT

SHACKFORD HEAD STATE PARK on Moose Island, the 87-acre state park occupies a peninsula separating Cobscook Bay and Broad Cove. The land is named for John Shackford, an American Revolutionary War soldier who once owned the headlands. The park is managed by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry. Offers hiking trails.

Raye's Mustard is North America's last remaining traditional stone-ground mustard mill. Four generations of the Raye family have been grinding mustard since 1900, when 20-year old J. Wesley Raye founded the business to produce mustard for Maine's burgeoning sardine industry

Festivals Eastport has a variety of festivals throughout the year including Independence Day "Old Home Week"; Pirate Festival, Salmon Festival, Downeast Pride, Mermaid Festival, Witches of Eastport and more. Check out the calendar of events FMI

Off Leash Dog Park Deep Cove Rd off Rte 190, the park is on the left before the entrance to Cony and Shackford Head State Park; waste station and users are required to pickup after use



Sculpture Trail "Nature's Grace," by Canadian artist James Boyd, is situated right along Water Street in downtown Eastport. It is one of a number of public art pieces along the waterfront.

Tennis & Pickleball
Pickleball is the fastest growing recreational sport in the U.S. Eastport has a thriving community league with over 50 players; 14+ sessions a week offered at Eastport Elementary School; drop-in sessions several times a week at the new outdoor tennis and pickleball courts at Shead High School; visitors at all levels welcome; equipment to loan.

Eastport

Where the Sun Rises First and Memories Last Forever!

Experience "authentic" Maine with our historic waterfront, highest tides, artistic community, shops & galleries, restaurants, and many festivals.

visiteastport.com

Quoddy Crafts crafts by local artists; funding goes to historical preservation efforts and the Border Historical Society; antiques; locally-made items at reasonable prices

Eastport Arts Center theater, art, music, film, education and community outreach; available for rental; an array of programs for children and adults. They collaborate with the Eastport Gallery; the Northern Lights Film Society; Passamaquoddy Bay Symphony Orchestra; Quoddy Voices and Stage East. Check out the concert series, seminars, Kinder Arts, ecstatic dance, yoga and much more, call (207) 853-4650 or visit: <https://eastportartscenter.org>

Overlook Park & Sutherland Amphitheater on Eastport's waterfront; where the Wilbur Theater once stood is a stone amphitheater that hosts musical and other events. The Park also makes a great place to sit and watch the workings of Eastport's Harbor, the waters of Passamaquoddy Bay, and Canada's Campobello Island, while enjoying a meal or snack purchased from a local business

Whale Watch or Day Cruise Eastport Windjammers offers whale watches, lobster cruises, deep sea fishing trips, private cruises; call (207) 853-2500 or visit www.eastportwindjammers.com

Water Taxi take a ride on the water, if the tide is up get dropped off at Treat Island, explore the trails and have a picnic.

Art Galleries Water Street has a robust arts scene, with over a dozen galleries to explore.

The **Barracks Museum**, moved from its original site, was one of the barracks buildings from Fort Sullivan.

Original site of Fort Sullivan, which was renamed Fort Sherbrooke by the British when they took control of it in 1814. In 1818, Moose Island, Eastport and the fort were returned to the US and it was once again known as Fort Sullivan.



Cony Park A large pavilion with picnic tables, outdoor musical instruments, horseshoe pits, and a hand carry boat launch



45th Parallel Marker A small roadside park found on US Rte 1 first marked the halfway point between the equator and North Pole with a brass pin in 1896, made by the Maine Red Granite Company in Red Beach, Maine. It was placed and dedicated in 1899, on the 4th of July, making it the first such marker in the U.S. Maine is just about in the middle since the 45 degree line (or 45th parallel) splits the state almost at its midpoint. Latitude is expressed in degrees, minutes, and seconds. Each degree represents about 60 nautical miles or 69 statute miles (our common land measure).

Food If you arrive in the "off" season, it can be hard to find restaurants open. Many places are seasonal and don't open until very late May. **The Farmers' Union** located at Perry Corner - 966 US Rte 1; open year round with a meat deli, beer, wine, fresh produce and other grocery. The **Polar Treat** is a seasonal A-frame building located 816 US Rte 1, famous for ice cream, but offer seafood takeout, burgers and more. The **Lobster Crate** located at 243 County Rd (the road headed through Sipayik), open for breakfast and lunch. Mainly Smoked Salmon has salmon sticks sold in a variety of quantity and flavors, salmon dip and more.



Sunflowers at Gleasons Photo by Joan Lowden

Gleasons Cove Take US Rte 1, to the Shore Rd, to Gleason Cove Rd. There you will find a gravel beach, swing set, picnic area; Passamaquoddy Bay, including Gleason Cove, Western Passage, and Deer Island in New Brunswick, Canada. View traditional fish traps made of sticks and brush (herring weirs) that lead migrating herring along a maze-like fence into an enclosure, they are netted and transported to shore with small boats. The vertical sticks of the weirs still stand, but the weir may or may not be active, depending on the season, year, and the whims of the herring.

ROBBINSTON

During the mid-19th century, Robbinston was a last stop for the Underground Railroad where escaping slaves would cross over into Canada and freedom. One of the houses that supported them still stands, the John N. Brewer Sr Mansion. Built in 1785 with an addition added around 1821, it is on the National Register of Historic Places. The John N. M. Brewer Jr House built in 1826 is across hwy 1 and is now operated as a B&B. Other historical sites in Robbinston are the Grace Episcopal Church, James S. Pike Racing Milestones, Pulpit Rock, Henrietta Brewer Cottage (wife of John Brewer Jr) (Redclyffe Shore Motel) and Sewall Memorial Congregational Church, with its roots in 1817.

Boyden Lake Boat Launch is located on the Ridge Rd, .8 miles past Hilltop Campground

Elton R. Brooks Memorial Rest Area on Rte 1. There is a picnic area; outhouse; boat launch; beach access; views of St. Andrews, New Brunswick, Canada

The Edge Gallery 685 US Route 1. Peter Johannes - multi-disciplinary artist- writer, sculptor, photographer; award-winning author; is the owner/operator of The Edge Gallery. FMI call (207) 436-3473 or email [moc.asu@sennahjretep](mailto:asu@sennahjretep)

Robbinston Historical Society is a nonprofit organization; visitors' center located on Route 1 next to the Grace Chapel, available for event rental; FMI call (207) 454-3455 or visit <https://townofrobbinston.org>

Hilltop Campground 317 Ridge Rd. camping, playground, pool, rec hall, planned activities, Trout pond paddle boat rentals, horseshoe pits, basket ball court; FMI call (207) 454-3985 or visit <https://www.hilltopcampground-maine.com>

Mill Cove has been a popular picnic spot for well over a century. In the past, high school classes and social groups often took steamship to Robbinston to spend the day at Mill Cove; today one must drive.



Pulpit Rock One mile out from the shoreline of Mill Cove this unique formation is a single mass of red sandstone that is 38 feet high and only 18 feet at the base. The top of the rock is 21 feet in diameter and has hearty plants living on it. Be sure to check the tide chart and time your hike with low tide, as the tide can leave you stranded, (meaning you must swim with the tides to return)



Photo by Amie Flowers

The Art of Beach Combing in Maine



Beach combing, or sea glass hunting, is a popular activity in Maine, especially during winter when fewer people are on the beaches. The art of beach combing involves searching for treasures like sea glass, sand dollars, and driftwood, often in the areas where the tide has retreated. The Maine coastline, with its rocky beaches and rough waters, creates a perfect environment for sea glass formation.

Beachcombing Tips:

Timing is key: Low tide exposes more of the beach, making it a great time to search.

Look along the water's edge: This is where you're most likely to find sea glass and other treasures.

Be patient and persistent: Beach combing can be a rewarding experience, but it requires patience and a willingness to search thoroughly.

Respect the environment: Leave the beach as you found it and be mindful of wildlife.

Know your location: Some beaches are better known for specific treasures, like sand dollars at Long Sands Beach in York.

Consider your location: The best beaches for sea glass are often rocky and exposed to waves.

Look for specific treasures: Sea glass, sand dollars, driftwood, and other marine debris can be found on Maine beaches.

Enjoy the process: Beach combing is a relaxing and meditative activity, allowing you to connect with nature.



What to do Fishing and Hunting



*Ice fishing is a great family fun activity for all ages!
photo by Carrie Cropley*

Down East Maine is well known for its great fishing and hunting - a true sportsman's paradise. Taking part in these activities require a license, but those are easy to get all over the state, from convenience stores to sporting goods stores and online.

The area boasts freshwater and saltwater fishing. With thousands of miles of river and streams and hundreds of freshwater lakes in addition to the vast ocean, you can constantly find new places to fish and species to go after. The variety of fishing available Down East makes the sport easy for everyone in the family, young to old, novice to skilled because reeling in a wriggling fish on the end of a line is a thrill enjoyed by all! No experience is necessary and local outfitters offer basic fishing gear and instruction to equip you and your family for a Maine fishing adventure. You can also hire a Maine guide for a guided fishing excursion, all your supplies are provided, and your only job is to dress warmly and be patient. There are numerous guides in the region,

most operating as small independent businesses that offer highly personal, customized experiences.

The Down East area is noteworthy because of the wide variety of angling experiences it offers. Anglers can choose among coldwater and warmwater fisheries in lakes, easily accessible and remote wilderness-type waters, wading or fishing from a canoe for wild brook trout in streams, as well as heading out into the ocean for saltwater catches. Numerous waters offer good fishing for one or more of 9 species of sportfish; landlocked salmon, brook trout, lake trout (togue), brown trout, splake, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, white perch, and pickerel. The region boasts one of the top 10 salmon and togue lakes in Maine (West Grand Lake), one of the top 5 riverine fisheries for salmon (Grand Lake Stream), some of the very best smallmouth bass angling in the state, and the premier lake for whitefish in eastern Maine.



*Moose hunting success!
photo by Carrie Cropley*

And when winter hits, there's no reason to put away your bait and tackle just because it's cold outside because in this area we love ice fishing as well. Spending time on a frozen lake with friends and family is one of the best ways to have fun and (hopefully) catch dinner in the winter. Ice fishing begins on Jan. 1 and lasts until March 31. Ice fishing derbies are a great way to see if you like ice fishing. Derbies are a fun way for the community to gather and enjoy all that winter in Maine can offer. Round pond in Charlotte was home to two derbies in 2024. In January the Calais Lions Club hosted a derby and in February the Calais Rod and Gun Club hosted a derby. Check their social media pages or websites for upcoming derbies in 2025, or the Maine Inland Fisheries and Wildlife website also has a page listing all derbies statewide.

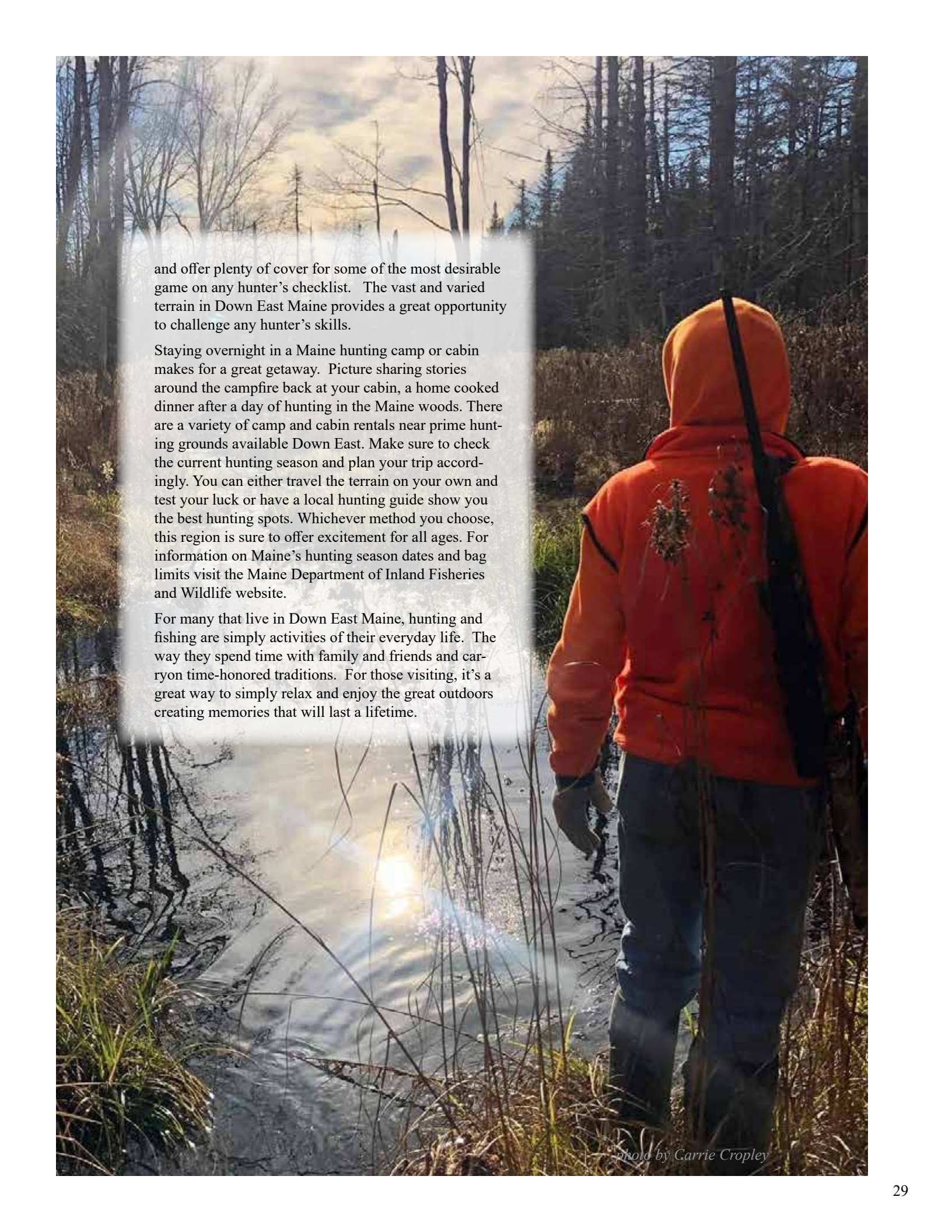
Hunters are drawn to Down East Maine for its reliable, varied and superb hunting. Moose, black bear, whitetail deer and wild turkey, snowshoe hare, ruffed grouse, woodcock, partridge and other upland game birds all call the Maine woods home. The area's untouched forests and thousands of acres of unpopulated terrain make it a dream destination for hunters



Photo by Brewer Andrews



Photo by Duane Andrews



and offer plenty of cover for some of the most desirable game on any hunter's checklist. The vast and varied terrain in Down East Maine provides a great opportunity to challenge any hunter's skills.

Staying overnight in a Maine hunting camp or cabin makes for a great getaway. Picture sharing stories around the campfire back at your cabin, a home cooked dinner after a day of hunting in the Maine woods. There are a variety of camp and cabin rentals near prime hunting grounds available Down East. Make sure to check the current hunting season and plan your trip accordingly. You can either travel the terrain on your own and test your luck or have a local hunting guide show you the best hunting spots. Whichever method you choose, this region is sure to offer excitement for all ages. For information on Maine's hunting season dates and bag limits visit the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife website.

For many that live in Down East Maine, hunting and fishing are simply activities of their everyday life. The way they spend time with family and friends and carry on time-honored traditions. For those visiting, it's a great way to simply relax and enjoy the great outdoors creating memories that will last a lifetime.

photo by Carrie Cropley

Planning a Trip Down East? Don't Forget to Support Local!

Are you planning a trip soon or looking for ways to support businesses in the Downeast Maine area?

Supporting local businesses while traveling is a cornerstone of sustainable and responsible tourism. It transforms a standard trip into a meaningful exchange that directly impacts the well-being of the host community.

Why Support Local?

Economic Impact: Money spent at local businesses circulates within the community at a significantly higher rate—often returning nearly three times as much value to the local economy as national chains. This helps fund local infrastructure like schools and roads.

Authentic Experiences: Local owners often provide a “true sense of place”

through unique products, traditional crafts, and regional flavors that mass-market chains cannot replicate.

Job Creation: Small businesses are major job creators, often employing residents and paying better wages than large corporations.

Environmental Benefits: Local sourcing reduces transportation emissions and waste associated with long-distance shipping and mass production.

Ways to Support While Traveling

Dine Locally: Skip global franchises for neighborhood cafes and family-owned restaurants that source ingredients from nearby farmers.

Choose Mindful Lodging: Opt for locally-managed bed and breakfasts, guesthouses, or boutique hotels rather than international chains.



Hire Local Guides: Use local tour operators for walking tours or excursions to gain deeper cultural insights and ensure your fees stay in the community.

Shop at Markets: Visit farmers' markets or flea markets for fresh food and handmade souvenirs directly from artisans.

Spread the Word: Leave positive reviews on sites like Yelp or TripAdvisor and tag businesses on social media to help them reach new customers.

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CALAIS

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Take Out
Delivery**

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 A Hometown Restaurant. Serving Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner.

**Check out our
Business
Directory on
pages 45 & 46
for a list of
local businesses
in Down East
Maine**

From Pavement to Trails, Bold Coast Runners Embrace the Challenge

By Jayna Smith

A passionate group of local runners has been making strides in Washington County and beyond since 2017. The Bold Coast Runners, an affiliate of the Road Runners Club of America, was founded by a dedicated group of runners who wanted to bring together a community of like-minded individuals. Their organization closely resembles the Sunrise County Roadrunners, a premier running club that flourished from the early



photo by Bold Coast Runners

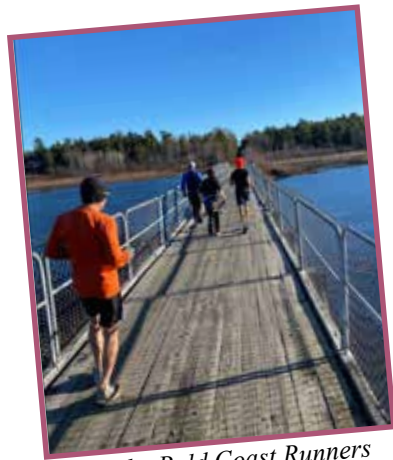


photo by Bold Coast Runners

1960s through the 1990s.

The club is comprised of runners of all abilities, from beginners to seasoned marathoners, and its members are spread throughout Washington and Charlotte counties, shared Phil Krajewski. The Bold Coast Runners host weekly group runs at various locations and organize road and trail races in some of the region's most scenic areas, including the Boyden Lake Loop and Cobscook Bay Road Races.

Describing themselves as a “welcoming, encouraging, and supportive group of crazy people,” the Bold Coast Runners embrace the rugged

and unpredictable nature of running in Downeast Maine. Whether it's hot, rainy, snowy, or icy, they run—sometimes in snowshoes or with spikes, always committed to the sport they love. Distances vary from short one-mile runs to endurance-testing 50-mile treks, covering everything from smooth pavement to rugged single-track trails.

The group meets most Sundays for runs in various locations throughout coastal

Washington County, as well as across the border in Hancock County or Charlotte County, New Brunswick. The time and location for each run are determined by the group leader, ensuring variety and accessibility for all members.

For those looking for camaraderie,

adventure, and a commitment to the joy of running, the Bold Coast Runners offer an opportunity to be part of a thriving and dedicated community. “All abilities are welcome to join us,” said Krajewski. Membership fees are \$20 for adults and just \$5 for students 17 and under.

Interested? Check out the website for registration info www.boldcoastrunners.com.

Getting Around

EAST COAST FERRIES

Deer Island - Campobello Car Ferry
www.eastcoastferriesltd.com
Eastport Lubec Ferry (207) 853-2635
(Breakwater Pier)
Downeast Water Taxi (207) 904-8029
(Breakwater Pier)
Eastport Windjammers (207) 853-2500
(104 Water Street)

AIRPORTS

Bangor Airport (866) 359-2264
Bar Harbor Airport (207) 667-7329

BETWEEN CALAIS & BANGOR:

West Bus Service: public bus service between Bangor and Calais. Major stops between Calais and Bangor include Perry, Machias and Ellsworth. Flag stops are located in Pembroke, Dennysville, Whiting, Jonesboro, Columbia, Milbridge, Gouldsboro, Sullivan and Hancock. FMI (800) 596-2823
www.westbusservice.com

BETWEEN BANGOR & PORTLAND:

Concord Coach Lines: (800) 639-3317
concordcoachlines.com
(bicycles stored below the coach if there's room)

BETWEEN PORTLAND & BOSTON:

Concord Coach Lines: (800) 639-3317
concordcoachlines.com
(bicycles stored below the coach if there's room)
Amtrak Downeaster: (800) 872-7245
amtrakdowneaster.com
(purchase bike ticket, loaded in luggage car)

CAR CHARGING STATIONS

Tesla Supercharger - 5 Walton Dr, Brewer, ME • 1941 Medway Rd, Medway • 32 Houlton Rd, Baileyville • The Algonquin Resort, 184 Adolphus St., St. Andrews • Ganong Nature Park, 350 Todd's Point Rd, Dufferin • Rossmount Inn Hotel Restaurant & Bar, 4599 Route 127, St Andrews, NB
EV Connect Station - 143 S River Rd, Calais ChargePoint Station 626 Main St, Calais

See the Bold Coast Runners webpage for information on local races.

In April 2025 the inaugural Boyden Lake Half-marathon was organized by the Bold Coast Runners. Proceeds from the event benefit veterans organizations and each year the event will be dedicated to a local veteran.

What to do

EVENTS & FESTIVALS

continued

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AUGUST

Community Dinner, Game Night & Fiber Circle; free home-cooked meal, games, music and fiber; First Monday of the month 5pm-8pm; FMI cobscookinsitute.org

St Croix Idol, Mondays Jun 15-Aug 3, 6 pm, Flat Iron Park in Calais. After a standout first year filled with impressive local talent and incredible community support, St. Croix Idol is coming back even bigger. The 2nd Annual St. Croix Idol takes the stage on celebrating music, community spirit, and hometown stars from across the St. Croix Valley.

Summerkeys Concert; free admission; mid Jun through Aug, Wednesdays, 7:30 pm; Congregational Christian Church, Lubec; www.summerkeys.com

New Brunswick Day Aug 1; celebrations – beginning at 8 am at the St Stephen NB waterfront;

Passamaquoddy Ceremonial Days; yearly the 2nd weekend of Aug, Passamaquoddy Tribe Pleasant Point, Maine; ceremonial dance, canoe trips, crafts, demonstrations. Admission FREE; FMI call (207) 853-2600 or visit www.passamaquoddy.com

53rd International Homecoming Festival; Aug 5-8, Calais. The festival will feature a variety of events, including a community street dance, a fireworks display, and a concert that will incorporate a children's candy scramble. Additional activities include a parade, the 47th Annual Johnson's True Value International 5K Race, the Children's Peanut Fair, and an evening night-golf event. The schedule also includes the International Basketball Alumni Classic, a sidewalk chalk art contest, and the 6th Annual Skate for Life event. FMI: www.facebook.com/internationalhomecomingfestival

St. Croix Valley Chamber of Commerce Street Fair takes place every year in Calais on "parade day" of International Homecoming Festival. Vendors of all sorts line Main Street with wares for sale, and it includes the Calais Lioness Club's Super Draw, a raffle with over 100 items available to win. FMI, email visitstcroixvalley@gmail.com.

Machias Wild Blueberry Festival, held since 1976 and set for this year for Aug 14-16 (rain or shine), celebrates all things blueberries. Crafts, food, entertainment, contests, a musical, and more, there is something for everyone to enjoy. FMI call (207) 255-6665 or visit machiasblueberry.com.

Downeast Fall Migration Birding Festival; Date TBD, celebrate the fall migration downeast, with expert local guides, this festival focuses on shorebirds, gulls and the migration. Local expert guides make this a wonderful and intimate festival; FMI cobscookinsitute.org

Washington County Fair; Aug 29-30; 222 Old County Rd, Pembroke Fairgrounds; Childrens games, face painting, train rides, craft/food vendors, chance raffle, bounce house, balloon man, music, tractor pulls, demonstrations, livestock judging.. Sponsored by Pembroke Trotting Association. FMI see the Washington County Fair Facebook page.

38th Eastport Salmon and Seafood Festival, Sep 5-6. Since 1987, Eastport has celebrated the end of summer by honoring our connection to the sea with food, wine, local craft beer, live music, salmon dinner artisans and more. Enjoy this beloved community event with neighbors and friends, old and new. FMI www.eastport-chamber.net/salmon

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INTERNATIONAL HOMECOMING FESTIVAL STREET FAIR
AUGUST 8, 2026

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A VENDOR?
– SEE THE ST. CROIX VALLEY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WEBSITE FOR A LINK TO REGISTER.

St Croix Idol Returns After Successful 1st Year

By Jayna Smith

In 2025 the stage at Flat Iron Park in downtown Calais sizzled all summer, thanks to the 1st ever St Croix Idol event.

The event ran from the first week of July and continued through the International Homecoming Festival. Each week saw the crowd growing, with the finale boasting an estimated 500 people gathering to support the talented performers who made it through weeks of competition.

The event is returning and expected to once again provide weeks of entertainment and an opportunity to choose a participant, or participant(s), to show up and cheer for. The event will kick off on June 15 at Flat Iron Park at 6 p.m. The winner will be determined on August 3, with repeat performances of the winner and top participants during the International Homecoming Festival.

Last year Dustin Ellis, of Calais, took home the title of 2025 St. Croix Idol.



Along with a prize package consisting of \$5,000 cash, Ellis won a coveted performance slot on the festival's main stage just before the fireworks show on Saturday, August 9 — a spotlight moment in front of the year's biggest crowd. As well, his prize package included a free night's stay at Todd's Point Luxury Inn and Suites in St. Stephen.

Ellis was joined on the stage Saturday night by second-place winner Regan Moore, of Pleasant Point, and third-place winner Rebecca Curtis, of Perry. Moore was awarded a \$1,250 cash prize, while Curtis was



awarded a \$500 cash prize.

Claiming the fourth-place spot was Abby Wright, of St. Stephen, who won a three-month membership to Calais Memorial Fitness Center and a \$40 gift certificate to Crumbs.

Fifth place was Cletcher Owen, of Perry, who was awarded a \$50 gift certificate donated by St. Croix Country Club.

The competition, organized by festival committee member Andrea Walton, was created as a fun and engaging way to



showcase local talent from both sides of the St. Croix River. Week after week, contestants impressed both judges and audiences with their range, creativity, and stage presence.



Judges Bill Quinn, Trey Worrell, Brett Estey, and Stacey LaBlanc, joined each week by a rotating guest judge, used a consistent rubric to evaluate performances based on vocal quality, song selection, technical ability, performance, and originality.

With emcee Bruce Butler bringing energy and enthusiasm to every show, the competition became a highlight of the summer, drawing larger and more enthusiastic crowds each Monday night.

To see clips from the final performances, visit the International Homecoming Festival page on Facebook.



Photos by Jayna Smith & Andrea Walton

THE trails HIKING

PERRY

The 1.8-mile [Sipayik Trail](#) extends across the Passamaquoddy Native American reservation at Sipayik, (also known as Pleasant Point), Maine. The paved trail overlooks scenic views at various points as the river watershed transitions to salt marsh and then to Passamaquoddy Bay.

Access to the [Lincoln Cove Preserve](#) is via Birch Point Road. From U.S. Route 1 southbound just past the Perry Town Office, turn left onto Cannon Hill Road. After 1.6 miles, turn right on Birch Point Road, and continue 0.9 miles. The property is on both sides of the road, with limited parking and an informational kiosk on the right, just across from the woods road that leads left to the shore. There are no formal trails.

Explore [Sipp Bay's](#) 1.5 miles of trails, a short loop in the south and a longer, more forested excursion to the north. Both offer great views of the rugged coastline. Access to the preserve by taking US Route 1 in Perry to the Burby Road. Follow the Burby Road 0.75 miles onto the peninsula.

BARING

[Moosehorn Wildlife Refuge](#) is home to five hiking trails with access on Rt 191 in Baring, have narrow footpaths that are minimally maintained. Bring a map and compass while exploring trails because they can be difficult to follow at times. FMI www.fws.gov/refuge/moosehorn

[Woodcock Trail](#) 0.3 miles; a short paved loop trail; handicap accessible, This trail has a particular focus on the requirements for the protected American woodcock.

[Greg's Pond Trail](#) 1.0 mile; trail contains grassy pathways and elevated wooden walkways for wet areas; trail passes by Greg's Pond, great for wildlife viewing. The low canopy and overhanging brush will be sure to keep you cool.

[Charlotte Trail](#) 0.7 miles; a short path through flowering fields and forest. This trail can be a loop or connected with other nearby trails.

[Raven Trail](#) 1.4 miles; this moderate trail has hilly terrain, high dense canopy cover,

and a dense understory. This is a great option if you're looking for something more than a brisk walk. Schedule: open year-round, some activities are seasonal; hours: daily from 1/2-hour after sunrise to 1/2-hour before sunset; FREE; pets welcome; (207) 454-1700

[Conic Trail](#) 3.4 miles; back trail located in Baring, take Rt 1., to Rt 191, look for Moosehorn National Park trail signs on the left

GRAND LAKE STREAM

[Little Mayberry Cove Trail, GLS](#) - mossy, single-track trail; approximately 2.5 miles along the western shoreline of West Grand Lake. Trail begins at the dam at the head of the Stream. Walk a short distance along the gravel camp road and follow the trail over moderately rolling terrain, with occasional viewpoints along the shore ending at a quiet cove. Hikers can return on the same trail, or loop back via interior logging roads.

[Pocumcus Lake Trail](#) - Trail provides options for short or moderate loop hikes to undeveloped shoreline of Pocumcus Lake. Shorter loop is 1.3 miles round trip, while those who hike the entire trail cover 3.6 miles. The trail traverses a wide range of forest habitats. Hikers can expect to hear a variety of songbirds and loons as they approach the lake. The trailhead is located on the north side of the Fourth Lake Road about 7.5 miles west of Grand Lake Stream.



Wabassus Mountain Trail - 1.0 mile climb to the summit, the Wabassus Mountain Trail follows a small cascading seasonal brook, and passes through forest. The trailhead is on the Wabassus Mountain Road, with access from the north via the Fourth Lake Road, or the south via the Little River Road and Third Lake Ridge Road.

Dawn Marie Beach Path - DLLT's shortest trail at 0.25 mile: path leads you from a raspberry patch by the side of the road to an undeveloped beach on Wabassus Lake. It's a great spot for a family picnic, or to cool off if you worked up a sweat on the way up Wabassus Mountain. Even here, a completely undeveloped sand beach is a rare commodity. Take the Fourth Lake Road west from Grand Lake Stream for 3.6 miles, and turn left on the Wabassus Mountain Road. Pass a side road on your right, and then look for the trailhead sign on your right.

Storybook Trail - Leaving from DLLT's future headquarters at 214 Milford Road, this 0.6-mile trail winds through a cedar-filled forest with wooden signage along the trail that depicts children's stories that tell of the natural and cultural history of the region. Be sure to visit multiple times, as the stories change throughout the year. The trail intersects at the Tower Hill Trail, forming a 3.5-mile loop option from the heart of Grand Lake Stream.

Tower Hill Trail - Located atop Tower Hill, the Grand Lake Stream fire tower was built in 1934, and is the oldest enclosed wooden fire tower remaining in New England. DO NOT attempt to climb the tower, due to

safety concerns. Parking is at the West Grand Lake Dam. Follow the snowmobile trail (orange tags) east, as it winds up the hill. From the tower, the trail begins 100 yards to the north, and heads east, winding 1.1 miles through mixed woodlands to Bonney Brook Road. After crossing Bonney Brook Road, the trail meanders along shallow Bonney Brook Lake. Upon reaching the road again, turn right and follow the road for 50 yards, then turn left, continuing along the trail. The trail ends at a camp road called "Pappy's Way." Turn left and follow the snowmobile trail back up Tower Hill, creating a 3 mile loop.

Trail to Tomorrow - Inspired by a 1957 essay by John R. Schaefer, an interpretive and educational walk through several distinct forest types. A round-trip loop of 0.6 miles, leaves from the end of Tough End in the village of Grand Lake Stream (parking is available at



Students from Lee Academy breaking the new trail at Horseshoe Lake.

the West Grand Lake Dam).

Musquash Esker Trail - located on the north side of Milford Road, roughly 5.5 miles east of Grand Lake Stream; from the parking area, travel along the former "Talmadge Road," built along a glacial esker, 1.4 mile (2.8 round trip) trail ends at Big Musquash Stream, and offers gorgeous views of Amazon Mountain and more than 5,000 acres of pristine wetlands.



THE trails HIKING

Dobsis Narrows Trail - Located in Lakeville, this hiking trail follows the shore of Sysladobsis Lake and ends at a campsite. Future plans include extending this trail to loop back to the road, but it's currently an in-and-out 0.3 mile hike. Recreationists will have almost 360° views of the lake, and will likely hear loons calling.

Horseshoe Lake Trail - turn off the East Shore Rd in Lakeville onto West Shore Drv, and park at the intersection with Horseshoe Lake Rd.; a boat launch for Horseshoe Lake is under construction. Follow the launch path and begin hiking on the west side. This easy-walking trail parallels the pristine lake and then cuts back to the Horseshoe Lake Road. Hikers will find two benches for resting or lunch along the trail. Trail length is 0.4 miles one-way.

Pineo Peaks Trail - a remote section of the Community Forest located within ecological reserve. Head north on the Amazon Road for 8 miles, turn left onto the Pineo Point Road and drive for 1.6 miles. There are two trailhead access points from the parking area. The left trailhead leads to a 1.3-mile hike (round-trip) up to Pineo Peak, climbing a ridge with partial views of West Grand Lake. You can explore unique geological formations of granite ledges, small crevasses, and extensive caves and rockfalls. The right trailhead leads to the lake. It parallels the shore for 1.6 miles, crossing Oxbrook Stream, and ends at the Princeton Island campsite.

EASTPORT

Located between Eastport and Lubec; **Treat Island** is a 1.2 mile network of trails; monument where American Revolutionary War Col. John Allan is buried; both Lubec and Eastport have municipal boat ramps, which offer all-tide access for hand-carry and motor boats. Small boats can land easily on the island's southern shore on either side of the dike between Treat and Dudley Islands. Despite close proximity, access from both Lubec and Eastport is made challenging by very strong currents and an average 22 foot tides in this part of Passamaquoddy Bay.

Matthews Island is a short trail that leads across the island, accessed via a right-of-way that begins at the end of Deep Cove Road. The right of way leads through private property and over a bar to the island (exposed at low to mid tides). From the intersection of Route 1 and Route 190 in Perry, take Route 190 for approximately 5.5 miles into Eastport. Turn right on Deep Cove Road and continue 1.6 miles. Park at the end of the tar road on the right. Follow the gravel drive 0.2 mile to the footpath that leads through the field to the exposed bar. Please respect the privacy of the landowners, stay on the path, and do not dawdle on your way to the island. Access to the island is also possible from the water, with the ideal landing spot on the southern side of the bar that connects Matthews with tiny Sumac island.

CALAIS

Magurrewock A few miles north of the refuge headquarters on the outskirts of Calais is Magurrewock Mountain, a 384-foot peak accessed by a one-mile trail. To the south, Bells Mountain and Crane Mountain in the Edmunds unit of the refuge offer two fun loop hikes just shy of a mile each.



Devil's Head Conservation Just off Rt 1 in Calais, the 315-acre conservation has approximately three miles of moderate foot trails, a dirt road loop running from the road to the waterfront. Devil's Head itself is a 340-foot-high granite cliff overlooking the St. Croix River. Schedule: April - October; hours: sunrise to sunset; FREE; Pets: Welcome; (207) 454-2521; calaismaine.org/devils-head

PEMBROKE

Hersey Point Preserve 1.5 miles, Round Trip; moderate; a 28-acre preserve on the peninsula separating Hersey Cove from the Pennamaquan River offers a short hike through woodland to a quiet, sheltered cove and gravel beach, with a spur leading to a nearby point; trail entrance ; (please stay on trail) to enter a mixed oak-aspen-spruce woods; FMI visit www.nature.org

CUTLER/TRESCOTT

Bog Brook Cove Directions: take Rte. 189, continue 1.1 miles on the road, go straight at an intersection with Bog Brook Road, near the midway point. Moose River Road ends at the parking area. Use this lot to access the universally accessible trail, the beaches at Moose Cove, the Chimney Trail, and the Ridge Trail; features gravel and cobble beaches, breathtaking views of the Bold Coast and universally-accessible trail; FMI or a printable map visit <https://www.mcmt.org>

LUBEC

Located directly along the South Lubec Road, the **Alan Brooks Salt Pond** provides a scenic view of Lubec Channel as well as two intriguing tidal salt ponds. Approximately half of the 4.4 acre property is composed of Spartina saltmarsh which is a rare natural community type in Maine. This preserve was acquired with the support of the Land for Maine's Future program in 2008. Directions: Take US Route 1 and turn right on State Route 189 East. Follow Route 189 east approximately 10 miles to South Lubec Road. Turn right onto South Lubec Road and in 0.6 mile, the destination will be on the left.

Klondike Mountain take US Rte 1 to Rte 189, leading to Lubec, after 9 miles, turn left on the North Lubec Rd at McFadden's Variety, go 1 mile to the Klondike Mountain Preserve sign on the left and park in the parking area. Bald nubble summit with a 360 degree view of the surrounding bay and landscape; 46-acre preserve, originally owned by a local family which raised dairy cows

and apples in the surrounding pasture near the base of the mountain. The name of the mountain references the story of two men (1897) devised a scheme claiming that they could extract gold from the nearby seawater, the men worked as con artists who — after hiring hundreds of workers and collecting funds from investors — fled the area never to be prosecuted for their deception.

Cobscook Shores free public access, Huckins Beach Trail; Old Farm Point Shorefront Park; Reynold's Brook - Orange River Wildlife Preserve and Paddle; Whiting Bay Beach Picnic and Paddle; Race Point Meadow and Reversing Falls Trail; Morong Cove Picnic and Paddle; South Bay Narrows; Black Duck Cove; Pike Lands Cove Crescent Beach and Lagoon; Denbow Bluffs; and more; privately owned by Cobscook Shores Inc., a family funded Maine charitable foundation. FMI and maps visit cobscookshores.org

Boot Head, Lubec Directions: take South Lubec Road toward Quoddy Head State Park and bear right in 2.7 miles onto Boot Cove Road. Travel 3.9 miles to the parking areas on both sides of the road and the trailhead on the left; 2.0 miles; catch the sun rising over the Grand Manan Channel; terrain is level in the beginning; head across the bog bridging to a viewpoint of the bog on the right; approach quietly and remain alert for spruce grouse in this area. Ahead reach a junction and the start of a loop. The turn left leads to Boot Cove, a wide cobble beach (please respect the privacy of our neighbor, who owns the northern part of the beach)

Quoddy Head State Park 5.5 miles of groomed hiking trails, a candy-striped lighthouse (schedule in calendar of events) 9am to sunset; FREE; Pets: Welcome; (207) 733-0911

Pike Lands take US Rte 1 to Lubec, after 9 miles, turn left on the North Lubec Road at McFadden's Variety, go 5 miles to the Downeast Adventures sign (on the right) near the end of the paved road, park past the sign on either side of the road; two open-access properties along the North Lubec Rd; at one time the entire property was owned by esteemed naturalist Radcliffe Pike who planted an eclectic variety of horticultural plants now featured as an educational arboretum. The two properties also include a total of 1.5 miles of hiking trails which traverse a unique variety of plant, bird, and wildlife habitats as well as a sandy beach. This preserve was acquired with the support of the Land for Maine's Future program in 2005.

ROBBINSON

Shares a trail system weaving through forests and lakes with Calais. Check out the information on the clubs on page 22.



BEALS

Great Wass Island Preserve A 4.5-mile trail system; unique forests and wetlands, exposed granite bedrock drops steeply into the sea, giving evidence of the "Fundian Fault," a long crack in the Earth's crust that extends from the Bay of Fundy to the coast of New Hampshire. Due to the extent of exposed bedrock and uneven terrain, the trails may be difficult or even dangerous in bad weather. Hikers should be particularly careful when hiking in dense fog—a frequent feature of the preserve. Please come well prepared for any kind of weather, and be sure to wear sturdy shoes suitable for a long hike through all kinds of terrain. Due to the terrain, your hike will take you longer than you think—you should allow yourself six hours to complete the full 4.5-mile loop. Visiting Guidelines: day use only, no camping, no fires, carry out all trash, leave no trace, bikes and motorized vehicles prohibited, no pets, stay on the trail

Little Cape Point Trail (2.2 miles): leads to the shore at Cape Cove and Little Cape Point. It winds through deep moss-floored spruce and fir forests interspersed with open ledges of jack pine woodland. After about a mile, these ledges offer beautiful views of a coastal raised bog. Further on, a boardwalk allows the visitor to walk through a sedge-shrub marsh without harming the vegetation. After the trail reaches the shore, it is just a short walk northeast along the shore to Little Cape Point (3-hour round trip).

Mud Hole Trail (1.2 miles): The left fork 100 feet east of the parking lot leads to the edge of a long, narrow, fjord-like tidal cove known as the Mud Hole. From there the

trail winds east to Mud Hole Point, where it intersects with the Shoreline Trail.

Shoreline Trail (1.1 miles): Hike along pink granite cliffs that are exposed to the waters of the Gulf of Maine. This trail offers spectacular views of the islands of Eastern Bay. Just northwest of Little Cape Point, the trail takes you along a cobble beach formed by the force of the ocean. Shoreline Trail intersects the Little Cape Trail on Little Cape Point. Note that the trail is directly on the coast and is not blazed.

CAMPOBELLO

Herring Cove Provincial Park NB Canada; includes six unique trails of varying length, a campground and golf course. (see more detailed info and map in the camping section)

Roosevelt Campobello International NB, Canada; park opens in May.

Fox Farm Loop 1.8 mi, coastal / lighthouse views

Raccoon Beach–Liberty Point Loop 4.7 mi, numerous narrow foot bridges; views from Liberty Point; blazed, flat, easy trail

Customs House Trail 1.7 mi, easy route, takes an average of 36 min to complete

Raccoon Beach–lower Duck Pond 2.4 mi, out-and-back trail; easy route; 49 min

MACHIAS

Machias River Preserve 5.5 -mile trail network of interconnecting hiking trails that provide scenic and recreational access to the river as well as the Down East Sunrise Trail; managed as a community forest with the goal of balancing low-impact forestry, outdoor recreation, wildlife habitat, educational opportunities, and river protection; parking: Rte 1A in Machias, 0.5 mile south of the Down East Community Hospital and the second is on Rte 1A in Whitneyville, about 0.3 mile north of the bridge over the Machias River. From the Sunrise Trail, ATVs and snowmobiles will find small parking areas where the Homestead Trail and Hemlock Trail intersect with the Sunrise Trail. As well as a large parking area across the trestle bridge in Whitneyville.

Machias River Walk an easy 5-6 miles long gravel path along the Machias River used by hikers, cyclists and mostly four wheelers.

What to do CAMPING & PADDLING

Famous for its rocky shores and numerous bodies of water, Maine is a haven for canoeing, kayaking and paddle boarding - all activities that go great with camping in the vast outdoors of Maine.

MARION TOWNSHIP

Rocky Lake Public Lands has eleven primitive campsites; South Bay on Rocky Lake, two sites can accommodate medium RVs and two are walk-in tent sites (there are additional walk-in sites at Mud Landing). Water-access sites include: Loose Rock (a lean-to), Eagle Ledge (on Second Lake); Lower Riffles (E. Machias River); West Beach, Piney Point, and Rocky Lake Island; hand-carry boat access point at South Bay; parking for six cars at South Bay, and two cars at Mud Landing

BAILEYVILLE

The St Croix River has a long heritage and serves as the narrow international boundary between Canada and the US. The area of interest to most canoeists is the 33 mile wilderness from the control gate at Vanceboro, ME and St Croix, NB to the Grand Falls dam.

Class I and II rapids, with one Class III pitch. There is some flatwater. Since the flow is controlled, it is easily paddled from May until Oct. The flow is determined by a system of dams and rainfall. Water levels are monitored

CALAIS

Keenes Lake Family Campground 10 miles from Canadian Border, crystal clear lake. RV storage, access to ATV trails, cabin rentals, large wooded and private sites, boat ramp, open water kayaking, hiking trails, boat rentals, arcade, themed weekends, activities, pancake breakfast, pets welcome. 70 Keenes Lake Rd., Calais FMI (207)454-2022 or Facebook page.

GRAND LAKE STREAM

Downeast Land Lakes Trust has eleven water-accessed sites on several area lakes and streams. Two sites on Rolfe Brook are drive-up only, about four miles west of town, both are available for day-use and camping. Each site has a privy and picnic tables. Camping at DLLT sites is free, available on a first-come basis; three -night maximum stay. Campfires are allowed with a permit from the Maine Forest Service at (207) 827-1800. See map below.

CAMPOBELLO

Herring Cove Provincial Park 136 Herring Cove Rd, Welshpool, NB Canada; accessible by taking two ferrie or alternatively by driving through Maine six unique trails of varying lengths; Camp by the sea at Herring Cove Provincial Park. The campground offers 88 campsites (40 with electricity) and five rustic shelters; fire pits, restrooms, picnic tables, kitchen shelters and playgrounds are all available on-site. The park also features a 9-hole golf course with pro shop. FMI call (506) 752-7010 or email ac.bng@skrapbnscrap

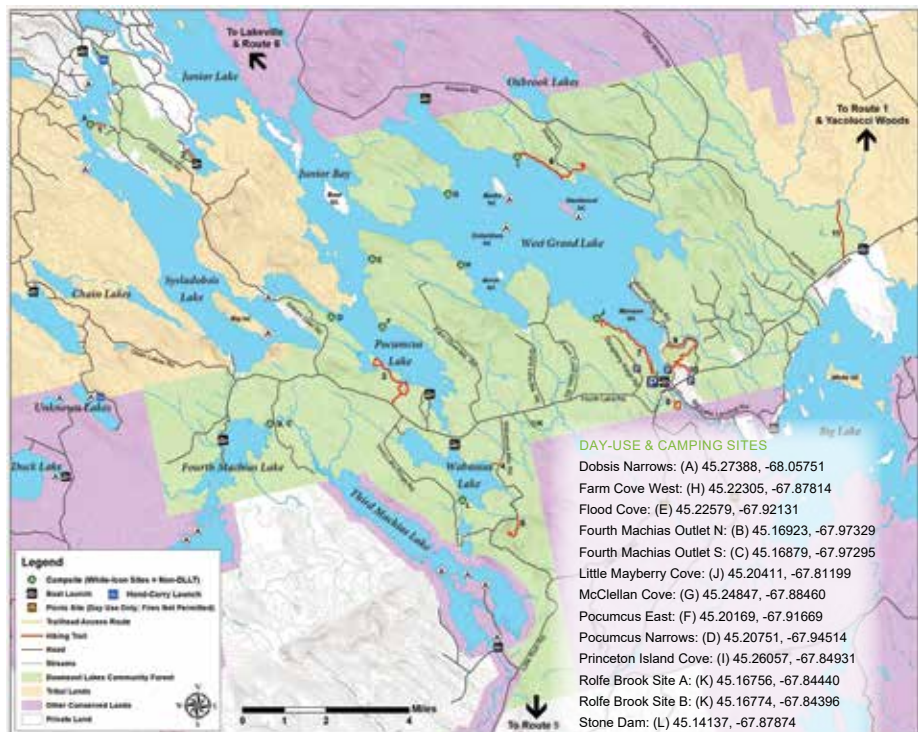
Adams Estate Promenade 0.62 mi. (linear length); intermediate; the forest trail is part of the original Adams Estate (1914 to 1997). The trail passes a small man-made pond. Its ice was used for refrigeration in ice houses during the summer.



Rock of Gibraltar 1.24 mi. (linear length); easy; a large boulder was left along this trail over 10,000 years ago. It's no wonder U.S. President Roosevelt had a tea house nearby on Glensevern Lake.

Herring Cove Loop 2.914 mi. (loop); intermediate; short gravel road passes through a spruce forest and leads to Herring Cove beach, passing a secluded picnic area whose presence is indicated by a sign in the shape of a teddy bear (teddy bear was Theodore's nickname Roosevelt).

Herring Cove Beach 1.116 mi. (linear); easy; at low tide explore this expansive beach that changes from sand to baseball-sized rocks across its 1.2-mi. length. At high tide follow the grassy edge of Glensevern Lake



Carriage Road 1.302 mi. (loop); intermediate; the old carriage and logging road travels through a moss-laden forest and near streams on the way to Herring Cove Beach.

Eagle Hill Nature Trail 0.46 mi, wide boardwalk; travels through Eagle Hill Bog

Lake Glensevern 0.93 mi. (linear); intermediate; the Roosevelt family used this old carriage road to access a tea house on Glensevern Lake near Herring Cove. The spruce forest transitions into a hardwood forest before reaching the lake.

Eastern Head Cove Trail 0.434 mi. (linear); intermediate; continue past the lookout platform and walk on an old road until you descend down to the gravel beach at Eastern Head Cove.

Friars Bay 0.372 mi. (linear); intermediate; short trail starts at a man-made pond and travels through a mature spruce forest. The trail cuts a deep path through the moss as it accesses the historic Roosevelt estate.

ALEXANDER

Pleasant Lake Campground is located halfway between Bangor ME and Saint John, N.B. Canada. Family camping with planned activities, swimming and boating, sandy beach, playground, large pull through sites. 50 amp. 371 Davis Rd , Alexander; (207) 454-7467

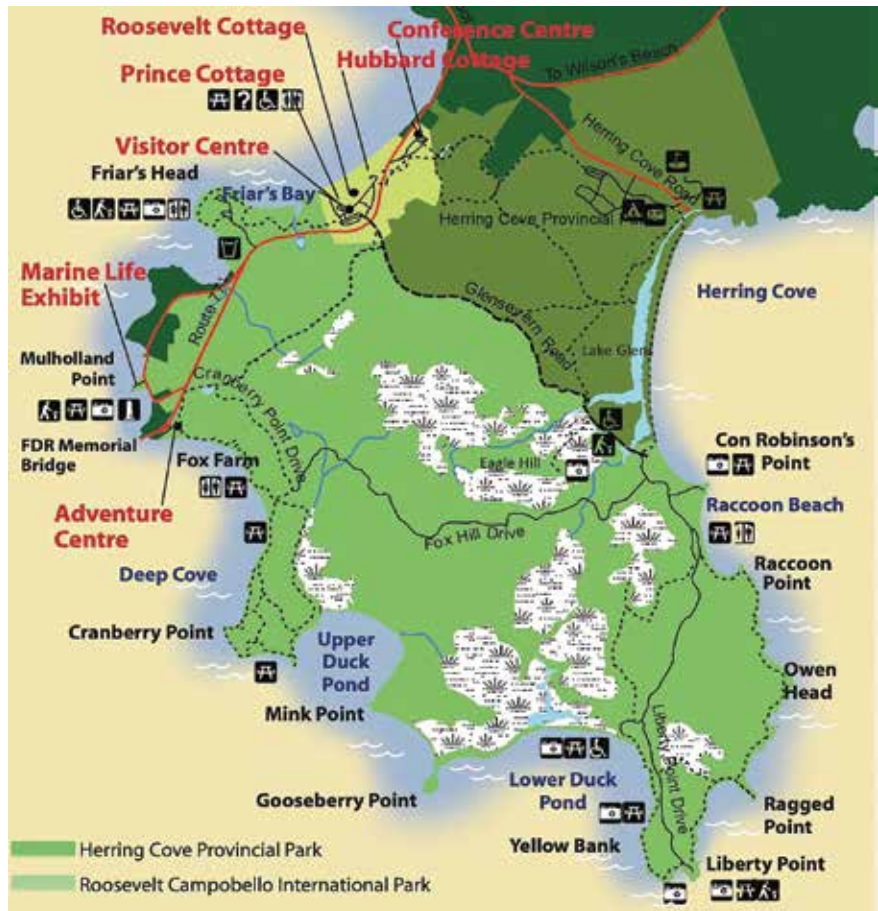


photo by Jenny Wyld

PEMBROKE

Smithereen Farm Camping & UPick Blueberries
 Four sites with timber-framed canvas tent platforms with mosquito netting for a comfy camping experience. Each site comes with a fire pit, and basic compost toilet facilities are nearby. Well-behaved dogs welcome. In Jul and Aug, come for U-Pick certified-organic blueberries. Baskets provided and an honor-system box. Close to Reversing Falls, come and enjoy the scenic road, great for running and biking! FMI see our Hipcamp page.

DENNYSVILLE

Cobscook Bay State Park is surrounded on three sides by the salt waters of Cobscook bay has over 100 campsites, The name Cobscook comes from the Indian word meaning "boiling tides." The average tide is twenty feet. At low tide, adventuresome campers may dig for soft shell clam. (207) 726-4412

CUTLER

Cutler Coast Public Reserved Land (also known as the Bold Coast) has three designated tent sites near Fairy Head, and you'll have to hike four to five miles to reach them. It's worth it, though, because the trails that snake alongside Cutler Coast toward the campsites cover some pristine territory.

Sunrise Canoe and Kayak *~since 1996~*

Canoe the lively St. Croix River or sea kayak historic Machias Bay!

- Half and full day trips led by master Maine guides
- Beginners, families, and large groups welcome

Book your adventure today!

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168 Main Street, Machias, ME

What *to do* EVENTS & FESTIVALS

continued

continued from page 32

SEPTEMBER

Community Dinner, Game Night & Fiber Circle; free home-cooked meal, games, music and fiber; First Monday of the month 5pm-8pm; FMI cobscookinsitute.org

Lubec Pirate Invasion; Saturday of Labor Day Weekend. An annual duel over the best of pirates and plunder. Pirates from across the country arrive by land, sea and air. Admission FREE; FMI visit www.visitlubec.com

Eastport Pirate Festival; Sept 11-13, yearly the weekend after Labor Day. Fun family weekend of Pirate themed activities along the waterfront. Admission FREE, FMI visit www.eastportpiratefestival.com

Apple Fest; Saturday in Sep TBD, 8am - 2pm; St. Anne's Episcopal Church, Calais, ME. Breakfast, pies, jellies, crafts. Admission FREE; FMI visit stannescalais.org

OCTOBER

Community Dinner, Game Night & Fiber Circle; free home-cooked meal, games, music and fiber; First Monday of the month 5pm-8pm; FMI cobscookinsitute.org

Baileyville Octoberfest; first weekend in Oct; Baileyville; arts, crafts, food vendors, adult & childrens' activities and demonstrations

Annual Perry Harvest Festival; Oct TBD; Perry, ME; fair w/ over 90 vendors; arts, crafts, farmer's market, live entertainment; check Perry Harvest Festival on Facebook

Scarecrow Contest; Oct, Main Street, Calais, ME. Main Street poles will be decorated with scarecrows for your viewing and photo taking fun. Admission FREE. Sponsored by Calais Downtown Revitalization Coalition

Black Magic Bash; Oct TBD; Halloween custom party at the Calais Motor Inn, Calais, Maine; hosted by the Lioness Club; admission will be donated to local charity

Witches of Eastport, Saturday October 31 all day. Pumpkin carving, witches broom, and wizard wand making, face-painting and more. Come at noon to create your pumpkin racer for the always hilarious pumpkin derby. Witches parade and community witches dance led by the Eastport Elementary Cheer squad and more. FMI visit www.eastportartfests.org

Trunk or Treat; Oct. TBD, Walmart, Calais, Maine; before dusk.

Auto Fall Foliage Tour; Oct; Moosehorn Wildlife Refuge, Charlotte Road Entrance, Baring, ME. Look for signs that say Auto Foliage Tour is open. Admission FREE. (207) 454-1700; www.fws.gov/refuge/moosehorn

NOVEMBER

Community Dinner, Game Night & Fiber Circle; free home-cooked meal, games, music and fiber; First Monday of the month 5pm-8pm; FMI cobscookinsitute.org

Community Tree Lighting / Shop Small Saturday; the Saturday after Thanksgiving, 10 am - 5 pm, Calais; St Croix Valley Chamber of Commerce event; shop local promotion; tree lighting in Triangle Park at dusk with carolers, hot chocolate and more.

Loyal to Local promotion kicks off the week of Thanksgiving. Sponsored by the St Croix Valley Chamber of Commerce, submit receipts of purchases at participating local businesses for a chance to win! Runs until Jan 1. FMI www.visitstcroixvalley.com

DECEMBER

Community Dinner, Game Night & Fiber Circle; free home-cooked meal, games, music and fiber; First Monday of the month 5pm-8pm; FMI cobscookinsitute.org

Lioness Christmas Parade & Moonlight Madness; first Friday of Dec; Main St., Calais. Christmas parade starts at 6 pm, shops open late, specials throughout town.

Baileyville Christmas Parade the second Friday of Dec; Main St., Baileyville. Christmas parade starts at 6 pm,

New Year's Eve events posted in Jan.

Lioness Christmas Parade in Calais is always a family fun event to kick off the season!



Calais Logging Heritage Continued from page 14 -

Calais boasted over 20 sawmills, producing everything from shingles to ship masts. This era wasn't without peril—log jams could flood entire areas, and accidents were common in the treacherous waters.

Ecological insights reveal how this boom reshaped the landscape. Vast swaths of old-growth forest were cleared, altering ecosystems and prompting early conservation talks. Yet, it fostered a sense of local pride; as one 19th-century mill owner, Samuel Gates, reportedly said, "The river gives, and we take—but it's the sweat of Maine men that turns wood into wealth."

Spotlight on Log Driving Traditions

For a deeper dive, consider the annual log drive reenactments or visit during Calais's International Festival in August, where locals share tales around campfires. If you're keen on history with a wild twist, hike the nearby Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge trails—once logging routes, now havens for moose and bald eagles, showing nature's rebound.

Shipbuilding Ties and Economic Evolution

Logging in Calais was inextricably linked to shipbuilding, as the town's mills supplied lumber for vessels built along the river and nearby coast. In the 19th century, shipyards in Calais and neighboring Eastport launched schooners and barques that sailed global trade routes, carrying Maine pine to build cities worldwide. The St. Croix's deep waters allowed for larger ships, and by the 1850s, Calais was a key player in the "Down East" shipbuilding scene.

"The river gives, and we take - but it's the sweat of Maine men that turns wood into wealth."

--- Samuel Gates, 19th-century mill owner

closing many mills, but remnants like the old railroad bridge over the river stand as silent witnesses.

Today, visitors can explore the Holmes Point Nature Conservancy, a short drive from downtown, where overgrown mill sites blend with regenerating forests. It's a spot for reflective walks, with interpretive signs detailing how shipbuilding families adapted to changing times.

20th-Century Transitions and Community Resilience

As the 20th century dawned, Calais faced the decline of traditional logging, but its people adapted with characteristic Maine grit. The Georgia-Pacific mill, operational until 2006, represented the shift to modern forestry, employing hundreds and sustaining the town through wars and economic shifts. Oral histories from locals, preserved at the Calais Free Library, paint vivid pictures of this era—stories of union strikes, environmental regulations, and the slow pivot to tourism.

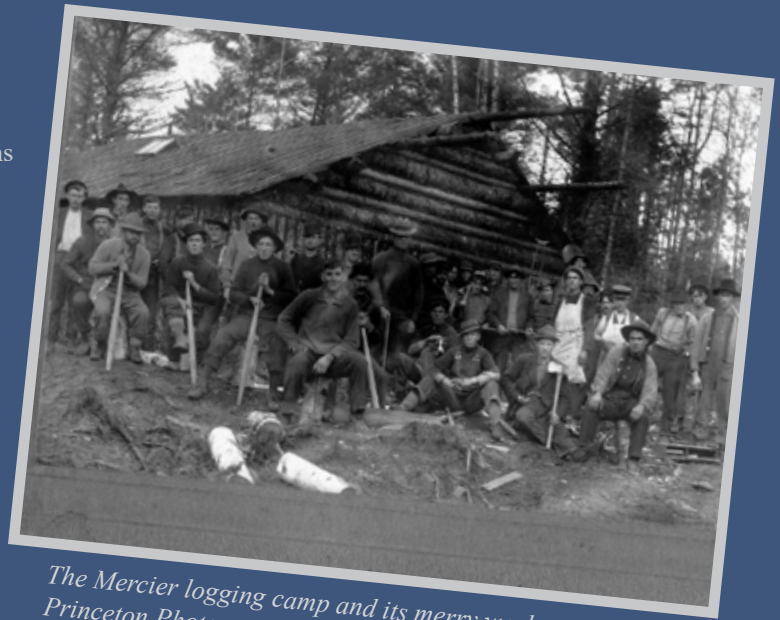
One highlight is the Dr. Job Holmes House, now a museum, showcasing artifacts from the lumber days, including tools and photographs. For a taste of local flavor, stop by Karen's Diner on Main Street—a no-frills spot serving hearty breakfasts where old-timers swap logging yarns over coffee.

Preserving the Legacy Today

Calais's history isn't confined to books; it's alive in community efforts to honor its past while embracing the wild surroundings. The town's location makes it a gateway to outdoor adventures, like canoeing the St. Croix, a designated Wild and Scenic River. Practical tips include renting gear from local outfitters for a paddle that follows historic log routes, with chances to spot otters and herons amid the same scenery that once teemed with timber.

Conservation groups, such as the Downeast Lakes Land Trust, work to protect watersheds impacted by historical logging, offering guided tours that blend history with ecology. As climate change affects river levels, these efforts underscore the need for sustainable practices, echoing lessons from the past.

In chatting with residents like longtime logger turned guide, Mike Smith, you hear pride in lines like, "We didn't just cut trees; we built a way of life." Calais invites you to slow down, listen to the river, and connect with Maine's untamed heritage—one log, one story at a time.



The Mercier logging camp and its merry workers in Princeton. Photo courtesy of St Croix Historical Society.

THE trails Motorized and Biking Fun



Breakneck Mountain Sno-Riders Maintains 100 miles of trails in Alexander, Crawford, Cooper and Township 19; open 24/7; rest rooms, kitchen and seats 40

East Grand Snowmobile Club Danforth, ME; 80 miles of well groomed trails; Troy Fish (207) 538-6980

Grand Lake Snowmobile Club maintains two sets of trails; 42.1 miles of municipal trails, including 28.1 miles of ITS 84, connecting Calais to Old Town, Maine. All trails open to public. Lodge in town, open year round, the Canalside Cabins, FMI call (207) 227-8457 or email grandlakesnowmobileclub.com

Ridge Riders Trail Club Machias; 700 miles in the local trail system; for more info email: rtrailclub@yahoo.com

Grand Lakers ATV Club Danforth; for more information call the president, Roger Rossignol at (207) 448-7739; to become a member contact Linna McLaughlin at (207) 448-7088

Sunrise Snowmobilers Formed in Calais in the 1970s; approximately 21 family members and 16 business members. This is strictly a snowmobile club, which maintains approximately 40 miles of trails. All trails open to the public. Trails connect to the Down East Sunrise Trail through the Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge.

Sunrise Trail Riders ATV Club Calais; always seeking new members; \$20 annually; maintains 5 miles of trail. All trails are open to the public.

St. Croix Trail Riders formed in the 1970's in Baileyville. Both a snowmobile and ATV club. Maintains 48 miles of multi-use trail open to the public. Trails connect with trails maintained by Grand Lake, Breakneck, Calais, and connect with the Down East Sunrise Trail via trails maintained by other clubs.

Robbinston Bushwackers club is strictly ATV, maintaining 48 miles of trails, most of which are multi-use. All trails open to the public. The trails are accessible to the Sunrise Trail through trails maintained by other clubs.

Princeton Pathfinders FMI email: princeton.pathfinders@hotmail.com



Bold Coast Scenic Bikeway 211-mile, on-road trail winding along the rugged Atlantic coastline through 23 Bold Coast communities; In Calais, the Bold Coast Scenic Bikeway joins with the northern points of the East Coast Greenway and US Bike Route 1, which extend south to Florida. When combined with the Bold Coast Scenic Bikeway, these interconnected, mapped on-road trails make it easy to plan single- and multi-day riding opportunities throughout the Bold Coast region and beyond. Cyclists carrying valid passports can cross the international border into New Brunswick, Canada from Calais into St. Stephen and from Lubec onto Campobello Island, home to Roosevelt Campobello International Park. For more information visit discoverboldcoast.com



East Coast Greenway Spine Route: 336 miles. Protected Greenway 125 miles. www.greenway.org/states/maine



Photo by Mark Roussel

Motorcycling the Area The roads and scenery of Washington County Maine provide lots to explore and is an experience unlike many others. Motorcyclists are treated to some wonderful views, tasty stops along the way and maybe best of all few other vehicles to compete for space on the highway.

Downeast Maine is a great destination for riders searching for a virtual scenic paradise to explore. Motorcycle rides take place among natural beauty that remains largely unspoiled by time or man.

There are area coordinated rides for various events as well as local club events.

There are many local group rides that are open to the public or scheduled as part of community events. A couple places to find information on rides are the Facebook pages listed below.

Down East Biker Group: A place for local bikers to coordinate rides and support local bike runs.

Red Knights of Maine: Group of firefighters with a motorcycle addiction. A non-profit organization that promotes motorcycle safety while supporting various local charities.

Wabanaki Warriors MC (WWMC): Rides are open to the public and listed on the page along with other events. The address of the clubhouse on the Airline Rd is listed. Anyone with an interest in riding is welcome to stop in.

Brothers 8 MC: A group of like minded individuals that are motorcycle enthusiasts.

As of the date of this printing there were a few dates confirmed for rides. Check the sites above often during the riding season for updates on others as they are scheduled.



The St Croix Valley Chamber of Commerce has been working with local representatives, the Downeast Sunrise County Trail Coalition, the city of Calais, the towns of Baring and Charolette to finish the 87 mile, multiuse trail that runs from Ellsworth to Ayers Junction, into Calais, Maine.

Breakneck Mountain ATV a division of Sno-Riders; they share the Sno-Rider trails and have access to municipal roads. FMI call (207) 454-8775

Dennysville Snowmobile & ATV AKA the Eastern Rail Riders is located 1+/- mile west on Route 86, from U.S. Route 1 in Dennysville, Maine. Club house located on the Down East Sunrise Trail; open 24/7 all year. A place to stop for a soft drink or cup of coffee. The club maintains 75 miles of multi-use trails, of which 52 miles outside the Down East Sunrise Trail. All trails open to the public, FMI call (207) 263-6306 or email Dennysvillesnowatvclub@gmail.com

Sunrise Trail - Machias Rte 1; parking at boxcar, Station 98, west of causeway or on causeway (no trailers); four miles, Machias to East Machias; cross over extensive salt marshes and experience views across the Machias and East Machias rivers. The trail crosses the Machias Dike, where both flea and farmers' markets take place in the summer. A motel, ATM and nationally famous blueberry pie-making restaurant provide amenities just west of the causeway. Explore town, then consider a side trip to Roque Bluffs State Park for an on-road bike loop ride.

East Stream ATV Riders Clubhouse on East Stream Road, Cutler, Maine. FMI contact, Mike Look at (207) 255-4167

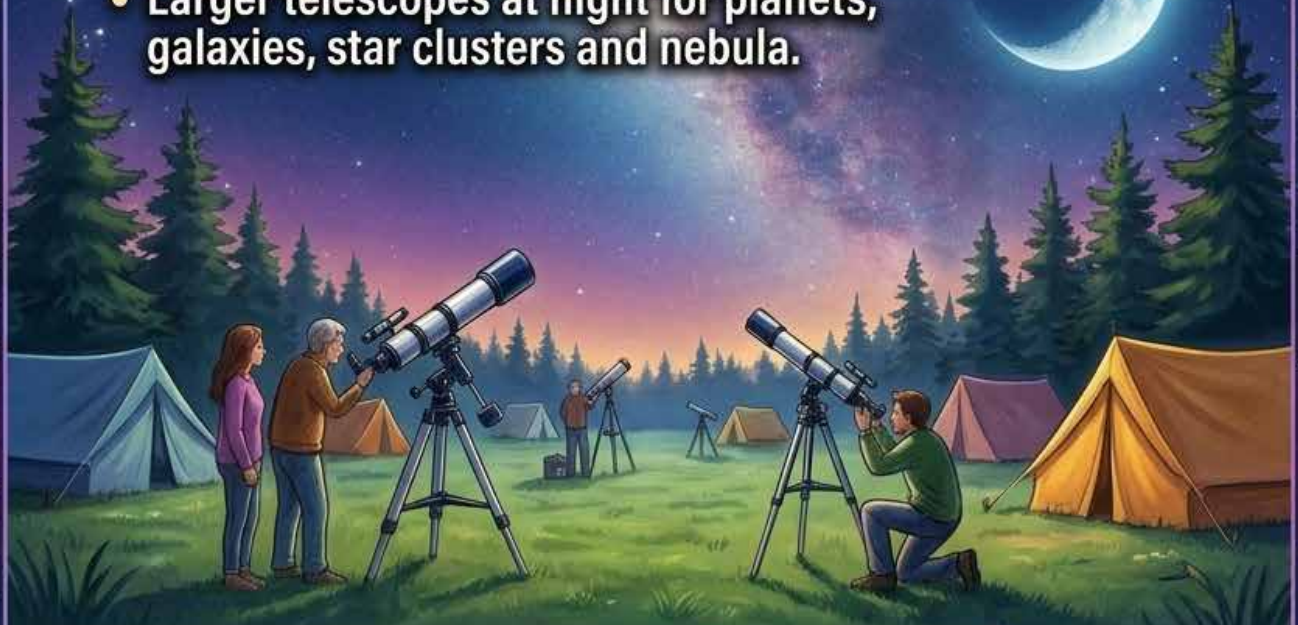
Downeast Trailriders East Machias; FMI call Grant Hanscom, (207) 557-7816

Sunrise Trail - East Machias East Machias to Rocky Lake Crossing, trail crosses US 1 and ME 191; seven mile trail length; limited parking at ME 191/DEST crossing; trail runs through fields and forest while paralleling ME 191. The trail intersects the southeast corner of Rocky Lake Public Lands, accessed by a multi-use trail, before swinging east toward Dennysville. It is just a short side trip to the boating and camping areas on Rocky Lake's shore; visit the East Machias Aquatic Research Center (EMARC) to learn about Maine's fisheries. Cutler Coast Public Lands, Cobscook Bay and Quoddy Head State Parks and lighthouse are recommended side trips. For maps and information visit sunrisetrail.org

MAINE STATE STAR PARTY 2026

THE 21st ANNUAL MAINE STAR PARTY
FRIDAY AUG 14 - SUNDAY AUG 16

- Free camping.
- Solar Telescopes set up during the day.
- Larger telescopes at night for planets, galaxies, star clusters and nebula.



SATURDAY GUEST SPEAKER at 2 PM:

Dr. Neill Comins, Professor of Astronomy and Physics at the University of Maine Orono. He

"What if the Moon Didn't Exist"

The Star Party is sponsored by Downeast Amateur Astronomers and is open to all.

• Event is held at the Pembroke Fairgrounds across the street from the Pembroke Library at 221 Old County Rd in Pembroke Maine.

• There will be cones marking the entrance and camping is free. A convenience store and sandwich shop is about a mile from the party site. The Star Party starts Friday at noon and ends on Sunday at 11 a.m.

Come and view through large telescopes and meet astronomers. There will be a swap and buy table for astronomical products as well as dumpster and porta potties available.

Business Directory

ART/MUSEUMS

Eastport Art Fests

eastportartwalk@gmail.com
www.eastportartfests.org or Facebook

Schoodic Sculpture Symposium

PO Box 122, Stueben (207)749-1536

ACCOMMODATIONS

Bellmard Inn

86 Main St., Princeton (207) 796-2261
www.bellmardinn.com

Big Lake RV Park & Campground

55 True North Ln., Big Lake Twp
(207)796-2987 www.biglakerv.com

Canalside Cabins

31 Canal St., Grand Lake Stream
(207) 796-2796 www.canalsidecabins.com

Hilltop Campground

317 Ridge Rd., Robbinston (207) 454-3985
www.hilltopcampgroundmaine.com

The International Motel

626 Main Street, Calais (207) 454-7515
www.internationalmotel.com

Keenes Lake Family Campground

70 Keenes Lake Rd., Calais (207)454-2022
http://keeneslakecampground.com

Redclyffe Shore Motor Inn

Route 1, Robbinston (207) 454-3270
www.redclyffeshoremotorinn.com

ACCOUNTING

Tammi Smith Tax & Accounting Service

166 A North St., Calais (207) 454-0065
www.tammismith.com

APPLIANCES/SERVICES

Eastern Maine Appliance

337 North St., Calais (207) 454-3650

Androc Plumbing

484 North St., Calais (207) 454-2339

Border Electric

337 North St., Calais (207) 454-8619
www.borderelectric.com

Main St Laundry

346 Main St, Princeton...207-214-7025

Riverside Electric, Inc.

334 North St., Calais (207) 454-7815
www.riversideelectricinc.com

ATTORNEYS

Moncure & Barnicle

PO Box 636, Brunswick (207) 751-01941

Mahar & Clark

110 North St., Calais (207) 454-7641

AUTOMOTIVE

Pratt Associates, Inc.

Automotive Sales / Service
143 S. River Rd, Calais(207) 454-0600
www.prattchevrolet.com

BANKS

Bangor Savings Bank

232 North St., Calais (207) 454-0223
54 Washington St, Eastport (207) 853-2534
1 Center Street Machias (877) 226-4671
www.bangor.com

Camden National Bank

344 Main St, Calais (207) 454-2123
6 M & M Place, Machias (207) 255-0041
51 Main St., Jonesport (207) 497-5902
29 Main St., Milbridge (207) 546-2521
www.camdennational.com

Downeast Credit Union

254 North St, Calais (207) 454-8940
23 Third Ave, Baileyville (207) 427-3333
211 Main St., Machias (207) 255-0172
www.downeastcu.com

First National Bank

319 North St., Calais (207)454-2141
102 Washington St, Eastport
(207) 853-6270 www.thefirst.com

Machias Savings Bank

210 North St., Calais (207) 454-7178
127 Main St., Princeton (207) 796-5109
4 Center St., Machias (207) 255-3347
357 US Hwy 1, Columbia (207) 483-6561
38 Depot St., Danforth (207) 448-9048
138 North St., Houlton (207) 532-7996
www.machiassavings.com

CANOING & KAYAKING

C&C Canoe

Salmon Brook Rd., Vanceboro...(207) 788-3885
http://ccc canoe.com/

Sunrise Canoe & Kayak

168 Main St, Machias(207)255-3375
www.sunrisecanoeandkayak.com

St Croix International

Waterway Commission

(207)952-9069 www.stcroix.org

CARGO FREIGHT/MOVING

A.N. Deringer

12 Whitney St., Calais (207) 454-3951
www.nderinger.com

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Eastport Chamber of Commerce

141 Water St., Eastport (207) 853-4644
www.eastportchamber.net

Grand Lake Stream Area

Chamber of Commerce

15 Water Street, Grand Lake Stream

grandlakestroom.org

Greater East Grand Lake

Chamber of Commerce

PO Box 159, Danforth (207) 448-2321
eastgrandlake.net

APPLE (Association Promoting & Protecting the Lubec Environment)

www.visitlubecmaine.com

Machias Bay

Chamber of Commerce

Station 1898, 2 Kilton Ln., Machias
(207) 255-4402 www.machiaschamber.org

St. Croix Valley

Chamber of Commerce

39 Union St., Calais (207) 454-2308
www.visitstcroixvalley.com

St. Stephen

Chamber of Commerce

34 Milltown Blvd, St. Stephen, N.B. Canada
(506) 466-7703 www.ststephenchamber.com

ECON DEVELOPMENT/CIVIC

Calais Downtown

Revitalization Coalition

P.O. Box 146, Calais...Find us on Facebook

Calais Rotary Club

P.O. Box 165, Calais (207) 454-2293
ridist7810.org/clubInfo/calais

Downeast Economic Development

63 Broadway, Baileyville
11 Church St., Calais (207) 214-5926

Northern Maine Development Commission

330 North St., Calais (207) 454-9419
www.nmdc.org

Sunrise County

Economic Council

330 North St., Calais
7 Ames Way, Machias (207) 255-0983
sunrisecounty.org

ZenBusiness

(512) 765-4985
https://zenbusiness.com/maine-llc

EDUCATION / TRUSTS / INITIATIVES

Downeast Lakes Land Trust

4 Water St., Grand Lake Stream
(207) 796-2100 www.downeastlakes.org

St Croix International Historic Site

84 Saint Croix Drive, Calais
207-454-3871...www.nps.gov/sacr

St Croix International

Waterway Commission

email: programs@stcroix.org
(207)-952-9069 www.stcroix.org

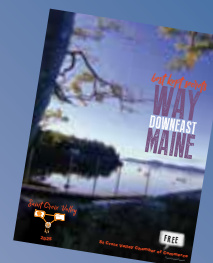
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Business Directory

St Croix Regional Technical Center

34 Blue Devil Hill, Calais (207) 454-2581
www.stcroixtech.org

Sunrise Trail Coalition

(207) 902-2240www.sunrisetrail.org

University of Maine at Machias

1160'Brien Ave, Machias (207) 255-1200
www.machias.edu

Washington County Community College

One College Dr., Calais (207) 454-1000
www.wccc.me.edu

FITNESS

Bold Coast Runners

FMI see Facebook page (207) 214-2877
www.boldcoastrunners.org

FOOD & DRINK

Crumbs Cafe & Coffee Bar

405 Main St, Calais (207) 454-8995
www.crumbslunch.com

Divots & Outside Deck

@ St Croix Country Club 48 River Rd, Calais
(207) 454-3344www.stcroixcountryclub.com

Dunkin Donuts

131 North St., Calais (207) 454-3301
www.dunkindonuts.com

GameTime Sports Bar & Grill

159 Main St, Baileyville...(207) 454-4228
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Gather Cafe & Catering

28 North St, Calais.....(207) 952-9056
Find us on Facebook

Jo's Diner and Pizzeria

200 North St.(food truck), Calais
(207) 454-8400.....Find us on Facebook

McDonald's of Calais

191 North St., Calais www.mcdonalds.com

Milltown Coffee

1 Baring St, Calais.....(207) 214-3007
Find us on Facebook

St Croix Subs

421 Main St, Calais.....(207) 454-4177
or check Facebook

St Croix Tap & Table

421 Main St, Calais.....(207) 454-4177
or check Facebook

Skully's Restaurant & Ice Cream Bar

15 Union St, Calais.....(207) 952-9046
or check Facebook

Unleashed Nutrition

73 North St, Calais
(207) 207-507-7025 or check Facebook

GOLF COURSE & COUNTRY CLUB

St. Croix Country Club

48 River Rd., Calais (207) 454-8875
www.stcroixcountryclub.com

HOME IMPROVEMENT SUPPLIERS

Ace Homecenter

295 North St., Calais (207) 454-2309
www.calaisacehomecenter.com

Johnson's True Value

188 North St., Calais (207) 454-2551
www.truevalue.com

HEALTH SERVICES

Calais Community Hospital

24 Hospital Lane, Calais (207) 454-7521
www.calaishospital.org

Healthy Acadia

121 Court St., Machias,
(207) 255-3741.....www.healthycadia.org

INSURANCE

Down East Insurance Agency

254 North St. Calais @ Downeast Credit Union
(207) 427-3126 or 23 3rd Ave, Baileyville
www.downeastinsurance.com

FA Peabody Co.

254 Main St, Calais (207) 454-2556
www.fapeabody.com

Varney Agency Inc.

325 North St, Calais (207) 454-2227
varneyagency.com

MANUFACTURING

Woodland Pulp LLC

144 Main St, Baileyville (207) 427-4004
www.woodlandpulp.com

MOVING / FREIGHT

A.N. Deringer

12 Whitney St., Calais (207)454-3951
www.anderinger.com

MUNICIPALITIES

Town of Alexander

50 Cooper Rd, Alexander....(207) 454-3011
alexandermaine.com

Town of Baileyville

63 Broadway, Baileyville....(207) 427-3442
www.baileyvillemaine.org

City of Calais

Church St., Calais....(207) 454-2521
www.calaismaine.org

Grand Lake Stream

15 Water St, Grand Lake Stream
(207) 796-2001.....www.grand-lake-stream.org/

Town of Princeton

15 Depot Street Princeton....(207) 796-2744

NEWS/RADIO

The Calais Advertiser

23 Church St., Calais (207) 454-3561
https://www.calais.news

Discover Maine Magazine

207-874-7720
info@discovermainemagazine.com

WQDY Inc. & WCRQ

637 Main St., Calais (207) 427-7545
www.wqdy.fm or www.wcrq.fm

PERSONAL SERVICES

Divine Ink & Beauty

485 North St, Calais
(207) 952-4500 or or check Facebook

Positively Beautiful

1090 Houlton Rd, Baileyville
(207) 707-8762 or or check Facebook

REALTORS

The Christopher Group

5 Main St, Blue Hill.... https://www.tcgre.net
Samra Kuseybi (207) 214-7401

Libby Bryant (207) 461-9170

Shirley Erickson (207) 255-6043

Aaron Currier (207) 200-1697

RENTAL SPACE

CMHI Property Management

482 North St, Calais (207) 454-7196
www.cmhihome.org

JDT Properties

Baileyville & Calais (207) 952-03016
www.cmhihome.org

SHOPS

C&E Feeds Calais Package Hub & Community Market

482 North Street, Calais (207) 454-3666
www.candefeeds.com

Mayree's Flowers & Gifts

1015 US Route 1, Perry (207) 853-7006
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West Quoddy Gifts

16 Loon Lane, Lubec (207) 214-5653
www.westquoddygifts.com

UTILITY SERVICES/REPAIR

Androc Plumbing

339 North Street, Calais (207) 454-2339

Border Electric

337 North Street, Calais (207) 454-8619
www.borderelectricinc.com

Dead River

18 South St, Calais (207) 454-7511

Eastern Maine Electric Co-Op

21 Union St, Calais (207) 454-7555
www.emec.com

Got Dirt Car Wash & Dog Wash

284 North St., Calais (207) 214-4079
FMI see Facebook

Main Street Laundry

46 Main St., Princeton (207) 214-7025

PCT Communications

483 North St., Calais (207) 454-2174
www.uscellular.com

Pioneer Broadband

34 Military St, Houlton (207) 335-1254
www.pioneerbroadband.net

RH Foster Energy

263 US Route 1, Dennysville...(207) 262-8510
www.rhfoster.com

Riverside Electric

334 North St., Calais (207) 454 7815
www.riversideelectricinc.com

VL Tamaro Oil Co

325 North St., Calais...(207) 454-7500
117 Main St., Baileyville...(207) 427-3775

Join Us!

www.visitstcroixvalley.com

visitstcroixvalley@gmail.com

207-454-2308

St. Croix Valley



Wabanaki Culture Center and Museum

The Wabanaki Culture Center and Museum is home to artifacts, historical displays and works of art of the Passamaquoddy and Penobscot Native American Tribes. Additionally, there is a Touch Tank which contains local sea creatures—fun for children and adults! This historic building also contains offices for Maine Indian Education, the Maine Visitors Center and the St. Croix Valley Chamber of Commerce. Free admission, and donations gladly accepted.



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