

Photo by David Gleeson



Welcome to the Gilded Ages!

Breakers Mansion

Cliff Walk

Rhode Island's Mansions

August 8 - 13, 2027 (6 days)

HIGHLIGHTS



- ★ 5 Nights in Rhode Island at Wyndham Newport Hotel
- ★ Gilded Ages Guided Tour of Newport
- ★ Rosecliff Mansion
- ★ Blithewold Estate
- ★ Green Animal Topiary Garden
- ★ Marble House
- ★ Elms Mansion with Lunch in Carriage House
- ★ Newport Vineyards Tour & Wine Tasting
- ★ Ferry to Block Island including Guided Sightseeing Tour & Lobster Bake at Historic National Hotel
- ★ Guided Cliff Walk (optional)
- ★ Breakers Mansion
- ★ Coastal Queen Harbor Cruise

MAP AT A GLANCE

RHODE ISLAND

Newport



Cliff Walk - 40 Steps (optional)

Partake in a delicious lobster bake at The National Hotel on Block Island!



View from Marble House

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Breakers Mansion - this Music Room is a feast for the eyes!

Photo by Erin McGinn

Day 1 - Home to Newport, RI

Our flight takes us to the east coast where our adventure begins! Our grand destination is Rhode Island, the "Ocean State." We'll easily settle into the Wyndham Newport Hotel for five wonderful nights. Dinner is served at our hotel this evening, providing the perfect opportunity to get to know one another. Our idyllic New England escape has begun!

Included Meals: Dinner

Hotel: Wyndham Newport Hotel (5 Nights)

Day 2 - Newport

After breakfast, we'll start with a half day guided tour, giving us our first taste of Newport's opulence. First we'll meet Mrs. Caroline Astor, the Grande Dame of Newport and New York Society in the Gilded Age of the late 1800's. Enjoy the charm of Newport's historic buildings and restored homes on this narrated tour covering over 150 points of interest. We'll take in the rugged beauty of Ten-Mile Ocean Drive and the fabulous mansions along tree-lined Bellevue Avenue. Then our guide takes us to visit the Rosecliff Mansion for a self-guided tour. Commissioned by Nevada silver heiress Theresa Fair Oelrichs in 1899, the house was completed in 1902. Mrs. Oelrichs hosted fabulous entertainers here, including a party featuring famed magician Harry Houdini. Scenes from several films have been shot on location at Rosecliff, including *The Great Gatsby*, *True Lies*, *Amistad*, and *27 Dresses*. After an included lunch in downtown Newport, our guide takes us to Blithewold, a 33-acre summer estate with grand views of Narragansett Bay and is nationally significant in American history as one of the most fully developed and authentic examples of the Country Place Era. The property features a 45-room mansion filled with family heirlooms and is framed by a series of lovely gardens that range in character from mysterious to exotic and from poetic to practical. Next, we'll travel to Portsmouth to the Green Animal Topiary Garden. This is the oldest and most northern topiary garden in the United States. The beautiful, 7-acre estate overlooks the Narragansett Bay. Containing a large collection of topiaries, including eighty sculptured trees, the Garden is uniquely enchanted. Returning to our hotel, dinner & the evening are on your own.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



Marble House - what a staircase!



Rosecliff Mansion

Day 3 - Newport

We'll enjoy breakfast at the hotel this morning. Then we make our way to the Marble House for a self-guided tour. Built between 1888 and 1892 for Mr. and Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt, it was a summer house, or "cottage", as "Newporters" called them in remembrance of the modest houses of the early 19th century. Mr. Vanderbilt was the grandson of Commodore Cornelius Vanderbilt, who established the family's fortune in steamships and the New York Central Railroad. Up next is the Elms Mansion, the summer residence

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of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Julius Berwind of Philadelphia and New York, who made his fortune in the coal industry. This 1898 house is modeled after the mid-18th century French chateau d'Asnieres (c.1750) outside Paris. A new digital experience at the mansion will bring to life the intertwined and uniquely American ambitions of the Berwind family and their staff, culminating in a strike that foreshadowed the rise of America's labor movement. After the presentation, we'll make our way across the Great Lawn, through the sunken garden, and into the Carriage House where we will be treated to a special luncheon. Afterwards, we'll visit New England's largest grower of wine grapes, Newport Vineyards. The tasting room staff will walk us through the winemaking process. Following the tour, we'll enjoy a taste of five wines or Taproot Beer. Be sure to visit the marketplace while we're here. Then we return to our hotel. Dinner is on your own – you may choose to eat at the hotel's restaurant or take the complimentary shuttle to downtown.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 4 - Newport / Block Island

After breakfast at the hotel, a local guide will join us for the day. We'll head to Point Judith where we'll board a ferry to Block Island, known as Manisses (the Little God's Island) by the Narragansett Indians. This picturesque island is just 10 square miles and is home to pristine beaches that are protected by charming lighthouses as well as spectacular bluffs that offer breathtaking views. We'll thoroughly enjoy our guided sightseeing tour of this special island! Our guide will give us ideas of where to find a light lunch and we'll have time to browse the downtown island shops. Next we'll gather at Block Island's flagship Victorian hotel, The National Hotel, for a scrumptious lobster bake as we take in the grand views of Old Harbor! It's time to bid the island goodbye and ferry back to Newport.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 5 - Newport

Breakfast is served at the hotel this morning. You may enjoy a leisurely morning at the hotel or there's an optional walking adventure. For the travelers interested, a local guide will take us on an easy, half mile (1 hour) walk on the Cliff Walk. Enjoy the natural beauty of the stunning coastline with the architectural history of the Gilded Age. The panoramic views of the ocean with waves crashing on the magnificent bluffs are what makes the Cliff Walk so unique. This walking tour ends at the Breakers, where we'll meet our coach and any travelers who originally stayed at the hotel. Then we're guests at the Gilded Age Breakers Mansion for a self-guided tour of this Renaissance Revival style, 70-room mansion. The Breakers, built between 1893 and 1895 as a summer residence for Cornelius Vanderbilt II, is the grandest of Newport's summer "cottages" and a symbol of the Vanderbilt family's social and financial preeminence in turn of the century America. Next, enjoy free time for lunch on your own on the historic downtown waterfront lined with antique stores, art galleries, specialty shops and restaurants. This afternoon we're treated to a harbor cruise aboard the Coastal Queen. From the water's perspective, we'll experience magnificent Newport Harbor and the Bay with views of lighthouses, harbor mansions, and forts. We'll cross the bay to see Clingstone, Jamestown, and Rose Island Lighthouse, whose fixed red light first shone over lower Narragansett Bay in 1870. This enclosed harbor tour shows Newport off at its picture-perfect best. We'll enjoy dinner together as a group this evening.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 6 - Newport to Home

Enjoy one last Newport breakfast before we make our way back to the airport to fly home. What grand memories we share of the Gilded Ages and the opulence of Newport, Rhode Island!

Included Meals: Breakfast

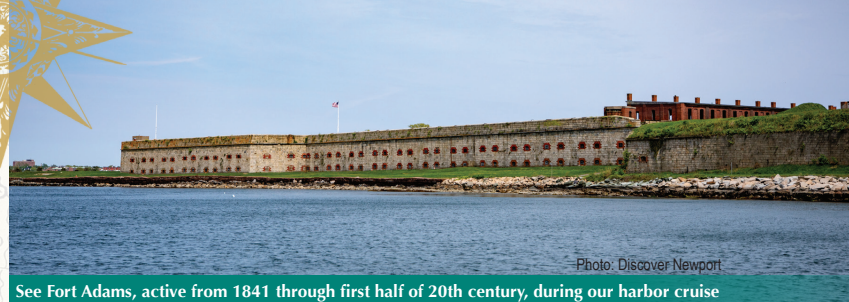


Photo: Discover Newport

See Fort Adams, active from 1841 through first half of 20th century, during our harbor cruise



Experience a self-guided tour of lovely Rosecliff

Photo by Andrew Brooks

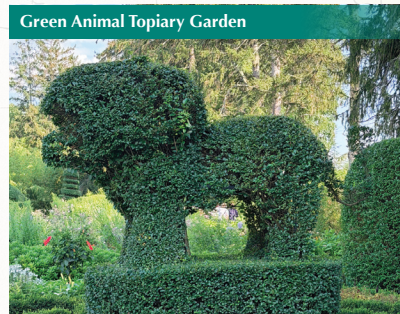


Grande Dame of Newport



Grand Marble House

Photo: Discover Newport



Green Animal Topiary Garden



Photo: Discover Newport

Cruise by Rose Island Lighthouse

Rhode Island's Mansions

2027 DATES & PRICES			 
DATES:	August 8 - 13, 2027 (6 Days)		
PRICE PER PERSON:	\$4,299 Double	\$4,939 Single	
	\$4,099 Triple	\$3,999 Quad	
PRICE INCLUDES:	Roundtrip airfare from MSP including baggage fees, all taxes & surcharges, 10 Meals, all hotels & activities as stated, Luxury Motorcoach		
DEPOSIT DUE PER PERSON:	\$200 deposit per person at time of reservation. Full payment due 60 days prior to departure.		
OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION P/P:	\$383 Double per person	\$428 Single	
TRAVEL BUCKS:	\$55 per person on future travel with R&J		
TOUR PACE:	Moderate to Extensive Walking		(See page 9 for description)
NEEDED TRAVEL DOCUMENTS:	A REAL ID or Enhanced Driver's License is Required or a Valid Passport.		

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