

THINGS TO DO ON THE BOLD COAST SCENIC BYWAY

NATURE AND SCENERY

Coastal Villages (Milbridge to East Machias)

- **Pigeon Hill:** Spectacular panoramic ocean views toward Cadillac and over myriad islands highlight this 1.2 mile-trail within the Pigeon Hill Preserve. In fall great expanses of undeveloped forests glow with color around Schoodic and Black Mountains. The summit of Pigeon Hill is the highest point in the coastal region of eastern Washington County.
- **Maine Coastal Islands National Wildlife Refuge:** Spanning a total of 3,801 acres in three towns, Refuge trails wind through pine forests, peatlands, blueberry barrens, marshes, cedar swamps, granite shores, and cobble beaches.
- **McClellan Park:** A 10.4-acre park with spectacular views of open ocean and islands, rocky beaches, trails, picnic tables and primitive campsites.
- **Frank E. Woodworth Preserve:** A 1.8-mile loop trail through moss-carpeted woodlands, with a mixed forest containing many trees more than a century old. The trail emerges at the shoreline overlooking the upper reaches of Pleasant Bay. Several tidal rivers converge off Ripley Neck, supporting a wide array of shorebirds and waterfowl.
- **Tibbett Island:** A 23-acre island preserve across a sheltered narrows from Addison's municipal park and boat launch, hosting a diverse collection of vegetation and landscape types, including gravel beaches perfect for landing small watercraft in almost any weather condition. The town of Addison contains 4 boat launches and is close to numerous membership-access islands along the Maine Island Trail system.
- **Great Wass Island Preserve:** A 1,540-acre tract with 4.5 miles of trails winding through moss-floored forests, traversing open ledges, and skirting the shoreline with spectacular views of the islands of Eastern Bay.
- **Sandy River Beach:** a rare-for-the-area vast expanse of public access sandy beach. Great for kids and dogs.
- **Jonesport town marina and Old House Point Road:** Excellent street views of a classic working waterfront.
- **Downeast Institute:** The Downeast Institute is the easternmost marine research laboratory and education center in the US, and is also a shellfish hatchery supplying local municipalities with clam seed and shellfish educational programs. Guided tours of the facility can be arranged.
- **Roque Bluffs State Park:** A 274-acre park offering miles of hiking trails, cliffs and rocky shores to explore, a picnic area, and pebbled beach perfect for swimming, beach-combing, and paddling.
- **Jasper Beach:** a unique beach boasting zillions of tiny, rounded, colorful pebbles of volcanic rhyolite.

Bold Coast (East Machias to Lubec)

- **East Machias Aquatic Research Center:** a research and community outreach facility on the East Machias River that includes a fish hatchery, a flow-through fresh water experimental facility, a state certified water quality testing laboratory, a Technical Resources Center, and a small Historic Museum/Education Center.
- **Western Head Preserve:** A 3.5 mile trail beginning alongside the Little River and winding through pasture and forest to the edge of the sea at Flaggtown Beach, with views

Cobscook Bay (Whiting to Eastport)

- **Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge:** One of the oldest National Wildlife Refuges and located in the Atlantic Flyway, with over 50 miles of dirt roads and trails for, 3 self-guided interpretive trails, and opportunities to tour with wildlife biologists.
- **Perry-Eastport Causeway:** The causeway connecting the island of Eastport with the mainland of Perry, offers 180-degree vistas of open ocean, islands, and harbors.
- **Sipp Bay Preserve:** A 16-acre peninsula close to Route 1 in Perry offering grassy open fields for picnicking, short walking trails, hand carry boat access, and great scenic views.
- **Shackford Head State Park:** A diverse trail system from easy walks to challenging terrain atop bold cliffs provides beach access and fantastic views of Cobscook Bay and surrounding peninsulas. Great care should be taken when exploring these beaches because of the tides that fluctuate 20 feet in a short amount of time. Trails near the parking area provide some access for wheelchairs but the entire trail network is not handicap accessible.
- **Cobscook Bay State Park:** 888 acres surrounded on three sides by ocean, providing numerous remote campsites along the water's edge.
- **Old Sow Whirlpool:** The largest natural whirlpool in the Western Hemisphere and one of five significant whirlpools worldwide!

Regional

- **Downeast Sunrise Trail:** An 85-mile, multi-use corridor connecting eastern Maine and the head of the East Coast Greenway. Traverses numerous inland habitat types.
- **Maine Island Trail:** A 375-mile recreational waterway that spans the entire coast of Maine and connects over 200 island and mainland sites open for day visits or overnight camping.
- **Downeast Lakes Land Trust:** Part of a larger network of preserved lands, the Downeast Lakes Water Trail within the Farm Grove Community Forest offers remote and scenic wilderness exploration on lake and forest trails.
- **Downeast and Acadia Birding Trail:** A self-guided trail encompassing Washington and Hancock Counties, providing birding opportunities in diverse habitat on public lands.
- **Ice-Age Trail:** A self-guided regional tour comprised of the finest and most accessible geological effects of glacial influence of the last North American continental ice sheet.

CULTURE AND HISTORY

Coastal Villages (Milbridge to East Machias)

- **Town of Cherryfield Historic District:** An area of approximately 75 acres spanning the Narraguagus River, this National Historic District contains substantially intact residential and commercial buildings depicting the nineteenth century development of a riverside community. There are 52 contributing and 10 non-contributing buildings in the district.
- **Worcester Wreath Company:** A family owned company that sustainably manages its local 4,000 acres balsam fir forest and produces wreaths, centerpieces, and Christmas trees.
- **Lynch Hill Farm:** A family-owned cranberry farm and farm store.
- **Wreaths Across America Museum:** A museum showcasing hundreds of US military items, intended to provide insight into and tell the stories of US military personnel, as

- **McCurdy's Smokehouse:** A complex of buildings once used to smoke herring, now serving as a museum to the cultural and economic significance of the smoking and canning industry.
- **Tours of Lubec and Cobscook:** A nonprofit group that strives to promote and protect the historical, cultural, ecological and economic environment of the Lubec area through environmentally sound tourism. Learn about this beautiful and unusual region through guided historic and environmental tours, or download their self-guided recordings. Tour packages contain a narrated MP3 audio tour, map, and photo package.
- **R.S. Peacock Fire Museum:** Home of the 1865 hand-propelled pumper tub "Torrent", and other historic fire-fighting equipment.
- **Roosevelt Campobello International Park in New Brunswick:** An international park featuring President and Eleanor Roosevelt's summer home and celebrating the friendship between Canada and the United States. The park includes 2,800-acres with trails winding through beaches, bogs, forests, and ocean headlands.
- **West Quoddy Head Lighthouse Keepers Association Visitor's Center:** Located inside the 1858 Light Keepers' house adjacent to the lighthouse, the visitor center provides information about lighthouse keepers, sardine canning, and aquaculture history. Adjacent to Quoddy Head State Park.
- **ARTWORKSOFMAINE:** A visual and performing arts center offering classes and events in dance, music, art, theatre, and chorus.
- **Cobscook Community Learning Center:** Offers a vast array of art and cultural programs, events, and opportunities.

Cobscook Bay (Whiting to Eastport)

- **Waponahki Museum and Resource Center:** A museum of the Passamaquoddy Tribal culture, language, and traditions. Includes displays, dance, food, storytelling, and artist demonstrations.
- **Dennysville Historic District:** Includes 22 buildings on 300 acres, in Colonial Revival and Federal style.
- **Raye's Mustard Mill:** A working museum showcasing North America's last remaining traditional stone-ground mustard mill that still utilizes the traditional cold grind process.
- **Tides Institute and Museum of Art:** Exhibits cultural collections; sponsors cultural events; provides cultural education; and fosters cultural connections.
- **Tide Mill Organic Farm:** A ninth-generation organic family farm offering farm tours and open farm day, also a MOO milk family farm.
- **Eastport Historic District:** Located on Water Street with 29 buildings in Italianate and Romanesque styles
- **Boynton Street Historic District (also in Eastport):** Includes 3 buildings on 20 acres in the Federal style.
- **Fort Sullivan:** A museum located in the northernmost officers quarters of historic Fort Sullivan, containing photographs and other military and civilian historical items regarding both Fort Sullivan and the sardine and ground-fishing industry.
- **The Old Powder House:** A visible remnant of the old powder house, part of the original Fort Sullivan, which was captured by the British in 1812.

Regional Trails

Themed, Self-Guided Driving Tours

[Maine Sculpture Trail](#) – The Maine Sculpture Trail is an outdoor exhibit of 34 sculptures spanning over 273 miles of the coastal region of DownEast Maine. Four symposia were held that engaged individuals and communities in public art and resulted in this public art collection in Eastern Maine. Nine sculptures are located along the Bold Coast Scenic Byway, and a several of these are also Downeast Fisheries Trail sites. The sculptures integrate art, culture, history, and location. The Maine trail is connected to Sculpture St. John, a similar trail resulting from symposiums held in New Brunswick.

[Ice Age Trail](#) – The Ice Age Trail was created under the direction of the Quaternary Studies program at the University of Maine, in collaboration with other partners. The trail highlights significant geological sites related to the most recent Ice Age when Maine was covered in a giant ice sheet. The Ice Age Trail is comprised of the finest and most accessible of these features. It follows the margins of the last great North American continental ice sheet and coincides with many Downeast tourist attractions. The Maine Ice Age Trail map is sold through the University of Maine bookstore is also available for free download on the website.

[Down East Fisheries Trail](#) — Launched in 2000, the Down East Fisheries Trail highlights the culture and heritage of fishing in Downeast Maine. From Penobscot Bay to Cobscook Bay, the Downeast Fisheries Trail connects historic and active fisheries sites that illustrate the region's maritime heritage. Marine resources sustain the culture and economy of Downeast Maine. The Downeast Fisheries Trail builds on these local resources to strengthen community life and the experience of visitors. Many sites on the Downeast Fisheries Trail are within the byway corridor. This is a project of the Maine Sea Grant and Sunrise County Economic Council working in collaboration with the DERC&D Vacationland Resources Committee. This effort presents a number of opportunities for collaboration on development of interpretive materials.

[Maine Birding Trail](#) – The Maine Birding Trail makes it easy to plan a birding vacation in wild, scenic places along the rocky coast or in the deep forest, that feature excellent birding, but also have excellent parking, paths, facilities, etc. The Trail was created in partnership with Maine Audubon, the Maine Office of Tourism, the Maine Department of Conservation, and the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife. This trail includes 82 official sites throughout Maine, with 14 sites located in the Down East region. Five of the Down East sites on the Maine Birding Trail are located in Hancock County and nine in Washington County, 8 of which are along the Bold Coast Scenic Byway. Campobello and Grand Manan Islands are featured in the companion *Maine Birding Trail Official Guide*, which details over 260 sites, many of them off the beaten track and away from crowds, and features over 100 maps, secrets for finding sought-after species, and advice on trip-planning.

Other Scenic Byways

[Schoodic Scenic Byway](#) – A 27-mile driving route providing access to fishing villages and stunning coastal scenery around much of the Schoodic Peninsula, including the Schoodic portion of Acadia National Park.

[Blackwoods Scenic Byway](#) – This scenic byway extends 12.5 miles along Route 182 through undeveloped mountains, lakes, and forests between the towns of Franklin in Hancock County and Cherryfield in Washington County.

[Acadia All American Road](#) – Winding through iconic Acadia National Park, this 40-mile scenic byway provides access to miles of interconnected carriage roads, 26 mountains, 22 lakes and ponds, all against the backdrop of the Atlantic Ocean.

Maine Beer and Wine Trails

The Maine Beer and Wine Trails spotlight the high quality and creative diversity of fresh, hand-crafted, Maine-made beers and wines. The purpose of the Trails are to give visitors a unique way to enjoy the vibrant micro and craft brewing industry found throughout the state.

mainebrewersguild.org/maine-beer-trail

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