

TOPSIDE INN

BOOTHBAY HARBOR, MAINE *Above it All*

A FIVE-DAY ITINERARY FOR YOUR STAY AT TOPSIDE INN, BOOTHBAY HARBOR, MAINE

YOU COULD EASILY FILL AN ENTIRE WEEK ...

Day 1

Here are some of our favorite "must-do" activities for when you can only spend one night at Topside Inn:

- **Sail:** Set sail on a local schooner and experience the harbor from a unique vantage point. Watching the sunset across the bay is the best way to relax, unwind and puts you in vacation mode. We can prepare a picnic including wine, cheese and more if you would like
- **Sip:** Enjoy a glass of wine and bite to eat in our new posh Bar One, or on the front porch of our inn before walking to one of the excellent local restaurants for an evening meal.
- **Sit & Stroll:** Spend time on the Topside property, taking in the spectacular harbor & ocean views while wandering through the seaside perennial gardens, raised vegetable garden beds and new chicken coop, with fresh eggs for breakfast. Picture yourself "above it all" enjoying the rolling lawn, in a pair of Adirondack chairs, cocktail in hand, or playing a game of bocce ball or cornhole.

Enjoy a locally sourced, creative 'over the top' breakfast cooked to order each morning of your stay at Topside Inn. Spend the morning at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens. We recommend at least 2 hours, but you can easily spend more time there with 270 acres of gardens, shorelands, and scenic woodland trails.

Day 2

If you are staying with us for two nights, follow up your morning at the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens with these MidCoast adventures:

- **Kayak:** Rent from Tidal Transit Kayak Co. and launch directly from the Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens or embark on their Harbor Tour with a scenic stop at Burnt Island Lighthouse.
- **Hike:** Explore the natural beauty of our area at one of the Boothbay Region Land Trust preserves. Porter Preserve and Ovens Mouth Preserve are two of our favorites near the botanical gardens. We recommend grabbing a lobster roll or sandwich at Trevett Country Store and having a picnic at one of the scenic vistas at the preserves.
- **Drive:** See the rocky Maine coast and explore Ocean Point and the King Phillips Trail,

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both of which are an easy drive from Topside Inn. Free parking is available at Ocean Point if you care to take a walk in this summer community perched on the edge of the Atlantic Ocean. Be sure to stop at East Boothbay General Store on your way to Ocean point to grab a sandwich for an oceanfront picnic.

- **Shop in town:** Stroll along Boothbay Harbor's main street to explore a variety of shops and art galleries. We're happy to provide a map of the local highlights to make the most of your time in town. Grab a fresh lobster roll at Shannon's Unshelled near the historic Boothbay Harbor Footbridge.
- **Shop at Topside:** Signature Farm & Sea products, Topside merchandise, and the works of local artists, including Alison Evans Ceramics (AE Home), as well as Villard Studios mini-gallery we have on display throughout the main Inn, available for purchase, and an option to set up a visit to the East-side Gallery and Studio by appointment.

Day 3

Consider a trip to Monhegan Island for the third day of your stay. Your journey begins with Balmy Days Cruises as you depart from Pier 8 just steps from our inn at 9:30 a.m. (5-minute walk). Sit back and relax for a 90-minute cruise, when you are likely to see seals, harbor porpoises and maybe even a whale if you are lucky, then spend a full afternoon exploring Monhegan Island. There is something for everyone there!

- Hike the woodland trails to the bluffs and view the dramatic cliffs and crashing surf.
- Check out the small but delicious local brewery, Monhegan Brewing Company.
- Eat a picnic lunch and visit local art galleries. (You may even see artists painting the idyllic scenery all around you.)
- If picnicking is not your style, do not miss the freshest seafood (including fish tacos and tuna burgers) at the Fish House, or for a sit-down experience try the Monhegan Island House

You will return to the harbor by 4:30, giving you plenty of time to relax plan your evening. Catching an evening performance at the Opera House at Boothbay Harbor makes for a special night out.

Day 4

On your fourth day, we recommend taking our self-guided foodie tour to enjoy the local delicacies and craft beverages of MidCoast Maine. This tour takes you to two more breweries, a distillery, an unexpectedly sophisticated vineyard, farmers markets, and specialty food shops. A foodie tour is our favorite way to experience any region!

Indulge at:

- Boothbay Craft Brewery
- Footbridge Brewery

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- Oxbow Brewing Company
- Beth's Farm Market
- Morse's Sauerkraut Farm and European Deli (great lunch spot)
- Sweetgrass Farm Winery & Distillery
- Cellardoor Vineyard

(Our front desk staff has updated information on all of these destinations, including addresses and driving directions, for your planning convenience. In addition, all the above update their websites regularly so please check as dates, times and availability may change depending on the season.

* Be sure to visit the nearby town of Camden before returning to Topside Inn

If you prefer to explore our region via museums and historical sights, we will help point you toward some fascinating attractions.

Visit:

- Boothbay Railway Village
- Castle Tucker
- Maine Maritime Museum
- Farnsworth Museum
- Owl's Head Transportation Museum
- Maine State Aquarium

Fun dinner suggestion: If you are interested in a "surf and turf" experience, sample a flight of local oysters at Mine Oyster Bar then head to the roof deck of the Boathouse Bistro and check out the *Bistro Burger* or the *Tomahawk steak*.

Day 5

If you are fortunate enough to have five or more days in Boothbay Harbor, you can continue to experience our region's beauty and history by land and by sea.

Lighthouse Tours and Local Beaches:

- Visit Pemaquid Point Lighthouse and Pemaquid Beach State Park.
- Enjoy the Burnt Island Lighthouse and Island Tour.
- Explore Hendrick's Head Lighthouse and beach – Stop at the Southport General Store for a slice of pizza

Scenic and Sea Life Tours:

- Whale watching
- Puffin tours
- Private fishing trips - Mainetain Charters

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- Private boat charter aboard the "Avelinda" – Southport Island Marine

The List Goes On: If you still have time to explore, take another look at the full itinerary and see what you may have missed. Do not forget to save some time to relax and enjoy the view in one of the country's most beautiful locations!

Additional Information for Your Visit:

- **Boothbay Farmers Market:** The Boothbay Farmers Market is open each Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. from May to October at the Boothbay Town Common.
- **Maine Music Cruises:** Join the fun on a sunset reggae cruise on certain Sundays from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Sip rum punch and enjoy the scenery while the Dani Tribesmen Reggae band provides the tunes.
- **More Local Restaurants:** The MidCoast region is full of incredible restaurants. Feel free to visit our website for even more options than you see here on your itinerary. Dine on the docks, in a tavern, or under the stars! No matter which restaurant you choose, you are in for a delicious meal.

Concierge Services and More at Topside Inn:

Stop by our front desk during your stay or contact us for additional tips and recommendations! We are happy to assist with restaurant reservations, VIP reserved seating for Opera House events, boat charters, and more. Plus, our comfortable lodging puts you within short walking or driving distance of the best things to do in our area. **Browse our list of accommodations today and book your stay to enjoy it all!**