

REGIONAL GUIDEBOOK 2025

WISCASSET

ALNA | EDGECOMB | DRESDEN | WESTPORT ISLAND | WOOLWICH



Six towns - One destination - Adventures for all.

Year-Round Adventure In & Around **WISCASSET**

JANUARY/FEBRUARY
Steam & Sleigh at WW&F Railway Museum



APRIL
Season Opening at
Wiscasset Speedway



MAY
Wiscasset Wormfest



JUNE
St. Philip's Church Strawberry Festival



JULY
Alive on the Common Concert Series



AUGUST
Maine Night Market at Maine Tasting Center



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER
Wiscasset Holiday Marketfest



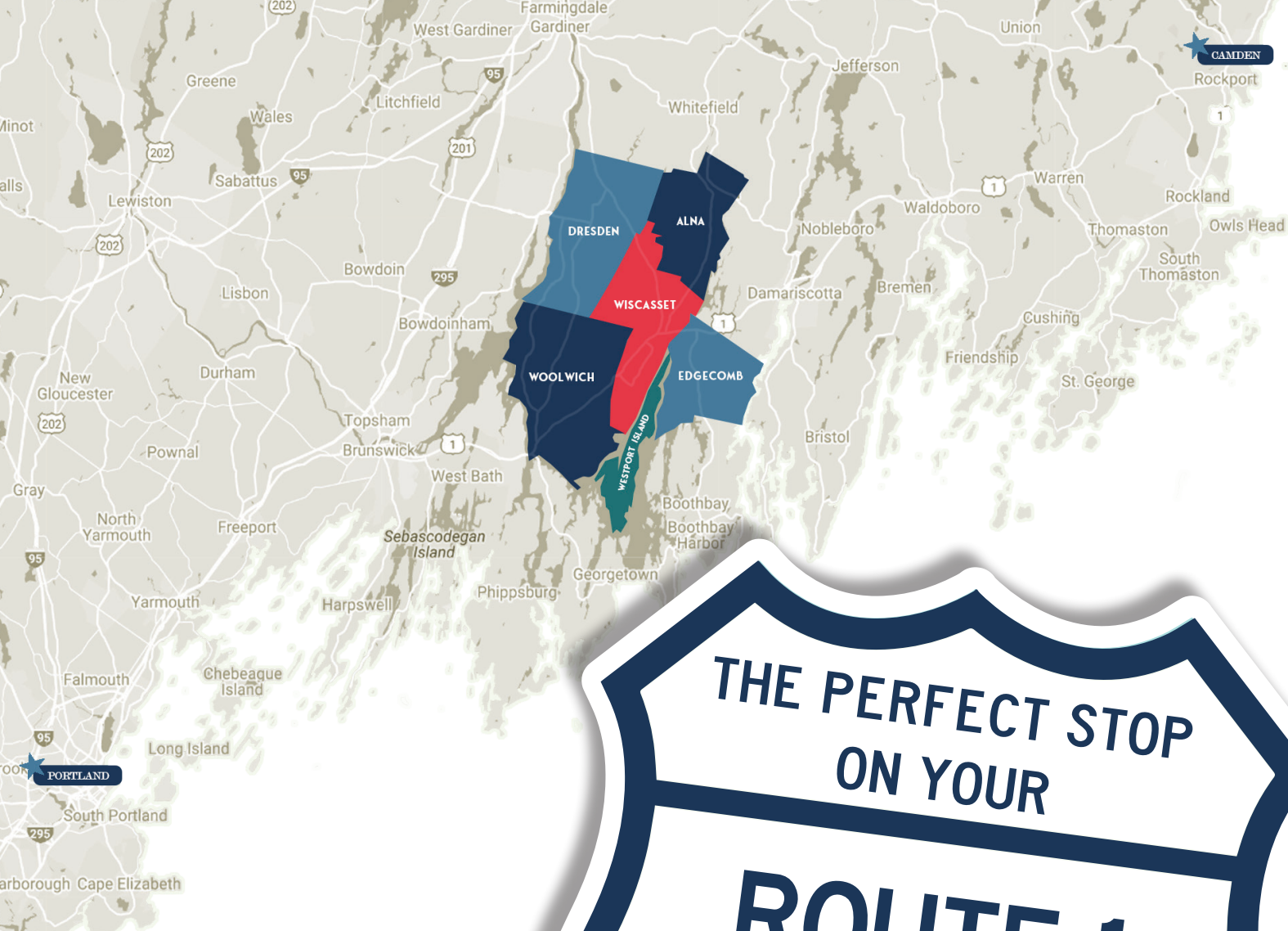
OCTOBER
Wiscasset Homes
on Tour



SEPTEMBER
Battle of the Boards



For a full list of festivals and events, visit us online
wiscassetchamber.com



THE PERFECT STOP
ON YOUR
ROUTE 1
ADVENTURE

Nestled along Route 1, just 50 minutes from both Portland and Camden, the Wiscasset region - made up of six charming towns - is packed with local character and adventures for every kind of traveler. Whether you're stopping for a quick detour or settling in for a longer stay, you'll find cozy inns, delicious dining, unique shops, outdoor escapes, stunning views, and a history as rich as the experience.

Welcome to Wiscasset, Maine - the heart of Midcoast Maine, where history meets coastal charm. As you journey along Route 1, you'll find our picturesque village nestled on the banks of the Sheepscot River, inviting you to slow down, explore, and immerse yourself in the beauty of our community. Whether you're here to experience our rich maritime heritage, savor fresh seafood by the water, or browse through locally owned shops, Wiscasset offers a warm welcome to visitors from near and far.

Our vibrant region, made up of six towns, boasts a diverse array of experiences that cater to every traveler. History enthusiasts can step back in time at sites like Castle Tucker and the Pownalborough Courthouse, while art lovers can stroll through galleries filled with local talent. For those seeking adventure, scenic trails, sailing excursions, and nature walks offer a chance to connect with Maine's stunning coastline. Be sure to visit during one of our cherished annual events - from ScarecrowFest to the Wiscasset Art Walk - where the spirit of our community shines brightest.

The Wiscasset Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to serve as a resource for both visitors and locals alike. We encourage you to explore all that our town has to offer and to connect with the incredible businesses that make Wiscasset special. Whether you're planning a weekend getaway, a family vacation, or simply passing through, we invite you to discover why Wiscasset is known as the "Prettiest Village in Maine."

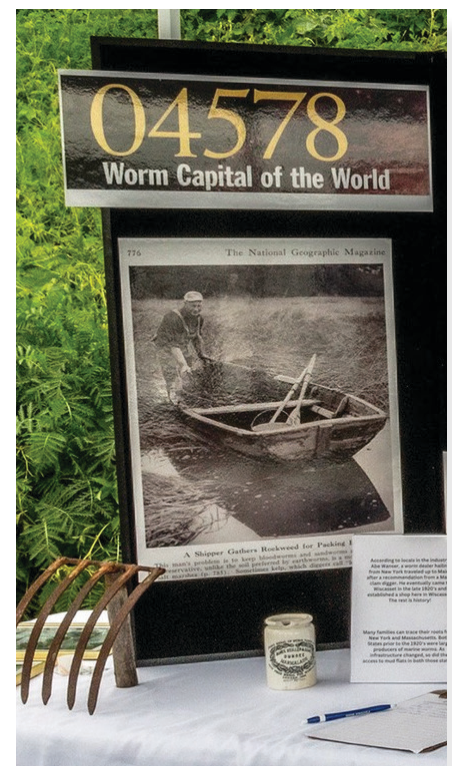
Enjoy your time in the Wiscasset region - we can't wait to share it with you!

Sincerely,

*The Wiscasset Area
Chamber of Commerce*

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We extend our heartfelt thanks to Bob Bond of 40 Federal Studio, whose generous gift of time and talent as Wiscasset's "unofficial documentarian" has beautifully captured the town's events, people, and places, helping to preserve its unique character and bringing this guidebook to life through his stunning photography.

Cover Photo: "SchoonerFest 2022"
by Ernie Gallerani

WISCASSET:

Your Destination for Four Seasons Fun



Winter

Winter in Wiscasset is full of charm, from Holiday Marketfest in December to Winterfest in February. Ride a Christmas Train, take a Steam & Sleigh ride, or explore snowy trails. Whether sipping cocoa or trekking the winter woods, Wiscasset is a cozy seasonal escape!

Spring

Spring in Wiscasset means fresh starts and fast cars! Wiscasset Speedway roars back to life, thrilling families and racing fans with events like the Wicked Good Vintage Racers. Trails burst into bloom - perfect for a hike - while May's Wiscasset WormFest celebrates the town's quirky worm-digging heritage.



Summer

Summer in Wiscasset is the perfect time to soak in the charm of coastal Maine. Stroll through the Museum in the Streets, savor fresh seafood by the water, and enjoy the vibrant atmosphere of local festivals, parades, and harbor activity; boaters are welcome at the town pier or Wiscasset Yacht Club. Tour the historic Sunken Gardens or Wiscasset Old Jail, or explore distinctive works of art at the Maine Art Gallery, housed in a beautifully preserved historic building.

Fall

As autumn sets in, Wiscasset's vibrant foliage and relaxed pace make it a perfect fall escape. September brings the Maine Needham Festival - which celebrates Maine's historic potato candy - while October's Scarecrow Fest adds small-town charm. Nearby, PumpkinFest in Damariscotta makes the season unforgettable.



Plan Your Visit



Maine's Prettiest Village

Has a Story to Tell

Back in 2018, Boston Magazine writer Matthew Reed Baker set out to answer a question we hear all the time: Why is Wiscasset called the Prettiest Village in Maine? He traced it all the way back to 1924, when Wallace Nutting - a minister-turned-artist with a deep love for New England - sang Wiscasset's praises in his book *Maine Beautiful*. According to Nutting, our little village had more "beauty, quaintness, and dignity" than just about any other in the state. Nearly a century later, we like to think that still holds true.

Take a stroll through downtown, and it's easy to see why. Historic buildings anchor the village - like the stately Nickels-Sortwell House and Castle Tucker - each a remnant of the town's prosperous maritime past. The Sheepscot River shimmers at the edge of Main Street, while just beyond the center, landmarks like the Wiscasset Old Jail and the quiet Sunken Gardens add texture to the town's layered history. Tree-lined streets, a salty breeze, and a sense of timelessness make it clear why Nutting - and so many others - fell in love.

But here's the thing about Wiscasset: we're more than just a pretty face. We also happen to be the Worm Digging Capital of the World. (That's right - world.) For decades, our hardworking locals have been harvesting bloodworms and sandworms from the tidal mudflats, sending them off as prized bait for fishermen far and wide. It's tough, muddy work, but it's also a proud part of our heritage.

So, Wiscasset isn't just the prettiest little village - it's got grit, character, and a few surprises up its sleeve. Whether you're here for the history, the views, or just a really good lobster roll, we think you'll see why people keep coming back.





Tim Dunham
REALTY

Sherri Dunbar

Your local real estate expert-providing exceptional real estate services to sellers and buyers throughout Mid-Coast Maine.

152 Main Street, Wiscasset 04578
(207)882-5020 Sherri@DunhamRealty.com

STAY *in Wiscasset*

When exploring Midcoast Maine, Wiscasset offers the perfect home base for your stay. Nestled conveniently along Route 1, our charming village places you within easy reach of popular coastal destinations like Boothbay Harbor, Camden, and Bar Harbor. Choosing to stay in Wiscasset allows you to enjoy the peaceful charm of a small-town retreat while remaining close to Maine's most iconic sights. Our accommodations range from cozy bed-and-breakfasts to charming seaside cottages, ensuring a comfortable and memorable experience for every traveler.

Staying in Wiscasset offers more than just convenience - it provides a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in the character of Midcoast Maine. Wake up to views of the Sheepscot River, wander through historic streets lined with 18th-century architecture, and experience the warmth of our welcoming community. Many local accommodations offer personal touches that highlight the region's heritage, such as locally sourced breakfasts, waterfront seating, or curated recommendations from hosts who know the area best.

For those looking to explore beyond the village, Wiscasset's central location makes day trips effortless. Spend your mornings discovering nearby hiking trails, your afternoons exploring art galleries or coastal lighthouses, and your evenings dining on fresh seafood back in Wiscasset's tranquil setting. Whether you're seeking a romantic getaway, a family vacation, or a quiet escape, staying in Wiscasset allows you to enjoy the best of Midcoast Maine with comfort, charm, and ease.



Unique Stays

1 For the Outdoors Enthusiast

If you're road-tripping through Midcoast Maine, Wiscasset is the perfect place to park your RV or set up camp. Chewonki Campground offers waterfront sites, cozy cabins, and tent camping in a peaceful setting. Looking for something a little more rustic? Midcoast Conservancy offers cabins, yurts and campsites year round at their Hidden Valley Nature center in nearby Jefferson.

For RVers using the Harvest Hosts app, request a night at Maine Tasting Center, right on Route 1, a visitors center that showcases Maine's incredible food culture. Fans of craft beer will also find several other great nearby options through the app.

Whether you prefer a classic campground or something different, Wiscasset welcomes RVers with small-town charm, coastal beauty, and plenty of reasons to linger.



2 For the History Lover

Wiscasset is a town rich in history, boasting stunning historic architecture. For a truly unique experience, travelers can book a night at the Nickels-Sortwell House, a beautifully preserved 1807 Federal-style mansion managed by Historic New England. Once a grand private residence and later a hotel, this elegant home offers guests a rare opportunity to stay in an authentic period setting while enjoying modern comforts. With limited availability, reservations fill quickly, but if you miss out, there are plenty of other historic accommodations in and around Wiscasset to explore.



3 For the Family

Traveling with a group? The Sheepscot River Shore House offers a prime Wiscasset stay with stunning harbor views, just steps from restaurants and attractions. Overlooking the Sheepscot River, this elegant rental provides privacy and comfort for families, event groups, and special gatherings. It's also a perfect venue for receptions, weddings, and retreats. If it's booked or you're looking for something different, other vacation rentals in and around Wiscasset offer great options for your stay.



NOW ACCEPTING DEPOSITS!

YOUR NEW HOME AWAITS.

Islebrook Village is **OPENING SOON** and apartments are going fast!

Visit our **Sales Office** or call **207-656-7600** for more information.

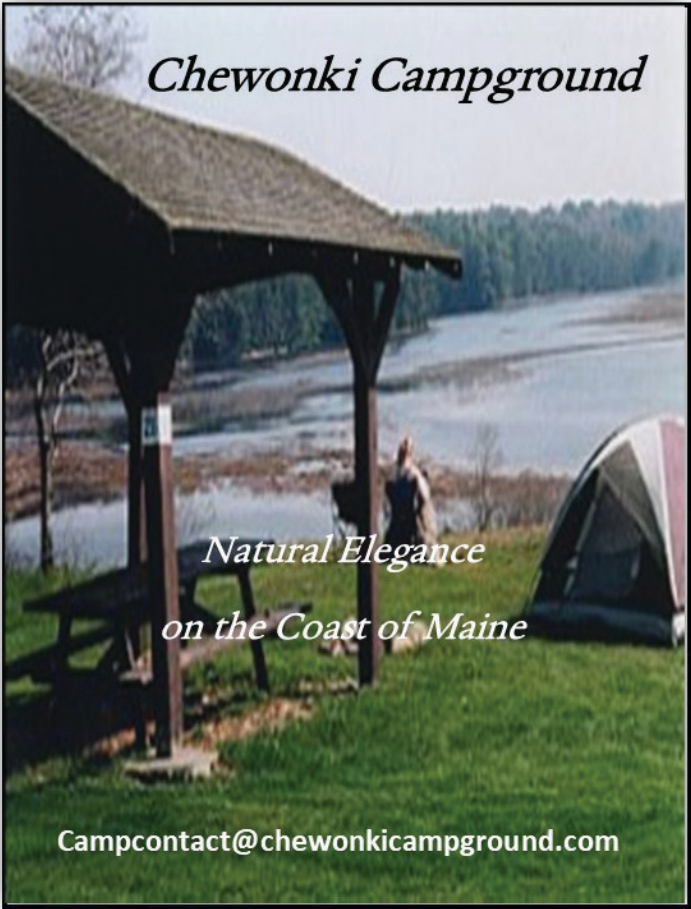


Islebrook Village at Wiscasset

An Everbrook Senior Living Community

INDEPENDENT LIVING / ASSISTED LIVING / MEMORY CARE

207-656-7600 / islebrookvillage.com
61 Flood Ave., Rt. 1 / Wiscasset



Chewonki Campground

*Natural Elegance
on the Coast of Maine*

Campcontact@chewonkicampground.com



MAY 31, 2025 | 11 AM - 7 PM

Vendors | Food Trucks | Kids' Activities
Live Music | Relay Races | and More!

EAT *in Wiscasset*

Wiscasset may be a small town, but it boasts a vibrant dining scene that delights food lovers from near and far. As a gateway to Maine's coastal cuisine, Wiscasset offers everything from casual seafood shacks to elevated dining experiences. Whether you're craving fresh oysters, classic lobster rolls, or farm-to-table fare, you'll find a variety of options that celebrate local ingredients and Maine's rich culinary heritage.

Iconic eateries like Red's Eats have drawn national attention for their legendary lobster rolls, while hidden gems throughout the village offer unique dining experiences with locally sourced ingredients. Many restaurants partner with nearby farms and fisheries, ensuring fresh, flavorful dishes that capture the essence of Midcoast Maine. From waterfront patios with stunning views to cozy indoor spaces perfect for lingering over a glass of wine, Wiscasset's dining spots offer something for every palate.

Beyond the incredible food, dining in Wiscasset offers a sense of connection to the community. Many restaurants are family-owned, with chefs who take pride in sharing Maine's flavors with visitors. Whether you're enjoying a relaxed brunch, a quick grab-and-go treat, or a special dinner with friends, Wiscasset's welcoming hospitality ensures your dining experience is as memorable as the meal itself.

Wiscasset Eats

QUICK BITES & DRINKS

- 1 Bath Ale Works | Wiscasset
bathaleworks.com
- 2 Dresden Take Out | Dresden
Find them on Facebook
- 3 Market 27 | Wiscasset
Find them on Facebook



CLASSIC MAINE SEAFOOD

- 4 Red's Eats | Wiscasset
www.redseatsmaine.com
- 5 The Sea Basket | Wiscasset
www.seabasket.com
- 6 Sprague's Lobster | Wiscasset
Find them on Facebook



DINNER

7 Back River Bistro | Wiscasset
www.backriverbistro.com

8 Jodie's Café and Bakery | Wiscasset
Find them on Facebook

9 The Montsweag | Woolwich
www.themontsweag.com

10 Water Street Kitchen and Bar | Wiscasset
waterstreetmaine.com



UNIQUE FOOD EXPERIENCES



11

Maine Tasting Center
www.mainetastingcenter.com

A public education center for exploring Maine-made food and drink through tastings, classes, and exhibits.

12

Sweetz & More
sweetzandmore.com

New England's largest candy store, with thousands of sweet treats, retro sodas, and bulk candies.

13

Wiscasset Farmers Market
www.wiscassetfarmersmarket.com

A weekly outdoor market featuring local fresh produce, meats, baked goods, handmade crafts, and more.

Dueling Lobster Shacks

A Wiscasset Summertime Tradition

In the heart of Maine’s “Prettiest Village”, two legendary lobster shacks sit just steps apart, offering visitors a delicious dilemma—Red’s Eats and Sprague’s Lobster. Affectionately dubbed Wiscasset’s “dueling lobster shacks”, these beloved spots serve up some of the best lobster rolls in the state, each with its own unique appeal.

A true roadside icon, Red’s Eats has been drawing crowds since 1954. Its famous overstuffed lobster roll—often packed with more than a full pound of fresh-picked meat—is served in a grilled bun with a side of butter or mayo. Featured on the Food Network, Netflix, and CBS Sunday Morning, Red’s is a bucket-list stop for seafood lovers. Be prepared for a line, especially in summer - but the wait is part of the experience, with stunning river views and a chance to chat with fellow travelers.



Just across the road, Sprague’s Lobster offers its own take on the classic Maine lobster roll, served riverside with plenty of outdoor seating and unbeatable water views. Sprague’s also serves whole steamed lobsters, fried seafood, and chowder, making it a great choice for those who want the full Maine seafood experience. The service is quick and friendly, the setting is relaxed, and there’s plenty of space to enjoy a leisurely meal by the water.

Some may playfully debate which shack is “better,” but the truth is, Wiscasset is lucky to have both! Whether you go for Red’s legendary roll or Sprague’s scenic, full-menu experience, one thing’s for sure - you’re in for a true taste of summer in Maine.



MAINE NEEDHAM FESTIVAL

September 27, 2025 | 10am - 3pm at Maine Tasting Center

POTATOES... IN CANDY?!

Only in Maine! The Maine Needham Festival celebrates this quirky, delicious treat made from coconut, chocolate, and yes - potatoes! The whole family can enjoy Needham-making demos, lawn games and live music, while sampling and shopping with candymakers and artisans from across the state. It’s a festival as unique as Maine itself!

MENEEDHAMFEST.COM



ALWAYS FRESH. ALWAYS FRIENDLY.

A WISCASSET TRADITION FOR 45 YEARS & COUNTING



"We're known for our food because we're very particular about quality and consistency, but what really makes it special is the people. A lot of my team has been here for years - they know folks by name, and we've got customers who come back every summer just to see them."

-John, General Manager since 2015

For more than four decades, the Sea Basket has been known not just for award-winning fried clams and delicious, lobster-packed stew, but for the people behind every bite.

Our long-time team takes pride in everything they do - serving always-fresh, never frozen local seafood and treating every guest like an old friend. Their care and consistency shine through on every plate, which is why so many customers return week after week, year after year.

It's that deep-rooted commitment to quality and community that's kept us cooking in Wiscasset for 45 years!



WWW.SEABASKET.COM

303 Bath Rd, Wiscasset, ME 04578 | 207-882-6581
Open year round | Wed - Sun 11:30am - 7:00pm

SHOP *in Wiscasset*

Shopping in Wiscasset is an experience that blends charm, creativity, and authenticity. Our village is home to a delightful mix of locally owned boutiques, art galleries, and specialty shops that reflect the heart of Midcoast Maine. As you stroll down Water Street and beyond, you'll find inviting storefronts brimming with unique treasures, from hand-crafted pottery and coastal-inspired home decor to vintage finds and one-of-a-kind jewelry. Each shop tells a story, with owners who are passionate about their craft and eager to share their knowledge with visitors.

Art lovers will find inspiration in Wiscasset's galleries, showcasing works from talented Maine artists in mediums ranging from painting and sculpture to textiles and photography. Whether you're seeking a meaningful souvenir, a special gift, or a new statement piece for your home, these galleries offer thoughtfully curated collections that reflect the beauty of Maine's coastline and creative spirit. Many shops also prioritize locally sourced goods, ensuring your purchases support Maine's artisans and small businesses.

What sets shopping in Wiscasset apart is the personal connection visitors experience. Store owners are often on hand to greet you with a warm welcome, share the stories behind their collections, and help you discover something special. From whimsical shops like Rock Paper Scissors to charming antique stores and handcrafted goods, Wiscasset's shopping scene invites you to slow down, explore, and take home a piece of Maine's charm. Whether you're browsing for keepsakes or treating yourself to something special, shopping in Wiscasset is more than a transaction - it's a memorable part of your Midcoast Maine adventure.





AUTO PARTS

Whether you live in Midcoast Maine or are just roadtripping through, NAPA Auto Parts is your trusted source for quality automotive parts for your car or truck.

Let our knowledgeable team help you find the right vehicle battery, brakes, filters, headlights, wipers, and other essential parts to get the job done right.

We also carry tools, equipment, and a wide range of products for cars, heavy-duty trucks, boats, RVs, and tractors.

**ORDER YOUR PARTS ONLINE,
DROP BY OUR LOCATION OR
CALL US TODAY!**



WISCASSET

693 Bath Rd, Wiscasset
(207) 882-6389

M-F: 7:30am-5:30pm **S:** 8am-4pm **SUN:** 9am-1pm

BOOTHBAY

645 Wiscasset Rd, Boothbay
(207) 633-0103

M-F: 7:30am-5pm **S:** 8am-2pm **SUN:** Closed

WEST BATH

116 State Rd, West Bath
(207) 443-4274

M-F: 7:30am-5:30pm **S:** 8am-4pm **SUN:** Closed

WWW.NAPAONLINE.COM

Shop Wiscasset

ANTIQUES & ARTISANAL FINDS

1 Butterstamp Workshop
butterstampworkshop.tripod.com
Handmade buttermolds, ornaments
and folk art in a historic home

2 IndustrialME
theindustrialme.com
Hand-crafted functional art made by
lobstermene

3 Rock Paper Scissors
www.rockpaperscissorsmaine.com
A curated, whimsical selection of
personal and home accessories

4 The Peaceful Pagan Vintage
[Instagram @the_peaceful_pagan_vintage](https://www.instagram.com/the_peaceful_pagan_vintage)
Vintage shop celebrating earth
conscious clothing

5 Village Handcraft
www.villagehandcraft.com
Storefront and workshop selling
handmade goods that add joy to
common daily tasks

6 Water Lily Flowers and Gifts
www.waterlilyflowersandgifts.com
Florist offering custom arrangements,
houseplants, unique gifts & more

7 Wiscasset Antiques Mall
www.wiscassetantiquesmallme.com
Multi-floor antiques mall featuring
nearly 100 vendors and countless
treasures



*"My 48 years in Wiscasset have been very
successful - love the history, the quaint
downtown, and the people!"*

-Lois K., Co-owner of Butterstamp
Workshop

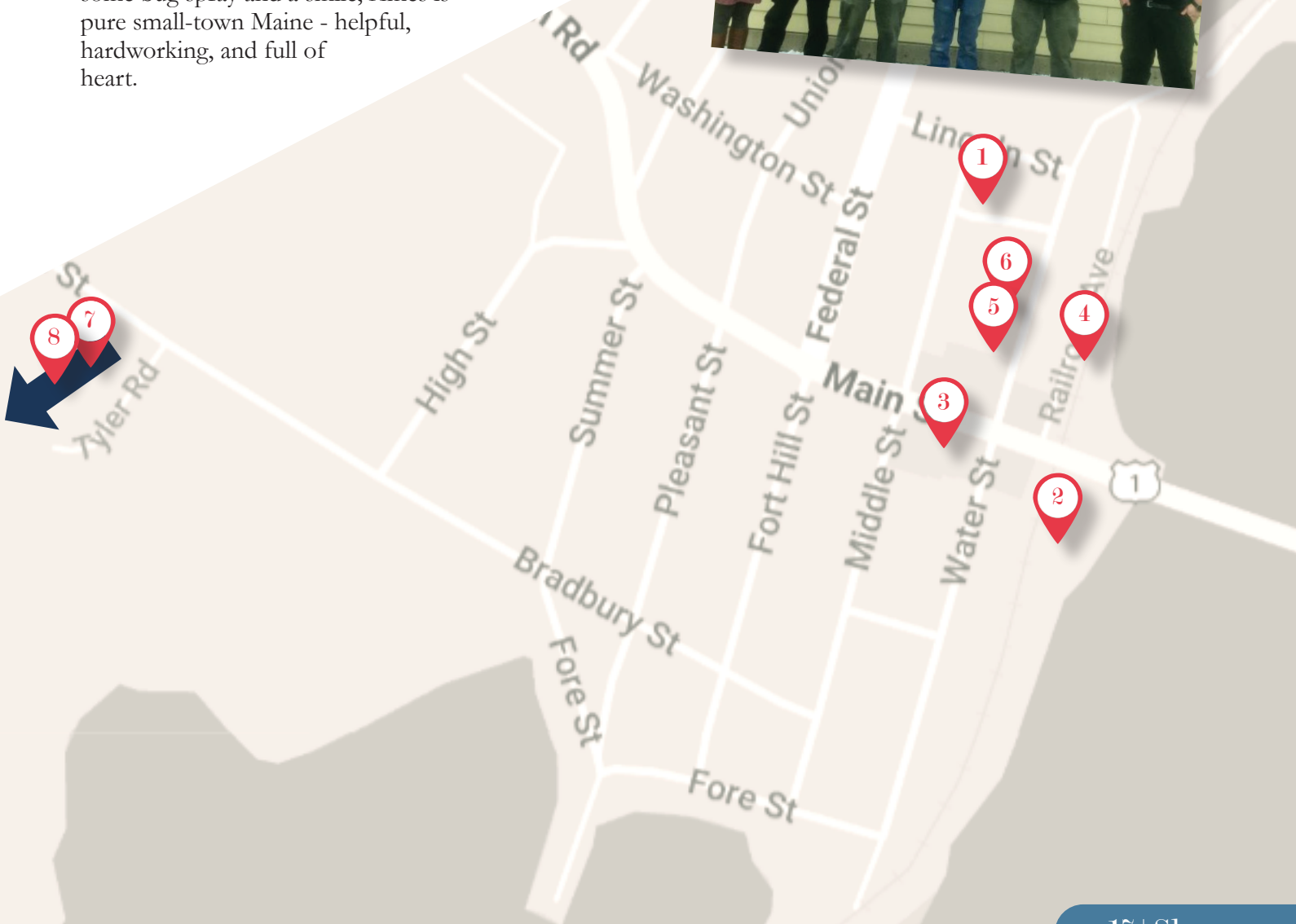
Spotlight On...

Ames True Value Hardware

Ames True Value Hardware isn't just a store, it's a Wiscasset institution. Family-owned for four generations, it began with Dan and Dot Ames and is now run by their grandson, Wayne Averill, with help from the next generation already involved.

More than just a hardware store, Ames is a one-stop shop for locals and visitors alike. From lumber, paint, and bird seed to kitchen tools, garden gear, a 24/7 pet wash, an ATM, and a UPS shipping counter, they truly have it all.

The Averill family's friendly service and deep local roots make every visit feel personal. Whether you're tackling a project, mailing a package, looking for a place to wash a muddy dog or just in need of some bug spray and a smile, Ames is pure small-town Maine - helpful, hardworking, and full of heart.



EXPLORE *Wiscasset*

Wiscasset invites visitors to slow down and embrace its rich history, vibrant culture, and scenic beauty. One of the best ways to immerse yourself in the town's story is through the Museum in the Streets, a self-guided walking tour that leads you through historic landmarks and notable sites. Stroll through our charming village and uncover fascinating tales of Wiscasset's maritime past, grand architecture, and the people who shaped this coastal gem. History lovers will also enjoy guided tours of Castle Tucker and the Nickels-Sortwell House, two beautifully preserved 19th-century homes that offer a glimpse into Wiscasset's elegant past.

For those seeking hands-on experiences, Village Handcraft offers broommaking workshops where visitors can craft their own traditional brooms while learning about this time-honored trade. Meanwhile, Wiscasset's picturesque waterfront offers plenty of ways to relax and recharge. Whether you're enjoying serene river views, watching boats glide along the Sheepscot River, or capturing the perfect sunset photo from the pier, the waterfront provides a peaceful escape.

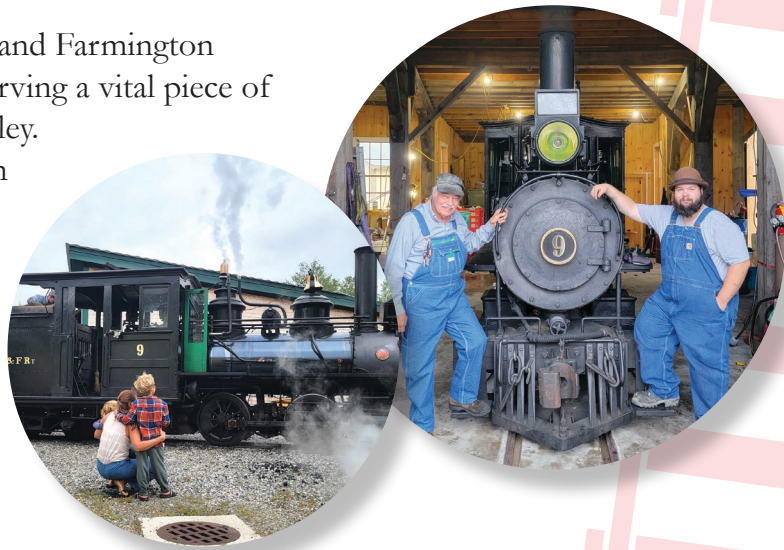
Wiscasset is also home to a lively calendar of events that bring the community together year-round. Locals and visitors alike look forward to annual favorites like Wormfest, a quirky celebration filled with family fun; the Wiscasset Art Walk, which highlights local artists and galleries; and the Alive on the Common Concert Series, where live music fills the air on warm summer evenings. With additional seasonal festivals like Pumpkinfest to winter favorites such as Gardens Aglow in nearby towns, the greater Wiscasset region offers memorable experiences no matter when you visit.

Whether you're discovering history, embracing creativity, or enjoying waterfront views, the Wiscasset area offers endless opportunities to explore and connect. Plan your visit around one of our signature events or take time to enjoy the hidden gems that make our town unforgettable.



Step back in time with the
**Wiscasset, Waterville &
Farmington Railway Museum**

For over 35 years, the Wiscasset, Waterville and Farmington Railway Museum (WW&F) has been preserving a vital piece of Maine's history right here in the Sheepscot Valley. This dedicated nonprofit, located in Alna, is on a mission to restore and operate the narrow gauge railroads and equipment that once connected rural Maine communities. What started as a small grassroots effort has grown into a thriving organization with over 1,000 members worldwide and hundreds of passionate volunteers who are literally rebuilding history, one rail at a time.



In 2022, those efforts paid off in a big way with the completion of a major track extension between Top of the Mountain Station and Trout Brook Station, a milestone project made possible by volunteer labor and community support. Today, visitors can experience this living history firsthand with a ride through scenic woodlands, over restored trestles, and into the past.

But this isn't just a museum - it's a hub of year-round immersive events that combine the magic of vintage train rides with unique local experiences. From Lavender Pickin' Trains in July (featuring stops at nearby SeaLyon Farm) to Steam & Sleigh Trains in February (complete with sleigh rides from Wood Field Farm), WW&F offers fun for all ages in every season. If you haven't taken a ride yet, now's the time - your ticket to the past is waiting! *Learn more at wmfry.org.*

**MAKE YOUR
OWN HISTORY!**

Visit Castle Tucker & Nickels-Sortwell House in Wiscasset

Plan your visit at HistoricNewEngland.org



Castle Tucker



Nickels-Sortwell House

**HISTORIC
NEW ENGLAND**

Adventures for all

History Buffs



Step into the past with Wiscasset's rich array of historic experiences. Tour beautifully preserved 18th- and 19th-century sites like the **Wiscasset Old Jail** and **Chapman Hall House**, managed by the Lincoln County Historical Association. Historic New England offers guided tours of elegant homes like **Nickels-Sortwell House**, **Castle Tucker**, and **Bowman House** throughout the summer.

Hop aboard a historic narrow gauge train at the **WW&F Railway Museum** in Alna for a ride through Maine's railroad past. On nearby Westport Island, the **Friends of Westport Island History** offer a charming History Center and summer events that bring local heritage to life.

Creative Minds

Creative minds will feel right at home in the Wiscasset area. Take a hands-on cooking class at **Dragonfly Cove Farm**, a charming goat farm in Dresden, or at **Maine Tasting Center**, a nonprofit food education hub. Don't miss a workshop at **Village Handcraft**, where you can try your hand at traditional arts like spoon carving, broom making, or bookbinding. And, a tip from a local: check out the seasonal **Merrymeeting Adult Education** catalog for a wide range of adventures, from cooking to overnight art retreats.





Fresh Air-Seekers

Nature lovers will find no shortage of outdoor adventures in the Wiscasset area. **Midcoast Conservancy** offers a variety of guided hikes and naturalist-led programs, many of which take place just up the road at Hidden Valley Nature Center in Jefferson.

For a quieter, self-guided option, follow the wooded trails at the **Pownalborough Courthouse** in Dresden, where seasonal flora and fauna line the path to a stunning historic building. Looking to build your backcountry skills? **Chewonki** offers wilderness first aid and certification classes, ideal for anyone who spends serious time outdoors - just be sure to register in advance.

Wildflower enthusiasts will love the **Robert T. Tristram Coffin Wildflower Sanctuary** in Woolwich, home to over 100 species, including pink lady's slipper and yellow violet. You can also walk the dog or cast a line at **Trout Brook Preserve** in Alna, or take in peaceful water views at **Eaton Farm Preserve** in Wiscasset.

Art Appreciators

Art lovers will find plenty to inspire them in the Wiscasset Area. Visit the **Maine Art Gallery**, located in a historic red brick schoolhouse, to explore exhibitions by Maine artists and enjoy classes, talks, and events that build community through creativity.

Stroll through downtown during the **Wiscasset Art Walk**, held monthly in warmer months, where galleries stay open late and the streets come alive with artists, vendors, and music.

Or, plan ahead to attend Salad Days at **Watershed Center for the Ceramic Arts**, a beloved July tradition where guests choose a handmade ceramic plate, enjoy a fresh salad lunch, and browse pottery, artist demos, and campus tours. It's a treat to get an inside look at this unique organization that isn't usually open to the public.



A Perfect Day in Wiscasset



As the sun rises over the Sheepscot River, I wake to the soft rustling of trees and the scent of salt in the air. Life moves at a different pace here in Wiscasset - something I've come to truly appreciate. Running a restaurant in town is a labor of love, but on the rare day off, there's nothing I enjoy more than immersing myself in everything this special place has to offer.

With a warm pastry and coffee in hand, I stroll through town as the village slowly comes to life. There's a peacefulness here that never gets old. It's easy to see why Wiscasset is called The Prettiest Village in Maine - and I'm proud to be part of the community that keeps that charm thriving.

I stop at IndustrialME, a clever local shop on the Creamery Pier filled with handmade metal jewelry and home decor. Then it's off to Rock Paper Scissors, where I always find the perfect card, notebook, or little treasure to bring home.

By midday, I head to the water and stop at Red's Eats - because no day off is complete without one of their legendary lobster rolls. I grab a seat overlooking the harbor, savor every buttery, overflowing bite, and chat with the travelers who sought out this unique Wiscasset experience.

In the afternoon, I visit Castle Tucker and the Nickels-Sortwell House, then try my hand at traditional broom-making at Village Handcraft. The scent of fresh straw fills the air as I weave together a keepsake I'll actually use.

By evening, I'm at Cocktails at the Castle, a summer favorite event at Castle Tucker. With wine in hand and music in the garden, I feel the warmth of the sun - and of this town that makes everyone feel at home.

Wiscasset isn't just where I work - it's where I find inspiration, connection, and a real sense of belonging. Even on my busiest days, I know how lucky I am to be part of this community. And on my next day off? I'll be right back out there, making the most of every minute in Maine's prettiest village.

-Corrinna Stum
Co-Owner of *Back River Bistro*

RIDE THE RAILS TO AUTHENTIC MAINE



ABOARD
THE

Wiscasset, Waterville
& Farmington
Railway

TICKETS, EVENTS, & INFORMATION AT:

~WWFRY.ORG~

97 CROSS RD, ALNA ~ 207-882-4193

TRAIN CHARTERS & EVENT RENTALS

AVAILABLE

Museum in the Streets

A perfect activity for a beautiful day any time of year, Wiscasset's Museum in the Streets is ideal for history lovers who want to explore downtown at their own pace. This self-guided walking tour features beautifully designed panels that bring Wiscasset's rich past to life. Use this map or the Museum in the Streets app to dive into stories from the town's shipbuilding heyday to its historic homes and public buildings - anytime, at your own speed.

Download from the
Apple Store



Download from the
Google Store



1 CASTLE TUCKER 1807

2 WOOD-FOOTE HOUSE 1812-1824

2A MOSES CARLTON HOUSE 1804 (Panel Pending)

3 LINCOLN AND KENNEBEC BANK, 1805 WISCASSET PUBLIC LIBRARY, 1929

4 LEE-PAYSON-SMITH HOUSE 1792

5 MEETING HOUSE 1767, REBUILT 1840, FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH 1907

6 LINCOLN COUNTY COURTHOUSE 1824

7 THE COMMON

8 SWETT-JOHNSTON-NEAL HOUSE 1805

9 BAILEY-TUCKER HOUSE 1803

10 ST. PHILIP'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH 1823

11 WISCASSET ACADEMY 1807

12 OCTAGON HOUSE 1855

13 OLD LINCOLN COUNTY JAIL - 1811

14 STACY HOUSE C. 1825 ALBEE HOUSE - 1904 WISCASSET INN - 1920

14A KINGSBURY HOUSE 1763 (Panel Pending)

15 NICKELS-SORTWELL HOUSE - 1807

16 HILTON HOUSE, 1892 SUNKEN GARDEN, 1904

17 LOWER MAIN STREET AND WISCASSET BRIDGES 1847-1938

18 RUNDLETT BLOCK 1872

19 WAWENOCK BLOCK - 1858

20 DOWNTOWN STORES C. 1892

21 R.H.T. TAYLOR STORE IN 1882

22 THE WISCASSET, WATERTVILLE & FARMINGTON RAILWAY

23 HESPER AND LUTHER LITTLE 1932

24 RICHARD III 1859

25 HAGGETT'S GARAGE 1911

26 CUSTOM HOUSE 1870

27 WISCASSET SAILING VESSELS

28 SUNDAY SAILING PARTY C. 1900

29 WISCASSET'S RAILROADS 1849 - 2013

30 HOBSON'S/WHITE'S ISLAND 1857 (Panel Pending)

31 POWDER HOUSE 1813 (Panel Pending)

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11:00 - Last tour at 4:00
NICKELS-SORTWELL HOUSE
June 1-Oct. 15, Fri-Sun.
11:00 - Last tour at 4:00
MUSEUM AND OLD JAIL
June 1 - Oct. 6
Sat - Sun. 12-4

SIX TOWNS

ALNA

Tucked along the scenic Sheepscot River, Alna, Maine is a small town with deep historical roots. Permanent settlement began in 1758, and the town was incorporated in 1794 after breaking off from Pownalborough. Early industries included sawmills, grain mills, and shipbuilding; Alna shipyards built over 100 vessels in the 1800s, and local timber was used for the USS Constitution.

Today, Alna's past lives on through landmarks like the Alna Meeting House (1789), Alna School (1795), Old Head Tide Church, and the villages of Head Tide and Sheepscot. Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Edwin Arlington Robinson once called Head Tide home. Visitors can also ride the Wiscasset, Waterville & Farmington Railway, a lovingly restored narrow gauge train that once connected the valley to Maine's interior. With historic buildings and natural charm, Alna offers a quiet yet powerful glimpse into Maine's early history.



DRESDEN

Originally settled as "Frankfort" in 1752 and incorporated in 1794, Dresden borders the Kennebec River and is steeped in early colonial history. Once the West Precinct of Pownalborough, it was home to the Pownalborough Courthouse, where figures like John Hancock and Samuel Adams once tried cases.

With a legacy of farming, fishing, and shipping, Dresden is known for its fertile farmland, woodlands, and riverfront access. Visitors can explore Green Point Wildlife Management Area and the Dresden Bog trail, both offering wildlife viewing and peaceful walks. A standout landmark is St. John's Church, a colorful, historic site that, while no longer holding services, remains a beloved piece of Dresden's architectural story.



EDGECOMB

Incorporated in 1774, Edgecomb is nestled between the Sheepscot and Damariscotta Rivers, shaped by the rocky slopes of Mount Hunger Ridge. Visitors can explore the Charles and Connie Schmid Preserve, nearly 800 acres of public trails for hiking, skiing, and wildlife viewing, part of the River-Link Project.



A standout landmark is Fort Edgecomb, a State Historic Site built in 1808 to protect Wiscasset during the War of 1812. The hexagonal blockhouse is the best-preserved of its kind on the Eastern Seaboard, offering sweeping views of the Narrows and Westport Island. Edgecomb also features several private homes on the National Register of Historic Places. The "Marie Antoinette House", with legendary ties to a failed rescue plot of the French queen, adds a touch of mystery to the town's rich history.

Six Unique Stories

WESTPORT ISLAND

Once part of Edgecomb and known as Jeremy Squam, Westport Island became its own town in 1828. Surrounded by the Sheepscot, Back, and Sasanoa Rivers, this 11-mile island has a long history tied to the sea. Settled in the mid-1700s by woodcutters and fishermen, it soon became home to tidal mills and boatbuilding, fueling a vibrant coastal economy. By the 1880s, summer visitors arrived by steamboat, leading to the development of roads, cottages, and small farms. After WWII and the construction of a causeway in 1952, later replaced by a bridge, access to the island improved and new residents arrived.

Today, Westport Island offers peaceful beauty and natural experiences. Visit Clough Point Preserve for scenic river views, explore tidal history and wildlife at the Bonyun Preserve, or launch a kayak from Wright Landing, located at the site of the island's old ferry.



WISCASSET

First settled in the 1660s and incorporated in 1760, Wiscasset is a town rich in maritime history and architectural beauty. Once part of Pownalborough, Wiscasset became Lincoln County's shiretown in 1794, thanks in part to its deep-water harbor on the Sheepscot River, one of the deepest in Maine despite being 14 miles from the sea. By the early 1800s, it was the busiest shipping port east of Boston.

Wiscasset's prosperity left a legacy of stunning Federal-era architecture. Visitors can explore the village on foot and see historic landmarks like Castle Tucker, the Nickels-Sortwell House, the 1811 Old Jail, and the Maine Art Gallery, once the town's academy. Today, Wiscasset is known for antique shops, art galleries, restaurants, and scenic waterfront access, including piers and boat launches.



WOOLWICH

Originally called Nequasset by the Abenaki, Woolwich was first settled in 1638 and incorporated in 1759. The area has a complex and dramatic colonial history, including attacks during King Philip's War, King William's War, and Dummer's War, as settlers and Indigenous peoples clashed. Despite early conflict, Woolwich persevered and grew into a thriving riverside town.

Bordered by the Kennebec and Sasanoa Rivers, Woolwich developed industries in shipbuilding, brickmaking, and agriculture. Timber-rich forests and fertile soil supported early economic growth, and by the mid-1800s, the town was home to mills, shipyards, and small farms. Today, Woolwich blends rich history with natural beauty, offering a quiet but storied piece of Maine's past.





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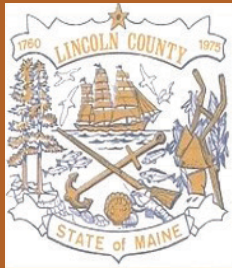
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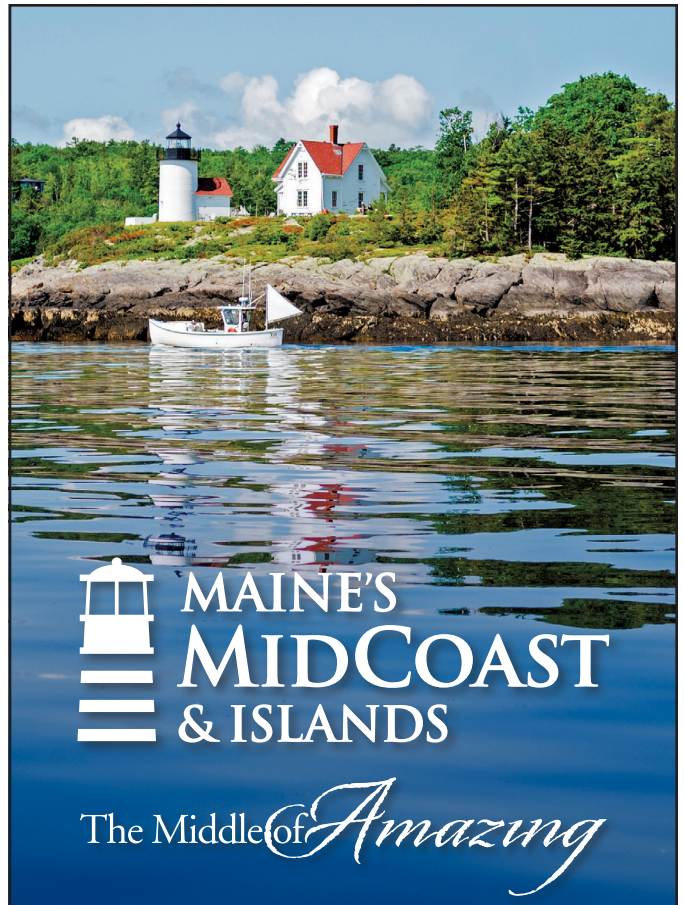
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