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Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park, Maine: a Scenic Wonderland of Ocean, Lakes and Mountains

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Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park Maine

A Scenic Wonderland of Ocean, Lakes and Mountains
Acadia Visitors to Bar Harbor National Park have the unique opportunity to visit Acadia National Park, a seacoast possession of the nation that has for ten years been the only national park east of the Mississippi. Other national parks in the eastern portion of the country are now in process of formation, but to Acadia will belong the memory of having led the way and the distinction of having been created wholly by gift of the citizens of the United States. It sprung from state-incorporated public reservations established by George B. Dorr, present superintendent of Acadia, President Charles W. Eliot of Harvard and a few other early summer residents of the Mt. Desert Island Resorts. President Woodrow Wilson accepted these lands and in 1915 they became by presidential proclamation Sieur de Monts National Monument. In 1919 the reservation became by act of Congress Lafayette National Park. Ten years later a bill was passed by Congress giving power to the Secretary of the Interior for the Park's enlargement to include lands beyond the limits of Mt. Desert Island. At the same time it appeared desirable to take for it a name telling in a single word of the long history that lay behind it, with which it was closely bound, which was done and approved and this perfect national park now bears the name Acadia.
No one who has ever looked out from the highest hills on Mount Desert Island on the wonderful sea and landscape of promontory, creek and bay with its winding channels and rock-bound isles, can ever forget its enchanting variety. —DR. HOLMES.

If there is any place in the world where the natural and cultivated have been so effectively combined to produce one beautiful whole as on Mount Desert Island, it is yet to be described to me. There is not a square rod on this wonderful island that is not beautiful, that is not endowed with the best that Nature has to bestow. —WALTER EMERSON.

Approximately 15,000 acres on Mt. Desert Island are now in Acadia National Park with several thousand additional acres held in trust for future park areas or for the use of the public. The Park also includes Schoodic Head across the bay with a tract of some 1,500 acres. The Mt. Desert Island area contains the well-balanced essentials of the perfect national park, consisting of twenty mountain summits, lying east and west across the island for more than twelve miles. North, west and south of these lie broad forested levels, rolling hills, lakes and marshes. The park also contains all the beautiful lakes enclosed in this mountain area, including one area of rock-bound shore. These are the only mountains fronting the Atlantic Coast in the United States, and Cadillac Mountain, the giant of the group, is the highest point.
Left—Appalachian Club members on Beech Hill overlooking Echo Lake.
Center—Young Eagles in Nest, Acadia National Park.
Below—Precipice Trail.

Above—On the Precipice Trail, Acadia National Park.
Right—Cadillac and Flying Squadron Mountains from Otter Creek.
Social for generations Bar Harbor Life has been the favorite summer playground of the wealth and fashion of America. Persons with the whole world to choose from have selected Bar Harbor as the world's most perfect summer resort and hundreds of families, the members of which have seen most of the world, return year after year to their homes or hotel suites here.

Summer life at Bar Harbor is not wholly a succession of teas, dinners, dances and elaborate balls, as one may have gathered from reading the metropolitan newspapers. These are an important part of the summer scene, but they by no means complete the picture. The wealth and social prominence of so many of the resort's visitors has, perhaps naturally, overshadowed a simpler but no less delightful life led here by persons of comparatively modest means.

Golf the Kebo Valley Club is one of the oldest and most widely-known golf clubs in America. Its eighteen holes have been constructed over some of the most perfect natural golf land in this country. Golfers of international prominence have repeatedly compared the course at Kebo with the ancient courses of Scotland.
Nature provided the opportunity for golf here. Each year since 1895 has seen improvements at the Kebo course that today make it one of the most interesting in the land. Against an unsurpassed scenic background, the eighteen holes unfold themselves to the constant delight of the man who plays around par or the chap who has never broken his hundred.

**Motoring** A *purring* motor, miles and miles of ocean, smooth road, a rush up a gradual ascent, around a graceful curve, a gliding into the valley, and then, with mood changed, lazily idling along while eyes feast on the beauty of a meadow vista, a bold-faced precipice or a crescent, wave-washed beach!

Mount Desert Island is a veritable network of entrancing drives. Days may be spent in motor exploration, and yet on each trip the guest finds new scenes of beauty and fresh points of interest. The Summer Harbor Ferry between Bar Harbor and Summer Harbor gives the tourist a delightful sail as he and his automobile are transported across Frenchmans Bay, and the distance between Bar Harbor and points in Washington County and the Maritime Provinces is shortened by more than a score of miles by this pleasant route.

Mount Katahdin, the highest point in Maine, is less than a hundred and fifty miles to the north, while Moosehead Lake, the largest body of fresh water entirely within the boundaries of the United
States, is an easy day's trip to the northwest. And from Bar Harbor, for still longer trips, Quebec City and the White Mountains are easily reached.

**Boating**  HAVE YOU EVER SEEN the fleet of the New York or Eastern Yacht Clubs gliding up the bay? If not, you have yet to look upon one of the most fascinating scenes the Atlantic has to offer. These craft, as well as units of the American and foreign navies are frequent visitors to Bar Harbor. Yacht races, martial music, white clad sailors, flickering lights and multi-colored flags are but a hasty sketch of the ever-changing panorama of Frenchmans Bay. Motor, sail, row boats and canoes may be chartered for any length of time, by hour, day, week or season.

**Horseback Riding**  NEARLY A HUNDRED miles of roads and trails have been constructed on Mt. Desert Island and reserved for the exclusive use of horsemen and pedestrians. No motor vehicles are permitted to use these roads which make a perfect system connecting Bar Harbor with the other Island Resorts and leading to nearly every point of scenic interest.

Scenes along the Ocean Drive
**Nature**  Do you find your pleasure in the study of Nature? Then use Bar Harbor as a base, and learn that Mount Desert Island is truly a richly endowed laboratory in which to indulge your hobby. Here the Northern and Temperate zone flora meet. The Island lies on the coast migration route of innumerable birds, and exhibits at its fullest the Acadian forest, shows the northernmost extension of the Appalachian forest, and is rich in the mingled hardwoods and conifers of the Temperate zone. A marine biological laboratory has been established and here work is being done and lectures given on the marine life of the region and its biological relations. The opportunity for the study of geology can best be imagined by a glance at the accompanying illustrations.
Bar Harbor from Bar Island

Climate No Other Place in the North and Water Temperate zone surpasses Bar Harbor for evenness of climate. Fanned by the Atlantic's invigorating breezes—spiced with the odors of balsam, spruce and pine—to give new life and courage to tired minds and bodies, Bar Harbor offers a retreat from sweltering dust-laden cities of mid-summer. Thousands return annually to enjoy health and happiness here.

Next to its climate, Bar Harbor's richest possession is its inexhaustible spring-fed water supply from Eagle Lake. The tonic effects of the climate, combined with its purest of pure water, make the Island practically immune to disease and allure thousands every summer to this Queen of Resorts, rich in historical association and sublime in natural beauty.
Fishing  Fresh or Salt Water Fishing—which shall it be? Good catches of trout and salmon, perch and bass, are made from the fresh-water lakes and ponds; while cod, haddock and numerous other species abound in the sea. Mountain brooks, too, yield their quota of speckled beauties to delight the eye of the angler and satisfy his trout hunger. It's a never-ending source of delight to take a day off to fish at Jordan Pond, a favorite picnic place, and, like Bubble Pond, a beautiful bit of woodland scenery. Eagle Lake, Long Pond and Echo Lake are well stocked with salmon and trout from the Government Hatcheries.

Swimming  There are those, who, scorning, the white tile of an indoor pool, enjoy the red-blooded thrill of an outdoor plunge in clean sea water. Some desire to sport where the ocean swell rides high with an invigorating nip in the breeze and water; others prefer the calm of a sheltered cove and the sun-warmed tide. Perhaps the expert wants to try his skill and strength where the ocean's floor is far below; while the less daring will choose the more shallow water of the sandy beach. Bar Harbor is able to satisfy the swimmer, whatever may be his hobby. The Swimming Club with its pool, tennis courts, well-appointed club house and other features is the favorite gathering place of its members and their friends.
Mountains  Off For The Day! With a  
and Hiking  knapsack and a snack to  
eat. To follow one of the three hundred  
miles of trails up into the mountains or  
through shaded woods, where the sun-  
light filters through the arched branches  
of giant trees, is a joy reborn to the  
experienced hiker, and a fresh delight to the  
beginner. The more strenuous seek the  
bolder heights through steep canyon or  
rocky gorge, with thrills a-plenty and a  
view at the top of awe-inspiring grandeur.

The Appalachian Mountain Club years  
ago discovered the rugged beauty of Cad-  
illac Mountain, the highest point on the  
Atlantic coast, and members come year  
after year to climb this and Saint Sauveur,  
Norumbega, Flying Squadron, Huguenot  
Head, Champlain and others.

Camping  Acadia National Park  
maintains a public camp ground two  
miles from the Bar Harbor post office,  
equipped with electric lights and running  
water from Eagle Lake, the source of Bar  
Harbor’s water supply.

Tennis  No Pleasure Resort is com-  
plete without opportunity for tennis play.  
Bar Harbor, at her Athletic Field, Y. M.  
C. A., Swimming Club, and Kebo Valley  
Golf Club, has fast, well-kept courts. The  
courts on the Athletic Field are available  
to all. The International Maritime Champs-  
ionships are played here each year begin-  
ning the first Monday in August.

Churches  There Are Churches of the  
following denominations: Baptist, Catho-  
lic, Congregational, Episcopal, Method-  
list, Unitarian; and there is a Christian  
Science reading room where services are  
held.
Upper Oval—Jordan Pond.
Center Left—Compass Harbor Pond.
Lower—Bar Harbor from Great Hill.

Upper Right—Jordan Pond and Mountains in Acadia National Park.
Center Right—The Bowl on Champlain Mountain.
The Horse Show  The Old Bar Harbor
Horse Show that was discontinued after 1913 when motors were admitted to Bar Harbor, was internationally known. The Horse Show was revived several years ago. A new grandstand has been erected at beautiful Morrell Park and the show has increased in importance each year. It has again become one of the fixtures of the Bar Harbor season and a very creditable exhibition. The unparalleled opportunities for the use of horses here have induced more summer residents to bring high-grade animals to Mt. Desert Island each season.

Music  Some Of The World's most famous singers and musicians are found in Bar Harbor's summer colony. The Building of Arts, an ideal home for music and a background for the performance of these artists, was carefully planned by a committee of summer residents and is a perfect example of Greek architecture. The Bar Harbor Band gives concerts on the Village Green during the season.
Bar Harbor to Seal Harbor, 8 miles; Bar Harbor to Northeast Harbor, 12 miles; Bar Harbor to Southwest Harbor, 16 miles; Bar Harbor to Ellsworth, 19 miles.

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