

CONVENTION + VISITORS BUREAU



MARRY IN MAINE

Wed. Elope. Honeymoon.

*Love
at first sight*





MARRY IN MAINE

WELCOME

LIGHTHOUSES, LOBSTERS ... AND LOVE. Maine tops everyone's list of things they want to do, and it's the perfect place to say "I do."

The way life should be. It's the Maine state slogan ... and the way you feel when you're in each others arms. That's not a coincidence. Maine has long been a beloved wedding destination, and Maine should be where you start your life together.

With thousands of miles of coastline, soaring mountain peaks, pristine forests and islands, bustling cities and charming towns and villages, Maine offers something for everyone. We've been one of the world's premier tourist destinations for hundreds of years, and we know how to offer a warm welcome and create an unforgettable experience.

Maine is classic and contemporary, trendy yet timeless, rustic and refined, rugged and romantic. And like the signature L.L.Bean Boot, Maine is stylish *and* practical. Maine is easy to get to from major cities like New

York and Boston, yet feels a world away. Spring, summer, fall or winter, Maine offers world-class food, lodging and entertainment. And chances are, everyone on your invitation list already wants to come here! Let your wedding give them that chance.

You and your guests can escape to the Maine islands for a romantic getaway. Savor our nationally recognized food and restaurant scene. Indulge at all-inclusive resorts. Explore our stunning landscapes. Discover your own special wedding location off the beaten path, kick off your shoes and splash along Maine's beautiful beaches, or return to your favorite Maine location to relive old memories and create new ones. When you see all Maine has to offer ... it's love at first sight.

PHOTOS: Kivalo Photography (top left); Bethany and Dan Photography (bottom left); Cuppa Photography (right)



Explore Maine online! MarryInMaine.com and VisitMaine.com both have wonderful resources for couples considering Maine.



KNOT-TYING GUIDE

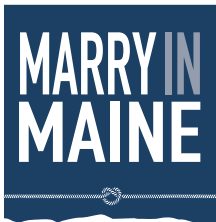
Your wedding is one of the most special days of your life and we want it to be perfect! The **Convention + Visitors Bureau** is your one-stop connection to all the services you'll need to create your magical wedding. Our seasoned staff provides personal assistance throughout your planning process.

If you want to explore the idea of a Maine wedding before committing to a specific venue, call us for complimentary guidance. We're experts on Maine, unbiased liaisons between you and hospitality professionals, and hopeless romantics.

LET US HELP YOU WITH:

- Arranging site visits and selecting a wedding venue
- Rehearsal dinner and send-off brunch
- Photographers, caterers and florists
- Entertainment, transportation and wedding favors
- Visitor's guides and maps

If you are a wedding planner and would like to explore Maine for your client, please reach out—we are happy to help!



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*Maine
gets all the love*



Mt. Desert Island, Maine

“One of the Top 25 Islands in the World”

TRAVEL + LEISURE

Camden, Maine

“Best Weekend Getaways from Boston”

TRAVEL + LEISURE

Kennebunkport, Maine

“24 New England Towns You Need to Visit”

BUZZFEED.COM

Bar Harbor, Maine

“25 Most Romantic Summer Destinations”

TRAVEL + LEISURE

Portland, Maine

“Top 14 Places in the World to Visit in 2014”

BUSINESS TRAVELER

Freeport, Maine

“6 Best Places for a Girls' Weekend”

FODOR'S

Rangeley, Maine

“Top Lakes Regions”

TRAVEL + LEISURE

MARRY IN MAINE

ESCAPE

SET YOUR COURSE FOR THE MAINE ISLANDS, historic havens for artists, adventurers, lobstermen ... and lovers.

There are over 3,000 islands set like jewels along Maine's stunning coast. Locals tell of a lovestruck couple that lived happily, all by themselves, on a small Maine island for over 40 years. For a wedding, a honeymoon or a lifetime, there's nothing quite like an island in Maine.

Because the islands are premier tourist destinations *and* thriving communities, each island wedding can be as rustic or refined as the couple it celebrates. And because Maine islands are historic hideaways for the famous, fashionable and wealthy, your hosts are well provisioned to help you create the wedding of your dreams.

Regular ferry service and convenient charters make it easy to sail away from the everyday. Rambling oceanfront inns, inviting bed and breakfasts and a brand-new luxury hotel await you. Sandy beaches, unpaved roads, stacked lobster traps and old growth forests

surround extraordinary venues filled with authentic Maine charm.

Guests at the Chebeague Island Inn overlook a breathtaking expanse of Casco Bay, and enjoy a nine-hole golf course and classic coastal Maine elegance. The Diamond's Edge Restaurant and Marina on Great Diamond Island serves local delicacies *al fresco* in a park-like setting on the cove. On Peaks Island, the Inn on Peaks' iconic three-peaked tent frames a glittering view of Portland Harbor. Lit up at night, it conjures all the magic of a ship under full sail.

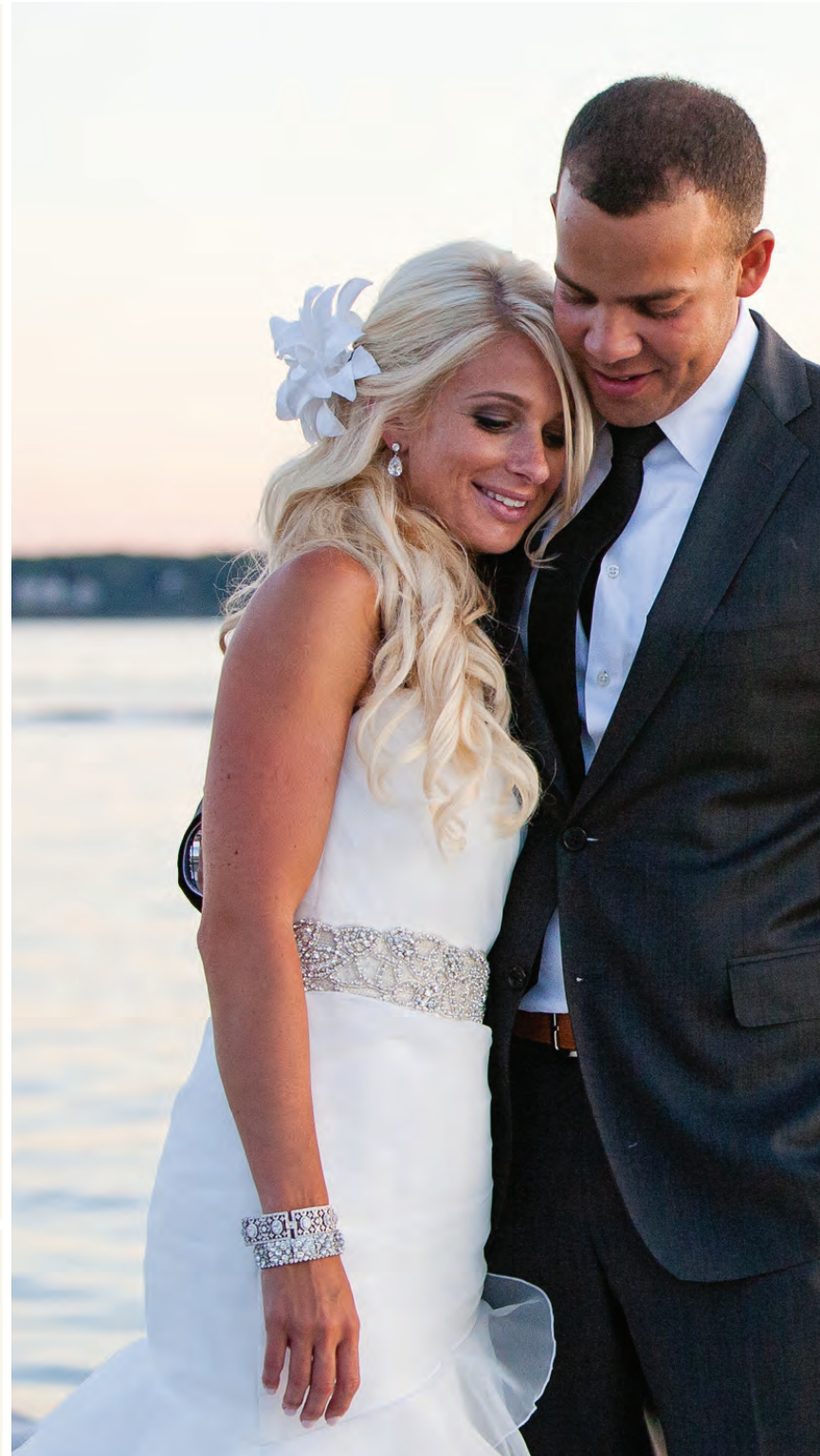
Most important, an island wedding always feels exclusive, as if all the pleasures of Maine are reserved for you and yours. When you marry in Maine on the islands, your wedding stands apart—in experience and in memory, ever surrounded by the sea.

PHOTO: emilie inc. photography



*"A part of the world and a world of its own,
all surrounded by the bright blue sea."*

—MARGARET WISE BROWN





escape



Savor

MARRY IN MAINE

SAVOR

FARMERS, FISHERMEN AND FIVE-STAR CHEFS. If extraordinary food is the way to your heart, let your heart lead you to Maine.

Farm-to-table, sustainable seafood, community supported agriculture. In Maine these aren't trends—they're traditions. *The New York Times* named Maine "one of the best places to eat in the Northeast" and *Bon Appétit* crowned Portland "America's Foodiest Small Town"—but that's just a taste of what Maine has to offer.

Maine abounds in authentic ingredients. Fishermen haul fresh seafood to the docks. Organic farms and dairies support year-round farmers markets from Presque Isle to Portland. Food festivals celebrate classic Maine foods like clams and blueberries and unique Maine concoctions like Moxie and whoopie pies. Brewing and distilling give Maine's foodie culture a little extra sparkle. Bakeries turn out extraordinary wedding cakes, artisanal breads, even Maine potato donuts!

Cutting-edge culinary artistry is Maine's calling card. Portland's restaurant scene

draws national awards, accolades and press, and The Portland Regency Hotel and Spa is just a cobblestoned street away from the Old Port's hottest tables. You'll also find James Beard nominees heading kitchens in Brunswick, Rockland and Ogunquit.

The chefs of Maine's premier venues will craft the perfect menu for your perfect day. Customize your reception by commissioning your own signature cocktail or with catering from one of Maine's many gourmet food trucks. At the Wolfe's Neck Farm in Freeport, you can even treat your guests to a true farm-to-table dinner. Have it served in a beautifully restored barn or *al fresco* in a tented field overlooking Maine's rocky coast. If delicious dining is the recipe for *your* dream wedding, marry in Maine.

PHOTOS: emilie inc. photography (left);
Bethany and Dan Photography (top right);
Cuppa Photography (bottom right)



Are oysters really an aphrodisiac? Try Maine's celebrated Damariscotta River oysters to find out.

From traditional Needhams to hand-dipped truffles, be seduced by Maine's candymakers and chocolatiers.

Get in the mood with Maine's famous craft brews, local meads, ciders, spirits and small batch wines.



MARRY IN MAINE

INDULGE

THE BEST OF EVERYTHING, and everything taken care of. Sit back, relax, and enjoy top-notch services, amenities and luxuries.

Maine's resort tradition was established in the 1900s, when wealthy magnates from New York, Philadelphia and Boston began migrating farther north for the summer. The Rockefellers and their friends came in search of a luxury they could find nowhere else: the chance to spoil themselves in a place still wild, beautiful and completely unspoiled.

Everything that brought them to Maine is still here for you to enjoy: protected wilderness, panoramic ocean views, welcoming people. The grand coastal inns and mountain lodges they built are here as well, along with contemporary hotels and full-service spas that can't wait to pamper, amuse and relax you. If luxury is the way to *your* heart, set your heart on a Maine wedding.

Maine's full-service resorts provide delicious meals, guided recreational opportunities and exciting excursions to local landmarks. They also offer a glamour that is distinctly Maine. At

The Spruce Point Inn in Boothbay Harbor, share your first dance in a soaring post-and-beam ballroom by a forest twinkling with lights.

If exclusivity is your ultimate luxury, reserve an entire Maine resort for your special day. The Black Point Inn in coveted Prouts Neck lavishes wedding parties with personalized attention to create weddings as picture-perfect as its panoramic ocean views.

Maine also pampers you with all the latest beauty treatments and fitness options. The Akari Spa at the Westin Portland Harborview even incorporates local ingredients! Get your glow on with a wild blueberry detox and sea salt massage, and leave radiant and ready for your big day. Whether you exchange vows or renew them, marrying in Maine always renews *you*.

PHOTOS: Kim Chapman Photography (top left); Cuppa Photography (bottom left); Geneve Hoffman Photography (right)

TREAT YOUR ATTENDANTS:
Chart Metalworks transforms vintage nautical maps into exquisite jewelry and cufflinks.

TREAT YOUR PARTY:
Sea Bags stylish totes, fashioned from recycled sails, are the ultimate goodie bag.

TREAT YOURSELVES:
Put Thos. Moser Cabinetmakers handcrafted, heirloom-quality furniture on your registry.



SEASONAL ATTRACTION

SPRING

The sweet hush before the rush. Ski or sunbathe? Fiddleheads, maple sugaring, restaurant week, fishing, film festivals and flower shows. Spring in Maine is the ultimate icebreaker.



SEASONAL ATTRACTION

SUMMER

High season comes highly recommended. Warm days cooled by sea breezes. Parades. Parties. Festivals. Fun. Experience the season that made Maine's reputation.



SEASONAL ATTRACTION

FALL

Brisk, but not as busy. The local favorite, autumn glows—blazing foliage, bursting farmer's markets, brewfests, the last boats on the water. Fair season might be the fairest of them all.



SEASONAL ATTRACTION

WINTER

Skis, snowboards and horse-drawn sleds. Ice skating and ice bars, concerts and craft fairs. Everything is decked in lights, everything is bright, and cold weather? Just an excuse to get closer.





explore

MARRY IN MAINE

EXPLORE

LOVE THE OUTDOORS? Whether you wear hiking boots or high heels, Maine is a natural fit for nature lovers.

The Hundred Mile Wilderness. The Golden Road. Maine isn't just named for explorers, it's named for *exploration*. Couples who love the great outdoors and four-season adventures will find so much to love in Maine—and so will their family and friends.

If you and your fiancé both love skiing, hold a sparkling winter wedding at your favorite mountain lodge. Take a romantic midnight run down the slopes, cuddle up in cashmere wraps and let everyone make toasts by a roaring fire long into the night.

If you love to spend your summers in the woods, explore Maine's best-known natural gem, Acadia National Park. The Atlantic Oceanside Hotel in the charming historic town of Bar Harbor provides wonderful waterfront accommodations on Frenchman's Bay, just one mile from the park's breathtaking stone carriage roads and

scenic vistas. You can even exchange your vows at the peak of Cadillac Mountain looking out over the forests to the sea. This is also the very first place in the continental U.S. to the sunrise!

A Maine wedding also lets your guests explore all Maine has to offer. Maine's premier wedding venues love to help customize outdoor activities and organize exciting excursions for everyone in your party! In fact, The Point Lookout Resort in Northport takes days to fully explore. Go sea kayaking, sunbathe on a private beach, hike miles of gorgeous nature trails or picnic at Knight's Pond—all without leaving this gorgeous property.

When you marry in Maine, you always have an adventure to keep forever in your heart.

PHOTOS: Focus Photography (left); Kim Chapman Photography (top right) and Geneve Hoffman Photography (bottom right)



“Go confidently in the direction of your dreams.
Live the life you've imagined.”

—HENRY DAVID THOREAU

MARRY IN MAINE

SPLASH

ON THE WATER. That's where everyone wants to be. Sailing or kayaking, swimming or wading ... or simply gazing out over the sea.

Maine is especially alluring because of its famous coastline—the crashing surf, the salt spray and the refreshing breeze. Imagine waking on your wedding day to a ship's bell or being lulled to sleep on your wedding night by a soothing foghorn in the distance. It might sound like a romantic cliché, but Maine's rocky coast is a romantic classic.

Nothing sets off a white dress like the blue sea, and picture-perfect water views are everywhere in Maine. From its vantage point on a private peninsula, French's Point has one of the very best—a 260-degree view of stunning Penobscot Bay. Celebrate your special day with a sailcloth tent lofting above you surrounded by the ocean.

You and your guests will love how many of Maine's can't-miss communities are set along the coast. Stop in coastal villages like Camden or Bar Harbor and discover world-class hotels, restaurants, art galleries, museums, boutiques

and antique stores, while towns like Ogunquit offer sandy sidewalk cafes, ice cream stands and lobster shacks. The Nonantum Resort in iconic Kennebunkport offers the ideal Maine waterfront resort experience—effortless elegance, activities everyone will enjoy, and breathtaking views of the water.

Maine's lighthouses were built to warn sailors *away* from our rocky coast, but these beautiful beacons have a way of drawing lovers *in*. At the Sebasco Harbor Resort, you can even reserve a lighthouse (and its incredible views) for your honeymoon suite! If that isn't close enough to the water, book a sail on the 46-foot yacht, *Cotinga*.

Whether you head out on the open sea or search for sea glass along the shore, you'll find the pull of Maine's coast to be as strong as the tides. So let the current take you. Take the plunge in Maine!

PHOTO: Kim Chapman Photography



“Ah! what pleasant visions haunt me as I gaze upon the sea!”

—HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW



splash





discover

MARRY IN MAINE

DISCOVER

WEDDINGS BEGIN A NEW ADVENTURE. Find an untouched landscape or a beloved landmark and make it your own.

If you're searching for the offbeat, unconventional and completely original, Maine was made for you. You've found your one true love, now find the one-and-only place to celebrate that love—in Maine!

Discover a lovely new use for a local landmark. Hold your wedding ceremony in a lighthouse, a historic fort or a trolley museum. Share a kiss on a covered bridge for luck. At the Grey Havens Inn on Georgetown Island, couples often choose to exchange vows on the wraparound porch, famous across the midcoast for its grand ocean views.

Discover how refined Maine's rustic charm can be. Rig a sailboat or a lobster boat in fairy lights. Or throw a truly elegant barn wedding—The Red Barn at Outlook Farm in South Berwick has chandeliers, working fireplaces, a tented pavilion *and* a wedding garden!

Discover a new passion to share with family and friends. Sign up for an L.L.Bean Discovery School course in Freeport. Try candlepin bowling at a mountain lodge. Learn to sail from instructors at your seaside resort, and spark some friendly competition before the ceremony by establishing your very own wedding regatta.

Discover stunning parts of Maine most tourists never reach. Some of Maine's best mountain lodges and lake camps are tucked away in unnamed townships. Claim a special place in Maine as your very own. When you marry in Maine, you make Maine *your* place on the map, the place where *your* life together begins.

PHOTOS: Courtesy of Pottery Barn (left); Cuppa Photography (top right); Kim Chapman Photography (bottom right)



A MAINE IDEA:

Have your rehearsal dinner in a romantic covered bridge above the rushing water.

A MAINE IDEA:

Hold your waterfront wedding in a lighthouse, a boathouse or simply on the dock.

A MAINE IDEA:

Barns aren't Maine's only rustic, historic reception spaces. Look at local grange halls, too!



MARRY IN MAINE

RETURN

WHEN DID YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH MAINE? A wedding makes new memories—and makes Maine yours forever.

Maine draws vacationers back, again and again and again. Many of the visitors we welcome each year find their way back almost every year. Perhaps they have a camp in the woods, a cottage at the beach or a favorite lobster shack on Route One ... or there's still more of Maine they want to explore.

If Maine is your “something old,” a wedding transforms it into “something new.” If you attended a Maine school or college, you can exchange vows in your *alma mater's* chapel. Rent the cottage where you spent the summer, your favorite ski lodge or cabin in the woods—and add a whole new layer of luxury and memory to a favorite place.

Perhaps a Maine summer camp is where you met your best friend, learned to paddle a canoe or spent your first night under the stars. Share your precious memories. Maine camps make wonderful wedding venues!

The loons you remember calling across the water are returning visitors themselves, reusing the same nest from season to season. If Maine's Lakes Region has the same pull on you, plan your wedding at Migis Lodge on Sebago Lake. Arrive at the ceremony in a vintage 1936 Cris Craft—quite the sentimental journey—and exchange vows among the pines with views of the western mountains.

So go ahead and get emotional. If you miss Maine, marry in Maine ... and celebrate with s'mores, skinny dipping, old songs, and silly stories. Bring family and friends, old and new, and show them what Maine means to *you!*

PHOTO: emilie inc. photography (*top left*);
Marina DeMarco for Geneve Hoffman
Photography (*bottom left*);
Russell Caron Wedding Photography (*right*)



“The road was new to me, as roads always are, going back.”

—SARAH ORNE JEWETT





"Did you ever see a place that looks like it was built just to enjoy?
Well, this whole state of Maine looks that way to me." —WILL ROGERS





*honeymoon
in Maine*



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