



knowlesletter

REAL ESTATE AND VACATION RENTALS

JAN 2026



THE CRITERION
THE ARTS AND COMMUNITY



1947 FIRE
GUIDED AGE HISTORY



WINTER CHARM!
WINTER-SPRING ON THE TRAILS

KNOWLES SALES | REEL PIZZA | WINTER RENTALS | LOCAL BUSINESSES

What's Happening



Rocky Horror Picture Show with Shadowcast!



Lisa Hall Studio



Keri Hayes, Winter Charm!



The Criterion - TUSK! Tribute to Fleetwood Mac



MDI Search and Rescue Winter Guidelines



Reel Pizza

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Rob McKee, Design, Content and Marketing
Claire Dorwart, Business Manager, Owner

Contributors:
Keri Hayes, Kate Chaplin, Marla Jones, Lili Pew, Claire Dorwart

THE KNOWLES COMPANY
1 SUMMIT ROAD PO BOX 367 NORTHEAST HARBOR MAINE 04662 207.276.3322



New Executive Director Courtney Sale at the The Criterion Theatre!



Courtney Sale has been named the new executive director of Bar Harbor's historic Criterion Theatre and is expected to assume the role in February 2026.

The Criterion Theatre, a 1932 Art Deco landmark, announced the appointment in November. In her new position, Sale will lead efforts to revitalize the theatre, with a focus on multidisciplinary programming that includes music, theatre, film, dance, and lectures.

"To join the Criterion Theatre as executive director is a profound honor," Sale said. "I am grateful to the Harper House Music Foundation and to Stephen and Allison Sullens for their visionary commitment to this beloved theatre. In an age of increasing isolation, community arts spaces uniquely illuminate our shared humanity—a mission to which I have dedicated my entire career. I look forward to bringing my experience to the Criterion and engaging deeply with the Mount Desert Island community to build an exciting future together."

Allison Sullens expressed enthusiasm about Sale's appointment, praising her extensive background in programming, development, and production. "We couldn't be more excited to be working alongside Courtney at this pivotal moment in the Criterion's evolution," Sullens said. "Her experience and expertise are unmatched, and her theatre and production background will be invaluable. She is the ideal leader to guide the Criterion into the future."

Harper House Mission

Rooted in the belief that music is a vital and universal source of connection, joy, and meaning, Harper House Music Foundation (HHMF) seeks to be an agent of change by facilitating efforts that help artists share their work, lead stable and healthy lives, and preserve their unique legacies.

HHMF's approach is centered around grantmaking to organizations serving musicians, and investments that address "need gaps" where infrastructure and funding are lacking. Through radical collaboration and strategic stewardship of resources, HHMF contributes to a diverse music landscape where all artists can flourish, inspiring audiences and ultimately enriching our collective well-being.

Steven and Allison Sullens





"TUSK" Kathy Phillips



BADFISH



The Criterion Theatre Community Events

Free Family Shows

Matthew Mayo and the new music teacher, Christien Mott Breau, led their MDI High School Band and Orchestra students to the Criterion stage for a performance attended by all the middle schoolers.



Brittany Parker

Bee Parks and the Hornets (with local music teachers Phil Kell, Jim Coffman and Beau Lisy)



Rocky Horror Picture Show with Shadowcast!



staff

AT THE CRITERION



Adam Losquadro

Molly Dillon



Beverly Ferne Guay



Mike Hamele

Allison Sullens



Evangeline Meister

Adam Losquadro

Dorothy Durgin

Ava Philbrook



Molly Dillon



Sophie Joyce



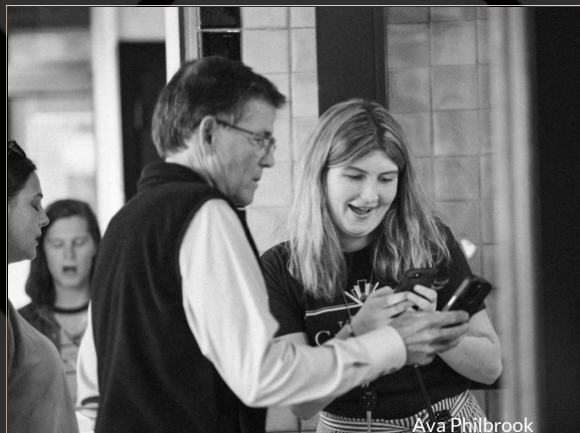
Winston Sullens

Emery Smith



Beverly Ferne Guay

Dean Unger



Ava Philbrook

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207.276.3322



COMING
SPRING 2026

"The Criterion Theater has been painstakingly restored to its art deco glory. From the floating balcony to the hand cut French glass chandelier. it's a great place to see a live event or a movie."

— Matt H.

"We've seen both a movie and a play here and loved both. The atmosphere is great and the staff are always super friendly and welcoming!"

— Tiff Y.

"Unbelievable restoration of an Art Deco theater lost in time. Do whatever is necessary to get here. Be sure to sit in the balcony."

— Tim C.

"Awesome Venue. The theater has all the original architecture and is a great place for a concert. We saw the Boxmasters (Billy Bob Thornton) and Irish singer Dylan Walshe. They were both great what a show! The staff was very friendly and helpful."

— Tanya V.

THE WALLFLOWERS



BRINGING DOWN THE HORSE
30th Anniversary Tour



PERFORMED IN ITS ENTIRETY
PLUS A BONUS LP
TOM PETTY AND
THE HEARTBREAKERS LONG AFTER DARK



CRITERION THEATRE
SUNDAY, MAY 24

TICKETS AT CRITERIONTHEATRE.ORG

Storytime...

The Off-Season Keepers: A Winter in Bar Harbor Maine

by an excerpt from the novel "The Off-Season Keepers" by [Stephen King](#),

The salt-stung wind that whipped across Frenchman Bay carried a bite that could freeze the very marrow in your bones. For the summer people, Bar Harbor was a postcard: lobster rolls on sun-drenched decks, the thunder of thunder holes, the cheerful clang of bell buoys. But by late October, the postcard had been put away. The awnings were rolled up, the T-shirt shops shuttered, and the streets, once choked with tourists, were left to the gulls and the few of us who remained. We were the Off-Season Keepers.

My name is Elias Thorne, and I was one of them. I'd come two years prior, a writer fleeing a different kind of cold—the cold of a failed marriage and a stagnant life in a cubicle. I'd rented a small, weathered cottage on West Street, its clapboard siding the color of a weathered whale, and I'd intended to stay for a summer. But when the leaves turned and the crowds fled, I found I couldn't. There was a truth here in the silence that I needed to hear.

The Keepers were a small, unofficial guild. There was Maggie, who ran the Corner Shop, the only grocery open year-round, her face a roadmap of island life. There was Captain Hank, who'd take the handful of us out on his boat, the Stubborn Mule, for deep-sea fishing trips even when the water was the color of lead. And there was Eleanor Vance, who lived in the old Victorian on the hill, the last of a founding family, a woman in her eighties with eyes that held the memory of a hundred Bar Harbor winters.

The winter I'm thinking of was the winter of the great snows. It began in early December, a relentless series of nor'easters that piled the white stuff high enough to bury the first-floor windows. The plows worked tirelessly, but their efforts only carved deep, canyon-like corridors through the landscape. The world shrank to the sound of the wind and the soft, constant hiss of falling snow.

My days fell into a rhythm. Mornings were for writing, the wood stove in my cottage crackling its accompaniment. Afternoons, I'd don my insulated boots and make the trek to Maggie's. The walk was an expedition. The air was so cold it felt sharp and clean in the lungs. The grand hotels, like the Atlantic-Oakes, stood silent and shuttered, their empty porches piled with snowdrifts, ghost ships run aground. The only signs of life were the tracks of a fox or the delicate, chain-like pattern of a bird's feet.

The Corner Shop was our sanctuary. The bell above the door would jangle, and the warm, dense air, smelling of coffee and damp wool, would embrace you. Maggie would be behind the counter, her radio tuned to the weather band.

"Another foot on the way, Elias," she'd say by way of greeting, not looking up from her crossword. "Best stock up on chili makings."

We Keepers would gather there, our movements slow and deliberate. We didn't talk much. There was no need. We were sharing the burden of the season, a silent communion of those who had chosen to stay. We'd discuss the reliability of a generator, the best way to thaw a frozen pipe, the sighting of a bald eagle over Eagle Lake. These were the headlines of our world.

One evening, during a particularly fierce blizzard, the power flickered and died across town. The hum of the modern world vanished, leaving only the roar of the storm. I lit my kerosene lamp, its warm, wobbly light pushing back the oppressive dark. The silence was absolute, a physical presence. It was in that silence that I heard it—a faint, frantic knocking at my door.

It was Eleanor Vance's caretaker, a young woman named Sarah, her face pale with panic.

"It's Mrs. Vance," she gasped, snow dusting her shoulders. "Her generator won't start, and the cold... she won't leave. She says she needs her books." I grabbed my heavy coat and a second lantern. The walk to Eleanor's house was a battle. The wind stole my breath, and the snow blinded me. The Victorian loomed out of the darkness, a great, gabled beast besieged by the storm.

Inside, it was colder than my cottage. Eleanor was wrapped in a quilt by the fireplace, where a few feeble embers glowed. Her face was serene, but her hands, clutching the quilt, were trembling. "Elias," she said, her voice thin but steady. "So kind. It's the biography of Churchill. I was on the final chapter."

I got to work. In the cobwebbed cellar, by the weak light of my lantern, I wrestled with the old generator. My hands grew numb, and the metal burned with cold. It was a stubborn, cantankerous machine, but after what felt like an age, it sputtered, coughed, and then roared to life. Lights flickered on upstairs, and the low hum of the furnace joined the chorus of the storm.

I came back up to find Eleanor had made tea on a camp stove. We sat in the growing warmth, listening to the wind howl around the eaves.

"This is when you see the island's true bones, Elias," she said, sipping her tea. "The summer is a beautiful mask. But the winter... the winter is its soul. It's harsh, and it's unforgiving, but it's honest."

She gestured to the window, a solid sheet of white. "Out there, everything is simplified. You are reduced to your essentials: warmth, shelter, community. There's no room for pretense."

I stayed until the worst of the storm had passed. Walking home as the snow eased to a gentle fall, the world was transformed. The moon broke through the scudding clouds, illuminating a landscape of impossible purity and silence. The stars were diamond-sharp in the black velvet sky. I felt not loneliness, but a profound connection—to the sleeping town, to the enduring rock of the island, to Eleanor and the other Keepers.

The winter wore on. The snowbanks turned to ice, grimy and sculpted by the wind. Then, almost imperceptibly, a change came. The light lasted a few minutes longer. The sound of dripping water joined the wind. A cardinal, a brilliant splash of crimson against the white, appeared at my feeder.

One day in late March, I was walking along the Shore Path. The ice in the bay was breaking up, great, groaning slabs pushed and piled by the tide. I saw Captain Hank, checking the moorings for his boat. "Spring's comin'," he grunted, not as a promise, but as a fact.

The Off-Season Keepers began to emerge from our hibernation. We gathered at the shop, and the talk turned from generators to boat repairs, from snow totals to the coming tourist season. There was a sense of accomplishment; of a trial survived. When the first ferry arrived in April, disgorging a handful of early-bird tourists, it felt like an invasion. The silence we had cultivated was broken. But it was okay. We had kept the flame. We had tended to the town while it slept, learning its ancient, quiet rhythms.

I stood on my porch that evening, listening to the unfamiliar sound of a car door slamming down the street. The Keepers weren't just those who stayed through the winter. We were the ones who understood that the soul of a place isn't found in its bustling crowds, but in its deep, resilient, and beautiful silence. And we would be here, waiting, when the postcard was put away again.

Image by: [Dave Dostie Photography](#)

1 SUMMIT ROAD PO BOX 367 NORTHEAST HARBOR MAINE 04662
207.276.3322

acadianews

MDI SEARCH AND RESCUE



WINTER FUN ADVENTURES AND STAYING SAFE IN ACADIA

By Lili Pew

Happy Winter in Acadia!

With a blanket of snow on the ground and frigid temperatures, the outlook for the start of winter's fun filled outdoor enjoyment looks fantastic! For many of our friends and family, venturing out in the Park in winter offers a very different experience than our summer experiences. The Park goes into quiet mode, with roads closed other than Ocean Drive, giving each of us a sense of peace and solace that is unmatched other than winter. Stars appear brighter in the added darkness of the night sky, and northern lights dance across the horizon from time to time. Snowy owls and furry four legged friends abound. Groomed carriage roads welcome Nordic skiing and snowshoeing when snow is plentiful, along with miles of hiking trails to enjoy. With so much fun to look forward to, it is also very important to plan ahead for safe winter outings.



Head lamps, batteries and map.



Planning your outing should always begin by checking the weather conditions and forecast before and during your hiking timeline. No matter what weather is forecast, prepare for the worst possible conditions, and make a route plan (with a current map-and bring the map with you!) based on your personal and/or your group's abilities. Carefully review the route and terrain, and plan an alternative route in case of bad weather, injury/illness, or slower than expected travel time. Lastly, be sure someone at home or a friend has your hiking plan, group names, where you are parking (and car information), what time you are leaving and expected return time.... And follow up protocol to follow if you do not return or communicate a late return. I am a volunteer with MDI Search and Rescue, and we are on call 24-7 to assist with search and rescue operations in Acadia and throughout Maine.

WINTER FUN ADVENTURES AND STAYING SAFE IN ACADIA...



Summer training exercises.

When we are called into action, having this information from a family member or friend can save critical time, and many times, save lives. Hopefully, careful planning ahead will lead to smiles and hot cocoa, and no search and rescues!

After reviewing the weather and route, the final step in your plan is all about wearing and bringing the right gear for winter hiking, including a mask. Safe and fun winter adventures are dependent on staying warm, dry, hydrated, and fueled. Having the right gear and food (fuel) makes this possible. Food is simple... eat and hydrate before you leave to start with the "tank full". Bring high energy food and warm fluids (hot tea with honey etc) in a thermos to drink along the way. Eat and drink before leave, and stay ahead of refueling the energy used while hiking.



ACADIA

WINTER FUN ADVENTURES AND STAYING SAFE



While there is a universe full of gear to select from for winter adventures, the basics are to layer your clothing to stay warm and dry on the inside and be shielded from the elements on the outside. When we hike up, the furnace goes on and we get warm and possibly moist or wet from perspiration. Your inner layers of clothing should be wicking to move moisture from your skin to outer layers. Do your best to NOT wear cotton on the inner layers as it holds moisture. Build your inner layers with breathable material, fleece, etc to allow warm air to move about, and have your more outer layers easily accessible by a zipper etc. to allow cooling or removal if starting to over heat.

Outer layers should add insulation (down, or permadown etc.) to provide warmth even if moist. The outermost layer should be a wind and moisture barrier, that in the best case, is also breathable (moisture out, heat stays in!). Gloves and hats of course! As far as footwear, hiking boots with moisture protection and solid traction are best. Wearing gators over your lined pants, helps keep the lower legs and feet warm and dry.

I have long been labeled equipment manager on hikes, because my backpack holds my gear and enough surplus for my group if needed. For example, high lumin headlights with extra batteries, extra hat, face covering (balaclava) and gloves (mittens are best to warm cold fingers), in case the ones I'm wearing get wet, and 2 contractors bags can be used as wind/wet protection. Cell phone battery pack, gps, radio, high energy bars/gel packs, first aid kit (with splints, bandages, tape, warming packs). Critically important to have in your pack for winter adventures are hiking poles and ice grippers of some sort, be it heavy duty microspikes or velcro ice stabilizers. Visible ice or ice resting in a shadow or under surface ground cover, is the number one culprit for falls in the park in winter. As the saying goes, "don't leave home without them!"

When you plan well, and have the right gear and equipment, Acadia will reveal winter adventures and lifelong memories unmatched by any other time of the year... as long as you and your friends stay safe!

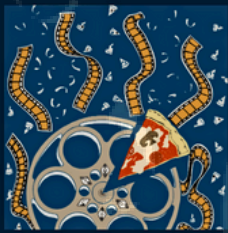
See you on the trails!

Lili Pew

MDI Search & Rescue Team Member

INFORMATION/DONATE
MDISAR.ORG





REEL PIZZA CINERAMA

BAR HARBOR, MAINE
33 Kennebec Place (207) 288-3828

Film info: 207-288-3811
Takeout / office: 207-288-3828

The Story of Reel Pizza Cinerama

In the early 1990s, Bar Harbor was a small coastal town with breathtaking scenery, a seasonal tourist pulse, and only a handful of places to gather once the summer crowds drifted away. Among the year-round residents was a young projectionist named Chris Vincenty, who worked at the historic Criterion Theatre downtown. Chris loved film, but he also sensed that the town needed something different — a place more casual than the traditional theater, more inviting than a restaurant, and more fun than the typical winter hangouts.

While threading film through the old projectors at the Criterion and chatting with friends after screenings, Chris began imagining a new kind of movie house: a theater where people could watch a film while eating real food — not just popcorn, but fresh, homemade pizza. A place with couches instead of stiff rows of seats, where the atmosphere felt more like a living room than a cinema.

By 1995, the idea had grown too big to ignore. Chris, together with his partner Lisa Burton, found an old auto-parts building tucked just off the village green on Kennebec Place. The structure was humble — half warehouse, half workshop — but it had potential. They cleaned it out, painted it, built a tiny screen against one wall, and installed a modest concession counter that served pizza dough they made by hand. There were no investors, no chain affiliation, just two people creating a cinema the way they thought it ought to feel: warm, quirky, creative, and personal.

When Reel Pizza Cinerama opened its doors, locals were curious. Tourists stumbled upon it accidentally. And almost immediately, people fell in love with the idea. Patrons would line up outside with the ocean breeze at their backs, waiting for their chance to settle into a couch or a padded seat, balance a fresh pizza on the small coffee tables, and watch a first-run movie in a comfortable, neighborly setting.

Reel Pizza quickly became known for its inventive specialty pizzas, many of them named after classic films, directors, or movie jokes. The staff would write the evening's selections on a chalkboard, and the smell of baking dough became as much a part of the experience as the previews themselves. The Vincentys encouraged people to arrive early, talk with one another, enjoy the art in the lobby, and treat the theater like a shared community living room.

As the years passed, the little half-garage theater became an institution. The old building was eventually torn down, replaced by the current purpose-built cinema that still stands just off the green. Though improved, it kept the same charm: two screening rooms, cozy seating, and a kitchen that still made pizza from scratch every day.

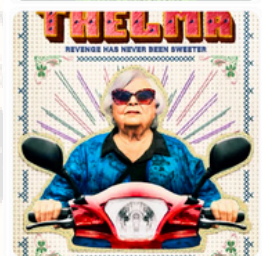
Reel Pizza grew into a cultural cornerstone of Bar Harbor. It hosted first-run movies, indie films, documentaries, and foreign films — the kinds of titles that didn't always reach small towns. Lisa and Chris partnered with local arts groups, museums, and schools. They created ART in the Lobby, giving Maine artists a place to display work year-round. They teamed up with the Chamber of Commerce for outdoor movie nights in summer and offered free screenings for local organizations. The theater became a gathering place in the darkest months of winter — a warm room filled with friends, neighbors, and the smell of pizza.

By the 2020s, when many small theaters around the country had closed, Reel Pizza remained remarkably strong. It adapted, modernized its ticketing, and balanced seasonal surges with the reliable support of year-round residents. In 2023, the Bar Harbor Chamber of Commerce named it Business of the Year, recognizing not only its longevity but its generosity and community spirit.

Today, in its 31st anniversary year, Reel Pizza is more than a movie theater. It's a Bar Harbor tradition — the place where first dates happened, rainy vacation days were saved, college kids returned each summer, and locals escaped long winters. It is the cozy glow off Main Street where couches, pizzas, and films still come together exactly as Chris imagined back in the 1990s.

And though the screen is bigger now, and the building sturdier, the heart of the place has stayed the same: a warm room, a good movie, and fresh pizza shared among friends.

Love this place! The first winter they were open, my friends and I would bring our blankets and huddle by the propane heater in the front corner. We loved it! I celebrated my 30th birthday at Reel Pizza with a private screening and pizza party. One of my favorite things about Bar Harbor! - Keri



Fire of 1947

The Year Maine Burned

Article courtesy National Park Service/Acadia National Park

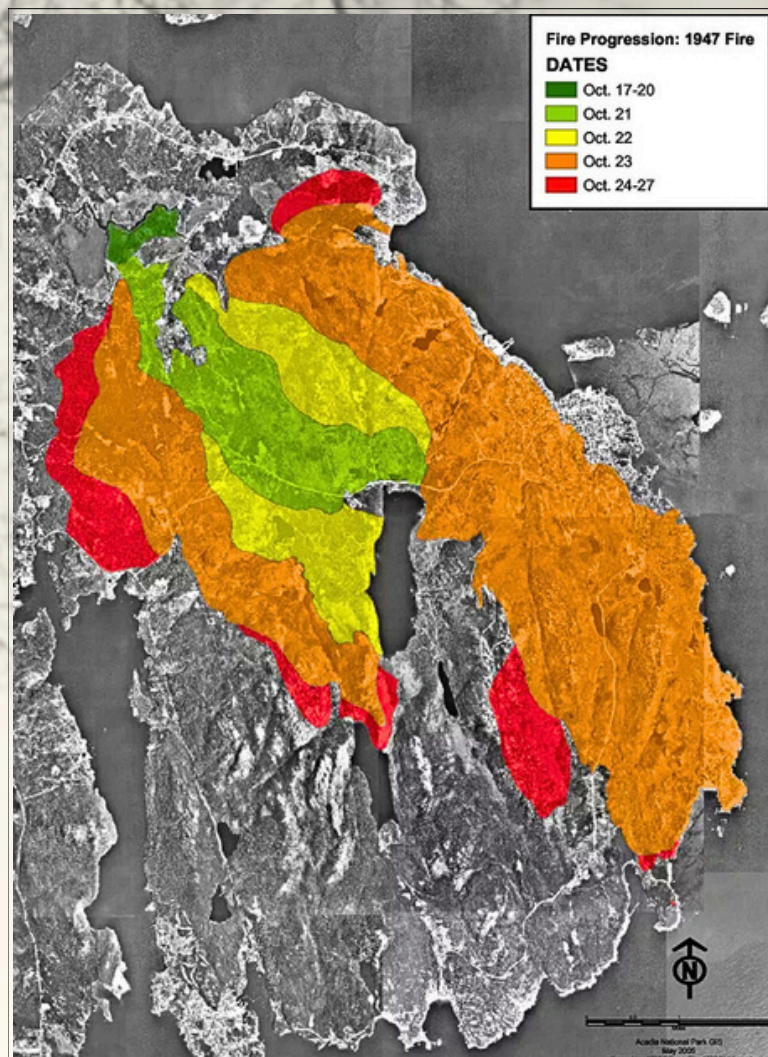
After a long Maine winter, spring is always eagerly anticipated. This was especially true in 1947; the gloominess of World War II still lingered and everyone looked towards the weather to lift their spirits. It rained continually through April, May, and most of June. Finally, at the end of June, the sun came out, temperatures soared, and summer finally emerged. But weather patterns continued to be odd that year. Through the summer and into the fall, Maine received only 50% of its normal rainfall. Vegetation became bone dry and water supplies dwindled. Most residents did not worry and assumed rain would come eventually. The island enjoyed one of the most beautiful Indian summers in memory. But the autumn rains never came, and by mid-October, Mount Desert Island was experiencing the driest conditions ever recorded. The stage was set for a disastrous blaze.

The Great Fire

On Friday, October 17, 1947, at 4 p.m., the fire department received a call from Mrs. Gilbert, who lived near Dolliver's dump on Crooked Road west of Hulls Cove. She reported smoke rising from a cranberry bog between her home and the dump. No one knows what started the fire. It could have been cranberry pickers smoking cigarettes in the bog. Or perhaps it was sunlight shining through a piece of broken glass in the dump that acted like an incendiary magnifying glass. Whatever the cause, once ignited, the fire smoldered underground. From this quiet beginning arose an inferno that burned nearly half of the eastern side of Mount Desert Island and made international news.

In its first three days, the fire burned a relatively small area, blackening only 169 acres. But on October 21, strong winds fanned the flames. The blaze spread rapidly and raged out of control, engulfing over 2,000 acres. Personnel from the Army Air Corps, Navy, Coast Guard, University of Maine forestry program, and Bangor Theological Seminary joined local firefighting crews. National Park Service employees flew in from parks throughout the East and additional experts in the West were put on standby.

The pace of the blaze intensified, and nearly 2,300 acres burned on October 22. The fire crossed Route 233 and continued along the western shore of Eagle Lake. On the morning of October 23, the wind shifted, pushing one finger of the fire toward Hulls Cove. Firefighters shifted their efforts in an attempt to squelch the threat to that community. But in the afternoon, the wind suddenly turned again and increased to gale proportions as a dry cold front moved through, sending the inferno directly toward Bar Harbor. In less than three hours the wildfire traveled six miles, leaving behind a three-mile-wide path of destruction. The fire swept down Millionaires' Row, an impressive collection of majestic summer cottages on the shore of Frenchman Bay. Sixty-seven of these seasonal estates were destroyed. The fire skirted the business district, but razed 170 permanent homes and five large historic hotels in the area surrounding downtown Bar Harbor.





From the Portland Press 1947

Bar Harbor residents not actively engaged in firefighting tried to find safety, fleeing first to the athletic field and later to the town pier. At one point all roads from the town were blocked by flames, so fishermen from nearby Winter Harbor, Gouldsboro, and Lamoine prepared to help with a mass exodus by boat. At least 400 people left by sea. Finally, by 9 p.m., bulldozers opened a pathway through the rubble on Route 3 and a caravan of 700 cars carrying 2,000 people began the slow trip to safety in Ellsworth. According to eyewitness reports, it was a terrifying drive—cars were pelted by sparks, and flames flickered overhead. But the motorcade was orderly and successful, an uplifting end to a day that saw close to 11,000 additional acres blackened.

Still the fire continued to burn. From Bar Harbor, the blaze raced down the coast almost to Otter Point, engulfing and destroying the Jackson Laboratory on its way. The fire blew itself out over the ocean in a massive fireball. But that wasn't the end of the destruction. Almost 2,000 more acres burned before the fire was declared under control on October 27. Organic soil and vegetation on the forest floor, along with matted tree roots infiltrating deeply around granite boulders, aided stubborn underground fires. Even weeks later, after rain and snow had fallen, fire still smoldered below ground. The fire was not pronounced completely out until 4 p.m. on November 14, nearly one month after it began.



Damage from Fire of 1947 at Sieur de Monts
Courtesy National Park Service/Acadia National Park

Fire of 1947

The Year Maine Burned.



Bar Harbor residents fleeing by boat.



The De Gregoire Hotel was taken down before the fire reached Bar Harbor saving most of downtown area.



Bar Harbor

Fire of 1947

The Year Maine Burned.



Leaving Bar Harbor Wint & Mary Tuck



The Malvern Hotel lost in the 1947 fire along with four others.

The Lasting Effects

By the end, 17,188 acres burned and more than 10,000 acres were in Acadia National Park. Property damage exceeded \$23 million dollars. Considering the magnitude of the fire, loss of human life had been minimal. An elderly man returned to his home to save his cat and was never seen alive again. A car accident claimed the lives of an air force officer and a local teenage girl. A man and woman, already ill, succumbed to heart attacks. An unknown number of animals died in the blaze, but park rangers believe that most outran the fire and found safety in ponds and lakes.

Once the fire was over, it was time to start anew. Two crews, one hired by the park and one hired by the Rockefeller family, logged selected park areas for timber salvage and clean-up. Some timber was milled, slash was burned, and other logs, still visible today, were left to prevent soil erosion.

Nature, however, played the predominant role in the island's restoration. The forests that exist today regrew naturally. Wind carried seeds back into burned areas, and some deciduous trees regenerated by stump sprouts or suckers. Today's forest, however, is often different than what grew before the fire. Spruce and fir that reigned before the fire have given way to sun-loving trees, such as birch and aspen. But these deciduous trees are short-lived. As they grow and begin to shade out the forest floor, they provide a nursery for the shade-loving spruce and fir that may eventually reclaim the territory.

Fire has an important role in nature. It clears away mature growth, opening areas to the sun-loving species that are food for wildlife. The fire of 1947 increased diversity in the composition and age structure of the park's forests. It even enhanced the scenery. Today, instead of one uniform evergreen forest, we are treated to a brilliant mix of red, yellow, and orange supplied by the new diverse deciduous forests.

Bar Harbor, too, was changed by the fire. Most of the permanent residents rebuilt their homes, but many of the grand summer cottages were not replaced. In fact, many of the seasonal families never returned. The estates on Millionaires' Row have been replaced by motels that house the ever-increasing tourist population. But the fire alone cannot be blamed for ending the island's once-grand "cottage era." The opulent lifestyle had already been suffering from the effects of the newly invented income tax and the Depression. The destructive flames merely provided a final blow.

The fire on Mount Desert Island was publicized in headlines in newspapers around the world because the island was a renowned summer retreat for the wealthy. But actually, the fall of 1947 was a dry one throughout the state, and many serious fires occurred. State-wide, more than 200,000 acres, 851 permanent homes, and 397 seasonal cottages were destroyed in "the year Maine burned."



Publisher Joseph Pulitzer, right, with his pilot, views the remains of the estate of Mrs. William S. Moore, his sister, in Bar Harbor, Maine, on October 24, 1947.



Trees felled by volunteer fire fighters near Mount Desert Island, Maine, as they try to establish a fire break between Bar Harbor and Seal Harbor in an effort to halt spread of the fire.



Published in the Oct. 29, 1947, Bates Students, this photo is said to show Bates student volunteers fighting the 1947 fires in Maine. They were picked up and taken to fire with only brooms and they had to walk home.



The pile of ashes and the lone chimney in the foreground are all that remains of the Malvern Hotel, one of Bar Harbor's better known summer gathering places. From its windows could be seen other of the city's show places, but yesterday each shared with the other the desolation that the fire had wrought. Credit: Spike Webb / BDN

It was an abnormal year, weather-wise, in 1947. An unusually warm spring meant snow melted early. Starting in July, the state entered into one of the worst droughts it had seen in decades. By October, Maine was essentially a tinderbox — the fire danger was as high as it had ever been.

On Oct. 17, 1947, when a fire started in a cranberry bog near Dolliver's Dump, just off Crooked Road, near Hull's Cove on Mount Desert Island, firefighters rushed to put it out, though their efforts had only just begun. That fire was just one of a series of multiple devastating fires that swept across the state that month — the largest natural disaster in Maine history, that involved municipalities from Wells to Bar Harbor.

For Mount Desert Island in particular, the fires raged for nearly a month, spreading east from Crooked Road to Hull's Cove, then south towards Bar Harbor and nearly to Otter Point, with the final embers not completely extinguished until Nov. 14. It cut a swath of destruction across more than 17,000 acres, 10,000 of those within Acadia National Park. In total, 170 homes and five hotels burned; the Jackson Laboratory, then a still relatively new institution, sustained massive damage.

[Read more by clicking the image above.](#)

Article by Emily Burnham October 5, 2017 Updated June 26, 2023



The USDA Forest Service, National Association of State Foresters, and the Ad Council partnered with advertising agency Foote, Cone & Belding (FCB) to create the Smokey Bear campaign in 1944. To this day, FCB continues to partner with the Smokey Bear campaign to create new public service announcements (PSAs) on a pro-bono basis.

Artist Albert Staehle delivered the first poster featuring Smokey Bear (featured here).



A painting by Edith Cleves Barry depicts the 1947 fires in Maine.

knowlesales

Market #1 in 2025



**RANKING REPORT BY COMPANIES AND OFFICES LISTING OR SELLING
COMPANIES/OFFICES STATUS: SOLD**

This Year: 1/1/2025 to 12/20/2025					
Rank	Name	Sides	Volume	Average	% Total: Number % Total: Volume
1	The Knowles Company (1454)	51	76,709,680	1,504,111	17.59 22.34
2	LandVest, Inc. Company (colandvest)	13	52,193,385	4,014,876	4.48 15.2
3	Portside Real Estate Group (coportside)	47	45,074,900	959,040	16.21 13.13
4	Legacy Properties Sotheby's International Realty Company (colegacy)	35	37,707,500	1,077,357	12.07 10.98
5	Better Homes & Gardens Real Estate/The Masiello Group Company (cobetterho)	36	32,966,500	915,736	12.41 9.6
6	Carter's Real Estate (1998)	6	11,477,890	1,912,982	2.07 3.34
7	Non MREIS Agency (7777)	6	10,049,600	1,674,933	2.07 2.93
8	L.S. Robinson Co. (1439)	8	9,508,000	1,188,500	2.76 2.77
9	Quietside Realty (3118)	16	8,812,157	550,760	5.52 2.57
10	ERA Dawson-Bradford Co. Company (coera)	8	8,697,500	1,087,188	2.76 2.53
11	Pemetic Purveyors (3093)	8	7,958,000	994,750	2.76 2.32
12	Mount Desert Island Real Estate (1425)	2	7,330,500	3,665,250	0.69 2.13
13	The Davis Agency (1557)	6	5,895,000	982,500	2.07 1.72
14	Lynam Real Estate Agency (1438)	8	5,815,999	727,000	2.76 1.69
15	Acadia Cornerstone Real Estate, LLC (2670)	9	5,060,389	562,265	3.1 1.47
16	Realty of Maine Company (corealtyofmaine)	5	2,781,000	556,200	1.72 0.81
17	Coastal Maine Realty,LLC (2923)	2	2,406,800	1,203,400	0.69 0.7
18	EXP Realty Company (coexp)	3	2,282,000	760,667	1.03 0.66
19	True North Realty, Inc (cotruenorth)	1	1,890,000	1,890,000	0.34 0.55
20	Margo H. Stanley Real Estate (1751)	3	1,504,000	501,333	1.03 0.44

Search Parameters: Property type
Residential; Town of Bar Harbor;
Cranberry Isles, Mount Desert, Southwest
Harbor, Swans Island, Tremont,
State/Province of ME; Closed Date
relative 366 days back; State/Province of
'ME'; Status of 'Closed'; Town of 'Bar
Harbor, Cranberry Isles, Mount Desert,
Southwest Harbor, Swans Island, Tremont.
As of Friday, December 22, 2025 1:56:06
PM Date Range: 1/1/2025 to 12/20/2025
Number and Volume Calculated By Sides

The Knowles Company Luxury Sales 2025



"FARAWAY"
82 COMMON LANE
GREENING ISLAND
\$6,100,000



"PEARSON COTTAGE"
62 SARGEANT DRIVE
NORTHEAST HARBOR
\$6,500,000



"WESTCLIFFE"
64 BROAD COVE
MOUNT DESERT
\$6,783,000

Image courtesy of: MDI Rescue Training

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18 | KNOWLESLETTER JANUARY 2026

WINTER CHARM!

WINTER SPRING ON THE TRAILS



Keri Hayes, The Knowles Company

As winter takes hold, it's easy to think ahead to warmer days. For others, thoughts turn to crisp air and fresh snow. According to recent forecasts from the Farmer's Almanac, predictions are leaning toward a snowy winter ahead. At Acadia, that kind of snow cover typically means the start of what many call the best time of year: cross-country ski season. As the snow begins to accumulate, the trails and carriage roads transform into a magical winter playground.



Why Acadia is a Cross-Country Skiing Gem

The crushed-stone surfaces of Acadia's carriage roads make them especially ski-friendly once snow piles up. Whether you're a seasoned skier or trying it out for the first time, you'll find routes ranging from easy flat glides to more adventurous hills.

With fewer summer crowds, quiet woods, and snow-covered pines, it really does feel like the park belongs to you and whoever you bring along.

The Heart Behind the Tracks: Friends of Acadia & the Acadia Winter Trails Association

The smooth ski tracks wouldn't exist without the dedication of volunteers. Starting from humble beginnings in the late 1980s, local ski enthusiasts organized what would become the Acadia Winter Trails Association (AWTA), and in 1990 they formally partnered with Friends of Acadia and Acadia National Park.



Today, **AWTA volunteers** operate from bases like the Hulls Cove Visitor Center and the Brown Mountain gatehouse, and set tracks for both classic and skate-style cross-country skiing along designated carriage-road routes.

Grooming begins when there's at least six inches of new snow and the roadbed has been frozen for several days. When conditions don't yet meet that threshold, skiers are still welcome to head out and make their own tracks or enjoy the trails on-foot.

Friends of Acadia keeps an up-to-date grooming report, and the organization encourages supporters to donate or volunteer. Donations help cover fuel, gear maintenance, volunteer training, and more.

Clarie Dorwart and Parker Brown

What to Know Before You Go

- Check grooming and weather conditions before you head out. Friends of Acadia maintains a grooming report, and posts updates (often with #SkiAcadia) on social media when grooming happens. [Friends of Acadia Facebook page](#).
- Choose trails that match your comfort level and be mindful of changing snow conditions.
- If the snow base is shallow or temperatures have stayed unseasonably warm, the carriage roads can get soft, carrying ski wax with you is helpful in these sticky situations.
- If you use or need to cross groomed tracks, please be mindful of others and avoid trampling them.
- Dress in warm, breathable layers and pack an extra layer or hand warmers.
- Bring water, a small snack, a phone with a full battery and a trail map.
- Let someone know your planned route and expected return time.



Always Ski with a Friend!
Finn and Parker Brown



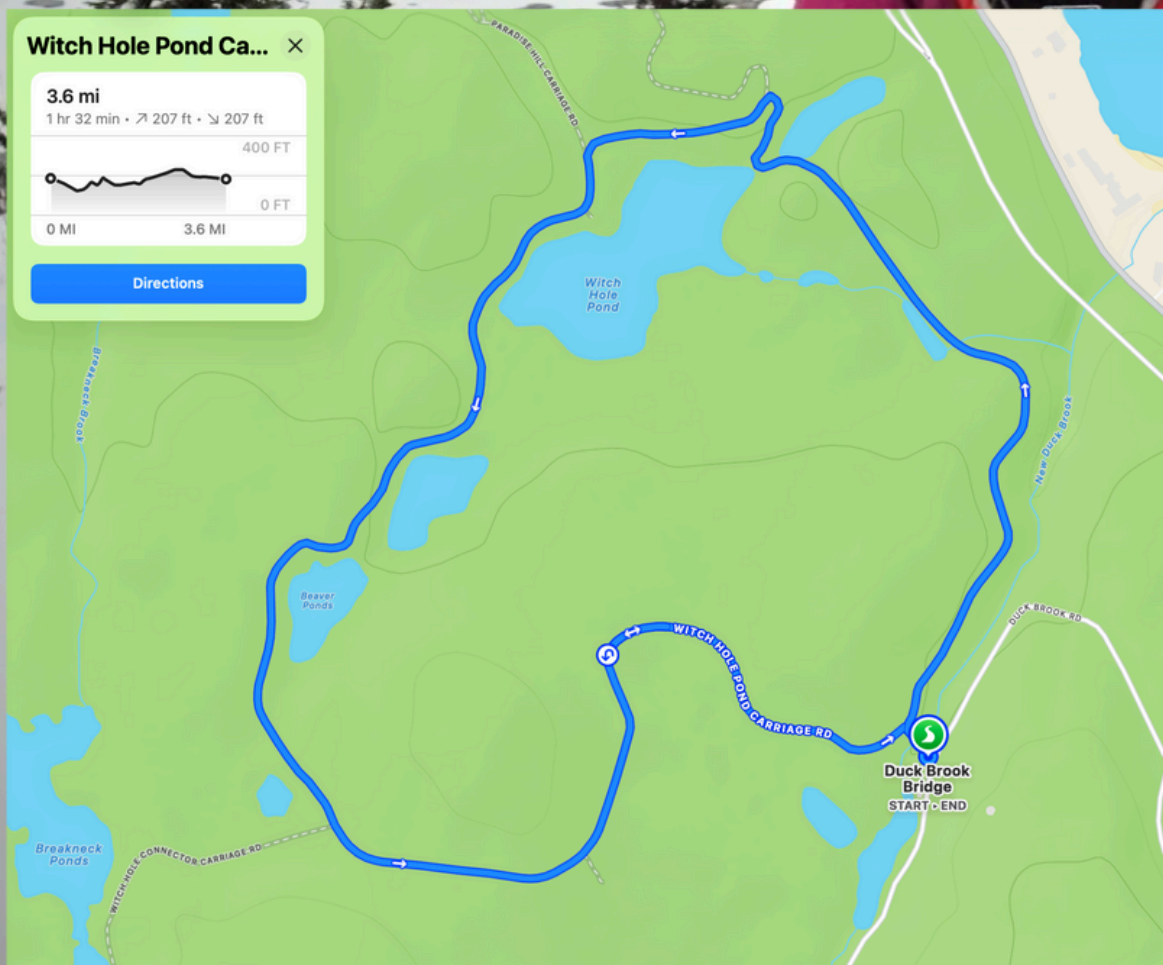
Acadia National Park

Winter Trail Guide

Witch Hole Pond, Beech Cliff Trails,
Gorham Mountain Trail, and Hadlock Loop Carriage Trail

Cross Country Ski around Witch Hole Pond

A popular cross country ski loop is Witch Hole Pond. Park at the stone bridge on the Duck Brook Road and enjoy groomed trails for classic and skate skiing. Watch for owls and the hard work of resident beavers. Add Paradise Hill for an extra challenge and ocean views.



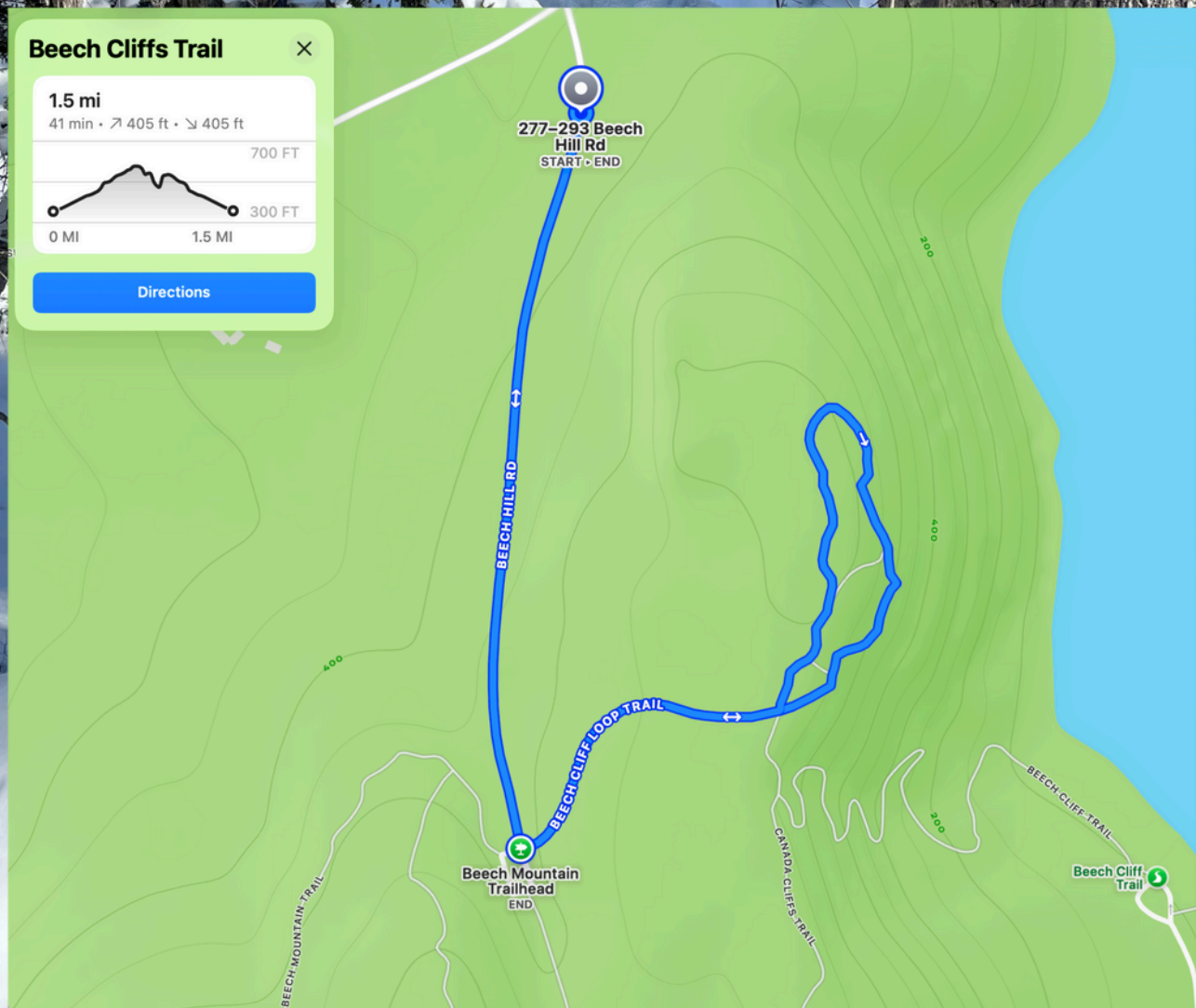
Winter Trail Guide

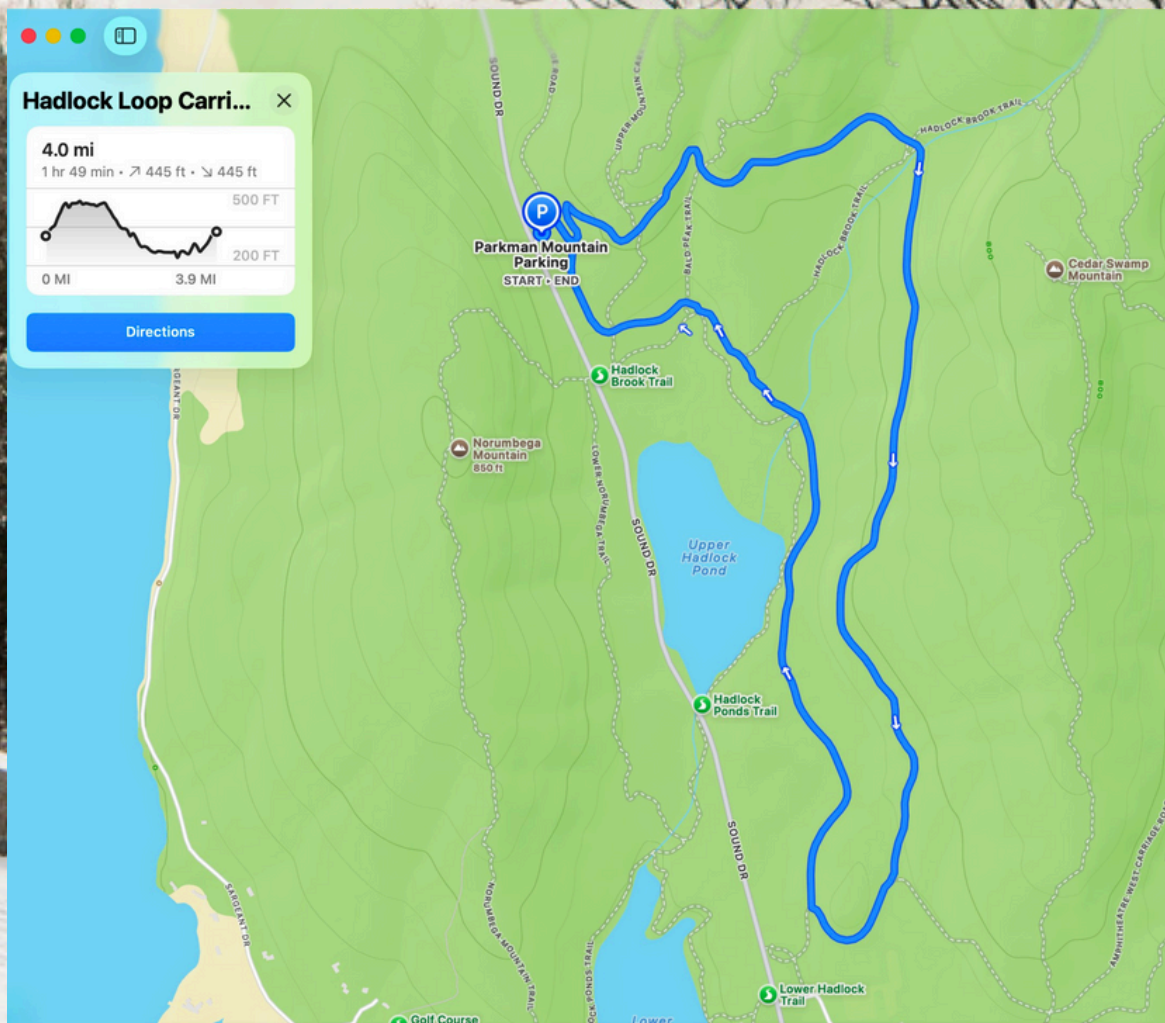
Snowshoe from Beech Hill Road to Beech Cliffs

Don't let the gate on Beech Hill Road deter you. Start there and follow the road to the parking lot for Beech Mountain where you take the trail to the left to reach the Beech Cliffs loop. Wonderful views of Southwest Harbor and Echo Lake await! An alternative is to turn right and follow the Beech Mountain Trail to the fire tower.

24 | KNOWLESLETTER JANUARY 2026

Don't let the gate on Beech Hill Road deter you. Start there and follow the road to the parking lot for Beech Mountain where you take the trail to the left to reach the Beech Cliffs loop. Wonderful views of Southwest Harbor and Echo Lake await! An alternative is to turn right and follow the Beech Mountain Trail to the fire tower.





Cross Country Ski the Hadlock Loop

Follow this machine tracked loop clockwise to start with a short climb that will warm you up. Filtered views, a frozen waterfall, and one of Acadia's iconic stone bridges can be found on this popular route. Add the Around the Mountain loop for an added challenge and more views.



Snowshoe Acadia National Park

Hike Gorham Mountain

Enjoy a winter hike on Gorham Mountain from the year round section of Ocean Drive on the Park Loop Road. This out and back trail offers sweeping views of the ocean, Sand Beach, and Otter Cliffs. Be sure to wear snowshoes or spikes as there will likely be sections of ice that are unsafe without adequate footwear. For a longer hike, continue along the ridge to The Bowl but do not attempt to descend on the Beehive Trail under any circumstances.

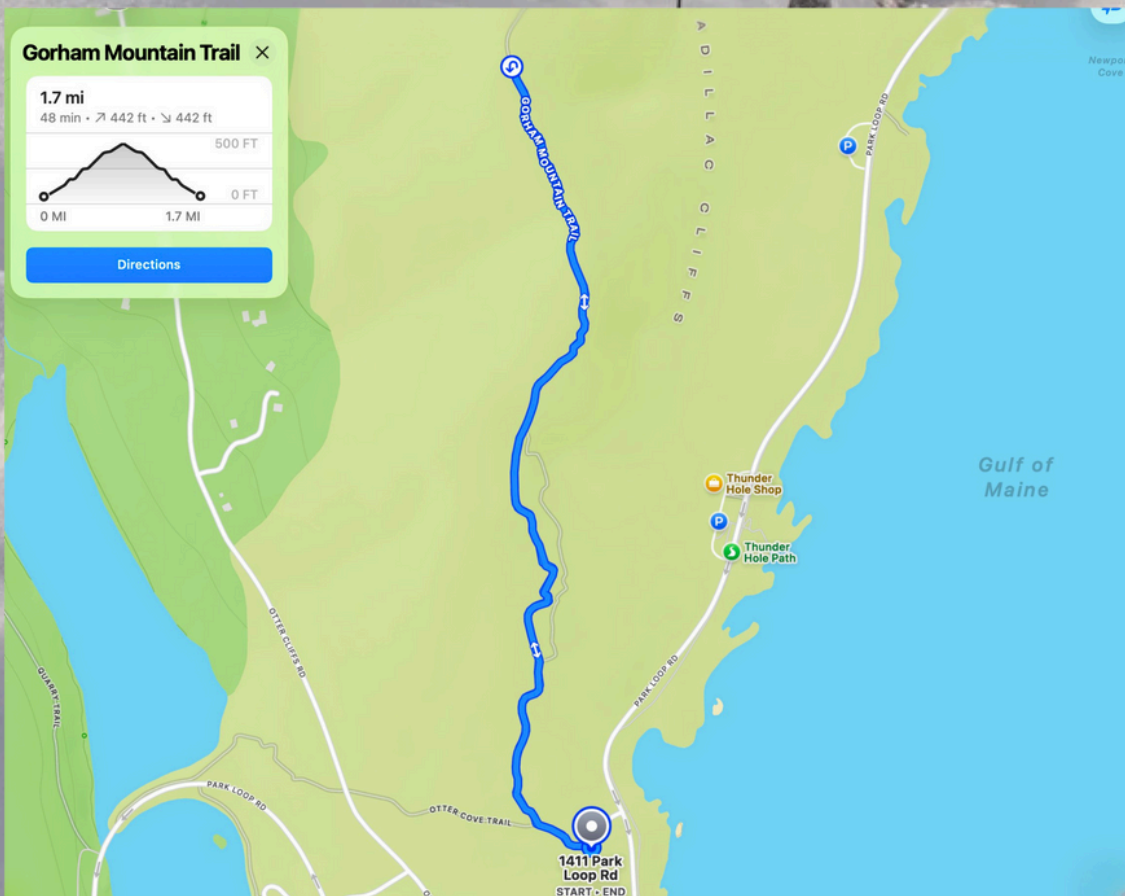


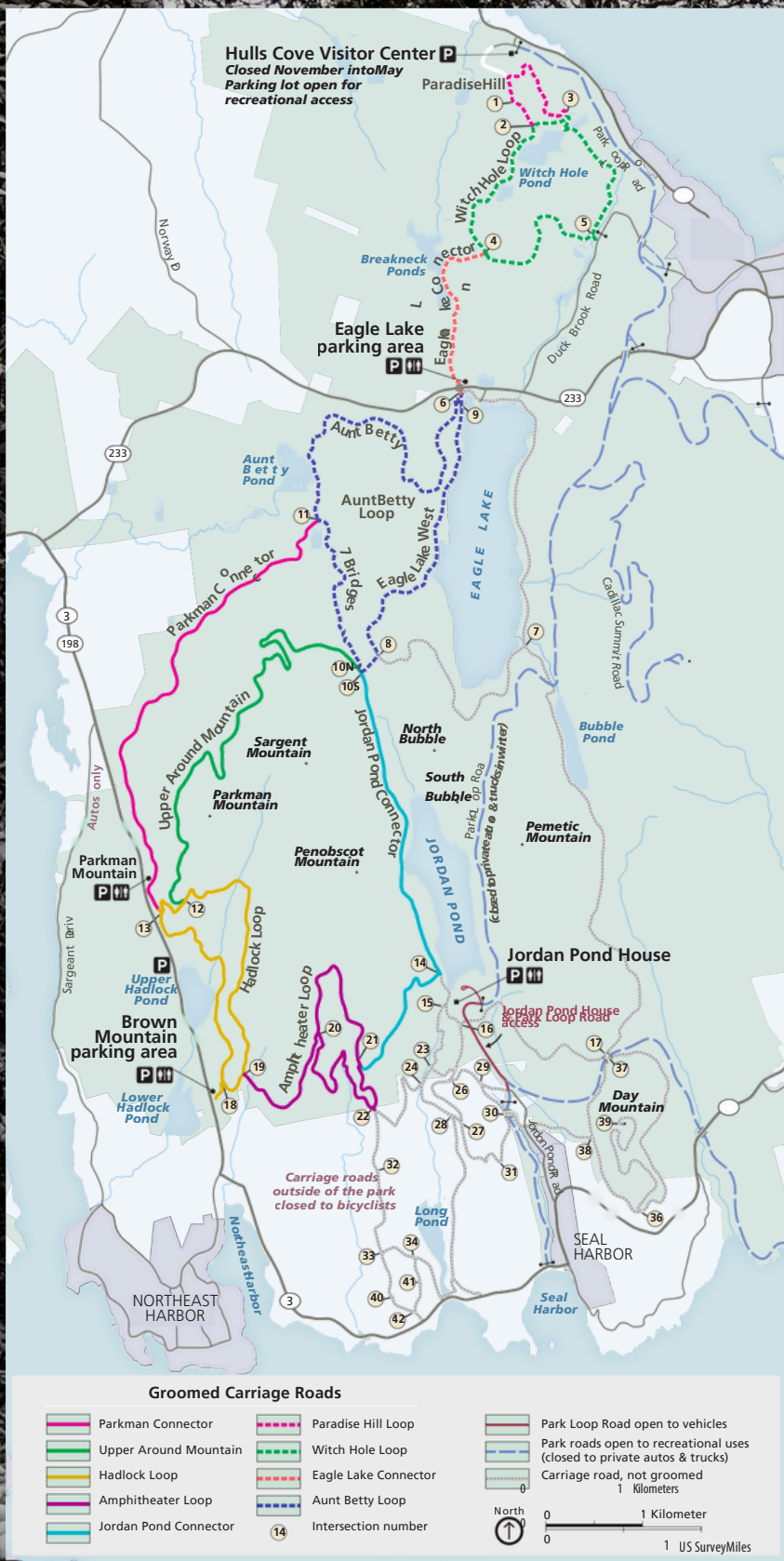
Image Courtesy of
Atlantic Climbing School
Email acadiabryan@gmail.com for
reservations or call Brian at (336) 689-3241

ACADIA GROOMED TRAIL MAP

[CHECK FOR CONDITIONS HERE](#)



MDI
Search and Rescue



**See safety article
in this issue!**



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KERI HAYES
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Winter Vacation Time on Mount Desert Island!

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(207) 276-3322

All houses are fully equipped, including linens and dishes. Security deposits, 9% Maine State Sales Tax and a nominal booking fee are not included. Pets are allowed only by special permission from the owner. Prices and availability are for the current season and are subject to change.



AIT SHONA

Trenton Shorefront
Will Consider Pets
Rents Sunday to Sunday

3 Bdrms
2.5 Baths
Max Occ: 6

This stunning property enjoys magnificent views of Mt. Desert Island's hills. Easy shore access, comfortable furnishings throughout, privacy, and lovely grounds are just a few of the many features this exceptional home offers the visitor. Just twenty minutes' drive to Acadia National Park main entrances!



WICKER WAY COTTAGE

Tremont, Bernard
Rural
Will consider pets.
Rents Sunday to Sunday
Cancellation Policy: Relaxed

3 Bdrms
1 Bath
Max Occ: 5

A sweet summer cottage in a rural setting within walking distance of popular Thurston's Lobster Pound, Back Beach, and other Bernard treasures! Discover the quiet and charming village of Bernard in West Tremont and explore the rest of Mt. Desert Island from this cute home, fully renovated and redecorated in 2022.



ADA'S PLACE

Northeast Harbor
Village
Will consider pets.
Rents Sunday to Sunday

3 Bdrms
3 Baths
Max Occ: 8

This beautifully furnished home offers one-level convenience and comfort within easy reach to Northeast Harbor's charming village center. Set on a privately situated lot with great outdoor living spaces!



LEE BY THE SEA

Trenton Shorefront
Rents Saturday to Saturday

4 Bdrms
3 Baths
Max Occ: 8

Poised on the shores of Mill Cove with pretty westerly views, this attractive home offers the perfect spot to enjoy a tranquil spot for your Maine Adventures! Acadia National Park major entrances are approximately 20-30 minutes away, as are several village centers with vibrant restaurants, shopping, and other attractions.



knowlesrentals

REAL ESTATE AND VACATION RENTALS



DEVILSTONE GUESTHOUSE

Bar Harbor Shorefront
Access, Village
Will consider pets

3 Bdrms
4 Baths
Max Occ: 6

The Devilstone Guest House, located just steps from the Shore Path access, is a large two story Cape on the village side of the Devilstone Oceanfront Estate. Easy access to all of Bar Harbor's restaurants and activities, or settle into a lazy day on the deck.



COPPERTOP

Northeast Harbor
Shorefront
Rents Sunday to Sunday

5 Bdrms
4 Baths
Max Occ: 10

Many custom details throughout, beautiful layout and spaces, floor to ceiling windows, intimate views of Somes Sound. Perfect for those who want simplicity without compromising style and comfort. Surrounded by towering pines and affording plenty of privacy, Copper Top is sure to be a rental favorite with its custom woodwork, beautiful furnishings, and comfortable layout.



PITCH PINES

Bar Harbor
Village
Will consider pets
Rents Sunday to Sunday

3 Bdrms
2 Baths
Max Occ: 6

This sweet cottage with a distinctly Asian flair enjoys excellent proximity to the Park Loop Rd for biking and driving access to Acadia National Park. Less than one mile to the heart of Bar Harbor, restaurants and shops as well as the Island Explorer hub await you!



FOX DEN

Somesville Rural
Will consider pets
Rents Sunday to Sunday

2 Bdrms
1.5 Baths
Max Occ: 5

Newly built in 2024, this adorable log style home is fresh and ready for your stay! Long Pond's "Pond's End" is about 3/4 mile down the road. A comfortable and charming spot for your Acadia stay!

LISA IS MOVING TO THE PREVIOUS MAIN STREET MERCANTILE LOCATION
134 MAIN STREET, NORTHEAST HARBOR!

Lisa Hall Studio



Lisa earned her bachelor of arts from Sarah Lawrence College with a concentration in Italian Renaissance art history, advanced painting, and sculpture. She studied classical jewelry-making techniques in Florence, Italy, where she began to design and produce custom jewelry in 1989.

Lisa turned to seaglass as an opportunity to work with a new material and integrate her impressive collection, found over the years on the beaches of coastal Maine. Her seaglass jewelry became a hit almost overnight after she was discovered by Martha Stewart, who featured Lisa's work both in her magazine and on her television show.



134 MAIN STREET PO BOX 1032 | NORTHEAST HARBOR | (207) 664-8639 | LISA@LISAHALLJEWELRY.COM

SeaGlass

Collection by Lisa Hall



 Lisa Hall Studio



134 MAIN STREET PO BOX 1032 | NORTHEAST HARBOR | (207) 664-8639 | LISA@LISAHALLJEWELRY.COM

DOODLES

Megan Smith
Owner



Acadia Goldendoodles
Responsibly raised English Goldendoodles
ME State Kennel Lic. #F1601
846 Tremont Road, Seal Cove, Maine 04674



From Classroom to Kennel: A Local Educator's Journey to Breeding Excellence

For 28 years, Megan walked the halls of Mount Desert Island High School, first as a Special Education teacher, then as the Title I Reading Teacher. For many of those years, she had another passion running parallel to her teaching career – dogs. Specifically, raising exceptional Goldendoodles on 35 acres near Acadia National Park.

"I loved teaching, and I loved raising dogs" Megan explains. "But doing both was getting to be too much. I basically had two full-time occupations." When schools shut down during the COVID-19 pandemic, she got a glimpse of what life could be like setting her own schedule and spending her days with her dogs. "It was an easy decision after that," she says. "I retired early and started running my business full time."



That business is **Acadia Goldendoodles**, a Gold-Level, award-winning breeding program that has become known far beyond Maine's borders for producing some of the healthiest, best-tempered Goldendoodles in the country. Many Acadia Goldendoodles go on to become service or therapy dogs, and the kennel has been honored twice to partner with Make-a-Wish Maine to make children's wishes come true.

A Destination Worth the Journey.

What sets Acadia Goldendoodles apart isn't just the quality of the puppies – though that's exceptional – it's also the experience families have when they come to pick up their new family member. For many, the trip to MDI becomes woven into the story of their dog.


"Many families have special memories of MDI and Acadia National Park," Megan says, "such as getting married or engaged here, spending childhood summers here, or a yearly camping trip with their families. People tell me about the wonderful restaurants they've eaten in, the ferry and whale-watch rides they've taken, the carriage paths they've biked on. I love when they take the time to enjoy our special area when adding a puppy to their families."

Some families make a full vacation of it, staying in local hotels or campgrounds, then taking their puppy home at the end. Others rent pet-friendly homes and spend a weekend or week getting to know their new companion before heading home. One family camped for a week, then stopped to pick up their puppy on the way home – having managed to hide all the puppy equipment from their children to surprise them with a puppy at the end of the week.

But perhaps the most memorable pickup story involves a marriage proposal. A couple already had an Acadia Goldendoodle and were getting a second puppy. One of them sent a bandanna ahead of time that read "Will you marry my Mommy?" Megan put it on the puppy, and when she handed the puppy over, one partner got down on her knee, presented a ring, and proposed. "The answer was yes," Megan says with a smile, "and the four of them went on to take engagement pictures and videos in Acadia before heading home."

Fun fact: There's an Acadia Goldendoodle right here in the Knowles family – Josie, who belongs to Kate Chaplin.





What makes Acadia Goldendoodles so sought-after? Megan is adamant that it starts with being discriminating about breeding. "We have a strong focus on temperament and are really careful about which parent dogs we use in our breeding program," she explains. "I strive to produce and raise puppies that will be great companions and family members, and our goal is that any of them, with the right training, could be of service."

The health testing at Acadia Goldendoodles goes well beyond industry standards. All parent dogs have hip, elbow, eye, heart, thyroid, patella and DNA clearances. "Our parent dogs go through health testing for conditions that affect both parent breeds – Golden Retrievers and Poodles," Megan notes. "So it's actually more testing than is needed to responsibly breed purebreds."

The kennel adheres to the Goldendoodle Association of North America's (GANA) Gold Level standards – the highest level of health-testing requirements and code of ethics in the industry. Parent dogs are continually evaluated and paired to produce puppies with the best temperament, health, intelligence, confidence, structure, style and beauty.

*"Our dogs are the whole package," Megan says.
"Temperament, health, intelligence and looks."*

Megan Smith, Owner

Email: megan@acadiagoldendoodles.com

acadiagoldendoodles.com

Tel: (207) 669-0766



Lisa Hayes pulls up to Mount Desert Island, Maine, and instantly gets swarmed by the cutest welcoming committee on the East Coast. These fluffy little cuddle rockets didn't want packages... they wanted Lisa.

Puppy paws, puppy kisses, puppy piles, and not a single complaint on the route. If every stop looked like this, nobody would ever finish their shift! Lisa might just have the most dangerous job of all... trying to leave without taking eight new coworkers home with her.



Lisa Hayes
Special Delivery!

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Whether you are buying or selling, we offer expert local knowledge on Mt Desert Island.



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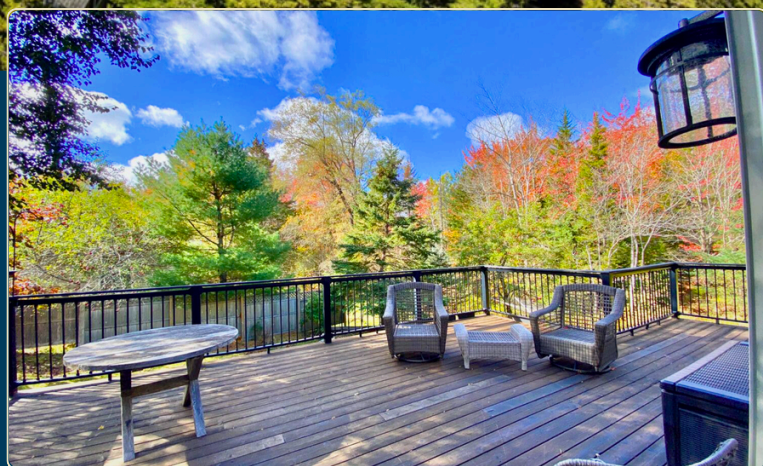
TEAPOT AND POPOVER

4 HIGHLANDS LANE (NORTHEAST HARBOR)

At 4 Highlands Lane, discover the perfectly paired residences of Teapot and Popover on 6.5± private acres. This elevated retreat features sweeping, unobstructed views of Northeast Harbor, the Western Way, and Somes Sound. Conveniently located near Thuya Garden, the property blends natural beauty with privacy.

The year-round main home, Teapot, offers comfort with vaulted ceilings, a wood-burning fireplace, an updated kitchen, and walls of doors opening to a wraparound deck. The layout includes a first-floor bedroom and an upstairs primary suite with a private balcony.

Steps away, the guest cottage, Popover, provides a full kitchen, living area, two bedrooms, and a versatile bonus room. Adding charm is The Cookie, a whimsical playhouse. Designed by architect Roc Caivano, this well-maintained property combines flexibility and timeless appeal in a coveted Mount Desert Island location.



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\$4,400,000

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Distinctive Properties.
Legendary Service.



BAILIWICK BAR HARBOR

Located on 4.6+/- private, wooded acres on Bay View Drive, "Bailiwick" offers 474+/- feet of elevated deepwater frontage on Frenchman's Bay. Built in 1990, this contemporary home features a two-story wall of windows with sweeping bay views, an open living area with a wood-burning fireplace, and a sunroom with radiant heat. Multiple decks provide outdoor living space. The property includes an attached garage and a greenhouse shed. It is conveniently located less than a mile from Hadley Point Beach and a short drive to downtown Bar Harbor.

\$1,700,000 MLS# 1644317
71 Bay View Drive



THE SCHOOLHOUSE

MOUNT DESERT (NORTHEAST HARBOR)

Embrace a life of classic Maine charm in 'The Schoolhouse,' a meticulously maintained year-round cottage in the heart of Northeast Harbor. This turn-key home blends historic character with tasteful modern updates, featuring two sunlit bedrooms and 1.5 baths. Enjoy serene mornings on the screened three-season porch, surrounded by beautifully landscaped gardens. With a convenient one-car garage, a proven rental history, and easy access to the village center and Acadia National Park, this is a rare opportunity for a perfect coastal retreat or a savvy investment.

\$849,000 MLS# 1642498
16 Millbrook-Northeast Harbor Road



AUNT BETTY'S POND BAR HARBOR

Stunning year-round, 3-bedroom, 3-bath Timberpeg home with 16+/- acres abuts Acadia National Park! The home offers many recent improvements which includes a new kitchen, heating system, new roof and heat pumps. The sunny living room with views of the mountains features a wood stove and the home has many nice details throughout. Relax and enjoy the natural landscaping from the outdoor spaces and the screened porch. Access the Park and Aunt Betty's Pond from your back door while enjoying full views of Cadillac and Sargent, the beautiful mountains of Acadia, from most every room.

\$2,395,000 MLS# 1639713
742 Eagle Lake Road



CLASSIC NORTHEAST HARBOR NORTHEAST HARBOR

This classic Northeast Harbor home offers turn-of-the-century charm in a prime village location. The 3-bedroom, 1.5-bath layout features original hardwood floors, a wood-burning fireplace, pocket doors, a Dutch door, and beautiful original millwork. A bright four-season room, spacious kitchen, and formal dining room open to a wraparound deck with serene views. Upstairs are three bedrooms and a versatile bonus room. Set on a +/- .34-acre corner lot with mature apple trees, a level yard, and a detached two-car garage, this inviting home is minutes from shops, tennis, and golf, and ready to be personalized.

\$1,200,000 MLS# 1640454
65 Summit Road, Northeast Harbor

KnowlesCo.com



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New Seasonal Rentals



Casa Alegria: Beautifully furnished Northeast Harbor converted carriage house with gorgeous harbor views! 3 bdrms/3 baths. \$3300-\$4000 per week.



Hemlock Hideaway: Sweet and cozy, close to Long Pond! Check out the amazing screened porch! 3 bdrms/1.5 baths \$2200-\$3000 per week.



Somes Pond Center: Mid-century modern charmer on sweet Somes Pond! 2 bdrms/3 baths \$2800-\$3900 per week

The Naming of Acadia National Park

This is the most direct origin of "Acadia, Maine" as we know it today.

- In the early 1900s, wealthy philanthropists (like John D. Rockefeller Jr.) and visionaries, concerned about development on Mount Desert Island, began preserving land through donations.
- The park was first established as Sieur de Monts National Monument in 1916 by President Woodrow Wilson.
- In 1919, it was upgraded to a national park and renamed Lafayette National Park (after the French Marquis de Lafayette), reflecting the French connection but feeling somewhat generic.
- In 1929, the name was officially changed to Acadia National Park. The change was championed by individuals like George B. Dorr, the "father of the park." The name "Acadia" was chosen because:
 - It reflected the deep French colonial and exploratory history of the broader region.
 - It evoked the classical ideal of a pastoral paradise—a perfect fit for the stunning landscape of mountains meeting the sea.
 - It was geographically and historically appropriate for the "Acadian" coast of the Gulf of Maine.



Leeward Cottage: Expansive views, updated one-level waterfront home near charming Southwest Harbor! 5 bdrms/3.5 baths \$5200-\$7000 per week.



The Cove House: Stunning waterfront home in quiet Somesville with southeasterly views across Somes Sound! 6 bdrms/4.5 baths \$4350-\$9600 per week.



Des Isle Hideaway: Comfortable Bar Harbor home close to village center with full-house AC, available for month-long or seasonal stays! 3 bdrms/2.5 baths. \$8000-\$12,000 per month.



Rockend Cottage: Wonderful water views from a beautifully decorated Northeast Harbor home! Perfect for the off-season stay! 4 bdrms/3.5 baths, \$5000-\$6000 per week (not available Jun 27-Sep 15)

Maine Vacation Time is Coming Soon!

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RENTAL AGENT



KATE CHAPLIN
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MARLA JONES
ONLINE MARKETING AGENT

THE KNOWLES COMPANY

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Acadia

The Ancient Roots: Arcadia

The name originates from the ancient Greek region of Arcadia (Ἀρκαδία), a landlocked, mountainous district in the Peloponnese celebrated in classical poetry and art as an idyllic, pastoral paradise—a symbol of unspoiled wilderness and harmony with nature.

The Colonial Application: L'Acadie

In the 16th and 17th centuries, European explorers applied classical names to the New World. Italian explorer Giovanni da Verrazzano, in 1524, is credited with first using "Arcadia" to refer to the coastal region around present-day Delaware and the Chesapeake Bay, noting its beautiful trees. The name then drifted north on maps.

When the French established their colony in the Maritime provinces of present-day Canada (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island), the name evolved into "L'Acadie." The leading theory is that "Arcadia" was corrupted to "Acadie" through linguistic evolution:

- French cartographers possibly dropped the 'r'.
- The Mi'kmaq suffix "-akadie" (meaning "place of" or "land of") may have influenced the sound, fittingly applied to the Mi'kmaq lands.
- The colony of Acadie became the heart of the French-speaking Acadian culture, lasting until the brutal British expulsion in 1755 (the Grand Dérangement), which scattered Acadians to Louisiana (where they became "Cajuns").

The Connection to Maine

- Maine is geographically adjacent to the Canadian Maritimes, sharing the same rocky, forested coastline and island ecosystem. For centuries, the entire region was considered part of the same geographical and cultural continuum. The French presence and influence were historically strong in eastern Maine.



LOCAL RENTAL SKI RESOURCES



maine's performance outfitter

Cadillac Mountain Sports stands out as a premier destination for outdoor enthusiasts, offering a diverse range of high-quality sporting goods and apparel. The store's inviting atmosphere and well-organized layout create an enjoyable shopping experience, allowing customers to easily navigate through an impressive selection of gear, from running shoes to kayaking equipment. Notably, the knowledgeable and friendly staff contribute significantly to the overall appeal, providing expert guidance and personalized service that enhances the shopping journey. Reviewers frequently commend the variety of products available, particularly highlighting the extensive collection of running shoes, outdoor clothing, and accessories that cater to various outdoor activities. Unique offerings like ExOfficio clothing and specialized footwear demonstrate the brand's commitment to quality and functionality, ensuring that customers find exactly what they need for their adventures. The store's dedication to customer satisfaction is evident through the attentive service and willingness to assist shoppers in making informed decisions. Despite some reviews mentioning pricing as being on the higher end, the consensus is that the quality of products justifies the investment. With a strong reputation for providing excellent outdoor gear and expert advice, Cadillac Mountain Sports remains a go-to destination for anyone seeking to explore the great outdoors.

Winter Ski Rentals

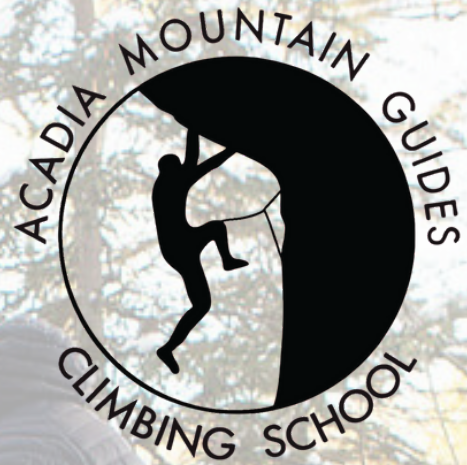
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Boot Rentals Only
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26 COTTAGE ST #28, BAR HARBOR, ME 04609
[207-288-4532](tel:207-288-4532)



Acadia Mountain Guides Climbing School stands out as a premier destination for outdoor enthusiasts seeking thrilling climbing experiences in the stunning landscapes of Acadia National Park. Renowned for its knowledgeable and friendly guides, this climbing school emphasizes safety while providing tailored challenges suitable for all skill levels. Customers frequently praise the school for its exceptional guides who not only foster a supportive environment but also share a deep passion for climbing. The breathtaking views from climbing routes, such as the famed Otter Cliffs, elevate each excursion, making it a memorable adventure for climbers of all ages. Reviewers highlight the professionalism and adaptability of the guides, ensuring that every climber feels comfortable and engaged, regardless of their experience level. The school provides essential equipment, including shoes and harnesses, allowing participants to focus on enjoying the climb without worrying about logistics. Many customers express their appreciation for the unique opportunity to bond with family and friends while learning climbing techniques, such as belaying and knot tying. Acadia Mountain Guides Climbing School is not just a climbing school; it is an experience that combines adventure, education, and the awe-inspiring beauty of nature, making it a must-visit for anyone looking to explore the great outdoors.

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Alpine Touring Skis
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BROKER



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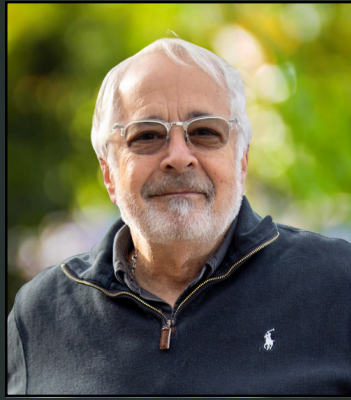
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1 SUMMIT ROAD PO BOX 367 NORTHEAST HARBOR MAINE 04662 207.276.3322

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