

News, Apps, Deals, and Gear from New England and Beyond

HERE



SWEET WEEKEND IN ST. ALBANS, VT.

Satisfy your sweet tooth at the 47th annual Vermont Maple Festival (April 26-28) on the shores of Lake Champlain. This three-day extravaganza features all things maple including maple cooking demonstrations and cooking contest, pancake breakfast, sugarhouse tours, educational exhibits, maple buffet dinner, and more. Check out the antiques show, the craft and specialty food show — with jewelry, clothing, woodwork, photography, pottery, and innovative crafts — then work off those maple doughnut calories at the 8.5-mile Sap Run. Other activities include pony rides, face painting, carnival rides, and a gala parade. On the Main Street Stage, enjoy live music, storytellers, dancers, puppeteers, and more. Most activities are free. 802-524-2444, www.vtmaplefestival.org



HAUTE COUTURE IN NEWPORT, R.I.

Fans of beaded gowns and organdy tea dresses won't want to miss the costume exhibition at Newport Mansions (through Nov. 22). Featuring highlights from the Preservation Society of Newport County's 20th-century collection, it features 11 designer pieces — from the avant-garde of the roaring '20s to the minimalism of the '60s and '70s — by Chanel, Givenchy, Halston, and others. You'll find these fashions in the second-floor costume galleries in Rosecliff, the 1902 mansion architect Stanford White modeled after Grand Trianon, the garden retreat of French kings at Versailles. Daily tours 10 a.m.-5 p.m., except when closed for the Newport Flower Show, June 20-23. Adult \$14.50, ages 6-17 \$5.50. 401-847-1000, www.newportmansions.org

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PADDLE AMSTERDAM'S CANALS

The Dylan Amsterdam, a historic 40-room boutique hotel, offers new customized paddleboats for guests as part of their Pamper, Paddle, and Petals package. Celebrating the 400-year anniversary of Amsterdam's renowned waterways — and springtime flowers in bloom — the luxury package includes a two-night stay, daily breakfast buffet, lunch in the new Brasserie OCCO, keepsake tulip vase, and use of a paddleboat to explore the canals. From \$970, double occupancy, through June 30. 011-31-20-530-2010, <http://dylanamsterdam.com>



CENTURY-OLD GARDEN DEBUTS IN NEW JERSEY

Greenwood Gardens, the former private estate of Adelaide Childs Frick, makes its public debut on April 28. Located in Short Hills, N.J., less than an hour's drive from Manhattan, this 28-acre ornamental garden and cultural center is devoted to the appreciation of nature, sustainability, and preservation. Rooted in the Arts and Crafts and Classical approaches to garden design, the property features Italianate terraces, grottos, meandering moss-covered paths, allées of sycamore and spruces, ornamental trees and shrubs, wildflower meadows, and more. Open Sun (10 a.m.-4 p.m.), Mon and Tue (10-3) through Oct. 29; seasonal hours November to March. Adults \$10, seniors and children \$5. 973-258-4026, www.greenwoodgardens.org

GET JAZZED IN CUBA

Swing your hips to a Latin groove on one of Insight Cuba's Jazz in Havana Tours, offered every month thorough May 2014. This not-for-profit company connects US visitors with Cuban people and culture. Visit art studios and jazz clubs in Old Havana; travel to Matanzas, a nearby northern province, and visit a publishing house specializing in handmade books; watch a traditional dance by members of AfroCuba de Matanzas, a Cuban music group, and more. Five days, four nights, from \$2695. 800-450-2822, <http://insightcuba.com/cuba-tours/jazz-in-havana-tour>



EVERYWHERE



INNOVATIVE TRAVEL PRODUCTS

Attention gadget junkies: Daily Grommet, a curated online marketplace and video review site, offers dozens of new and innovative products for savvy travelers. With its focus on product origins, the site spotlights items of utility, style, or invention that haven't hit the big time yet, from pill storage containers and waterproof wraps to ride-on suitcases for kids, inflatable portable cribs, and fast-dry towels. Help launch and review new products with their Citizens' Gallery and Suggest a Grommet features. 877-862-0222, www.dailygrommet.com/products/for-me/travel

YOGA ON THE GO

Stay fit with Snooze Yoga, an app designed for business and leisure travelers looking to unwind after a long day on the road, in the air, or sitting in meetings. Includes 17 yoga sequences with voice-guided video and picture demonstrations that can be done in the comfort of a hotel room. Created by yoga instructor Rina Jakubowicz, the exercises are tailored for morning, midday, and night, and include stretches such as Happiness for My Hips, Namaste for a New Day, and Nightcap for My Core. Too tired to stretch? Sleep to soothing background music, and wake to tranquil alarm clock sounds. Compatible with iPhone, iPod Touch, and iPad; 99 cents. <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/snooze-yoga/id587406939?mt=8>

NECEE REGIS



Cape St. Mary's Ecological Reserve

WHAT ELSE WOULD YOU EXPECT FROM A PLACE WITH ITS VERY OWN TIME ZONE?

Maybe it's the view. Or maybe it's the fact that you've just witnessed a couple of hundred thousand birds gathering in wild congregations at the very edge of the continent. Whatever the case, one thing's for sure. In the Seabird Capital of North America, surrounded by

rugged coastline, scenic hiking trails, and fresh sea air, there's a tendency to flock towards the unexpected. Not bad for a three hour flight. To find your way here, call Susan at 1-800-563-6353 or visit NewfoundlandLabrador.com

