

# MARITIME CONNECTICUT

Connecticut  
still revolutionary

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Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk



Old Lighthouse Museum



USS Nautilus & Submarine Force Museum

## DAY 1:

### STOP #1:

#### Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk, Norwalk

Explore this aquarium that is solely devoted to the Long Island Sound. This attraction has something for everyone with an IMAX theater, an 110,000 gallon Open Ocean exhibit, a harbor seal pool, a river otter habitat, colorful and unusual frogs from around the world, a Jellyfish Encounter, a Marine Lab and a 15,000 gallon habitat with loggerhead sea turtles. The Ray Touch Pool with three types of stingray species and the Rocky Intertidal Zone Touch Tank offers you a unique hands-on experience. Cruises are also available. [maritimeaquarium.org](http://maritimeaquarium.org)

### LUNCH

### STOP #2:

#### Sheffield Island Lighthouse, Norwalk

Board the Seaport ferry for a trip out to the island where you can tour the Sheffield Island lighthouse, listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The tour showcases period furniture and offers you a chance to see what life was like for the families of 19th-century light keepers. [Seaport.org](http://Seaport.org)

### CHECK IN TO A NEW HAVEN AREA HOTEL.

### DINNER

#### Downtown New Haven

Explore New Haven's many excellent restaurants representing cuisine from around the world.

For more information on lodging and dining or help customizing your tour, contact the Connecticut Office of Tourism:

#### Anne Orsene, Domestic Sales

001.860.787.9640 ext. 100, [anneo@centerofct.com](mailto:anneo@centerofct.com)

#### Debbie Giantonio, International Sales

001.860.787.9640 ext. 101, [debbieg@centerofct.com](mailto:debbieg@centerofct.com)

### EVENING OPTION:

#### Take a Sunset Cruise

Step aboard the flagship of New Haven and sail away on the traditionally rigged 91' schooner *Quinnipiack*, offering sails out of New Haven Harbor.

[schoonerinc.org/quinnipiack.html](http://schoonerinc.org/quinnipiack.html)

## DAY 2:

### STOP #1:

#### Thimble Island Cruises, Branford

Ride back in time with old stories as well as beautiful views of the 365 small islands aboard one of the cruises.

• *Sea Mist*, [thimbleislandcruise.com](http://thimbleislandcruise.com)

• *Volsunga IV*, [thimbleislands.com](http://thimbleislands.com)

### LUNCH

Enjoy a seafood lunch in a seaside town.

### STOP #2:

#### USS Nautilus and Submarine Force Museum, Groton

Explore the Submarine Force Museum, located on the Thames River that maintains the world's finest collection of submarine artifacts. It is the only submarine museum operated by the United States Navy and is the primary repository for artifacts, documents and photographs relating to U.S. Submarine Force history. [ussnautilus.org](http://ussnautilus.org)

### CHECK IN TO A NEW LONDON OR GROTON AREA HOTEL.

### STOP #3:

#### Dinner & Evening at the Casinos

Enjoy an evening of gaming, dining, entertainment and both premium and outlet shopping at one of the world-renowned casinos! [Mohegansun.com](http://Mohegansun.com), [Foxwoods.com](http://Foxwoods.com)

## DAY 3:

### STOP #1:

#### Mystic Seaport, Mystic

Take a tour of *The Museum of America and the Seas*.

Discover maritime history firsthand throughout the re-created seafaring village that is bustling with the sights and sounds of 19th-century life. Climb aboard historic vessels, including the last wooden whaleship in the world, the *Charles W. Morgan*.

[Mysticseaport.org](http://Mysticseaport.org)

### LUNCH AND SHOPPING IN DOWNTOWN MYSTIC OR STONINGTON BOROUGH.

### STOP #3:

#### Old Lighthouse Museum, Stonington

Explore the lighthouse's many exhibits and artifacts that reflect Stonington's maritime and agricultural history — sailors, farmers, sea captains, explorers and entrepreneurs. Climb the 29 circular steps and a short ladder to reach the top of the tower, which overlooks three states. Join the Stonington Historical Society's walking tours of Stonington Borough led by knowledgeable guides, offered several times a week in the summer. [Stoningtonhistory.org](http://Stoningtonhistory.org)

### STOP #4 (Available May through late October): ARGIA, Mystic

Choose a half-day or sunset cruise aboard *ARGIA*. Discover islands, lighthouses and traditional windjammer sailing, right from downtown Mystic. *ARGIA* accommodates up to 49 guests, for public or private half-day or evening sails, down the historic Mystic River to Fishers' Island Sound. [argiamystic.com](http://argiamystic.com)

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