

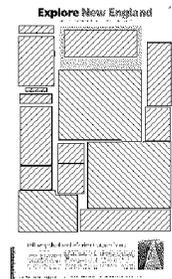
*Summer is unofficially underway. But before we know it, it's over too soon. So get a jump on the season while you can: Gear up for a road trip, stop and smell the flowers, or savor some fried clams.*

# 10 THINGS NOT TO MISS JUNE

BY ETHAN GILSDORF  
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1. Shelburne Museum
2. Clam shacks
3. Bridge of Flowers
4. Ethnic festivals
5. Acadia National Park Loop Road
6. Pick your own berries
7. Lupine festivals

8. WaterFire
9. Petting farms
10. Ben & Jerry's factory tour



**COLLECTED OBSESSIONS** Electra Havemeyer Webb (1888-1960) had a fetish for collecting. She even collected buildings. Nowadays, if it's Americana, it can probably be found at the sprawling complex she founded, Shelburne Museum, where 39 buildings hold more than 150,000 everyday items and works of art. Twenty-five of the structures — such as the blacksmith shop, covered bridge, general store, jail, lighthouse, and 220-foot steamboat — were uprooted and relocated to the museum grounds. Inside, visitors will find a dizzying array of Impressionist paintings, folk art, decorative arts, furniture, and other artifacts from the 17th to 20th centuries — be they decoys, hooked rugs, tools, dolls, or miniature circus figurines. The grounds display 700 peonies and 400 lilacs. The collection is augmented by temporary exhibits, such as this year's "Contemporary Vermont Quilts," "Chandelirious! The Dazzling World of Contemporary Chandeliers," and a fun one wherein celebs like Jerry Seinfeld were given \$1,000 to create a collection by shopping only on eBay. Now that's Americana.

*Shelburne Museum, Route 7, Shelburne, Vt., 802-985-3346, shelburnemuseum.org, daily in summer, adults \$18, children \$9, under 6 free.*

## TASTE TEST

**2** Some say the best are at J.T. Farnham's in Essex; others claim the Clam Box of Ipswich. Then there are those who swear by Woodman's of Essex. Supposedly it was Chubby and Bessie Woodman, whose eatery opened in 1914, who pioneered the fried bivalve, turning their potato chip operation into a clam shack. Nowadays, the menu includes clam cakes, onion rings, clam chowder, and sea scallops, among other classics. The Clam Box, which dates to 1938, doesn't suggest they invented the fried clam, but they do believe "we have perfected it." Farnham's doesn't boast anything, and their cottage along the tidal marsh might be the most humble of the three. We say summer's the time to taste-test fried clams for yourself, up and down the coast.

*Clam Box, 246 High St., Ipswich, 978-356-9707, ipswichma.com/clambox. J.T. Farnham's Seafood & Grill, 88 Eastern Ave., Essex, 978-768-6643. Woodman's, 121 Main St., Essex, 978-768-6057, woodmans.com.*

## SPANNING STAMENS

Route 2, the Mohawk Trail, runs from Millers Falls 63 miles west to the Massachusetts-New York border — hitting villages, forests, and overlooks along the way. A three-state panorama can be found between the towns of Florida and North Adams, where on a clear day, the White Mountains are visible. The Golden Eagle is a popular,

and precariously-perched lunch stop on a hairpin turn halfway up Hoosac Mountain. Williamstown is a possible endpoint, home to the Williams College Museum of Art. Another worthy pause is Shelburne Falls and its Bridge of Flowers, an abandoned trolley bridge over the glacial potholes of the Deerfield River. Since 1929 the Shelburne Falls Area Women's Club has planted the span with hundreds of annuals and perennials.

*Shelburne Falls Village Information Center, 413-625-2544, shelburnefalls.com. Mohawk Trail Association, 413-743-8127, mohawktrail.com.*

**FESTIVAL FLAVORS** June brings some of the finest ethnic celebrations in Massachusetts, beginning with today's Boston's Dragon Boat Festival. The event includes boat races on the Charles, Asian food vendors on Memorial Drive, and all day demos of arts and crafts like Chinese calligraphy, Peking opera mask making, and folk dance performances. Next weekend, check out Lawrence's Semana Hispana Festival (June 15-17), with a parade, food, children's activities, and other expressions of Hispanic culture that draw some 50,000 people. The Provincetown Portuguese Festival (June 21-24) salutes the port town's heritage. Historic exhibits, a parade, Portuguese soup tasting, a fado concert, and other events culminate in Sunday's Fishermen's Mass, procession, and 60th Annual Blessing of the Fleet. Up in Gloucester, the Italian-American community throws a five-day festival (June 27-July 1) to honor St. Peter, patron saint of fishermen. Must-sees are the "seine" rowboat races and the greasy pole competition. *Dragon Boat Festival, 617-426-6500, bostondragonboat.org. Semana Hispana Festival, Campagnone Common, Lawrence. Provincetown Portuguese Festival, MacMillan Wharf, Provincetown, 508-487-3424, provincetownportuguese festival.com. St. Peter's Fiesta, Gloucester, stpetersfiesta.org.*

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## LOOP THE LOOP

**5** Summer means hitting the highway. One of the best road trips is the 27-mile Park Loop Road of Acadia National Park on Mount Desert Island, with jaw-dropping views of classic Maine rocky shoreline, coastal forest, and mountain profiles. From sea-level tide pools to the 1,530-foot, granite Cadillac Mountain (the tallest US East Coast summit), the 45,000-acre Acadia offers one of the most diverse groups of animals, plants, and geological features of any national park. Recommended greatest hits include Sand Beach, Otter Cliffs, and Jordan Pond (where the Jordan Pond

House serves popovers and tea). Choose from more than 115 miles of hiking trails, or explore the 45-mile carriage road system built by John D. Rockefeller Jr. — whether on foot, bike, or horse-drawn carriage. Boating, fishing, and ranger programs (including boat cruises) can round out an adventure. And outside the park, there's civilization and shopping in Bar Harbor, where a quintessential summer day ends with a movie at the Art Deco Criterion Theatre, which turns 75 this year.

*Acadia National Park, Bar Harbor, Maine, 207-288-3338, nps.gov/acad. Criterion Theatre, 35 Cottage St., Bar Harbor, 207-288-3441, criteriontheater.com.*

## BERRY NICE

**6** Every New England state has its strawberry fields. Come June, ordinary citizens can pick buckets of the berries for turning into jams, desserts, or for just devouring out of hand. See [pickyourown.org](http://pickyourown.org) for a participating farm near you. The crop also is a good excuse for country fairs, which pop up as prolifically as the strawberries themselves. One of dozens is the 36th Annual Monroe Congregational Church Strawberry Festival on June 16-17, in southwestern Connecticut, which includes a quilt exhibit, live bluegrass music, a juried craft show,

and, naturally, strawberries galore. To soak up some of the best shortcake, attend a local strawberry supper such as one in the Dummerston, Vt., grange hall. For more than 40 years up to 450 hungry diners have lined up as early as 3 p.m. for the meal, said Gladys Miller, chair-



JOANNE RATHE/GLOBE STAFF/FILE

woman of the event. Her orchards supply the 250 quarts of berries that become teetering shortcakes the size of pizzas. People do eat the potato salad, ham, and coleslaw, Miller said, "but it's mostly that strawberry shortcake — that is the feature."

*Dummerston Strawberry Supper, June 30, 5-7 p.m., Grange Hall, Dummerston, Vt., 802-258-2655. Monroe Congregational Church, Monroe Green, Monroe, Conn., 203-268-9327, <http://mcc-ucc.org>, [pickyourown.org](http://pickyourown.org).*

**LOOPY FOR LUPINES**

**7** "We're groupies of lupines," said Christina Shipp, one of the organizers of Deer Isle, Maine's 6th Annual Lupine Festival. Shipp also owns



JON-PIERRE LASSEIGNE/AP/FILE

Stonington's Inn on the Harbor, which has lupine soap. Shipp said the lupine is a kind of gauge by which the season starts, right before the tourists hit hard. So the festival makes a fine time to book a lupine-themed jaunt around the island — by air, sea, or private garden bus tours. The weekend also offers a self-guided "Lupine Loop" driving map to help you locate fields in bloom; a rummage sale; art, sculpture, and quilt contests; and music and food. In New Hampshire's Franconia Notch area, several events blossom for the 14th Fields of Lupine Festival, from concerts to a photo contest to a lupine field walk.

*Sixth Annual Lupine Festival, June 15-17, Deer Isle, Stonington, Maine, 207-367-2420, [deerisle.com](http://deerisle.com). Fields of Lupine Festival, through June 24, Franconia Notch Chamber of Commerce, [franconianotch.org](http://franconianotch.org).*

**FIRE IT UP**

**8** Urban legend has it that in 1969, Cleveland's Cuyahoga River was so polluted, it caught fire. In Providence, that city sets its waterways aflame on purpose. During WaterFire, more than 100 wood fires burn on metal braziers in the middle of the Woonasquatucket, Moshasseeck, and Providence rivers. The spectacle is set to mysterious, eclectic music and natural sounds to create, in the words of Barnaby Evans, the artist behind WaterFire Providence, "a soundtrack to a movie and you're one of the characters." Since 1994, the purpose of WaterFire, which runs May through October, has been to transform a previously abandoned downtown into a nighttime destination. Lights are turned off, and pedestrians are turned on by food carts and live performances such as fire eaters and living gargoyles. The Sovereign Plaza Ballroom features free dancing (June 23, tango; July 14, swing; Aug. 18, salsa). Up to 70,000 visitors stroll into the restaurants and bars that line the rivers. Some book a gondola or boat ride; others climb Federal Hill for a view of the shimmering city. Look for boats named Prometheus, Athena, Daedalus, and Icarus, carrying fire tenders who pass by, half-real, half-myth.

*WaterFire, sunset to 12:30 a.m.; next lighting June 23, [waterfire.org](http://waterfire.org). La Gondola rides, [Citizens Plaza, gondolari.com](http://CitizensPlaza.com). Boats, also at Waterplace Park, depart every 10 minutes during WaterFire.*

## PETTING POTENTIAL

**9** Get down on the farm! Spring-born lambs and piglets are up and running, the lettuce and peas are coming in. City and suburban folk can reconnect with the land by visiting a petting farm or nature center like Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary, run by Mass Audubon. “All veggies from the farm stand come from our field,” said Kris Scopinich, education manager. “If [visitors] walk in the fields, they might see bluebirds, dragonflies, damselflies, butterflies.” The farm offers family activities like their “quest adventure pack” scavenger hunt, and a forest discovery trail that lets children “explore the forest through the eyes of an animal,” Scopinich said. The farm also has pigs, sheep, chickens, and, yes, farmers. Charmingfare Farm in Candia, N.H., combines a petting farm — cows, horses and rabbits — with a zoo. Away from the barns

are wildlife exhibits, from black bear to wolverine to birds of prey. For a more immersive experience, spend the night at the Troy, N.H., Inn at East Hill Farm, a 150-acre “resort” where guests help with chores — collect eggs, milk a cow, feed the goats. Hopefully, they don’t have to clean up after them. *Drumlin Farm Wildlife Sanctuary, 208 South Great Road, Lincoln, 781-259-2200, [massaudubon.org/Nature\\_Connection/Sanctuaries/Drumlin\\_Farm](http://massaudubon.org/Nature_Connection/Sanctuaries/Drumlin_Farm), \$6 adults, \$4 children. Charmingfare Farm, 774 High St., Candia, N.H., 603-483-5623, [charmingfare.com](http://charmingfare.com). The Inn at East Hill Farm, 460 Monadnock St., Troy, N.H., 603-242-6495, 800-242-6495, [east-hill-farm.com](http://east-hill-farm.com), adults \$106, children \$43-\$86, includes three meals a day and activities.*

## YOU’LL BE ‘MOOVED’

**10** Phish Food turns 10 this year. But if you visit the Ben & Jerry’s ice cream factory, you can see what happens to the less successful flavors. “There’s a flavor graveyard on the property with 30 tombstones of flavors gone by,” said Chris Wilkins, factory tour manager. Luckily, the tour’s not all gloom. There’s a playground, activities for children like spin art and temporary tattoos, and, in summer, Holsteins hanging around. The season also brings free movies projected on the side of the factory every Saturday at dusk. But the real reason to make a pilgrimage is to see how your favorite flavors are made. The tour begins with a “moovie” about Ben Cohen and Jerry Greenfield’s humble origins. Then, from a newly renovated, glassed-in mezzanine, visitors can overlook the produc-

tion floor where workers pump out 200,000 pints a day. “You can see the pints moving on the conveyor belt,” said Wilkins. In the FlavoRoom, folks taste a sample of the day’s work, bringing the cow to human experience full circle. *Ben & Jerry’s factory, Route 100, Waterbury, Vt., 802-846-1500, [benjerry.com](http://benjerry.com). Tours daily, adults \$3, seniors \$2, 12 and under free.*

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### SWOON OVER JUNE VIEWS

Need visuals? Click through a gallery of things not to miss at [explorenewengland.com](http://explorenewengland.com).



MATTHEW LEE/GLOBE STAFF/FILE



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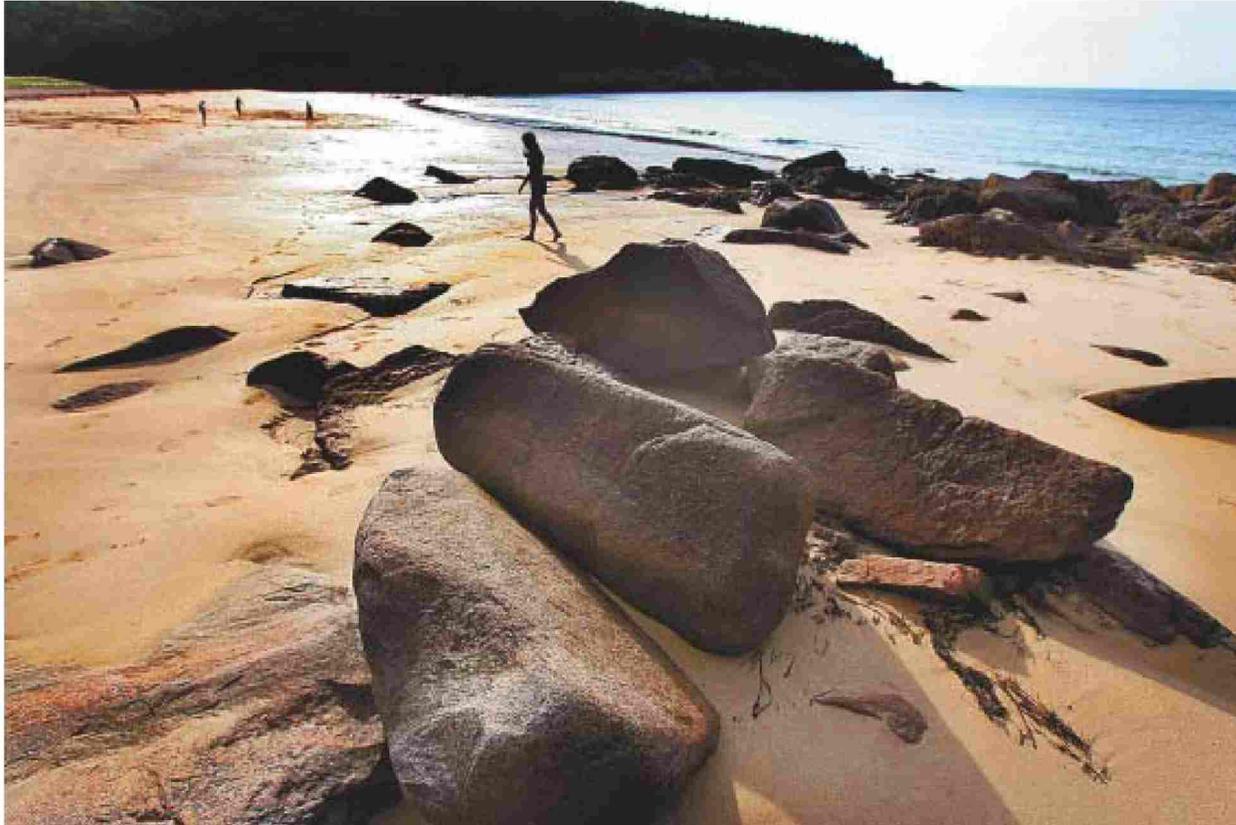
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