

The Best Luxury Hotels in Rhode Island

From Gilded Age mansions to hot city hotels.

Rhode Island occupies a special place within the mythology of Americana. From the palaces of the Gilded Age and the glittering debauchery of F. Scott Fitzgerald to, more recently, Taylor Swift's Fourth of July parties, the country's smallest state is a vibrant tapestry of All-American history and heritage.

And with 400 miles of jagged coastline, its nickname the 'Ocean State' is thoroughly well-deserved. The salt air is ever-present, the sound of crashing waves as alluring as the state's unbeatable lobster and crab offerings. Its sailing culture sees mariners flock from across the world, and its fabulous nightlife (Newport Jazz Festival, anyone?) means the party continues way after the students leave for summer break.

It's no wonder that Rhode Island remains such an unbeatable summer location. Considerably chicer than Malibu, and more exclusive than Miami, this is New England at its absolute best: Hair-down, dancing until dawn, skinny dipping in the Atlantic, All-American fun, in one of the country's most beautiful regions.

If you're lucky enough to have a summer spot there, you already know you have one of the hottest tickets in the States. But property is scarce, and building regulations are restrictive. Luckily – and unsurprisingly – Rhode Island boasts one of the most glittering luxury hotel scenes across the country, with these establishments combining classical East Coast glamour with modern flashes of luxury. Here are *Elite Traveler's* favorite luxury hotels in Rhode Island.

The Chanler



A journey into the depths of the island's heritage / ©The Chanler

First built in 1873 for John Winthrop Chanler and his wife Margaret Astor Ward, this Newport hotel is a real journey into the depths of Rhode Island's heritage.

The 20 rooms and villas are all individually designed with different styles of the island's history, from the lavish glitz of the Gilded Age resurrected in the outlandish Renaissance room, to the more subtle Martha's Vineyard suite offering a toned down, ocean-facing alternative. The sporadic lean into kitsch feels wholly original, whilst the gorgeous vistas surrounding The Chanler—this is the only hotel built upon the dramatic Cliff Walk – render the hotel deeply romantic.

Thechanler.com