FORTUNE

A weekend guide to Rhode Island

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For being the smallest state in the union (by land mass), there sure is a lot to see and do in Rhode Island. Summer is certainly the most ideal time to visit, having been a premier weekend escape for New Yorkers, Bostonians, and New Englanders since the 19th century.

Even before the recent HBO series, there is plenty to indulge that Gilded Age itch or, if you're looking for more modern vibes, the Taylor Swift of the *Folklore* era with "The Last Great American Dynasty."

This is by no means an exhaustive travel guide to visiting everything in and around Rhode Island, but merely a few suggestions to fill up a regular weekend or even a long weekend comprised of a beach day and a few excursions.

Where to eat and drink

Cara Restaurant: Tucked away in a small private room at The Chanler at Cliff Walk, this five-star restaurant offers contemporary and creative blind tasting menus based on your dietary preferences, all inspired by local ingredients and European cuisine with special wine pairings. Tasting menu dinners can last two to three hours, and right now, the restaurant only does seatings at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. And while the food is everything to write home about, you'll also be spoiled by the panoramic views of the beach and the ocean at sunset.