



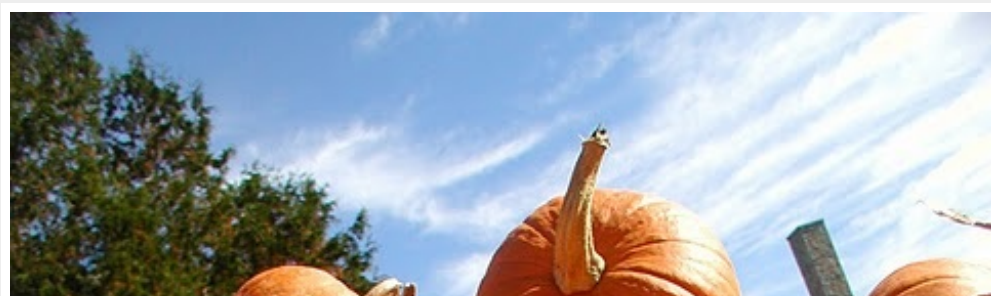
# The Weekly New England Travel and Vacation Gazette

Where locals reveal the best New England travel and vacation ideas, destinations, events, attractions, shopping, restaurants and hotels. Also includes local perspectives on life in New England. The Weekly New England Travel and Vacation Gazette is the official blog of [VisitingNewEngland.com](http://VisitingNewEngland.com)

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TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2010

## Welcome to Fall in New England!



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The advertisement features a photograph of a commercial airplane flying through a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. Below the image, the text "Egencia Corporate Travel" and "Empowering Global Travel Consolidation" is displayed. At the bottom left, there is a yellow button with the text "Learn How Click Here". At the bottom right, the "EGENCIA" logo is visible, consisting of the word "EGENCIA" in a bold, sans-serif font with a stylized yellow bird icon above the letter "A".



Bountiful pumpkin harvest. Photo Credit: *Maine Office Tourism*

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With all due respect to the holiday season, we often feel that fall in New England "is the most wonderful time of the year." Ambiance in New England is at its best with a cool, crisp feel in the air, apple picking, town and city fairs and harvests, scenic mountain and ocean Sunday drives, including, of course, leaves turning brilliant colors.

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#### FOLLOW THE WEEKLY NEW ENGLAND TRAVEL AND VACATION GAZETTE

At our Weekly New England Travel and Vacation blog, please check in often to find out about what's going on in the New England fall. We also encourage you to check out our flagship site, [VisitingNewEngland.com](http://VisitingNewEngland.com) and its [Fall Vacations page](#) as well as blogs [Buy Local Shop Local New England](#), [The Great New England Photo Travel Tour](#) and [The Thrifty New England Traveler](#) ("Travel More, Spend Less!") to get tips and suggestions on how to make your trips to New England in the fall special and fun to the max!

To kick off things, we recently received information from our good New England neighbors at [VisitMaine.com](http://VisitMaine.com) on some "pumpkin" events that will get you in the fall spirit in Maine:

**MAINE** - It's a banner year for pumpkin growers in Maine. Plenty of summer sunshine helped pumpkin patches explode with colorful gourds. That means more pumpkin pie and added fun at these annual pumpkin celebrations.

Bountiful pumpkin harvest. Photo Credit: Maine Office Tourism

The **8th annual Punkinfiddle** festival happens Sept. 25 at Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve. Punkinfiddle is a National Estuaries Day Celebration featuring traditional crafts, pumpkin decorating, lively fiddle music, old-fashioned games, an estuary scavenger hunt, farm animals and face painting. Please call 207-646-1555 for more information.

See the many uses for giant pumpkins at the **4th annual Damariscotta Pumpkinfest Regatta** happening Oct. 3-11. Join the crowd on the banks of the Damariscotta River to watch the giant pumpkin paddleboat race and motorized pumpkinboat regatta. View the carved and painted pumpkins displayed on Main Street, and see the winner of the Great Pumpkin Commonwealth weigh-off contest in the festival parade.

Before taking a walk through a haunted house, try a walk through a pumpkin house at the **Camp Sunshine Pumpkin Festival** at L.L. Bean in Freeport on Oct. 30. There will be live music, games for children, pumpkin sculptures, pumpkin pie and a tower of more than a thousand lit jack-o-lanterns.

Saco's Main Street becomes a pedestrian way for the annual **Pumpkin Harvest Festival** happening Oct. 16. The day will include live music, games for children,

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pumpkin carving and a jack-o-lantern walk.

### Oceanside Food Festivals

The small village of Blue Hill packs a big culinary punch during the **Foliage, Food and Wine Festival** taking place Oct. 14-17. Don't miss the wine dinners at local restaurants, an artisan chocolate making class, traditional lobster bake, and the Taste of the Peninsula event showcasing the best of local chefs and food producers.

Expect more choices of wine, beer, spirits and Maine-made foods at this year's **Harvest on the Harbor** happening Oct. 21-23 on the Portland waterfront. From The Ultimate Seafood Splash to the Grand Tasting on the Harbor, or a tasting and demonstration event with four Maine James Beard award-winning chefs, there's plenty to please foodies of all types.

For more information about Maine's summer and fall events, go to [www.visitmaine.com](http://www.visitmaine.com).

But wait, there's more...

### Squeezing Another Spirit from Potatoes

**Maine Distilleries**, the maker of Cold River Vodka, is once again using local potatoes and water to craft a new spirit: Cold River Gin. The 100 percent Maine potato gin is infused with seven traditional botanicals and water from the Cold River aquifer in the foothills of western Maine. The gin is gluten-free and has no sugar added.

### A New Train on Downeast Tracks

The **Downeast Scenic Railroad** is now offering train rides on the historic Calais Branch Line departing from downtown Ellsworth. The 10-mile trip to Ellsworth Falls and Washington Junction takes about 90 minutes and happens on Saturday and Sunday through Oct. 17. Travelers ride in a restored passenger coach, open air car, or a 1918 Reading caboose with views from its cupola.

Posted by Eric H. at 5:52 AM



Labels: [autumn New England](#), [fall foliage New England](#), [fall New England](#), [fall travel New England](#), [fall vacations](#)

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### WELCOME TO THE SPIRIT OF NEW ENGLAND TRAVEL AND VACATION INFORMATION!



The New England Travel and Vacation Gazette brings New England tourist information to life online with news and feature articles

lovingly produced by "the locals." As the official blog of [VisitingNewEngland.com](http://VisitingNewEngland.com), the New England Travel and Vacation Gazette is truly New England-based and dedicated to finding the best travel information for every budget. Our professional and citizen journalists report only on the places they love in our beloved states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont. It's strictly straight-from-the-heart travel information with one foot in the deep traditions of New England and the other foot embedded into modern-day New England living. Enjoy this "revolutionary" New England travel and "reflections" experience, and always feel free to contribute with your own postings on the best in New England travel!

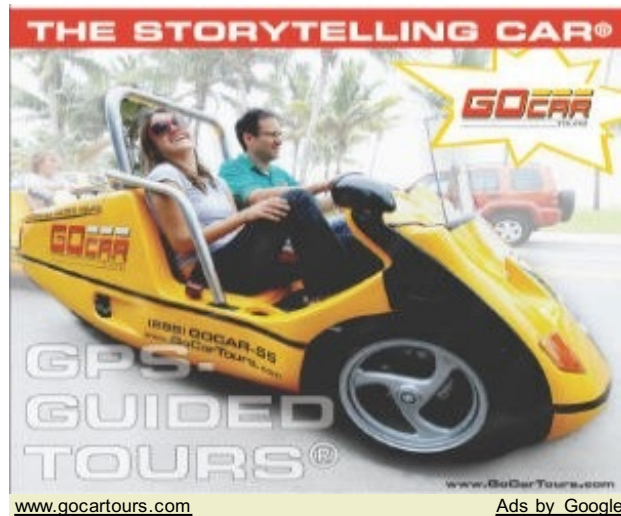
*Picture above: Bridge of Flowers, Shelburne Falls, MA (photo by Eric H.)*

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**Eric H.**

Southwest Suburban Boston, MA,  
United States

I am the publisher and chief writer at [VisitingNewEngland.com](#), a travel Web Site that helps people plan their

New England vacations through travel essays, photos, tips, resources, reviews and an [online New England hotel reservations center](#). I am also the publisher of [VisitingCooperstown.com](#) and [Cooperstown for Kids](#), both dedicated to helping travelers plan their Cooperstown, NY vacation. Our blogs include [The Weekly New England Travel and Vacation Gazette](#) and [Massachusetts Restaurant Review Sound Bites](#). I attended the Boston University School of Public Communications and graduated from Suffolk University with a B.A. in journalism and mass communications. When not working, I enjoy tennis, baseball, walking and watching Boston Red Sox baseball and Boston Celtics basketball!

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**RECOMMENDED NEW ENGLAND TRAVEL LINKS/NEW ENGLAND WRITERS**

**The Thrifty New England Traveler**

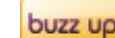
Arts Center at Killingworth's 6th Annual Autumn Trail, October 9th and 10th, 2010

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