



Winter  
Lovely coastal

# Winter on the Coast

Snow and cold weather don't faze these hotels

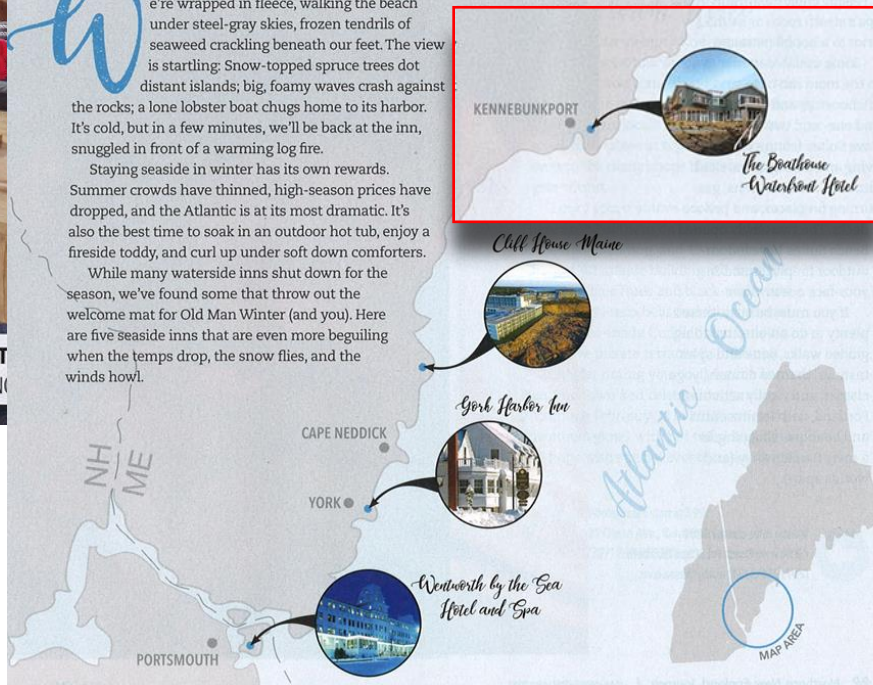
BY DIANE BAIR AND PAMELA WRIGHT

We're wrapped in fleece, walking the beach under steel-gray skies, frozen tendrils of seaweed crackling beneath our feet. The view is startling: Snow-topped spruce trees dot distant islands; big, foamy waves crash against the rocks; a lone lobster boat chugs home to its harbor. It's cold, but in a few minutes, we'll be back at the inn, snuggled in front of a warming log fire.

Staying seaside in winter has its own rewards. Summer crowds have thinned, high-season prices have dropped, and the Atlantic is at its most dramatic. It's also the best time to soak in an outdoor hot tub, enjoy a fireside toddy, and curl up under soft down comforters.

While many waterside inns shut down for the season, we've found some that throw out the welcome mat for Old Man Winter (and you). Here are five seaside inns that are even more beguiling when the temps drop, the snow flies, and the winds howl.

PLUS: A MISNAMED ISLE | QUICKSCAPE: NORT  
THETABLE: VINLAND | ONMYMIND: DAN



[ MAINE ]

## The Boathouse Waterfront Hotel

Set on the Kennebec River's harbor side, this sleek hotel has water views every which way you turn. It's steps from lively Dock Square in downtown Kennebunkport, Maine, where locals and savvy visitors easily grab tables at top restaurants and browse the many shops that stay open year-round.

Lucky you, if you've booked a room. There are 12 of them on the second floor of the main building, and 13 more in the adjacent Wharfside building. All are sleek with deep-blue hues and black-and-white accents, high-tech bells and whistles, and cushy Maine-made Cuddledown bedding. Some have private terraces (bundle up!).

Consider timing your visit for the annual Paint the Town Red celebration (January 27 through February 28 in 2018), when the downtown glows with red twinkling lights and hops with special events and activities.



Winter rates start at \$99.  
21 Ocean Ave., Kennebunkport  
(207) 967-8223; boathouseme.com.