About Bar Harbor:

- Bar Harbor is the largest town located on Mount Desert Island.
- The entrance to Acadia National Park is less than one mile from downtown Bar Harbor and part of the park is in Bar Harbor proper.
- Mount Desert Island is one of the largest islands on the U.S. Atlantic seaboard, measuring 28 miles across east to west, with a total area of 108 square miles.
- Bar Harbor has a year-round population of 5,394 (2016 census).
- The summer season is defined by warm days and cool evenings with an average daily high temperature above 66°F.
- Three Mount Desert Island towns – Bar Harbor, Tremont and Mount Desert – have passed lighting ordinances to protect the quality of the night skies in the region.
- Serviced by a local airport, the Hancock County-Bar Harbor Airport, located just 12 miles from the village, and by Bangor International Airport only 50 miles away.
- More than 175 cruise ships arrive in Bar Harbor each year.

By the Numbers:

- More than 5,316,000 lobsters are eaten in Bar Harbor every year.
- Acadia National Park protects more than 50,000 acres.
- More than 127 miles of hiking trails.
- 27-mile scenic Park Loop Road.
- 45 miles of carriage roads.
History:

- Originally (and aptly) named Eden, it was renamed Bar Harbor in 1918 in reference to the sand bar that connects Bar Island to Mount Desert Island.
- Stunning vistas of Bar Harbor inspired famed artists Thomas Cole and Frederic Church.
- Inspired by the natural beauty, visitors soon became summer residents, known as “rusticators.”
- Notable and influential rusticators included the Astors, Rockefellers, Vanderbilts, Carnegies and Morgans.
- The Great Fire of 1947 destroyed nearly half the eastern side of Mount Desert Island, including 67 of 222 palatial summer houses. Five historic grand hotels were destroyed, in addition to 170 of 667 year-round homes. More than 10,000 acres of Acadia National Park were destroyed. Fortunately, the town’s business district was spared, including Mount Desert Street.
- Bostonian George B. Dorr worked with Harvard president Charles W. Elliot to create a national park on Mount Desert Island – later named Acadia National Park.
- John D. Rockefeller, Jr. is responsible for the 45 miles of carriage roads in the park.

Geography:

- At 1,532 feet, Cadillac Mountain in Acadia National Park is the highest coastal point on the east coast of the United States.
- Cadillac Mountain is the first place to see the sun rise in the continental U.S. from October 7 to March 6.
- Somes Sound is the only fjord in the northeastern U.S.

Accolades:

- America’s top digital detox destinations for 2018, MSN, 2018
- The 25 Best Small Towns in America, Architectural Digest, 2018
- 8 Spectacular National Parks That Are Even More Incredible on Starry Nights, Readers Digest, 2018
- 14 Beautiful Budget-Friendly Road Trips Across America, MSN, 2018
- 9 Best Memorial Day Weekend Getaways in Maine, Tripping, 2018
- 12 Budget-Friendly Presidents’ Day Getaways, MSN, 2018
- Best Summer Vacations in the USA, U.S. News Travel, 2018
- The Most Spectacular Beaches in the Whole Entire World, 2018
- New England’s best summer foods, The Boston Globe, 2018
- The best places for a bachelorette party in all 50 states, Orbitz, 2018
- 10 Incredible Nighttime Adventures That Take Stargazing to New Heights, Travel + Leisure, 2018
- 5 New England vacation ideas for families with special needs, The Boston Globe, 2018
- 13 Affordable Family Vacations to Take This Summer, Travel + Leisure, 2018
- The Best Little Beach Towns in Maine, Coastal Living, 2018
- Cheap Summer Travel: 23 Places To Go In 2018, Forbes, 2018
- The Hottest Summer Breaks in the U.S., Trip Advisor, 2018
- 25 National Park Adventures You Need to Have, Backpacker, 2018
- The Best National Parks for Those with Disabilities, Outside, 2018
- America’s 60 Best Day Hikes, Gear Patrol, 2018
- The 8 best places to travel this September, Thrillist, 2018
- These Are the Best Stargazing Spots in North America, Outside, 2018
Social Media:

- Official Hashtag: #VisitBarHarbor
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- YouTube: @VisitBarHarbor