Annual Events

While the following represents a full list of annual events, events are subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please refer to our events page for the latest information.

BAR HARBOR, Maine — Bar Harbor, Maine, is often synonymous with fresh lobster, outdoor adventure and breathtaking views... And, there are many reasons for that! Every year, 5,316,000 lobsters are eaten here in Bar Harbor, more than two million recreational visitors arrive to take advantage of the sites, trails and carriage roads in Acadia National Park, and there is a non-stop photoshoot of the island’s natural landscape. But, there is more happening here than what the region is best known for. Bar Harbor has fun and inviting events all year long for those of all interests and ages, from dedicated shoppers and foodies to families and star-gazing aficionados.

Abbe Museum Indian Market – May

The first multi-day event of its kind in New England that invites Native American artists from across North America to participate, with the goal of developing Bar Harbor as THE destination for Northeastern Native Art.

Annual Art in the Park – June

In the 1800s, “rusticators” (tourists) started coming to the island to experience the beauty they had heard of in Henry David Thoreau’s writings and seen in paintings of Maine’s landscapes by renowned artists. Thanks to the help of art, Bar Harbor became a well-known travel destination. Today, Bar Harbor and Downeast Maine remain lively art communities. Join us to celebrate the region’s artistic heritage at Art in the Park, the longest running art show in Bar Harbor, where more than 30 painters and photographers will display and sell their work.

Fourth of July Celebration

Commence a new Fourth of July tradition in Bar Harbor! The Today Show voted Bar Harbor’s festivities as the #1 Fourth of July celebration in America. Start the day off with a blueberry pancake breakfast and then head to the craft fair-marketplace for a large selection of Maine crafts. The parade begins at 10 a.m. and is sure to make you smile. Then, it is time to enjoy seafood at the area’s largest seafood festival and root for the crustacean participants in the lobster race! The day isn't over until the tunes are played and the fireworks are displayed over Frenchman Bay.
Seaside Cinema – July through August

Enjoy a movie beside friends and family on a blanket under the stars every Wednesday night during the months of July and August. The 16-foot screen will feature a different family-friendly movie each week, including classics and new favorites. Seaside Cinema will take place in Agamont Park, located in downtown Bar Harbor overlooking Frenchman Bay.

Annual Acadia Night Sky Festival – September

Enjoy one of the premier night sky events on the east coast. This multi-day festival will be packed with events for all ages, and what better place to stargaze than atop Cadillac Mountain with astronomers or while cruising in a boat along Maine’s coastline. Learn from nationally renowned speakers and get hands on with photography workshops, nighttime kayaking and viewing events. For more information, please visit www.acadianightskyfestival.org.

Mount Desert Island Marathon, Half & Relay

This award-winning race features miles of pristine terrain passing tranquil lakes, soaring mountains, sleepy Maine villages, and stunning seaside vistas - including Somes Sound, the
only fjord on the Eastern Seaboard - all set against the awe-inspiring backdrop of Acadia National Park in peak fall foliage season.

**Annual Early Bird Sale and Bed Races — November**
Hop out of bed early in the morning and wear your pajamas to get the best discounts at local shops in downtown Bar Harbor. From 6-9 a.m., shop away, then take a break from shopping starting at 10 a.m. to be entertained by the annual bed and pajama parade. The parade starts at the Village Green and is followed by the Annual Bed Races on Cottage Street. Yes, a race to see which team can roll a bed down the street the fastest! A unique and funny tradition Bar Harbor is proud to host annually.

**Village Holidays and Midnight Madness Sale — December**
Ring in the holiday season in Bar Harbor by caroling, drinking hot cocoa and welcoming Santa Claus to town! Follow Santa and the carolers to the MDI YMCA for family activities and to take a picture with him. Later, score some deals at the Annual Midnight Madness Sale!

Bar Harbor has something to offer for every interest and age, and so do these annual events! This unique array of annual events offers many opportunities for all to explore Bar Harbor’s culture and natural landscape, together with family and friends or on your own. For more information on any of these events, call 207-288-5103 or visit the [events page](#) on our website.