

Bristol, Rhode Island, USA

Home to America's oldest Fourth of July celebration and the birthplace of six America's Cup-winning yachts, Bristol is a compact, walkable New England gem on Narragansett Bay — best explored on foot along its historic Thames Street waterfront.

Docked (town pier / marina)

Typical call: 6–8 hrs

USD

English

Small ships & river cruise lines

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____ Arrive: _____ All aboard: _____

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

- Docking:** Small ships dock at Bristol Town Dock or Herreshoff Marina on Thames Street
- Best For:** Maritime history, New England architecture, waterfront cycling, mansion gardens
- Walk to center:** Immediate — downtown is steps from the pier on Thames Street
- Don't Miss:** Herreshoff Marine Museum & America's Cup Hall of Fame

Getting around: Taxi \$45–\$60 · Rideshare Uber, Lyft

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Herreshoff Marine Museum & America's Cup Hall of Fame** — The Herreshoff Manufacturing Company built six consecutive America's Cup defenders between 1893 and 1920.
- Linden Place Mansion Tour** — This 1810 Federal-style mansion on Hope Street was the home of the DeWolf family — Bristol's most prominent merchant dynasty, deeply involved in the...
- Colt State Park Waterfront Walk** — The 464-acre former estate of Samuel P.
- East Bay Bike Path** — A flat, paved 14.5-mile rail trail beginning at Independence Park in Bristol Harbor, running north to Providence along the Narragansett Bay shoreline.
- Blithewold Mansion, Gardens & Arboretum** — A magnificent 45-room English-country manor (the current house completed in 1908, after the original 1896 mansion burned) built for the family of...

BEST WALKS

- Thames Street Waterfront Stroll** 0.8 mi · Easy · All flat — Walk the boardwalk south from the town dock past Rockwell Park and the Bristol Maritime Welcome Center, then loop back along Thames Street past restaurants, the Bristol...
- Historic Hope Street Walk** 1.3 mi loop · Easy — Head inland from the waterfront to Hope Street for a self-guided walking tour of Bristol's colonial and Federal-era architecture.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		55°	40°	10d
Jun		67°	53°	12d
Aug		68°	56°	13d
Sep		65°	52°	11d
Oct		58°	48°	13d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 6:04AM–7:25PM · Jun 5:10AM–8:21PM · Aug 5:54AM–7:44PM · Sep 6:25AM–6:53PM · Oct 6:57AM–6:03PM

Representative sunrise/sunset — 2025, 15th of each month; local civil time including DST (America/New_York). Source: Astral; not a forecast or climate average.

USD

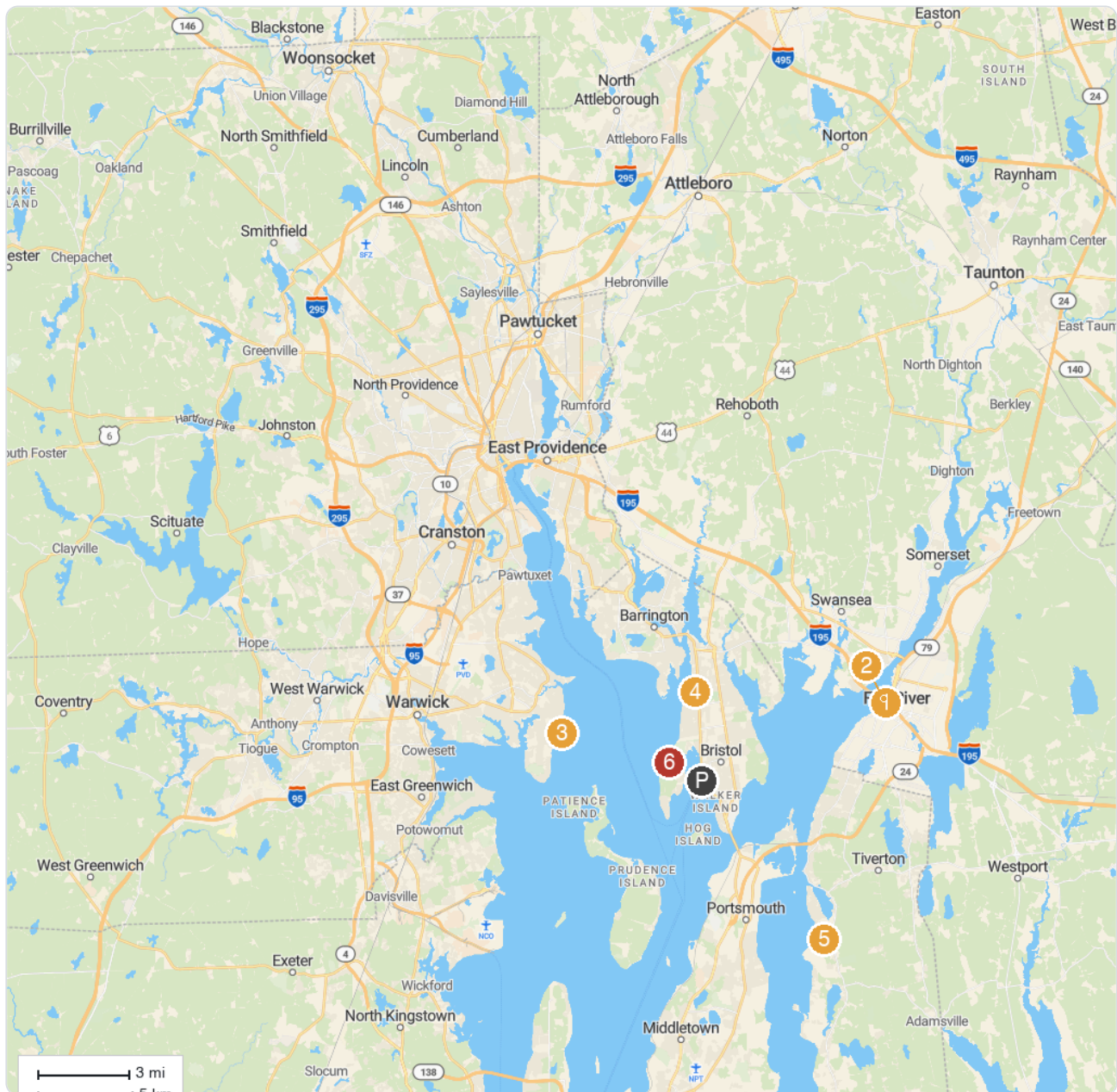
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Rent a bike at the dock. The East Bay Bike Path starts at Independence Park, a 5-minute walk from the pier — flat, scenic, and perfect for a cruise day.
- July 4th is a very big deal here. Bristol hosts the oldest continuous Fourth of July celebration in the US (since 1785). If your cruise calls here around that date, expect large crowds.
- Herreshoff Museum is the can't-miss stop. Allow at least 90 minutes — the America's Cup collection alone is extraordinary. Check opening hours before heading over.
- Thames Street has great dining. DeWolf Tavern (a former slave-trade-era rum distillery) and The Beehive Café are local favorites within easy walking distance of the dock.
- Cash and cards both work. Bristol is a small town — most shops and restaurants accept credit cards, but carrying some USD cash is useful for the bike path food stands and farmers markets.
- New England weather changes fast. Even in summer, pack a light layer and a rain shell — Narragansett Bay afternoon squalls are common June through August.

Bristol, Rhode Island, USA — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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| 1 Battleship Cove | Home to historic naval ships, including a battleship and submarine. | 2 USS Massachusetts (BB-59) | Explore this historic World War II battleship at Battleship Cove. |
| 3 Rocky Point State Park | Former amusement park, now a public park with bay views. | 4 Claire D. McIntosh Wildlife Refuge | Protected wildlife area, perfect for birdwatching and nature walks. |
| 5 Audubon Emilie Ruecker Wildlife Refuge | Coastal wildlife refuge with walking trails and scenic views. | 6 Colt State Park | Beautiful waterfront park with walking paths, gardens, and ocean views. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |