

Castine, Maine, USA

One of the oldest continuously settled towns in North America, Castine sits at the tip of a peninsula on Penobscot Bay — four centuries of French, British, Dutch, and American history wrapped in a compact, elm-shaded village that's entirely walkable from the Town Dock.

Tender port

Typical call: 6-8 hrs

US Dollar

English

National Historic Register

MY DAY IN PORT

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

Excursion: _____ Notes: _____

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender to Town Dock floating pier

Walk to center: 2 min from Town Dock to Main St

Best For: History buffs, walkers, kayakers

Don't Miss: Fort George earthworks & Witherle Woods trails

Getting around: **Taxi** Varies; ~\$140/hr (regional)

TOP THINGS TO DO

- Fort George & Historic Markers Walk** — Fort George (1779) is the site of the Penobscot Expedition — America's worst naval defeat before Pearl Harbor.
- Sea Kayaking on Penobscot Bay** — Castine Kayak Adventures runs guided half-day paddles around the peninsula — seals, porpoises, osprey, and dramatic shoreline cliffs.
- Witherle Woods Preserve Hike** — 193 acres of coastal forest with 4+ miles of trails maintained by Maine Coast Heritage Trust.
- Tapley Cove Oyster Tasting Trip** — Castine Cruises runs boat trips to a working sustainable oyster farm at Tapley Cove where you can learn the harvest process and sample fresh...
- Golf Cart Historic Tour** — The Castine Touring Company offers 60–90 min narrated tours of the town's highlights in a six-passenger golf cart, led by knowledgeable local...

BEST WALKS

- Town Dock to Fort George Loop** 1.5 miles · 45–60 min · Easy — From the dock, walk up Main Street to the elm-lined Common, then up Battle Avenue to the Fort George earthworks for harbor views.
- Witherle Woods Preserve Loop** 2–3 miles · 1-2 hrs · Easy–moderate — Head west from town to the Maine Coast Heritage Trust trailhead.

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)

	Mon	High	Low	Rain
Apr		48°	36°	13d
Jun		66°	55°	10d
Aug		73°	62°	10d
Sep		68°	57°	8d
Oct		58°	48°	10d

DAYLIGHT & MONEY

Apr 5:51AM–7:19PM · Jun 4:50AM–8:21PM · Aug 5:38AM–7:39PM · Sep 6:14AM–6:44PM · Oct 6:50AM–5:50PM

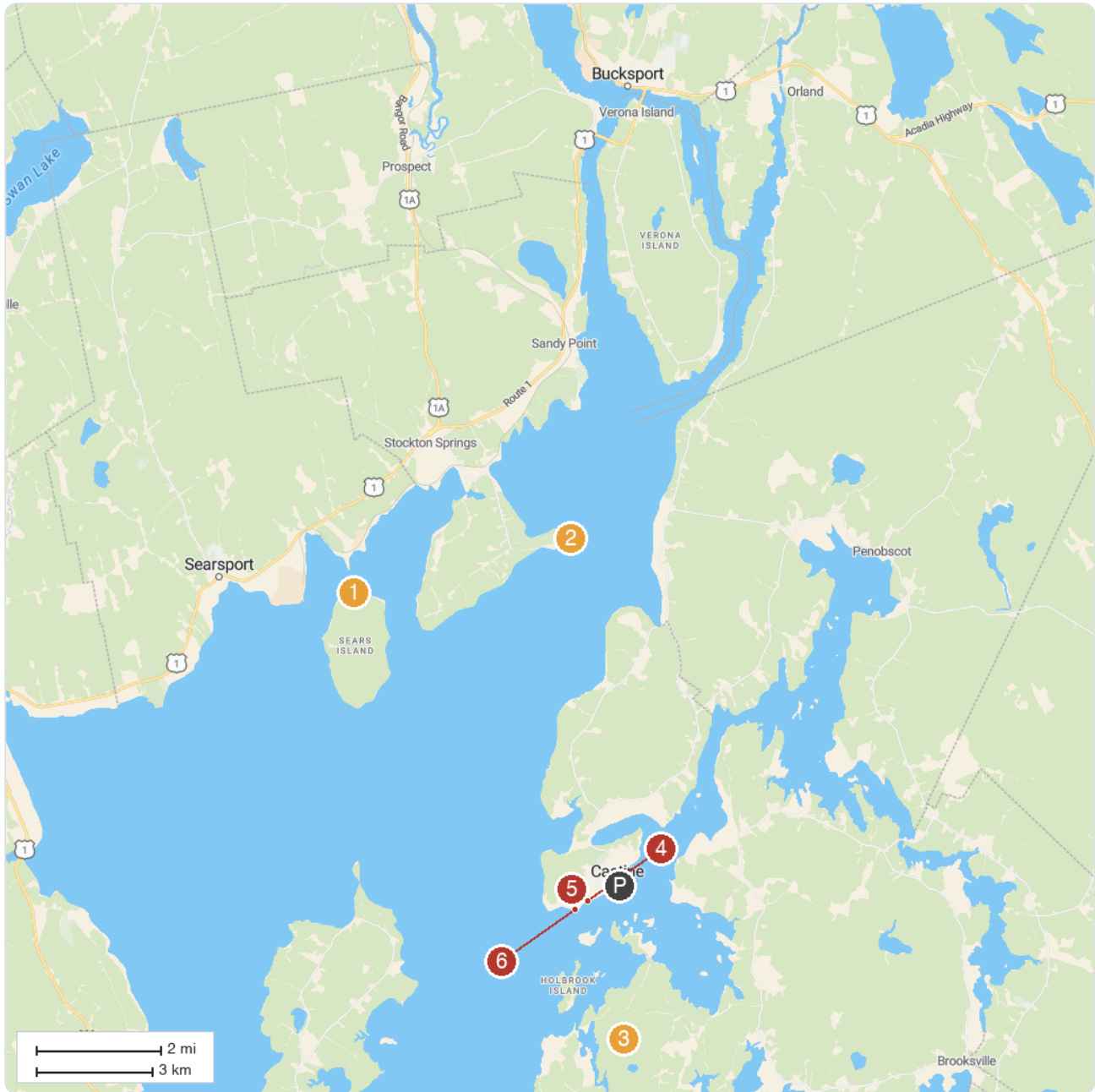
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Tender timing:** Collect your tender ticket as soon as boarding opens — queues form fast on small ships. The harbor can be choppy; tender rides take about 10 minutes.
- Entirely walkable:** You don't need a tour or taxi. The historic district, Fort George, and most restaurants are within 15 minutes' walk of the dock.
- Lobster rolls:** Safe Harbor stand right on the Town Dock serves classic Maine lobster rolls. Danny Murphy's Pub (50 m from the dock) has pub food and cold beer.
- Weather:** Maine summers can shift quickly. Pack a light waterproof layer — sea fog rolls in unexpectedly even on otherwise sunny days.
- Compass Rose Books:** A beloved independent bookshop on Main Street — great for a local read or a coffee while the tenders run.
- American elms:** Castine has one of the last surviving stands of mature American elms in the US. The canopied streets are genuinely stunning — look up.

Castine, Maine, USA — Port Map

cruiseports.org

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



1 Friends of Sears Island Undeveloped island preserve for nature walks and wildlife viewing.

3 Holbrook Island Sanctuary Coastal wildlife sanctuary with hiking trails and diverse habitats.

5 Witherle Woods Community preserve offering peaceful walking and hiking trails.

P Cruise port / terminal

2 Fort Point State Park Historic fort ruins, lighthouse, and scenic walking trails.

4 Wilson Museum Museum of natural history, archaeology, and local Castine heritage.

6 Fort Madison Historic earthworks site of an early American Revolutionary War fort.