

Damariscotta, Newcastle, Pemaquid, So. Bristol, Christmas Cove Area



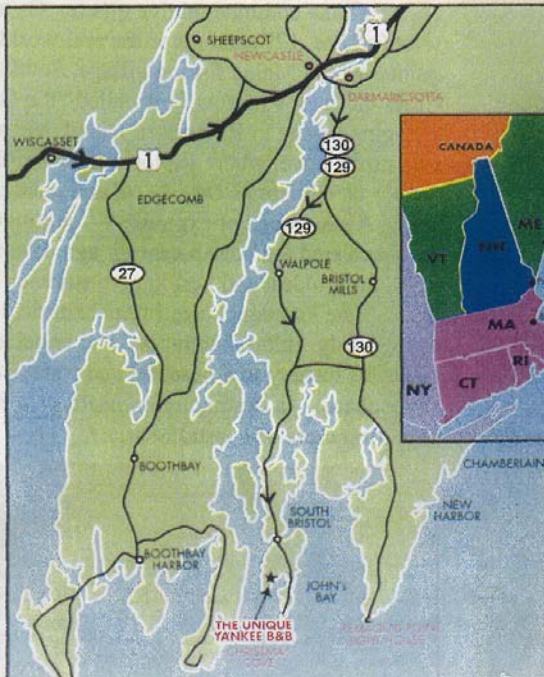
Artists journey to the Pemaquid Peninsula in mid-coast Maine for inspiration. But its lakes, rivers, forests, fields, picturesque villages, and 100 miles of meandering coastline beckon to any traveler who seeks a quiet haven, magnificent scenery, a lively cultural scene, or all three...and just 160 miles from Boston!

The tiny villages of Newcastle and Damariscotta, 50 miles northeast of Portland, straddle the Damariscotta River at the northern gateway to

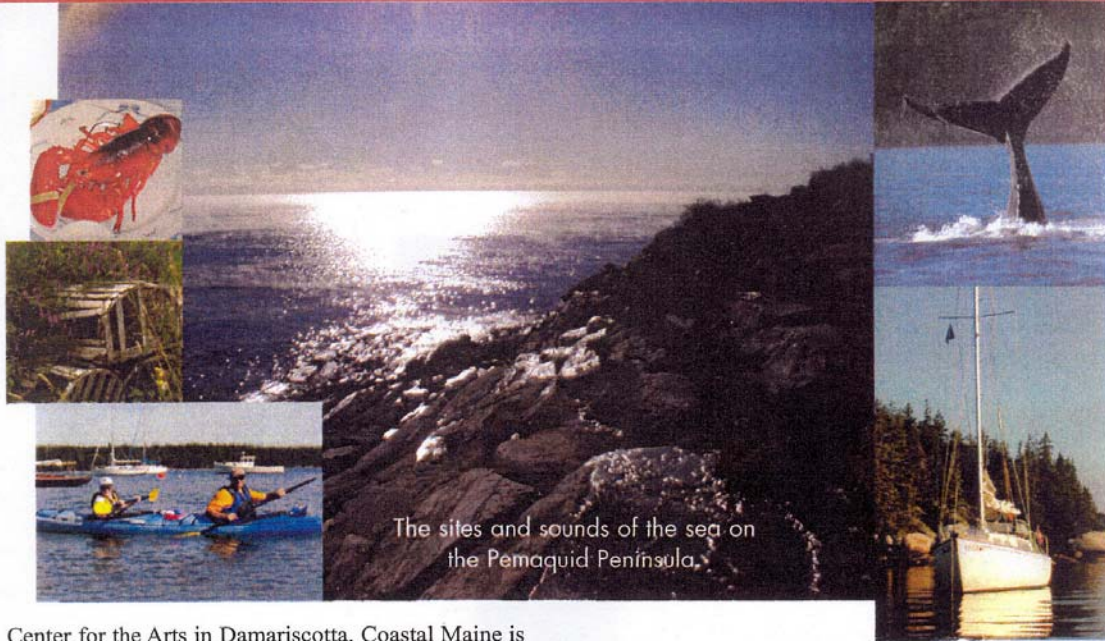
the peninsula. They're an introduction to several other busy year-round communities of native Mainers and people "from away" who came to visit



and chose to stay — business people, farmers, fishermen, artists, artisans. The visual and performing arts thrive, most notably at the dynamic Round Top



100 miles of meandering coastline beckon to any traveler...



The sites and sounds of the sea on the Pemaquid Peninsula.

Center for the Arts in Damariscotta. Coastal Maine is also a nature-lover's dream, with countless opportunities to explore countryside, theseacoast, and quintessential Maine fishing villages.

Wanderers have visited these shores for millennia. Nomadic tribes fished here thousands of years ago. Europeans were exploring the coast by 1000 A.D. While the Pilgrims at Plymouth struggled to survive, Pemaquid already boasted prosperous trading and fishing communities. The peninsula's history is traced in preserved or reconstructed historical sites and buildings, for example, pre-Revolutionary Fort William Henry at Pemaquid Harbor.



Today's visitor driving from Damariscotta might turn southeast (on Rte. 130) and reach famous Pemaquid Point Lighthouse, which overlooks some of the country's most rugged coastline and is pictured on the Maine commemorative quarter. Or turn southwest (on Rte. 129) and savor the real world of the quintessential Maine fishing village, South Bristol. Cross the river's narrow flow called "the Gut" on the swinging bridge to Rutherford Island, and arrive at Christmas Cove, where explorer John Smith dropped anchor on Christmas Day, 1614, and gave the cove its name. A new breed of explorers — summer visitors — discovered the cove a century ago. It's now one of Maine's oldest and best known summer colonies.

The Pemaquid area offers historical sites, nature study, cultural activities, and unbelievably beautiful scenery in a peaceful and welcoming atmosphere — a destination in itself, or a center for exploring more of coastal Maine. ■

For more information, contact the
Damariscotta Region Chamber of
Commerce at 207-563-8340,
or visit www.damariscottaregion.com.

Written by Janice Lindsay • 206 Back Meadow Road • Damariscotta, Maine 04543
207-563-6835 • janice@janice-lindsay.com