

## About Kennebunk

Kennebunk is located on the southwesterly coast of Maine just 90 miles north of Boston and 25 miles south of Portland. From our vibrant villages to our beautiful sandy beaches, Kennebunk offers a truly wonderful place to live, work and visit!

Settled in 1621, Kennebunk is rich with tradition and history. Rolling hills and a wide array of open spaces make our town a truly unique and special place. Originally an agricultural and shipbuilding settlement, Kennebunk has evolved into a favorite destination for travelers worldwide. From the Sea Captain's mansions on Summer Street to the beautiful flowing Mousam and Kennebunk rivers, there is certainly something in Kennebunk for everyone to enjoy!

Along our coastline you'll find Gooch's Beach, Middle Beach, and Mother's Beach. These beaches offer the perfect place to walk, play in the surf, or just enjoy the sight of the waves rolling into shore. The string of beaches, some sandy, some rocky, that stretch along Beach Avenue from Gooch's Beach past Lord's Point are all connected by sidewalks — a feature that makes this great stretch of seaside a favorite with walkers and joggers.

Although Kennebunk's traditional population centers still remain, their houses and landscape serve as strong reminders of the history of the town. The 1970s and 1980s brought significant changes in housing types and development patterns. The town's population is no longer concentrated in and around its village centers, but has spread along roadways to all corners of the community. Kennebunk now has its share of condominiums (some located in a vintage hotel), large-lot single family housing developments, and has seen the adaptation of residences to commercial use, particularly on Main Street and in Lower Village. The increasing year-round population and strong growth of tourism has fueled new commercial and residential development. While manufacturing as it once existed has declined, a revitalization of Kennebunk's Main Street has brought adaptive use to its surviving factory building (Kesslen Shoe, now called the Lafayette Center). A restaurant, offices, and local businesses now serve as the centerpieces of that building.

Kennebunk's state-mandated Comprehensive Plan, which was adopted in 1991 and updated in 2022, strongly reflects the importance of preserving the small-town ambience of its village centers and the open vistas of its once agricultural landscape. New homeowners and businesses prize their property's history. Because of this awareness, Kennebunk is a town with not only a rich past, but an exciting future. It represents small-town America at its finest. Many would say that the State of Maine's advertising slogan—"The Way Life Should Be"-- applies to Kennebunk.

Whether you are a visitor or a resident, we are sure you will agree that Kennebunk is a wonderful place to be and provides a quality of life that is second to none!

Read more about Kennebunk's history at: [www.kennebunkmaine.us/history](http://www.kennebunkmaine.us/history)