



Get an up-close view of the Plum Beach lighthouse on a tour from Rhode Island Bay Cruises.

Lights on Narragansett Bay

See 10 lighthouses and several other sights with Rhode Island Bay Cruises

One of the best ways to experience Rhode Island's waterways is with Rhode Island Bay Cruises, a company that provides narrated sightseeing cruises of Narragansett Bay's lighthouses and Newport Harbor. *The Millennium Ferry*, one of New England's most luxurious sightseeing catamarans, takes passengers into Narragansett Bay and past 10 of the state's finest lights. The cruise lasts approximately 90 minutes, giving group members the opportunity to get close-up views of many lights that are closed to the public or best seen by boat. The high-speed catamaran has three viewing levels, climate-controlled interior seating, and can reach speeds of up to 40 miles per hour. With space for up to 400 passengers — and interior seating for 285 — there is plenty of room for large or small groups.

Some of the lighthouses seen on the tour are the privately owned Poplar Point Lighthouse; the Beavertail Lighthouse, which has a museum on the grounds; the Lime Rock Lighthouse, now part of the Ida Lewis Yacht Club; and the Conanicut Lighthouse, now located on private property, which is best viewed by boat. There are plenty of additional sights along the cruise, which passes more than 60 miles of coastline and 10 different islands. Groups will sail under the 1.6-mile Jamestown-Verrazano Bridge, which connects the Island of Jamestown to North Kingstown. The cruise also passes the elegant Castle Hill Inn and Resort, located on a 40-acre peninsula; Hammersmith Farm, a 28-room Victorian mansion that hosted Jacqueline and John F. Kennedy's wedding reception; and Ocean Cliff, which has 25 guest rooms and is situated on 10 acres. Easily one of the most intriguing sights is Clingstone, the House on the Rock. The home was built on a rock outcropping only slightly larger than the house itself. Accessible only by boat (and with its own generator) Clingstone is available for rent during the summer.

Another sightseeing highlight of the cruise is the trip past Fort Adams, a masonry fortification that was built in the 1800s, but has a history that goes back to the Revolutionary War. An earthwork fort was built in 1776, and saw action in May when the guns engaged British warships. Other sights include sailing under the Newport Bridge, the largest suspension bridge in New England, and a trip past two aircraft carriers, the USS *Saratoga* and the USS *Forrestal*.

Group rates are available for 15 or more passengers, and advance arrangements are highly recommended. •

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