
Travel with The Met

October 3–8, 2021

Newport, Rhode Island:
From the Revolution Through the Gilded Age
with Alyce Perry Englund
Associate Curator, The American Wing



THE
MET

Newport, Rhode Island: From the Revolution Through the Gilded Age

Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

Join me this October in the magnificent harbor town of Newport, Rhode Island. As a scholar of American decorative arts, I have found few destinations in the United States that match the opulent art and architecture of Newport, from colonial-era homes to the palatial summer cottages of the Gilded Age

On this five-day tour, we will enjoy special access to Newport's cultural sites that reflect the city's origins as a mercantile hub and refuge for Baptists, Quakers, Jews, and other religious minorities. We will behold the Touro Synagogue, the oldest in the country, and admire the prized claw-and-ball feet and carved shells on iconic furniture in Newport's colonial houses.

We will move into the 19th century to view Newport's rebirth as an artists' enclave and summer playground for elite families like the Vanderbilts and Astors. On private tours, we will savor the architecture and art of lavish houses, from the shingle-style of the Isaac Bell House, to architect Richard Morris Hunt's Italianate-style palazzo The Breakers, to Stanford White's Versailles-inspired Rosecliff.

Afternoon teas, exclusive studio visits with skilled artisans, and special receptions will further elevate this extraordinary journey. I hope you will join me this fall for an intellectually invigorating exploration of Newport's resplendent homes and magnificent art treasures.

Sincerely,

Alyce Perry Englund

Associate Curator, *The American Wing*
The Metropolitan Museum of Art



Traveling with You

Alyce Perry Englund

Alyce Perry Englund, Associate Curator in The Met's American Wing, joined The Metropolitan Museum of Art in 2015, and oversees the American Wing's prestigious collection of 17th- to early 19th-century furniture. She received her M.A. from the renowned Winterthur Program in American Material Culture, a B.A. in Art History from the University of Vermont, and is an alumna of The Attingham Study Programme. Most recently, she curated *Simple Gifts: Shaker at The Met* (2016–17) and co-curated *Chippendale's Director: The Designs and Legacy of a Furniture Maker* (2018, 2019).

Trip Highlights

- Go behind the scenes at Newport's splendid summer cottages including Marble House, the Vanderbilts' 1892 mansion containing 500,000 cubic feet of marble, where we will discover rooms not usually seen by the public
- Take a special inside look at ultimate Newport summer cottage, The Breakers, designed by Richard Morris Hunt, and savor the lavish personal effects and extravagant furnishings of dynastic American families like the Vanderbilts on exclusive tours of private estates
- Investigate rare 18th-century, Asian-inspired murals at Vernon House, one of Newport's finest colonial homes
- Indulge in private visits to historic venues, and enjoy a special cocktail reception and exhibition tour at the colonial-era Redwood Library & Athenaeum, the oldest continuously operating lending library in the United States still in its original building
- Enjoy an exclusive meeting with a member of the Preservation Society of Newport County, who will share the secrets of the city's remarkable buildings and the astonishing tales of their rescue



Rosecliff, Newport, photo courtesy of The Preservation Society of Newport County



Photos clockwise from top right; Map of the region; Bowen's Wharf, Newport, photo courtesy of Discover Newport; Tea Table, Newport, Rhode Island, ca. 1770, Mahogany, collection of the Whitehorne House Museum, Newport; Tea House at Marble House, Newport; Dining room at Marble House, Newport; Isaac Bell House, Newport, photo courtesy of Discover Newport. Front cover: Marble House, Newport. Back cover: Castle Hill Light House, photo courtesy of DN (top) and Dining room at The Breakers (bottom).

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Newport Art Museum, photo courtesy of Discover Newport

Departure / Newport, Rhode Island

Sunday, October 3

Those departing from New York City will travel from the steps of The Met by deluxe motorcoach to Newport, Rhode Island. Lunch will be included on the drive. Upon arrival, have some free time to stroll along the waterfront, or browse in the city's many unique shops. In the early evening, enjoy a welcome reception to mingle with your fellow travelers and meet a representative from the Preservation Society, who will talk about the fabulous architecture and history of Newport. L, R

Newport

Monday, October 4

Today, we focus on the 18th century in Newport, starting in an area known for its impressive colonial-era homes. Visit Hunter House, a Preservation Society property, whose construction spanned six years. A fine example of Neo-Palladian architecture popular in the colonial period, Hunter House was the first property purchased by the Preservation Society in 1945. Venture to the nearby Historic Hill, where we will visit the Neo-Palladian-style Touro Synagogue, which is the oldest synagogue in the United States, dating to 1763. We will then walk a few blocks passing by Old Colony House, a 1739 Georgian brick structure that was

the original colonial legislature building. Following lunch, enjoy two private visits with craftspeople at the John Stevens Shop, founded in 1705 and specializing in stone inscriptions, and artist Howard Newman's metal restoration shop. Afterwards, head to Thames Street to the Whitehorne House Museum, a stately brick mansion dating from 1810 that is a property of the Newport Restoration Foundation. Today, it displays furniture and decorative arts made or used in Rhode Island in the 18th and 19th centuries. B, L

Newport

Tuesday, October 5

Start the day on historic Bellevue Avenue at the Isaac Bell House, one of the properties under the stewardship of the Preservation Society of Newport County. This historic house was designed and completed in 1883 by the firm of McKim, Mead & White.

It represents one of the best examples of shingle-style architecture and was revolutionary for its open plan interior. Next, visit Marble House, which was completed in 1892 for Mr. and Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt as their summer cottage. Its architect, Richard Morris Hunt, was inspired by the Petit Trianon at Versailles and used over 500,000 cubic feet of marble. This evening, enjoy a special reception and viewing of the current exhibit at the Redwood Library & Athenaeum, completed in 1747. B, L, R

Newport

Wednesday, October 6

Take in a private visit at the Vernon House, an architecturally distinguished colonial-era house and National Historic Landmark with extraordinary Asian-inspired wall murals. During the American Revolutionary War, Vernon House served as the headquarters of the Comte de Rochambeau, commander



Hunter House, Newport, photo © Jiawangkun | Dreamstime.com

More Travels with The Met

Artistic Legacies & Great Estates of the Hudson Valley September 26–October 1, 2021

Uncover the Treasures of London: Jewelry Through the Ages September 30–October 6, 2021

Caribbean Paradises & Extraordinary Vistas: Round-Trip Sint Maarten Aboard *Sea Cloud*
January 21–29, 2022

Crossroads of Cultures: Canary Islands, Morocco & Iberia Aboard *Sea Spirit*
April 22–May 5, 2022

For details and more trip information, please go to metmuseum.org/travel

of the French forces from 1780 to 1783. The highlight of the day's experience is the ultimate of all the Newport summer cottages: The Breakers. Designed by Richard Morris Hunt, who also designed the façade and Great Hall of The Met, and completed in 1895 for Cornelius Vanderbilt II, this grand mansion has 70 rooms and 13 acres of landscape. Later, enjoy a special visit to the Blue Garden, a beautiful space designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. The remainder of the evening is at leisure. B, L



Cliff Walk, Newport, photo courtesy of Discover Newport

Newport

Thursday, October 7

Begin the day heading down Bellevue Avenue to Rosecliff, the 1902 mansion commissioned by Nevada silver heiress Theresa Fair Oelrichs. Designed by Stanford White of McKim, Mead & White, the house has stunning views of the ocean and has been the setting for *The Great Gatsby* (1974) and other films. This afternoon, visit the Newport Art Museum, founded in 1912. The museum operates a gallery in the John N. A. Griswold House, a National Historic Landmark and the premier American Stick Style building, which was designed by Richard Morris Hunt in 1864. Later, head to the International Yacht Restoration School, a unique vocational school for maritime trades. B, D

Newport / Return

Friday, October 8

After breakfast, a transfer by deluxe motor coach to New York City is included. B

This itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

Accommodations



The Brenton Hotel

The Brenton Hotel

Opened in summer 2020, the Brenton Hotel boasts Newport's best waterfront location, and its elegant and modern design accentuates divine ocean views. The Brenton adheres to strict health and safety protocols set by the CDC, the Rhode Island Hospitality Association, the State of Rhode Island, and other related government authorities.

Program Rate

\$5,499 per person, double rate

\$6,899 single rate

Rate Includes

- Five nights hotel accommodations as per itinerary
- Group transfer to and from the steps of The Met in New York City at the beginning and end of the program
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, R=Reception, D=Dinner); bottled water, soft drinks, juices, and coffee/tea with all meals, house wine at welcome and farewell dinners
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Taxes, service, and portage charges

Not included in rate

Airfare to/from New York City; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Newport, Rhode Island: October 3–8, 2021 Reservation Form

To secure your reservation, please call Arrangements Abroad at 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638); or complete this form and return it with your deposit of \$1000 per person (**fully refundable until 60 days prior to departure**), to be paid by debit card, credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Names in full as on passports. Please print.

Address

City State Zip

Telephone (home) (business)

Fax Email

Accommodations

Hotel room preference One bed Two beds Single

I wish to share a room with _____

Form of payment

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

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3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

Each participant must sign below. I/We have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms and detailed in program documents.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date

For additional information, please call 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638) or to opt out from receiving mail, email travelwiththemet@metmuseum.org

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The Metropolitan
Museum of Art

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