



Points of Interest on the Seacoast

While Portsmouth to the north and Newburyport to the south like to believe they have a monopoly on attractions, this simply is not the case. The towns of Seabrook, Hampton Falls, Hampton, North Hampton, Rye and Newcastle all have their own unique points of interest which range from atoms to

the region's natural resources. Most of these lie conveniently on Route 1, Route 1A, and Route 1B. For those who want to see as many of these points as possible, we are listing them in order as you head north.

TUCK MUSEUM

Located on Park Avenue

just off Route 1. The Tuck Museum complex, operated by the Hampton Historical Society, contains four buildings: the Tuck Museum, the Farm Museum, the Seacoast Fire Museum and a 19th century District Schoolhouse. Each building is highlighted by furnishings and other relics of Hampton's rich history which began at its founding in 1638. The Museum and other buildings are located on the beautiful grounds of the Meeting House Green. It is open to the public every Wednesday, Friday and Sunday from 1-4 p.m. Special tours and visits can be arranged by appointment. A children's playground and picnic facilities are located nearby. For further information call Tuck Museum at (603) 929-0781, or visit www.hamptonhistoricalsociety.org.

ODIORNE POINT

Scenic Route 1A, Rye NH. The Seacoast Science Center is easily accessible from the southern entrance of Odiorne Point State Park. The recently

refurbished facility includes exhibits on the local ecosystems, live aquarium exhibits a tide-pool touch tank, fishing and aquaculture. Local history exhibits highlight the first settlers at Odiorne Point, the Squalus submarine rescue, and a section of hull from the Lizzie Carr, a tall ship that sank off Concord Point in Rye. The center offers ongoing programs for children and adults, concerts, and walking tours of the park.

The Science Center is open 10-5. Admission. (603) 436-8043.

Odiorne Point State Park offers 137 acres of park and marshlands. Site of the first European settlement in New Hampshire, Pannaway Manor, the land has been used for farming, resort homes, a coastal fortification, and finally a state park. The South Entrance offers easy access to the Science Center, a playground, picnic facilities, and rest rooms. Overgrown walls and gun mount foundations can be viewed from the many trails that go into the



Tuck Museum

once Camp Langdon, where the Army quartered its men. The barracks are long gone now, and the Common is a large recreational field with a small beach and playground.

Open dawn to dusk. Admission.

FORT CONSTITUTION

Located off Scenic Route 1B next to the U.S. Coast Guard Station. Fort Constitution (formerly Fort William and Mary) was the site where the first overt act of the Revolution took place in 1774, as American patriots raided the undermanned fort and seized its gunpowder and arms. Since then, it has served through every war until it became a park after World War Two. The fort is a mix of styles, with the brick walls of the 1818 era fortress on the landward side, and the incomplete Civil-War era granite walls guarding the sea. The US Coast Guard still maintains a station and a lighthouse there, and the fort commands a splendid view of Portsmouth Harbor.

Open dawn to dusk. Free.

thickly forested park. One bunker, hidden from the hill is easily viewed from the parking lot.

The largest bunkers, for two 16 inch coastal artillery pieces, are located deep inside the park.

The North Entrance has a small boat launch and has a trail leading to the sandy beach on Little Harbor. Limited restroom facilities.

There is no overnight camping available at this park.

The park is open 8 a.m. to dusk. Admission. (603) 436-7406

GREAT ISLAND COMMON

Just past Wild Rose Lane on Scenic Route 1B, Great Island Common (also known as New Castle Common) was

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