

Schoodic Scenic Byway

The Schoodic Scenic Byway travels through the eastern seaboard, including the "quiet" side of Acadia National Park. The landscape remains unspoiled, revealing a part of Maine where lobstering and clamming are still a tradition. Discover the local artisans' crafts and let the mountains, coastal islands, historic buildings, and lighthouses enchant you.



Length: 29 miles / 46.4 km

Time Take one hour to drive or to eight hours to experience

Allow: the byway.

Local Information

Acadia National Park

207-288-3888

[Send E-mail](#)

Maine Office of Tourism

207-624-7483

888-624-6345

Schoodic Area Chamber of Commerce

207-963-7658

[Send E-mail](#)

Visitor Services



Bicycle/Pedestrian Facilities

Bicycle/pedestrian use is recommended only on the Acadia National Park Schoodic Peninsula Road. One 29-mile loop takes cyclists through the easternmost reaches of Acadia National Park at beautiful Schoodic Point, as well as through quaint fishing villages and along a dramatic stretch of Maine's rocky coast.



Camping

There are places to camp along this byway.



Food

There are places to buy food along this byway.



Gasoline

Gasoline is available.



Information

There is an authoritative information center along this byway.



Lodging

There is overnight lodging along this byway.



Phone

Public phones are available along this byway.



Restrooms

There are toilet facilities along this byway.



Retail

There are places to shop along this byway.

Seasons

Best Time to Drive

March, April, May, June, September, and October are excellent because the crowds aren't as heavy. The byway is beautiful in any season.

High Season

July and August are the most crowded months along the byway.

Map and Directions



Legend:

Point of Interest	Campground	Featured Byway	Water	State Border
Park	Picnic/Rest Area	America's Byways	Wildlife Refuge	Urban Area
Mountain	Interstate	Other Byway	Wilderness Area	Tribal Nation
City	U.S. Highway	Other Road	Other Federal Lands	Military Base
Capital	State Highway	Trail	Other State Lands	

Driving Directions

- Start at the Hancock-Sullivan Bridge on ME-1 east of Hancock, ME.
- Drive east on ME-1 and continue to ME-186.

- At West Gouldsboro, take ME-186 south towards Acadia National Park.
- Take ME-186 through Acadia National Park along the edge of the peninsula before heading back up north to Prospect Harbor, where the byway ends.

Getting to the Byway

From Bangor, Maine, to Schoodic Scenic Byway

- Take US-1A southeast to Ellsworth.
- Get on US-1 and go east through Hancock.
- Continue on US-1. The byway begins at the Hancock-Sullivan Bridge.

Road Trip: Lighthouses and Lunch Tour

Departure: Frazer Point Picnic Area and Winter Harbor Light, Maine


Destination: Prospect Harbor and Prospect Harbor Light

Time to allow: 1 day

This leisurely jaunt features all of the lighthouses on the Schoodic Byway, as well as other historical or scenic points of interest. Grab a lunch and a camera, and spend a few hours enjoying such lighthouses as Egg Rock Light (lovingly referred to as Maine's ugliest lighthouse), Winter Harbor Light (one of the most photogenic in Maine), Petit Manan Light (Maine's second tallest), and Prospect Harbor Light (commissioned by George Washington and still in use today). You can buy all you need for lunch from area grocery and convenience stores or take-out meals from one of the local restaurants. While seeing the lighthouses, you will also have many opportunities to hike, walk along the rocks, explore the tidal pools, or relax and watch the sunset in this beautiful part of Downeast Maine.

Day 1

- **Start: Frazer Point Picnic Area and Winter Harbor Light**

With lunch in hand, start your tour at the Frazer Point picnic area  located just inside the Schoodic section of Acadia National Park.

Be sure to pick up a trail map at the kiosk as you enter Acadia National Park. While at the picnic area, you may first want to sit and watch the lobster boats at work or admire the ocean and islands. Looking seaward toward the south, view Winter Harbor Light, or as the locals call it, Mark Island Light. Converted into a summer cottage during the 1930s, it remains one of the most photogenic lighthouses in the state. After leaving Frazer Point and taking a right onto the one-way park loop road, you can get a better view of The Winter Harbor Light with Mt. Desert Island's Cadillac Mountain in the background.

For a more environmentally friendly trip around the Park, bike around Acadia National Park's loops or ride the free "Island Explorer" bus. If you want to make it a two-day adventure, take the bus around a portion of the Acadia Byway one day and then ride the water taxi back to the Schoodic section of the Park the next day. For detailed information, visit this website.

- **Stop 1: Schoodic Head and Egg Rock Light**



From previous stop: 14 minutes / 5 mi (8.0 km)

Directions: Leaving Frazer Point, turn right and drive for 3.8 miles. Bear left onto Blueberry Hill Rd. After 0.2 miles, turn left and follow for 0.8 miles. Bear left for about 0.2 miles until you arrive at Schoodic Head.

Suggested time at this stop: 1 hour

Schoodic Head, a rock mass that rises up above the shore of Schoodic Point, features a bird's-eye view of Frenchman Bay with Cadillac Mountain as the backdrop. Sitting in the middle of the bay is Egg Rock Light, nicknamed "Maine's ugliest lighthouse." Coming back down from Schoodic Head, take a left onto the park loop road. After approximately 1 mile, you will come to a 'Y' in the road. Turn right and proceed to the end of Schoodic Point where during a storm, the waves are known to shoot hundreds of feet into the air. Here you have another view of Egg Rock light, and at night, you can see the flashing of Baker Island light on the southern horizon.

- **Stop 2: Blueberry Hill and Petit Manan Light**



From previous stop: 5 minutes / 1.8 mi (2.9 km)

Directions: Proceeding on the park loop road you will come to the Blueberry Hill turnout (approximately 0.8 miles from the Y intersection). A one-mile hike takes you up the eastern slope to the top of Schoodic Head (Blueberry Hill).

Suggested time at this stop: 1 hour

A pleasurable scenic turnout on the shore of Acadia National Park, Blueberry Hill is the perfect place to walk on the shore, have picnics, and take pictures. Looking east from Blueberry Hill, see Petit Manan Light, Maine's second tallest lighthouse. Puffins and other seabirds nest here in the summer.

- **End: Prospect Harbor and Prospect Harbor Light**

From 10 minutes / 5 mi (8.0 km)
previous
stop:

Directions: Leaving the Blueberry Hill turnoff, drive about 2 miles on the one way road until the exit of the park, then drive for about 1 mile on East Schoodic Drive. Turn right onto ME-186, and drive for approximately two miles until you reach the village of Prospect Harbor.

At your last stop, you'll get a great view of Prospect Harbor Light. Bring your camera, because this location is great for taking pictures.

Totals for Day 1

Total Distance Traveled: 11.8 miles / 18.9 km

Total Travel Time: 29 minutes

Total Stopping Time: 2 hours