

A Downeast Schoodic Adventure

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Renewing America's Love Affair with the Maine's Coast

The Schoodic Region offers visitors a unique combination of historical working landscapes, tremendous scenic beauty and a rich cultural heritage of art, music and literature. Whether you are seeking the excitement of kayaking through sea spray, hiking among the Maine woods and lakes, the ambience of a small New England sea-side village or a quiet rocky perch for watching lobster boats pulling in their catch, the Schoodic region is a treat. Located a little east of Ellsworth along historic Route 1, the Schoodic region is the beginning of the Downeast Acadia trail.

Living off the Land and Sea

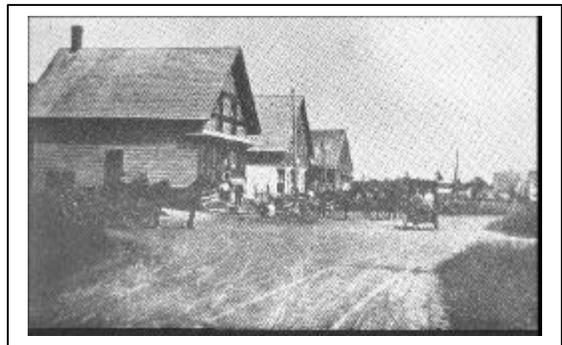
The Schoodic Region has long been a place where people make a living with local resources and ingenuity. The rugged coastline, rocky soils, cool summers and snowy winters provide unique opportunities for people who live close to the land and sea.

Originally called Waukeag, or "horseback" where the tide is especially strong, Sullivan is the gateway to the coastal Schoodic region. Early indigenous inhabitants subsisted on seafood, game and wild fruits, especially blueberries. Buried mounds of shells that are revealed by shore erosion still mark where they lived. The first documented European visitors included Portuguese, English, Spanish and French explorers who mapped the coast in the early 1500s. Frenchman Bay, between Mount Desert Island and the Gouldsboro Peninsula, got its name when English sailors saw (and avoided) a French man-



of-war moored there. Great views of the bay can be seen from Route 1, Route 186 and Schoodic Point.

Settlers were attracted to the Schoodic region to harvest the trees that they turned into lumber and shipped to Boston. Farming, small-scale gold and silver mining and granite quarrying also attracted settlers. People then and now work as fishermen, lumbermen, carpenters, shipbuilders, seafarers, and tradesmen. The region retains many sites illustrative of its historic and economic development.

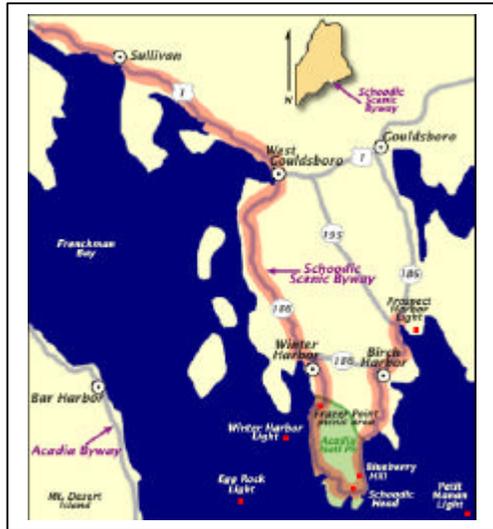


Touring the Schoodic Scenic Byway

The backbone of the Schoodic region, Route 1 beginning at the Hancock-Sullivan Town line, and Route 186 in from Route 1 in West Gouldsboro to Prospect Harbor became a National Scenic Byway in June, 2000. Each of America's 100+ scenic byways offers a blend of experience unlikely to be duplicated elsewhere. The pace slows down here, a pleasant break from the

crowds, high pressure lifestyles and stress. The Schoodic area's unique historical, scenic and recreational opportunities are worth seeing and preserving.

Here is some of what you can do.



Scenic tour of the byway: As you travel the 27 mile Schoodic Byway you will see tidal falls that reverse direction every six hours, historical architecture, piers piled high with lobster traps, clambers working knee-deep in tidal mud flats, and a very scenic portion of Acadia National Park.

Outdoor recreation: There are many places to fish by boat or from the shore, you can rent a bicycle or kayak to tour Acadia National Park and surroundings, bicycle and kayak guides are available and stay in one of many local area campgrounds.

Heritage and lighthouse touring: If you are interested in early American history and architecture, you will find be delighted the preserved rural character of the Schoodic area. There are more than 20 lighthouses in

downeast Maine, and some of the most noteworthy can be found in this region. Heritage visitors not only get to see historic architecture, but you can even live it. Several area Inns and Bed and Breakfasts are themselves restored historic homes. Some enjoy celebratory status with Downeast and Yankee magazine.

Gifts and galleries: There are no shopping malls or retail franchises here. Our businesses are locally owned, and offer a wide range of locally produced arts, crafts, food and gift items. You can browse country stores, art galleries and antique shops along the way, buy bread from local bakers, and sample the catch-of-the-day. In July and August you are likely to see local artists creating their work at the Schoodic Arts for All fair and other events.

The sites and activities are too numerous to list here. Visit www.schoodicbyway.org for an interactive tour map and detailed discussion of the sites. You can also visit www.acadia-schoodic.org for pointers on places to stay and eat, art galleries, seasonal events and local services. You can also call the Chamber at 1-800-231-3008 (outside Maine) or 207-963-7658 or email them at info@acadia-schoodic.org and request a map and brochure describing of the region. Schoodic invites you.