

# Maine town offers full-flavored weekend

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ROCKLAND, Maine – For one weekend in March, the town of Rockland, Maine, treats chocolate as if it were the Holy Grail.

The Inn to Inn Chocolate March, which takes place March 10-12, is made up of more

## ONE-TANK TRIP

than 30 businesses joining forces with the Historic Inns of Rockland to pay homage to the sweet stuff in every size, shape and form.

Start your exploring and nibbling Saturday morning at the Second Read Cafe with a cup of rich chocolate coffee. As you make your way down Main Street, stop at the Atlantic Baking Co. for some Mudslide Cookies. While munching more chocolate delights, pick out some shiny bling for yourself at Pollack's Jewelry, then get a free chocolate palette makeover at the Harbor Beauty Bar.

Head over to Rockland Chocolates, where a fountain of melted Belgian chocolate will just beg for you to help yourself, the take a

lesson on making decadent chocolate truffles with the chef at the Pastry Garden. Indulge your dog with some of Critter Outfitter's carob chocolate biscuits, and indulge yourself next door at the Puffins Nest, where owner Annie Hoppe bakes up Moose Chunk Cookies. The heady scent of chocolate soap will greet you as you enter the upscale shop Treasures From the Heart.

If your feet are tired from all the shopping, Saturday afternoon will be the perfect time to enjoy a viewing of "Chocolat" at the historic Strand Theater.

You can mix a little art and history into weekend at two of Rockland's museums.

Two miles out of Rockland, on Route 73, is the Owl's Head Transportation Museum, home to an extraordinary collection of antique aircraft, automobiles, motorcycles and bicycles dating from the early 1800s to 1980.

Among vehicles on display are an 1804 Cayley Glider and a 1917 Fokker Dr. I tri-plane, the type flown by Manfred Von Richthofen, the Red Baron of World War I fame. Automobile classics include a 1926 Ford Snowmobile and a 1963 Ford

Mustang II prototype.

Near the museum is Owl's Head Light, built in 1825 and still an active lighthouse. Climb the steps to its base for a gorgeous view over Penobscot Bay.

The Farnsworth Museum has been an icon in Rockland since 1948. The museum's Wyeth Center is devoted to paintings by America's foremost family of artists – N.C., Andrew and James Wyeth.

Current exhibitions are: "James Wyeth: Selected Works," a collection of his paintings and works on paper from the mid-1960s to 2000, and "Maine In America: Approaching Abstraction," which includes early 20th century abstract art by Marguerite Zorach, Rockwell Kent and John Marin.

End the day with a hot chocolate oil body massage and hot stone treatment at the Sanctuary Day Spa. You'll feel like a new person, ready for more chocolate, and the main event, Sunday's Inn to Inn Chocolate March, when the Berry Manor, Limerock and Captain Lindsey House inns offer tours, chocolate demonstrations and, best of all, chocolate tastings.

## IF YOU GO

The Inn to Inn Chocolate March will take place March 10-12.

**DEALS:** Two-night packages, ranging in price from \$170 to \$310 (double occupancy), are being offered by the Historic Inns of Rockland – Berry Manor Inn, Limerock Inn and the Captain Lindsey House Inn – and will include: two tickets to the Chocolate March, a welcome bag filled with chocolate samples, an invitation for two to the Friday evening opening reception, participation in Saturday demonstrations and a voucher good for special dessert for two at participating local restaurants.

**TICKETS:** \$15 advance, \$20 day of the Chocolate March; to order tickets or make inn reservations call 1-877-762-4667 or visit [www.historicinnsorockland.com](http://www.historicinnsorockland.com).



Courtesy photo by PJ WALTER of the Limerock Inn

March 10-12 will be a weekend for chocolate lovers in Rockland, Maine, with the confection being offered in various forms around town. The highlight of the weekend will be the Inn to Inn Chocolate March on that Sunday.