

Granite Inn

546 Main Street

Rockland, ME 04841-3341

Reservations: 207-594-9036

Email: info@oldgraniteinn.com

Website: www.OldGraniteInn.com



Your hosts: Ed and Joan Hantz

General Description: Sporting the only granite façade left in Rockland, the Granite Inn began as a private residence when the granite Federal Colonial house was built in 1840 attached to a little 1790 house. Today, the Granite Inn, occupying the granite house along with the large wing to the rear added by the Elks' Club in 1906, offers a unique B&B experience and the ideal mid-coast location for exploring Maine's arts, heritage, and sights. Known for its warm hospitality, comfort, artistically decorated rooms, and innovative cuisine, the Granite Inn offers a wide range of amenities to romantic couples, families, business travelers, and people traveling with pets. Amenities include complimentary high-speed internet access, flat screen televisions, two whirlpool tubs, air conditioning, and "raidable" guest pantries with refrigerators, hot/cold bottled water dispensers, and a "bottomless" cookie jar.

The Granite Inn has been certified by the state of Maine as an environmental leader in the hospitality industry, and food preparation is Serve-Safe Certified. The inn also has a full sprinkling system and meets all fire safety codes.

Guest Rooms, Amenities and Rates: The Granite Inn offers a variety of B&B experiences. There are six spacious guest rooms furnished for double occupancy and two two-room suites. One suite comfortably sleeps four and the other has a king bed, luxurious sitting room with fire place, and bath with whirlpool tub. All guest rooms have private baths. If you want to take the pulse of Maine's second largest harbor and watch the sun rise over the water, choose one of the two rooms in the original granite building that face the ferry terminal and Knight Marina. On the other hand, if you want a more serene setting, pick one of the rooms at the quiet end of the building.

Joan, co-owner of the Inn and a graphic designer by profession, has been the interior decorator for the eight guest rooms and suites. Each is uniquely decorated in an artful counterpoint of authentic antiques and modern furnishings. All guest rooms offer either queen or king beds (some convertible to two twins), fine linens, plush towels, wireless high-speed internet access, flat-screen television, alarm clock, hair dryers, and pillows, pillows. Irons/ironing boards are available on request.

In the quiet season, (mid-November through mid-May) room rates range from \$85 (double occupancy) to \$130 (the suites). During the shoulder seasons (mid-May through mid-Junes and mid-October through mid-November) rates range from \$90 to \$170) During the summer season, (mid-June through mid-October) the same rooms range from \$150 to \$215 per night.

Common Rooms: The first thing you see as you approach the Granite Inn is its front porch. A welcoming expanse that faces the harbor, guests often take their morning coffee out to the porch to greet the morning sun and watch the ferries load. In the late afternoon the porch is in shade, a frequent gathering place to debate where to have dinner. And, during Rockland's festivals, the porch offers a front-row viewing stand for the parades.

Step through the front door into the Granite Inn's grand living room with two large, comfortable sitting areas, a wood-burning fireplace, distinctive woodwork, original art, and deep window sills (due to the thick granite walls) filled with flowering plants. One corner of the living room contains a game table and one corner of the dining room contains a large TV with DVD player and a guest "swap" library. Both the first and second floor halls contain guest pantries complete with refrigerator, hot/cold bottled water dispenser, and "bottomless" cookie jar.

The dining room is a versatile space that has seen baby showers, breakfast business meetings, school alumni reunions, and private brunches. The room can accommodate a sit-down meal for 30.

Breakfast and other goodies: In the bright dining room, the Granite Inn's hearty breakfast is served either family- or buffet-style depending on the number served and the menu of the day. Guests are encouraged to participate in the traditional B&B experience by eating at the large central table, but if you want privacy, individual tables

are also available. Breakfast entrées range from apple and Maine wild blueberry pancakes to a large variety of healthy quiches, frittatas, and crêpes, accompanied by fresh fruit and muffins or scones, fresh-baked from scratch each morning.

History: This stately home's history began in 1840 as a Federal Colonial residence built by local craftsmen from granite quarried in nearby St. George. Since that time it has gone through many incarnations serving as a home and office to at least two physicians. In 1906, the Elks' Club purchased the house and added a large wing to the rear. In 1920, General Pershing gave an address on the front steps of the Elks' Club. In 1984, the building was transformed into a B&B, and has remained Rockland's only historic harbor-front B&B ever since.

In 2006, Edwin and Joan Hantz purchased the inn, moving from Rochester, NY, with their daughter Giuliana and Springer Spaniel, Zack – and began to renovate. The front porch extending the length of the building was added, and room by room, renovations, refurbishing and redecorating occurred. While the historic architecture and many of the beautiful touches such as the living room woodwork and Terrazzo floors were left in place, the inn has been renewed in a clean, contemporary style interspersed with family antiques and original art. At the Granite Inn, history has been preserved with a simple, elegant, and updated panache.

Accessibility, pets, smoking: While many of the amenities are fully appreciated only by adults, all ages are welcome and the inn is both child- and pet-friendly. Three double rooms and one of the suites are on the first floor.

The entire building is non-smoking.

Directions: From Portland, Maine: Take I-295 to Exit 28 in Brunswick. Take Route 1 north and follow into Rockland. Continue on Route 1 north onto Main Street. The Granite Inn is about 10 blocks ahead on the left, opposite the ferry terminal.