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BULL FEENEY'S
portland's pub

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DINING GUIDE

Abbondante Enjoy traditional Italian family favorites steps from downtown Kennebunkport. Bistro seating, casual atmosphere, fresh handmade pastas—classics like spaghetti & meatballs; ravioli with ricotta filling; tagliatelle fra diavolo with clams, shrimp, lobster, and tomato sauce; and bucatini alla lobster carbonara. Perfect for your rustic Italian cravings. Open year round and full menu available for takeout. 27 Western Avenue, Kennebunk, 967-2211, abbondanteme.com

Brea Lu Cafe has been serving up breakfast & lunch for 23 years! Favorite menu choices include 12 specialty omelets, build-your-own breakfast burritos, Belgian waffles with fruit, eggs Benedict & homemade corned beef hash. Lunch features homemade chili, fresh made-to-order sandwiches, burgers & wraps. Open daily, 7am-2pm. 428 Forest Ave., Portland, 772-9202

Bruno's Voted Portland's Best Italian Restaurant by Market Surveys of America, Bruno's offers a delicious variety of classic Italian, American, and seafood dishes—and they make all of their pasta in-house. Great sandwiches, pizza, calzones, soups, chowders, and salads. Enjoy lunch or dinner in the dining room or the Tavern. Casual dining at its best. 33 Allen Avenue, 878-9511.

Bull Feeny's Authentic Irish pub & restaurant, serving delicious from-scratch sandwiches, steaks, seafood & hearty Irish fare, pouring local craft & premium imported brews, as well as Maine's most extensive selection of single malt Scotch & Irish whiskeys. Live music five nights. Open 7 days 11:30am-1am. Kitchen closes at 10pm. 375 Fore St., Old Port, 773-7210, bullfeeneys.com

David's KPT Creative, contemporary cuisine from acclaimed Portland chef and restaurateur, David Turin. Menu items showcase native Maine ingredients with a tastefully creative flair. Featuring outdoor dining, two vibrant bars and Kennebunkport's only Raw Bar, David's KPT has quickly become a fast favorite of locals and guests alike. Popular happy hour and Sunday brunch. Open year round. 21 Ocean Ave., Kennebunkport, 967-8225, boathouseme.com/dining

January through March is **locals' season** at **DiMillo's** with fabulous winter dishes, Happy Hour from 4-7pm, Monday thru Friday in our Port Side lounge with cozy fireplace, **Plus** an extra hour of **free parking** so you can check out shops and boutiques in the Old Port. Open every day, 11am-9pm, Commercial St., Old Port, 772-2216, dimillos.com.

Earth At Hidden Pond James Beard award-winner Chef Ken Oringer opened this "farm-to-fork" restaurant in 2011 featuring the bounty of Hidden Pond Resort's organic farm in a menu that includes house-made pastas and charcuterie, wood-grilled pizzas, and signatures like peekytoe crab toast with French cocktail sauce. Craft cocktails and an extensive wine list. Open May-Oct. 354 Goose Rocks Road, Kennebunkport, 967-6550, earthathiddenpond.com

Eve's at the Garden, an oasis of calm and great food in the middle of the Old Port. The perfect spot for meetings, special occasions, and a cocktail. Ingredients from Maine's waters and farms: jumbo scallops, natural, sustainable pork, beef, fish, and shellfish, and Maine lobster. Home to the annual Ice Bar, Eve's garden is perfect for outdoor dining in season. Happy Hour Monday -

BOSTON THEATER WEEKENDS

Mainers! Looking for an inexpensive getaway to Boston that includes great seats for a blockbuster Broadway road show? The famous **Show of the Month Club** makes it easy!



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If you prefer not to drive, we'll be happy to reserve seats on Amtrak's Downeaster. Either way, it's a short and relaxing ride to Boston for a weekend to remember.

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Friday; free valet parking. Lunch 11:30-2, Dinner 5-9:30. 468 Fore St., Portland, 775-9090, evesatthegarden.com

Great Lost Bear A full bar with 70 beer taps of Maine & American craft breweries & a large Belgian selection. Menu features salads, burgers, a large vegetarian selection & the best nachos & Buffalo wings in town. Discover where the natives go when they're restless! Every day 11:30am-11:30pm. 540 Forest Ave., in the Woodfords area of Portland, 772-0300, greatlostbear.com

Kon Asian Bistro Steakhouse & Sushi Bar is upscale Asian with modern flair. Japanese, Sushi, Thai, Chinese—or try our hibachi tables. Our private party room accommodates groups from business meetings to birthday parties. Choose fresh, delicious items and enjoy our entertaining chefs preparing your meal in front of you. Family friendly; open Mon-Thurs 11:30am-10pm, Fri. to 11pm, Sat. 1pm-11:00pm, Sun. 11:30am-9:30pm. 874-0000 konasianbistrome.com

Miss Portland Diner, Portland's only landmark diner serving classic, homemade comfort food. Open daily at 7:00 am serving breakfast, lunch and dinner. Beer, wine and liquor. Located at 140 Marginal Way, Portland, 210-6673, missportlanddiner.com.

Pedro's focuses on simple yet full-flavored Mexican and Latino food. Offering tacos, burritos and an impressive array of margaritas, sangria, beer and wine. *Especiales de la semana* (specials of the week) keep the menu varied and fresh and showcase different Latino cultures. Seasonal outdoor dining available. Open daily, 12-10. 181 Port Rd., Kennebunk, 967-5544, pedrosmaine.com

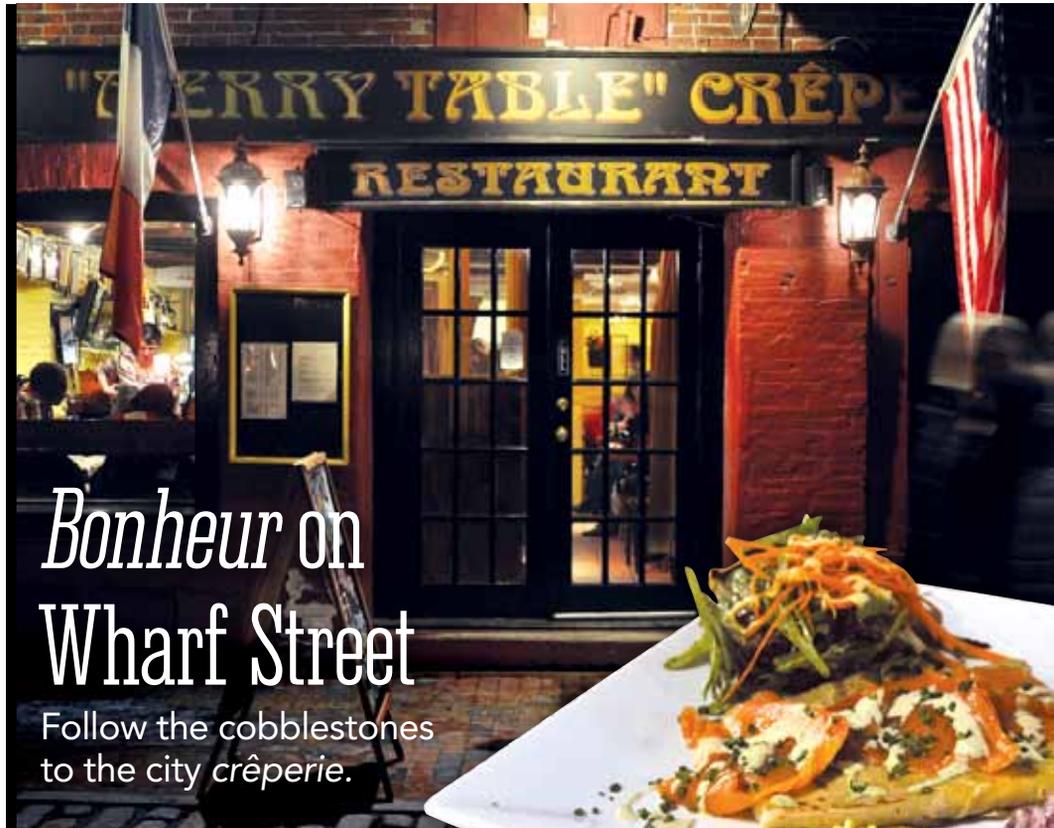
Ocean at Cape Arundel Inn & Resort With outstanding 180-degree water views, Ocean is perfect for a memorable meal or bites at the bar. Executive Chef Pierre Gignac offers Ocean inspired fine cuisine, beautifully presented, and enhanced by the fresh sea air and stunning ambiance. Open year round. 208 Ocean Ave., Kennebunkport, 967-4015, capearundelinn.com/dining

One Dock Award-winning One Dock at the Kennebunkport Inn serves native Maine comfort food classics with a upscale twist, plus a selection of small plates. Guests can enjoy live music on weekends, daily Happy Hour specials and outdoor dining on the patio and terrace throughout summer. Open year round. One Dock Square, Kennebunkport, 967-2621, onedock.com

Pier 77 & The Ramp Bar & Grill are owned & managed by Kate & Chef Peter Morency. Pier 77 has a formal dining room with stunning views of Cape Porpoise Harbor & live music each weekend, while the Ramp is more casual, with its own bar menu at hard-to-beat prices. Open year-round. 77 Pier Rd., Kennebunkport, 967-8500, pier77restaurant.com *

The Tides Beach Club Coastal chic ambiance overlooking Goose Rocks Beach. Local seafood is the focal point: Maine lobster roll with drawn butter or herbed mayo; crispy fried clams with house tartar; marinated grilled tuna with house-made kimchee, soba noodles, and wasabi. Specialty cocktails with fresh local juices and herbs, artisanal beers, and an extensive wine list. Open May-Oct. 254 Goose Rocks Rd., Kennebunkport, 967-3757, tidesbeachclubmaine.com

*reservations recommended



Bonheur on Wharf Street

Follow the cobblestones to the city crêperie.

Wharf Street in Portland is magical on this night as we cross the cobblestones, casting glances toward the deep blue skies studded with Van Gogh's stars. Cheerfully lit windows line our way to the warm and inviting Merry Table.

Almost immediately upon being seated—"anywhere you like"—by host, founder, and owner since 2009 Jean Claude Vassalle, my partner exclaims, "This is so personal, informal—you really feel welcome." I sip a Pomegranate Martini (\$8.50) garnished with an orange slice. The dining space is small but so comforting with its cheerful yellow hues, French posters, exposed brick walls, fireplace, and charming little bar. So far from Gaul, yet it's a short lovely walk with no passport.

Since it's billed as Portland's only French crêperie, we begin with the savory Poireaux crêpe (\$13.95). Accompanied by fine crisp greens, shaved carrots, and a simple but successful vinaigrette, the neatly rolled entree crêpe is a perfect balance of flavors. Filled with braised leeks, wild mushrooms, and goat cheese, it's a vegetarian's dream and very substantial.

Our next course, a carnivore's delight and an absolute must when dining in a French establishment, the Boeuf Bourgui-

gnon (\$19.95) is another success. A carafe of Nicolas Potel Bourgogne Pinot Noir (\$20) arrives, and it stands up well to the rich flavors of the most tender beef imaginable in an intense and smoky gravy with hints of bacon and colorful carrots. There's a good crusty half-baguette to help sop up the juices. We can't imagine a better choice on a cold blustery night. Other classics on the menu include cassoulet—a duck stew with cannellini beans, sausage, and bacon (\$21.95); and the Cordon Bleu crêpe—chicken, Black Forest ham, blue cheese, Swiss cheese, and bechamel (\$13.95).

We shift to a dessert crêpe of sweet Mascarpone cheese with pear and apple in spiced red wine (\$6.95). A reduction of the fruit in the wine poured over the dish is attractive and tasty, and a dollop of whipped cream adds a nice balance. ■

The Merry Table, 43 Wharf St, Portland. Lunch 11:30-2:30, Tues-Sat; Dinner 5:15-9pm Tues-Sat; Sunday brunch 11-3pm. 899-4494, themerrytable.com

➤ Visit Restaurant Reviews at portlandmonthly.com/portmag/category/reviews.