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You're driving down an uninspiring stretch of Route 302—just outside Windham, beyond the statue of Lenny, the 13-foot-tall TV repairman with his red lunch box at Hawkes Plaza—when you catch sight of a mirage ahead, gleaming silver in the sun. Pull closer and you’ll see the source is a low cement garage, covered entirely in polished hubcaps. Dick’s Place—part shop, part shrine to automobiles—run by local octogenarian Dick Wolstenhume, has caused rubbernecking along this stretch since 1943, when Dick’s father bought the site and started hanging up hubcaps to advertise the business. Speaking to Mainetoday.com, Wolstenhume described how the project took off organically. “People kept coming and bringing stuff in. They’re just like rabbits, they keep growing!”

When you pass these hubcaps, you know...
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nosh
Pronunciation: /næʃ/
Yiddish, To snack or eat on the sly

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Images of food: sandwiches, pizza, waffles.
The lumberjack legend Paul Bunyan looms over Bangor.

On your way to South Freeport, stay alert to spot another slice of Maine history among the trees: the turreted crown of a gray stone tower is the last vestige of the Casco Castle. Built in 1903 by entrepreneur Amos Gerald, the Casco Castle was an imposing pile of gray-shingled wood designed to resemble a turreted fortress.

Gerald hoped to increase patronage of his electric trolley line by building the castle into a resort hotel complex surrounded by an amusement park, zoo, formal gardens, and picnic grounds accessible from the Brunswick-Yarmouth Street Railway. Unfortunately the showy facade failed to attract the fashionable crowd and as the rise of the automobile led to the decline of trolleys, the hotel closed after only a few seasons. Finally, in 1914, a blaze destroyed all but the remaining stone tower.

If flashy architecture is your thing, a trip along Route 35—connecting Kennebunkport to the Maine Turnpike—will reward you with a sighting of “The Wedding Cake House,” the gabled, primrose-yellow tribute to European Gothic style that stands resplendent on Summer Street. Designed and built in 1825 by shipbuilder George Bourne, the “Wedding Cake” holds the title of “most-photographed house in Maine,” thanks to its intricate wooden trim and numerous buttresses and pinnacles.

As you swoop north on I-295 past Portland, you’ll find your eyes drawn to the right-hand shore. The vintage architecture, towering brick chimney, and industrial hues of the B&M Baked Bean factory are juxtaposed with the serenity of Casco Bay. Talk about retro-industrial chic. You can imagine the factory workers taking a moment to gaze out across the water in between stirring 900 pounds of beans at the brick ovens.

Traveling ‘Beauty by Beauty’

Our title for this story is inspired by Graham Greene’s 1936 book *Journey Without Maps* (1936), in which he leaves Europe for the first time to venture into the African interior. Arriving, he’s unsettled to realize his U.S. map offers definition on the coast, but there’s a large white void in the chart’s center with the tiny label: cannibals. Our Maine equivalent might be Red Sox Fans. Traveling with guides and by word of mouth, Greene follows a stunningly different route directed by waterfall, leopard skulls, and chance. Now that Mapquest and Googlemaps are calling the shots, the chance to navigate via dreamy landmarks both excites and reassures. Of course it helps if you’re one of these places. Here’s a longtime Kennebunkport maxim: “If you drive past the Colony Hotel, you’ve gone too far.”

It’s one thing to Yelp your way to the corner of State Street and Congress, but how that blushes in the face of “Just walk to the statue of Longfellow in Longfellow Square, where all the cafes are.”

Traveling ‘Beauty by Beauty’

Portland Museum of Art in the heart of the city, was designed by star architect and part-time North Haven resident, I.M Pei.

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the matches accidentally ignited, and many suffered phosphorus poisoning, which could not only damage teeth but lead to “phossy jaw,” the destruction of the jawbone. These days a number of local business inhabit sections of the complex, including Home Remedies and the World Arts Co-op, introducing their own color schemes to create a pleasing patchwork with the original russet-red paint still bookending the old factory.

Next, point your car north towards Bangor and be sure to keep an eye out for the town’s most recognizable resident. Towering 37-feet over Main Street, the legendary lumberjack, Paul Bunyan, grins down with his bushy beard and flannel shirt—a true Maine boy (although other states claim the myth).

Bangor’s more diminutive but equally famous habitant, Stephen King, was clearly not convinced by Bunyan’s benign smile. The writer brought the legend to life in terrifying measure in his novel It. Transplanted to the fictional town of Derry, Bunyan comes to life—axe-wielding and murderous—to terrorize one of the young protagonists.

These cultural exclamation points, towering above their surroundings, have become part of the fabric of local knowledge. If you’re taking a trip to Vacationland this summer, turn off the GPS and let the landmarks guide.
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Hacking Maine

They say cellphones have cut our attention spans in half. Thanks to The Maine Hack, you’re covered! We know you’re in a hurry. So here’s all you need to know about Maine this summer.

REMEMBER THE MAINE?

It’s too late to help the USS Maine, which exploded in Havana Harbor in 1898, but we can be drink to her health by mixing up the classic cocktail with the soubriquet Remember the Maine.

The first published recipe of this distinguished drink came from writer and cocktail aficionado Charles H. Baker, in his 1939 classic The Gentleman’s Companion, or Around the World with Jigger, Beaker and Flask. Described by some as part Sazerac and part Manhattan, the elixer is an excellent tonic for nerves. Baker writes about enjoying this very drink during the escalating violence of the 1933 uprisings in Havana:

Each time he knocked back a “Remember the Maine,” he re-experienced a “hazy memory of a Night in Havana during the Unpleasantnesses of 1933, when each swallow was punctuated with Bombs Going off on the Prado…”

Baker advises that the drink be stirred “briskly in a clock-wise fashion.” We advise you to enjoy a glass overlooking the ocean this summer.

Recipe

- 2 oz. Rye Whiskey
- ¾ oz. Sweet Vermouth
- 2 tsp. Cherry Heering
- ½ tsp. Absinthe or absinthe substitute
- Garnish with cherry or lemon peel
**Holy Homerus**

If you don’t want Mainers to know you’re “from away,” think twice before you charge into a lobster pound and demand they boil you up a three-pound lobster. The bigger the better doesn’t apply. It’s the more diminutive models (from one pound to 1.25 pounds) that tend to be sweeter. Instead, impress the locals by requesting a “chicken” lobster (1 lb.). N.B.: Thrifty Mainers prefer soft-shell lobsters over the more expensive hard shells.

**Hacking the Appalachian Trail**

Not enough time to hike the Appalachian Trail? Watch this 5-minute video on YouTube (bit.ly/1UsiuVI) to view Maine’s dazzling wilderness sights from the comfort of your couch. As a no-risk means of ogling Mt. Katahdin, it’s also far less exhausting than watching the mind-numbing Robert Redford/Nick Nolte bromance *A Walk in the Woods* (Broad Green Pictures, 2015).
Hacking da Vinci? The *Mona Lisa* has already been hacked in Maine. If you happen to visit the Portland Art Museum this summer, you may spot her familiar face among the crowd. Now part of the museum’s permanent collection, this slightly shy copy of Leonardo DaVinci’s masterpiece, with somewhat smoky provenance, was purchased in the 1980s. Maybe that’s why she isn’t front and center? Admission is free on Friday evenings.

**Sensational Superfoods**

Real Mainers wouldn’t dream of buying berries they can pick themselves, but this takes time. Don’t waste yours on cultivated supermarket blueberries as big as beach balls. Instead, as you’re speeding down Route 1, keep an eye out for roadside stands selling ragtag quarts of their smaller, wild cousins that our state is famous for.

**Show Some Gumption**

Don’t be surprised if you get a sense of déjà vu walking along the ramp toward Marshall Point Lighthouse. Not only the site of many an Instagram landscape, it was also featured as the second checkpoint on Tom Hanks’ epic cross-country run as *Forrest Gump* in the classic 1994 film. Get ready to dodge all the other tourists attempting to re-create the same scene.

**Come on, Teddy, smile!**

Impress Mainer friends with your local knowledge by referring to the five identical concrete homes that crown the middle of Danforth Street by their insider nickname, “Teddy’s Teeth.” These residences, with views of the Fore River, have long been referred to as such on account of their similarity to the former president’s square-toothed grin.

Derided following their construction in 1906 by speculative developer Lucien Snow, these houses have since become part of the neighborhood’s identity. Behind the boxy façades, each interior boasts lovely moldings, maple floors, a central fireplace, and a graceful staircase.
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Just to put things in perspective when shopkeepers pass you Canadian coins with your change: A Norse coin discovered at a Native American burial site in Brooklin, Maine, is believed to have made its way to Maine via the Vikings. The Maine State Museum describes the penny, dating from 1182-1235, as “the only pre-Columbian Norse artifact generally regarded as genuine found within the United States.”

The MAINE Menu
Clockwise from top: Mos-Ness Dressing by Schlotterbeck & Foss is the unsung secret of Maine salads. The Italian sandwich was invented in Portland in 1899 by Italian baker Giovanni Amato. The official state treat is the whoopie pie (not to be confused with the official state dessert, which is blueberry pie, naturally). Maine maple syrup goes perfectly with pancakes, waffles, bacon, or pretty much anything. The B&M Baked Bean factory in Portland creates this smoky and delicious side dish in traditional brick ovens. When it comes to blueberries, the smaller, darker local varieties are the ones to pick.

Moxie: Maine heritage, medicinal flavor
Maine lobster. Need we say more?

You’ve Got Moxie
Can Maine-grown soda pop give you superpowers? Red Sox star and Moxie poster-boy Ted Williams was famous for his ability to read the spin on a baseball hurtling towards him at 90 m.p.h. His super vision also served him well as a fighter pilot during World War II. More recently, the Boston Globe reported in 2013 that after Williams’s death in 2002, his head had been severed and cryogenically preserved in a “large can about the size of a lobster pot.” His son, who barely outlived his father by two years, had dreams of someday sharing his father’s super vision with the world by cloning his eyes. Wouldn’t it be simpler just to drink Moxie?

Weird Science
Up in the Rangeley mountains, one of the world’s most radical researchers of psychiatry carried out his extreme experiments. A proponent of the power of “orgone,” a hypothetical universal life force, Dr. Wilhelm Reich (a student of Sigmund Freud) created a variety of “orgone accumulators” designed to collect the universe’s energy for general health and even weather control. You can visit Reich’s final laboratory “Orgonon,” a.k.a. the Wilhelm Reich Museum in Rangeley, and even rent the cottage that the Reich family used to inhabit.

Freaky Frequency
Not only heroes are born here. Vilified World War II radio propagandist Mildred Gillars, who broadcasted from Berlin as Axis Sally, was one of us. She grew up near the Victoria Mansion. During the war she tried to demoralize U.S. GIs by insinuating on her radio show that they were fighting for a lost cause while their girlfriends back home were dating draft dodgers. Never heard of Axis Sally? She was like Tokyo Rose. Never heard of Tokyo Rose? She was the radio propagandist for the Japanese. Except she wasn’t just one person like Axis Sally; nearly a dozen women broadcasted under that composite name, so she was kind of like Lassie. Never heard of Lassie? Woof.