

SUMMER FUN: THE ULTIMATE GUIDE

Boston

Everything Under The Sun

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- › Cool Drinks
- › Party Ideas from America's New Entertaining Guru
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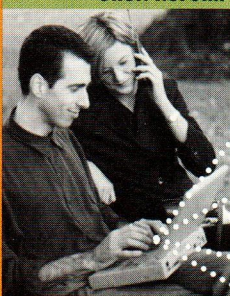
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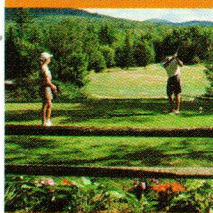


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(THE BEST CAMPS)

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CHEWONKI

On a midcoastal tidal bay, campers learn navigation skills and participate in wilderness trips to the more desolate regions of Maine. Camping skills and appreciation for nature are emphasized. [Wiscasset, ME, 207-882-7323, www.chewonki.org. Founded 1915; boys, ages 8-15; 140 campers; 3 campers per adult; 65 percent return rate; three and a half and seven weeks; \$5,400 for full season.]

CAMP COBBOSSEE

A classic Maine sports camp with a heart, not to mention premier facilities, including a 30-foot climbing wall and indoor bouldering cave. Cobbossee's structured day leaves plenty of room for free time. Campers can choose to participate in intercamp sports, but teamwork and improvement are considered more important than beating a rival camp at baseball. [Winthrop, ME, 800-473-6104, www.campcobbossee.com. Founded 1902; boys, ages 7-15; 220 campers; 3 campers per adult; 75 percent return rate; three and a half and seven weeks; \$7,450 for full season.]

CAMP EMERSON

For the independent, mature child, there may be no better place to spend a summer. Step Beyond classes offer in-depth instruction in science, moviemaking, board game development, and wilderness survival. But, as the directors are fond of saying, it's summer! So after using their noggins all morning, children can spend their afternoons rejuvenating in the private, six-acre lake. [Hinsdale, 413-655-8123 (summer), 203-894-9663 (winter), www.campemerson.com. Founded 1968; coed, ages 8-15; 220 campers; 2 campers per adult; 95 percent return rate; four weeks; \$4,300.]

CAMP FERNWOOD

A close-knit uniform camp with structure, but also a variety of electives, and, for older campers, white-water canoeing, mountain hiking, and rock climbing. A typical Maine camping experience with a mature staff, friendly atmosphere, and one of the best sandy beaches in the Northeast. [Poland, ME, 207-998-4346 (summer), 610-695-0169 (winter), www.campfernwood.com. Founded 1921; girls, ages 8-15; 180 campers; 1.5 campers per adult; 98 percent return rate; seven and a half weeks; \$7,700.]

CAMP GREYLOCK

Top-notch sports instruction for the competitive boy, with facilities to back it up, including 5 baseball fields, 16 tennis courts, 4 soccer fields, and a hockey rink, on 400 acres. [Becket, 413-623-8921 (summer), 212-582-1042 (winter), www.campgreylock.com. Founded 1916; boys, ages 6-16; 350 campers; 2 campers per adult; 90 percent return rate; seven weeks; \$7,950.]

HIDDEN VALLEY CAMP

If we had to send an intellectually curious, animal-loving 10-year-old gourmand to camp, this would be the one. Hidden Valley keeps its own llama herd and a barnyard full of rabbits, pigs, and lambs. Four stained-glass studios are only the beginning of the arts and crafts options. The food is among the best in camping. [Freedom, ME, 800-922-6737, www.hiddenvalleycamp.com.]

Research by Shannon Ringvetski.

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