



INSIDE SCOOP



Woodstock Inn & Resort

# 8 quintessential new england venues

Give guests an authentic New England experience with a charming soiree at one of these inns or hotels **BY LIBBY MACCARTHY**

**woodstock inn & resort**  
 14 The Green, Woodstock, VT;  
 (888) 338-2745; WoodstockInn.com  
 Nestled in Vermont's Green Mountains, the Woodstock Inn is a landmark resort and four-season retreat. Host an intimate celebration for 60 on the Garden Terrace, or celebrate with a blowout bash under the stars in the South Garden with 300 of your closest family and friends. The serene setting and seemingly endless array of outdoor activities aren't the inn's only allure—the quaint resort is a foodie's paradise, where farm-fresh ingredients and regional recipes reign supreme.

**gurney's newport resort & marina**  
 1 Goat Island, Newport, RI;  
 (401) 849-2600 ; GurneysResorts.com  
 Surrounded by picturesque Narragansett Bay, Gurney's Newport Resort offers the seclusion of a private island just a short walk away from the charming cobblestone streets of Newport. Take advantage of the ocean views with a ceremony on the lawn overlooking the Newport Harbor Lighthouse, followed by an alfresco reception for 360 at the on-site pavilion. Have a lengthy guest list? The Grand Ballroom can accommodate up to 600.

**cliff house**  
 591 Shore Road, Cape Neddick, ME;  
 (207) 361-1000; DestinationHotels.com  
 With both indoor and outdoor venues offering sight lines of the southern coast of Maine, Cliff House is a scenic setting for rustic-chic celebrations and formal fetes alike. Kick off the festivities with a waterfront ceremony at sunset amid aromatic rose bushes before moving the party inside to the Atlantic Ballroom, which boasts panoramic windows for unobstructed ocean views, beamed ceilings and waterfront terraces dotted with fire pits.>>



**spring house hotel**

52 Spring St., Block Island, RI;  
(401) 466-5844;

[SpringHouseBlockIsland.com](http://SpringHouseBlockIsland.com)

Having played host to the likes of Mark Twain, Spring House Hotel rightly earns its status as one of Block Island's most elegant historic landmarks. With its red Mansard roof, mahogany details and wraparound veranda, the hotel exudes 19th-century elegance, not to mention endless ocean views and unparalleled vistas of the rolling Block Island foothills. Invite up to 300 partygoers for dinner and dancing in The Grand Dining Room, which features quaint chandeliers, tall windows and innate Victorian charm.

**the mayflower grace**

118 Woodbury Road, Washington, CT;  
(860) 868-9466; [GraceHotels.com](http://GraceHotels.com)

Thanks to 58 acres of landscaped gardens, the Mayflower Grace is an idyllic site perfect for couples looking for a boutique hotel experience. Gather guests for an afternoon of kayaking or cross-country skiing followed by a rehearsal dinner in the Tap Room. Have your ceremony in the Shakespeare Garden, then follow it up with a cocktail hour on the covered porch and a lavish reception in the estate's distinctive Mayflower Dining Room.

**stowe mountain lodge**

7412 Mountain Road, Stowe, VT;  
(802) 253-3560; [DestinationHotels.com](http://DestinationHotels.com)

Magnificent mountain vistas and a cozy, après-ski aesthetic are just a few of the things you'll find at Stowe Mountain Lodge, which boasts over 12,000 square feet of event space for occasions of all kinds—from grandiose to low-key. Fall is the ideal time for an outdoor ceremony on the Terrace, with the open-air space giving way to lush green slopes ablaze in rich shades of red, orange and yellow foliage.

**chatham bars inn**

297 Shore Road, Chatham, MA;  
(508) 945-0096; [ChathamBarsInn.com](http://ChathamBarsInn.com)

Dotted with blue hydrangeas, the inn's Main and South Lawns lend themselves to enchanting "I dos" overlooking the sparkling Atlantic. With four distinctive reception venues (all of which profit from waterfront views) to choose from, couples and their wedding guests are guaranteed a taste of coastal elegance whether they clink glasses in the Beach House or dance the night away in Stars, the inn's esteemed farm-to-table restaurant.

**the common man inn & spa**

231 Main St., Plymouth, NH;  
(603) 536-2200;

[TheCManInnPlymouth.com](http://TheCManInnPlymouth.com)

A far cry from your average banquet hall, this secluded Adirondack-style spot is rich in rustic elegance, with its natural wood accents and fieldstone fireplace. Between May and October, the Greenhouse and its surrounding gardens are in full bloom, providing a picturesque setting for your nuptials. Postceremony, gather guests around the fire pit to toast marshmallows and take in a stunning fireworks display.



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