

OUR PICKS FOR THE BEST DINING, LODGING, AND THINGS TO DO



BEST NATURE EXPERIENCE
CLAY HEAD PRESERVE,
BLOCK ISLAND,
RHODE ISLAND
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NEW HAMPSHIRE

LODGING

BOUTIQUE HOTEL **THE HOTEL PORTSMOUTH**

When boutique specialist Lark Hotels acquired the Hotel Portsmouth in 2015, it may have seemed there was little room for improvement. Ideally located a few blocks from Market Square, the 1881 Queen Anne mansion had been renovated and reopened just the year before, its 32 guest rooms smartly overhauled to blend Victorian courtliness with modern crispness, and its common areas (including a cheerful sunroom decked out in witty parakeet wallpaper) made freshly inviting. Yet to all this, Lark has managed to give us further reasons to return, from its signature curated small-plates breakfasts to a staff that acts more like a whole team of concierges. *40 Court St., Portsmouth. 603-433-1200; thehotelportsmouth.com*