By Emeralda Jones-Roberts

The Concierge

Tips for touring here and abroad

Best of...

SILVER CANYON (www.silvercanyon.com)

It’s not just beautiful sands and picturesque views, says Lissa Poiret, editor in chief of Family Vacation Critic. In addition to the natural scenery, the cleanliness and safety of each beach is also prioritized, as well as any local attractions close by. "We’re looking for beaches that offer a well-rounded experience for families. . . . Accommodations, dining, and entertainment within close distance of the beach, and plenty to keep the whole family entertained while in town."

To fill the bill, New England offered up some heavy-hitting contenders. Tried and true is Ogunquit Beach, a top regional vacation spot. With plenty of prime beachfront real estate, the whole family can settle in to dig for crabs and lobster-shell. If you start feeling peckish under the hot sun, head into the nearby village of Ogunquit, nestled along the banks of the Ogunquit River and full of restaurants and shops. If you’re looking to stay awhile, TripAdvisor highly rates the Frontenac Bookend Inn, The Riverside Motel, and the Beachiders Inn. With chilly ocean views, finished by sugary cliffs and sparkling sand, there’s a reason the indigenous Abenaki name means "beautiful place by the sea."

If you’re looking for something a little more secluded, head out to Crescent Beach, a 2.5-mile stretch on Block Island’s eastern side. With part of it nicknamed "Baby Beach" for its soft sand and shallow waters, it’s perfect for little swimmers. Accommodations along the beach are plentiful, equipped with restrooms, showers, chairs, umbrellas and boogie board rentals, and snack bars. For those looking to sunbake, make sure to face the Bogue Cliffs. Now you know what to do: Breathe to the rhythm of the waves.

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