

Prettiest Lakes in New England



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Crystal clear freshwater lakes are tucked throughout the verdant landscape of our region. Some are small enough to hike around, while others stretch to the horizon. Here are ten of the prettiest lakes in New England that are definitely worth a visit.



Photo/Art by Jim Crawford

Newfound Lake in Bristol, New Hampshire

Newfound Lake (at Wellington State Park), Bristol, New Hampshire

Set amidst fresh-scented, hemlock-covered mountains in the center of the state's Lakes Region, this deep-water glacial lake – approximately two and a half miles wide and seven miles in length – boasts the largest freshwater swimming beach in the New Hampshire State Park system

Read more about Newfound Lake. (<http://www.yankeemagazine.com/article/travel/see-new-england/newhampshire/newfoundlake>)



Kezar Lake in Lovell, Maine at sunset

Photo/Art by Lee Conary

Kezar Lake, Lovell, Maine

Tucked into the foothills of the White Mountains in western Maine, this deep and crystal-clear lake twists through the landscape for approximately ten miles, creating a series of bays and coves that attract nesting loons and thirsty moose. Visitors enjoy boating, swimming, and fishing for bass, lake trout and salmon.

Learn more: [kezarlake.com](http://www.kezarlake.com/) (<http://www.kezarlake.com/>)

Lake Waramaug, Kent, Connecticut

Named after an Indian chief of the Wyantnock tribe and known for its sandy beaches and pristine water, this S-shaped lake is located in the rolling forested hills of rural Litchfield County. Visitors today enjoy a peaceful retreat for swimming, fishing, boating, and camping at Lake Waramaug State Park.

Learn more: [ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2716&q=325232&deepNav_GID=1650](http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2716&q=325232&deepNav_GID=1650) (http://www.ct.gov/deep/cwp/view.asp?a=2716&q=325232&deepNav_GID=1650)



Squam Lake

Photo/Art by NHDTTD/ Dale Lary

Squam Lake, Ashland/Holderness/Sandwich/Center Harbor/Moultonborough, New Hampshire

The picturesque setting for the 1981 film *On Golden Pond*, the second largest lake in the state—boasting 61 miles of rocky shoreline—oozes low-key charm for those who love kayaking, canoeing, or lolling on docks in the sun.

Read about the loons on Squam Lake. (<http://www.yankeemagazine.com/article/features/loons-squam-lake-nh>)



Photo/Art by Skye Chalmers

Lake Willoughby in Westmore, Vermont

Lake Willoughby, Westmore, Vermont

For breathtakingly stunning vistas, get thee to Vermont's Northeast Kingdom where the deep glacial waters of Lake Willoughby are framed by the soaring granite cliffs of Mount Hor and Mount Pisgah. Enjoy boating, fishing, and public beaches (for an icy-cold swim) at the north and south shores.

Read more about Lake Willoughby. (<http://www.yankeemagazine.com/article/travel/lake-willoughby-vermont>)



(<http://www.riparks.com/Locations/LocationBurlingame.html>)

Photo/Art by Evan Masseur

The famous leaning tree at Lake St. Catherine State Park (<http://www.riparks.com/Locations/LocationBurlingame.html>)

Lake St. Catherine, Poultney, Vermont (<http://www.riparks.com/Locations/LocationBurlingame.html>)

Set in the gently rolling, green hills of western Vermont, close to the New York State border, the five-mile-long waterway is easily accessed at Lake St. Catherine State Park. In addition to a popular camping area, visitors can picnic, swim, rent boats and fish at this idyllic lake. Learn more: [vtstateparks.com/htm/catherine.htm](http://www.vtstateparks.com/htm/catherine.htm) (<http://www.vtstateparks.com/htm/catherine.htm>)

Watchaug Pond, Charlestown, Rhode Island

A scenic 1,000-acre kettle pond surrounded by acres of rocky woodlands in Burlingame State Park, abutting the Audubon Society's Kimball Wildlife Refuge. A popular spot for swimming, fishing, camping, picnicking, and hiking an extensive network of trails.

Learn more: [riparks.com/Locations/LocationBurlingame.html](http://www.riparks.com/Locations/LocationBurlingame.html) (<http://www.riparks.com/Locations/LocationBurlingame.html>)



Photo/Art by Reinout Van Wagtendonk

Benedict Pond in Monterey, Massachusetts

Benedict Pond, Monterey, Massachusetts

Nestled in the bucolic forests of the southern Berkshire mountains, the 35-acre Benedict Pond offers stunning views in the heart of Beartown State Forest. Nature lovers enjoy swimming, boating, fishing and walking the 1.7 mile trail circling the pond.

Learn more: berkshirehiking.com/hikes/beartown.html (<http://berkshirehiking.com/hikes/beartown.html>)



Photo/Art by Bethany Bourgault

Walden Pond in Concord, Massachusetts

Walden Pond, Concord, Massachusetts

Who doesn't love Walden Pond? Made immortal by the 19th-century writings of Henry David Thoreau, the pond today is enjoyed by visitors who flock to swim the 102-foot deep glacial kettle-hole pond located within 335 acres of protected open space on the Walden Pond State Reservation.

Read more about Walden Pond. (<http://www.yankeemagazine.com/explore-new-england/walden-pond>)

Please Note: This information was accurate at the time of publication. When planning a trip, please confirm details by directly contacting any company or establishment you intend to visit.

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