

## visitor's guide : norwalk, connecticut

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### landmarks, sites and attractions ...

- [Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum \(Website\)](#) — 295 West Ave. — 62-room mansion considered one of the oldest and finest surviving [Second Empire](#) style country houses ever built in the United States. It was designated a [National Historic Landmark](#) in 1971. Recently, it was used for interior shots in the 2004 remake of [The Stepford Wives](#).
- [Maritime Aquarium at Norwalk](#), a major [aquarium](#) that specializes in displaying the marine life and ecology of [Long Island Sound](#).
- [The Mill Hill Historic Park and Museum](#), a collection of historic buildings open to visitors and maintained by the Norwalk Historical Society only one day a week in the spring and summer months.
- The [Norwalk Islands](#) are used by powerboaters, fishers, kayakers and canoeists as well as birdwatchers and campers for day trips and sometimes overnight camping stays.
- [Norwalk Museum](#), — 41 North Main St. — in the [Colonial Revival](#) -style building that previously served as the South Norwalk City Hall prior to the incorporation of Norwalk and Old Well (South Norwalk) in 1913.
- [Norwalk Youth Symphony](#) performs at concerts held in the Norwalk City Hall on East Avenue.
- [Sheffield Island Lighthouse](#) is open to the public seasonally.
- [SoNo Switchtower Museum](#)
- [The Silvermine Tavern](#), in a historic riverside mill complex of buildings in the [Silvermine](#) section of the city, closed its popular restaurant in 2009, though the inn remains open as a bed and breakfast and for special functions.
- [Stepping Stones Museum for Children](#) at Mathews Park, near the Lockwood-Mathews Mansion Museum. For children ages 10 and under.

### annual events ...

- [Norwalk Harbor Splash!](#), held in early June and started in 1995, the festival features arts and crafts booths, food vendors, music, a parade, and [dragon boat](#) races.
- St. George [Greek Orthodox](#) Festival, held in early June, the festival features [Greek](#) delicacies, [Pontic Greek](#) dance exhibitions and a large carnival.
- [SoNo Arts Celebration](#), held in mid-summer
- [Kayak for a Cause](#), a fund-raising event held every summer since 2000 at [Calf Pasture Beach](#).
- The [Norwalk Oyster Festival](#), held first weekend after [Labor Day](#)
- [Norwalk Boat Show](#), held in late September
- The [Lockwood-Mathews Mansion](#) Museum has hosted an annual antique show since 1978. In 2006 the show was held the last weekend in October and attracted dealers from Ohio and Pennsylvania as well as Connecticut.

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### shopping ...

#### *westport, connecticut ...*

Welcome to Downtown Westport - Where shopping is an art form. There are shopping destinations, and then there is the experience that is Downtown Westport. As soon as you arrive, you will see why. Stroll along our quaint riverside Main Street and surrounding areas for charming local boutiques and favorite luxury retailers. Visit the library and art galleries that bespeak Westport's longstanding heritage as a vibrant cultural center. Take a break and enjoy one of our many dining establishments. Stay for an open-air performance at our waterfront stage, the Levitt Pavilion, or an award-winning production at the revered Westport Country Playhouse. Shopping. Restaurants. Culture. It's all here for you to enjoy in Downtown Westport - where shopping is an art form. <http://www.westportdma.com/wdma/merchant-directory.php>

#### *stamford, connecticut ...*

The Downtown offers a broad array of shops, services, restaurants, arts, education and events. If you work here, live here or visit here, we invite you to browse our website and then come downtown often to be a part of the scene. On Downtown streets or in the Town Center, you'll find a store to satisfy your every need, your every whim. Bargains, treasures and everyday needs are easy to find. Business and personal services abound. [http://www.stamford-downtown.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=18&Itemid=43](http://www.stamford-downtown.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=18&Itemid=43)

#### *danbury, connecticut ...*

Danbury Fair Mall: Connecticut's Best Satisfies with All the Stores You Want. The Danbury Fairgrounds started in 1821 as a small agricultural fair. It was a place to show off your crops, cooking, and farm animals. Starting in 1932, there was a car race track on the fairgrounds. Every Saturday night in the summer and early fall, you could go and see the stock car races. The Danbury Fair Mall opened in the year of 1986. In 2005, the Wilmore Corporation sold the mall to The Macerich Company. Danbury Fair is one of the largest shopping malls in the state of Connecticut and is the fifth largest in New England. This amazing shopping experience is effortlessly accessible. It is located off Interstate 84 and Route 7. There are approximately 200 retailers and eateries. Our soul-satisfying food court, sit-down restaurants and even a whimsical carousel, all add to Connecticut's best shopping experience. <http://www.danburyfairmall.com/>

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## dining ...

south norwalk ("so-no")				
restaurant + address	telephone	information	directions To	directions from
<b>Match</b> 98 Washington St	203-852-1088	American/ Upscale Casual	<p>Make right out of hotel. At first light make a left. Merge onto US-7 S. At end of connector, take middle exit: South Norwalk/Maritime Aquarium. Bear right onto West Ave. Turn left onto N. Main St. and Barcelona will be on the left.</p>	Out of restaurants, go left on Washington St. Make a right onto N.Main. Bear right onto West Ave. Take the ramp towards I-95 S/US-7 N. Bear left to enter US-7 N. Follow to the end and make a right. Turn right onto Main Ave. and hotel entrance will be on the left.
<b>Strada 18</b> 122 Washington St.	203-853-4546	Italian/Upscale Casual		Out of restaurants, go left on Washington St. Make a right onto N.Main. Bear right onto West Ave. Take the ramp towards I-95 S/US-7 N. Bear left to enter US-7 N. Follow to the end and make a right. Turn right onto Main Ave. and hotel entrance will be on the left.
<b>Barcelona</b> 63 N. Main St.	203-899-0088	Spanish/Tapas/ Wine Bar		Turn right onto N. Main St. Bear right onto West Ave. Take the ramp towards I-95 S/US-7 N. Bear left to enter US-7 N. Follow to the end and make a right. Turn right onto Main Ave. and hotel entrance will be on the left.
<b>Harbor Lights</b> 82 Sea View Ave.	203-866-3364	Mediterranean/C asual		Turn right out of the parking lot. At the light turn left onto Gregory Blvd. Gregory Blvd. becomes East Ave. Take I-95 S. Take exit 15 and bear to the left to merge onto US-7 N. Follow to the end of the connector and make a right. At the bottom of the hill, turn right onto Main Ave. Hotel will be on the left.

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## dining cont ...

main avenue norwalk & westport				
restaurant + address	telephone	information	directions To	directions from
<b>Tuscan Oven:</b> 544 Main Ave Norwalk CT 068511	203-846-4600	Northern Italian cuisine	Right out of the hotel, after the first traffic light restaurant will be on your right.	Take a left out of the restaurant go about 1/8 of a mile, hotel is on your left.
<b>Dina:</b> 26 Danbury Rd Wilton CT 06897	203-834-0044	New Wave American/casual	Right out of the hotel, travel approx 1 mile. Restaurant will be on your right .	Take a left out of the restaurant. Travel approx 1 mile. Hotel will be on your left hand side.
<b>Wild Rice:</b> 370 Main Ave Norwalk CT 06851	203-846-4253	Chinese/Sushi Bar/Casual	Take a left out of the hotel, travel approx 1 mile, Restaurant will be on your left.	Take a right out of the restaurant; travel approx. 1 mile; hotel is on your right.
<b>Blackstone's:</b> 181 Main St Norwalk CT 06851	203-840-9020	Steakhouse/Upscale Casual	Take a left out of the hotel, approx. 2 miles bear left at Dunkin' Donuts. Restaurant will be on your right.	Take a left out of the restaurant, bear right at Dunkin Donuts, travel approx 2 miles hotel is on your right
<b>Red Barn:</b> 292 Wilton Rd Westport, CT	203-222-9549	Traditional American/Casual/ Sunday Brunch <b>Reservations Suggested</b>	Left out of the hotel. Take Merritt Pkwy North to exit 41. The Red Barn is on the left.	Take a left out of the parking lot. Bear left onto Merritt Pkwy South toward New York City. Take Exit 40A. Make a right onto Main Ave. and the hotel will be on the right.