



Kick off your shoes, get some sand between your toes and enjoy a bare foot and fancy-free summer in Jamestown.

Jamestown offers a great summer escape

By Erin Tiernan

Be careful not to blink or you might drive right past the number one vacation destination of summer 2009. Okay, so that might be a little bit of an exaggeration, but seriously, where in the world can you find boating, beaches, boutiques, world class dining, hiking and a long history of war and peace all within walking distance? Don't let Jamestown's seemingly quaint character fool you. What this island lacks in land area, it makes up for in personality.

At first glance, Jamestown might look like any other sleepy New England village. Strangers wave as you drive by and the entire commercial downtown seems confined to one street. Go no more than five minutes in any direction and you'll find water. You might catch a glimpse of the Narragansett Bay or one of the harbors, but you'll hardly see everything

there is to see.

You have to spend a little time exploring to find all the treasures packed into this small island community.

On sunny days, there are almost too many options. Choose between one of the island's two state parks or Mackerel Cove Beach. Take the kids to the playground or go for a walk along the docks. Sip a cocktail aboard the Jamestown-Newport Ferry as you tour East Ferry, Narragansett Bay, Rose Island and Newport Harbor. Sail around the island and explore the many hidden coves and the famous house on the rocks, Clingstone, while you search for the perfect fishing spot. With most roadways running parallel to the bay, people always drive, walk, run, bike or roller blade around town to enjoy the view. If you're not afraid of a few bumps and bruises, head up to the Lawn Avenue School and shred up