

# RHODE ISLAND PICKS UP HOSPITALITY AWARD



Rhode Island receives the International Star Diamond Award for hospitality as the first state in the U.S.

To coin a phrase used in a range of circumstances: it is not how big it is, it is what you do with it that matters. This precise attitude to the tourism industry in the smallest state in the U.S. has led to the state being the most respected for hospitality and tourism services.

Rhode Island has even picked up the infamous International Star Diamond Award from the American Academy of Hospitality Sciences, the first American state to have ever achieved so. This surprises many people, who would perhaps tend to automatically presume that surely New York or Washington would logically pick up such an award. However, it does not surprise those who have visited Rhode Island.

Its famous centre of tourism, Newport, is renowned for its excellent services. Most visitors are surprised to find that the staff is very often willing to help in almost all circumstances and complaints about services are very rarely lodged. The locals seem to take their roles in the tourism sector much more seriously than their counterparts from the bigger states and bigger cities.

On a similar note, Rhode Island has for a long time now been considered to be the culinary haven of the United States. The fresh ingredients and range of unusual and exciting gastronomical delights on offer are well known not only throughout America, yet all over the world. The services are even expected to improve, as the International Star Diamond Award is likely to bring a further one billion dollars to Rhode Island. This will, logically, lead to further investment and more positive publicity for America's smallest yet most precious tourism jewel.

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