In 1637, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts proclaimed that no person should be in a tavern “longer than necessary occasions.” There was no clarity on length or what “necessary occasions” were, and the region has since gone through various bans and prohibitions. Some bans were self-imposed. Rockport until the year 2005 was a “dry” town. The fishing village was suddenly disrupted when a group of hatchet wielding women, led by local spinster Hannah Jumper, took it upon themselves to rid the town of its “demon rum.” On July 8, 1856, the Hatchet Gang destroyed every bottle, jug, keg, and cask they could find, to the upset of local tavern and restaurant owners.

Today, local brewers, cider houses, distilleries meaderies, and wineries are resurrecting and reinventing old recipes into new ones, making their mark in the world of craft-style drinks. These businesses will be happy to share ideas to pair with your meal! Visit our website to learn more about local tours and tastings.

Visit North of Boston
A Story in Every Mile

Our 34 towns and cities offer exciting opportunities to experience rich history, the arts, to have fun, and the chance to explore. Visit museums and attractions. Dine and shop. Get an ice cream at a roadside stand. Shop at boutiques and stores. Relax at the beach or dance all night. Create your memories and discover the stories in every mile of the North of Boston region!

WHERE TO START & HOW TO GET THERE
The region starts about 12 miles from downtown Boston and extends to the New Hampshire border, there is plenty for every traveler to discover. Located near Logan International Airport and Manchester, New Hampshire Airport. Visitors can travel around via rental car, local motor coach, or train. In state call the MBTA at 800-392-6100. Start at NorthofBoston.org! There you can find itineraries for one day, two days or a whole week of activities that you can do when visiting an area venue.

From Boston: Take I-93 North, I-95 or Route 1 to travel the length of the North of Boston region. Route 1A North follows the coast from Logan Airport to Salisbury.

From the West: Take the Massachusetts Turnpike to Interstate 95 North and Route 128 North towards Gloucester.

From the North: Interstate 495 North will bring you through the Merrimack Valley region to Amesbury, Salisbury, Newburyport and the New Hampshire border.

Drink Responsibly

North of Boston.org/sips-suds-spirits

Get in the Spirit!