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## Hammetts Hotel: One Of Newport's Newest Waterfront Properties



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Travel



The property opened in June of 2020. CREDIT: HAMMETTS HOTEL

Located in the heart of downtown Newport, Rhode Island, Hammetts Hotel opened in the summer of 2020 at a time many hotels were struggling amid the Covid-19 pandemic. The silver lining of opening a property during such a time? “As a new hotel, we are implementing the



will lay the groundwork for consistent safeguards to ensure the health and safety of both guests and employees,” said general manager Randi Milewski.

With Covid protocols firmly in place—from rigorous cleaning and sanitization to contactless approaches where it makes sense while still providing hospitality—the hotel has successfully opened its doors and embraced city, state, and national standards when it comes to health and safety.



The hotel's 9,000-square-foot deck overlooks Newport Marina. CREDIT: HAMMETTS HOTEL

Hammetts is a nod to Newport's historic mercantile wharves and seafaring heritage in a modern context. Guest rooms are modest in size with industrial-design touches but offer great views of the water and boating life. In fact, one of the highlights of the property is the 9,000-square-foot deck overlooking Newport Marina. In this age of social distancing, having so much space to gather safely and take in the



the west end of the hotel and is reserved for hotel guests away from the foot traffic of the Wharf Deck. The open-air patio is an ideal location to watch the sunset while enjoying a drink or happy-hour nibble. The space features water views of Newport Marina along with furniture for comfortable, spaced seating.

The property has 84 rooms, and guests have an immediate sense of place when they enter the expansive, sun-drenched lobby lounge with floor-to-ceiling windows bringing the Newport scene in. The waterfront location is in the heart of the city, with dozens of restaurants, shops, and attractions within walking distance.

This upscale boutique property combines the historical setting of the city's turn of the century mercantile wharfs in its design and decor with the aesthetic of a modern yacht club.

## Rooms



The guest rooms have views of the water. CREDIT: HAMMETTS HOTEL



Guest rooms draw from Newport's seafaring heritage with a fresh color palette of grays, crisp whites, unfinished woods, and pops of reds and navy. Adding an industrial-chic style are antiqued black-iron sconces, polished-nickel pendant lamps, and touches of wood to accent the room decor. Statement headboards are upholstered in dark navy fabrics then framed with black iron and distressed leather straps. The beds are Serta Presidential Line outfitted with luxury Mascioni linens.

## Dining



The Scotch meatball is a fan favorite. CREDIT: GIUSTO



Giusto, Italian for “just right,” opened in September and is located adjacent to the Hammetts Hotel. The restaurant boasts beautiful water views and an expansive patio alongside intimate indoor dining. Note: Some of the best water views are from the bar, so feel free to enjoy your meal there. The energy of the restaurant is lively and fun, and it is a welcome addition to the Newport culinary scene.

It’s the first independent restaurant concept from Chef Kevin O’Donnell. A Rhode Island native with almost two decades of experience at celebrated restaurants in New England, New York, Italy, and France, O’Donnell’s homecoming fuses his talent and creativity to bring a new type of cuisine to Newport. He focuses on procuring quality ingredients and finding inspiration from Rhode Island staples like stuffed quahogs and fried calamari with squid-ink tempura. Other fan favorites include the Scotch meatball, served with tomato, egg, and salumi, and tuna carpaccio, served with snap peas and preserved lemon. For mains, the striped bass with olive, capers, lemon, and fennel and the cast-iron rib eye are quite popular. Pasta lovers will savor the Ricotta Love Letters—it’s made with roasted figs, poppy seed, and aged balsamic. Aaron Edwards, the general manager and beverage director, curated a 100 percent Italian wine list, featuring smaller producers who grow lesser-known varietals, many of which are biodynamic, natural, and/or organic. There are a lot of delicious and unique wines on the restaurant’s list that can’t be found in other restaurants.

## Art



The active art gallery changes seasonally. CREDIT: HAMMETTS HOTEL

Hammetts is the only hotel in Newport with an active art gallery in its lobby, featuring world-class artists and partnerships with local galleries and institutions. The Sarah Langley Gallery at Hammetts Hotel, named for the owner of Hammetts Wharf from 1893 to 1906, is on the lobby level. Inspired by work connected to Newport and the Northeast region, the gallery will also host partnerships with regional art and academic institutions. Exhibitions are curated by a gallery committee and are scheduled to change seasonally throughout the year. Future plans for community events include gallery opening receptions, artist talks, and more. Newport-based artist Karin Gielen is currently on exhibit in the gallery for the fall and winter.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/judykoutsky/2020/10/16/hammetts-hotel-one-of-newports-newest-waterfront-properties/#7c207a116c3e>