Beyond Conn

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Off Campus

icknamed "The Whaling City," our hometown is a historic New England seaport, but New London and the surrounding communities also have the modern amenities you crave. All the retail giants are here—Walmart, Target, Home Depot, Bed Bath & Beyond and HomeGoods—as well as a variety of supermarkets, so stocking your room with food and necessities will be easy. And you'll find cool, quirky places to explore throughout the year.

New London

Fiddleheads Food Co-Op is your one-stop shop for local and organic groceries. **Kamp Dog,** next door, offers breakfast, lunch and amazing chili dogs. **The Garde Arts Center** is a renowned performing arts venue where you can catch concerts, comedians, Broadway shows on tour, international opera and dance, as well as film festivals and premieres.

Sweetie's offers an impressive selection of grilled cheese sandwiches and panini, but don't forget to save room for a whoopie pie or cupcake.

Looking for a cozy coffee shop to curl up with a latte and a good (text)book? **Muddy Waters** and the **Washington Street Coffee House** are essential. Muddy Waters has couches and coffee tables and mouthwatering baked goods and a deck overlooking the Thames River. Washington Street's breakfasts, burritos, noodle bowls, tacos, salads and sandwiches are favorites. To get a taste of all that downtown offers, don't miss the biannual Food Strolls!

Hungry for more than food? The **Flavours of Life** store offers fair-trade jewelry, clothing and handcrafted goods. **The Hygienic Art Galleries and Art Park** showcases the work of local artists and musicians at events throughout the year. The **New London Antiques Center** on Bank Street is an under-the-radar gold mine for vintage clothing and other must-haves.

When it's warm, be sure to check out **Ocean Beach**, then stop by **Michael's Dairy** on Montauk Avenue on your way back to campus for huge scoops of ice cream.



FURTHER AFIELD

Being on the coast means there are beautiful beaches in most of the shoreline communities, including public beaches in Waterford and Niantic to the south and Groton to the north.

Just beyond Groton and only a 10-minute drive from campus is Mystic, a quintessential New England coastal town. Yes, you'll still find the famous **Mystic Pizza**, but **Pizzetta** also has tasty pies. Stop by **Sift** or **Green Marble Coffee** for a caffeine fix before exploring many of the quaint shops on Main Street. Looking for an independent and locally owned bookstore? **Bank Square Books** can order anything and hosts great events, often with well-known authors.

More into used books? Seek out the **Book Barn** in Niantic. You could spend a day and a half in their several locations and see only a fraction of their books!

Hartford, the state capital, is less than an hour from New London. Catch a play at **Hartford Stage**, go shopping at **Westfarms Mall** or **Blue Back Square** in West Hartford, or check out exhibits at the **Mark Twain House** or the **Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art**.

New Haven is about a 45-minute drive down I-95 South and boasts an impressive array of shops, restaurants and other cultural attractions, including (but certainly not limited to) **Pepe's Pizza**, **Toad's Place**, **Urban Outfitters**, **IKEA** and **Yale Repertory Theatre**.

Providence, Rhode Island, is about an hour north on I-95. The city has two cultural attractions that should top your list: the **Trinity Repertory Company** (amazing plays) and **Lupo's Heartbreak Hotel** (great live shows). **Providence Place** is a great shopping center, and the Italian food in the **Federal Hill** neighborhood is worth the drive.

HOW TO GET THERE

Bicycle

- ► Conn offers racks around campus for parking your bike.
- ➤ The library lets you check out bikes.
- Downtown New London is a quick 10-minute ride away.



Camel Van

- ➤ The Camel Van provides service to downtown New London (and the station which serves Amtrak, Shore Line East and Greyhound), various malls, supermarkets and local attractions.
- ➤ In general, the Camel Van runs Thursday through Sunday and departs campus on the hour and half hour, although the hours and days vary slightly each year. See https://www.conncoll.edu/campuslife/transportation/ for up-to-date information.
- Pickup locations are the benches along Cro Boulevard adjacent to Smith and Burdick houses.

Zipcar (car-sharing program)

- ➤ Join the program at www.zipcar.com/ connecticutcollege. New students receive a discounted annual fee of \$25 for the first year.
- ➤ Reservations include gas, insurance and 180 miles per day. Rental rates start at \$7.50/hour or \$69/day during the week and \$8.50/hour or \$77/day on the weekend. Please go to zipcar. com for further details and pricing.

Train & Bus

- ➤ The SEAT Bus, which serves the New London region, runs along Williams Street and stops next to campus by the Arboretum gate. It's a \$2 fare and a quick ride to downtown New London. Head to www.seatbuslive.com for schedules. New London is served by train (Amtrak.com and ShoreLineEast. com) and bus (Greyhound.com) from Union Station downtown.
- ➤ Amtrak runs to Boston, Providence, New Haven, New York City, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. Shore Line East runs to New Haven.

- ➤ If you're heading to New York and aren't in a rush, you can save a little money by taking the Shore Line East to New Haven and then switching to Metro-North.
- ➤ Whether taking Amtrak or Greyhound, round-trip travel to any destination will cost far less if you book several weeks in advance.

Plane

- ➤ T.F. Green Airport, just south of Providence, is about an hour away from campus.
- Bradley International Airport is north of Hartford, about 1 hour and 15 minutes from New London.
- ➤ Taxi service to these airports ranges from about \$105 to \$120.

The Flying Camel Airport Shuttle

- ➤ The shuttle, to and from New London Union Station, John F. Kennedy Airport, and T.F. Green Airport, is available around Thanksgiving and winter, spring and summer breaks.
- ➤ The College partners with a transportation company to offer students a discounted fare for shuttle transportation, billed to individual student Camel Cash accounts.
- Students receive pricing and reservation information before each academic break.

Taxi

Plug these numbers into your phone. You never know when you might need them!

- ► Harry's Taxi 860-444-2255
- ► Port City Taxi 860-444-9222
- ► Yellow Cab Co. 860-443-4321

2Wives Brick Oven Pizza, 45 Huntington St., New London; 860-447-9337 | Gourmet pizza, panini and salads.

Berry's Ice Cream and Candy Bar, 90-94 Bank St., New London; 860-501-1200 | Delicious homemade ice cream, personalized service, party room, group

rates. Seasonal.

Bravo Bravo, 20 East Main St., Mystic; 860-536-3228 | A local favorite offering Italian food and a city feel.

Caffe NV, 57 Boston Post Road, Waterford; 860-444-8111 | Classic Greek with some Italian and American fare. Check out their NV Bakery and Market across the street for sandwiches, crepes, salad and Greek pastries.

Captain Scott's Lobster Dock, 80 Hamilton St., New London; 860, 439, 1741 | A reversed seasonal sector

860-439-1741 | A revered seasonal seafood shack on the edge of a marina.

Daddy Jack's, 181 Bank St., New London; 860-444-8888 | Wood-fired pizzas and Italian classics in a convivial downtown location.

Dev's American Bistro & Bar, 463 Bank St., New London; 860-442-3387 | Casually upscale New American food.

Engine Room, 14 Holmes St., Mystic; 860-415-8117 | Rustic-chic eatery offering New American locally sourced comfort food.

Fatboy's Kitchen and Bar, 194 Bank St., New London; 860-574-9154 | Eclectic, imaginative cuisine in a casual atmosphere overlooking the Thames.

Fred's Shanty, 272 Pequot Ave., New London; 860-447-1301 | Seasonal waterside spot beloved by locals for lobster rolls, clams, native scallops, hot dogs and burgers.

Grass & Bone, 24 East Main Street, Mystic; 860-245-4814 | A casual, counter service restaurant offering rotisserie chicken, hearty sandwiches and salads.

Hot Rod Cafe, 114 Bank St., New London; 860-447-2320 | A Conn favorite for wings, apps and wraps, plus pool tables and board games.

Jasmine Thai, 470 Bank St., New London; 860-442-9991 | Popular Thai restaurant with a substantial Japanese menu, including sushi.

Kamp Dog, 15 Broad St., New London; 860-443-3000 | Hot breakfasts and grilled hot dogs and burgers with homemade fries and sides.

La Belle Aurore, 75 Pennsylvania Ave, Niantic; 860-739-6767 | Relaxed bistro serving eclectic farm-to-table fare in downtown Niantic.

Lazy Leopard Thai Cafe and Sushi Side, 45 Bank St., New London; 860-333-1329 | Featuring traditional and creative Thai dishes, sushi, seafood, fresh and organic sourced.

Michael's Dairy, 629 Montauk Ave., New London; 860-443-2464 | Authentic New England old-fashioned ice cream; shakes, sundaes, and malts. Seasonal.

Milagro, 142 Water St., Stonington; 860-535-8178 | Authentic Mexican food in a colorful, intimate setting.

Mirch Masala, 156 Kings Highway, Groton; 860-445-8043 | Classic Indian food, served buffet-style at lunch every day.

Mr. G's, 452 Williams St., New London; 860-447-0400 | Another Conn favorite: sandwiches, burgers, pizza and dinner entrées in a relaxed atmosphere.

Muddy Waters Cafe, 42 Bank St., New London; 860-444-2232 | Soups, sandwiches, salads and pastries in a homey setting.

Norm's Diner, 171 Bridge St., Groton; 860-405-8383 | A classic American diner serving classic diner fare: omelets, pancakes, sandwiches and ever-changing specials.

Olio Restaurant and Bar, 33 King's Highway, Groton; 860-445-6546 | Contemporary Italian fare in a bistro-like atmosphere.

On the Waterfront, 250 Pequot Ave., New London; 860-444-2800 | Seafood and Italian and American cuisine in a spacious dining room facing the Thames River.

Ortega's, 108 North St., Groton; 860-405-1275 | Genuine Tex-Mex in a friendly, relaxed setting.

Oyster Club, 13 Water St., Mystic; 860-415-9266 | "Farm and sea to table" fine dining and raw bar in downtown Mystic.

Paul's Pasta, 223 Thames St., Groton; 860-445-5276 | Pasta is made fresh daily and paired with high-quality ingredients at this popular spot on the Thames.

Paesano's on Bank, 929 Bank St., New London; 860-447-9390 | Lunch, dinner and takeout Italian entrees and New Yorkstyle pizza.

Pollos a la Brasa, 255 Broad St., New London; 860-447-8181 | Authentic and affordable Peruvian and South American food.

Rebeka's, 135 Boston Post Road, East Lyme; 860-691-1155 | Freshly made pasta, authentic Italian food.

Recovery Room, 445 Ocean Ave., New London; 860-443-2619 | Gourmet pizza, entrées and salads in a lively setting.

Rita's, 361 Colman St., New London; 860-444-1600 | Italian ice, custards, sundaes, milkshakes and more frosty treats. Seasonal.

S&P Oyster Co., 1 Holmes St., Mystic; 860-536-2674 | Traditional New England seafood overlooking the Mystic River and drawbridge.

Saeed's International Market, 464 Ocean Ave., New London; 860-440-3822 | A market selling Italian, Greek and Middle Eastern food and groceries.

Slice Pizza Bar, 465 Williams St., New London; 860-442-6666 | Pizza, grinders and burgers in a casual spot close to campus.

The Social, 208 Bank St., New London; 860-442-6900 | A modern gastropub-style menu incorporating handcrafted burgers, entrees, apps and more.

Tony D's, 92 Huntington St., New London; 860-443-9900 | Fine authentic Italian food featuring dishes passed down from generation to generation.

Washington Street Coffee House, 13 Washington St., New London; 860-437-0664 | Eclectic, affordable fare for breakfast and lunch.

The Yolk Cafe, 825 Montauk Ave., New London; 860-437-0898 | Hearty breakfasts and lunches in a cozy neighborhood spot.

There are a lot more restaurants in the area than just those listed, including the popular chains Buffalo Wild Wings, Chili's, Five Guys, Jersey Mike's, LongHorn Steakhouse, Moe's Southwest Grill, Outback Steakhouse, Olive Garden, Panera Bread, Ruby Tuesday and SmashBurger.

LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

The Coast Guard Academy Bowling Center, located in Leamy Hall, 15 Mohegan Ave., New London; 860-444-8470 | A six-lane facility offering electronic scoring and glow-in-the-dark bowling.

Florence Griswold Museum, 96 Lyme Street, Old Lyme; 860-434-5542 | Known as the home of American Impressionism, the restored mansion, with its galleries and gardens situated on the Lieutenant River, fosters the understanding of American art.

Fort Trumbull State Park, 90 Walbach St., New London; 860-444-7591 | Completed in 1775, Fort Trumbull was attacked in 1881 by the British, led by Benedict Arnold. Now with visitor center, exhibits, fishing pier, picnic area and walking trails.

Foxwoods Resort Casino, 350 Trolley Line Blvd., Mashantucket; 800-369-9663; www.foxwoods.com | Concerts, dining, shopping, bowling, arcade, ziplining and the Thrill Tower.

Harkness Memorial State Park, 275 Great Neck Road, Waterford; 860-443-5725 | More than 230 acres with spectacular gardens, picnic areas and beaches; panoramic views of Long Island Sound.

Lyman Allyn Art Museum, 625 Williams St., New London; 860-443-2545; www. lymanallyn.org | Located next door to the College; contains more than 15,000 works of art.

Mashantucket Pequot Museum & Research Center, 110 Pequot Trail, Mashantucket; 800-411-9671; www.pequotmuseum.org | Museum detailing the history of the Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation.

Mohegan Sun Casino, 1 Mohegan Sun Blvd., Uncasville; 888-226-7711; www. mohegansun.com | A short drive or bus

ride away; entertainment, shopping and restaurants.

Monte Cristo Cottage, 325 Pequot Ave., New London; 860-443-5378 | Playwright Eugene O'Neill's boyhood home.

Mystic Aquarium & Institute for Exploration, 55 Coogan Blvd., Mystic; 860-572-5955; www.mysticaquarium.org | More than 500 species of fish, sea lions, penguins, whales and sharks.

Mystic Seaport Museum, 75

Greenmanville Ave., Mystic; 860-572-0711; www.mysticseaport.org | A "living" museum with authentic 19th-century ships, historic maritime village and working craftspeople.

Ocean Beach Park, 98 Neptune Ave., New London; 860-447-3031 | Saltwater and pool swimming, water slides, water sports, miniature golf and picnic areas.

The RISD Museum, 224 Benefit St., Providence; 401-454-6500 | Houses about 100,000 objects ranging from ancient art to work by contemporary artists and designers from across the globe.

Rocky Neck State Park, Route 156, Niantic; 860-739-5471 | Swimming, hiking and camping facilities on 710 acres of stateowned land.

Rhode Island State Parks, 401-667-6200; www.riparks.com | Beautiful beaches with big waves line the coast in Rhode Island.

Submarine Force Library and Museum,

1 Crystal Lake Road, Groton; 860-694-3174; 800-343-0079 | Tour the historic submarine USS Nautilus and visit this library and museum.

Wheeling City Tours, 877-474-1117; www.wheelingcitytours.com | Tour New London waterfront and historical sites and beaches by Segway. Custom tours available.