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## **RUNWAY** REPORT

TOP BRANDS SHOWCASE THE SEASON'S FINEST COLLECTIONS

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LUXURY BOUTIQUE HOTELS ROUNDUP

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IN COLETTE, THE OSCAR-NOMINATED
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BRIT EXPLAINS WHY IT'S A
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## THE BEST OF

# ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS & HIGHLANDS

BY LAURA D.C. KOLNOSKI • PHOTOS BY ROBERT NUZZIE

Happy Shoulder Season! September and October are prime times to enjoy shore pleasures with fewer crowds, free beaches, and moderating temperatures. Two separate but equally delightful adjacent towns epitomize what makes the North Shore a worldwide destination.

Atlantic Highlands-a busy terminal for SeaStreak ferry service to and from New York Citywas named a "Great Place in New Jersey" in 2014 by the New Jersey Chapter of the American Planning Association. Steeped in maritime history, Highlands offers sweeping vistas of Sandy Hook and the New York skyline. James Fennimore Cooper set his 1930 novel, The Water Witch, in the Highlands Hills. Today, a local street and coffee shop perpetuate the lore.

A winding, awesome Scenic Drive, capped by the Mt. Mitchell Scenic Overlook, connects the two locales in the actual "highlands," while along the bay front at water level, the Henry Hudson Trail does the same. This "gateway" to the coastline is an ideal headquarters for excursions to points south.

#### [DOWNTOWNS]

## ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS ARTS COUNCIL (AH)

Exhibits, classes, gift boutique. 54 1st Ave., 732.291.1260, aharts.org

Shop

## UNTIL YOU DROP

#### BAY AVENUE BAKERY AND CAFÉ (H)

Fresh hand-rolled bagels, famous crumb cake and scones, special occasion, and savory delicacies. 111 Bay Ave., 732.291.3480, bayavenuecafe. wordpress.com

#### **BUNGALOW ROAD (AH)**

Shore-themed clothing, accessories, gifts, and home products. 78 1st Ave., 732.291.2541, Bungalowroad.com

#### FLAKY TART (AH)

A consistent award-winner offering eye-popping artisan confections and savory options. 145 1st Ave., 732.291.2555, theflakytart.com

#### FLOWER EXPRESS (AH)

Family-owned favorite for arrangements, gifts, and special occasion needs. 72 1st Ave., 732.291.8300, flowerexpressofni.com

#### GIANNI'S ITALIAN SPECIALTY FOODS (AH)

A Dean Martin statue on the counter welcomes epicureans to a world of imported and authentic Italian eats and products. Butcher, pizzeria, delivery. 71 1st Ave., 732.291.5678, Facebook



#### IN THE GARDEN (H)

Regulars love this florist, plant, and accessories shop that offers an array of classes and programs, plus consultations for home or office. 69 Water Witch Ave., 732.291.0311, inthegardennj.com

#### **KRANKY'S CYCLES (H)**

Experienced sales, services, and rentals. 321 Bay Ave., 732.291.1166, krankycycles.com

#### RENAISSANCE (AH)

Discover antique treasures, gifts, books, art, holiday items, and more from a dozen vendors inside the bright red doors. 81 1st Ave., 732.291.9101, Facebook

#### SHERMAN JEWELERS (AH)

Custom pieces, repairs, and popular collections including the Jersey Shore Collection. 85 1st Ave., 732.872.8222, shermanjewelersah.com

#### TOM'S ATLANTIC CYCLERY (AH)

Continuously operating since

1961, this spacious independent bike dealer sells top brands, copious accessories, and offers top mechanics and expert advice. 188 1st Ave., 732.291.2664, atlanticcyclery.com

### DIG IN!

#### BAHR'S LANDING (H)

A family-owned dock & dine waterfront gem with an adjacent marina has been serving loyal customers since 1917. Nautical atmosphere, primo views, a gift shop, and outdoor Tiki bar in season. 2 Bay Ave., 732.872.1245, bahrslandingnj.com

#### BAY POINTE INN (H)

Award-winning restaurateur Joe Amiel's latest creation sits on a marina adjacent to a new highend townhouse complex. Large deck in season, piano bar inside. 1 Willow St., 732.629.8000, joesbayhpointeinn.com

#### CHILANGO'S AUTHENTIC MEXICAN (H)

This colorful café is helmed by a native of Mexico City serving expert dishes and 260 different tequilas. 272 Bay Ave., 732.708.0505, chilangosnj.com

#### CHRISTINE'S ITALIAN RISTORANTE (AH)

Award-wining romantic white tablecloth favorite for intimate fine dining, named for a Venetian-born Medieval author and poet. 42 1st Ave. 732.872.4790, christinesitaliandining.com

#### COPPER CANYON (AH)

Located in the Blue Bay Inn boutique hotel, this stylish dining spot specializes in Southwestern cuisine and tequila offerings. 51 1st Ave., 732.291.8444, thecoppercanyon.com

#### HARBORSIDE GRILL & WINE BAR (AH)

Downstairs, a casual tavernstyle eatery with fish tank, fireplace, and outdoor porch. Upstairs, the elegant Wine Bar loft, open Thursdays through Saturdays, features cabaret shows, a baby grand piano, and a varied menu. 40 1st Ave., 732.291.0066, ahwinebar.com

#### INLET CAFÉ (H)

Once a neighborhood clam hut with 99¢ pitchers of beer, the Inlet transformed over the years into a sophisticated seafood dining experience with direct Sandy Hook views. Outdoor patio. 3 Cornwall St., 732.872.9764, inletcafe.com

#### KUNYA SIAM THAI RESTAURANT (AH)

Warm corner location houses authentic Thai food with





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#### DOWNTOWNS



gluten-free options, 99 1st Ave., 732.291.2397, kunyasaim.com

#### NICHOLAS CREAMERY (AH)

Opened in May by restaurateur Nicholas Harary with recipes made using local ingredients. 84 1st Ave., 732.204.2340, nicholascreamery.com

#### ON THE DECK (AH)

With its large deck and window-walled interior, this lively 2nd floor joint adjacent to the Sea Streak ferry and municipal harbor is a view fest. Live music, too. 10 Simon Lake Dr., 732.872.1424. onthedeckrestaurant.com

#### PORCINI (H)

Well-prepared and beautifully plated award-winning Italian specialties, seafood dishes, and decadent desserts. BYOB. 168 Bay Ave., 732.291.3080, restaurantporcini.com

#### SEAFARER (H)

Opened last year, this unique venue occupies the site of the former Clam Hut, washed away by Superstorm Sandy. Still evolving, the outdoor venue has a bar, sandy seating, tents, firepits, a large deck, food trucks, music, and dock and dine for boaters, 1 Atlantic Ave., 732,492,5669, Facebook

#### SISSY'S AT THE HARBOR (AH)

Breakfast and lunch spot directly below the On the Deck restaurant with an ample covered deck in season. 8 Simon Lake Dr., 732,291,2218. Facebook

#### THE PROVING GROUND (H)

The former Windansea has changed hands and undergone a facelift including the installation of new docks for dock and dine. The name honors Sandy Hook's past as an active military base. The outdoor Tiki bar on the large water level patio

and live music remain. 56 Shrewsbury Ave., 732.872.2266. provingground.com

#### WATER WITCH (H)

This eclectic community gathering place offers music, art exhibitions, and more, Also check out the site for "Water Witch Sessions" live performance music videos. 67 Waterwitch Ave. 732.204.2468. waterwitchcoffee.com

#### ZOE'S VINTAGE KITCHEN (AH)

Drenched in fun 1950s kitsch. this charming eatery serves breakfast and brunch, 77 Center Ave., 732,708,9637, Facebook

Lights



#### BLUE BAY INN (AH)

This premier 27-room boutique hotel is close to the waterfront in the midst of the downtown action. Includes the popular Copper Canyon restaurant and the Gaslight gastropub. 51 1st Ave., 732.708.9600, bluebayinn.com

#### SEA SCAPE MANOR BED AND BREAKFAST (H)

Nestled on a bluff overlooking Sandy Hook and the ocean. this charming 1889 inn exudes casual elegance. Co-owner Gloria Miller also serves as Manor Chef. 732.291.8467, seascapemanorbb.com

#### SUMMERHOUSE (H)

Opened last year, the ten renovated cottages (surrounding a main home and a graceful courtyard) in this atypical complex offers modern style in a vintage setting in proximity to ferries, waterfront restaurants, and Sandy Hook. 30 Jackson St., 3 Grand Tour, 732.245.7523, njsummerhouse.com

## cellini



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