

Gurney's Newport Opens With An Exclusive Three-Day Beach Party

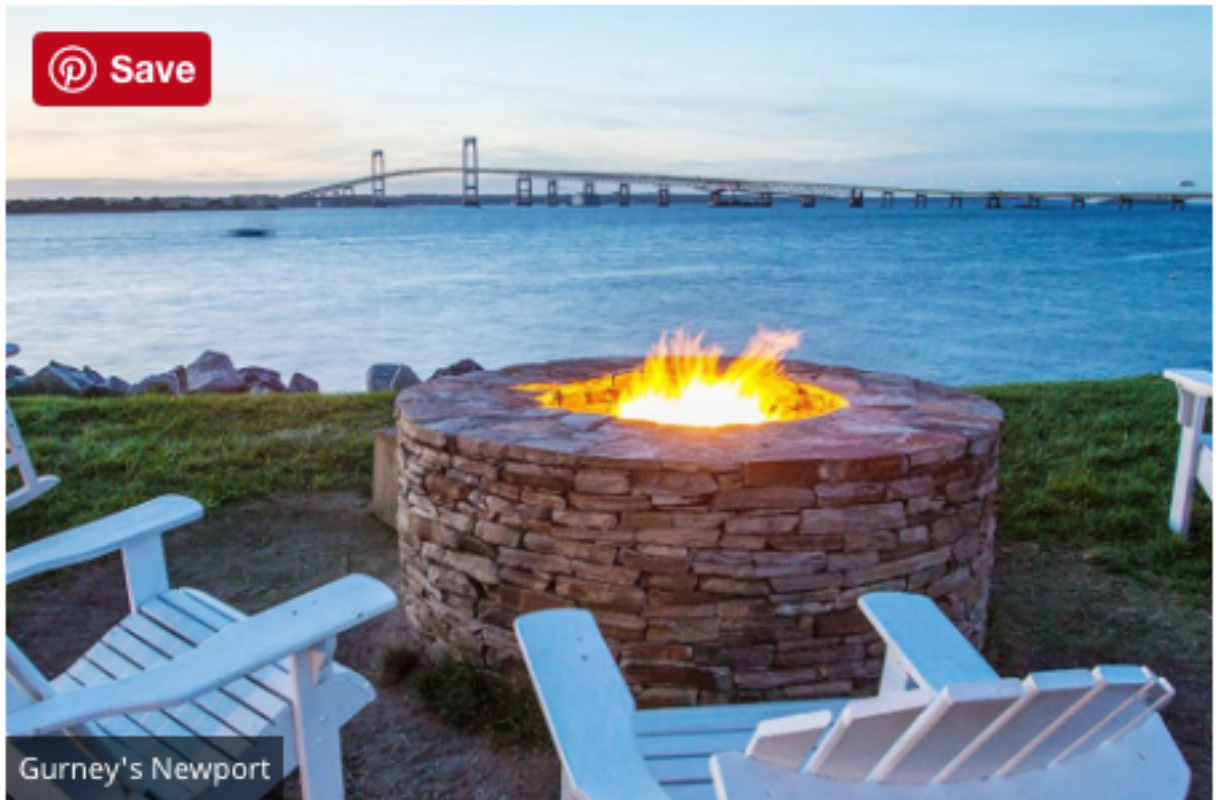


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I write about the world's gems: people, places, and ideas.

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If you've been to the Hamptons you know that [Gurney's](#) is the place to party. On the weekends beautiful people in swimsuits and sunnies wait hours to get into the beachside Montauk Resort so they can dance the day away in the sand. There are magnums of champagne, lawn games, lots of flirting, and splashing in waves. At the end of the day, the party continues on upper decks by bonfires and in [Scarpetta](#), an Italian hot-spot that specializes in home-made pasta.

Now, as of Memorial Day weekend, Gurney's fans can head to its second [location](#) in Newport, Rhode Island. And if the opening weekend is anything to go by, the same type of fun is in store.

The owner of the resort, developer George Filopoulos, has a simple theory: find a run-down property with spectacular views and renovate it piece by piece until it's elegant and stylish. In Newport he took over an old Hyatt located on Goat Island, a piece of land that sticks out into the Narragansett Bay and has hosted military forts since the Revolutionary War. The only way to get there is over an old bridge, and once you do, you get 360 views of the bay, harbor, light house, and Pell Bridge. The hotel is situated on 10 acres of undisturbed waterfront, which means there is no shortage of vantage points for anyone.

Once the renovations are complete Gurney's Newport will have everything the Montauk location has and more. There will be 257 new guest rooms, all with views of the bay. Already open is Scarpetta; Corso, an Italian-style coffee bar; and The Pineapple Club, a poolside area with day beds, a beach concierge, and all day tunes. Another restaurant is planned with a three-level deck with seating around 13 bonfires. Adults will enjoy a full-service spa with a rare indoor seawater pool and sunset cruises on Gurney's very own boat. Kids will get their own space with a seashell shaped pool, sailing classes, and fun activities just for them.

Most of the renovations weren't complete for opening weekend. So the hotel creatively made do with what limited spaces they had to party. Much of the action took place around the pool where cabanas and fire pits were installed last minute. There was entertainment at all hours of the day including live reggae on Friday, DJ Buddy Costa & DJ CoCo Robert on Saturday, and the Knocks, a famous electronic music duo, on Sunday. There was a summer kick-off party hosted by the Boston Common Magazine and a band leading a Havana Nights evening of entertainment. Groups of 20 and 30-somethings from Boston and New York City guzzled down MUMM sparkling rose while dancing around the water. A few brave party-goers jumped in the pool. Everyone toasted and took selfies during the sunsets. Scarpetta was testing out its menu on groups who wanted fine dining.