

EDITORS' CHOICE

RHODE ISLAND

Cliff Walk, Newport

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2008

Providence & North

BACARO, PROVIDENCE

Chef/owner Brian Kingsford hails from Providence's storied Al Forno, and its influence is strongly felt in the grilled pizzas and simple-yet-sublime pastas. Brian goes his own way with the innovative salumeria (think an extensive à la carte antipasto menu), wine bar, and sophisticated urban interior. Entrées: from \$18. 262 S. Water St. 401-751-3700; bacarorestaurant.net

BILTMORE HOTEL, PROVIDENCE

This landmark, built in 1922 in the heart of downtown, evokes Providence's history. At the same time, a Starbucks, McCormick & Schmick's Seafood Restaurant, and Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa on the lobby level provide modern-day comforts. Rates: from \$209. 11 Dorrance St. 401-421-0700; providencebiltmore.com

BUTTERFIELD, PROVIDENCE

This upscale home furnishings store in the burgeoning Downcity shopping district stocks Mitchell Gold furniture, John Derian découpage, and a well-edited collection of lamps, home accents, and design books. Its loftlike setting, with soaring ceilings and exposed brick walls, will make you want to move right in—or at least linger awhile. 232 Westminster St. 401-273-3331; butterfieldprovidence.com

THE EDGE, PROVIDENCE

Three words: *Cupcake Happy Hour*. That's right, this coffee shop in Wayland Square not only offers fair-trade coffee drinks from Intelligentsia, plus paninis and free WiFi in a comfortable setting, but also serves cupcakes du jour (from \$1) in inventive flavors such as Key lime (half price from 4 to 5 p.m.). A happy hour, indeed. 199 Wayland Ave. 401-490-2227; theedgecoffee.com

KINDRA CLINEFF (CLIFF WALK); MADELINE POLSS (LA LAITERIE)