

# Table of Contents

<b>INTRODUCTION</b> .....	<b>3</b>
<b>RHODE ISLAND'S IT FOR ME</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>TIMELINE</b> .....	<b>9</b>
10,000 Years Ago to Present . . . The Man Behind it All . . . Ted Widmer on How Rhode Island Influenced the US . . . King Philip's War . . . Slavery . . . Rory Raven's Tales of Haunted Rhode Island . . . Michael Corrente's Rhode Island Subjects for Biopics . . .	
<b>ESSENTIALS</b> .....	<b>25</b>
The State Name . . . Population Trends, Density and Characteristics . . . Mark Patinkin's Signs You've Been in Rhode Island Too Long . . . You Know You're From Rhode Island When . . . Rhody Symbols . . . Robin Kall's Top Rhode Island Reads . . . Brown University . . . Hospitals, Colleges and Newspapers . . .	
<b>SLANG</b> .....	<b>43</b>
From Bubbler and The Dunk to Swamp Yankees and Triple Deckers, the Lowdown on the Lingo . . . Crystal Sargent's Ways to Detect a Rhode Island Accent . . . Rhode Island Homonyms . . . Charlie Hall's Most Lampoonable Rhode Islanders . . . Tips for Talking Local About Localities . . .	
<b>CITIES AND TOWNS</b> .....	<b>51</b>
From Barrington and Bristol to Westerly and Woonsocket . . . Lincoln Chafee's Points on a RI Treasure Hunt . . . David Brussat's Best and Worst Providence Buildings . . . Outrageous Newport Mansions . . . Christopher Martin's Oddball Attractions . . .	
<b>PEOPLE</b> .....	<b>69</b>
Race, Ancestry and Language . . . Native Peoples . . . African American Rhode Islanders . . . Scott Molloy's Irish American Pioneers . . . Jewish Rhode Island . . . French Canadians . . . The Fabre Line . . . Italian, Portuguese and Latino Rhode Island . . . Gay Rhode Island . . .	
<b>NATURAL WORLD</b> .....	<b>89</b>
Geological Origins . . . Most Popular Beaches and Parks . . . Block Island . . . Natural Hazards and Invasive Threats . . . Todd McLeish's Rarest RI Species . . . Top Five Hiking Trails . . . Farm Country . . .	

<b>WEATHER</b> .....	<b>103</b>
A Perfect Storm . . . Tony Petrarca's Top Five Forecasting Challenges . . .	
The Blizzard of '78 . . . Hurricanes . . . John Ghiorse's Most Memorable Weather Events . . . Climate Change . . .	
<b>CULTURE</b> .....	<b>117</b>
Family Guy . . . Farrelly Brothers . . . Larry Bonoff's Top Warwick Musical Theater Acts . . . H.P. Lovecraft . . . Not Just for Kids . . . RISD Star Alumni . . . Father of American Portraiture . . . RI's Yankee Doodle Dandy . . . Rick McGowan's Top RI Athletes . . .	
<b>FOOD</b> .....	<b>147</b>
From Awful Awfuls and Cabinets to Wandies and Wimpy Skippies . . . Johnette Rodriguez's Essential Rhody Foods . . . Legendary Weiner Joints . . . Dunkin' Donuts . . . Richard Gutman's Quintessential RI Diners . . . Gayot's Top RI Restaurants . . .	
<b>ECONOMY</b> .....	<b>163</b>
GDP, Taxes and Income . . . Largest Employers . . . You Said How Much? . . . Hasbro Toys . . . Josh Miller's Take on Business . . . Economic Crisis . . . Industrial Revolution . . . Tom Sgouros's Myths about the RI Political Economy . . . House Prices and Rents . . . Ginsu Guys . . .	
<b>THEN AND NOW</b> .....	<b>187</b>
Population, Then and Now . . . Pioneering Women . . . Great Depression . . . Michael Bell Talks Vampires . . . Automotive Firsts . . . . Salty Brine . . . Jim Taricani's Top Five Stories He's Covered . . . Amusement Parks . . .	
<b>CRIME AND PUNISHMENT</b> .....	<b>207</b>
Rating Rhode Island Crime . . . Raymond Patriarca and the New England Mob . . . Celebrity Misdeds . . . Zachary Malinowski's Notable Mob Hits . . . Claus von Bulow . . . Fugitive Banker Mollicone . . . Arlene Violet's Memorable Moments as Attorney General . . . Suburban Slayings . . . Plunder Dome and Dollar Bill . . .	
<b>POLITICS</b> .....	<b>231</b>
Independence . . . Jennifer Lawless on Rhode Island Politics . . . Political Titans . . . The Dorr War and the Bloodless Revolution . . . Buddy Cianci . . . General Manager of the US . . . Bruce Sundlun's Time as Governor . . .	