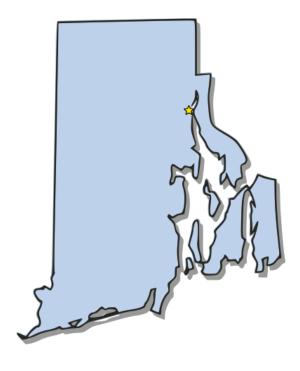
May 29, 1790 Rhode Island Becomes a State

Rhode Island is the smallest state in the United States. Thousands of tourists vacation in Rhode Island every year, especially in the Narragansett Bay area. Boating, fishing, and other water sports are very popular. There are also multiple islands that are part of the state, many of them located in Narragansett Bay. In addition, Rhode Island is well-known for its production of jewelry. The founder of Rhode Island was Roger Williams, a minister. He wanted to start a colony where people could be free from all religious persecution. With this background of personal liberty, Rhode Island produced many people who had a passion to think and work independently. Rhode Islanders organized the Continental Navy, they helped found the textile industry in America, they started the jewelry industry in America, and they worked in boatbuilding, shipping, and many other areas. This independent, hardworking spirit has carried them through the many ups and downs of the economy of this small state and helped it continue to contribute to the nation. Many famous people are from Rhode Island, including Matthew C. Perry, Raymond M. Hood, Prudence Crandall, Nathanael Greene, David Wilkinson, Gilbert Stuart, and William Ellery.

Look at the map of Rhode Island below. Label the capital of Rhode Island. Locate the cities and towns of Warwick, Cranston, Pawtucket, East Providence, Woonsocket, Newport, Central Falls, Chepachet, Barrington, Bristol, Middletown, Portsmouth, Kingston, Westerly, and Tiverton, and label them on the map. Now label Jerimoth Hill. Also, locate the Providence River, Sakonne River, Seekonk River, Pawtuxet River, Pettaquamscutt River, Potowomut River, Woonasquatucket River, Blackstone River, Chepachet River, Ponaganset River, Wood River, and Pascoag Lake, and label them. Lastly, label the states or bodies of water that border Rhode Island. When you have finished, move on to the timeline of Rhode Island history on the next page and the research prompts that follow.





Timeline of Rhode Island History

1524
1636
 1639
1700
1732
1769
1772
1774
1775
1787
1790
1835
1843
1883
1884
1935
1938
1969
1971
1973

- 1. Residents of Rhode Island organize the Continental Navy
- 2. The Newport Naval Training Station is established in Newport
- 3. Newport is founded
- 4. The section of Interstate Highway 95 in Rhode Island opens
- 5. The British ship *Liberty* is burned in Newport harbor
- 6. Rhode Island becomes the thirteenth state in the Union
- 7. The "Bloodless Revolution" occurs
- 8. Giovanni da Verrazzano, while sailing for France, sails along the coast of Rhode Island
- 9. Rhode Island's new state Constitution takes effect
- 10. Rhode Island's first newspaper begins publication
- 11. The Cruiser-Destroyer Force of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet leaves Rhode Island
- 12. The importation of slaves is banned
- 13. Roger Williams founds Providence
- 14. Rhode Island's first personal income tax is approved
- 15. Rhode Island's first railroad begins operations
- 16. The British ship *Gaspee* is burned near Warwick
- 17. The Naval War College opens in Newport
- 18. The slave trade is outlawed
- 19. A terrible hurricane and tidal wave hit Rhode Island
- 20. Rhode Island's first library is established

Research Prompt #1

Roger Williams, the founder of Proprotection for "those distressed for colonies where the government only freedom to be a continuing point is concerning "absolute religious freed this day and age or do you think the infringe on the religious freedom thoughts.	cause of cons ly had control n the political lom"? Is it rea hat there is a	science." This set over civil things beliefs of Rhode lly possible to ha point where the	tlement was the . It has caused e Island. What ve "absolute" re e religious freed	e first place in the absolute religious are your thoughts eligious freedom in om of some could

Research Prompt #2

The colony of Rhode Island was very supportive of the Revolutionary War. It was the first colony to call for a continental congress and the first to put a stop to the oath of allegiance that the British crown had demanded of colonial officials. After the revolution began, Rhode Island was one of the colonies that was hit very hard by the British. Do some research and write about the impact of the revolution in Rhode Island. Include in your research information about the Battle of Rhode Island and the performance of the first African American regiment to fight in America.
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Research Prompt #3

The Gilbert Stuart birthplace in North Kingstown is one of the famous colonial buildings in Rhode Island that draws much tourist attention. Research Gilbert Stuart. Write about who he was, what he did, and why he is important in American history.

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Timeline of Rhode Island History Answer Key

Rhode Island's first library is established The British ship <i>Liberty</i> is burned in Newport harbor
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The British ship <i>Liberty</i> is
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The importation of slaves is banned
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