

APOGEE ADVENTURES

2026 Maine Coast College Essay

Summarized Itinerary

Trip Begins: Brunswick, Maine (flights into Portland, ME)

Trip Ends: Brunswick, Maine (flights out of Portland, ME)

Day 1: Our group will meet in Brunswick, Maine, early this afternoon. After everyone has arrived, we will make the short trip to our dorm-style accommodations for the next week. Our first afternoon and evening will be spent getting to know one another, playing games, and sharing our initial thoughts about the college application process.

Day 2: On our first morning together, we'll meet our head writing instructor for a group session. Over the course of the week, our instructor will be working with us in group and one-on-one settings to help us craft stellar essays. This afternoon, with our first morning of work behind us, we'll spend the afternoon with professional sea kayaking guides. With our guides, we'll receive paddling instruction and explore the beautiful, protected waters of Harpswell Sound before returning to our accommodations for supper. With our bellies full post-dinner, we'll spend the evening discussing our interests, passions, and even our quirks – all great material for our essays.

Days 3-6: For the next several days, we'll work to achieve a distinctive voice while creating outlines and essays that reflect who we are and what we care about. Working closely with our leaders, our writing instructor will provide guidance and one-on-one support. We'll also meet with an admissions team member at Bowdoin College. The admissions staff will explain what colleges look for in applicant essays and discuss those topics that students should try to avoid. We'll have several breaks from the writing time, where we will take short hikes and spend time outside in Maine. Additionally, we'll give back to Maine's coastal communities while working on a service project with a local non-profit. Our evenings will be filled with good meals, laughter, sharing, peer editing, and readings of our essays.

Day 7: On our last full day together, we'll enjoy a morning reflecting on our week's accomplishments and putting the finishing touches on our essays. We'll take an afternoon hike to a beautiful coastal vista where we'll share our finished essays before making our way over to Portland's Old Port for a final celebratory dinner at a local restaurant – a great ending to a great week.

Day 8: We will spend our final morning packing up and saying goodbye to new friends, promising to stay in touch and continue the support through the college application process!

Please note that all itineraries are subject to change.

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