



PHOTOS BY MATT TAYLOR FOR THE BOSTON GLOBE

Above: The Blackstone River Bikeway offers 17 miles for riding. Below: The Hearthside House is the scene of various events throughout the year.

You can win even if you don't play



Beyond the gaming at Twin River Casino, this Rhode Island town has a lot to offer

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If most people have heard of Lincoln, R.I., they generally know it as home of the Twin River Casino, but this town just north of Providence offers much more than slots and virtual blackjack machines. Visitors can enjoy historic landmarks, classic 17th-century homes, and numerous outdoor activities while admiring the rolling hills, rushing rivers, and tree-lined streets that give Lincoln its distinct natural charm.

STAY

While there's plenty of lodging in and around Lincoln, there isn't much variety. The **Courtyard Marriot** (636 George Washington Highway, 401-333-3400, www.marriot.com, rates from \$129) features spacious rooms, an indoor pool and spa, fitness center, outdoor fire pit, and a 24-hour market. Two miles down Route 116 from the Marriot is the **Quality Inn Smithfield** (355 George Washington Highway, Smithfield, 401-232-2400, www.qualified.com, rates from \$104) offering a free continental breakfast, outdoor pool and spa, and fitness center.

DINE

Lincoln offers some excellent dining options, including the **Asia Grille** (622 George Washington Highway, 401-334-3200, www.asiagrille.com, entrees \$7-\$17). Voted Best Asian Restaurant in the Blackstone Valley by Rhode Island Monthly magazine for three straight years, Asia Grille offers an extensive menu, large portions, and their sweet, savory chicken wings are a can't-miss appetizer. **Enn Restaurant** (600 George Washington Highway, 401-333-0366, www.ennri.com, lunch, \$9-\$13, dinner \$12-\$28) offers authentic Japanese dishes and fresh, flavorful sushi. If you want to check out a variety of dining options without having to run around town, the Twin River Casino is for you. Feel like indulging a hankering for prime beef? Venture upstairs from the gaming floor and enjoy a prime cut steak from **Fred and Steve's Steakhouse** (100 Twin River Road, 401-475-8400, www.twinriver.com/fredandsteves.php, entrees \$31-\$50). Former NFL players and media personalities Fred Smerlas and Steve DeOssie joined forces and opened a restaurant that offers thick, tender steaks

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