



# Ocean House Set to Renovate Nearby Watch Hill Inn

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[Ocean House](#), the high-end beachfront resort in Rhode Island affiliated with Relais & Chateaux, is building a bit of a luxury empire in its Watch Hill location by the sea. Ocean House Management, which oversees the resort, has now entered into a joint venture to renovate the nearby historic Watch Hill Inn.

Located just down the street from the Ocean House, Watch Hill Inn will be recreated as an all-suite hotel designed for families and extended-stay guests. Ocean House Management already owns Ocean House, a 49-room, 15-suite, Forbes Five Star and AAA Five Diamond property, as well as the nearby 27-room, four-suite Weekapaug Inn in Westerly, R.I.

Ocean House Management and Watch Hill Properties have now formed a joint venture to renovate and reposition Watch Hill Inn into a luxury, all-suite boutique property that will be managed by Ocean House and also be affiliated with Relais & Chateaux.

Watch Hill Inn, dating from 1845, is the oldest original structure in Watch Hill Village. Listed in the National Historical Landmark Register in Washington D.C., it was the first building to be constructed as an inn from conception and is said to be the oldest of its kind in the country. Along with the Ocean House, the Watch Hill Inn was one of only two original hotels in Watch Hill to survive the hurricane of 1938.

In 2007, renovations were completed that converted the Inn into a collection of private condominiums. Its current renovations will build on the 2007 restoration by combining several units into luxury duplexes, ranging from 650 to 4,000 square feet and each with terraces.

Located just down the road from the Ocean House, at 44 Bay Street, the newly-renovated inn will offer 18 residential-style suites and duplexes, ranging in size from 650 to 4,000 square feet. Each unit will be fully equipped with new custom kitchens and private laundry facilities

Watch Hill Inn will feature a contemporary coastal design aesthetic along with a variety of state-of-the-art technology ranging from in-room iPads to wireless music systems and Apple TV. Guests of the inn will enjoy the signature high-touch service that the Ocean House has become known

for, including private concierge services through the inn's on-site management and guest relations team. They also can use facilities at the Ocean House as well as at the Weekapaug Inn using a free shuttle.

“While the Ocean House and the Watch Hill Inn will evoke two very different atmospheres, we plan to create appropriate synergies between the two properties to create truly unique and special experiences for guests at each hotel,” said David Hostettler, managing director of Ocean House.

The multi-million dollar renovation and landscape projects will begin this month targeting a summer 2014 opening. Renovations will include conversion of several current suites into two-story duplex suites, full refurbishment of all units, creation of a private club lounge, exterior landscape additions, and new interior design schemes done in a contemporary coastal style by Donna Simmons for the Ocean House Design Group.

Ocean House itself only re-opened its doors in June 2010 after a \$140 million rebuild and restoration. The 136-year-old property, built just after the Civil War, was completely reconstructed along its original lines. Weekapaug Inn, which reopened in October 2012, is located five miles from Ocean House and has views of Quonochontaug Pond and the Atlantic just beyond.