

# THE DISPARATE EAST

From the bustle of Philadelphia to the charms of Charleston – the quintessential southern belle draped with Spanish moss like a shawl across the shoulders – the eastern states are a sensory overload of things that do America proud. The contrasts lend intrigue; the lazy draw of a humid summer's day in Georgia is a world away from the brisk autumn breeze sending ripe red leaves fluttering in New Hampshire. Lonely lighthouses stand sentinel on the promontories of Maine gazing wistfully toward Cape Cod, while the mansions of the uber-rich queue on the cliffs of Rhode Island. The New York chic dine gourmet in minimalist designer spaces while in the south, mounds of fresh boiled seafood are emptied onto paper table cloths. In the background, the mountains of West Virginia sleep – as they have done for centuries.

IMAGES | GISELLE WHITEAKER







**PREVIOUS PAGE, FROM LEFT:** Blue skies over Boston, Massachusetts seen from the deck of the Salem ferry; Ollie's Trolley, a fast food institution in Cincinnati, Ohio showing support for President Obama.

**THIS PAGE, CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT:** The sun paints the sky pink over the New River Gorge bridge near Fayetteville, West Virginia; the Portland Head Light is the oldest lighthouse in Maine, completed in 1791; the Mural Arts Program in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania started as a project to eradicate graffiti. It is now the largest public art programme in the United States and has produced over 3,000 murals; the capitol building in Frankfort, Kentucky, is the highlight of the diminutive state capital; the gated entry of Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut; an Amish farm sits on the outskirts of Bird-in-Hand, Pennsylvania.

