



LIVING IN BLACK ROCK

FAIRFIELD COUNTY'S HIDDEN GEM

# BLACK ROCK DEVELOPMENTS

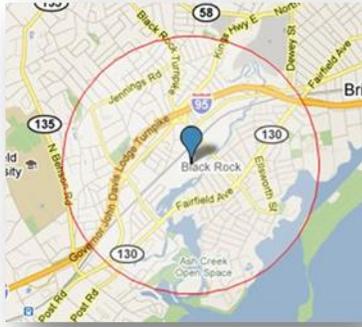


**Black Rock** is benefiting from commercial, state, federal, and charitable development money pouring into our small area. The area south of Fairfield Avenue and west of Ellsworth Street has always been the highest value area of Black Rock, but much development is taking place north of Fairfield Avenue and east of Ellsworth Street.

A 2007 study in Portland, Oregon found that property values typically go up by about 17.5% percent if you live near a Whole Foods store. The impact of all the developments together is actually called the “Whole Foods Effect” according to urban planners. The process of gentrification of an area starts with one anchor store, such as Whole Foods, which attracts other high end stores.

Let's take a closer look at these new, exciting developments that benefit Black Rock:

**Whole Foods** opened one of its largest stores on June 3, 2011 just across the border from Black Rock in Fairfield. The 45,000 SF store has features that many of the smaller stores lack, including freshly made mozzarella from Friday through Sunday each week, computer screens to obtain recipes online, free WiFi in the cafe area, and cooking demonstrations. Whole Foods is noted for its wide variety of organic and specialty foods.



*A one mile radius around the new train station includes most of Black Rock.*

**The new train station** (officially called the Fairfield Metro Station) near B.J.'s opened on December 5, 2011. The station has 1,400 parking spaces and has express trains for Grand Central Station and Stamford.

**Fox Street Pedestrian Bridge.** Plans are underway for a pedestrian bridge from Fox Street to the new train station, which would provide easy access for Black Rock residents. Streetscape improvement funds were obtained from the state for the gateway to the pedestrian bridge along Fairfield Avenue and Fox Street.

**The Smilow-Burroughs Clubhouse** is a 23,000 SF building featuring a nearly 8,000 SF gymnasium that has seating for 250, a teen center, game room, arts and science center, technology center, community room, two learning centers, a café and kitchen, and a multi-purpose room for dances, fitness and yoga programs. Boys & Girls Clubs of America programs focus on five areas including education and career development, character and leadership development, the arts, health and life skills, and sports, fitness and recreation. The Clubhouse was built entirely with private funds at a cost of \$6.7M. It opened in **June 2011**.

The **Albion Street medical/housing complex** is located on a 1.16 acre lot between the Stop & Shop center and Captain's Cove. There are 35 two-bedroom apartments as well as a dental center and a medical center. The 19,000 SF medical center also houses the Southwest Community Health Center's medical, behavioral, and administrative functions.

**The Cal Ripken Senior Foundation created a 55,000 SF Youth Development Park** cost approximately \$1.5 million. The state provided some of the money through a grant from the bonding process. The field will have a synthetic, multi-purpose (AstroTurf) surface that will be used for softball, soccer, lacrosse, and by the Black Rock Little League. It opened in **2012**.

**\$500,000 Ellsworth Field improvements** to benefit the Black Rock Little League were completed in **Spring 2011**. The tennis courts were renovated in **2013**.

For more information on the Black Rock Community visit [www.blackrockonline.org](http://www.blackrockonline.org)

# BLACK ROCK ATTRACTIONS

## Transportation

Wherever you need to go, you can get there from Black Rock. Easy access to I-95 and the Merritt Parkway puts all of Connecticut's towns and cities within reach. Hartford, the state capital, is just 51 miles away. And if you're travelling out of state, you have plenty of options:

- **By Rail:** The [Metro-North Railroad](#) will take you to New York City's Grand Central Terminal, about 50 miles from Black Rock. The new Fairfield Metro station, with express trains to Grand Central, is located within a mile of most Black Rock residences. More info at [www.mta.info/mnr](http://www.mta.info/mnr)  
[Amtrak](#) serves the entire Northeast Corridor from Boston to Washington, D.C., with stops in nearby Bridgeport. [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com)
- **By Air:** Black Rock is located just 60 miles from [Bradley International](#), less than 50 from [JFK](#) and [LaGuardia](#) and about 20 minutes from [Sikorsky Memorial Airport](#). Don't feel like driving there yourself? [Connecticut Limo's](#) Bridgeport terminal is just minutes away from Fairfield Center [www.ctlimo.com](http://www.ctlimo.com) or get picked up at your door by Redgate Town Car service 203-259-0550.
- **By Ferry:** It's only a ten minute ride to the Bridgeport terminal of the [Port Jefferson ferry](#) serving Long Island. Drive, walk or ride your bicycle aboard one of three ferries. Sit back, relax and enjoy the view. Experience today the simplicity and comfort of travel. Listen to the sounds of the waves as you enjoy a meal from the Snack Bar or, if you choose, have a cocktail in the Steamboat Lounge as the Ferry cruises across the Sound. Make reservations ahead of time if you plan to board with your car. [www.portjeffferry.com](http://www.portjeffferry.com)



Within Connecticut, Metro-North serves more than a dozen shoreline communities from Greenwich to New Haven, with connections to Waterbury, Danbury, and Shoreline East

## Library

The newly renovated Black Rock branch library is located at 2705 Fairfield Avenue, 2705 Fairfield Avenue. It hosts many community events, including speakers, discussion forums, and even fitness classes. Phone: (203) 337-9676



Black Rock Branch Library  
*A Gathering Place for the Entire Community*

## Parks & Recreation

Along the coast of Long Island Sound in Black Rock you'll find a small sandy beach on Seabright Avenue. The beach is good for sunbathing and ideal for launching kayaks and canoes. There is a marina at Captain's Cove on Bostwick Avenue (take Seabright to left on Brewster, right on Ellsworth, right on Prescott, straight on Yacht to Bostwick) along with outdoor dining, charter boats, and music/entertainment. The Black Rock Yacht Club on Grovers and the Fayerweather Yacht Club on Brewster have reciprocal relationships with many other yacht clubs and moorings facilities.

There is also a waterside public park, St. Mary's-by-the-Sea that runs along Grovers Avenue (this section of Grovers is known as Eames Boulevard) overlooking the Sound providing a wonderful walking, running, or biking route. There is also a small tidal estuary called Ash Creek, which has an abundance of wildlife, including nesting osprey, migratory shorebirds, and a natural shellfish bed. It is considered an Important Bird Area (IBA) and attracts bird watchers from many areas.

Going beyond the Black Rock area, you can enjoy one of the largest seaside parks in Connecticut at Seaside Park in Bridgeport or for \$120 obtain an out-of-town pass to Jennings and Penfield beaches in Fairfield. Jennings Beach is located at 880 South Benson Road and Penfield Beach is located at 323 Fairfield Beach Road. Day passes are available for \$15 weekdays and \$25 weekends/holidays and can be purchased on site.

For tennis, Black Rock offers private facilities at the Black Rock Yacht Club or public courts at Ellsworth Field (at the corner of Brewster and Ellsworth).

## Marinas & Yacht Clubs

### **Black Rock Yacht Club**

*Private club*

80 Grovers Avenue 203-335-0587

[www.blackrockyc.com](http://www.blackrockyc.com)

### **Fayerweather Yacht Club**

*Private club*

51 Brewster Street 203-576-6796

[www.fayerweatheryachtclub.com](http://www.fayerweatheryachtclub.com)

### **Captain's Cove Marina**

Full service marina with slip space for 350 boats

1 Bostwick Avenue 203-335-1433

[www.captainscoveseaport.com](http://www.captainscoveseaport.com)



## Dining

**BRYAC Restaurant & Bar** - #3 Best Place for Lunch and #3 Best Romantic Restaurant\*\*  
3074 Fairfield Avenue 203-522-4777 [www.bryac.biz](http://www.bryac.biz)

**Bloodroot** - #1 Vegetarian restaurant\*. Outdoor dining with water views. 85 Ferris Street  
(off Hackley) 203-576-9168 [www.bloodroot.com](http://www.bloodroot.com)

**Harborview Market** - #1 Breakfast\*\* 218 Harborview Avenue 203-367-7336

**nom-eez** - #1 Vietnamese restaurant\* [Vietnamese Street Food](http://VietnameseStreetFood.com). Serves 7 AM to 9 PM. 2992  
Fairfield Avenue (203) 923-8686

**Source Coffeehouse** - #1 coffee house\*\* 2889 Fairfield Avenue

**Taco Loco** - #1 Mexican restaurant and #1 margarita\*\*  
3170 Fairfield Ave 203-335-8228 [www.tacoloco.com](http://www.tacoloco.com)

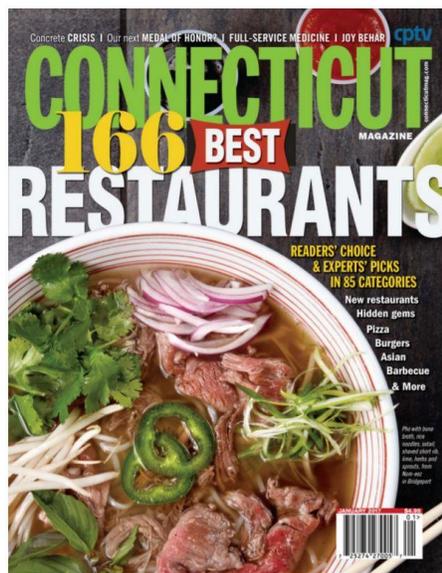
**Timothy's Ice Cream** - #1 Ice cream parlor\*\* 2974 Fairfield Avenue 203-366-7496

**TruNorth Tavern & Table** - 3171 Fairfield Avenue 203-690-1918 [www.trunorth.com](http://www.trunorth.com)

**Walrus + Carpenter** - #1 in barbecue, craft beer, and cocktails\* \*\*  
2895 Fairfield Avenue 203-333-2733 [www.walruscarpenterct.com](http://www.walruscarpenterct.com)

\*As rated by Connecticut Magazine

\*\* As rated by Fairfield County Weekly Reader's Poll



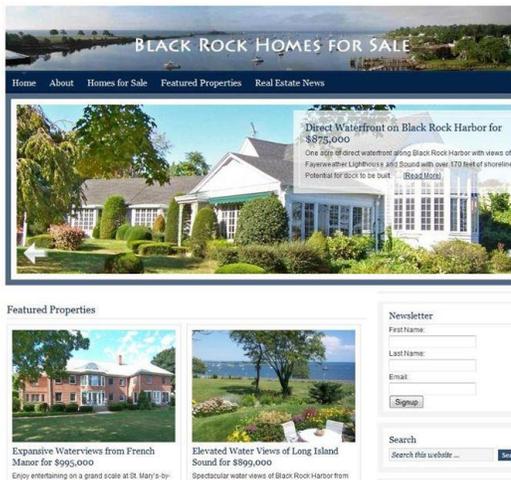
## Community Blog



See the [Black Rock Community Blog](http://www.blackrockonline.org) for upcoming events in Black Rock:

[www.blackrockonline.org](http://www.blackrockonline.org)

## Black Rock Homes for Sale



Visit [Black Rock Homes for Sale](http://www.blackrockhomesforsale.com) to find your Black Rock home:

[www.blackrockhomesforsale.com](http://www.blackrockhomesforsale.com)