

# Rhode Island State Flag

Ocean State • Capital: Providence • Statehood: 1790

## Overview

A white field with a golden anchor encircled by thirteen stars, above a blue ribbon with the word “Hope.” Nautical yet idealistic, this small state’s flag is neat, bright, and memorable.

### Flag specifications

Adopted: 1897-11-01  
Designer: Legislative adoption  
Ratio: 29:33  
White field with golden anchor encircled by 13 stars and blue ribbon motto.

#### Colors

#FFFFFF #FFD700 #002D72

### Symbolism

|          |                                                          |
|----------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| anchor   | Represents hope and maritime tradition.                  |
| 13 stars | Signify Rhode Island as one of the original 13 colonies. |
| motto    | 'Hope' reflects optimism and faith.                      |

### Historical timeline

- 1790: Rhode Island ratified the Constitution as the 13th state.
- 1897: Official flag adopted.

### Notable facts

- Smallest state by land area in the U.S.
- The motto 'Hope' was inspired by a biblical reference.
- An anchor is the central symbol of the flag.
- The anchor represents hope and stability.
- Thirteen gold stars symbolize the original colonies.
- The flag features a white field with a gold fringe.
- Blue ribbon beneath the anchor bears the motto.
- The current flag design was officially adopted in 1897.

### Seal deep dive

**anchor**  
A gold anchor centered on a white field.  
Meaning: Hope, stability, and Rhode Island's deep maritime heritage

**motto**  
The word 'HOPE' displayed below the anchor on a blue ribbon.  
Meaning: Faith, optimism, and perseverance through hardship

**stars**  
Thirteen gold stars arranged in a circle around the anchor.  
Meaning: Rhode Island as one of the original thirteen colonies

### Vexillology notes

Design type: Emblematic maritime flag  
Complexity: 3/10

