



Roundabout
Go in circles
on a historic set
of horses.

Crescent Park Carousel

Let a
Rhode Island
landmark
take you for
a spin.

Rhode Islanders call their state's most unusual National Historic Landmark the Crescent Park Looff Carousel. But we prefer the name "Nineteenth-Century Sculpture: The Ride."

Charles I. D. Looff, a woodcarver famous for his merry-go-rounds, created the Providence carousel in 1895. He hand-carved all of its 62 figures and four chariots, then surrounded them with organ music, vivid colors, and flashing lights, providing patrons with a whirling feast for the senses.

But don't let those sumptuous looks fool you into thinking you're in for a cushy ride. These old horses still have plenty of kick. "First-time riders are usually surprised by how fast it goes, about 11 miles per hour,"

says Donna McMahon, vice chairman of the Crescent Park Carousel Committee. Her organization preserves the historic merry-go-round, the remnant of the amusement park and seaside resort that once made up Crescent Park.

Nostalgic adults, history buffs, and kids of all ages thank the committee for their work. From now until Labor Day, riders can pay a dollar—or 75 cents on "kiddie Thursdays"—to travel back to a bygone era. Visitors can also check out the petting zoo and gazebo band concerts at the oceanfront Rose Larisa Memorial Park across the street. But to grab the brass ring, you'll have to saddle up and go for a ride. crescentparkcarousel.com