

2012

# MARTHA'S VINEYARD

## VACATION PLANNER



**WeNeedaVacation.com**  
where vacationers go

# Martha's Vineyard Vacation Planner

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## About Martha's Vineyard

What is the source of the Vineyard's magical allure? Perhaps it starts with its unique history that has been treasured and preserved - including the "Captain's homes" of Edgartown and Vineyard Haven, and the late 19th century "Gingerbread Houses" in Oak Bluffs. The diverse topography of the Island also adds to its charm -- the down-island towns are relatively flat (perfect for leisurely biking), while up-island is much hillier, offering dramatic views to the sea. Whether vacationing with your family or celebrating a romantic getaway, we suggest you take advantage of some of the wonderful, quintessentially-Vineyard experiences you will find here within the Martha's Vineyard Vacation Planner.

## Contact Us

Phone: (888) 281-8660  
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THE CAPE & ISLANDS SPECIALISTS SINCE 1997



# WeNeedaVacation.com<sup>TM</sup>

where vacationers go

3,500 rental homes and condos on Cape Cod,  
Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard

# Dining



## Espresso Love

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Espresso Love, or "The Love" for people in the know, is the place to be on Martha's Vineyard early morning to late at night. Just steps from the bustle of Main Street, Edgartown, celebrities, vacationers and local personalities mix it up over organic teas, chai, cappuccino, house blends or specialty drinks, baked goods, gourmet sandwiches and lunch specials. Come and relax indoors or among the trees in the outside garden which is so relaxing in the morning. Make sure you say "Hi" to Carol (she's the owner, buzzing around talking to everybody). And - you never know who you're going to see standing in line or relaxing in the garden. Make sure you pick up a T-shirt and mug. Free WiFi.

**Categories:** Bakeries/Coffee Shops

17 Church St, Edgartown ~ (888) 224-4549 ~ [www.espressolove.com](http://www.espressolove.com)



## Morning Glory Farm

Morning Glory Farm Stand is open May through December with products from our 50+ acres of farmland, other island farms and around the world. The shelves are overflowing with our cut flowers, vegetables and fruits that we pick fresh daily and offer at the peak of their freshness for you to enjoy. Our tables are overflowing with the wonderful breads, pies, muffins, cookies and quiches that our Bakery produces from scratch. Our salad bar is the freshest on the Island bursting with our beautiful produce and ingenious sides and soups. We also stock our cooler with lots of unique entrées and appetizers made with as many of our own products as possible.

**Categories:** Produce Market

100 Meshacket Rd, Edgartown ~ (508) 627-9003 ~ [www.morninggloryfarmstand.com](http://www.morninggloryfarmstand.com)



## Lattanzi's

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Traditional Italian cuisine, fine Italian wines and spirits. A satisfying menu of authentic Tuscan-style cooking with handmade pasta, fresh seafood & hardwood grilled specialties.

**Categories:** Casual Dining

19 Church Street, Edgartown ~ (508) 627-8854 ~ [www.lattanzis.com](http://www.lattanzis.com)



## Giordano's

Bringing you the finest Italian and American food on Martha's Vineyard for over 70 years, Giordano's is dedicated to quality, value and service. Always fresh. always affordable. Family dining at it's best with a full sit down menu and authentic Neopolitan style pizza.

**Categories:** Casual Dining

107 Circuit Ave, Oak Bluffs ~ (508) 693-0184 ~ [www.giosmv.com](http://www.giosmv.com)



## Island House Bar & Grill

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Island House Restaurant features local seafood & steaks with an array of traditional Island dishes. We are oriented towards affordable family dining inside or on our outside patio.

**Categories:** Casual Dining

11 Circuit Ave, Oak Bluffs ~ (508) 693-4516 ~ [www.islandhousemv.com](http://www.islandhousemv.com)



## Seasons Eatery & Pub

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Family dining in a fun atmosphere. Enjoy all your favorites such as grilled seafood, lobsters, fried clams, burgers and salads. Located next door to Ryan Family Amusements so plan to play before or after dinner. Clip coupon for 10 free tokens to use at Ryan's.

**Categories:** Casual Dining

19 Circuit Ave, Oak Bluffs ~ (508) 693-7129 ~ [www.seasonspub.com](http://www.seasonspub.com)



## Sharky's Cantina

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Sharky's is the place for family fun and fun without the family! Authentic Mexican cuisine includes our organic chips, housemade salsa and tortillas and your favorites like quesadillas, burritos and tacos. Special kids' menu. Great margaritas and frozen drinks.

**Categories:** Casual Dining

31 Circuit Ave, Oak Bluffs ~ (508) 693-7501 ~ [www.sharkyscantina.com](http://www.sharkyscantina.com)



### The Black Dog Tavern

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The Black Dog is known for its menu, desserts and atmosphere, as well as the view of the harbor and its sailing vessels. The chefs are eager to share their culinary creations with you. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are served for locals and travelers alike. Eat well!

**Categories:** Casual Dining

20 Beach Street Ext, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 693-9223 ~ [www.theblackdog.com](http://www.theblackdog.com)



### Island Grown

Martha's Vineyard has today 28 local farms on the island. Island Grown is a non-profit organization that provides information to consumers about the importance of buying local. On our site, you can learn more about the farms on the island and find directions to each.

**Categories:** Produce Market

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



### Home Port Restaurant

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Spectacular sunset views and a nautical, lively atmosphere complement our seafood straight from the boat and simply prepared. Children's menu and Back Door "Take Out" available.

**Categories:** Waterfront Dining

512 North Road, Menemsha ~ (508) 645-2679 ~ [www.homeportmv.com](http://www.homeportmv.com)

## Activities



### Flying Horses Carousel

Located on Oak Bluffs Avenue in the heart of Oak Bluffs, this treasured carousel has been enjoyed by Vineyarders and visitors for more than a century. Acquired by the Preservation Trust in 1986, the Flying Horses Carousel is the nation's oldest operating platform carousel and a National Historic Landmark. It is one of the two known carousels built by Charles W.F. Dare in 1876. In 1884, the Flying Horses were brought to Martha's Vineyard. Rides are only \$1.50, and if you are lucky enough to catch the brass ring, you get a free ride! In addition to the carousel, video games are available as well as refreshments, including popcorn, cotton candy, slush, and soft drinks.

**Categories:** Amusements

15 Lake Avenue, Oak Bluffs ~ (508) 627-4440 ~ [www.mvpreservation.org](http://www.mvpreservation.org)



### Martha's Bike Rentals

Martha's Bike Rentals has been servicing all of Martha's Vineyard since 1989. We offer the best bike rental prices and will deliver your rental to any location on the island. We carry a complete line of top-quality bicycles and accessories, including mountain bikes, hybrids, tandem bikes, kids bikes with training wheels, baby joggers, and Burlee trailers. Friendly and knowledgeable service. We'll take care of the details so you can relax and enjoy your time on the Vineyard. Call (800) 559-0312

**Categories:** Bike Rentals

4 Lagoon Pond Road, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 693-6593 ~ [marthasbikerentals.com](http://marthasbikerentals.com)

### The "SKIPPER" of Oak Bluffs



Daily Fishing • Sunset Cruises • Private Charters

### SKIPPER Fishing Charters

Voted "Best of the Vineyard" 20 Years in a row by the Vineyard Gazette, our safe and fully equipped "Skipper" is great for a family outing. No experience necessary! Bring your cooler and join us on one of our fishing expeditions to the protected waters of Vineyard Sound. We provide rods, hooks, and bait. Or enjoy a sunset cruise and watch the sun set over the Elizabeth Islands. Bus trips are always welcome. We will even pick you up in Falmouth. Or book us for your company party, bachelor party, or birthday party. Contact us for details.

**Categories:** Fishing Charters

Oak Bluff Harbor, Slip 74, Oak Bluffs ~ (508) 693-1238 ~ [www.mvskipper.com](http://www.mvskipper.com)



### Mink Meadows Golf Club

### Mink Meadows Golf Club

Mink Meadows Golf Club is a 9-hole, semi-private course measuring 3,078 yards on the front nine and 3,139 on the back. It features rolling terrain and expansive ocean views. Reasonable greens and rental fees with further reductions for early morning and late afternoon play. Non-members can make tee times 2 days in advance. Call for special golf outing arrangements.

**Categories:** Golf

320 Golf Club Road, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 693-0600 ~ [www.minkmeadowsgc.com](http://www.minkmeadowsgc.com)



### The Yard

The Yard is a performing artists' colony founded in 1973 by dancer and choreographer, Patricia N. Nanon, whose vision was to create a space for contemporary dance artists to develop new works. The setting, three houses and a barn, now converted to a studio and a theater, surrounded by grass, woods and stone walls, is inspiring to both dancers and those who love to watch. The Yard offers residencies, classes, workshops, modern dance, theater, music, opera, yoga, ballet and zumba. The Yard's children's program is designed to nourish students' imaginations while introducing them to basic skills of theater, music, movement, circus, yoga and stage combat (sword flashing, Harry Potter/Star Wars style!).

**Categories:** Performing Arts

The Yard, Chilmark ~ (508) 645-9662 ~ [www.dancetheyard.org](http://www.dancetheyard.org)



### Vineyard Guides

Guided Tours of Martha's Vineyard by long time year round resident. History, Celebrities, Lighthouses, Beaches, Island stories, and more! Vineyard Guides in business for 10 years.

**Categories:** Sightseeing & Tours

(508) 693-6248 ~ [www.vineyardguides.com](http://www.vineyardguides.com)

# Shopping



## The Green Room

Walk into the main floor and enjoy the many sections of the shop. A Patagonia preferred dealer, you will always find a great collection of product for everyone. Classic sportswear for men and women will outfit you for a casual day at the beach as well as an elegant evening out. Women will love checking out the latest denim from Paige, Hudson, Habitual, Not your Daughters Jeans, and Citizens of Humanity. The shoe department highlights styles from Kenneth Cole, Mia, Chaco, Clarks, Steve Madden, Born, Birkenstock, and Dansko to name a few. With our roots in the surf industry, the Green Room offers the best selection of surf and skateboard equipment bar none on the Island.

**Categories:** Clothing & Accessories

71 Main St, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 693-6888 ~ [www.vineyardsurf.com](http://www.vineyardsurf.com)



## Bunch of Grapes Bookstore

The Bunch of Grapes has been an independent bookstore on Martha's Vineyard for almost 40 years. It's the place to grab a book for the beach or for book nuts to go for a browse and suggestions for what of the new releases are must reads from the friendly staff.

**Categories:** Bookstores

44 Main St, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 693-2291 ~ [bunchofgrapes.wordpress.com](http://bunchofgrapes.wordpress.com)



## Menemsha Blues

Sophisticated, relaxed, comfortable clothing for Ladies, Men, and Children. That's the essence of Menemsha Blues ~ a line of apparel that combined a love of casual seaside living with the serenity of natural colors and textures. Visit one of our three shops.

**Categories:** Clothing & Accessories

36 Water St, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 693-9599 ~ [www.menemshablues.com](http://www.menemshablues.com)



## Claudia Jewelry

Established in 1971. The big "Claudia" is located at 51 Mainstreet, Edgartown. Our smaller store "Claudia Mainstreet" specializes in perfume and glassware as well as jewelry.

**Categories:** Jewelry

34 Main St, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 627-8306 ~ [www.claudiamv.com](http://www.claudiamv.com)



## Kiddo's

This unique children's store specializes in Gifts, Clothing, and Essentials for your "Little Grown Up," newborn through age 6. Kiddo's is proud to carry some of your favorite brand names such as Tea, Little Me, C'st La Vie, Kissy Kissy, Me Too, and many more.

**Categories:** Kids

79 Beach Rd, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 693-5437 ~ [www.kiddosmv.com](http://www.kiddosmv.com)

## Art & Museums



### Martha's Vineyard Museum

The Martha's Vineyard Museum campus accommodates both the Island's largest museum and the only research library dedicated to the history of the Vineyard. The objects collections of the MVM, donated or purchased over the past 80 years, includes over 30,000 items relating to all aspects of life on Martha's Vineyard. The Martha's Vineyard Museum is steward of three of the Island's lighthouses. The Gay Head, East Chop, and Edgartown lighthouses are not historic remnants of a bygone age, but are working beacons that still send a light out into the night. The Edgartown and Gay Head Lighthouses have seasonal hours open to the public (see website for specific dates and times) and the East Chop Lighthouse is open for sunset on Sundays in-season.

**Categories:** Historical Museums

59 School Street, Edgartown ~ (508) 627-4441 ~ [www.mvmuseum.org](http://www.mvmuseum.org)

LOUISA GOULD



### Louisa Gould Gallery

Louisa Gould established her gallery in 2003 as the island's only contemporary photography gallery. It now includes local, regional and emerging artists working in various mediums; oil painting, works on paper, sculpture and new media art.

**Categories:** Art Galleries

54 Main St, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 693-7373 ~ [www.louisagould.com](http://www.louisagould.com)



### Shaw Cramer Gallery

The Shaw Cramer Gallery features classic contemporary fine crafts and paintings by island and nationally acclaimed artists. This spacious gallery has exhibits throughout July and August. Come visit this exceptional gallery and enjoy a sophisticated selection of artwork.

**Categories:** Art Galleries

56 Main St, Second Floor, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 696-7323 ~ [www.shawcramergallery.com](http://www.shawcramergallery.com)

## Fitness & Beauty



### Polished

Downtown Vineyard Haven's Day Spa, next to Mocha Motts offers natural nail care manicures, pedicures, body treatments, and massage. With island made sea salt scrubs, from organic fruits and vegetables our treatments will have you slipping away into that relaxing blissful state.... Book online or get instant gift certificates at [www.polishedmv.com](http://www.polishedmv.com) 508-939-0800 [info@polishedmv.com](mailto:info@polishedmv.com)

**Categories:** Hair/Nail Salons

455 State Rd, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 939-0800 ~ [www.polishedmv.com](http://www.polishedmv.com)



### Aazora Face & Body Sanctuary

Tired of the chaotic, sterile atmosphere of spas and massage centers? Come join Cynthia da Silva in her private oasis and be the center of attention. Indulge your deserving self with one of our blissful treatments that is just right for you.

**Categories:** Day Spas

25 Main St, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 693-6003 ~ [massagemarthasvineyard.com](http://massagemarthasvineyard.com)

# Services



## The Harbor View Hotel & Resort

A wedding on Martha's Vineyard is an unforgettable experience for you and your guests. The Harbor View Hotel & Resort offers Martha's Vineyard's largest selection of elegant indoor and outdoor locations with enchanting harbor and garden views. Whatever wedding dream you have, the Harbor View Hotel can provide the classic storybook setting you deserve. Be sure to ask our Wedding Coordinator about our special packages for receptions booked on a Friday or Sunday night. In addition to being a romantic one-of-a-kind setting, you can provide your guests with a stunning array of island activities. View the Harbor View Hotel & Resort Wedding Album on our website.

**Categories:** Receptions

131 North Water Street, Edgartown ~ (800) 225-6005 ~ [www.harbor-view.com](http://www.harbor-view.com)



## ResortMan

Martha's Vineyard Premier Concierge & Property Management Services. Ralf the "ResortMan" Pirozzi offers an array of customized Concierge & Property Management Services for summer visitors as well as seasonal and year-round residents. Over 25 years as a seasonal resident, 30 years bringing people together as owner/recruiter of SBSystems, and prior concierge at the Winnetu Oceanside Resort, Ralf will provide you with all of the services you need to have the perfect Martha's Vineyard vacation & lifestyle!

Specializing in simplifying your life with our personal and professional lifestyle management services.

**Categories:** Other Personal Services

PO Box 3628, Edgartown ~ (617) 435-0494 ~ [www.resortman.com](http://www.resortman.com)



## Rouge Luxe

Come visit our Luxury Apothecary Boutique on the picturesque island of Martha's Vineyard in Oak Bluffs, Massachusetts. We are the island's premier bath and beauty apothecary offering a sophisticated haven for those seeking a unique shopping experience in an upscale and intimate environment. Our boutique brings together the finest of skin care lines, makeup, fragrances and accessories for both women and men. Among the established brands we carry, you will also find hip new collections. With an array of deluxe beauty products, sumptuous candles and air essences, you will find the perfect gift. Customize gift packages for every beauty fantasy.

**Categories:** Other Personal Services

21 Kennebec Avenue, Oak Bluffs ~ (508) 696-0900 ~ [www.rougeluxe.com](http://www.rougeluxe.com)



## Lambert's Cove Inn

Lambert's Cove Inn & Restaurant is one of the most romantic retreats on Martha's Vineyard. There is no lovelier setting for an Island wedding reception or anniversary celebration.

**Categories:** Receptions

90 Manaquayak Road, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 693-2298 ~ [www.lambertscoveinn.com](http://www.lambertscoveinn.com)

# Transportation



## Island Queen - Oak Bluffs

Sail away from Falmouth to the island of Martha's Vineyard aboard the Island Queen. Relax with the sea, sky and wind on a delightful 35-minute mini-cruise across the sparkling waters of Vineyard Sound. The Island Queen is the only cruise ship sailing regularly from Falmouth Harbor directly to Oak Bluffs, centrally located, easy to get to, and with no-hassle parking. Leave your car behind, secure in our spacious paved lot nearby. Bring your bicycle aboard to explore the island. There is a snack bar available, and reservations are not required.

**Categories:** Ferries

Island Queen, Oak Bluffs ~ (508) 548-4800 ~ [www.IslandQueen.com](http://www.IslandQueen.com)



### Hy-Line Cruises

Family Friendly Service to Hyannis, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket! We understand the importance of quality family time, that's why KIDS RIDE FREE aboard our traditional ferries to the islands! KIDS are 12 & under | Maximum 3 KIDS per adult | Not valid for 1st Class or High-Speed TOLL FREE (800) 492-8082

**Categories:** Ferries

12 Circuit Avenue, Oak Bluffs ~ (508) 693-1663 ~ [www.hylinecruises.com](http://www.hylinecruises.com)



### The Steamship Authority

Escape to the beautiful islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket with The Steamship Authority. For a day or a stay, we offer the lowest fares and frequent daily departures. Travel from Woods Hole to Martha's Vineyard or Hyannis to Nantucket on our traditional ferries. Or take our passenger-only high-speed ferry Iyanough Hyannis to Nantucket dock-to-dock in just one hour. The Steamship Authority offers a number of value promotions throughout the summer, go to Ways To Save on our website to learn more. So, for more ferries, more trips and the lowest fares to the islands the Steamship Authority is the Way to Go!

**Categories:** Ferries

1 Water Street, Vineyard Haven ~ (508) 693-9130 ~ [www.steamshipauthority.com](http://www.steamshipauthority.com)



### A-A Island Auto Rental

Great prices on Jeep Wranglers, convertibles, SUV's and mini-vans. Four convenient locations: Vineyard Haven, Oak Bluffs, Edgartown or at the airport.

**Categories:** Car Rentals

196 Main Street, Edgartown ~ (800) 627-6333 ~ [www.mvautorental.com](http://www.mvautorental.com)

# The Magic of Martha's Vineyard

With so many great reasons to visit the Island of Martha's Vineyard, it is difficult to single out just three. Two of the best-known features of the Island are its beautiful beaches and nature reserves and the magnificent, historic, whaling captains' homes with their rose-strewn white picket fences. But the following are three equally compelling sights to see and experience there:

**In this article:**

[Visit the Vineyard's working farms](#)

[View the Cliffs and Lighthouse of Gay Head](#)

[Enjoy historic Cottage City and the Flying Horses Carousel](#)

## [Visit the Vineyard's working farms](#)

Martha's Vineyard may be known as the summer playground for the rich and famous, including presidents and their families. But it is equally well known for the preservation of agriculture and farming, which has historically been an important way of life on the Island.

First settled in the 1640s, Martha's Vineyard residents spent the first 150 years or so farming and fishing. Then shortly after 1800, the Vineyard became well known for providing the captains, crew, and many of the services and supplies – including food and produce -- that the whaling ships of Nantucket required to head out to sea or when they returned with their catch.

After the demise of the whaling industry early in the 1870s, the Vineyard continued to make a living fishing and farming, but these enterprises didn't bring in much money from the mainland. Because the Cape Cod Canal was not then in existence, many Vineyarders assisted the sailing ships transporting goods from Boston to New York through the treacherous waters around the Cape and Islands. This, however, wasn't financially rewarding, so Islanders continued providing for themselves on their land and in the Island waters.

After World War II, tourism began to take off on the Vineyard as soldiers who had been stationed there returned home to tell of the Island's beauty. Fortunately, many Islanders still put great importance on being self-sufficient and providing "Island grown" produce and goods. Today, 28 working farms and countless backyard gardens continue the tradition of those who founded the Island.

Farming on the Island is not limited to vegetables. For example, at Allen Farm Sheep and Wool, you can purchase wool products. And at Chicama Vineyards, you can select wine produced from grapes grown on the Vineyard.



Alpaca Farm, Martha's Vineyard

Here is a [list of the working farms](#) that are open to the public. Many have farm stands, tours and special events.

If you visit Martha's Vineyard's working farms after the growing season is over in the fall, you'll find a new tradition taking root. The end of the harvest is just the beginning for a group called the Martha's Vineyard Gleaners. Gleaning is an old agricultural tradition in which, after the harvest, farmers would open up their fields, usually to the needy in the community, to pick what was left.

### [View the Cliffs and Lighthouse of Gay Head](#)

A drive up through pretty, hilly Chilmark brings you to the town of Aquinnah, formerly called Gay Head. Here you will find the 130 foot tall, beautiful, multi-colored clay of the Gay Head Cliffs.

The Gay Head Cliffs are a National Landmark and for years were a favorite for those wanting a challenging climb from the beach at the base. Today, however, climbing is off limits due to the erosion toll this activity was taking on the face of the cliffs.



Gay Head, Martha's Vineyard

At the top of the cliffs stands Gay Head Light. In 1796, heavy maritime traffic passing through Vineyard Sound prompted Massachusetts State Senator Peleg Coffin of Nantucket to request the construction of a lighthouse at Gay Head. The passage between the Gay Head cliffs and the Elizabeth Islands was treacherous because of the long underwater obstruction called Devil's Bridge that extends out from Gay Head.

A 47-foot (57 feet to the top of the lantern), octagonal wooden lighthouse was erected on a stone base, along with a wood-frame keeper's house, barn, and oil vault. The light went into service on November 18, 1799.

Aquinnah has become celebrated as a center of Wampanoag Indian culture and of pride and tradition among members of the tribe. You'll find some Indian craft shops at the top of the cliffs.

### [Enjoy Historic Cottage City and the Flying Horses Carousel](#)

The Martha's Vineyard Campmeeting Association, known as "the Campground" or "Cottage City," is a National Landmark located in the center of the town of Oak Bluffs. Consisting of hundreds of imaginative and colorful "gingerbread" cottages, the community contains the most perfectly preserved collection of Carpenter Gothic style architecture in the world. These truly unique Victorian "gingerbread" cottages are just a stone's throw from the famed Tabernacle.



Cottage City, Oak Bluffs

The first campmeeting in what became known as Wesleyan Grove was held in 1835. In subsequent years the congregations grew enormously, and many of the thousands in attendance were housed in large tents known as "society tents," which were arranged in a semicircle on Trinity Park.

Over time, families began leasing small lots on which to pitch their own individual tents. In the 1860s and 1870s, the family tents were rapidly replaced with permanent wooden cottages. At one time there were about 500 cottages; today there are just over 300. Many of the cottages have been owned by the same families for generations. The campground is a National Landmark.

The Tabernacle is the physical and spiritual center of the Campground. Architecturally, the Tabernacle is a unique structure, with wrought iron arches and supports, two clerestories with dozens of colored glass windows, and an octagonal cupola.

One very special highlight of the summer season on the Campground is Grand Illumination held on a Wednesday evening in August. The cottages are adorned with colorful Chinese and Japanese lanterns, and both a Community Sing and a band concert are held in the Tabernacle. The Grand Illumination for 2010 will take place on Wednesday, August 18.

Visitors to the Cottage Museum can view the interior of a typical Campground cottage, complete with period furnishings offering a glimpse of life on the Campgrounds in the 1800s. Also on display are vintage photographs, a selection of stereoscopic photos of Cottage City and the Campgrounds, along with other interesting documents relating to the history of the Campground.

The Museum Shop has a wide selection of Campground-related souvenirs and gifts, including books, calendars, paper and silk lanterns, sterling silver Campground charms, toys, postcards and other interesting items.

For more information, visit the [Campmeeting Association website](#).

While visiting the Campground, don't miss the nearby [Flying Horses Carousel](#) in the heart of Oak Bluffs. The nation's oldest continuously operating carousel, the horses were hand-carved in New York City in 1876 and brought to Martha's Vineyard in 1884. This historic landmark is maintained by the Martha's Vineyard Preservation Trust.

The Flying Horses Carousel is open daily during the summer and on weekends in the spring and fall. Rides are just \$1.50.



Flying Horses Carousel

## Plenty of Pedaling Around Cape Cod and the Islands

Biking has always been one of the most popular activities for visitors to Cape Cod and the islands of Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard. You can safely enjoy both road and mountain biking on the many paved and off-road bike paths. Bike shops are plentiful if you need to rent a bike for adults or children. Since biking is an activity the whole family can enjoy, child trailers are also available.

### Cape Cod

Throughout the Cape, you have your choice of both paved and unpaved bikeways. The most popular paved trails include:



- **Cape Cod Canal Bikeway:** A 7+ mile paved path along the canal between the Bourne and Sagamore bridges, providing wonderful views of boat traffic and ending at Scusset Beach on the mainland side of the canal.
- **Shining Sea Bikeway:** A 10.7-mile trail that follows the coast from North Falmouth to Woods Hole, winding along cranberry bogs, Buzzards Bay, and Vineyard Sound.
- **Cape Cod Rail Trail:** A 22-mile paved trail running along a former railroad right-of-way from Dennis to Wellfleet. The trail has a wide unpaved shoulder on one side to accommodate horseback riding, walkers, and runners.
- **Nickerson State Park Network:** An 8-mile trail winding through pine forests and along ponds and lakes of this state park in Brewster.
- **Cape Cod National Seashore Network:** The Nauset Marsh Trail in Eastham runs 1.5 miles into National Seashore acreage, ending at Coast Guard Beach, with a panoramic vista of the Atlantic Ocean.
- **Province Lands Bike Trail:** A 7+ mile trail beginning at Race Point in Provincetown and running through sand dunes and forests, ending at the ocean.

### Nantucket

Nantucket's terrain seems custom-made for bicycling -- never too steep and always scenic. There are over 24 miles of [bicycle paths on Nantucket](#), and most are separated from the roadways, making for a safe ride. Nantucket shuttle buses, equipped with bike racks, enable you to easily access any bike routes. A color-coded sign system helps guide bikers around the island.

### Martha's Vineyard

It can be a challenge to cover the whole island of Martha's Vineyard, which is almost 100 square miles! Bike paths parallel most of the major roads, and all MVTA buses have bike racks. The mostly flat "down-Island" route -- from Vineyard Haven to Oak Bluffs to Edgartown and back—covers about 25 miles. For a more challenging trip, the "up-Island" trip to Chilmark and Aquinnah is much hillier and can cover more than 40 miles roundtrip.

## paddling the Pristine Waters of the Cape and Islands

If your idea of the perfect day on Cape Cod or the Islands includes calm and quiet, consider kayaking. Paddling around in a kayak is also the perfect way to see wildlife in their natural habitats.

Cape Cod's many diverse bodies of water provide excellent settings for kayakers of all skill levels and offer more than 60 different kayaking routes. Out on the Islands, the harbors, coves, and ponds are popular with kayakers, as are the South Shore beaches, which offer surf kayaking.

### Cape Cod

On the **Upper Cape**, try a relaxing paddle along the Mashpee River in Mashpee; in Wild Harbor or West Falmouth Harbor in Falmouth; or Scorton Creek in Sandwich. Waquoit Bay, a national research reserve, also offers the chance to explore undeveloped Washburn Island. On Buzzard's Bay, take in the calm waters of Pocasset Harbor near Barrett's Island or Vineyard Sound for more experienced kayakers. Coonamesset Pond is a good choice for fresh water paddling.

In the **Mid Cape** area, the Herring River, which runs through the 200+ acres of Harwich conservation lands, is a favorite among paddlers of all ages and skill levels. Travel upriver to the marsh to see egrets, great blue herons, and ospreys. Other Mid Cape destinations include Bass River, the longest river on Cape Cod; Swan River; Swan Pond; and Nantucket Sound. For solitude, try Barnstable Harbor and the Great Marsh of West Barnstable, taking time to step onto Sandy Neck Beach.

The **Lower Cape** features Nauset Marsh, one of the most productive salt marsh habitats in the world and a spectacular spot for kayaking. It is ideal for birdwatching and otter-spotting. You may also find sunbathing seals on Nauset's barrier beaches. The waters are calm enough for beginners, but the beauty brings back even the most experienced kayakers time and again. Check the tides before paddling out, however. Low tide results in vast areas of mud flats that could leave you stranded. Other Lower Cape choices are Pleasant Bay; Chatham's Oyster River; and Cliff Pond, Flax Pond, and Little Cliff Pond in Brewster's Nickerson State Park.

Up on the **Outer Cape**, Long Point and Pamet Harbor in Truro; Blackfish Creek, Wellfleet Harbor, and Great Island in Wellfleet; and Provincetown Harbor are all popular out and back kayaking spots. These areas are especially choice for sunset paddling.



Kayaking throughout Cape Cod

Sea kayakers will find that Cape Cod's shoreline provides many inlets, coves, and harbors. Cape Cod Bay, Pleasant Bay, and Nantucket Sound offer open water for adventure kayaking and the opportunity to fish or view sea life such as the seals that make Monomoy Island their summer home.

There are many kayak outfitters and tour guides on Cape Cod from Falmouth to Provincetown. If you have never kayaked, most are happy to offer some instruction, but novices are encouraged to join a tour. Tours range from two hours to a full day.

### **South Shore and Southeastern MA**

Kayaking possibilities abound on the South Shore and Southeastern Massachusetts, including Buzzards Bay and the protected harbors of Marion and Westport. Paddle inner Plymouth Harbor and you can get a great view of the Mayflower and Plymouth Rock.

### **Nantucket**

Kayaking the waters of Nantucket offers experienced or novice kayakers many different opportunities. Nantucket Harbor offers easy paddling, with side trips into marshes with abundant bird life and along the coast to some of Nantucket's pristine beaches. Explore the many coves and even fish from the kayak and catch keeper bass or other fish.

Ocean kayaking is available across the Island. You will find good surfing waves on the South Shore for much of the year.

Kayaks are available for rent at the harbor or they can be delivered to the beach for surf kayaking.

### **Martha's Vineyard**

Gliding along beneath the spectacular Aquinnah Cliffs, paddling in Edgartown Harbor in front of the historic lighthouse, or nighttime paddles in the phosphorescence of Menemsha Pond are just a few of the ways kayakers can enjoy themselves on Martha's Vineyard.

Make a day of it by paddling to Cape Pogue on Chappaquiddick Island or around the Elizabeth Islands, or enjoy an afternoon venturing into the estuaries and quahog beds of the Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary and Sengekontacket Pond.

Martha's Vineyard has half a dozen or so ponds where you can enjoy a short, enjoyable paddle, or, like Nantucket, experience great kayak surfing in the waves of the ocean-facing southern shore.

Rentals are available and can be delivered.

## Cape & Islands Golf Courses

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Avid golfers who must put away their clubs for the winter months know that Cape Cod and the Islands is the destination for an eagerly awaited start to the golf season. The courses on the Cape and Islands are among the premier golfing destinations in New England.

Perhaps the best thing about the dozens of public and semi-private golf courses on the Cape and Islands is their diversity. You can spend the day playing a par 72 with hard fairways, run-up shots to the greens, and a few ball-swallowing bunkers, or sneak in a short game at one of the surprisingly challenging par 3 courses scattered throughout the Cape before you hit the beach with the family.

The courses on the Cape and Islands are typically set in terrain of gentle hills, fairways bordered by Cape Cod scrub pines along with some oak trees, deep fescue rough, more than a few water holes, and strategically placed bunkers.

Some of the best golf architects have contributed to the high quality of Cape and Islands golf courses: Jim Fazio, working with the irrepressible Chi Chi Rodriguez, Geoffrey Cornish, Brian Silva, and Rees Jones just to name a few.

Adding to the pleasure of golfing on the Cape and Islands are the many courses that are set along the coast, offering views of Buzzards Bay, Pleasant Bay, Cape Cod Bay, and even the Atlantic Ocean.

Most golf courses and clubs offer a pro shop, driving range, putting green, and club rentals. Instruction is likely available for all levels, including children. That all important “19th hole” is also found at most courses and clubs.

Golfing during spring and fall offers delightful weather, no summertime crowds or traffic, and the prices are very reasonable. Many of the region’s top private courses open up to non-member play. If you know members of private golf courses in the Cape Cod area, ask them about policies in the shoulder season that allow members to have friends golf as unaccompanied guests.

Expect all Cape and Islands courses to be busy and tee times limited during summer.



# Public & Semi-Private Golf Courses

## UPPER CAPE

- [Ballymeade Country Club](#), North Falmouth
- [Bay Pointe Country Club](#), Onset
- [Brookside Club](#), Bourne
- [Cape Cod Country Club](#), East Falmouth
- [Falmouth Country Club](#), East Falmouth
- [Holly Ridge Golf Club](#), South Sandwich
- [Paul Harney Golf Course](#), East Falmouth
- [New Seabury Golf Club](#), Mashpee
- [Olde Barnstable Fairgrounds Golf Course](#), Marstons Mills
- [Quashnet Valley Country Club](#), Mashpee
- [Sandwich Hollows Golf Club](#), East Sandwich

## MID CAPE

- [Bass River Golf Course](#), South Yarmouth
- [Bayberry Hills Golf Course](#), West Yarmouth
- [Blue Rock Golf Course](#), South Yarmouth
- [Dennis Highlands Golf Course](#), Dennis
- [Dennis Pines Golf Course](#), South Dennis
- [Harwich Port Golf Club](#), Harwich Port
- [Hyannis Golf Club](#), Hyannis

## LOWER CAPE

- [Captains Golf Course](#), Brewster
- [Chatham Seaside Links](#), Chatham
- [Cranberry Valley Golf Course](#), Harwich

## OUTER CAPE

- [Chequessett Yacht and Country Club](#), Wellfleet
- [Highland Links Golf Course](#), North Truro

## **JUST OFF CAPE**

- [Crosswinds Golf Club](#), Plymouth
- [Marion Golf Course](#), Marion
- [Pinehills Golf Club](#), Plymouth
- [Southers Marsh Golf Club](#), Plymouth
- [Squirrel Run Golf & Country Club](#), Plymouth
- [Waverly Oaks Golf Club](#), Plymouth

## **MARTHA'S VINEYARD**

- [Farm Neck Golf Course](#), Farm Neck Way, Oak Bluffs
- [Mink Meadows Golf Club](#), Vineyard Haven

## **NANTUCKET**

- [Miacomet Golf Club](#), Nantucket

## Cook Up the Cape and Islands' Favorite Fare

For many vacationers, no trip to the Cape and Islands would be complete without lobster. While most seafood markets will cook the lobsters for you, many vacation rentals come equipped with lobster steamers, so you can cook your own. Steam them in a few inches of water for about 20 minutes to the pound or until they are red but retain a slight amount of dark splotching on the shell. Serve with fresh local sweet corn and plenty of melted butter.

You can replicate a lobster bake, with sausage, potatoes, clams and corn, without all the work of digging a pit. All you need is a gas or charcoal grill. (See our recipe at the end of this article.)

There are two types of clams -- hard shell and soft shell.

Soft shelled clams are also called "steamers" and are found only in New England and the Chesapeake Bay. They live in "the flats," the somewhat mucky sand left behind at low tide. You'll literally dig with your hands and pull them loose.



Steamed Lobster Dinner

Hard shelled clams, also known as quahogs (CO-hogs), live in bays and along beaches in the sand just beneath the water. They are harvested by raking. Licenses are required by all towns in order to harvest shellfish.

Both types of clams can be easily steamed in an inch or so of water, if you do not have a proper steamer. It only takes a few minutes, and you'll know the clams are cooked when their shells begin to open up.

### Cape Cod Lobster Bake Prepared on the Grill (serves 4)

- 4 Cape Cod lobsters, about 1 1/4 pounds each
- 4 ears sweet corn, shucked except for innermost leaves
- 2 lbs steamer clams, cleaned
- 2 lbs mussels, cleaned
- 1 lb linguica (or other firm sausage), cut into four pieces
- 12 small red potatoes
- 2 cups water
- 5 lbs fresh seaweed (or add 2 teaspoons of salt to cooking water and aluminum foil)



Cape Cod Steamers

In a large roasting pan or steamer, place one-inch layer of seaweed or a layer of crumpled aluminum foil or on a rack.

Parboil the potatoes. Shuck the corn except for the innermost leaves.

Place lobster on seaweed or aluminum foil; arrange corn and sausage between the lobster and the sides of the pan.

Place clams, mussels, and potatoes gently over the lobster. Keep the top of the pan contents level.

Cover with remaining seaweed and add water (salted if no seaweed) over the top.

Cover the pan tightly with aluminum foil or a lid and place on preheated grill to cook. Make sure the grill is very hot.

When steam becomes visible, cook covered for 20 minutes. Check potatoes for doneness -- if they are cooked, the lobsters should be also. (Properly cooked lobsters should be red with just a slight bit of black mottling on the shell.)

Remove from heat, but leave covered for 5 more minutes.

Serve with lemon and melted butter.

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