

2012

NANTUCKET

VACATION PLANNER

WeNeedaVacation.comTM
where vacationers go

Nantucket Vacation Planner

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About Nantucket

In addition to the natural beauty of Nantucket, the Island's rich history is meticulously well-preserved. Right off the ferry, one is struck by the charm of the cobblestone streets and beautifully-maintained brick homes of Nantucket Town. The many boutiques offer unique shopping experiences, and there are fabulous places for casual family dining or a romantic dinner. Outside of Town, you can enjoy stunning views of moors, beaches, and sea – ideal for biking and walking. If you are looking for a break from lying on a gorgeous beach or reading a book on a porch, we suggest you take advantage of some of the wonderful, quintessentially-Nantucket experiences you will find here within the Nantucket Vacation Planner.

Contact Us

Phone: (888) 281-8660
Website: WeNeedaVacation.com
Email: info@WeNeedaVacation.com

THE CAPE & ISLANDS SPECIALISTS SINCE 1997



WeNeedaVacation.comTM

where vacationers go

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

Dining



SOMETHING NATURAL
nantucket

Something Natural

\$

Popular with locals and visitors alike, Something Natural is the place to go for huge sandwiches on home baked breads. Staples like roast beef, turkey and ham are on the menu and there are dozens of garnishes you can add and, of course, lobster salad. Something Natural's specialty sandwiches, such as turkey salad made with Granny Smith apples and raisins, are favorites. Also offered is a good selection of vegan sandwiches and salads. Meals can be bagged up for your day at the beach, your day on your bike or eaten at a picnic table on the lawn. Be sure to get some of their also huge cookies ~ chocolate chip is a local favorite ~ or a slice of cake.

Categories: Bakeries/Coffee Shops

50 Cliff Rd, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-0504 ~ www.somethingnatural.com



Nantucket Bake Shop

\$

From 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Saturday, the Nantucket Bake Shop is the place to come. Stop by early for breakfast to go which might include a warm scone or muffin, fresh coffee and the New York Times. For lunch there's ham and cheese croissants and Nantucket Nectars juice. And for cocktail time try gruyere cheese puffs or cheese straws. Take home dinner might include a fresh spinach quiche or chicken pie. As always, bread and rolls are always fresh. And the desserts are memorable. Indulge in a fresh fruit torte, a Boston cream pie or a cheese cake. And there is every kind of cookie imaginable. When it's time to head back home, don't forget to take a piece of Nantucket with you.

Categories: Bakeries/Coffee Shops

79 Orange St, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-2797 ~ www.nantucketbakeshop.com



Nantucket Coffee Roasters

\$

Discover the pleasure of a delicious cup of island-roasted coffee. Nantucket has a long history of appreciating coffee. In 1873, a British bark bound for Boston from Rio de Janeiro ran aground near Miacomet Pond on Nantucket with a cargo of 4,000 bags of coffee. As the passengers looked on, 1,000 bags were off-loaded to refloat the vessel and taken to Straight Wharf. We at Nantucket Coffee Roasters love great coffee. After years of searching for the perfect cup, we realized that roasting only the best beans and brewing them fresh could satisfy our desire for a quality coffee experience. We personally choose from the world's best coffees and roast them here on Nantucket Island.

Categories: Bakeries/Coffee Shops

15 Teasdale Circle, Nantucket ~ (800) 432-1673 ~ www.nantucketcoffee.com



ARNO'S AT 41 MAIN STREET

Arno's at 41 Main Street

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Arno's at 41 Main Street has been a Nantucket Restaurant tradition for over forty years. Now in their fourth year, Chris Morris and his team have revitalized Arno's at 41 Main Street. Still serving breakfast, lunch and dinner from April until January, the new Arno's has a modern edge. With the always evolving wine bar the 41, Morris has committed his menu to pair great wines, reasonably priced with wine oriented appetizers and entrees. the 41, Arno's wine bar, offers 41 wines by the glass, tasting menus, wine tastings seasonally, wine flights and an artisanal cheese menu with suggested pairings, satisfying beginner wine drinkers to wine connoisseurs. Please come in, relax, enjoy.

Categories: Casual Dining

41 Main Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-7001 ~ www.arnos.net



Centre Street Bistro

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Creative cuisine on Nantucket with an intimate dining room and in season patio seating. The food at the Bistro is honest, uncomplicated and creative. The Owners/Chefs Ruth and Tim both feel that food is an art form and personally create the innovative and sensational dishes served at Centre Street Bistro. The Bistro is comfortable and there is an unpretentious vibe which mingles among the aromas of roast garlic, fresh bread, herbs or the famous baked Goat Cheese Tart. Centre Street Bistro has a welcoming feel that attracts locals and visitors alike. The Bistro is open year round so you can always rely on great food, a warm, casual atmosphere along with a great wine and beer list.

Categories: Casual Dining

29 Centre Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-8470 ~ www.nantucketbistro.com



Oran Mór

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Chef Chris Freeman and his wife, Heather are the owners of Oran Mor. Join us upstairs at Oran Mor and celebrate the Island's finest seasonal delicacies, handcrafted cocktails, and select wines in an historic Nantucket home. The evolving and innovative menu is derived from the changing seasons and their bountiful offerings, showcasing native seafood, fresh local produce, and naturally raised meats from select farms. Chef Freeman's cooking style is one of inspired simplicity, each ingredient complements one another to create a unique, savory dish. Dine casually either in our attractive bar or in our dining room. Oran Mor can offer private dining and functions for lunch or dinner.

Categories: Fine Dining

2 South Beach St, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-8655 ~ www.oranmorbistro.com



DeMarco Restaurant

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Situated in historic downtown Nantucket, DeMarco Restaurant has been serving the finest Northern Italian cuisine for 28 years, accompanied by homemade breads and desserts made daily. Our extensive Italian and Domestic wine list has been honored by the Wine Spectator Magazine consistently for 24 years. Owner Don DeMarco invites you to dine in his 19th century Townhouse, restored to accentuate its rustic wood beam ceiling and original plank floor details. The intimate downstairs bar features a log fireplace, as well as a wide selection of wines by the glass, martinis and summer cocktails. Dinner from May through October from 6pm daily, with reservations recommended.

Categories: Fine Dining

9 India St, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-1836 ~ www.demarcorestaurant.com



Sayle's Seafood

Sayle's Seafood is a complete retail fish market carrying a wide variety of fresh and frozen seafood from waters around the world. We specialize in Nantucket Bay scallops, native Nantucket lobsters, Atlantic sea scallops and our homemade Nantucket clam chowder. We also carry fresh lobster meat, cod, grey sole, salmon, swordfish, tuna, halibut, steamers, little neck clams, mussels, oysters and much more. Our prepared food division offers a wide range of ready to eat foods to be enjoyed on our water front deck, on Nantucket beaches or at your Nantucket vacation rental home. We also offer charter sailing, and sun set clambake cruises on the Argonaut.

Categories: Seafood Market

99 Washington Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-4599 ~ www.saylesseafood.com



The RopeWalk

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Influenced by the long tradition of fishing history on Nantucket, the RopeWalk takes its name from the building that was used to make the ropes for the ships during the whaling days. This large and busy restaurant establishment sits right on the water, with three sides of the expansive building open to the breathtaking view of Nantucket Harbor. The restaurant serves an eclectic, American menu with an emphasis on fresh shell and fin fish, featuring such signature dishes as New England Clam "Chowda," Crispy Fried Calamari and Portuguese Mussels. The restaurant has three dining rooms, a patio, two bars, and a raw bar. Nantucket's boat-filled harbor can be seen from any seat in the house.

Categories: Waterfront Dining

1 Straight Wharf, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-8886 ~ www.theropewalk.com



Kitty Murtagh's

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Nantucket's authentic Irish pub offers traditional Irish fare such as Beef Stew, Sheperds Pie and Irish Fry-up plus island fare and prime rib. Great beer selection including Guinness by the pint. A popular watering hole with pool tables and entertainment.

Categories: Casual Dining

4 West Creek Road, Nantucket ~ (508) 325-0781 ~ www.kittymurtaghs.com



The SeaGrille Restaurant

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The Seagrille specializes in local and regional fresh seafood, prepared both traditionally and creatively, as well as meats, poultry, and game. There is also an extensive raw bar menu. Outdoor seating is available seasonally. A favorite with locals and visitors!

Categories: Casual Dining

45 Sparks Ave, Nantucket ~ (508) 325-5700 ~ www.theseagrille.com



The Brotherhood of Thieves

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The bar downstairs gives the The Old Brotherhood the feel of a quintessential meeting place. Upstairs are five separate dining areas with many options for groups of all sizes as well as a bar overlooking Broad Street. The entire food menu is offered on the patio.

Categories: Casual Dining

23 Broad Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-2551 ~ www.brotherhoodofthieves.com



Restaurant at the Ship's Inn

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Located in an historic whaling captain's mansion built in 1831, the dining room and lounge have an updated colonial atmosphere. California-French cuisine is featured, with everything freshly prepared on the premises and presented with understated elegance.

Categories: Casual Dining

13 Fair Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-0040 ~ www.shipsinnnantucket.com



21 Federal

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This popular, well-established eatery located in the heart of downtown Nantucket serves new and traditional American cuisine. The building at 21 Federal Street was built in 1847 and offers finely decorated, intimate dining rooms. Private parties welcomed.

Categories: Fine Dining

21 Federal St, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-2121 ~ www.21federal.com



American Seasons

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Nestled in the center of Nantucket's historic downtown, American Seasons offers some of the island's most creative food, along with a one-of-a-kind boutique wine list. Join us as we celebrate our 20th season. One of Nantucket's premier dining destinations

Categories: Fine Dining

80 Centre Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-7111 ~ www.americaseasons.com



Aunt Leah's Fudge Shop

Aunt Leah's award-winning fudge comes in over 30 flavors. Four flavors of sugar free duge are offered. Leah is also known for her delectable Nantucket chocolate covered cranberries. make Aunt Leah's fudge shop the first and last stops before you leave the Island.

Categories: Ice Cream & Candy

16 Straight Wharf, Nantucket ~ (800) 824-6330 ~ www.auntleahs.com



Bartlett's Farm

The Bartlett Family has been farming the same land since arriving on Nantucket in the early 1800's. These days, the farm offers fresh fruits and vegetables, including our famous corn and tomatoes and thousands of different food and non-food items.

Categories: Produce Market

33 Bartlett Farm Road, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-9403 ~ www.bartlettsfarm.com



The Jetties

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Come to The Jetties for a complete Nantucket Beach experience. Located at the popular Jetties Beach, The Jetties offers Breakfast & Lunch takeout and a full Dinner menu. Our Raw Bar is great and our Bar is open from 5 pm until late. Also visit our beach shop.

Categories: Waterfront Dining

4 Bathing Beach Road, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-2279 ~ www.thejetties.com



The Tavern

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The Tavern is casual and kid-friendly, and we offer good value and prices that will please you. Located right on the dock, and our waterviews are gorgeous. Our menu includes regional favorites including: chowder, salads, burgers, seafood, chicken, and more.

Categories: Waterfront Dining

Main St and Straight Wharf, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-1266 ~ www.nantuckettavern.com



Slip 14

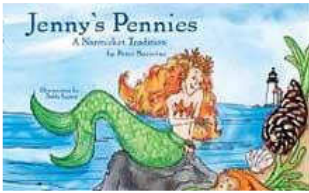
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On the wharf and a great place to dine before or after gallery and shop hopping. Casual atmosphere featuring creative coastal cuisine prepared simply with fresh ingredients and just the right flavor enhancements. Try one of our specialty cocktails ~ they are great fun!

Categories: Waterfront Dining

14 Old South Wharf, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-2033 ~ www.slip14.com

Activities



Jenny's Pennies

"Jenny's Pennies - A Nantucket Tradition" When you sail past Brant Point Light on Nantucket, there is a tradition that if you toss a penny into the water, its luck will bring you back again. But what happens to all those pennies? Local resident Peter Saverine has written a delightful tale of mermaids collecting the shiny pennies and sharing them with their friends. The pennies are scattered over the island with the help of seagulls, seals, horseshoe crabs, and others, spreading the hope that absent friends will soon return. Bobbi Eggers' wonderful illustrations bring the tale to life. Jenny's Pennies can be purchased in selected bookstores on Cape Cod and Nantucket or ordered online.

Categories: Children

(203) 254-7942 ~ jennypennies.us



Rose & Crown Pub

The Rose & Crown is Nantucket's only downtown nightclub and has been serving locals and visitors alike for over 30 years. There is a huge dance floor, state of the art sound system and a variety of themed DJ nights like Night of Retro Dance, 80s Video Dance and Top 40 for you to choose from. Come check out the hottest spot for outrageous fun! "The Crown" services lunch and dinner from an extensive menu of everything from the traditional fish & chips to southwest-inspired dishes to delicious pastas and salads. Whether you're in for the day or the week, The Rose & Crown is a sure bet for good food, good drinks, and good company.

Categories: Entertainment / Nightclubs

23 South Water St, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-2595 ~ www.theroseandcrown.com



The Muse

Nantucket's premier spot for top entertainment from live bands and top DJs from around the world, NFL Sunday Ticket, pool tournaments and lottery. The Muse has it all! Swing by for a wicked good time. Food served or you can get take out.

Categories: Entertainment / Nightclubs

44 Surfside Road, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-1471 ~ www.228-muse.com



Miacomet Golf Course

Miacomet is Nantucket's only 18-hole public golf facility and is owned by the Nantucket Islands Land Bank. The beach grasses and rolling fairways provide a naturally beautiful setting for this challenging but very playable links-style course. Putting green, driving range, restaurant, and "snack shack" available.

Categories: Golf

12 W. Miacomet Rd, Nantucket ~ (508) 325-0333 ~ www.miacometgolf.com

Shopping



Mitchell's Book Corner

Mitchell's Book Corner is a full service, independent book store on Nantucket Island, MA. We pride ourselves on a long tradition of personalized attention to our customers. In addition to our carefully selected stock of titles in all areas, Mitchell's Book Corner offers the most extensive selection of books available about Nantucket, whaling and the island's genealogy. Watch for our book signings and lectures and our featured books, such as *Law and Disorder in Old Nantucket* by Frances Ruley Kartunnen - a great read about the mid-1600s to the 1800s when Nantucket looked, at times, like the Wild East with boozing, brawling, knife-fighting, sheep rustling, and frolicking in disorderly houses.

Categories: Bookstores

54 Main Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-1080 ~ www.mitchellsbookcorner.com



Murray's Toggery Shop

Murray's Toggery and Nantucket Reds are an island tradition dating back to the 1950s. It's a small town store with big-city style and a devoted local, national, and international clientele. The store, which is open year-round, is popular with off-island visitors and island residents who find Murray's Toggery perfect not only for shopping, but for that age-old Nantucket tradition, "having a gam"--i.e., chewing the fat. Murray's is the exclusive retailer for Nantucket Reds sportswear and accessories and also carries Castaway Clothing embroidered clothing and collegiate embroidered clothing from Pennington & Bailes. Murray's ~ The place to shop for Nantucket style.

Categories: Clothing & Accessories

62 Main Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-0437 ~ www.nantucketreds.com



Flowers on Chestnut

Flowers on Chestnut is known for providing unparalleled floral artistry to Nantucket's most prestigious events and our excellent service has earned us a notable reputation. Our established relationships with local growers and with floral markets around the world allow us to bring you the most extraordinary flowers anywhere. A wonderful seasonal mix arrangement in clear glass or a bowl of all one flower will make your vacation rental feel like home. We offer many unique garden statuary, a beautiful variety of plants and topiary, tabletop accessories, and a Wedding Registry in our gift shop. Weddings are treated with the kind of attention to detail that they deserve.

Categories: Florists

1 Chestnut Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-6007 ~ www.flowersonchestnut.com



Blue Beetle

At the Blue Beetle we believe that beautiful surroundings bring peace, harmony, enjoyment and happiness. We strive to find products that will achieve this philosophy and reflect the playfulness and elegance of island living. Our shop offers guests a collection of unique items for themselves or for their homes. Many of our products perfectly express the appreciation of a friend or a thoughtful thank you. In addition to treats for yourself or others, we also offer a variety of decorative items to perfect your home. From Needlepoint pillows to Nantucket basket accessories, candles to salt and pepper cellars, the choice is yours. We also carry sheets, duvets, shams and coverlets.

Categories: Gift Shops

12 Main Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-3227 ~ www.bluebeetlenantucket.com



Nantucket Looms

Nantucket Looms was established in 1968 as a weaving studio until it became a private enterprise and the looms were under the direction of the Nantucket Historical Trust. The fabrics created there were used for the renovation of the historic Jared Coffin House. Continuing that tradition today, our weaving studio works with natural fibers to create one of a kind hand-woven textiles, ranging from our signature brushed mohair chaise throw to fine quality upholstery fabrics. To complement our textiles we offer an eclectic collection of antiques, furnishings and accessories for the home and garden as well as the works of a variety of local artists. Nantucket Looms also offers interior design services.

Categories: Gift Shops

16 Federal St, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-1908 ~ www.nantucketlooms.com



Nantucket Sailor's Valentine Kits

Sailor's Valentines originated in the mid 1800's in the West Indies Island of Barbados, a port of call for American and English ships. Sailors would buy or trade items for these nautical tokens as romantic gifts to take home to their loved ones after their long voyages at sea. The Valentines were made in octagonal wooden shadow boxes from the local shells. Traditional designs include hearts, flowers, rosettes, pictures and sentiments such as, "To My Sweet-Heart" and "Forget-Me-Not". Our valentines are simple and fun to create! We provide all the supplies needed to create a beautiful Sailor's Valentine. No two designs are exactly alike because of the uniqueness of each shell. Your personal valentine will be a one of a kind. All of our designs are original, based on the traditional designs of the mid 1800's. As a gift, a Sailor's Valentine will always be a treasure that is enjoyed for years to come.

Categories: Gift Shops

(508) 292-3502 ~ nantucketsailorsvalentinekits.com



The Perrine Company

Capture the moment, special places and times...forever. Make it charming, make it personal, make it a painting! Heather's unique yet simple cottage style homescapes capture more than meets the eye. Include your children or pets and your home is transformed into a family treasure! You need only provide a photograph of your home and family. Complement your homescape with a hand finished frame. In addition to fresh homescapes, Heather's custom work includes florals, murals, animal portraits, architectural renderings, and custom holiday card designs. A homescape makes a special gift -- and lets your friends enjoy their Cape or Islands home year round.

Categories: Other Shopping
(410) 374-2246 ~ www.originalsbyheather.com



Sylvia Antiques

Sylvia Antiques carries a wide selection of ships figureheads, paintings, furniture, antique ivory, and carved oddities. We have collector items from all parts of the world.

Categories: Antique Shops
167 Orange Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-0960 ~ www.sylviaantiques.com



Nantucket Bookworks

We are a general interest bookstore selling new books with an extensive children's room, card room, young adult section, and Nantucket book section.

Categories: Bookstores
25 Broad St, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-4000 ~ www.nantucketbookworks.com



Current Vintage

Styles may change as often as the tides, but timeless design never goes out of style. We carry a collection of clothing, accessories & home furnishings from the 1940s to present.

Categories: Clothing & Accessories
4 Easy Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-5073 ~ www.currentvintage.com



Coastal Vintage

Coastal features vintage, mid-century and contemporary home furnishings and home accessories. Organic and natural materials such as stone, wood, glass, linen, iron and marble set the tone, emphasizing the importance of form, function and environment.

Categories: Home & Garden
7 South Beach Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-4662 ~ coastalnantucket.com



L'Ile de France

L'Ile de France offers a wide variety of items from daily life in France – imported directly. Inventory includes tableware, home decor, kitchen ware, and leather bags.

Categories: Home & Garden
8 India Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-3686 ~ www.frenchgeneralstore.com



Le Cherche Midi

We "Embrace the Art of Living". We also believe in bringing a bit of the whimsical into our product line with quality, craftsmanship, beauty, and attention to detail!

Categories: Home & Garden
2 South Beach Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-7600 ~ www.lecherchemidi-nantucket.com



Diana Kim England Goldsmiths

Visit our studio to see current displays of fine, handcrafted silver, gold and fine jewelry. We have an exclusive line of Nantucket jewelry perfect for your souvenir shopping.

Categories: Jewelry
56 Main St, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-3766 ~ www.dianakimengland.com



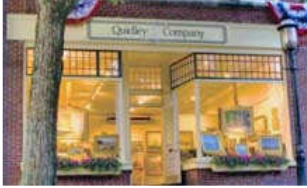
Jewelers' Gallery of Nantucket

The oldest established jewelry store on Nantucket features the work of the island's finest and nationally renowned goldsmiths. We showcase fine jewelry whose beauty is timeless.

Categories: Jewelry

21 Centre St, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-0229 ~ www.thejewelersgallery.com

Art & Museums



Quidley & Company

Quidley & Company is a fine art gallery offering Landscape, Marine, Still Life, and Figurative paintings by preeminent contemporary artists including Peter T. Quidley. Quidley & Company proudly offers selected works by master artists from the United States and Europe, each renowned for their period and genre. We are a full service gallery, satisfying every imaginable need arising from building and maintaining a fine art collection. Look for our special events when we highlight the works of selected artists. We look forward to welcoming you to our gallery and having you view our artists' works on our website to appreciate the selection of fine art you will find at Quidley & Company.

Categories: Art Galleries

26 Main Street, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-4300 ~ www.quidleyandco.com



The Scrimshander Gallery

The Scrimshander Gallery, located on historic Old South Wharf in Nantucket, is a destination of choice for scrimshaw collectors and art lovers alike. The gallery began in 1990 as a showcase for artist Michael Vienneau's scrimshaw, carvings and artwork. Mr. Vienneau has been working as a professional Scrimshander since 1974 and his artwork is in the finest tradition of the ancient art of scrimshaw. Michael uses antique whale's teeth and whale bone from pre-1972 stockpiles (observing the Marine Mammals Protection Act of 1972) but also employs a wide use of fossil ivories which can be from 100 to 30,000 years old. A selection of artwork from other fine regional artists who work in scrimshaw is also available at the gallery.

Categories: Art Galleries

10 Old South Wharf, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-1004 ~ www.scrimshandergallery.com



Nantucket Whaling Museum

Housed in a former candle factory built immediately following Nantucket's Great Fire in 1846, the museum was restored in 2005. Featured exhibits include a restored 1847 candle factory, expanded top-quality exhibition space, and the forty-six foot skeleton of a sperm whale that washed ashore on New Year's Day in 1998, the 1849 Fresnel Lens used in Sankaty Head Lighthouse, decorative arts, scrimshaw and lightship baskets, paintings, samplers and portraits of sea faring men and women, items of Nantucket history and prehistory. There is a fully accessible rooftop observation deck overlooking Nantucket harbor. This is a must see while on Nantucket for visitors of all ages.

Categories: Natural History Museums

15 Broad St, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-1894 ~ www.nha.org



Nantucket Stock Exchange

Offering a unique blend of antique, vintage and contemporary Nantucket artwork including folk art, oil paintings, whale carvings, photography, sculpture, scrimshaw & watercolors.

Categories: Art Galleries

25 Old South Rd, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-9155 ~



Nantucket Shipwreck & Lifesaving Museum

Located next to important shipping lanes when maritime travel was in its heyday, Nantucket Island saw hundreds of vessels passing by each day. Come enjoy our captivating exhibits.

Categories: Natural History Museums

158 Polpis Road, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-1885 ~ www.nantucketshipwreck.org

Services

ACKFASTSERVICES



ACK Fast Services

ACK Fast Services provides concierge services and baby/beach equipment rentals to visitors of Nantucket. We guarantee that each customer feels as if they have their own personal assistant 24/7, so you can relax and enjoy your vacation. As a Mom, I guarantee to provide top notch, sanitized equipment to ensure your child's safety while on vacation. We offer COMPLIMENTARY delivery, set-up and pick up on all of our rentals. We are fully insured and look forward to working with you!

Categories: Other Personal Services

(508) 284-4120 ~ www.ackfastservices.com



The White Elephant

What could be more magnificent than your ceremony or reception overlooking Nantucket Harbor? Imagine cocktails on the lawn followed by dinner and dancing on the terrace! We would be pleased to help you create the most memorable day of your life.

Categories: Receptions

50 Easton Street, Nantucket ~ (617) 243-7802 ~ www.whiteelephanthotel.com



The Summer House

A beachside ceremony is a dream for many brides-to-be. At Summer House, you can have your ceremony and reception overlooking the ocean and be as casual or as formal as you wish. Our wedding experts will ensure your day is perfect in every way!

Categories: Receptions

17 Ocean Ave, Siasconset ~ (508) 257-4577 ~ www.thesummerhouse.com

Transportation



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 Steamboat Wharf, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-0262 ~ www.steamshipauthority.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

33 Straight Wharf, Nantucket ~ (508) 228-3949 ~ www.hylinecruises.com

Nantucket Charm

In addition to the natural beauty of Nantucket's beaches, moors and coastline, the Island's rich history is so attractively and meticulously well-preserved. Right off the ferry, one is struck by the charm of the cobblestone streets and beautifully-maintained brick homes of Nantucket Town.

In this article:

[The Whaling Museum](#)
[The Maria Mitchell Observatory](#)
[The Wharf Area Shops and Galleries](#)

And although special places like Siasconset (more familiarly known as 'Sconset) or a sunset in Madaket also shouldn't be missed, there are three terrific sights to enjoy right in Town:

[The Whaling Museum](#)

For nearly 100 years – from the mid-1700's to the late 1830's – Nantucket was the whaling capital of the world with as many as 150 ships making port in Nantucket during its peak. During the period 1820 to 1840, Nantucket's population swelled to 10,000 due to the industry created by whaling, making it the third largest city in Massachusetts. Only Boston and Salem were larger.

The whaling ships of Nantucket actually sailed all around the world when the more local whaling waters were depleted. They were looking for right whales and if possible sperm whales. Right whales were valued because they were slow swimmers making them easier to catch and would float higher out of water making them easier to tow back to the ship. Sperm whales were harder to catch but each held a reservoir of valuable spermaceti oil in their head. They brought prosperity to the small island due to the demand for whale oil and bone for the making of scrimshaw.

In 1846, the "Great Fire" destroyed the wharves and much of the business district in the town of Nantucket. This event, along with the dwindling demand for whale oil, the silting-up of the harbor, and the California Gold Rush in 1849, all contributed to the end of the whaling-era prosperity.

The Nantucket Historical Association's Whaling Museum was first established in 1929.

After the Great Fire, the Mitchell family built the structure as a candle factory. Candles were made from the oil pressed from whale blubber and spermaceti oil found in whale heads. Two years later, it was purchased by local businessmen, William Hadwen and Nathaniel Barney, who continued to use it to manufacture candles. For about a dozen years beginning in 1860, the building was used for warehouse space before being reconverted into offices for the New England Steamship Company in the 1870's. In 1929, the building was purchased by the



Nantucket Whaling Museum

Nantucket Historical Association, and the Whaling Museum was created.

In 2005, the Museum was fully restored and, in 2008, became accredited by the American Association of Museums. While the centerpiece of the Museum is the complete skeleton of a 46 foot bull sperm whale suspended from the ceiling, the Museum also houses a large collection of whaling artifacts and memorabilia including longboats, harpoons, and scrimshaw.

Its original use as a candle factory is well represented with exhibits regarding that trade as well. The exhibited beam press is the only one in the world still residing in its original location. Other exhibits include an 1849 Fresnel lens used in the Sankaty Head Light and the restored workings of the Nantucket 1881 town clock.

[The Maria Mitchell Observatory](#)

On a night in October of 1847, a woman stood on the roof of the Pacific National Bank near her Nantucket home with a telescope. This was nothing new as Maria Mitchell had, since childhood, had a love for astronomy. At age 12, she and her father had pinpointed the location of their Nantucket home by observing a solar eclipse. So adept was Maria at astronomy that whaling captains trusted her to plot the navigation for their whaling journeys. Throughout her young womanhood, she acquired astronomical equipment and conducted observations.



Maria Mitchell Observatory

But on this October night, she would discover a comet that didn't appear on any astronomical charts. The comet was named Comet Mitchell 1847VI. This discovery brought Maria fame, and the following year she became the first woman to be appointed to the Academy of Arts and Sciences.

The Maria Mitchell Association was founded in 1902, and in 1908 the Maria Mitchell Observatory was built next door to her Vestal Street Nantucket home. This observatory, with its newly restored dome, is actually one of two observatories maintained by the Association – the other being the Loines Observatory west of town. The Loines Observatory actually has two domes, one built in 1968 and one in 1998.

The observatories are open for regular public tours, programs, and lectures and also host several special events during the year. View a scale model of the solar system, learn how to operate a sundial, and observe the night sky. For more information or to view information on each month's night sky, visit their website.

The Wharf Area Shops and Galleries

Having fallen into disuse during the Depression following the demise of Nantucket's whaling industry, Nantucket's wharves and cottages sat empty and derelict. In 1920, summer visitor Florence Lang, an amateur artist who lived in Montclair, New Jersey, and her husband Henry acquired a group of rundown buildings that had formerly been fishermen's shacks and boat-houses on the waterfront and renovated them for use as artists' studios. She rented out the studios for what were then considered nominal fees of fifty to seventy dollars per season.



Shopping in Nantucket Wharf

Artists quickly filled the spaces to both live and work together amid simple, no-frills conditions. Many returned year after year to their favorite studios. The colony flourished, in no small part thanks to this affordable real estate.

During the disastrous economic conditions during and after the Great Depression, high summer seasons on Nantucket surprisingly continued uninterrupted—a boon to all concerned. The arts were then central to the economy, as they are today.

Less than a year after the stock market crashed, the first Sidewalk Art Sale was launched in August of 1930 by illustrator and painter Maud Stumm (ca.1870-1935). She had studied in France where open air art markets were common. The sidewalk show ran for a string of fair weather days every August. Featuring dozens of artists from all levels of skill and divergent walks of life, it operated continuously for more than fifty years—a child of the Depression that grew to be vigorously healthy. The event consistently drew off-Island visitors.

Today Nantucket's wharves are home to art galleries, crafts and jewelry shops and restaurants, and they are a must-see when visiting the Island. The original architecture has been well maintained, and many of the buildings are original.

Padding 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.

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.

Cape & Islands Golf Courses

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.
