



THINGS TO DO



Must-See Places



Bass Hole Boardwalk at Grey's Beach

One of Yarmouth Port's most beautiful areas is Grey's Beach at Bass Hole, with a boardwalk that extends 868 feet over the salt marshes. At the end of the boardwalk, benches provide a place to relax and enjoy the spectacular sunsets! Grey's Beach also has a playground and picnic tables, or walk the beautiful 2 ½ mile nature trail while you're there. Located at the end of Center Street, off Route 6A, in Yarmouth Port. The natural scenic beauty is also great for photography.

400 Center Street, Yarmouth Port

Judah Baker Windmill

This windmill is located at the end of Willow Street in South Yarmouth on the historic Bass River. Originally constructed in 1791, the windmill was donated to the Town of Yarmouth in 1953 and Windmill Park was established, complete with a small swimming beach on the river. Like many early windmills on Cape Cod, this mill experienced several moves before it came to its current location. In 1999, the windmill underwent an extensive renovation and now appears in its original condition.

89 River Street, South Yarmouth

The Captain's Mile

Along Route 6A in Yarmouth Port, is a self-guided tour of 54 original sea captain's homes dating back to the late 1700's and early 1800's. Each historic home is marked with an oval shaped black and gold schooner ship plaque by the front door. Open to the public, the Captain Bangs Hallet House Museum tells the story of its two deep-water sea captains and their families that lived within. Pick up a copy of the illustrated tour guide at the Yarmouth Visitor Center. Route 6A, Yarmouth Port

Lighthouse Tours

Lighthouses are as much a part of Cape Cod and the Islands as the sea. For centuries they have guided mariners to safety through treacherous shoals. Among the Cape's numerous lighthouses you'll find eight working lighthouses, mile-for-mile one of the largest concentrations of working lighthouses in the world. Cape Cod Highland Lighthouse, also known as Cape Cod Light, is the oldest and highest lighthouse on Cape Cod, and one of Henry David Thoreau's favorite spots on Cape Cod. Ask the Visitor Center for information and maps of the Cape's Lighthouse Tour.

Cape Cod National Seashore and Salt Pond Visitor Center

Millions visit the National Seashore each year for its pristine beaches, self-guided nature trails, bicycle trails, lighthouses, picnic areas, scenic overlooks, and historic sites. Most of the park's features are located along a 30 mile stretch of Route 6 between Eastham and Provincetown on the outer Cape. Begin your tour at the National Park's Salt Pond Visitor Center on Route 6 in Eastham. The Visitor Center includes a bookstore, museum, orientation movies, map with glacial history, and more! 50 Nauset Road (Route 6), Eastham. (508-255-3421)

Old King's Highway

Meander along Old King's Highway, Cape Cod's Route 6A, on the northern, or bay side, of Cape Cod, which winds its way through some of the oldest villages in America: Bourne, Sandwich, Barnstable, Yarmouth, Dennis, Brewster, and Orleans. Many of the homes and churches along this tree-shaded road are listed on the National Register of Historic Places (look for the rectangular bronze plaques by the front door). Writer Jonathan Kandell described Route 6A in the Smithsonian Magazine this way, "Landscapes, like beauty, may well be colored by the eye of the beholder, but steering along tree-shaded Route 6A on a mild summer day, with blue inlets of Cape Cod Bay on one side and white picket-fenced houses on the other, I'm tempted to conclude this may be the most appealing stretch of America I know." Route 6A, Cape Cod

Cape Cod Rail Trail

Biking throughout Cape Cod is a special treat, with a variety of trails designed to meet every cyclist's needs as you enjoy views of quintessential Cape Cod towns, sandy beaches, playgrounds, boating, lighthouses, cranberry bogs and more. The Cape Cod Rail Trail runs for 34 miles through the towns of Dennis, Harwich, Brewster, Chatham, Orleans, Eastham, and Wellfleet. (Currently being expanded through Yarmouth) Its paved surface, few hills, and well-marked automobile crossings make it ideal for cyclists. The Nickerson State Park Trail, branching off of the Cape Cod Rail Trail, is an additional 8 mile paved trail winding through the park. Other scenic trails can be found in Yarmouth, Falmouth (the Shining Sea Trail), and running along both sides of the picturesque Cape Cod Canal. Pick up trail maps at the local Visitor Centers. Or visit mass.gov/eea/docs/dcr/parks/trails/ccrt.pdf for a trail map.

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Stony Brook Grist Mill

The Stony Brook Gristmill (c. 1873) uses the falling water of Stony Brook to power its waterwheel. Inside, the miller grinds corn on the turning millstones. Visitors may purchase fresh cornmeal as a souvenir of their visit. Upstairs, the Museum features artifacts of Cape Cod life in the 1800's, and an antique loom used for weaving demonstrations. Photos and descriptive signs tell the story of Brewster's sea-faring history, the Herring Run, and the industrial development of Factory Village. The Herring Run, across the street, provides a serene nature walk along the brook. Satucket Road, Brewster

Cape Cod Museum of Natural History

Visit the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, where you can experience marine and land animals in native habitats, see whale and dolphin exhibits, beehives, carved and mounted birds, the Marsh View Room with children's activities, the seasonal Osprey Cam, and much more. Walk along the beautiful naturalist guided, or self-guided hiking trails by the bay through gardens, woodlands and salt marsh. Route 6A, Brewster, open Thursday-Sunday, 11:00-3:00 (closed month of January) 869 Route 6A, Brewster

Scargo Tower

This tower sits atop Scargo Hill, one of the tallest (160 feet) and best-known hills on Cape Cod. The tower is located in the town of Dennis off of Scargo Hill Road. There have been three Scargo towers in this same spot. The first tower was made in 1874 of wood and burned down in 1900. The second tower, also of wood, was destroyed by fire in 1901. Today, the third tower is still holding strong, built out of cobblestone and created in 1901. The tower stands thirty feet high and from it, on a clear day, you can see almost all of Cape Cod on the bay side, including Provincetown. Climb to the top of the 30' cobblestone tower built in 1901 and look out over Scargo Lake. The lake is shaped like a fish. Scargo Hill, Dennis

The Islands

Take a day trip to Nantucket or Martha's Vineyard.

Nantucket: The entire island of Nantucket (30 miles off the coast) is a National Historic District, with over 800 pre-Civil War homes lining the cobblestone streets of town. It is a haven for shoppers and harbors an impressive array of shops and boutiques along the brick sidewalks. A stop at the Whaling Museum is a great visit to learn about the whaling industry of old.

Martha's Vineyard: New England's largest island, lies 7 miles off the Cape Cod coast. You can "shop 'til you drop" in the quaint little towns of Vineyard Haven (aka Tisbury), Oak Bluffs, Edgartown, and West Tisbury. While in Oak Bluffs take a ride on the Flying Horses, the oldest carousel in America, where you can still pull the brass rings. The Aquinnah Cliffs and the colorful village of gingerbread houses at Trinity Park in Oak Bluffs are always a visitor's delight.

Hyannis

Hyannis, the homeport of Cape Cod, offers a picturesque Main Street lined with local specialty shops and many eateries, including dining on the sidewalk. Main Street is also home to the John F. Kennedy Museum and the Chief Iyannough Memorial by the Village Green. The Hyannis Walkway to the Sea is a historic link connecting Main Street to the harbor, one of the busiest harbors in the northeast. Take a stroll along the boardwalk where you will find daily ferries to Nantucket & Martha's Vineyard islands, as well as excursions and charter boats for fishing trips, catboats offering scenic harbor sails, and replica steamships taking passengers on popular sightseeing tours - including a cruise that gives you a view of the "Kennedy Compound." The Kennedy Memorial is located just past the harbor overlooking Veteran's Beach.



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