

Cape Cod, Nantucket & Martha's Vineyard

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Best Places to Eat

- → Chatham Fish Pier Market (p143)
- BlackFish (p150)
- Canteen (p154)
- Proprietors (p162)
- → Sesuit Habor Cafe (p138)

Best Places to **Sleep**

- Inn at the Oaks (p146)
- Weguassett Resort (p140)
- Anchor-In (p133)
- Summercamp (p169)
- Roux (p154)

Why Go?

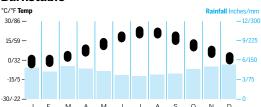
When summer comes around, New England's top seashore destination gets packed to the gills. Cars stream over the two bridges that connect Cape Cod to the mainland, ferries shuttle visitors to and from the islands, and sun-seeking bodies plop down on towels all along the shore.

This trio of destinations offers a beach for every mood. You can surf a wild Atlantic wave or dip a paddle into a quiet cove. Or just chill out and watch the kids build sandcastles.

But there's much more than sun, sand and surf. You'll find lighthouses to climb, clam shacks to frequent and beach parties to revel in. The Cape and Islands have scenic cycling paths and hiking trails, excellent art galleries and summer theater – and any one of them alone would be reason enough to come here. In combination, the appeal is undeniable.

When to Go

Barnstable



Jul-Aug In peak summer the ocean's warmest, the partying's hardest and the festivities maxed. Jun & Sep The beaches still dazzle but crowds are thinner, hotel rates cheaper and traffic jams fewer. **Oct-Nov** Ideal for cycling, hiking, kayaking – even a little swimming.



Cape Cod, Nantucket & Martha's Vineyard Highlights

- Cape Cod National Seashore (p150) Climbing dunes and bodysurfing waves.
- 2 Cape Cod Rail Trail (p137) Cycling the bicycle trail and discovering your own swimming hole.
- 3 Nantucket (p157)
 Wandering the cobbled, Moby
 Dick-era streets of this town.
- Whale-watching (p153) Ogling humpbacks from a boat out of Provincetown or Barnstable.
- 5 **Provincetown** (p150) Dining superbly and reveling in the carnival street scene.
- **6 Katama Beach** (p171) Riding a wave on the Vineyard's south coast.
- **7 Chatham Fish Pier Market** (p143) Eating freshoff-the-boat seafood and scouting for seals.
- **Beachcomber** (p148) Joining the party scene at the Cape's hottest nightspot.
- Old King's Highway (p139) Admiring sea captains' mansions and antiquing.