

Off the Shore, & On the Islands

Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard, Block Island
& other hot vacation spots away from the mainland

The Top 20 Vacation Picks for this Summer
And Tips for Planning & Recreation

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Summer at the Southern New England Coast

By George Yazbeck

This summer, you will want to unwind, fall back on your heels and take a well deserved break from your normal life routines. What could be more refreshing than to bask under the sun in one of the many islands scattering southern New England? You tell us.



An ariel view of Martha's Vineyard. As pictured, the island contains many ports and beaches surrounded by a large town and lush green landscape. These qualities all contribute to the warm and inviting atmosphere the Vineyard is known for.

To many tourists, Cape Cod is synonymous with the most popular vacation spot in Massachusetts (even amongst New England itself). We of course beg to differ. Along the southern coast of New England lies the prominent islands of Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard and Block Island, among

others that have been tourist favorites for decades. With activities such as yachting, parasailing, fishing and even just plain old sightseeing, there is a ton not to be missed upon visiting these seasonal locales. More so, the water temperatures are some of the best you'll get to experience



One of the ferry services that operates in the summer is the Hyline cruise. They connect from Hyannis to both Massachusetts Islands.

around the area. Since the region is at a confluence between the cold Labrador Current and the warmer Gulf Stream, the mix in temperatures provides for comfortable waters, (not too chilly but not very hot either!) that are ripe for swimming. Other than the comfortable waters is the inviting weather itself: sunny and gorgeous! Since most precipitation that originates outside New England gets passed through by a combination of northeasterly winds and the mountains of the west, the

islands of Massachusetts and Rhode Island bear little of their effects. The region however is still susceptible to cool ocean-effect temperatures and ocean storms in the summer; not to fret -- there are a variety of indoor points of interest to seek. Commercial centers, restaurants and entertainment venues await, with a touch of the local quality to spice up your visit. So plan ahead, go out and rent a vacation home to get to experience all the joys the islands has in store, rain or shine!

Don't Forget to Check These Out Too!



Block Island (*pictured left*) and Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay (*pictured right*) are spectacular points of interest for any vacation-goer. Rife with colonial landmarks and beaches, a plethora of sight-seeing and even surfing awaits!