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A Long Weekend In Nantucket: Where To Stay, What To Do, And Where To Dine



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Travel

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Brant Point lighthouse on Nantucket. GETTY

Nantucket, a quaint island located about 30 miles off the coast of Cape Cod in Massachusetts, is accessible by plane and ferry and makes for a great spot

for a long weekend. Here, where to stay, what to do, and top culinary spots on the island.

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Where to Stay



Veranda House NANTUCKET RESORT COLLECTION

Nantucket Resort Collection is a luxury boutique hotel collection located right in town, walking distance to great restaurants and shops. It's made up

of three properties: The Veranda House, which has 18 rooms; the Regatta Inn, which has 15 rooms; and the Chapman House, which has 15 rooms. In total, the collection has almost 50 rooms, which means it's great for friends traveling together or multigenerational families.

While all three properties have a unique look and feel, they are all steeped in history, as the buildings date back to the 17th century. The Veranda House has a minimalist beach design and a beautiful garden area with seating and a firepit.



The gardens and lawn area are a big draw to the properties. NANTUCKET RESORT COLLECTION

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Nantucket is famous for its gardens, and many of them are private, including the beautiful garden area at the Veranda House. The property has a full-time gardener that keeps the space stunning and gives guests a way to interact with this aspect of Nantucket's island culture without even leaving the hotel. The Veranda House garden is reminiscent of an English country garden with flowers, grasses, and trees that transition throughout the summer season, giving guests an unpretentious escape steps from the bustle of town.

Nantucket, known for its ornate window boxes, has been elevated with custom built flower boxes that divide the Veranda House's private verandas —some of the only rooms on the island with both outdoor area and harbor views.

The lobby at Veranda House is packed with board games, infused water and iced coffee in the afternoon. The outdoor seating on the lawn and cornhole lawn games is a big draw.

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While there is no restaurant on property, they do offer a continental breakfast each morning including complimentary açai bowls from beloved

local restaurant Island Kitchen, as well as coffee flown in from Zeke's Coffee in Washington D.C.

Guests tend to interact with each other in the living-room areas or in the backyard—it's a very friendly and relaxed atmosphere. The properties are very pet-friendly, and it's not uncommon for guests to bring their dogs. (Stella, the resident dog, is very popular among guests and other dogs.)



Regatta Inn common area NANTUCKET RESORT COLLECTION

The Regatta Inn, which is a historic, Federal-style mansion, is consistently ranked as the top bed and breakfast in Nantucket, with a sophisticated feel. The property has the newest-built guest rooms on Nantucket this season, which sets it apart from other properties. The goal of these new guest rooms was to create a refreshed, modern yet timeless vision that takes inspiration from the destination, while staying true to the Regatta Inn's original charm and heritage.





The new guest rooms at the Regatta Inn. NANTUCKET RESORT COLLECTION

This was done by featuring a muted color palette and subtle shades of blue, vibrant wallpaper design, and pops of color through modern furniture pieces, including shearling accent chairs. The rooms feature modern, beach inspired decor, including seashell artwork on the walls, drawing inspiration from the island setting, as well as open-concept closets and bright, colorful window treatments in shades of yellow. Other special touches include "local beds" with custom linens from Matouk and mattresses from US Bedding, which are both based in Massachusetts. Additional special features beyond the guest rooms include experiential dining and retail pop-ups held on property. The rooms were designed by Giovanna Lucy.

Nantucket Resort Collection offers backpack beach chairs and umbrellas for guests to use on the beautiful Nantucket beaches located just a short walk away from the properties. Additionally, the properties feature a fun, electric golf cart-meets-stretch limousine called the "Electric Grey Lady." The hotel offers guests complimentary drop-off service via the Electric Grey Lady around the island between the Hy-Line Ferry and Jetties Beach, available by appointment.

The properties are ideal for couples or families looking for a relaxed stay in a stylish, upscale property. The location is ideal too—close to both the ferry

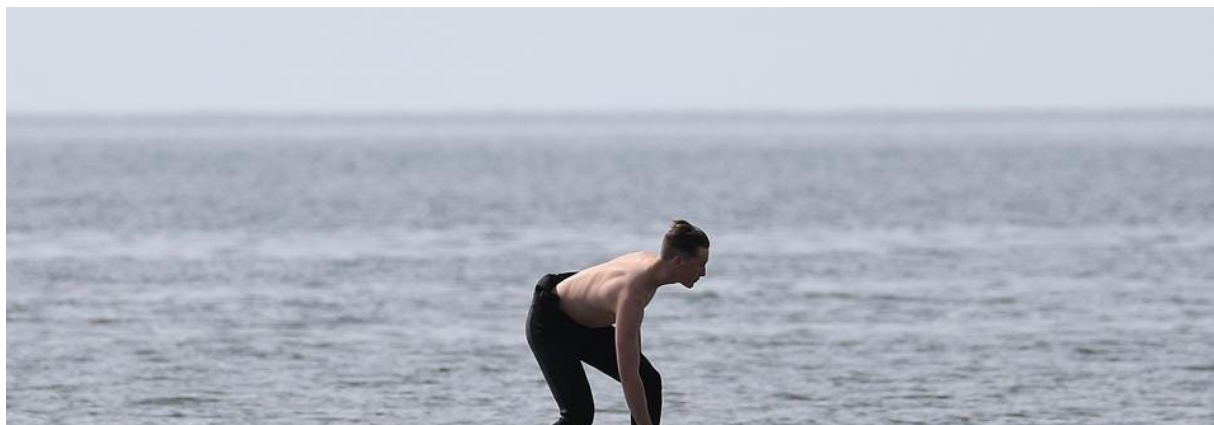
and airport.

Activities on Nantucket



There are over 30 miles of bike paths on Nantucket. GETTY

A great way to experience the island is via bike. [Easy Rider Bicycles](#) will drop a bike at the Nantucket Resort Collection for guests to use during their stay. It's ideal to book a bike for the duration of your stay, as you'll use it more than you'd think. Nantucket is super bike-friendly with over 30 miles of biking lanes. Favorite routes include the Polpis, Milestone, Madaket, and Cliff paths. It's also fun to just bike through town and the surrounding areas. What's nice is that the paths are separate from the road, so you can see the island without having to worry about sharing the lane with cars.





For a truly unique activity, try eFoil, which is almost like surfing with a motor. PA IMAGES VIA GETTY IMAGES

For something truly unique, try an eFoil lesson run by [Next Level Watersports](#). Owners Jake Hoefler and Jon Beery started the company back in 2016. They met while coaching one of the leading kiteboarding schools in the world and decided to parlay their expertise into their own business. Jake and Jon are hands-on owners, and they are often the instructors for the eFoil lesson. It's hard to explain what exactly eFoil is without experiencing it, but it's like surfing with a motor. Once you master the surfing on water, the next level is surfing above water—almost like flying. You control the speed through a handheld device and your body weight, and distribution controls the turns and directions. It's a wonderful and unique way to experience the water without strings or ropes. You're totally in control of how fast or slow you travel. The lesson starts out with the basics and it's not unusual for people to be standing on the board within the first lesson. In order to really experience the feeling of flying above the water, it is recommended to book two lessons. Jake is a great hands-on instructor—patient, smart, and an expert on all things water-related. Trying an eFoil lesson will undoubtedly be one of the highlights of your vacation. The company also offers wakeboarding, tubing, and kiteboarding.

Restaurants on Nantucket





Nantucket is known for its freshly-caught seafood, among other things. GETTY

American Seasons, a restaurant that focuses on fresh local fish, meats, and produce, changes its menu regularly to ensure they are utilizing ingredients that are in season. The fresh-catch menu special is always a winner (the fluke is amazing) and the roasted pork shoulder is a fan favorite. Be sure to start with the burrata, which is served with a roasted yellow peach for a wonderful mix of sweet and savory. The chocolate custard and lemon posset are a great way to finish the meal.

Island Kitchen is known for its bowls. The spicy tuna is a mix of ahi tuna, soy ginger brown rice, cucumber, avocado, wasabi cream, spicy mayo, scallion, cilantro, sesame seeds, and crispy garlic for a healthy and protein-packed meal. The sweet and sour quinoa, served with kale, arugula, avocado, roasted squash and zucchini, asparagus, and sesame-seed dressing is a great option for vegetarians. The roasted cauliflower, served with dates, tahini vinaigrette, and grilled lemon is a great dish to share.

Black Eyed Susan's is an intimate restaurant located in the heart of town. There are tables both indoors and out, but for a real treat, eat at the counter. It's an open-kitchen concept taken to a whole new level. Diners are literally just feet away from the pans blazing, the fish frying, the vegetables being sautéed. The chef is very open and social and diners are free to ask him

questions while he works. It feels like eating in someone’s home—only it tastes much better. The menu changes regularly, but if the halibut special is offered, grab it. It’s fresh, light, and bursting with flavor. The tuna tartare starter is also a fan favorite. The restaurant is open for both breakfast and dinner and it’s crowded at both settings so get there early.

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