

Nantucket Travel News: New Partnerships & Amenities

Located 30 miles off the coast of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, the small island of Nantucket has a big history centered around whaling, Quakerism, as well as the untold stories of women leaders in the arts and science. This past is also complemented by New England's natural beauty, with dramatic cliffs, 80 miles of swimmable beach, 30 miles of biking trails, plus boating, lobstering, and fishing. The opening of the season will kick off expanded brand partnerships and added amenities at Nantucket Island Resorts (a collection of properties made up of The Wauwinet, White Elephant, White Elephant Village, Jared Coffin House, and The Cottages at the Nantucket Boat Basin).

Beemers and Bikes...

Skip the \$450 Jeep rental fee and drive a BMW instead. Guests who book the top, three-bedroom suite at the White Elephant, White Elephant Village or The Wauwinet will receive the keys to a BMW for the duration of the stay. The fleet of nine cars will include a new electric model from the 5-Series in addition to other hybrid and gas options.

Rather see the sites by bike? Nantucket Island Resorts makes it easy to explore Nantucket by partnering with a New York-based cycling startup, Priority Bicycles, that will supply bikes to The Wauwinet, White Elephant Village, and The Cottages at the Nantucket Boat Basin. Guests can take in the island's marshes, ponds, and cranberry bogs on any of the numerous bike paths, such as the Polpis Road bike route. For a more tailored experience, The Wauwinet – located on the quiet, northeastern coast of Nantucket and home to two private beaches – will debut a "Ride & Rosé" package, which will include a Rosé picnic basket for two and a custom bike map to the most romantic destinations on island, such as the red and white striped, cliff-top lighthouse at Sankaty Head.

Bring the Pup...

The WOOF Cottages – 12 one- and two-bedroom cottages for guests with pets – are located at The Cottages at the Nantucket Boat Basin. Guests vacationing with a furry friend can enroll in the new Very Important Paws program to receive personalized pet tag, an oversized pet bed, and access to the pet-friendly beach bus. For tips on the best dog-friendly activities on Nantucket, contact Bailey, the WOOF Cottages' resident golden retriever and new pet concierge; he can be reached at petconcierage@niresorts.com.

For the Kids...

The White Elephant – situated on a grassy lawn overlooking the harbor and just a ten-minute walk from town – will launch the Mini Chef program, where top chefs of the future are invited to decorate cupcakes and cookies in 45-minute weekly sessions in July and August. For a fun night in at the hotel, children can snuggle up in kid-sized robes and have an in-room camp-out, complete with teepees and faux, indoor campfires.

Families staying at The Cottages at the Nantucket Boat Basin – the closest guests can get to being on the water without staying on a boat – can take advantage of two new activities for the little ones. With the Crew Kids Program, children will be encouraged to explore Nantucket in a scavenger hunt, which comes with a Barnaby Bear passport and a nautical tote bag filled with an extending telescope and glow sticks. Also part of the program is kids fishing, which offers a pole, hat, and vest, teaches new techniques, and aids in the discovery of the best fishing spots around the island.