

SKY

A DELTA

// BOBBY FLAY ON NEW AMERICAN CUISINE

// THE POWER OF PLAY

// TALK SHOW WITH CITIZEN USA'S ALEXANDRA PELOSI

AMERICAN ICON

Ralph Lauren
and his exhilarating ride
to the pinnacle of fashion

Stateside
Summer
Getaways

Classic Americana Escapes
from East to West

JULY 2011

Clockwise from left:
Nantucket Harbor;
Beachgoers walk
past the Compass
Rose Mural at
Gardiners Corner
in Nantucket town;
Pedestrians cross the
town's cobblestone
streets. Lower right:
Contemplating the
golden aspen near
Crested Butte.



MASSACHUSETTS

As the classic, circa-1902 limerick goes,
"There once was a man from Nantucket . . ."
And what a lucky man, indeed!

BY JASON OLIVER NIXON /

FOUNDED IN THE 17TH CENTURY as a whaling outpost, Nantucket has morphed into a glittering, preppy island retreat favored by tony East Coasters. The island sits well off the coast of Cape Cod—some 26 miles—so unlike close-to-shore Martha's Vineyard, Nantucket requires a commitment to reach its sandy shores (aka, time and money): Hence, it has a heightened air of exclusivity about it, a sort of Hamptons vibe in whale-patterned pants and blue blazers.

Still, summertime on Nantucket sees plenty of folk who jam the car ferry from ports in Woods Hole, Massachusetts, or fly in, so if you plan to visit, consider renting a bike or a Vespa to tour the 105-square-mile isle and its 80 miles of pristine beaches (favorite strands include Fisherman's and Cisco).

To escape the Southsider set, there's nothing better than the seven-mile, flat bike ride out from Nantucket town to the shingle-clad cottage community of Siasconset. Wander along the charming byways before lunching at the chic Chanticleer or beachside at The Summer House. As you bike

back to town, you'll pass atmospheric Sankaty Head Lighthouse as well as moors, farms, a golf course and cranberry bogs. Back in town, explore the Nantucket Whaling Museum with its rooftop observation deck, candle factory and sperm whale skeleton. Then wander along the cobblestone streets to shop for antiques and design wares as well as classic Nantucket Reds pants at Murray's Toggery Shop.

Nantucket offers myriad hotel options, from the elegant, harbor-facing White Elephant and the historic, brick-clad Jared Coffin House, both in town, to the resortlike, expansive and expensive Wauwinet, minutes from the hustle and bustle. For a boutique experience, book a room at the intimate, in-town Vanessa Noel Hotel or its sister property, the eco-chic Hotel Green. Both offer contemporary flourishes with bohemian opulence. If proximity to the water is key, the bright and airy Cottages & Lofts at the Boat Basin are smack on the harbor and perfect for families (and dog lovers).

Come nightfall, Nantucket sparkles as a dining destination: In town, the elegant Company of the Cauldron offers a set menu that might include a pan-seared Maine Jonah crab cake with whole-grain mustard followed by slow-roasted duck breast with "foie" grits and roasted mushrooms. American Seasons is a perennial favorite thanks to its bustling dining room and covered patio and chef Michael