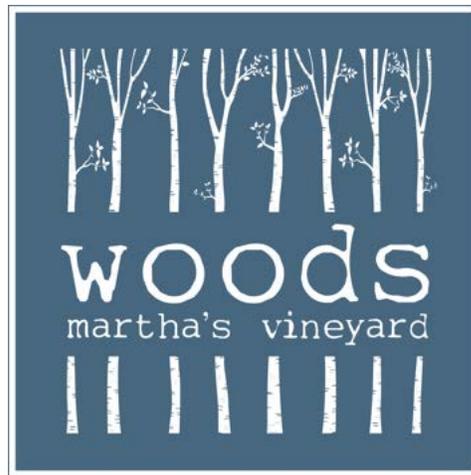


# Definitive Guide to Martha's Vineyard



You've finally arrived on magical Martha's Vineyard, and you can feel your soul beginning to relax. EXHALE....This is what you've been waiting for, and you want to make the most of every moment. Whether you're here for a weekend, a week, or even longer (lucky you!), we're here to help you plan your time and maximize your joy. Our goal is for you to have relished your experience here so much that you can't wait to book your next trip back!

### **The Scoop on Martha's Vineyard Towns**

There are those who would say the only towns that matter in Martha's Vineyard are "Down Island"—Oak Bluffs, Edgartown, and Vineyard Haven—and then there are those who know that you can't *really* know the island without spending some time "Up Island" in the towns of West Tisbury, Chilmark, and Aquinnah. If you arrive on the Vineyard as most do, by ferry, you will enter the bustling ports in either Oak Bluffs or Vineyard Haven. Oak Bluffs is lively and accessible with a rich historical tradition and plenty of spots for fun. Vineyard Haven is an artsy and quirky working-harbor village peppered with adorable boutiques. Edgartown is elegant, preppy, and colonial with gorgeous harbor views. All three towns are popular tourist destinations, with the souvenir shops to match.

Up Island is where you begin to see that Martha's Vineyard's rolling hills and idyllic farms are as iconic as its beaches. West Tisbury is a scenic New England village with an old-fashioned general store, agricultural hall, and many a celebrity home tucked away down wandering paths in the woods. A drive through Chilmark makes you feel as if you're in the Scottish Highlands dotted with sheep and meandering stone walls, until you arrive at Menemsha, a quaint and picturesque fishing village with legendary sunsets. And, the untamed beauty of Aquinnah stuns with its red clay cliffs and a red-brick lighthouse that affords breathtaking panoramic views.

The best way to experience all six towns is to book one of our Island Excursions, held Monday-Saturday from 10:30 am - 2:30 pm (inquire at the front desk for reservations). Then, when you're ready to explore on your own, read on...

### **Quintessential Vineyard Experiences**

So you want to check off the classics on your Martha's Vineyard bucket list. Here are some things you'll want to try:

- *Lobsters by sunset in Menemsha* – Is there anything more romantic than fresh delicious lobsters, mouthwatering clam chowder, a glass of wine, a beach blanket, a summer night, and the sun melting into the sea before your eyes? Larsen's Fish Market and Menemsha Fish Market are two go-to spots for straight-from-the-ocean seafood.
- *Jump off the Jaws bridge in Oak Bluffs* – Hold your favorite person's hand and take the plunge...off the Jaws bridge on Beach Road where Oak Bluffs meets Edgartown. Afterwards, you can buy a t-shirt in town to attest that you mastered the spot where history's most famous shark attack scene was filmed.

- *Fly a kite in Ocean Park and visit the gingerbread cottages in Oak Bluffs* – Recapturing your childhood is never easier than when you’re racing through the vast expanse of Ocean Park with a kite in hand and the water stretching out into the beyond in front of you. Nearby, whimsical and colorful gingerbread cottages make up a Methodist camp meeting ground, where you can often catch a concert in the open-air Tabernacle.
- *Indulge in Backdoor Donuts after a night out* – It’s past midnight, the bars of Oak Bluffs are winding down, and you’re not quite ready to come back to the inn. Engage in one of the most classic traditions on the island and stand in line at the back entrance of Martha’s Vineyard Gourmet Café and Bakery (1-11 Kennebec Ave) to savor doughnuts and apple fritters fresh from the fryer.
- *Stroll the quaint streets of Edgartown and watch the boats in Edgartown Harbor* – Lined with 18<sup>th</sup> century sea captains’ homes and upscale shops, downtown Edgartown is as perfectly manicured a town as you could hope for. Once you’re done with people watching, head down to the harbor to see sailboats and yachts chase the horizon.
- *Browse the farm fresh produce at Morning Glory farm stand* - If you’re looking for fresh baked pies, straight-from-the-farm produce, and bouquets of gorgeous wildflowers, stop by in Edgartown at the Morning Glory Farm (120 Meschacket Road). This is the perfect stop if you’re taking one of our electric bikes into town.

## Hidden Gems

There are the things everyone does when they visit the island, and there are the things that give you bragging rights for living like a local. Here are a few:

- *Ice House Pond in West Tisbury* – Because you’re staying in Lambert’s Cove Inn, you have exclusive access via golf cart to the treasure that is Ice House Pond. From 1908 to 1953, ice was commercially harvested from the pond, and now it is perfect for hiking, picnicking, and athletic swimming. There is no beach here, but small docks are available for pond entry. Only 20 people may swim at the pond at a time.
- *The Grey Barn & Farm in Chilmark* – This farm boasts a location somewhere between the wind and the willows (22 South Road to be more precise), and is known for its award-winning cheeses, organic produce, gorgeous architecture, and a variety of animals. Lambert’s Cove Inn’s chickens hail from this gem of a farm. Tours and cheese tastings are available from Memorial Day to Columbus Day.
- *Davis House Gallery in West Tisbury* – Have you been admiring the striking landscape paintings around the inn and wishing you could see more or perhaps take one home?

Head over to Allen Whiting's gallery (985 State Road) to admire some of the Vineyard's most beloved spots captured on canvas by one of the island's most revered artists.

- *Mytoi Gardens in Chappaquiddick* – Take a bike on the short ferry from Edgartown over to Chappaquiddick island and get your zen on at this intimate Japanese-style garden, which includes trails through a pitch pine forest and the salt marshes of Poucha Pond. Located at 41 Dike Road.
- *Great Rock Bight Preserve in Chilmark* – Spend an afternoon on one of the most scenic hikes on the island and take in spectacular views of Vineyard Sound and the Elizabeth Islands from a seaside bluff overlooking a sandy cove. Set your GPS for 37 Brickyard Road.

### **Beaches, beaches, beaches**

You're on an island, and you came prepared for glorious beach days, so where do you begin? There are many fabulous beaches on Martha's Vineyard, but here are some of our favorites:

- *Lambert's Cove Beach in West Tisbury* – We are so fortunate to be a 5-minute drive away from one of the best beaches on the island. Open only to West Tisbury residents and inn guests, the pristine almost white sands and clear blue waters create a setting that feels otherworldly in its beauty. Best of all, we can take you there and back in a golf cart!
- *Lucy Vincent Beach in Chilmark* – If you're here off season, it's worth checking out this stunning beach that is only open to Chilmark residents in the summer. With its wind-whipped rock formations and golden sands, this beach feels more out of the Caribbean than New England.
- *Katama Beach (also known as South Beach) in Edgartown* – One of the most popular beaches on Martha's Vineyard, this three-mile beach can have a strong surf but is still suitable for the whole family. Ideal location to lay out a blanket and watch the sun set.
- *Joseph Sylvia State Beach (better known as State Beach) in Oak Bluffs* - Spanning two miles that extend from Oak Bluffs to Edgartown, this beach's best features are its accessibility (including by bike path) and views of the boats in the distance. Waves are smaller here, but the sand can be rockier and scattered with shells.
- *Moshup Beach in Aquinnah* – Below the colorful clay cliffs of Aquinnah, this beach is less crowded than South Beach or State Beach, but promises spectacular vistas, soft sand, and a healthy surf. Just be warned that nude sunbathers may cross your path at the far end of the beach.

## The Great Outdoors

Although the island's beaches get most of the attention, there are a number of other outdoor activities here with just the right makings for an idyllic Vineyard afternoon. A great option is to rent one of our electric bikes (inquire at the front desk). Then, consider wandering over to these spots:

- *Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary* (100 Felix Neck Drive, Edgartown) – This Mass Audubon refuge offers four miles of trails through woodlands, meadows, ponds, salt marsh, and along shorelines. Sunset and moonrise kayak tours, nature programs, and day camps for kids are among the sanctuary's many offerings.
- *Polly Hill Arboretum* (809 State Road, West Tisbury) – This lush 70-acre public garden boasts rare trees and shrubs from around the world set among stone walls, meadows, and fields. Check the website's calendar for lectures, workshops, classes, and guided tours.
- *Island Spirit Kayak* (Edgartown-Oak Bluffs Road, Little Bridge, State Beach) – Stop here to rent kayaks, stand up paddle boards, and even cabanas on State Beach. Glow board tours and paddle yoga are among this company's many offerings.
- *Classic Aviators, Ltd Biplane Rides* (12 Mattakesett Way, Edgartown) – Splurge for a once-in-a-lifetime experience, throw on old-fashioned aviator goggles, and hop on a biplane in Katama Airfield. Ask for the thrill ride option if you dare! You have not seen the island until you have flown over it by air. Tours start at \$299 for two people.
- *TrailsMV App* – This is an app created by the Sheriff's Meadow Foundation rather than a destination. But download it on your phone to unlock maps to all of the open-to-the-public trails on the island, along with a series of curated walks and rides.

## Oh no, it's raining! Now what?

You packed your bathing suits and flip flops and now your plans for a beach day have been foiled by Mother Nature. No worries – Martha's Vineyard has a number of entertaining indoor options when you're done relaxing at the inn and itching to explore.

- *Martha's Vineyard Glassworks* (683 State Road, West Tisbury) – Watch artisans work their magic and create unique glass masterpieces as you browse this off-the-beaten path store and gallery.

- *Field Gallery & Sculpture Garden and Granary Gallery* (1050 State Road, West Tisbury and 636 Old County Rd, Vineyard Haven) – There are many lovely galleries downtown, but these two are worth the drive outside of the bustle. Field’s sculpture garden is a whimsical ode to founder Tom Maley’s creations. Granary Gallery is the island’s oldest and largest gallery, housed in a beautiful restored grain-storage barn. Both feature a variety of celebrated Vineyard painters, photographers, sculptors, and jewelers.
- *Alley’s General Store* (1045 Stated Road, West Tisbury) – The oldest operating retail business on the Vineyard, this island institution is your go-place for the most eclectic selection of goods around. Whether you need socks, beach supplies, gag gifts, or old-school candies, this general store has you covered. As an added bonus, it’s across the street from Field Gallery & Sculpture Garden.
- *Featherstone Center for the Arts* (30 Featherstone Lane, Oak Bluffs) – This community arts center offers programs, classes, gallery shows, and music. Check the website’s calendar for daily programming including children’s summer activities. The center also features a Teen Art Café and an Art Barn gallery space.
- *The Barn Bowl & Bistro* (13 Uncas Avenue, Oak Bluffs) – This energetic bar and bistro comes with a 10-lane fully automated bowling alley that is accessible for everyone from toddlers to the elderly. Enjoy the giant TVs, ping pong, corn hole, and more.
- *Martha’s Vineyard Museum* (59 School Street, Edgartown) – Learn all about the island’s history and culture from pre-Colonial to modern times at this museum that celebrates all things Martha’s Vineyard. Peruse at your leisure through fascinating archival documents, historical books and photographs, paintings, and museum exhibits.

### **Where to go to keep the kids happy**

If you’ve brought your little ones to the inn, you may be wondering where to go to get their wiggles out. Look no further for some excellent options for good old-fashioned family fun, island style!

- *Island Alpaca Company* (1 Head of the Pond Rd, Vineyard Haven) – Did you love visiting Lamberts’ Cove Inn’s friendly alpacas – Toast, Butter, Marco, and Hamilton? Check out their original home and many adorable brothers and sisters at this must-see farm. Bring home a luxurious sweater made of alpaca fleece from the farm’s gift shop, or perhaps, find yourself bringing home a few alpacas and researching how to get a farm tax credit.
- *Flying Horses Carousel* (33 Lake Avenue, Oak Bluffs) - The Flying Horses Carousel is the oldest operating platform carousel in America, and was moved from Coney Island to Oak Bluffs in 1884. Children will delight in riding on antique carved horses that feature

real horsehair manes and tails. Best of all, they can reach for a brass ring each time the carousel makes a round. Rides are \$3.50.

- *Island Cove Adventures* (386 State Road, Vineyard Haven) – Enjoy mini-golf, gardens, a waterfall, rock-climbing, and a snack bar featuring ice cream and a grill. This affordable, family-friendly destination has something to please everyone.
- *Mad Martha’s Ice Cream* (48 Main St, Vineyard Haven, 7 N Water Street, Edgartown, and 12 Circuit Ave, Oak Bluffs) – With three locations down island, this homemade ice cream shop has the reputation for being one of the best on the island. Savor the many flavors from black raspberry to lobster.
- *Ryan Amusements Martha’s Vineyard Game Room* (19 Circuit Avenue, Oak Bluffs) – This classic two-level arcade in downtown Oak Bluffs features over 75 games and tons of prizes for winners. Relive your glory days playing Pacman or skee-ball!

### When you need a break from the kids

You’re on a fun-filled family vacation, but you’re craving an adults’ only night out. We get it! Here are some babysitting services you can call to get a babysitter to come to your room:

- MV Kid Sitters (508-627-7767)
- MV Sitter Match (508-212-2006)

### When you’re hungry and you know it

We genuinely believe that you will find no better dining experience on Martha’s Vineyard than Woods, our own farm to table restaurant at Lambert’s Cove Inn, led by our culinary genius Executive Chef Jimmy Alvarado. But, if you want to wander off property and sample the local fare, we have many recommendations:

Restaurant Name	Where	Reason to Go	Price Range
Espresso Love	17 Church Street, Edgartown	A favorite café and coffee shop for tourists and locals alike, Espresso Love is conveniently located near all the action in downtown Edgartown and includes outdoor seating.	\$\$
The Newes from America	23 Kelly Street, Edgartown	Downtown Edgartown colonial pub with hearty American and British fare and a casual vibe. Known for its New England draft beer selection.	\$\$
Port Hunter	55 Main Street, Edgartown	A trendy brick-accented gastropub with a seafood focus and live music, this restaurant is a solid choice for dinner or for drinks and dancing afterwards.	\$\$\$

The Covington Restaurant	52 Main Street, Edgartown	From the same team as Port Hunter, this hip new restaurant is a foodie destination. Try a fun "Pineapple Express" cocktail for two, served in a copper pineapple.	\$\$\$\$
The Seafood Shanty	31 Dock Street, Edgartown	Go here for the views from the rooftop deck of gorgeous Edgartown harbor. The menu is casual and accessible. Live music transforms this restaurant to a popular nightlife watering hole later in the day.	\$\$
Right Fork Diner	12 Mattakesett Way, Edgartown	Watch the bi-planes fly overhead while you enjoy a home-style brunch or lunch on the grassy Katama airfield. This place gets very crowded in the summer, so plan ahead.	\$\$
Atria and Brick Cellar Bar	137 Main Street, Edgartown	Just outside the hubbub of downtown, Atria offers an elegant dining experience in its main room or wrap around porch. The intimate downstairs Brick Cellar Bar is the place to go for an extensive burger and cocktail menu and a more casual atmosphere.	\$\$\$\$ (Atria) - \$\$\$ (Brick Cellar Bar)
Backyard Taco	32 Winter Street, Edgartown	Perfect last stop of the night for delicious fresh tacos and a refreshing margarita. Family-run hole in the wall spot decorated with drawn-on dollar bills from customers.	\$
Détente	15 Winter Street, Edgartown	A romantic setting paired with modern local cuisine makes this an excellent date night destination. Request a seat on the cozy outdoor patio.	\$\$\$
Lighthouse Grill	131 N Water Street, Edgartown	This refined waterfront restaurant at the Harbor View Hotel offers classic New England fare. Come early and grab a drink at Henry's --the small but stately bar around the corner.	\$\$\$
Rosewater Market & Takeaway	20 S Summer Street, Edgartown	This bright and pristine café is a visual delight with tasty breakfast and lunch options and a locally sourced gift shop.	\$\$
Behind the Bookstore	46 Main Street, Edgartown	A hidden gem in downtown Edgartown with a "secret garden" vibe, this coffee shop and restaurant has all outdoor seating. Enjoy the inventive menu and delicious cocktails.	\$\$-\$\$\$
Farm Neck Golf Club	1 Farm Neck Way, Oak Bluffs	The cheery public restaurant and pub at this renowned golf club offers lovely views of the course in a peaceful setting outside of downtown Oak Bluffs. Parking is plentiful.	\$\$\$
Lookout Tavern	8 Seaview Avenue, Oak Bluffs	Known for its sushi and cocktails along with more casual fare, this restaurant combines a lively sports bar feel with views of the ferries pulling into Oak Bluffs harbor.	\$\$
20byNine	16 Kennebec Avenue, Oak Bluffs	Offering creative small plates and craft beer, this gastropub features vintage industrial décor and a name that reflects the dimensions of the island.	\$\$\$\$
Offshore Ale Co	30 Kennebec Avenue, Oak Bluffs	This Oak Bluffs institution is known for its house-brewed beer and pub grub menu. The festive atmosphere starts with peanuts offered at every table, and you can drop the peanut shells right on the floor.	\$\$

Slice of Life	50 Circuit Avenue, Oak Bluffs	Home of the fried-green tomato BLT, this centrally located café and bakery in Oak Bluffs offers comfort food all year round.	\$\$
Red Cat Kitchen	14 Kennebec Avenue, Oak Bluffs	A perennial favorite, this eclectic and funky hotspot serves up seasonal, locally sourced New England Fare. Look for the "Ken 'n' Beck" sign right around the corner from the Flying Horses.	\$\$\$\$
Porto Pizza	36 Water Street, Vineyard Haven	Small takeout place with outdoor seating available right by the ferry terminal in Vineyard Haven. Grab a slice before heading on the boat!	\$
Scottish Bakehouse	977 State Road, Vineyard Haven	A strong contender for best bakery on the island, you can enjoy light fare and baked goods at their outside tables for a picnic-like experience.	\$\$
ArtCliff Diner	38 Beach Road, Vineyard Haven	A popular retro diner and island favorite, this always crowded spot offers an extensive menu and a food truck in the evenings.	\$\$
Mikado Asian Bistro	76 Main Street, Vineyard Haven	A new-to-the-scene sushi bar featuring Chinese and Thai food "with a twist" on Vineyard Haven's main commercial street. Come to watch the Thai rolled ice cream prepared and served before your eyes.	\$\$
State Road	688 State Road, West Tisbury	A contemporary upscale tavern with a locally sourced seasonal menu and its own fruit and vegetable gardens, you might just spot a celebrity here.	\$\$\$\$
Fella's Take Out	479 State Road, West Tisbury	Good nearby pit stop to pick up freshly made sandwiches on the go.	\$

### Best spots to get into a little trouble ;-)

After a long day at the beach with family and friends or a lovely romantic dinner at our restaurant, you're ready for a restful slumber in your beautifully appointed room. But there's that little voice in your head that tells you this is your opportunity to make at least one crazy memory to share with the folks back home. If you're looking to party, your best bets are these spots in Oak Bluffs or Edgartown:

- *Bad Martha's* (270 Upper Main Street, Edgartown) – This craft brewery housed in an Amish barn is the perfect go-to place for a pre-dinner drink and a lot of tongue-in-cheek humor. As the website proclaims: Dance with a stranger. Give out your real number. Convince someone that's your yacht moored outside the harbor.
- *The Wharf* (3 Main Street, Edgartown) – Innocuous restaurant and pub by day, this large venue transforms into several rooms of live music/DJs, flowing beer, and other shenanigans come night time. A good choice to ring in your last call for the night.
- *Atlantic Fish & Chop House* (2 Main Street, Edgartown) – With a harbor-adjacent location and views of the nearby yacht club, this seafood restaurant has a festive nightlife scene that features some of the island's most beloved live bands.

- *The Ritz* (4 Circuit Avenue, Oak Bluffs) and *The Lampost* (6 Circuit Avenue, Oak Bluffs) – These rollicking nightclubs pulsating with live music are institutions in Oak Bluffs. If you aren't concerned about keeping it classy, these neighboring spots are where you should head.
- *Noman's* (15 Island Inn Road, Oak Bluffs) – A large backyard with oversized games like Jenga and Connect Four makes this casual restaurant and music venue a great place for everyone including kids and dogs. Check the schedule online. On weekends there are three live shows.
- *The Loft* (9 Oak Bluffs Avenue, Oak Bluffs) – This downtown Oak Bluffs night club calls itself an adult playground, and delivers with a fully stocked game room and bar. Enjoy shuffle board, ping pong, pool, and many other activities, or come to dance a summer night away.