

A SAILOR'S PRIDE AND PARADISE

A UNIQUE MARITIME CULTURE UNDERPINS THIS HISTORIC SAILING ITINERARY. WHOSE WATERS ARE ROUTINELY TRAVERSED BY CLASSIC AS WELL AS RACING SAILBOATS DEPARTING NEW ENGLAND'S QUAINT, CEDAR-SHINGLED TOWNS

Setting a course from Narragansett Bay toward the Elizabeth Islands, across Vineyard Sound and Nantucket Sound, then onward to Buzzards Bay through Woods Hole and back to Newport-this is one of America's great heritage sailing itineraries. From the story of Moby Dick to the famed events of the America's Cup, the waterfront holds two distinct narratives: one of heightened opulence, sport, and leisure, the other of survival, vocation, and opportunity. Whalers coming from South Dartmouth to Nantucket took to the waters in search of bounty and adventure. Meanwhile, Newport has become an epicenter for the wealthy class, with enormous mansions lining the coast.

With close proximity to the infamous boatvards of Herreshoff and Concordia, these waters are home to classic, heritage sailboats that are as natural as the cedar-shingle siding of the houses along the water's edge. Summer evenings are filled with regattas featuring Beetle Cats and Herreshoff S-Boats, each with their own band of sailors who share their passion. The idyllic charm of the bustling docks gets everyone excited, with patrons peering out from watering holes along the pier to see who came in first and which team is last. If you don't have a boat, you certainly know someone who does.

The islands in this itinerary have personality. Like Capri and Ischia, Nantucket and Martha's Vineyard are household names conjuring up

the quaintness of New England-embodied by colorful hydrangeas, cedar-shingled capestyle homes, cobbled streets, and L.L.Bean boat and tote bags.

If you have a week to cruise in this area, your journey will likely start in Newport. Sailing across Newport Harbor is a classic experience: there's Prudence Island off your starboard with Brenton Cove ahead, as well as New York Yacht Club and Bonniecrest Estate off your port side. With a prevailing southwest breeze, sailing off your mooring in the harbor can be easy. Tack across Fort Adams to enter Narragansett Bay, and you'll find Rose Island



243