



Discover the *Nature* of Martha's Vineyard *with Mass Audubon*



Gay Head

October 12-14, 2012

Leaders: Elissa Landre Suzan Bellincampi Roger Wrubel

Introduction

The island of Martha's Vineyard is unrivalled in its beauty and natural and cultural history. The best time to visit is after the tourists have gone in the fall. The waters are still warm enough to swim and kayak, the frenetic summer pace slows as the crowds depart. Enjoy the best that the island has to offer with Mass Audubon as we seek the special hidden places that only the locals know.

Birds, beaches, and more will be explored on this island getaway. Get ready for hiking, kayaking, birding, and discovery.

Taste not only the culture, but also the finest foods that the island has to offer during the harvest season. We will eat at restaurants offering local fare, and hope to have a sunset dinner on the beach.

Friday, October 12

Make your way to Woods Hole on your own. We will take the 10:45 a.m. ferry to Vineyard Haven. Be sure to allow yourself 30 minutes to park (parking fee applies) and take the shuttle to the boat. On this 45-minute boat trip, you can relax, sit out on the deck, bird, and meet tour leaders and other participants that will join you on this island adventure.

We will arrive on the Vineyard at 11:30 a.m. and go to the charming Cleveland House Inn where our host, mystery writer Cynthia Riggs, will welcome us. After check-in, we will enjoy a picnic lunch at the Inn. Then we will head out to Felix Neck Wildlife Sanctuary for a kayak tour on Sengekontacket Pond

Before dinner in Oak Bluffs, we will take a stroll to see the Oak Bluffs campground, with its whimsical gingerbread houses and unique architecture.

Late dinner is at the Island's only brewpub, Offshore Ale. Have a taste of local beer and enjoy a place where you can still throw peanuts on the floor!

Saturday, October 13

Optional, early-morning birding will be offered at 6:30 a.m. at Sepiessa Point Reservation. On Saturday, we will explore the island in vehicles and on foot. In the evening, we will have dinner and on the beach, weather permitting, and enjoy the dark island night sky.

Cape Poge Natural History Tour

To reach the Island's most remote beach, we will have to take the on-time ferry over to Chappaquiddick. We will climb into pick-up trucks and travel over miles of barrier beach to the **Cape Poge Lighthouse**, birding, botanizing, and beach combing along the way. We will climb to the top of the **Cape Poge Lighthouse** for a birds-eye view across Muskeget Sound to Nantucket. We will stop at Mytoi Japanese Garden, the jewel of Chappaquiddick, with meandering paths and footbridges, a place of contemplative wonder for our picnic lunch.

We'll head back to the inn for some rest and relaxation before heading 'up-island.' Here will take in the impressive bluffs and ocean views at Gay Head. Then, off to nearby Menemsha Beach, the island's still active fishing village, famous for its dramatic sunsets. A happy hour on the beach will be followed by seafood dinner and stargazing.

Sunday, October 14

After breakfast on Sunday we will visit Long Point Wildlife Refuge for hiking and birding through forest, grassland, heathland and along ocean beaches and coastal ponds. We will return to Vineyard Haven for the 2:30 p.m. ferry to Woods Hole.

Considerations

1. Please note that on this natural history field trip, we will be active all day.
2. Most of our walks will be of relatively short duration. However, you must be prepared to walk over irregular terrain and/or sand.
3. Transportation costs from your home to Woods Hole and parking fees **are not** included in the program fee. Ferry tickets **are** included in the program fee.
4. A continental breakfast is provided each morning at the inn and is included in the program fee. Picnic lunches, Friday and Saturday, and beer and wine on Saturday evening are included. Group dinner options will be planned, but costs are not included in the price.
5. All scheduled events are subject to change depending on the weather and other considerations.

Program Rates

Members: \$425 per person double occupancy

Nonmembers: \$530 per person double occupancy

Single room supplement: \$125

For more information please contact

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Deposit: A \$150.00 nonrefundable, nontransferable deposit is required upon registration

Program fee: Balance of the program fee is due by September 4th, 2012.

*Discounts: **No** senior citizen discounts apply.*

To register: See registration form on the following page.

Registration Form
Discover The Nature of Martha's Vineyard 2012

Name(s) _____

Address _____

Contact Information:

Phone (Day) _____

Phone (Eve) _____

Email _____

Single Room Requested Yes ☐ No ☐

(Please note \$125 single room
supplement)

Deposit enclosed _____

- Please make your check payable to Mass Audubon
- Registration may be sent to Broadmoor, Felix Neck or Habitat Sanctuaries
- Sanctuary addresses are listed on the previous page

Thank you!