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Story Abstracts

The Cultural Coast: Alive with Arts and Culture

Comprising six distinctive destinations in southeastern Massachusetts, The Cultural Coast is chocked full of arts and culture. From the Cape and New Bedford Symphony Orchestras, chamber music and opera societies, ballet companies, arts and artisans trails, Cape Playhouse, Zeiterion Theater and hundreds of museums and historical sites, maritime festivals, four centuries of architecture and a whole lot more, the region will intrigue, inspire and educate. New Bedford's monthly *AHA Nights* entertain and delight attendees with exhibits, performances, dining and excitement. Walk back in time at Plimoth Plantation, visit the legendary Adams National Historic Site, home to two American presidents, visit an inspiring assortment of 20th century U.S. Naval fighting vessels at Battleship Cove in Fall River (and nearby, do not miss the infamous Lizzie Borden B&B and Museum). Three regions, Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard & Nantucket have collaborated on the *Arts & Artisans Trails Guide*, which self-guides visitors to more than 200 artists' and crafters' galleries and studios. With so many sights, attractions and activities, every visit to this lively coast will be far too short.

The Cultural Coast: "Upper Crust" of the Massachusetts Culinary Experience

There is more than fresh seafood along this Coast! With so many exciting and toothsome dining eating experiences and events within this six-destination region, visitors will savor a wide array of food and culinary experiences. Whether ethnic festivals in New Bedford, Fall River and Provincetown, Thursday nights' *Taste Quincy*, May's *Nantucket Wine Festival* (with attendant dining opportunities) and June's Martha's Vineyard's *Taste of the Vineyard Gourmet Stroll* and *Cape Cod Chowder Fest*, July's BBQ at Edgartown's (MVY) Old Whaling Church, September's Cape-wide *CLASH (Cape Land and Sea Harvest)* and Bourne Scallop Festival, Autumn's Cranberry Harvest festivals and fairs throughout the region, October's Wellfleet Oyster Fest, traditional Thanksgiving celebrations and Holiday Strolls, The Cultural Coast is the place to be (and the places to eat) all year long.

Intrigue the Family along *The Cultural Coast*

Imagine taking the family to museums which, rather than bore, intrigue, educate and inspire. The more than 200 museums of The Cultural Coast's six distinctive regions provide just the right cultural experience for the entire family. Quincy, City of Presidents, brings the nation's founding to life at its Adams National Historic Site. Plimoth Plantation's "live" 1627 Pilgrim village and Hobbamock's (Wampanoag) home site remind us of the hard way of life and hardships of the early 17th century. Battleship Cove is yet another reminder of our hard-won freedoms, where families can view almost two dozen U.S. Naval fighting vessels. In Plymouth, Captain John Boats scoots the brood out to Stellwagen Bank, haunt of those mammoth leviathans, the whales. Drive through the enchanted Village of Padanaram in Bristol County, not shown on any map, one asks "are we really here?" Cape Cod's 80+ museums are all family-friendly, including Cape Cod Children's Museum (mother and father will enjoy it too!). And then, there is its biggest museum, its 559.6 miles of seacoast, all of which enchant and delight the entire family. No one should miss July's Mashpee Wampanoag Pow Wow, wherein Native American people from throughout the Northeast celebrate their culture. Nantucket's Whaling Museum is a "must-see" as is the inspiring Maria Mitchell Association and its small constellation of exhibits. Among these, do not miss Loines Observatory, with its spiffy new telescope. Martha's Vineyard's Felix Neck Wildlife Preserve is a fabulous natural habitat for a tremendous array of Vineyard flora and fauna. (Oak Bluffs' Carousel is pretty special, too.) With sights, attractions and activities for the children, mom and dad and even grandparents, The Cultural Coast is the family coast with the most!

The Cultural Coast: Birthplace of the American Dream and Presidential Coast

In November 1620, the Mayflower sailed into Provincetown harbor and dropped anchor in a new life in America. Here, the Mayflower Compact, first "constitution" was signed by all male passengers. Subsequently, after five weeks, the *Mayflower* sailed to Plymouth to New World's first permanent

settlement. After the founding of this nation, Presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams (2nd & 4th US presidents) were raised in Quincy, “city of Presidents.” President Grover Cleveland’s Gray Gables, his Bourne summer home, John F. Kennedy’s “summer White House” in Hyannis Port, JFK Hyannis Museum and Kennedy Memorial in Hyannis celebrate the days of Camelot and brought further presidential acclaim to The Cultural Coast. President George Bush’s and President Bill Clinton’s Nantucket visits (and subsequent Clinton summer vacations on Martha’s Vineyard) brought world attention to these two stellar islands. The world-renowned Kennedy Compound in Hyannis Port continues to command world attention. Former U.S. presidents, such as Presidents James K. Polk, William H. Taft, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Harry S. Truman, gave campaign speeches in Taunton, in Bristol County. President Cleveland and Taft both visited Provincetown: one to set the cornerstone and one to inaugurate the Pilgrim Monument, tallest all-granite monument in the nation. The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe recently received federal recognition and its annual Wampanoag Pow Wow brings thousands to Mashpee in July. The Cultural Coast is where The American Dream was spawned and bore fruit. Visit the sights and see where so much American history was made and endures, along The Cultural Coast.

The Cultural Coast: Home to Hundreds of Museums and Historical Sights

The southeastern coast of Massachusetts was the hearth from which American history and dreams arose. Here, presidents gave speeches, devised strategies, made history and publicity visits and American history and ingenuity took hold. Starting with the Adams family, of Quincy, which gave birth to the second and fourth U.S. presidents, and throughout our history, The Cultural Coast has seen more than its share of presidential attention. Visit the Adams National Historic Site and the city which has a proud shipbuilding and railroad history. Visit the museums of Plymouth, Pilgrim Hall, Plimoth Plantation, Plymouth Rock, and Plymouth National Wax Museum and nearby Hull Lifesaving Museum, Scituate Light and Duxbury Art Complex Museum. In Southeastern Massachusetts, visit Battleship Cove, a unique “floating” museum on the Taunton River with the world’s largest collection of 20th century U.S. naval fighting vessels. Nearby, the Fall River Carousel, with 48 majestic steeds and two spectacular chariots, is the oldest functioning carousel in America. Also on the Fall River waterfront is the *H.M.S. Bounty* (of *Mutiny on the Bounty* fame), one of the last remaining wooden sailing ships actively cruising the world’s oceans. Cape Cod’s 83 museums will intrigue and delight almost every Cape visitor. Of particular interest are Heritage Museums & Gardens (housing the world’s most valuable privately owned antique automobile collection), Sandwich Glass Museum, Woods Hole Science Aquarium, JFK Hyannis Museum, Edward Gorey House, Cape Cod Museum of Natural History, Pilgrim Monument and Provincetown Museum and many others, which provide insights into so much of the American legacy. Add to this the dozens and dozens of historical sites, such as Bourne’s Aptuxcet Trading Post and Wellfleet Marconi Wireless Site and visitors can

immerse themselves in almost every facet of regional history. The Martha's Vineyard Museum exhibits include more than 30,000 items relating to all aspects of life on Martha's Vineyard. Its Fresnel lens, which once lit the Aquinnah Lighthouse, consists of more than 1,000 individual prisms. The Martha's Vineyard Preservation Trust manages many of the key endangered landmarks of Martha's Vineyard, including the Old Whaling Church. Nantucket Maria Mitchell Association comprises several sites which provide insights into 19th century island life and illuminates the life of America's first woman astronomer. The islands architectural gems, including The Three Bricks and Oldest House provide visitors with glimpses into the evolution of the island as a haven for the super wealthy. The Cultural Coast is a treasure trove of historical and cultural riches.