

1996

Guide to Summer Fun

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# Boston

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His Story

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cool ideas for a

hot

summer

**BEYOND THE BEACH 12 Cape Adventures**

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**STEPHEN MCCAULEY My Provincetown**

**PLUS: Last-Minute Vacation Rentals**



**S**URE, WHEN YOU'RE ARGUING FIRST PRINCIPLES, THE CAPE IS primarily about that stretch of real estate where surf meets shore and turns to sand. But even the considerable joys of lying languorously on a blanket with nothing but the latest John Grisham and a jug of Bain de Soleil can dim after the third day or so. That's when you're likely to rise up from the tidal pool and demand, "What else is there to do here?" Well, we've got some answers. We skipped standard attractions—like whale watching—to bring you some fresh takes on what makes the Cape a great vacation spot, beyond sand dunes and seashells.

### Gliding

**Cape Cod Soaring Adventures** (Marstons Mills Airport, Exit 5 off Route 6, on Route 149, 508-540-8081) provides basic glider training for those with a yen to fly. The aerial views of the Cape are stunning, and on a clear day you can see all the way to Boston and the New Hampshire mountains. Floating 6,000 feet in the air with no engine and no company other than the bald eagles and hawks, which often ride less than a wingspan away, is an unparalleled high. There are no age requirements for passengers, but you must be at least 14 to fly solo. Prices begin at \$60 for a 20-minute glide.



### Inland Fishing

The traditional Memorial Day snarl going over the Bourne and Sagamore bridges is but a fraction of the traffic jam rolling below the span. Between mid-May and early July, millions of stripers and blues migrate from the warmer waters of the mid-Atlantic coast to the cooler depths of the Gulf of Maine. Their favorite route is straight through the Cape Cod Canal. Fishing the canal can be one of the most productive and exciting angling experiences in New England. But with a fast tide and slick rocks, the inexperienced can get into a lot of trouble in a hurry, should they lose their footing while reeling in the Big One. We recommend hiring a guide who can meet you canal-side with live bait (herring or porgies) and equipment if you need it. Roy Brouwer, of **Roy's Bait and Tackle** in Franklin, is an excellent guide. Call in advance 508-520-3004. Those who would rather watch the fish than catch them should check out the herring run in the early summer from the banks of the canal. Stop at the overlook rest area off Route 6 on the west side of the canal in Bourne, where you're likely to see thousands of fish spawning in the stream that runs alongside

the canal. Dress warmly, wear comfortable shoes, and don't forget to bring your camera. Try **Perry's Boat Yard** in Bourne (420 Shore Road, Monument Beach, 508-779-3062) for suggestions on gear and fishing tips, or the **Sports Port** in Hyannis (149 West Main Street, 508-775-3096) and ask for Karen Hill. She'll tell you what to do, what to buy, and where else the fish are running.

### Kite Flying

Like most of New England, the Cape can be warm one minute and brisk and breezy the next. On those days when the wind kicks up, turn the breeze to your advantage and visit **Outer Cape Kites** in

Provincetown (Ryder Street on the beach, 508-457-6133). Although most stores with beach equipment also carry some version of kite, this shop offers a complete selection of high flyers, from cheap plastic dime-a-dozen dingers to high-tech models and the paraphernalia to go with them. You can go for the long-distance record with a simple box kite and a lot of string, or you can buy an inexpensive dual-control stunt kite for about \$25, and with a half-hour's practice, you'll be turning figure eights and loop-the-loops with the best. The breeze picks up in the early evening even on the calmest days, and you can almost always catch good wind and a spectacular sunset at Race Point on the Cape Cod National Seashore, which attracts kite flyers from around the world. Craigville Beach, just west of downtown Hyannis, is another popular location. If you don't feel like flying a kite yourself, watching others isn't a bad alternative. One word of caution: The high-tech kites can really move, so give those around you a wide berth.

### Offshore Fishing

If you want to get offshore for some deep-sea fishing and don't have your own boat, Ron Murphy is your charter captain of choice. He



**FIDDLEHEADS:** CBS's Mike Wallace and former Bank of Boston chief, Ira Stepanian, take on the Pops.

works seven days a week (and has done so for the past 20 seasons) and knows the best spots in the area, from Monomoy to Nantucket Sound. He can take up to six people in his 31-foot custom-built boat, *Stray Cat*, which he runs out of the Ocean Street Docks, in Hyannis. Murphy's trips include instruction for beginners, equipment, and bait for all, and complimentary fileting of your catch by Murphy's mate, Ron's preference is for light tackle fly rods—which have become increasingly popular for landing stripers—and spinning rods, although he trolls as well. From late July to early September, when the ocean waters have warmed up, Murphy will launch excursions for white marlin and for yellowfin, bluefin, and longfin albacore tuna. Murphy also has a small whaler to take single anglers out for fly-rod backwater fishing in the harbor areas. To charter the *Stray Cat* for half a day runs \$350, a full day \$500. A four-hour trip on the whaler costs \$150. You can find Murphy at **Stray Cat Sportfishing Charters**, 40 Lovell Road, in Oosterville, 508-428-8628.

### Wildlife (wet and dry)

Established in 1871, the **Aquarium of the National Marine Fisheries Service** in Woods Hole (Albatross Street, 508-548-7684; 10 a.m.–4 p.m. daily, June 15–September 8; call ahead for advice on parking) is the oldest in the country, and one of the best small aquariums. It has a spectacular collection of sea life and some innovative programs for kids. It also has the added attraction of being free. If you and the kids prefer wildlife with feet, check out the **Bassett Wild Animal Farm** in Brewster (620 Tubman Road off Route 124, 508-896-3224; open 7 days a week, 10 a.m.–5 p.m.). There are free-ranging goats, chickens, peacocks, sheep, and zebu (African ox)