



# TOP 10 THINGS WE LOVE IN... Cape Cod, Mass.

By Kim Foley MacKinnon

Cape Cod, the crescent-shaped peninsula on Massachusetts' coastline (about 1.5 hours southeast of Boston), is composed of 15 towns, which all have their own charms, from maritime history to stunning beaches. Many people pick one town to visit, but that's a shame, since there's so much to see and do. Historic lighthouses, stunning national parks, extensive bike trails, unusual museums and much more make the entire region worth exploring.

1

Swim, sunbathe and relax at one of the six stunning beaches along the Cape Cod National Seashore, stretching 40 miles between Chatham and Provincetown.

2

Follow in the footsteps of the Kennedys on the 1.6-mile self-guided Legacy Trail in Hyannis, which features 10 sites significant to the powerful political family, starting at the John F. Kennedy Hyannis Museum.

3

Indoor and outdoor attractions await visitors at the Heritage Museums & Gardens in Sandwich, which has 100 acres of gardens, an adventure park and a museum with folk art.

4

Take a deep breath and inhale the fragrant scent of lavender at the Cape Cod Lavender Farm in Harwich. Lavender fields, a formal garden and wooded walking trails beckon visitors.

5

Bike the 22-mile paved Cape Cod Rail Trail, which passes through Dennis, Harwich, Brewster, Orleans, Eastham and Wellfleet. The trailhead is a half-mile from the Salt Pond Visitor Center in Eastham.

6

Take a peek into the world of quirky author and illustrator Edward Gorey at his home-turned-museum in Yarmouth Port, where exhibits showcase his many talents. The museum is open from mid-April through the end of December.

7

Sample wines or liquors at Truro Vineyards and South Hollow Spirits, a joint family-owned business, where you can kick back on the lawn with a chardonnay or a gin cocktail.

8

The Wellfleet Drive-In Theatre is a throwback to a simpler time, but no worries – the theater shows first-run double features on a 100-by-44-foot screen with a Dolby Digital sound system.

9

Stop for a scoop at Four Seas, an iconic and award-winning ice cream parlor in Centerville, which has been serving up delicious flavors, like fresh peach and chip chocolate, since 1934.

10

Browse the many galleries, studios and shops in Provincetown, home to one of the oldest art colonies in the U.S. The sea, the dunes and the gorgeous light have inspired artists for decades.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: The Edward Gorey House in Yarmouth Port; rhododendrons in bloom at Heritage Museums & Gardens in Sandwich; Main Street in downtown Falmouth.

➔ Looking for a variety of great lodging options in the area? Visit [AAA.com/BookCapeCod](http://AAA.com/BookCapeCod).