

ANGELA WAYE/SHUTTERSTOCK



## Parenting in the Digital Age

Always fighting over screen time? Try this advice for raising happy, grounded kids in a tech-addicted world.

**Fit** | See **B10**

## ‘Dunkirk’ Is a Masterpiece

Director Christopher Nolan’s war film induces an oppressive yet revelatory sense of dread.

**Arts & Style** | See **B9**

MELINDA SUE GORDON/WARNER BROS. ENTERTAINMENT INC.



ALL PHOTOS BY SAMIRA BOUAOU/THE EPOCH TIMES



# Hooked by Nantucket

The island’s beauty, sometimes austere, sometimes glorious, is sublime. But it’s the history that casts a spell.

CHANNALY PHILIPP

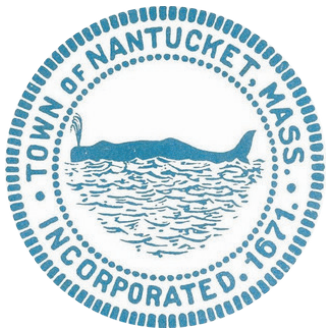
N

ANTUCKET, Mass.—In summer, the senses feed hungrily on Nantucket, and Nantucket gives generously, with the scent of honey-suckle in the air; white-trimmed, gray-shingled houses as demure backdrops against joyous puffs of blue hydrangeas; and the lapping of the waves, a soothing song at sunset.

Many come to Nantucket to live in the present, to shed the cares of work and home. Its summer population swells from the normal 12,000 to 50,000. Don your prettiest Lilly Pulitzer dress or a pair of those famous Nantucket Reds shorts, and pick your picture-perfect spot from among 80 miles of gorgeous beaches.

The entire island is a National Historic Landmark. This “faraway land” (the name given by the local Wampanoag tribe) was dubbed by Ralph Waldo Emerson as “the Nation of Nantucket” in 1847. But far from being insular, as islands can be, Nantucket long had its sights cast wide on the world.

From the 18th to the mid-19th century, it was the whaling capital of the world. The island provided the fuel to light the world’s streets, households, and businesses, amassing enormous wealth in the process. Its



The town seal of Nantucket.

It was known as the whaling capital of the world through the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

sailors (“Quakers with a vengeance,” Herman Melville called them) chased whales to as far as the South Pacific on voyages that lasted anywhere from three to five years. The whaling industry light would not dim until a cheaper replacement was found, in the fields of Pennsylvania—petroleum.

### The Gray Lady

When it’s cloudy and the island is cloaked in fog, Nantucket is cloaked in hues of gray, rippling from sky to sea to streets. One might imagine that the island’s three lighthouses, a beacon to home-faring sailors, could be the only light to cut through the thick fog.

“It’s a haunted island,” says Andrea Barnes. She is sitting at her loom, on the second floor of Nantucket Looms, a gift shop that doubles as an interior design and weaving studio. She takes a break from her weaving. Ghost tours and books about ghosts in Nantucket abound. “The guy who owns the ouija board company lives on the island.”

She tells of a pilot who is the “most logical person” she knows and yet “he sees ghosts all the time. I was shocked, ‘You ... believe in ghosts? You do?’”

See Nantucket on **B2**

1. The village of ‘Sconset, at the far eastern end of Nantucket Island, is known for its rose-covered cottages.

2. Champagne and sunset from Galley Beach.

3. Brant Point Light Station, established in 1746.

4. Murray’s Toggery Shop sells the original Nantucket Reds pants, not to mention sports coats, skirts, and hats, all in the iconic color.

5. Brant Point Grill’s BPG 1/4 Pound Lobster Bloody Mary and BPG Frozé.



SHUTTERSTOCK (BASE MAP); THE EPOCH TIMES (DESIGN)

“Everything is a little quirky and a lot real; you don’t find that a lot in the U.S.”

Bettina Landt,  
general manager,  
White Elephant Hotel



## Experience Firsthand the Romance of the KOREAN ROYALTY



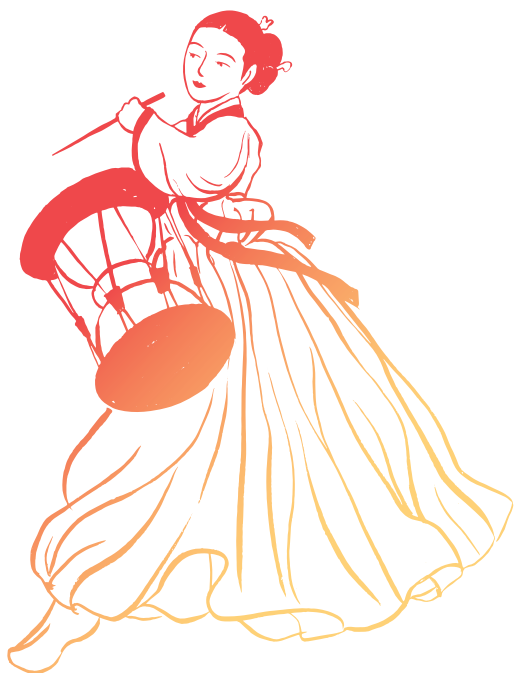
South Korean top chef Sunkyu Lee cooks authentic Korean royal court cuisine



Totally different and distinctive cuisines and interior designs on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd floors.

그림 miss KOREA barbecue

212-594-4963  
10 W. 32 St., New York, NY 10001  
www.misskoreaBBQ.com  
Open 24 hours



Brant Point Light Station, located at the entrance of Nantucket Harbor.

taste TRAVELS

## Hooked by Nantucket

The island's beauty, sometimes austere, sometimes glorious, is sublime. But it's the history that casts a spell.

Nantucket continued from B1

"No one's ever been like, 'Oh, I was possessed.' It's just you see creepy old whalers walking around [Sconset Village]."

She recounts a story about one time when the pilot was walking his dog, early on a foggy morning, and spotted a large man a few feet ahead.

"He gets closer and closer, but the guy isn't progressing, he's just in one place walking, and so he walks closer and closer, and the dog is getting excited. He was really scraggly, [with a] big beard, he had a sack. He gets closer and closer; the guy isn't moving. He's walking, but he's not going anywhere. He's a couple of feet away from him. He walks into a tree and he disappears—and then, the tree disappears! The dog stops and sits and is waiting, and he's like, 'The dog is seeing it too, it's not just me!'"

"There's just weird stuff, especially during the winter, [when] it's quiet and no one's around, and it's cloudy," she says.

### A Different Nantucket

There's the Nantucket for those who live here year-round, and the Nantucket for those who visit: "It's completely, totally different worlds," Barnes says.

"If you want to see the real Nantucket," she offers, "I suggest going to the Madaket Mall." The mall sounds like a strange suggestion given the town has clamped down on retail chains (Ralph Lauren squeezed into downtown just before the axe came down, and not without some grumbling too).

The Madaket Mall is not a commercial mall. "It's the dump on Nantucket," Barnes laughs. A large gray-shingled shed serves as a take-it-or-leave-it recycling drop-off center, where furniture, clothes, and books that, though trash to someone, might just become your next treasure. And because it's Nantucket, there are some rules posted (enforcement is questionable), such as "30 MINUTES ONLY," "NO TAG TEAM," and a very Nantucket "CIVIL BEHAVIOR MANDATORY."

### A Tale of Two Nantuckets

There's no denying the wealth piled on this little island, no matter how unostentatious it is on the surface (you won't see luxury cars plying its streets, though it's likely a number of private jets are parked at the airport). A recent look at Sotheby's listings shows a 10-bedroom property on 4.5 acres on sale for a cool \$42.5 million.

Bess Clarke, who runs Nantucket Looms, mentions a couple of "dueling impressions" of Nantucket.

"The Kardashians were out here last summer—'Oh great, if they found us then, it's all over,' you know," she says. "There's definitely the white Range Rovers, the pink shorts, the

champagne on the beach."

From her keen marketing experience, though, she will tell you how much of that reality comes from its image: "It's almost like how Ralph Lauren accomplished his success: He created this world that really wasn't real. It's how people thought it was supposed to be, so suddenly it became how it was supposed to be."

"His English countryside look and the way you're supposed to dress when in the Hamptons, that's not real. He just thought it would sell shirts, and it did. That's almost how I feel like Nantucket is becoming. You come out here and you act a certain way. Growing up, that's not how it was."

What it was, was a focus on quality of life, but with a real simplicity, an aspect that's perhaps encapsulated in her shop's philosophy.

"People really connect to things that are meaningful. People crave that because things are so much easier these days. Our value system, for us, is that more is not necessarily better," Clarke says. "You could have just one great set of plates, one great set of napkins. You don't need tons of everything, but if everything you have is special and has a story, that might just be enough."

The aesthetics at the shop match the island: hues hover within the palette of grays, creams, blues, and greens. This is the place to buy a handwoven heirloom quality throw, or a boatneck sweater that will last for years. Locally made crafts carry their own stories, including ones steeped in nautical tradition, like the shell-collage valentines inspired by the ones sailors used to send to their sweethearts from the Pacific islands.

### Discovering Nantucket

My version of discovering Nantucket involved hopping on a bike, a loaner from the White Elephant Village hotel. There are 32 miles of bike trails on Nantucket, and a bike lover will attest to the value of exploring at a bike's pace, hopping on and off as you like. (Let me say, though, that biking on the cobblestone streets downtown is not a good idea, although it is a memorable one.)

I headed out to 'Sconset on the eastern end, along gentle hills, and passed the southern area of the Middle Moors, known as Nantucket's "Serengeti." Apparently, wooden cutouts of lions, gazelles, or even raptors pop up sometimes. Off in the distance was a cranberry bog and Sankaty Head Light station.

Too pretty for words is the village of 'Sconset (shorten from its full name Siasconset, the Algonquian word for "place of great bones"), with blush-colored roses climbing on the walls of every cottage in sight.

If you find a white gravel road in between some houses, you've arrived at the 'Sconset Bluff Walk. "It's really a walk through people's front yards,"







(Top) A leisurely afternoon in the village of ‘Sconset. (Above) A view of the White Elephant Hotel (C) and Children’s Beach (L).

says a kind elderly gentleman, who had come to the general store to get ice cream with his wife and had given me directions.

And so it is. Rounding the corner of a cottage, I came upon a spectacular view of the Atlantic Ocean; on the other side, people enjoyed the view from their yards.

The path is so small and so close to the cottages, it’s almost impossible not to feel like you’re walking through their homes; some small talk as you pass by feels obligatory.

One man, a refugee from New York City, sat in his yard, looking out toward the ocean. Part of his roof was covered with pink rose blooms. There had been many more—he pointed to one side of his cottage and then the other—but their time had passed. It was a hot day, but he had never bothered with installing

an air conditioner; he wanted to keep everything authentic, and there was the breeze from the sea.

Inside another yard, a small group of men chatted with each other, enjoying their evening get-together.

You know: quality of life, with a good dose of simplicity.



Brant Point Grill’s New England Lobster Salad.

Bettina Landt, general manager of the White Elephant Hotel.



## GOING TO NANTUCKET?

### HOW TO GET THERE

Lying 30 miles out at sea, Nantucket is served by the Nantucket Memorial Airport (code ACK, which you’ll see on memorabilia).

Ferries run from Hyannis on Cape Cod. The Seastreak ferry also makes the run from Manhattan.

### WHERE TO STAY

#### White Elephant Hotel

With views onto the harbor, this peaceful luxury resort offers suites and garden cottages. Guests love the afternoon port and cheese in the library. From \$225 per night. [WhiteElephantHotel.com](http://WhiteElephantHotel.com)

### White Elephant Village

A 20-room resort with rooms and one, two, or three-bedroom residences. With a heated outdoor pool and beautiful garden grounds—and a convenient location just steps away from Children’s Beach—it is a great spot for families. From \$195 per night. [WhiteElephantVillage.com](http://WhiteElephantVillage.com)

### Jared Coffin House

Herman Melville stayed at this 1845 brick mansion, built by ship owner Jared Coffin as his family residence. From \$155 per night. [JaredCoffinHouse.com](http://JaredCoffinHouse.com)



### TIPS FOR VISITORS

Bettina Landt, general manager of the White Elephant Hotel, hails from Zurich, Switzerland, but has made her home in Nantucket for the past 15 years. The mix of authenticity, history, and a bit of eccentricity endeared the island to her heart. “Everything is a little quirky and a lot real; you don’t find that a lot in the U.S.,” she says. Here are some of her recommendations for what to do on the island.

### Attractions

First-time visitors should be sure to check out the lighthouses: “Brant Point, Sankaty in ‘Sconset, Great Point for the adventurous.” A walk through downtown is a must, as is a visit to the whaling museum. Done that already? Rent a bike, and head to Cisco Brewery.

Madaket, on the western edge of the island, is known for its sunsets. Another spot to catch the sunset is at Galley Beach, a little closer to town. On the northeastern coast, go to Toppers at The Wauwinet. “There’s a little piece of land on the horizon, which makes for an even prettier sunset,” Landt says.

### Dining

Seafood is, of course, a big draw. On the casual front, you can order a to-go lobster dinner from Sayle’s Seafood. At Brant Point Grill, there’s the spectacular Lobster Bloody Mary. Nautilus and The Proprietors Bar & Table are hot spots, while the newer Cru stands at the end of the boat basin. Landt says, “It’s a great place to go in the afternoon for champagne and oysters. If you like the bar scene, it’s quite the place to see and be seen.”

# WE'RE MORE THAN MEATS THE PLATE

## MORTON'S®

THE STEAKHOUSE

<b>MIDTOWN</b> 551 Fifth Avenue 212.972.3315	<b>WORLD TRADE CENTER</b> 136 Washington Street 212.608.0171	<b>HACKENSACK</b> One Riverside Square 201.487.1303	<b>GREAT NECK</b> 777 Northern Boulevard 516.498.2950
--	--	---	---

MORTONS.COM

## A great meal doesn't just fill you up.

It's a journey to sources of pleasure you may have forgotten. Our little gem on 28th street has expanded, and we're now open on the upper east side as well. Come be our guest.

**1466 1st Ave (btwn 76 and 77)** (212) 256-0403  
11:45 to 3pm and 5pm to 10:45pm

**157 East 28th Street** (212) 684-7830  
noon to 11:30pm

**2nd Location**

[momokawanc.com](http://momokawanc.com)