This season, the 240-slip Nantucket Boat Basin will celebrate its 50th anniversary.

The Boat Basin's storied history spans over 300 years, beginning in the late-1720s, when Nantucket was the busiest whaling port in the world, its wharves flourishing with boatbuilding shops, sail lofts, and candle factories. From the 1830s through the early 1900s, following the decline of the whaling industry, the Island went through a long, quiet period, its population shrinking to just a few thousand hardy individuals.
By 1920, Nantucket had entered a new era, one that saw vacationers arriving in droves by steamboat from ports across the Northeast. As the flow of visitors continued to rise, longtime resident Walter Beinecke Jr. co-founded the Nantucket Historical Trust in 1971, a nonprofit dedicated to preserving the historical integrity of the Island. As part of these efforts, Beinecke purchased "Zero Main Street," a project that would lead waterfront development and later become known as the Nantucket Boat Basin.

Today, the full-service Nantucket Boat Basin is owned by Nantucket Island Resorts, a collection of restaurants and historic hotels, including The Cottages at Nantucket Boat Basin, which line the waterfront. Located two blocks from town, the pet-friendly docks offer a variety of amenities, including complimentary wifi, kid’s fishing equipment, and pre-arrival concierge service. Named Sailing Today’s "Best Overseas Marina," and recipient of Marinas.com's "Boaters' Choice Award," the Boat Basin is open year-round and hosts seasonal events, including Figawi Race Weekend (May 25-28, 2018) and Nantucket Race Week (August 11- August 19, 2018).

To celebrate its golden anniversary, the marina and The Cottages are offering special rates, amenities, and activities for its guests:

- The Nantucket Boat Basin has collaborated with Cisco Brewers to create a limited-edition bottle of Cisco’s popular Cranberry Pinot Gris. Aged for one year in stainless steel barrels, the wine is infused with cranberries harvested from Nantucket cranberry bogs giving it a slightly tart and refreshing taste. Wrapped in Nantucket Boat Basin 50th Anniversary labels, the bottles will be offered as a special welcome amenity for Nantucket Boat Basin guests.
• The marina will celebrate 'Throwback Weekend at Nantucket Boat Basin' by honoring the nightly docking rates from 1968. From June 1-3, 2018, boats docking for one night at today's standard rate will receive their second night at the 1968 rate of $.30 per foot with a minimum charge of $10. Current nightly rates in June range between $1.95 – $3.75 per foot, based on the total length of the yacht.

• On the first Saturday of every month, the Nantucket Boat Basin team will host a complimentary historic walking tour of the marina and its surrounding area. With coffee and pastries in hand, guests will visit stops such as Swain’s Wharf, named after John Swain, one of the original settlers on Nantucket; and Old South Wharf, built in 1770 and the epicenter for the Nantucket Whaling Industry.

• The marina will host its Inaugural Father’s Day Fishing Tournament on June 15 & 16, 2018. The Inaugural tournament kicks off Friday evening with a Captain’s Welcome Reception on Old South Wharf. The next morning, teams will compete for the top title in categories such as heaviest fish and most fish caught.

• The Boat Basin will host “Touch-a-Boat Day” on June 9, 2018, inviting families to tour the marina and participating vessels such as the Revolution, a commercial lobster boat, and a United States Coast Guard vessel. Complimentary crafts and snacks will be offered to all participants.

• Throughout the 2018 season, The Cottages at the Boat Basin will be offering guests a $50 Nantucket Island Resort credit to be applied to their stay or used at sister restaurants, TOPPER’S at The Wauwinet and Brant Point Grill at the White Elephant, or the White Elephant Spa.

For more information, visit the Nantucket Boat Basin website.