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The whaleship Charles Morgan sails again!
¡El ballenero Charles Morgan vuelve a navegar!
Nantucket Boat Basin
The Hand-off of the Burgee
La Marina de Nantucket cambia de gerente

A New England Island Hop for the Bucket List
Un salto a esta pintoresca isla de Nueva Inglaterra

Story by | Por SCOTT SHANE

Commercial jets and fast ferries offer direct service to the 48-square-mile, land mass known as Nantucket Island, situated 30 miles south of Massachusetts' Cape Cod peninsula. However, yachtsmen worldwide know there’s something magical about entering its harbor and gliding past the NB busy about a private boat. The clearest berth—well, actually the only ones—are at the multiple-award winning Nantucket Boat Basin (NBB), part of Nantucket Island Resorts, a 200-slip, gem of a marina that deserves each and every accolade.

Nantucket itself is a compact destination, perfect for a long weekend. The allure for mariners dates back to its whaling ancestry centuries ago which visitors can get an idea of from the library of museums and historic sites all within walking distance of the NBB.

Today, the sidewalks bracketing the cobblestone streets are filled with smiling visitors and water bowls for the large population of leashed canines. It’s a very pet-friendly locale. The whales that compile the NBB are lined with casual cafes and clothing shops and there’s no shortage of places to imbibe or sample the local catches and various cuisines, from funky to fancy. The cozy Cottages and Lofts, also part of the Nantucket Island Resorts group, are situated directly on the wharf [there are four other properties within the company, see below.]

Certified marine manager George H. Basset Jr., director of marina operations for the past 30 years, will be handling over the dock lines to assistant director Charlotte Martin after this season. Over the years, he’s seen the landscape of the marine industry and boating public evolve with modern technology.

“Since I started, the biggest change has been the yachtsmen themselves. They used to be old-time yachtsmen who followed old-school protocols. Today’s boaters, with larger and mega yachts, have an entirely different lifestyle.

Years ago, people enjoyed a vacation without being electronically attached. Wi-Fi and cable have become important amenities for our clients as they continue to run their hi-tech businesses while relaxing,” reflects Basset.

Basset recalls the days when an 80-footer was considered a large yacht, if not mega, and anything over 100 feet was certainly classified as a mega yacht. The average transient boat was 35 feet. The marina initiated a Med-moored docking arrangement years back so they currently handle yachts up to 200 feet. Basset and his team start planning dock assignments in January; the boats have grown, but the marina hasn’t.

“Our slips are skinny, so the beams are important. With lots of planning we manage to designate the largest boat in the smallest slip they can get into. Most of the time there’s only three to four inches per side. That’s the Nantucket way,” says Basset.

Among the things Basset is most proud of is his staff. During my visit, it was evident that the young adults and support crews have been painstakingly trained. Each spring they orient between 16 to 23 employees. The training works well, as every staff member had a smile on their face, always asked if there was something they could assist with or was cleaning, sweeping or attending to the multitude of plants with illustrious vegetation.

Many staff members return annually and Basset takes great pride in watching the young ones grow into adulthood. He’s extremely Abundan también los lugares para beber y degustar la pesca local y varios tipos de cocina, desde lugares sencillos hasta lugares más sofisticados. El acogedor Cottages and Lofts, también parte del grupo Nantucket Island Resorts, se encuentra ubicado directamente sobre el muelle (la compañía tiene otros cuatro propiedades, por más abajo).

George H. Basset Jr., gerente marítimo certificado y director de operaciones de la marina durante los últimos 30 años, durante esta temporada, le transferirá sus responsabilidades a la subdirectora Charlotte Martin. A lo largo de los años, Basset Jr. ha visto al paisaje de la industria marina y el público náutico evolucionar con la tecnología moderna.

“Desde que comencé, el mayor cambio se dio en la población náutica. Suelen ser personas que siguen los protocolos de la vieja escuela. Las aficionados a la navegación de hoy en día, con los grandes y mega yates, llevan un estilo de vida totalmente diferente. Años atrás, las personas disfrutaban de sus vacaciones sin estar electrónicamente conectados. El Wi-Fi y el cable han pasado a ser servicios imprescindibles para muchos clientes dado que continúan manejando sus negocios de alta tecnología mientras se relajan”, comenta Basset Jr.

Basset Jr. recuerda los días en que un yate de 80 pies era considerado un gran yate y a uno por encima de los 100 pies se le clasificaba ciertamente como un mega yate. La embarcación de pasajeros promedio era de 35 pies. La marina comenzó a utilizar una disposición de "atrapa Mediterráneo" hace unos años, por lo que actualmente tienen yates de hasta 200 pies. George y su equipo comienzan a planificar las asignaciones de lugares en enero; las embarcaciones han crecido pero la marina no.

"Nuestros empleados son angustiosos, por lo que las mangas son importantes. Con mucha planificación, logramos acoger la mayor embarcación al amarre más pequeño en el que pueda caber. La mayoría de las veces quedan solo tres o cuatro pologadas por lado. Es el método Nantucket, según dice George. Uno de los mayores orgullos de Basset Jr. es su personal. Durante mi visita, era evidente que los jóvenes adultos y las tripulaciones de mostraban una capacidad excepcional. Cada primavera, capacitaban entre 16 y 23 empleados y es evidente que lo hacen bien.
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Uno de los mayores orgullos de Bassett Jr. es su personal. Durante mi visita, era evidente que los jóvenes adultos y las tripulaciones de soporte habían recibido una capacitación exhaustiva. Cada primavera, capacitán entre 16 y 23 empleados y es evidente que lo hacen bien.
CONFIDENT, they can handle the toughest situations and the most demanding of guests. NBB has 36 employees during season and four over the winter months. The decks keep bustling from November 1 to March 31, as the local sailing boats ply their trade. About 50 boats remain at the marina for winter storage or as liveaboards. The facility is a leader in "green" with recycling baskets everywhere and strict policies regarding scows, gray water and boat discharges. The staff is diligent in assuring all the requirements are met by guests and transients alike. There are pump-out facilities available and refuse must be in clear plastic bags. "It takes much more than chocolate on the pillow," Basset says.

The return rate is 60 percent; they are doing something right. It also makes it tough to get a reservation. There are no favorites at the Nantucket Boat Basin. Planning ahead is a must for all, even returning yachts. According to him, everybody is a great day though there have been moments along the way. He has a great fondness for his customer base. High-profile guests get treated the same as everyone else. It’s here they get to be regular people and hang out in flip-flops. He con


The incoming Director is Christina Martin who is certainly going to be filling some big boot shoes. After spending some time with her, moving forward, she’s not going to miss a beat and there are good things ahead for the Nantucket Boat Basin.

YI: What was your path to Nantucket?
CM: I was born and raised in Palm Beach, FL and while in high school we lived in Old Port Cove in North Palm Beach. I loved to walk the marinas and watch the operation. My dad lived in Monaco where I spent summers and was first exposed to mega yachts. It also gave me an appreciation for European luxury and hospitality. Twenty one years ago, after graduating Boston College, I came to Nantucket for one "summer of fun" and I ended up working at the Nantucket Boat Basin (NBB) in a front desk attendant and never left. In 2011, I became a Certified Marina Manager, one of only 33 worldwide.

YI: What do you see as your challenges moving forward?
CM: My challenge is continuing to improve on what is an exceptionally run operation— voted best transient marina and marina of the year for four years running. We’ll expand NBB to be more cutting-edge with additional services and amenities such as a spa, tours, wine tastings and children’s activities. There’ll also be an increase in activities for guests with weekly wine and cheese socials, trunk shows, and history walks and tours, with more to follow.

YI: What tips (other than making reservations well in advance)
gusts to 75. There were 170 boats and only one ended up with a
ding on a rubrail and one bimini top had a blowout. There are a
few mechanics on the island and usually they can get the job done
when an issue arises. NBB has a parts network with marinas on the
mainland and when needed parts are routinely flown in. Nantucket
isn’t totally isolated.

So now, as retirement is within sight, Bassett is going to stay, tend to
home projects and enjoy the island like a civilian. My guess is he’ll
still be pokin’ around NBB from time to time.

The incoming Director is Christina Martin who is certainly going to
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YT: What was your path to Nantucket?
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transferiamos combustible. Pero en su mayoría, los contratiempos
surgieron por un cambio en la ubicación del amarre,” recuerda.
Claramente ningún trabajo es sin estrés, pero Bassett Jr. considera
que la verdadera tensión se siente como capitán del barco de la
Guardia Costera buscando sobrevivientes en la niebla – su carrera
anterior. George mantiene la calma pescando atún abordo de su
Luhrs 2004 de casco amarillo y 36 pies, Fatal Attraction, atado en
el amarre 14. Coincidentemente, aunque en realidad no tanto, el
nombre del bar local es “Slip 14”.

Bassett Jr. ha vivido seis huracanes mientras ha trabajado aquí.
Este pasado 4 de julio, el Huracán Arthur fugió con vientos de 65
millas por hora y ráfagas de 75. Había 170 embarcaciones y solo
una terminó con una marca en el botazo y un toldo bimini se voló.
Hay algunos mecánicos en la isla y, por lo general, pueden hacer
reparaciones cuando surge algún problema.

Y ahora que se acerca su retiro, Bassett Jr. se quedará a vivir en la
isla donde se dedicará a llevar a cabo algunos proyectos de su casa
y a disfrutar de la isla como un civil más. Estoy seguro que seguirá
acercándose a NBB cada tanto.

La próxima directora será Christina Martin. Sin lugar a dudas,
recibirá una gran responsabilidad al ocupar el lugar de Bassett Jr.
Después de conocerla, me doy cuenta de que sin duda le auguran
buenas épocas para el Nantucket Boat Basin.

YT: ¿Cómo llegaste a Nantucket?
CM: Naci y crecí en Palm Beach, Florida. Cuando estaba en el
colegio secundario vivimos en Old Port Cove, en North Palm
Beach donde me encantaba caminar por las marinas y mirar cómo
operaban. Mi padre vivía en Mónaco donde yo pasaba los veranos
y donde viví mis primeras experiencias con los mega yates.
También aprendí mucho sobre el lujo y la hospitalidad europea.
Hace veintiún años, luego de recibirme en Boston College, vine
da Nantucket en búsqueda de un “verano de diversión”. Terminé
trabajando en Nantucket Boat Basin (NBB) como recepcionista y
**Profile | Perfil**

**Accommodations**

The Nantucket Boar's Basin is just one element under the umbrella of the Nantucket Island Resorts. The Cottages at Boar's Basin, White Elephant Village, the Whaler's Inn and Jared Coffin House are the perfect places to stay on Nantucket.

These resorts tend to be on your radar. No matter how large your vessel, there comes a time for some serious prepping. When your vacation plans include extended family or guests, or if you just feel like getting off the water and indulging, hit of any of the aforementioned lodging. From personal experiences, I’ll always recommend to detail, unique location and without question; top-flight personal service and friendliness rival any resort worldwide.

The Cottages and Lofts will give you a true feel of the Nantucket with studio to three-bedroom accommodations situated directly on the wharf. Each unit has a kitchen, perfect for a family or extended stay. The 29 units all have air conditioning and the management has adapted some units to be pet-friendly. The view of the harbor and close proximity to the docks gives you the feel of being on the boat without the work required. Thethecottagesnantucket.com

Get a stay at the White Elephant is an elegant retreat from daily life. Plush rooms, authentic country decor and all the amenities one would expect to be in place. Get used to everyone remembering your name immediately after arrival. The White Elephant Village offers residences up to a three-bedroom set up. Each unit includes amenities such as pantry and appliances, soaking tub, away dining room’s area, a fireplace and access to pool and children’s pool. Thewhiteelephantna.com

As Christina stated, The Whaler’s Inn is home to world-renowned Topper’s restaurant. The Whaler’s Inn will definitely you to the harbor by water from the White Elephant. It’s a Relais & Châteaux property with 31 guest rooms and cottages. The Whaler’s Inn

The Jared Coffin House is set back from the wharfs and in the heart of town. Pretty much everything in town is a casual walk in distance and you’ll be steps from the marina, shops and restaurants. It you’d like a more historical setting, this is your spot. Jaredcoffinhouse.com

Restaurants are easier to get into and future rates also go down with more availability. It’s a less stressful time when people are even friendlier and have time to talk...it’s just a different vibe. YN: Nantucket looks like a great spot for travelling with a group, is it hard to get into? CM: With 200 plus slips we can accommodate large and small vessels easily and we have the hotel and restaurant side that the group can enjoy. Jared Coffin and friends. Once again, I think June and July are ideal times for groups. We have virtually unlimited slip space and all the great aspects of the island awaits...socializing, wine, dinner, beach and golf courses are all within walking distance or a short drive.

**The White Elephant Hotel**

**The Cottages and Lofts**

**THE WHITE ELEPHANT HOTEL**

*100+ guest rooms and cottages*

**THE COTTAGES AND LOFTS**

*100+ guest rooms and cottages*
Accommodations

The Hunketor Boat Basin is just one element under the umbrella of the Hunketor Island Resort. The Cottages & Lofts, White Elephant, White Elephant Village, The Waunnet and Jared Coffin House are the perfect places to stay in Hunketor.

These venues need to be on your radar. No matter how large your vessel, there comes a time for some serious pampering. When your vacation plans include extended family stays, or if you just feel like getting off the water and indulging, this is any of the aforementioned lodging. From personal experience, their attention to detail, unique location and without question, top-flight personal service and friendliness thrills any resort worldwide.

The Cottages and Lofts will give you a true feel of the boat basin with studio to three-bedroom accommodations situated directly on the wharf. Each unit has its kitchen, perfect for a family or extended stay. The 29 units all have air conditioning and the management has adapted some units to be pet friendly.

The view of the harbor and close proximity to the docks gives you the feel of being on the boat without the genteel rocking. Thecottagesnantucket.com

A stay at the White Elephant is an elegant respite from daily life. Plush linens, authentic country decor and all the amenities one would expect were in place. Get used to your name being immediately recognized after you check in. The White Elephant Village offers residences up to a three-bedroom suite set. Each unit includes amenities such as pantry and appliances, soaking tub, living/dining room’s area, a fireplace and access to pool and cabanas. Whiteelephanthotel.com, Whiteelephantvillage.com

As Cristina stated, the Waunnet is home to world-renowned Topper’s restaurant. The Waunnet Lady will deliver you to the resort by water from the White Elephant. It’s a Relais & Chateaux property with 32 guest rooms and cottages. Waunnet.com

The Jared Coffin House is set back from the wharf and in the heart of town. Pretty much everything in town is a casual walk in distance and you’ll be steps from the museums, shops and restaurants. If you’d like a more historical setting, this is your spot, Jaredcoffinhouse.com

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