

\$5.00 JULY 2020

QUEST

THE
SUMMER
ISSUE

KIT KEENAN
IN MONTAUK



questmag.com

OUR SUMMER HAUNTS STILL SAFE AND SECURE





WITH MUCH uncertainty still surrounding the coronavirus, summer travel will be limited and destinations are adjusting to societal changes. Masks, outdoor dining, sanitizer stations, small gatherings, board games and family time seem to be the new norm. With international travel on hold, domestic flights are gaining popularity, and road-tripping is on the rise. Luckily, *Quest's* favorite summer destinations—from the Hamptons to Newport and the Adirondacks (which is seemingly always socially distant)—are just a drive away. And many families kicked off the season early and have been settled in these special communities since March. Montauk resident Kit Keenan is one of those who decided to quarantine in her summer house on the East End months ago with plans to remain through the end of the season. Keenan is sharing this experience with her family, including her mother Cynthia Rowley, who has been a fashion pioneer in COVID-19 relief efforts, using her brand to create masks. The mother-daughter combination also produces a popular podcast, “Ageless,” which covers a range of topics, from motherhood to fashion and wellness. Keenan, a rising senior at New York University who too boasts an eponymous label, also spends much of her time promoting health and teaching at-home workouts through her Instagram platform. Below, she tells us about her time in Montauk and what she expects from the area as the pandemic continues to unfold.

Brooke Kelly: Why is Montauk such a special place to quarantine?

Kit Keenan: Montauk is magic. Anyone who lives out here can vouch for that. The sunsets, the waves, the cliffs—sometimes it feels supernatural. A lot of people say *Stranger Things* was based on real paranormal events that took place in Montauk.

BK: How have you been spending your days?

KK: Lots of long runs, simple rustic cooking with mom, and working on our mother-daughter podcast, “Ageless.”

BK: What do you miss most about the area pre-coronavirus?

KK: I definitely miss big dinners at Crow’s Nest and Duryea’s, but they recently reopened for outdoor dining, which is exciting. I will definitely miss Surf Lodge concerts, but the surf’s not cancelled and that’s what I care about most.

BK: Did you discover anything new in Montauk during lockdown?

KK: I have become such an avid runner out here in lockdown. There are secret little streets, ponds, and trails that I have just recently discovered through running and have never explored in my 20 years in Montauk. Also, the farmer’s market I’ve been going to forever is still rocking so that’s great!

BK: What do you think socializing will look like in Montauk this summer as more restrictions are lifted?

KK: Anyone who knows me knows I have been on the stricter side when it comes to distancing. I am warier about socializing than most my friends. That being said, the ability to go out to dinner with my girls—six feet from other small groups of course—is incredible!

This page, clockwise from top left: Kit Keenan and Cynthia Rowley, photographed by Frankie Marin; Sunset view from Chef Matt Lambert’s new cafe pop-up at The Stone Lion Inn in Montauk; Montauk Point Lighthouse; the Surf Lodge. Opposite page: Kit Keenan on a beach in Montauk.

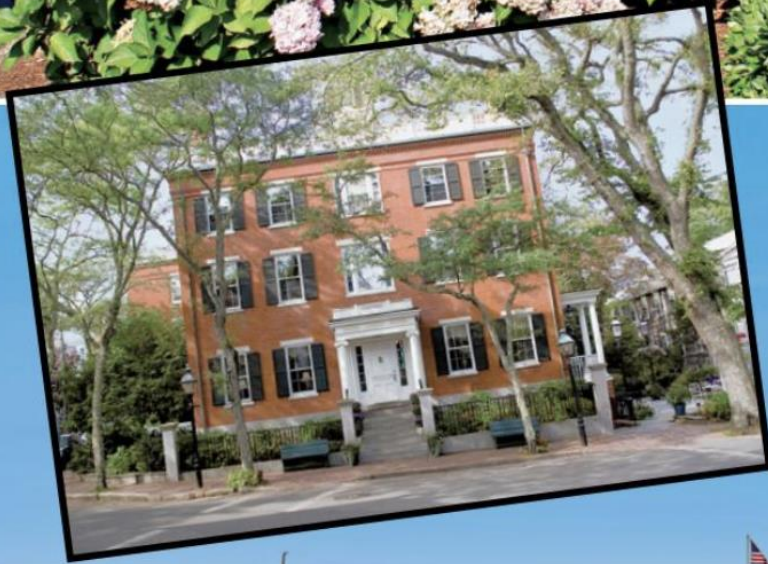
COURTESY OF KIT KEENAN; FRANKIE MARIN; VANESSA PRICE; PETER K. BURIAN/CREATIVE COMMONS; THE SURF LODGE

NANTUCKET

This historic New England island on the Atlantic Ocean is famous for its whaling culture, fishing, sprawling harbor, and hotspots like the Chicken Box and Cisco Brewers. While made up of localities with their own unique qualities—like Sconset, Cisco, Polpis, Madaket, and Wauwinet—the island is characterized by an all-American feel, with shingle-style homes, blooming Hydrangeas, and charming lighthouses. Restaurants are open for outdoor dining, and Nantucket's iconic resorts—the White Elephant, the Wauwinet, Jared Coffin House, and the Cottages at the Boat Basin—opened for visitors mid-June. The resorts are sanitized and clean, and encourage all travelers considering a stay to call ahead with any concerns. As more restrictions are lifted, glimmers of optimism can be seen throughout the island. The windows of the Nantucket Whaling read, “One Day This Too Will Be History.”



COURTESY OF MARNELY MURRAY/COOKING WITH BOOKS; NANTUCKET ISLAND RESORTS; NICOLE KARNISHEFEN/
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This page, above: Shops near Nantucket Harbor; Nantucket's Old Mill (inset). This page, below: A view of the White Elephant resort from the harbor; Jared Coffin House (inset). Opposite page: The lawn at the Wauwinet. Opposite page, insets, from above: The Whaling Museum; Chris Fraker with help from his grandson Jackson Agnel-lo stand the wooden letters spelling "hope" wrapped in lights on the roof of their home; the Cottages & Lofts at the Boat Basin.

