

**BONUS: 2014 BEAUTY/HEALTH/FITNESS GUIDE**

# WESTCHESTER

**58**

**WAYS TO  
SPEND  
90 DAYS**

## Summer Fun!

- *best beaches*
- *awesome outdoor adventures*
- *family-friendly outings*
- *festivals, exhibits, and shows*
- *coolest cocktails*
- *rainy-day options*
- *and more!*

**11 GREAT GETAWAYS**

**PLUS: SENIOR TRAVEL OPTIONS**

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**OUR TOP PICKS**

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*run away from home:*  
**11 FABULOUS  
FINDS**







*What's your idea of the perfect summer getaway? Chilling on a beach with the family? Kayaking with minke whales? Decompressing at a spa? Our writers hiked, sailed, dined, and "Om"-ed in search of the best places to spend your precious vacation days. What are you waiting for? Get packing!*

By Carol Caffin, Deanna Cioppa, Nancy L. Claus, Philip Garrity, Barbara Solomon Josselson, Julie Ruggirello, Julia Sexton, and Laurie Yarnell

Edited by Nancy L. Claus



Häagen-Dazs ice cream, and fixings for s'mores—plus whatever you've pre-arranged with your concierge, be it bagels, diapers, or green tea.

The villas are just steps away from a gorgeous, white sandy beach—the cornerstone of the resort—and complimentary beachside towel, chair, and umbrella service cuts down even further on the schlepp factor. The morning after we arrive, a strapping young man with a charming Eastern European accent sets us up on the sand—that umbrella isn't going anywhere, I happily observe—where I contentedly lose myself in a would-have-been-thick read on my Kindle, and the hubby, ear plugs in place, promptly falls asleep. Overhead seagulls screech and, nearby, toddlers build sandcastles. Bliss.

But while the beach is blissful, Ocean Edge offers other enticements—watching the sun set over the bay from your balcony, listening to live jazz along with Sunday brunch on the veranda, cycling along the Cape's scenic Cape Cod Rail Trail, accessible from the resort, or enjoying a Sunday evening Movie by Moonlight, when old classics like *Casablanca* are shown on the front lawn. Pre-order a picnic dinner, grab a beer at the bar, and watch with the whole gang on a big beach blanket, drive-in movie style, without the car. "Yes, kids," you might say. "Movies didn't always come in color or on the iPad."

—Laurie Yarnell

**Details:** Rates start at \$895 per night in June; \$1,250 in July and August; [www.oceanedge.com](http://www.oceanedge.com).

## White Elephant Village

Nantucket, Massachusetts

*Apartments with kitchens that can accommodate cereal breakfasts, late-night snacks, and any amount of post-nap milk breaks and a pool right off Main Street make this centrally located resort ideal for families with kids in tow.*

While hotels can be lovely for romantic weekends with your partner, for our money, apartments win when traveling with kids. White



Steps from downtown Nantucket and beside an inviting pool, White Elephant Village offers cozy, hearth-warmed apartments with all modern amenities: luxury linens, kitchens, iPod decks, spa bathrooms, WiFi and wide-screen TVs.

Elephant Village offers luxuriously appointed apartments with real kitchens, vast beds with luxury linens, deep slipper tubs, and roomy showers. The two- and three-bedroom units even have iPod docks, gas fireplaces, and elegant living rooms. Tea is served daily in the main lobby down the road, but the killer amenity for guests traveling with kids is that White Elephant Village has a large pool located steps from Main Street—ideal for parents seeking quick, energy-burning dips without a schlepp to the surf-swept beach. Of course, the beach is also an option—and the hotel's complimentary bus will take you there (along with boogie boards, towels, beach chairs, fishing rods, etc., all provided free of charge by the hotel).

In town, there is the Nantucket Historical Association's fabulous Whaling Museum ([www.nha.org](http://www.nha.org)), with exhibits and lectures geared for all ages (though you might want to skip the Whaleship Essex presentations: its highpoint is a nightmare-inducing act of cannibalism). It offers an educational Children's Discovery Room with games, crafts, and activities geared to explore the Island's history. Look for story times and special kid-focused events, too. Admission to the Whaling Museum also buys admission to the Jared Coffin House (the Island's oldest), plus the Old Mill, Old Gaol, Greater Light, and Fire Hose Cart House.

Near the historic center of town, Children's Beach offers the dual amenities of a playground and a harbor-bathing beach that's sheltered from surf by a barrier island. For parents with energetic children, this can be a lifesaver near the crowded sidewalks of town. A visit to Aunt Leah's Fudge ([www.auntleahs.com](http://www.auntleahs.com)) on Main Street is a must do. This sugary wonderland makes some of the best fudge in New England—don't miss the traditional penuche, all brown sugar, butter, and vanilla.

Both Sayle's Seafood ([www.saylesseafood.com](http://www.saylesseafood.com)) and Cisco Brewery ([www.ciscobrewers.com](http://www.ciscobrewers.com)) make ideal restaurants for families with kids, but a trip to Nantucket doesn't feel complete without a meal taken at the Brotherhood of Thieves ([www.brotherhoodofthieves.com](http://www.brotherhoodofthieves.com)).

This ancient, subterranean tavern feels ripped from the pages of Melville—happily, its craft beers are not, nor is its classic American fare. Also—to give the kiddies a sense of the Nantucket that was—drop into Congdon's Pharmacy. This old-school drugstore has a lunch counter with spinning stools and a worn laminate counter and has seen generations of Nantucketers chow down on grilled cheese sandwiches and slurp ice cream sodas. It's ideal for kids, and a bit of old-time Americana—a holdout on Nantucket's increasingly glitzy shopping strip.

On the ferry back to the mainland, introduce your kids to Nantucket's popular tradition: Throw a penny overboard as you pass Brant Point Lighthouse to ensure a safe return to the Island.

—Julia Sexton

**Details:** At White Elephant Village ([www.whiteelephantvillage.com](http://www.whiteelephantvillage.com)), summer villa rates range from \$595 to \$3,800 per night. Book a three-bedroom apartment and receive a complimentary 2014 BMW SUV.

