



**Nantucket Commission
On Disability**

16 Broad Street
Nantucket, MA 02554



*For Visitors
With Special Needs*

Provided by:



**Nantucket Commission
On Disability**

16 Broad Street, Nantucket, MA 02554
508-228-8085

Nantucket Island Guide for Visitors with Special Needs

In publishing this guidebook, it is the Commission on Disability's intention to help persons with disabilities enjoy our community's historic setting, natural beauty, and recreational and cultural opportunities.*

As in most communities around the country, public and private efforts to improve access on Nantucket are ongoing. We hope that knowing what to expect and where to look for resources can make your Nantucket experience more enjoyable. In all cases of travel and accommodations, we recommend that you contact the airlines, ferries, restaurants, or inns well in advance of your arrival and inquire about your specific needs.

Best Wishes for a Wonderful Visit,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mickey Rowland". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Mickey" and the last name "Rowland" clearly distinguishable.

Mickey Rowland, Chairman

Nantucket Commission on Disability

*For information on general and tourist activities, we recommend that travelers obtain "The Official Guide: Nantucket", published by the Chamber of Commerce and/or the "Nantucket Island Travel & Lodging Information" brochure, published by the Nantucket Visitor Services & Information Services.

UPDATED INFORMATION:

1. Accessible Restaurants
2. Dreamland Theater
3. Portable Ramp
4. Beach Wheelchairs
5. Nantucket Airport
6. Accessible Taxis

ACCESSIBLE RESTAURANT LIST

The following restaurants are wheelchair accessible and most have accessible toilet facilities:

Restaurant: Accessible Toilet Room

- | | |
|---|-----|
| 1. A.K. Diamond's: | Yes |
| 2. American Seasons: | No |
| 3. Boarding House Bar: | No |
| 4. Brant Point Grill: | Yes |
| 5. Brotherhood: | Yes |
| 6. Station 21: | Yes |
| 7. Crosswinds: | Yes |
| 8. Nix's Restaurant: | Yes |
| 9. Easy Street Catina: | Yes |
| 10. Met on Main: | Yes |
| 11. Fairgrounds: | Yes |
| 12. Fifty-Six Union: | Yes |
| 13. Fog Island Café: | Yes |
| 14. Food for Here and There: | |
| 15. Fusaro's: | Yes |
| 16. Galley Beach: | Yes |
| 17. The Jetties: | Yes |
| 18. Kitty Murtagh's: | Yes |
| 19. LoLa 41: | Yes |
| 20. Miacomet Golf Course Restaurant: | Yes |

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| 21. Millie's: | Yes |
| 22. Atlas: | Yes |
| 23. The Pearl: | Yes |
| 24. Pi Pizzeria: | Yes |
| 25. Cru: | Yes |
| 26. Rose & Crown: | No |
| 27. Seagrille: | Yes |
| 28. Slip 14 Patio: | |
| 29. Straight Wharf: | Yes |
| 30. The Tavern: | Yes |
| 31. Toppers: | Yes |
| 32. Town: | Yes |
| 33. Ventuno (Ramp in back patio) | |
| 34. Proprietors: | Yes |
| 35. Grey Lady: | Yes |
| 36. Nantucket Prime: | Yes |
| 37. Backyard B-B-Q: | Yes |
| 38. Dune (outside patio) | |
| 39. Le Languedoc (outside patio) | |
| 40. Company of the Cauldron | |
| 41. Breeze Bar and Café | Yes |
| 42. Island Kitchen | Yes |
| 43. Corner Table | Yes |

This list may not include all the accessible restaurants on Nantucket. When making a reservation, please mention that you are using a wheelchair and require a wheelchair accessible restaurant. Some restaurants have vertical lifts and most others have ramp access.

DREAMLAND THEATER

Dreamland is completely wheelchair accessible so their physically disabled patrons can independently navigate all levels of the theater.

The Dreamland's **hearing-impaired patrons** will enjoy all performances, live or film, with the Dreamland's personal, portable, wireless Assistive Listening Devices.

Their **deaf patrons** will enjoy most first run Hollywood digital films with their wireless, personal, in-theater closed captioning viewing device.

Their **blind and sight-impaired patrons** will enjoy many first run Hollywood digital films with the Dreamland's Descriptive Video Service. This service provides narrated descriptions of key visual elements during pauses in the movie's soundtrack through a wireless headset. All of these devices can be utilized at any seat in the theater.

Please note that not all films will have Closed Captioning and Descriptive Video Services. Please check with the Dreamland Theater if you require these services.

PORTABLE RAMPS

Our Commission has purchased an eight-foot portable ramp, a ten-foot portable ramp, 2 five-foot ramps, and 2 twenty-four-inch portable threshold ramps for Nantucket's disabled visitors to borrow while they are visiting the island.

The eight-foot ramp and ten foot ramp are typically used to ramp two or three steps. Many decks, stoops, and porches

have several steps leading up to them, and with this portable ramp a wheelchair user may be able to gain access to this porch, stoop, or deck. Also, many times there is small step from the porch, deck, or stoop to the home's entrance. The threshold ramp and five-foot ramp may help the disabled person gain access to the home.

As you are probably aware, there are only a few wheelchair accessible homes for rent on Nantucket. These ramps can make an inaccessible entrance become accessible.

I would be happy to drop off and pick up the ramps at your rental home anywhere on the island. You can reserve it in advance and I will have it waiting at your rental home upon arrival. In the event that I am off-island, I will gladly make the necessary arrangements so that you can have a safe and independent access to your rental home. This is a courtesy service from the Commission on Disability.

If you would like to borrow these ramps at any time, you can reach me at work or at home. I work part time, so if you do not reach me at work, please call me at home.

Brenda 508-228-8085 (Work)
508-228-5409 (Home)

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Transportation to Nantucket

Air Travel

Wheelchair users will find air travel to the Island very challenging at best. Most aircraft serving the Island have 19 seats or less, which means that Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) standards for access are quite limited. Citing safety concerns, some airlines will deny service to persons who are not able to board the aircraft and deplane with only the minimal steadying by another person. Usually there are three to five narrow, steep stairs leading to the entrance of the airplanes, and the aisles and seats are fairly narrow. Some armrests are not movable. There are no restrooms on the airplanes.

During the summer, some commercial flights use larger aircraft which offer better access for some disabled travelers. Airline personnel may provide straightback (a narrow chair on which the passenger is carried aboard the aircraft) assistance upon request. There are no jetways (movable ramps connecting the aircraft to the terminal) at Nantucket, so steps to and from the aircraft will be encountered at some point.

When making reservations, please explain any circumstances which might assist airline personnel in accommodating you, and check in well in advance of departure time.

Nantucket Airport

Nantucket Memorial Airport

Nantucket Memorial Airport's terminal is completely wheelchair accessible.

If you need wheelchair transportation to or from your plane, or if you need any assistance with your luggage, or if you need assistance commuting to and from your vehicle, please contact the airport in advance for any additional help.

There are short-term and long-term parking lots that have accessible parking spaces.

There are accessible bathrooms throughout the terminal.

Nantucket Memorial Airport... (508) 325-5301
(508) 325-5307

Travel by Ferry

During the summer season, three commercial passenger ferry services are available.

Steamship Authority

South Street Dock, Hyannis
Steamboat Wharf, Nantucket

Passenger Info. & Auto Reservations

Phone Number (508) 477-8600
TTY (508) 540-1394

(www.steamshipauthority.com)

Nantucket Terminal
Steamboat Wharf
P.O. Box 276
Nantucket, MA 02554

Daily Sailing Info Only:
Phone Number (508) 228-0262

Hyannis Terminal (508) 771-4000

The publicly owned Steamship Authority (SSA) vessels are considered to be quite accessible. This is the only ferry service which accommodates vehicles as well as passengers. The two vessels that accommodate vehicles as well as passengers are the **Nantucket** and the **Eagle**.

Bicycles and pets are allowed on these two vessels.

Parking at the Hyannis terminal and in the surrounding area is available for a fee.

Travel time is approximately two and a quarter hours.

The Steamship Authority's **Iyanough** is a one-hour, passenger only, fast ferry service.

The lower deck is wheelchair accessible where you'll find an accessible rest room and snack bar. Pets are welcome and bicycles are transported for a fee. Reservations are highly recommended.

Reservations

If you plan to bring your vehicle with you on the boat, it is recommended that you make reservations well in advance. If you cannot get a reservation and it is necessary for you to travel with your vehicle because of your disability or one of your passenger's disability, then you may request to speak with a supervisor and inquire about a special accommodation for your reservation.

For vehicles that do not have a reserved space on the ferry, there is a "Stand-By" policy at both Hyannis and Nantucket terminals. Both terminal's

“Stand-By” policy are implemented on a first-come-first-serve basis. Please inquire at the particular terminal as to how their “Stand-By” policy is implemented.

Disabled individuals, who are traveling on a “Stand-By” basis **and** must travel with their vehicles due to their disability, are eligible for preferential boarding of their vehicles. Please see the Terminal Agent and explain your need for preferential boarding.

Going without your car

Passengers traveling without cars do not need reservations for the Nantucket or the Eagle. Seats can fill up quickly during the summertime and holidays, so be sure to get in line early for your seat.

When you arrive at the dock, please inform the attendant if you will need any special assistance in boarding.

The Boats

Both vehicle ferries that regularly service Nantucket have elevators and accessible bathrooms.

The **Eagle** is the newer ferry.

This vessel is equipped with two elevators accessible from the freight deck. Elevators access the upper passenger deck where you will find the food counter, general seating, and accessible bathrooms.

Notify terminal agent upon arrival that you require access to the elevator for boarding. This applies to passengers with or without a vehicle.

The **Nantucket** has two passenger decks. The elevator accesses the lower passenger deck (mezzanine deck) where you will find general seating and

an accessible bathroom. Notify the terminal agent upon arrival that you will require access to the elevator for boarding. The food counter is located on the upper deck, which is not accessible by elevator. Upon arrival at the terminal, please tell the terminal agent that you will require some assistance once you are on board. The Steamship Authority personnel will gladly assist you.

Hy-Line Cruises

Ocean Street Dock, Hyannis
Straight Wharf, Nantucket

Hy-Line Cruises operates two passenger-only ferries from Hyannis to Nantucket.

The High-Speed Ferry, the **Grey Lady**, is a one-hour, fast ferry service that operates year-round.

The other Hy-Line ferry, the **Great Point**, operates seasonally, from early May to late October. This one-way trip takes one hour and fifty minutes.

Reservations on both ferries are strongly recommended and both ferries are fully accessible.

If you require any special assistance boarding, disembarking, or on the ferry, please speak with an agent at the ticket office and someone will be happy to accommodate you.

Pets are welcome and bicycles are transported for a fee.

Advance Sales and Parking Information for the **Hy-Line High-Speed Ferry**

Nantucket (508) 228-3949

Hyannis (508) 778-0404

Toll Free (800) 492-8082

www.hy-linecruises.com

Advance Sales and Parking Information for Hy-Line Seasonal Ferry

Hyannis (508) 778-2600 or (508) 778-2602

Nantucket (508) 228-3949

Toll Free (888) 778-1132

Freedom Cruise Line

Squatucket Harbor, Harwich Port
Straight Wharf, Nantucket

The Freedom Cruise line, a passenger-only ferry, operates from the end of May to early October from Harwichport to Nantucket. Parking is available in Harwich Port.

Information and Reservations....

(508) 432-8999

www.nantucketislandferry.com

Transportation on the Island

Rental Vehicles

Numerous local and franchised car rental agencies operate on the Island. Please reserve your vehicle early. If you need a vehicle with special controls, please contact the rental agency to make the necessary arrangements. These vehicles must be transported to the Island, so please allow at least two weeks advanced notice for a special reservation.

Wheelchair-accessible vans are not available for rental on-Island. However, there are several companies that rent accessible vans in Massachusetts. New England Wheels.....(978) 663-9724
.....(800) 886-9247

Wheelchair Getaways.....(508) 336-2556
.....(800) 727-1656

“Your Island Ride” Accessible Van Service for Elderly and Disabled Passengers

(Provided by the Nantucket Regional Transit Authority)

This is an advanced reservation (24 hours is appreciated) door-to-door transportation service available to elders 60 years-of-age and older and for persons with disabilities who are certified and determined eligible to use the service. Please call for details and the certification process. This wheelchair-accessible van service operates year-round from 8:00A.M. to 4:00P.M. Monday through Friday.

NRTA.....(508) 325-7516

www.shuttlenantucket.com

Nantucket Regional Transit Authority

The Nantucket Regional Transit Authority (NRTA) Shuttle service operates from late May to early October. There are eight different shuttle routes that will transport you to many areas of the Island including the airport. Each shuttle originates downtown. The cost is \$1 or \$2 each way depending on your destination and single and multi-day passes are also available. All the shuttle busses are wheelchair accessible and the drivers are trained to accommodate disabled passengers.

Para Transit

The NRTA also operates a Para Transit service for ADA Para Transit eligible, disabled individuals. The NRTA is required to operate this service during the same hours that they operate their fixed-route service, which presently is seven-days-a-week from 7A.M. to 11:30P.M. from late May to early October. This service is for disabled individuals who cannot use the regular shuttle service because of their disability or cannot get to and from the shuttle stops because of their disability. The NRTA requires a 24-hour notice for service. Since the NRTA's office is closed on weekends, please contact their office on Thursday for any weekend transportation service and by Friday for service on Monday.

Shuttle Info (Recording).....(508) 228-7025

Business.....(508) 325-9571

Para Transit Service.....(508) 325-7516

Office Hours, Mon.-Fri.....8A.M. to 4P.M.

Taxis

There are four wheelchair-accessible taxi companies on Nantucket: **R&R Taxi, KCK Taxi, Altar Rock Taxi, and Nan's Taxi.** All taxi companies operate seven-days-a-week and on-demand eighteen-hours-a-day. Reservations are accepted but are not necessary.

R&R Taxi 508-228-9410

Nan's Taxi 508-228-9410

KCK Taxi 508-228-7874

Altar Rock 508-648-5566

Tour Vehicles

There are many tour companies that provide tours of the island. However, there are only two

companies that can accommodate motorized wheelchairs. Nantucket Island Tours has a wheelchair-accessible bus and you must call at least twenty-four hours in advance for a reservation requesting the wheelchair-accessible vehicle. Autopscot Tours has a wheelchair-accessible van and is available six days a week during the season. Please call Nantucket Island Tours and Autopscot Tours for further information.

Nantucket Island Tours.....(508) 228-0334

Visitor Information

The Town's Visitor Services and Information Bureau is located at 25 Federal Street, between Broad and Chestnut Streets. The building was renovated in 1994 to improve wheelchair access. Accessible public restrooms, an accessible drinking fountain, and outdoor seating are available.

Visitor Services and Information Bureau
(508) 228-0925

Nantucket Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber of Commerce is located on the second floor at Zero Main Street. There is no elevator service to the second floor, however there is a buzzer along with a sign informing the disabled public to "Ring Buzzer for Service." The Chamber of Commerce staff will gladly assist you with any information that you require or with any questions that you may have.

Nantucket Chamber of Commerce
(508) 228-1700

Beaches & Recreation

Beaches

There are numerous public beaches on the Island with a variety of surf conditions and amenities. Please refer to the beach chart on page 20.

Beach Wheelchairs

The Town has purchased beach wheelchairs for your use while visiting Nantucket. Please call the Department of Public Works to reserve your beach wheelchair and for any questions that you might have.

DPW 508-228-7244

Flotation Devices

Nantucket's Marine Department prohibits the use of any flotation devices in designated public swimming areas that are overseen by lifeguards because winds and currents can quickly carry a buoyed person beyond easy rescue range. However, the Marine Department agreed to make a reasonable accommodation for disabled swimmers. A US Coast Guard wearable life jacket is the only life jacket that a qualified disabled person is authorized to wear in Nantucket public beaches. Upon arrival at the beach, simply approach a lifeguard for permission to wear a US Coast Guard wearable life jacket. If the disabled person is a minor, a responsible adult should be present at all times while enjoying the water.

Children's Events

Throughout the summer, the Department of Parks and Recreation sponsors many special events for children. As a Town department, they are required to provide reasonable accommodations upon advanced request (usually one or two weeks' notice), so that disabled persons may participate in these events. Feel free to call the Department of Parks and Recreation to find out whether any events are scheduled during your visit. Let them know if you need an interpreter or other accommodations in order to participate.

Parks, Trails and Areas to Explore

There are numerous trails, parks and scenic areas to explore while you're visiting Nantucket. Coffin Park has boardwalks, however it is not completely wheelchair accessible. Many of our parks, trails, and scenic areas simply have dirt paths for pedestrian use. The following is a list of some areas to explore along with the name of the commission or foundation that controls the property.

The Lily Pond, Land Bank Commission

Coffin Park, Land Bank Commission

Mizzenmast Trail, Land Bank Commission

Bird Sanctuary, Conservation Foundation

Altar Rock & Moors, Conservation Foundation

Tupency Links,** Conservation Foundation

Sanford Farm/ Ram Pasture,** Con. Foundation

Coatue-Great Point, Conservation Foundation

The Creeks at the end of Washington St. Ext.

** There is a turnstile entrance to this trail. The Conservation Foundation will gladly assist anyone who cannot negotiate the turnstile by providing access at a different entrance. However, you must make arrangements with the Conservation Foundation prior to your visit to the trails.

Conservation Foundation (508) 228-2884

Land Bank Commission (508) 228-7240

Bike Paths

There is a network of bicycle paths that intersect the island and are accessible to wheelchairs. The paths offer scenic routes throughout the island. You may obtain a map at the Visitor's Services and Information Bureau, located at 25 Federal Street.

Shops

There are only a handful of retail shops in town which are wheelchair accessible. Most shops have at least one step at the front door preventing wheelchair access. If you cannot enter, the salespeople may be able to show you merchandise by bringing it to you. Do not be shy about asking for assistance.

Restaurants, Inns, Guest Houses, Bed and Breakfasts, etc.

Nantucket is home to many fine dining establishments and choices of lodging. Please consult the Chamber of Commerce guide, which identifies the establishments that are wheelchair accessible. It is suggested to contact the inns and restaurants directly to see if they can accommodate your needs.

Chamber of Commerce.....(508) 228-1700

Museums

Currently, there are four accessible museums in town: the Whaling Museum located on Broad Street, the Maria Mitchell Association on Vestal Street, the NHA Research Library on Fair Street, and the Nantucket Lightship Basket Museum located on Union Street.

Whaling Museum.....(508) 228-1894

Maria Mitchell(508) 228-9198

NHA Research Library.....(508) 228-1655

Lightship Basket.....(508) 228-1177

Libraries

The newly-renovated Nantucket Atheneum (public library) is located downtown at 1 India Street and it is entirely accessible. The accessible entrance is located on the east side of the main building. All rooms are accessible and can be reached by elevator.

Nantucket Atheneum.....(508) 228-1110

Other Services

Post Office

All branches of the Post Office, Federal Street, Sparks Avenue, and 'Sconset are fully accessible.

Banks

All the banks on Nantucket are wheelchair accessible except the downtown branch of the Pacific National Bank.

ATM's

The following is a list of ATM's in accessible locations:

Pacific Club Building at the Bottom of Main Street

Steamship Authority on Steamboat Wharf

Grand Union Supermarket, 9 Salem Street

Stop&Shop, Pleasant Street

Pacific National Bank, 15 Sparks Avenue

Nantucket Bank, 1 Amelia Drive

Nantucket Bank, 104 Pleasant Street

Nantucket Memorial Airport

Movie Theaters

The Starlight Movie Theatre is completely wheelchair accessible and has an accessible bathroom.

The 'Sconset Casino is wheelchair accessible with ramps and has an accessible bathroom.

The Dreamland Theater is currently being renovated and not open to the public. However, the Dreamland will be completely accessible once construction is completed.

Churches

Most churches are wheelchair accessible. Please contact the churches for more details.

Public Restrooms

Downtown

Public Restrooms are located at the Visitor's Center on Federal Street and are wheelchair accessible. There is also an accessible bathroom on Straight Wharf. It is located on the south side of the All Serve General Store building across from the Ropewalk Restaurant.

Siasconset

Public Restrooms, located at the 'Sconset Comfort Station on New Street, are wheelchair accessible.

Wheelchair Rentals

You can rent a manual wheelchair at the following locations:

Nantucket Pharmacy on Main Street
(508) 228-0180

Dan's Pharmacy
Nantucket Commons
(508) 825-9100

You cannot rent a motorized wheelchair on Nantucket. However, you can rent one in Hyannis, Massachusetts and bring it with you on the ferry. Please call Westgate Home Medical Equipment in advance and make the necessary arrangements.

Westgate Home Medical Equipment
209 West Main Streets
Hyannis, MA 02601
(508) 775-3339



The Nantucket Commission On Disability

The Nantucket Commission on Disability represents and advocates for the needs and interests of the disabled community living on or visiting Nantucket Island. It is the goal of this Commission for the disabled population to fully integrate and participate in the Nantucket Community. "Access for All" is our Commission's objective.

The Commission members are appointed by the Board of Selectmen and consists of year-round Island residents with disabilities or have family members who are disabled. The Commission advises the Town and local businesses in helping them achieve compliance with state and federal access standards.

If you have any questions or comments, the Commission on Disability would love to hear from you.

Nantucket Commission on Disability

Phone.....(508) 228-8085

E-mail..... comdis@nantucket-ma.gov

*This guide is dedicated to the memory of
our past commissioners:*

Barbara Grey

Jay Slavitz

Johnny Johnston





Nantucket Beach Chart

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| BEACHES | PARKING | RESTROOMS | FOOD | PHONE | CHANGING ROOMS | PLAYGROUND | BOARDWALK | BEACH WHEELCHAIRS | PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION | SHOWERS | LIFEGUARDS |
|----------------|---------|-----------|------|-------|----------------|------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------|------------|
| JETTIES | WA | WA | WA | YES | WA | YES | WA | WA | YES: WA | WA | YES |
| CHILDREN'S | WA | WA | WA | YES | N/A | YES | N/A | N/A | WAC | YES | YES |
| FRANCIS STREET | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | WAC | N/A | N/A |
| BRANT POINT | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| DIONIS | YES | YES | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | YES |
| SURFSIDE | WA | WA | WA | YES | WA | N/A | N/A | WA | YES: WA | WA | YES |
| CISCO | YES | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| MADAKET | YES | YES | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | WAC | YES | YES |
| SCONSET | YES | YES | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | WAC | N/A | YES |

LEGEND:
 WA: WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE
 WAC: WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TRANSPORTATION CLOSE TO BEACH
 N/A: NOT AVAILABLE