

Good Harbor Beach



Gloucester, Ma

1 Located on the north shore, Good Harbor Beach is one of the most beautiful beaches in the world and has a large expanse of groomed sand and clean water. Somehow the water seems warmer here than it does at nearby beaches [like Singing Beach] - there are days when the temperature is tepid enough to tolerate long periods of swimming. You will want to get here early in the morning because the town gives preference to locals with beach stickers and closes once the parking lot is full.

Good Harbor Beach, Thatcher Road,
Gloucester, MA 01930
7 Min 3.3 Miles

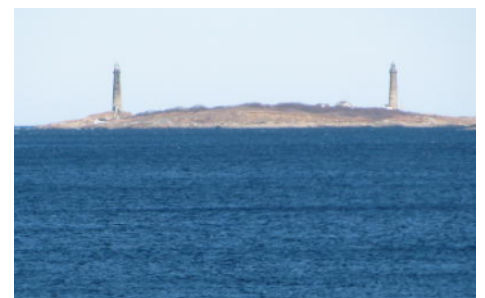
Open 8:00am - 9:00pm

Parking:
\$25 Weekends
\$20 Weekdays

Salt Island, located just off shore is walkable at low tide. On the Western end of the beach is a small stream which drains the salt marsh behind the beach. At low tide there are many rocks and tide pools available for exploration. During tide changes the stream turns into a lazy river as water rushes back and forth from the marsh. The current runs fast enough for people to ride rafts under the foot bridge and into the lagoon formed by the incoming tide and back out again as the tide recends.

Bathrooms are cleaned constantly throughout the day, which is a rarity at beaches! There is a food available and trash is carry in, carry out..

Definitely worth a visit!



[Google Maps](#)

Stacy Boulevard Park



Gloucester, Ma

2 Gloucester Fisherman's Memorial (also known as: "Man at the Wheel" statue or "Fishermen's Memorial Cenotaph") is an historic memorial cenotaph sculpture on South Stacy Boulevard, near entrance of Stacy Esplanade in Gloucester, Massachusetts, built in 1925.

It is an 8-foot-tall (2.4 m), bronze statue of a fisherman dressed in oilskins standing braced at the wheel on the sloping deck of his ship. It is positioned so that the fisherman is looking out over Gloucester Harbor. His eyes are fixed on the water and sails, while every muscle is strained to hold the wheel with a firm grip. A larger recessed panel on the front or harbor-facing side of the base holds an inscription of bronze letters taken from the Bible's Psalm 107:23, which reads: "They That Go Down To The Sea In Ships 1623-1923".

6 Min 1.7 Miles

The Fishermen at the Wheel

They that go down to the sea in ships

Placed around the monument are the names of all the Gloucester fisherman that went out to sea by never returned.

Perhaps the best known names on the plaques at the Fishermen's Memorial belong to the captain and crew of the "Andrea Gail," who have been immortalized in Sebastian Junger's *The Perfect Storm* (New York: Harper 1998). In his book Junger describes the last voyage of this sword fishing boat and also tells about the history and development of the fishing industry in Gloucester. The feature film version of the book vividly brings to life the crew's courage and fortitude and shows why fishing is so dangerous.



[Google Maps](#)

Bearskin Neck



Rockport, Ma

3 Motif Number 1, located on Bradley Wharf in the harbor town of Rockport, Massachusetts, is a replica of a former fishing shack well known to students of art and art history as "the most often-painted building in America." [1][2] The original structure was built in 1840 and destroyed in the Blizzard of 1978, [1] but an exact replica was constructed that same year. [3]

Built in the 1840s as Rockport was becoming home to a colony of artists and settlement of fishermen, the shack became a favorite subject of painters due to the composition and lighting of its location as well as being a symbol of New England maritime life. Painter Lester Hornby (1882–1956) is believed to be the first to call the shack "Motif Number 1," [2] a reference to its being the favorite subject of the town's painters, and the name achieved general acceptance.

14 Min 6 Miles

The most often-painted building in America

Rockport is a town in Massachusetts on Cape Ann. The town, once famous for granite production, got its start as an artist colony in the late 1800s. Rockport is a favorite vacation spot and day trip for many who come to enjoy the concentration of shops and galleries on Bearskin Neck, the rugged, rocky coastline or some ultra-fresh lobsters or other seafood.



Scan for directions

Whale Watch



Gloucester, Ma

4 The biologically rich waters of Stellwagen Bank and Jeffrey's Ledge are one of the few areas on Earth where you can be almost certain of seeing at least a few large, endangered whales on just a half-day whale watch.

HUMPBACK WHALES: Common (seen on 75-99% of trips)

FINBACK WHALES: Common (seen on 60-80% of trips)

MINKE WHALES Common (seen on about 75% of trips)

Capt Bill and Son's Whale Watch
<http://www.captbillandsons.com/>
24 Harbor Loop,
Gloucester, MA 01930
8 Min 3.1 Miles

Whale Watch Adventures

Humpbacks are the species most commonly sighted off coast of Gloucester. They range in size anywhere from 35 up to 60 feet in length when fully grown (males are usually slightly smaller than females).

Humpback whales are seen along the New England coast from March through November. While feeding is their main activity, Humpbacks are also seen engaging in many other behaviors such as breaching (leaping out of the water), flipper-slapping, tail-breaching, and tail-lobbing. These amazing surface active behaviors have made the Humpback Whale a favorite amongst whale watchers.



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Stage Fort Park

Gloucester, Ma

5 Stage Fort Park is a seaside park right next to Downtown Gloucester that includes lots of things to do, a bit of Massachusetts Colonial-era history and lovely views of Massachusetts Bay. The main notable event that took place at this park is prominently featured on a plaque on a large boulder and notes the role that the area now in Stage Fort Park would play in the founding of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1625. There is also the remains of some of the first defensive works in Colonial-era Massachusetts.

9 Hough Avenue
Gloucester, MA
6 Min 2.1 Miles

Panoramic views of Gloucester and the Atlantic Ocean

Stage Fort Park is criss-crossed by walking paths, many of which feature panoramic views of Gloucester and the Atlantic Ocean.

The park has several picnic areas and benches scattered throughout and there are a few areas where grills are permitted.

Stage Fort Park boasts a fairly large and extensive playground that should keeps kids (and many adults) happy.

Stage Fort Park charges for parking during the busy summer season and has a welcome center with facilities that are open during those same months.



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Halibut Point State Park



6 Halibut Point itself is made of sheets of 440 million year-old granite that now descend from rocky headland to the tidal pools below.

Beginning in the 1840s, granite was quarried from this area, first on a small scale and primarily along the coast, and then on a much larger scale when the Rockport Granite Company acquired the Babson Farm quarry and expanded its operation. Shortly after the Cape Ann granite industry collapsed in 1929, 17 acres on the eastern side of the quarry were purchased and given to the Trustees of Reservations. The remainder of the area sat unused until late in World War II when a fire control tower (now the park's Visitors Center) was constructed to provide aiming information for the massive coastal defense guns that guarded Boston and Portsmouth Harbors.

13 Min 5.7 Miles

Halibut Point is a uniquely beautiful coastal seascape

The park is open 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. from Memorial Day to Labor Day and sunrise to sunset the remainder of the year.

Parking fee of \$5 MA Vehicle, \$6 non-MA Vehicle charged year round.

Most areas of the park and Visitor Center are universally accessible. Assisted-listening devices are available for park tours.

Halibut Point has a carry in-carry out policy. Thank you for your cooperation!

There is no swimming or camping at Halibut Point.



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Schooner Sails



Gloucester, Ma

7 Picture yourself relaxing on the deck of this beautiful 65-foot schooner as she sails out of Gloucester harbor on a light southwesterly breeze.

Join us for a two-hour sail and get a taste for what it was like to sail on a fishing schooner a hundred years ago. Help the crew raise the sails, or just sit back and take in the sights and sounds of Gloucester's coastline.

Some of the weekend public sails feature music.

Schooner Thomas E Lannon
7 Seas Wharf/ Gloucester House
63 Roger's Street
7 Min 1.8 Miles

Schooner Thomas E Lannon, Gloucester, Ma

The Schooner Thomas E. Lannon was built in 1997 in Essex, MA. Berthed at historic Seven Seas Wharf at the Gloucester House Restaurant, Rogers Street, Gloucester. The Lannon offers two-hour sails and private charters from mid-May through mid-October.

Schooner Statistics

Length on Deck: 64.5 ft
Length Overall: 90 ft
Beam: 18 ft
Main Top Mast Height: 73 ft
Fore Top Mast Height: 70 ft.
Tonnage: 48 tons
Displacement: 54 tons
Draft: 9 ft.



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Scenic Drive - Backshore

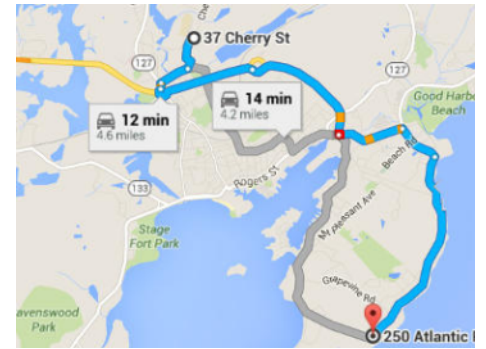


Gloucester, Ma

8 Take a slow, leisurely drive by Good Harbor Beach down along the Backshore overlooking Salt Island and the Twin Lights past Bass Rocks all the way around to Niles Beach. The Backshore has taken quite the pounding from storms over the past few decades. This of course includes the Perfect Storm. As a result, much of the vegetation between the road and the ocean has been away. This makes for a breathtaking drive along Gloucester's Backshore.

22 Min 10 Miles

Breathtaking views as you drive along the backshore



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Sea Kayaking Tours



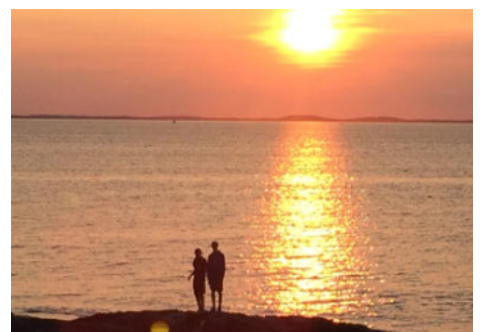
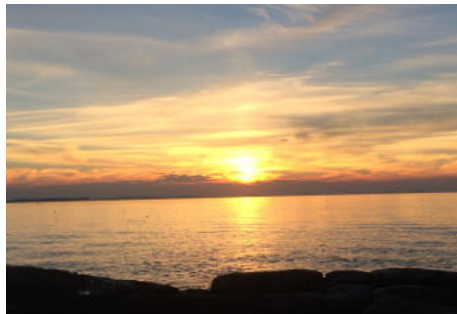
Gloucester, Ma

9 With a mission to excite people, of all ages, about the coastal and ocean environments and an emphasis on fun and exploration of the natural beauty around Cape Ann Discovery Adventures offers quite the thrill.

Discovery Adventures offers guided sea kayaking, stand up paddleboarding and snorkeling Tours around beautiful Cape Ann, Massachusetts. They can accommodate groups large and small for any occasion: family trips, educational excursions, corporate team building adventures, birthday parties, romantic sunset or moonlight tours. They have instructional courses for groups or one on one coaching. We also Rent our kayaks, stand up paddleboard and snorkeling equipment for you to enjoy at your own pace or place.

Telephone: (978) 283-3320
1077 Washington St
Gloucester, MA 01930
8 Min 3.9 Miles

Discovery Adventures Sea Kayaking Tours



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