

# RMJ Travels



## Newport Flotilla July 14 – 21, 2023

*Trip Leaders Rich Jepsen, former OCSC CEO  
and his wife, Cecilia Trost*

# Overview

We are going to offer a domestic Adventure in 2023 to the beautiful waters south of Cape Cod! Beautiful, iconic and good sailing, this section of New England is that rare combination of the insular and the proximate, charming and serene, but conveniently close to the hubs of New York City and Boston. Our destinations will be the beautiful islands of Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket, jewels of the North East.

## Charter Operator and Yachts

We'll charter yachts out of Newport, RI, using a longtime operator who specializes in Jeanneau performance cruisers in the mid 40' range. We have reserved five boats:

- Three 3-cabin 2020 Beneteau 42' (\$5,400)
- Two 3-cabin 2017 Jeanneau 42' (\$5,250)



# Highlights of the Sailing Area

As a teenager, Rich sailed these waters with his parents and siblings on their old Bristol 27 Weekender for the family's summer vacation. While there are dozens of beautiful and intriguing natural and cultural attractions, here are a few of our favorites:

## Newport, Rhode Island

The home of the America's Cup Competition for almost 100 years, Newport is one of the most visited destinations in New England: Home of some of the most beautiful beaches in the country; Bellevue Avenue, the address of some of the most iconic mansions in the world; National Sailing Hall of Fame; New York Yacht Club's Harbor Court; Sail Newport, the model for community sailing. Most charterers will spend a couple of days in advance of the charter touring these highlights, including the possibility of an evening gathering the night before the charter. Newport has it all.

We plan to spend a couple of days in Newport before the charter to 'do the town' and suggest you also consider a similar extension before or after the flotilla.



# Martha's Vineyard

There are so many things that make Martha's Vineyard such a unique and popular summertime destination. Among them, the iconic landmarks that are found throughout the island. There are five light houses on Martha's Vineyard... our favorite one to check out is the Edgartown Harbor Lighthouse. Plan a run (or stroll) that includes a stop at the lighthouse, or explore the lighthouse beach with family and friends. You'll find it at the entrance to Edgartown Harbor and Katama Bay.

The Aquinnah Cliffs Overlook is a site to see any time of the year. The spectacular views are awe-inspiring and the scenery is memorable. Follow the trail that leads to the beach. There are also a few shops to browse.

Of course, no trip to the Vineyard is complete without a cruise past Jaws Bridge, the location of the famous scene from the movie, *Jaws*.



The Flying Horse Carousel in Oak Bluffs will take you back to the good ol' days and churn up memories of summers long ago. It's America's oldest carousel and is actually a National Historic Landmark. Kids (and some adults) love trying to grab the brass ring to win a free ride. You can rent bikes or cars to get around the island.

## Food and Drink

While you could easily spend your entire vacation dining and sampling the local fare on Martha's Vineyard, we've hand-selected a few of our top choices, depending on the meal, the mood, and the company.



You can't go wrong if you start your day off with a Woofier from the Black Dog Bakery Cafe in Vineyard Haven. Don't ask us what it is, just get one! You may also choose to grab a morning coffee at Espresso Love in Edgartown, but don't let the name fool you, their menu is loaded with sandwiches, bowls, and all kinds of delectable offerings.

Ask any kid out there, the best part of being on vacation is the ice cream. And Martha's Vineyard has plenty of options for a delicious cold treat! Mad Martha's is a sure bet, with a few locations across the Vineyard. We also suggest stopping by the Ice Cream and Candy Bazaar in Edgartown, where you can get old-fashioned "penny candy". Grab some candy and take in the views of the Edgartown Harbor.

Is it Happy Hour yet? Whenever you decide it is, head over to the Atlantic Restaurant and indulge in a cocktail and a chowder on the back deck overlooking the Edgartown Harbor. For a different vibe, go see what's on tap at Bad Martha Farmer's Brewery. Try a flight paddle and enjoy live music (on the weekends), games, and get yourself a t-shirt to take home.

If it's fine dining you seek, look no further than The Terrace at the Charlotte Inn, the locally sourced menu selections won't disappoint even the most discerning cuisine enthusiasts.

You're on vacation, right? We suggest rounding out the evening with a late night donut stop at Back Door Donuts. That's right- they do "donuts after dark" starting at 7pm nightly in the summer. If it's a classic lobster roll that you are in search of, check out our blog post on the Vineyard's best lobster rolls!

## The Sunset

There are certainly plenty of places to watch the sunset on Martha's Vineyard, but we happen to think that Menemsha is one of the best. If you've been, you know. If you



haven't, we highly advise you add it to the list. Pick up fresh lobsters from Larsen's, or grab a lobster roll from the Menemsha Galley, and hang out until the sun hits the water.

## Shops

Each of the six towns on Martha's Vineyard offers a unique experience. There is so much to see and do, we know everyone has their favorite spot to shop and browse. We highly recommend Bunch of Grapes Bookstore - located in Vineyard Haven. Take a walk through this iconic little bookstore and browse the hand-picked selection of books. There aren't many bookstores like this any more these days! You may also be lucky enough to catch an author event - the bookstore hosts several throughout the year.

When shopping in Oak Bluffs, be sure to take a walking tour of the Gingerbread houses, which are a collection of Methodist camp meeting houses, and a must-see for any visitor.

# Nantucket

Nantucket is a tiny, picture-perfect island about 16 miles from Cape Cod, Massachusetts. With a permanent population of about 10,000 people, the island community grows to five times that number in the summer when part-time residents and tourists come to enjoy Nantucket's magnificent beaches, lively art scene, and great restaurants.

Nantucket's fine sand beaches are among the most beautiful in the country. When the breeze and swell are up on one side of the island it is easy to get to the leeward beaches which, in turn, will be quite placid. The island that has morphed over the centuries from the iconic whaling center of the country to one of the most beautiful vacation spots in America is great for sailors with a wonderful, protected harbor right in the center of things.



Ever seen a full sperm whale skeleton? Visit the whaling museum where you can see other amazing artifacts. There's also a Shipwreck and Lifesaving Museum filled with models of shipwrecks and exhibits about the lifesaving service that existed before the modern Coast Guard made its mark on shipping safety.



And, other attractions loom, beautiful, iconic lighthouses, a 1700s grain mill, Cisco Brewers where you can have a tour as well as taste beers, wines AND spirits in one location! (no sailing immediately after!). There's even the Loines Observatory with great programming and location as well as the Nantucket Aquarium! There are tons of galleries and art studios, performance spaces, an iconic movie theater that is as much the star of the show as its movie characters.

## Menemsha Basin

This lovely commercial fishing port is also a beautiful recreational spot. Nice beach, gift shops, hiking trails through some reserves to another classic New England lighthouse, this one bare brick rather than painted white.

## Jamestown

Close to and across Narragansett Bay from Newport, Jamestown is a pretty island with a rich sailing tradition as well. This will put you close to the home harbor to easily water and fuel the yacht before picking up your yacht's moorings at Fort Adams.

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Those are some suggestions. Just a bit of research will turn up many more wonderful places in New England, too numerous to list here.

Cecilia and I hope you will join us!



# Tentative Charter Itinerary

Friday before Day 1, orient to the yacht, provision, sleep aboard

Day 1 Sail from Newport thru Quicks Hole to Oak Bluffs or Vineyard Haven, Martha's Vineyard (45nm)

Day 2 A full day...explore the island by rental car, moped or bike.

Day 3 Sail from MV to Nantucket (35nm)

Day 4 A full day...explore the island by rental car, moped or bike.

Day 5 Sail from Nantucket to Menemsha Basin (49nm)

Day 6 Explore Menemsha then sail to Jamestown Island's Conanicut Marina ([www.conanicutmarina.com](http://www.conanicutmarina.com)) (36NM) for a late lunch or early dinner before crossing Narragansett Bay to your home mooring at Fort Adams Harbor. Alternatively, you can head straight to your home mooring from Menemsha to spend more of your last night in Newport!

Day 7 End of Charter tasks – Refuel yacht and dinghy, remove trash, top off water tanks and return to home mooring and release the yacht by 11AM.



# Flotillas

If you haven't been on a flotilla before, here's how it works.

To help you learn more and meet other interested sailors, we will hold a series of planning parties, virtual and in person. We'll share the beauty of the destination with a slide show, explain how you can join the fun and help you network with others to find the right crew mates. Some members choose to reserve a whole boat with their friends and family; some hook up with other singles or couples to form their own boat.



Flotilla charters are ideal for first-time skippers since Rich helps in cruise planning, introduces individuals to others interested in sharing a yacht, and leads the flotilla with his wife, Cecilia, on one of the yachts. The security in this type of "buddy-boating" is a primary reason for flotilla-style chartering, but the ease of participation and "instant parties" make a first charter that much more enjoyable.

## Planning Parties

Please RSVP at [rmjtravels.com](http://rmjtravels.com)

**November 19, 5:00pm**, we will hold a presentation via Zoom covering what to expect and how to get involved. We will answer all questions of travel, finances, finding crewmates, etc.

**January 22, 2023, 6:30pm**, we will hold a hybrid planning party (in person and via Zoom) for networking and crew building. We will have an in-person party at Inspire Sailing with finger food, Beer and Wine and will provide Zoom link for those unable to attend in person.

# How to Get Involved

## Option 1

You may reserve a boat with your friends or family, or reserve a boat and let us help you find crewmates.

## Option 2

If you want to go but need to hook up with others on the flotilla, we will help you meet some other sailors to join a boat or set up a crew.

## Pricing

Pricing varies with boat size and number of crew. Detailed sample invoice upon request.

### Bareboat Cost Samples

- \$5,400\* for a 42', 3-cabin 2020 Beneteau
- \$5,250\* for a 42', 3-cabin 2017 Jeanneau

*\* This pricing estimate is exclusive of misc. costs, such as airfare, mooring and anchoring fees, shopping, tours, etc. Food, beverages, and other miscellaneous fees such as park fees are also not included.*

## Payment Schedule

- To confirm your reservation for either a boat, or a cabin on a flotilla leader's boat, pay 25% of your total cost as a deposit
- January 20, 2023, second payment due – this will bring the total amount paid to 50% of your total cost.
- June 1, 2023, full balance is due plus a \$1000 damage deposit (by check, payable to the operator).

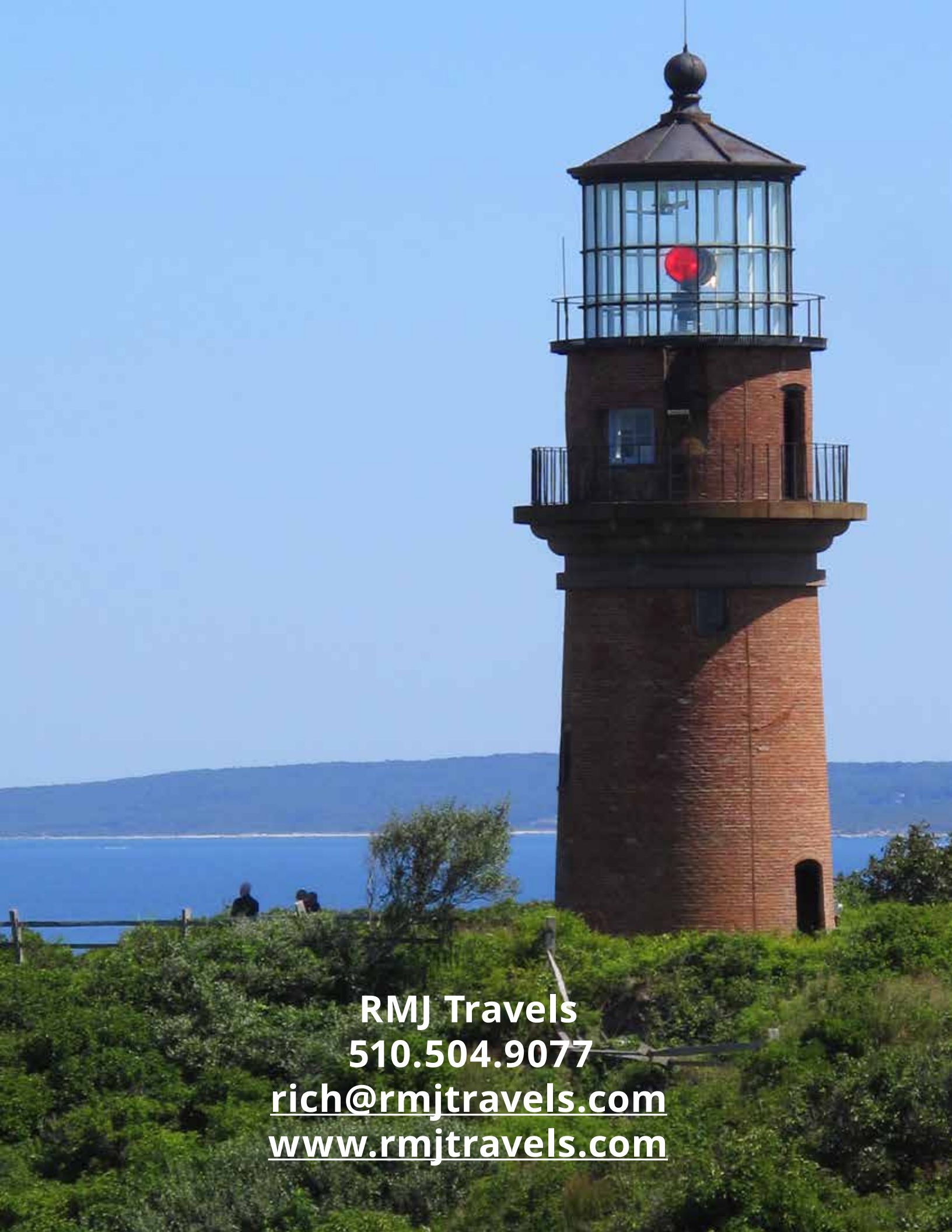
## Refunds

1. Until April 13, 2023, you have only \$500 non-refundable. After April 13, all fees paid are non-refundable.
2. If you cancel your reservation, and we subsequently sell out the fleet of boats we reserve, you would get a refund of fees, minus \$250 service fee.

# Giving Back to the Environment

Since the beginnings of OCSC, Rich and Cecilia have been committed to environmental protection. We have always felt that especially since these trips are built on enjoying nature, we are compelled to support organizations that work as guardians of that paradise we all treasure. Part of our approach has been to focus our efforts and appreciation on areas that we are privileged to visit on our bareboat flotillas. To this end your participation in our flotilla includes an additional contribution of \$50 per person. The funds we collect are donated to an environmental protection initiative in the region we visit.





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