

Atlantic Kayak Tours

Cape Cod Columbus Weekend

Tour Description

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Atlantic Kayak Tours, Inc. 2016©

Meeting Times: 9:30 AM on Saturday. Most people came Friday night and spend 3 nights.

Meeting Place: Coast Restaurant at the intersection of Route 6A and Route 28 (N41 47.530 W69 59.204)

Distance: 8-22 miles a day.

Skill Level: Intermediate paddlers only. Paddlers should be in good condition for extended hours of paddling at a 3-4 knot pace. Depending on the day, moderate to rough conditions, waves of three to five feet or more, surf landings and a tidal race are possible. If conditions allow, this program will push limits.

Equipment: A good quality sea boats, tow line, helmet, flash light and other 3 Star Sea equipment is needed. At low tides we have had to walk boats a long distance over the flats, so good kayaking shoes are a must. Most people will be in dry suits on many days. Even on warm days we usually get strong winds. Extra clothing in a dry bag is a must.

Navigation: Compass and charts are nice to have but not required.

Waterproof Chart #64 "Cape Cod and Cape Cod Harbors" covers all of Cape Cod.

Waterproof Chart #50E "Chatham, Pleasant Bay and Monomoy Island" covers two of our favorite paddling areas in detail. This area changes each year and charts are not 100% accurate.

Meals: Meals are not included. Saturday and Sunday night the group will cook together at the Brewster house and everyone will chip in. You need to bring lunch for each day.

Camping: Nickerson State Park, Brewster. Reservations are recommended well in advance (508) 896-3491

Motel: Cove Bluffs Motel (covebluffs.com). Phone 508-240-1616.

The House: Some staff and clients stay at a house in Brewster (86 Great Oak Rd.)

Directions: Take Route 95 to Providence R.I., Route 195 east to Route 25 east, onto Route 6. Cross the Sagamore Bridge and continue on Route 6. Follow directions below.

To Campground take exit 12. Turn left onto and follow signs to Nickerson State Park. We meet at the parking lot on the right at the entrance to the camp ground.

To Clove Bluffs Motel continue on Route 6 to the traffic circle. From the traffic circle continue for for .9 miles and motel will be on the Right.

To the Brewster House from Orleans area where 6 and 6A crosses take 6A West 4.5 miles. Turn left onto Harwich Rd., in .5 miles turn right onto Gages Way. First right onto Park Lane. Turn left onto Great Oak Road. The House will be on the right.

Clove Bluffs Motel to Meeting Place: Route 6 West to traffic circle. Second exit to Route 6A West/28 North. Meeting Place will be in .5 miles at the where Route 6A and 28 separates.

Description

Cape Cod has a large range of excellent paddling areas. With Nantucket Sound on the south, Cape Cod Bay on the north and the Atlantic on the east, you can choose a different spot each day to fit your paddling skills and desires. From open water, to protected marshes and bays. In the fall the bird life is abundant and there are few boats on the water. The air is usually cool and the skies clear. Some people say this is the best time of the year on the Cape.

We will do two full day trips, plus on Monday a short trip before the ride home. Below are a few possible areas we can paddle during the weekend.

Wellfleet/Billingsgate Island to Truro

This is always one of our more challenging trips on the Cape. We start in Wellfleet Harbor and head out around Billingsgate Island. Billingsgate Island is an island formally inhabited which has since become awash at high tide. No buildings remain. We usually get some good surf, for the people who like to play. This is a one way trip with a shuttle.

Directions: Route 6A East to Route 6 East. Continue on Route 6 for 11.0 miles and turn left on Main Street. In .3 miles turn left onto E. Commercial Street. In .7 miles turn right onto Kendrick Avenue. Go 1 mile and a dirt parking area will be on your left. Total 13.8 miles, 25 minutes. (N41 55.830 W70 02.908)

Truro to Provincetown

An open water crossing over to the southern tip of Provincetown starts this trip. Continuing on we paddle along the beaches of the tip of Cape Cod until we reach Race Point. This is the classic Cape Cod Kayak Trip. Open water, sandy beaches and a long car shuttle. This is a one way trip with a shuttle.

Directions: Route 6A East to Route 6 East. Continue on Route 6 for 15.8 miles and turn left onto Old Pamet Road. In .1 miles turn left onto Truro Center Road. In .2 miles Turn right onto Depot Road and take to the end. Total 17.8 miles, 30 minutes. (N41 59.501 W70 04.292)

Shuttle Directions: Route 6 East for 9.7 miles. Turn right onto Race Point Road, to end. Total 13.6 miles, 25 minutes.

Pleasant Bay/Chatham Harbor

Pleasant Bay/Chatham Harbor is located near the elbow of the Cape. There are many miles of good kayaking to be done in this area. We know of 22 launch sites and 20 are town landings.

Much of Pleasant Bay and Chatham Harbor is very shallow. The kayak allows us to explore areas many other boaters can't get to. Both Pleasant Bay and Chatham Harbor are bordered on the east by national seashore and to the south is the Monomoy Island National Wildlife Refuge. Tern Island in Chatham Harbor, is a Massachusetts Audubon Society island. South Beach is a nice lunch stop and offers good walking and swimming.

Directions: Take Route 28 North (heading south) for 6 Miles. You will see Pleasant Bay on the left. As you climb a hill entrance to the parking area will be on the left. Total 6 miles, 10 minutes (N41 42.701 W69 59.628)

Barnstable Harbor

Barnstable Harbor is a large bay heading into a marsh area. A nice paddle is to head over to the Sandy Neck, Beach Point area for lunch. If conditions are favorable then you can head around the point into Cape Cod Bay. In bad weather, a trip to the inner harbor and exploring the marsh is interesting.

Directions: Take Route 6A West 1.4 miles to Route 6 West. In 16.8 miles exit 7, turn right onto Willow Street (north). In 1 mile turn left onto Main Street/Route 6A. In 2.2 miles at the traffic light, turn right onto Millway Road. Parking area will be in .6 miles. Total 22 miles, 32 minutes. (N41 42.524 W70 17.864)

Monomoy Island

This trip is a long program. The longer trip is to circumnavigate all of Monomoy, both north and south islands. It is a 18-20 mile journey and could include solid intermediate or above conditions. The other option is to paddle to the southern end of Monomoy (North) and head over to Nauset Beach for lunch. Either trip includes beautiful scenery and usually a number of seal sightings. Rounding Nauset take you into the ocean where a surf session could be held.

Directions: Take Route 28 North (heading south) for 9.6 Miles. Turn left onto Main Street. In .7 miles turn right onto Morris Island Road. This is after the Chatham Lighthouse. Parking is along the road in .5 miles. Total 11 miles, 20 minutes. (N41 42.701 W69 59.628)