

The Concierge

TIPS FOR TOURING HERE AND ABROAD

THE LIST

COMMERCE LONG NATIVE TO THE VINEYARD

The Wampanoag were among the earliest inhabitants of Martha's Vineyard. Today one large extended family operates several businesses that celebrate and preserve the Native American culture.

1 HOWWASSWEE TRADING POST

This shop has been in operation in some form since the 1950s, when it was nothing more than a folding table displaying one family's handcrafts. Today Don Widdiss and his son Jason carve and sell wampum jewelry, along with paintings, prints, photos, leather work, walking sticks, and other crafts by Native Americans from several tribes. HowWassWee was Widdiss's great-grandmother's Wampanoag name. One sign says it all: "certified tchotchke-free zone." 17 Aquinnah Circle, Aquinnah, 508-645-9929

2 TOMAHAWK CHARTERS

Captain Buddy Vanderhoop (pictured at right) comes from a long line of fishermen and whalers. He said fishermen aboard his boat, the Tomahawk, have won 12 of the last 17 Martha's Vineyard Striped Bass & Bluefish derbies, with stripers weighing up to 55 pounds and blues up to 18 or 19. His celebrity guests have included filmmaker Wes Craven and musicians Keith Richards and Taj Mahal. Full-day (\$1400) and half-day (\$700) trips available for up to six fishermen. 1 Shore Road, Menemsha, 508-645-3201, www.tomahawkcharters.com

3 ORANGE PEEL BAKERY

This outdoor bakery is known not only for baking powder biscuits, challah, and seeded grain bread, but also for "pizza night" every Wednesday in summer from 5-8 p.m. It's BYOTS — bring your own toppings to share. Juli Vanderhoop provides the dough, sauce, and cheese and bakes it all in the huge wood-fired oven in her yard (pictured at right). There's usually live music, too, and the event is open to all for \$10. 22 State Road, Aquinnah, 508-645-2025, www.orangepeelbakery.com

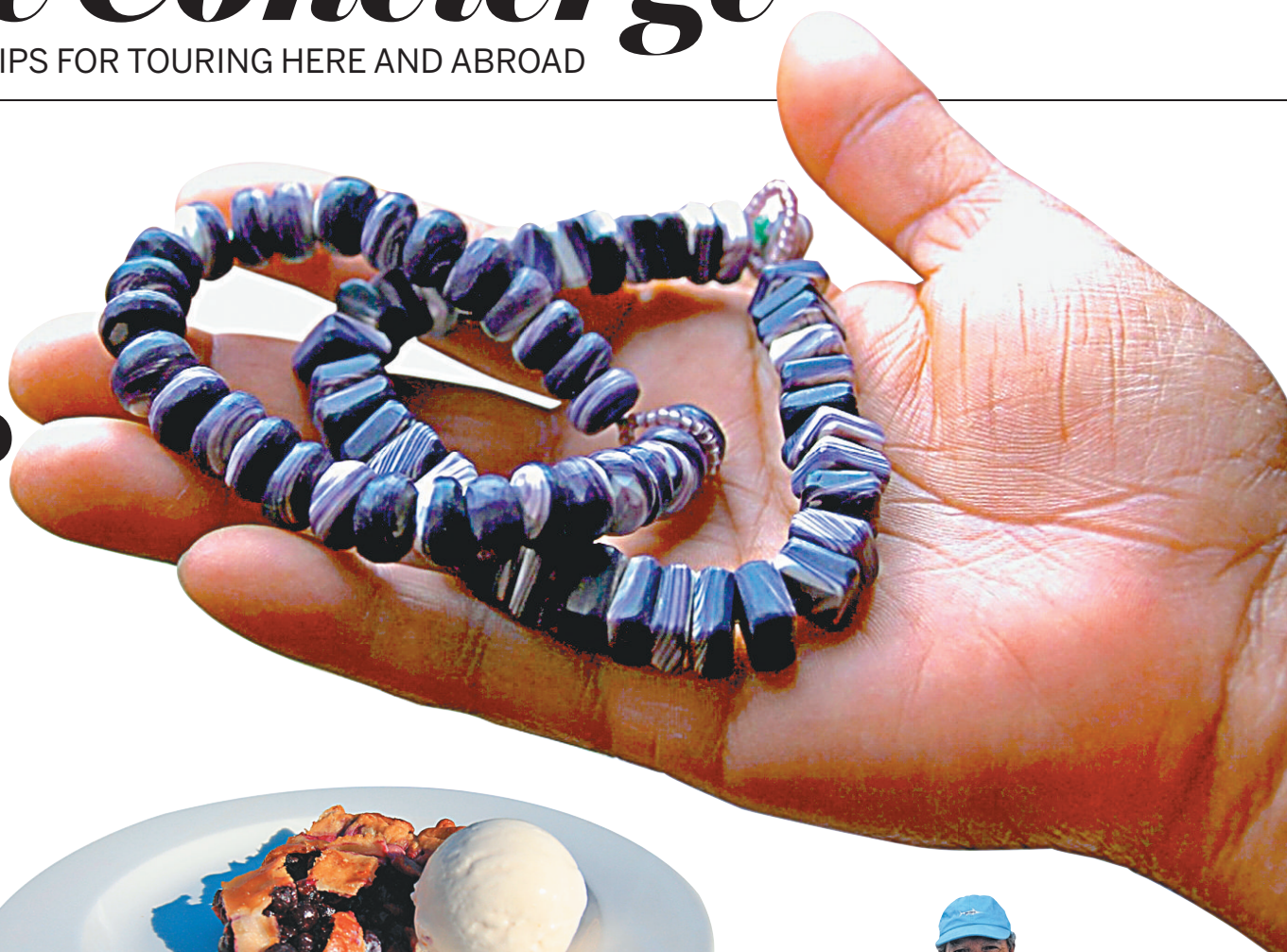
4 AQUINNAH SHOP RESTAURANT

Napoleon Madison, the tribe's medicine man, built the Aquinnah Shop in 1945 on the Gay Head Cliffs. The casual restaurant's outdoor deck affords fabulous ocean and sunset views. Seafood is the specialty, including local bass and blues. Madison's niece Anne Vanderhoop Madison turns out homemade pies: strawberry rhubarb, apple, banana cream, blueberry (pictured at right) among others. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner in season (\$7-\$30). 27 Aquinnah Circle, Aquinnah, 508-645-3867, www.theaquinnahshop.com

5 STONY CREEK GIFTS

Growing up on the Gay Head Cliffs, Berta Giles Welch and her sister, Carla Cuch, began making pottery out of the clay that covered their "playground." From there, she said, they expanded into other native arts and crafts. Today they operate Stony Creek Gifts, the shop their mother started almost 70 years ago. Specialties are handmade wampum jewelry (pictured top right), jewelry from Navajo, Zuni, and Hopi tribes, and mermaid-themed home decor. 23 Aquinnah Circle, Aquinnah, 508-645-3595

ELLEN ALBANESE



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HERE

JULY FOURTH BARNSTABLE BIRTHDAY BASH

Celebrate the Fourth of July and the Town of Barnstable's 375th birthday at day and evening events featuring the largest parade on Cape Cod. Beginning at Ocean and Main Streets in the village of Hyannis at 4 p.m., the parade will include crowd favorites such as the Mike Dumas Band with Plat-form Soul, Jo & Co, and Cape Cod African Dance & Drum. Following the parade awards ceremony on the Hyannis Village Green, the Town of Barnstable Band will entertain with patriotic songs at the bandstand until 6:30 p.m. Before the fireworks display at dusk, boogey down at Aseton Park with Mary C and the Stellers' mix of rock and soul with a twist of pop, blues, and funk. <http://www.townofbarnstable.us/index.asp?h=t>

JANE AUSTEN REGENCY ERA SOJOURNS

Indulge your inner anglophile at one of the Jane Austen weekends offered at the Governor's House in Hyde Park, Vt. (June 27-29; Aug. 8-10, 15-17;

Sept. 5-7; Jan. 9-11, 23-25). Enjoy Regency era pastimes such as English country dancing, sewing workshops, carriage rides, croquet, fly-fishing, and afternoon tea, and participate in lectures and book discussions. During the special Jane Austen Weekend in Character (Aug. 15-17 only) guests interact in the character of their choice throughout the event (period dress optional). Rates from \$345 (singles), \$295 per person (doubles); \$280 per person (triples) includes two-night lodging, Friday evening's talk over dessert and coffee, afternoon tea, Saturday dinner and book discussion, and Jane Austen quiz with Sunday brunch. 866-800-6888, www.onehundredmain.com/events/jane-austen-weekends/

GOLF TILL YOU DROP IN VERMONT

Play as many rounds as you want with the Woodstock Inn & Resort's Unlimited Golf package. Home to Vermont's only Robert Trent Jones Sr. designed (par 70) course (enjoy), beginners and seasoned golfers enjoy challenging fairways, over a dozen water hazards, and views of the Kedron Valley from nearly every green. Package includes one-night luxury accommodations, use of golf carts and practice facility,

yardage booklet, and as much golf as you can squeeze into a day. For two guests, weekdays from \$249, weekends from \$299. Through Oct. 31. Rates based on available dates. Schedule tee times in advance. 855-894-0425, www.woodstockinn.com

THERE

BEST OF IRELAND PACKAGE

Planning a trip to Ireland? Aer Lingus features a new lineup of fall trips in its online vacation store. Choose from fly-drive packages, Ireland by rail, independent travel, and all-escorted tours. Packages explore countryside and cities, golf, B&Bs, castles, and five-star properties. Services include information about baggage, check-in, visas and passports, special assistance, and traveling with children. The eight-night Best of Ireland package to Dublin, Galway, Clare, Killarney and Killarney is perfect for first-time visitors. Includes roundtrip economy airfare from Boston, accommodations, and car rental for two. September rates from \$1,388 per person. 800-495-1632, www.aerlingusvacationstore.com

HOTEL DEBUTS IN ICELAND

Attention adventurers: The first Stracta Hotel launches this month near the

village of Hella, an hour and a half drive from Reykjavik in the south of Iceland. Surrounded by volcanoes, hot springs, waterfalls and glaciers, activities in the area include horseback riding, ice climbing, jeep tours, bird-watching, sailing, fishing, hiking (pictured above), and more. Five accommodation styles, from two person en suite rooms to semi-detached chalets sleeping up to six people, are connected to the main building by glass walkways. After a day of active exploration, relax in the hotel gardens, hot tubs, and sauna. Doubles from \$158 (shared bath); \$218 (private bath). 011-354-5318010, www.stractahotels.is/en/hella/home

EVERYWHERE



WINE COUNTRY PLANNER

A new Web- and app-based service called CellarPass aims to make your food and wine vacation hassle-free. With just a few clicks or swipes of a finger, you can search for wineries, breweries and distilleries to visit, reserve tasting and tour times, research events, consult visitor reviews, make reservations, and purchase tickets to your destination. Browse by region, includ-

ing popular California destinations in Sonoma and Napa, and the Hudson Valley and Finger Lakes in New York. Or search by events such as vintner-led tastings, or exclusive food and wine pairings. Free. www.cellarpass.com



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