



it's time to

PARTY UP!



So you've come to the Vineyard to relax, do a little shopping, and catch a sunny day at the beach. Now you're wondering how to begin your night out. Though only Edgartown and Oak Bluffs have late-night hotspots, there is enough variety on the island to accommodate an evening out for anyone. This Week's Nightlife Guide shows you where to find the best views, cocktails, and live music on Martha's Vineyard. Best of all, each town's destinations are within walking distance of one another allowing you to save your money for that cab fare at the End of the night. There are many convenient taxi companies on the island and as always we suggest that if you have been drinking: Don't Drive

The Look Out Tavern is a mandatory stop while you're on the island. It is the only bar/restaurant facing the ocean making it a popular spot for locals who come for the great food and to catch a Red Sox game on one of the many TV screens around the bar. Or you can just relax and take in the stunning sweeping views of the ocean and watch the boats as they enter the Harbor. The Look Out has a large menu and also serves Sushi. Recently expanded and renovated there is plenty of space inside and out with a huge deck and even several picnic tables. Stop by The Look Out Tavern and see why the locals love it.

OAK BLUFFS

Sometimes you step off the late boat and simply don't want to waste any more time before starting your evening. Fortunately, you can leave the ferry and grab a seat at Fishbones without ever taking your eyes off the water. Fishbones offers some of the freshest seafood on the island, no surprise since its backdoor is essentially touching the Oak Bluffs Harbor. You can sit at the recently renovated waterside Bar and watch the local fishing boats come in with a fresh catch that could make it to your plate before the night is over. Fishbones serves specialty cocktails that are perfect companions for the busy waterfront and on some afternoons you will find live music playing just beyond the bar on the bricks. The drink rail that defines fishbones bar area is a favorite gathering site for locals and visitors alike. What a way to spend a summer afternoon and/or evening.

Just up from Fishbones is Coop de Ville which is a local's favorite place to go especially during sporting events and at sunset. They have a raw bar called the Shuck Shack and some great specials like the Lobster Fest every Tuesday (while supplies last). One of the greatest things about "the Coop" is that it's a pleasant mix of islanders and visitors. Check for events as they sometimes host music that uses a boat docked in front of the place as a stage!! A little further down the harbor is The Sand Bar and Grille, literally only a stumble away. The Sand Bar has an outdoor beach patio and one of the best atmospheres on the island. Where else can you dance to the music with sand between your toes and the stars above your head? Their huge outdoor dining area is packed all season with people swaying to the DJs that spin all summer long at the Sand Bar. While you're grooving on the dance floor you can peek up to the second-floor deck of an island institution.

Nancy's, your next stop on the harbor! Over 50 years ago Nancy's started as a small snack bar on the Oak Bluffs waterfront. The snack bar still operates every summer but Nancy's has expanded around it to become one of the biggest restaurants in Oak Bluffs. With multi-level seating both inside and outside, Nancy's is a staple of island nightlife. Join the crowds on the deck to toss back frozen drinks with a cool ocean breeze across your face. Or you can go downstairs to Donovan's Reef and grab a world-famous frozen drink and strike up a conversation with Donovan himself.

Up the street from Nancy's on the famous Circuit Ave. is The Ritz, as colorful in history as the island itself. The Ritz has always been known as a hot spot for great live music and it is not unusual to find well-known musicians jumping in with the night's band to play a few tunes. The Ritz is a truly legendary place to watch live music. They have live music 7 nights a week in the summer. Guaranteed great time at the Ritz. Next up on Circuit Ave. on the other side of the street is 11 Circuit, a new restaurant with a cozy porch for outdoor seating and dining before the place completely transforms after dinner hours and becomes a full-on nightclub and one of the only ones at that. There is live music playing later at night when there is always plenty of people kicking up the dance floor.

The Oyster bar is right in the middle of the two and some of you may remember the location well. It is the spot of the former historic Lamppost which lead the party scene for decades on Circuit Ave. The Oyster bar has its own long history, some of it from other locations in town but the one thing that hasn't changed is the food created by famed Chef Benjamin Deforest. An upscale speak easy, The Oyster Bar is a great spot to go for food and libations of best kind. Hang out on the porch and watch the world go by while sipping a cosmo and talking with friends.

Across the center of town is the Loft which may be the closest thing to a true night club on the island. There are live bands, DJ's, events and specialty nights all summer. One thing you can count on is a good, loud dancing atmosphere with plenty of beautiful people enjoying it all.



EDGARTOWN

If you're looking for a great place to start your evening we suggest catching the sunset on the upstairs deck at the Seafood Shanty, located on the bottom of Dock Street right on the Harbor. The huge deck has been made even bigger over this past winter and now has glass railings. You can take in the beautiful views and a cocktail while enjoying the Shanty's great selection of fresh seafood and on weekend nights, live entertainment or DJ's. Downstairs you'll find a totally renovated dining room and a stunning bar, custom made by an island artist and forged in copper and brass. It simply must be seen to take in its beauty. There is plenty of seating, all with amazing water views from new tables and cool large comfortable booths. The Shanty also offers an amazing sushi/raw bar. Both floors sport enough plasmas screens to catch a game from every corner making the Shanty a difficult nightspot to move on from as it has it all.

But, try the Wharf Pub and Restaurant just down the street on Main. The dark wooden walls elicit the feel of a harbor town pub and restaurant that has been rooted on this spot for more than 80 years! Open year round, the Wharf is a popular nightspot for locals and visitors alike. It features 3 bars in the summer and easily the most popular dance floor in Edgartown. The Wharf features nightly entertainment, live bands and DJs all summer long so make sure you don't skip this Edgartown favorite. Just around back is the Wharf Wine & Spirits where you can buy your favorite libations to bring home with you.

Continue up Main Street to the Old Post Office Square behind the Court House and you will find 19 Raw Oyster Bar where you will find outdoor and indoor seating to relax and enjoy. The entrance is on the opposite side conveniently right next to the VTA bus station/Edgartown Visitors center. We will see you there on nights we are taking photos.

VINEYARD HAVEN

MIKADO Asian Bistro located at the end of Main St. on the left has a full bar...yes you read that correctly, a FULL BAR, thanks to a repeal of an arcane bylaw that made it illegal to serve booze in VH. And what goes well with booze...entertainment of course. Mikado has had live Jazz on weekend nights and with great food, plenty of space and a full bar, you now have a place to go party down in Vineyard Haven. Welcome to the club VH.

Also on Main st. next to the Mansion House Hotel is new restaurant that has yet to be announced as of press time but we hear it is going to be run by the folks from 19 Raw so its sure to be a great place for food and drink.

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