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MAGAZINE

MAY - JUNE 2016

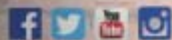
REEL 'EM IN  
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SMALL TOWNS,  
BIG CHARM  
.....

AUSTERE BEAUTY  
IN ICELAND  
.....



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*Lighting  
the way*

# REEL 'EM IN!

BY MIKE DOJC



Nobska Lighthouse, Cape Cod



Blue fin tuna at the Cape



Biggest catch of the day!



Our view at sunset

## COASTAL HOT SPOTS TO LURE IN A GREAT CATCH

The dog days of summer are drawing nearer and more "gone fishing" notices are cropping up as the allure of getting out on the water intensifies. It's all about those rarified moments when the placid rhythm of repeated castings is violently interrupted by a powerful tug. As the line begins pouring out off the reel, heartbeats quicken and the chase is on. The euphoria of reeling in a monster striper or wide-eyed wahoo that nearly snapped your rod in two and got away inspires many anglers to broaden their fishing horizons and chart new waters. These are catches to be remembered, glistening big ones whose scale-tipping poundage will inevitably tick upwards in future retellings.

Of course the pursuit of a starring role in a wild fish tale isn't the primary reason to gear up and head out. Often traveling to fish is merely about charting new waters while reconnecting with old friends. We've got the goods on five locales on the Eastern Seaboard that fit the bill for your next big fishing trip because before you hook it, you've got to book it.

### CAPE COD

#### Whatever Floats Your Boat

The ocean's spray and spirit can be felt everywhere in the Cape where bollards aren't only on docks but on fence posts, the brine of the sea fully informs menus, and crushed clam shell hardscaping is de rigueur. And as for the fishing, this is catch of a lifetime territory. "The Cape has always been a great place to fish. From the whaling days to present: cod, haddock, blue fin tuna, striped bass, blue fish, and sharks, some of the biggest fish in the world have been caught in Cape Cod waters," explains head mate, Erik Sherer of Cape Cod Fishing Charters who has been fishing in the area for over 40 years. "With tuna caught in the thousand pound plus category and striped bass caught weighing over 50 pounds, it's a special place for its fishing and history. The Cape is like nowhere else," he adds.

**POST-CATCH** Learn about the area's rich boat building heritage at the Cape Cod Maritime Museum in Hyannis. Then take history on the water in a museum-built 1886 Crosby catboat replica available to charter.

### MONTAUK

#### Red, Hot, Trolling Action

This once blue-collar hamlet turned full-fledged Hampton lies on the southeastern tip of Long Island. Its windswept bluffs and moorland terrain provides the setting for the steamy melodrama of Showtime's Golden Globe-award winning, *The Affair*. Montauk's fishing season is as hot and heavy as the show, especially for anglers with a penchant for striped bass. "Montauk has unique features that are favorable to all types of inshore and offshore species," explains charter boat Capt. Ron Onorato. "Striped bass—the most sought after fish—flourish in the strong tidal currents and bait laden waters. Other favorites are black sea bass, fluke (summer flounder), porgies, and bluefish. Offshore, shark and tuna fishing round out the picture," adds Onorato.

**POST-CATCH** Get in touch with Montauk's fishing village's roots at Duryea's Lobster Deck & Seafood Market (65 Turhill Rd.), the shellfish emporium overlooking Fort Pond Bay has operated for over 80 years. For a livelier atmosphere head to The Sloppy Tuna (148 S. Emerson Ave.) to dance the night away while swilling cocktails with fisherman friendly names like "The Chum Bucket" and "The Deadliest Catch."