

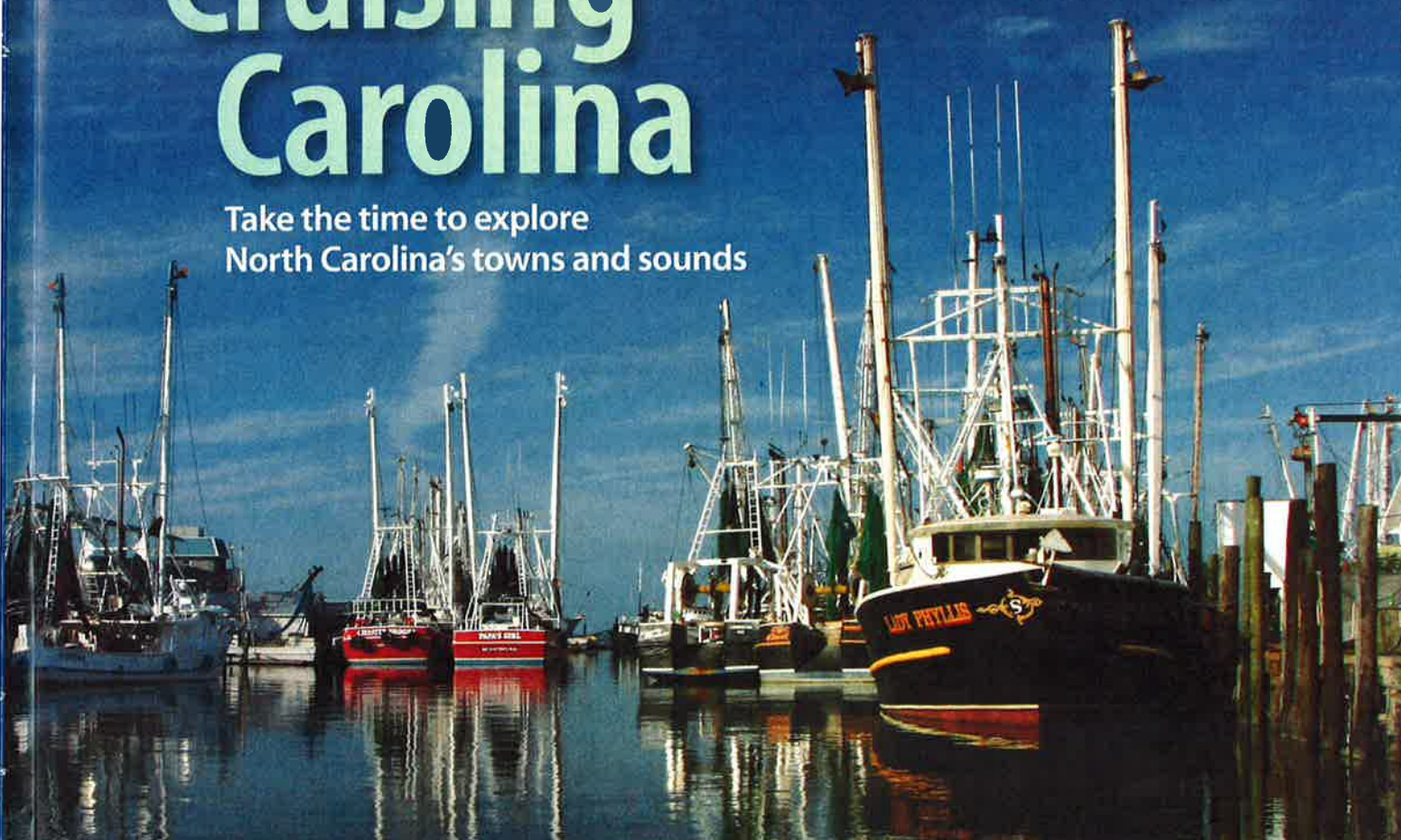
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Spring 2013

Cruising Carolina

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North Carolina's towns and sounds



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***AUTO**SCH 3-DIGIT 117
KRISTEN MATEJKA
LONG ISLAND CVB & SPORTS COMMISSION
330 MOTOR PKWY STE 203
HAUPPAUGE NY 11788-5118
FLOOR
B1140



LONG ISLAND WINE COUNTRY

We all know drinking and boating don't mix. So, it's somewhat ironic that the maritime climate, geography and soil characteristics are what provide the ideal conditions for producing wines of exceptional quality on Long Island, N.Y. The wine region here encompasses Nassau and Suffolk counties, with the majority of vineyards at the East End, on the North and South Forks. The area's more than 50 wineries are best known for crisp, dry whites made from Sauvignon Blanc, Chardonnay, Chenin Blanc and Pinot Grigio, and complex reds made from Merlot and Merlot-based blends, but they also produce diverse styles such as fruity Rosés and exuberant sparkling wines.

WINERIES OF NOTE:

Known grape grower John Wickman created the wine industry on Long Island in 1973. His brother, Charlie, helps manage the Peconic Bay Winery (631-734-7361, peconicbaywinery.com). Dock at Brewer Stirling Harbor Marina in Greenport (631-447-0828, byy.com) or Mitchell Park Marina in Greenport (631-477-2200).

The oldest winery on the East End is Castello di Borghese, which celebrates its 40th anniversary this year (631-734-5111, www.castellodiborghese.com). Dock at Matt-A-Mar Marina in Cutchogue (631-298-4739, mattamar.com).

