

56

The Martha's Vineyard Sharks of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League play a 56-game season against teams from Connecticut to New Hampshire—opening on June 4. Head to a home game, played at M.V. High School in Oak Bluffs.

19 to 17

The high school football squads from the Vineyard and Nantucket play in the Island Cup, generally on the Saturday before Thanksgiving. The Vineyarders hold a 19-17 lead in the rivalry, but this year's game is on Nantucket.

96

The Martha's Vineyard Museum offers exhibits highlighting the island's history. Permanent displays include the Thomas Cooke House, and the Fresnel lens used at Gay Head Light for 96 years (1856-1952).

10, 200, 25,000

The Martha's Vineyard Film Society presents the 10th Martha's Vineyard International Film Festival September 8 to 13. In recent years, the festival has annually screened more than 200 films to more than 25,000 patrons.

1041

Stop by Alley's General Store to pick up snacks, produce, mail, and, pretty much anything. Established in 1858, this West Tisbury store is the oldest operating retail business on the island. Open year-round at 1041 State Road.

TEN

Offshore Ale brews its brews right on the Vineyard. One best seller is the Lazy Frog IPA—featuring a rich malt character and a hoppy backbone. Visit Offshore's pub in Oak Bluffs and order one of 10 beers on tap.

300

A National Historic Landmark, the Gingerbread Cottages in Oak Bluffs are a collection of more than 300 life-sized "dollhouses." The unique neighborhood bursts with color and music on August 19—Grand Illumination Night. *(Learn more on p.120).*

until 1 A.M.

Need something sweet after 7:30 p.m.? From mid-April to October, Martha's Vineyard Gourmet Bakery and Café sells hot and fresh donuts—as well as apple fritters and fried dough— from 7:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. Go to the back door!

18

Try out a different sport by playing a round of disc golf at Riverhead Disc (Frisbee) Golf. Located off Barnes Road, the 18-hole course, spread over 15 scenic acres, is free and open to the public.

six

Menemsha is known for having the best sunsets. While there, enjoy one of six sandwiches at the Menemsha Fish Market—including crab cake and seafood chimichangas—then find a spot to watch the sun dip into the sea.

3

South Beach—a.k.a. Katama Beach—features three miles of blissful, white sand and plenty of surf. This barrier beach faces the Atlantic Ocean on one side and a protected salt pond on the other. Parking is ample and free.

20

The Flying Horses Carousel—the nation's oldest—is a must-see for young and old. The ride has 20 antique carved horses—with real horsehair. Spin around, grab the brass ring, and win a free ride. Open daily, June 21 to Labor Day.

527

Just 527 feet separates the Vineyard from the island of Chappaquiddick, home to several conservation lands. Ride the *On Time* ferry across the harbor and enjoy the peace and untouched beauty of "Chappy."

5

The Trustees of Reservations oversees five Vineyard properties, each capturing a different aspect of the island's natural beauty: Cape Poge Wildlife Refuge, Long Point Wildlife Refuge, Menemsha Hills, the Japanese garden of Mytoi, and Norton Point Beach.

400

The Gay Head Lighthouse weighs a whopping 400 tons. Plans are currently afoot to move the lighthouse—perhaps as early as this spring—150 feet back from an eroding and encroaching cliff face.