

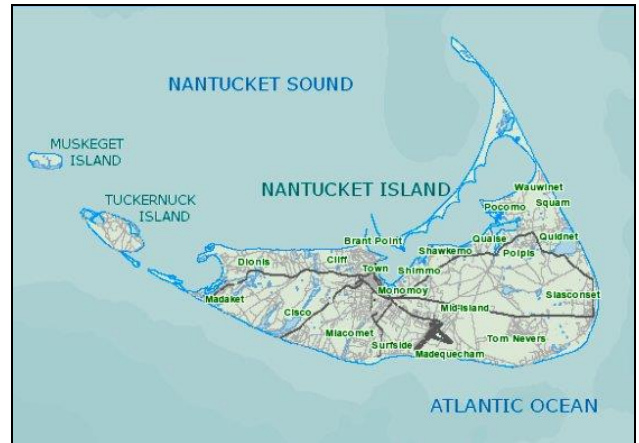
Nantucket Island, Ma (ACK) Fly-In Weekend, Sept 13-15

ICS-NE hosted a 3-day fly-in weekend on Nantucket Island from Friday, Sept 13, to Sunday, Sept 15, 2013. There was also the option to join us for the day on Saturday.

September is the lovely end of the season time on Nantucket and most shops are still open. We had a number of planned activities as well as free time to explore the shops and sights. The group stayed at the [Nantucket Inn](#), located across the street from the airport. The Inn provides an extensive breakfast buffet each morning, making a great start to the day,

Flying your Comanche to Nantucket (ACK) is not a big problem, but VFR only pilots need to be aware of the unique local weather patterns. After all, the airport location was chosen to train Navy pilots in handling low visibility operations. Our weekend was no exception, with low clouds and rain on Friday, the arrival day. Two Comanches managed to land using the ILS-24 under a low overcast. The rest arrived early on Saturday, in beautiful weather and in time for the day's activities.

The planned Saturday group activities began at 10 AM with a 1+1/2 hr guided bus tour of Nantucket by [Ara Tours](#). We departed the Nantucket Inn and drove to 'Sconset on the eastern end of Nantucket. Along the way Ara told us of the history of the buildings we passed, and pointed out the many interesting gardens. After a brief stop to stretch our legs on the bluff overlooking the Atlantic we continued to the Brant Point Lighthouse. This was recently moved back from the bluff to prevent it from toppling into the sea as the island erodes. On the way back to town we stopped to inspect a cranberry bog and learn about its method of harvesting. Then it was slowly through town, past the restored windmill, to the Coast Guard Beach and another chance to stretch our legs before being dropped off in town for the day.



The free time mid-day gave everyone a chance to do some serious browsing among the shops or to visit the [Nantucket Whaling Museum](#). We also found our own places to eat lunch, choosing from the many little pubs and restaurants.

At 4 PM we all met on Straight Wharf for a 1-1/2 hr sail on the [Friendship Sloop Endeavor](#). This was built by Captain Jim 35 years earlier, and is patterned on the small fishing boats of the early 1900's from Friendship, Maine. We happily assisted in setting the sails and ventured out of the harbor into Nantucket Sound. There was a nice breeze from the southwest and the boat seemed very happy to be alive. Captain Jim was happy to answer all questions about the boat and Nantucket in general. I think we were all sorry when we returned to the pier that our time on board was over.



After riding the shuttle van back to the Inn we all went to dinner at [AK Diamonds](#). As always, the food was great and the conversation even better.

On Sunday we each went our own way following goodbyes after the breakfast buffet, some to depart for home and others to continue to explore Nantucket. Everyone expressed their happiness in the weekend's activities and a desire to come back another time.

See you next time on the Grey Lady!

For ICS-NE, Pete Morse, ICS #16012