

# CAPE COD BAY

SANDWICH IS THE OLDEST TOWN ON CAPE COD (1637). THE SCENIC TRAIN STOPS IN SANDWICH FOR THOSE WISHING TO VISIT HISTORIC SITES ON FOOT. REFER TO SCHEDULE FOR LATER RETURN TRAINS.

CAPE COD BAY IS A POPULAR PLACE FOR WHALE WATCHING

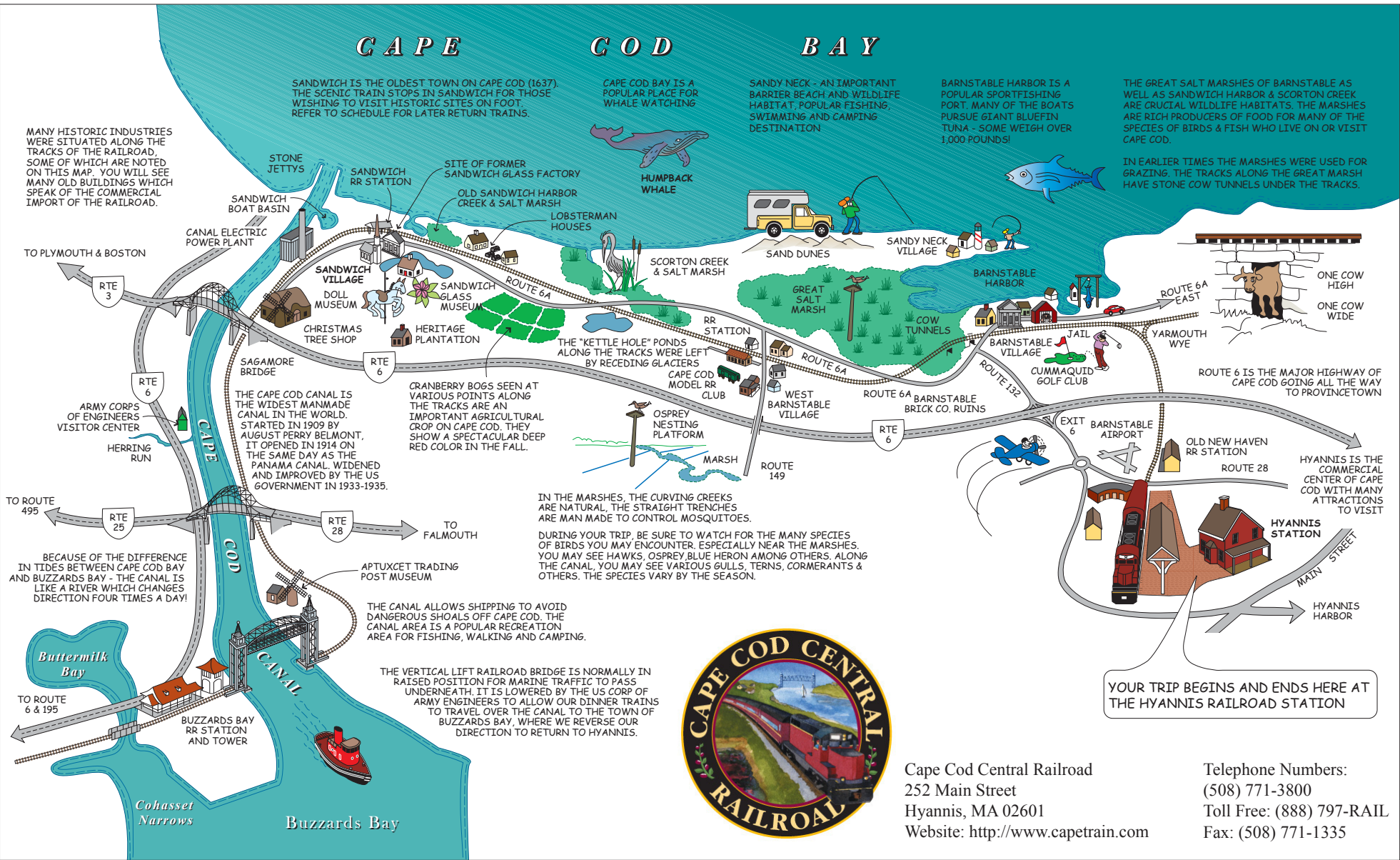
SANDY NECK - AN IMPORTANT BARRIER BEACH AND WILDLIFE HABITAT. POPULAR FISHING, SWIMMING AND CAMPING DESTINATION

BARNSTABLE HARBOR IS A POPULAR SPORTFISHING PORT. MANY OF THE BOATS PURSUE GIANT BLUEFIN TUNA - SOME WEIGH OVER 1,000 POUNDS!

THE GREAT SALT MARSHES OF BARNSTABLE AS WELL AS SANDWICH HARBOR & SCORTON CREEK ARE CRUCIAL WILDLIFE HABITATS. THE MARSHES ARE RICH PRODUCERS OF FOOD FOR MANY OF THE SPECIES OF BIRDS & FISH WHO LIVE ON OR VISIT CAPE COD.

IN EARLIER TIMES THE MARSHES WERE USED FOR GRAZING. THE TRACKS ALONG THE GREAT MARSH HAVE STONE COW TUNNELS UNDER THE TRACKS.

MANY HISTORIC INDUSTRIES WERE SITUATED ALONG THE TRACKS OF THE RAILROAD, SOME OF WHICH ARE NOTED ON THIS MAP. YOU WILL SEE MANY OLD BUILDINGS WHICH SPEAK OF THE COMMERCIAL IMPORT OF THE RAILROAD.



TO PLYMOUTH & BOSTON

TO ROUTE 495

TO ROUTE 6 & 195

BECAUSE OF THE DIFFERENCE IN TIDES BETWEEN CAPE COD BAY AND BUZZARDS BAY - THE CANAL IS LIKE A RIVER WHICH CHANGES DIRECTION FOUR TIMES A DAY!

THE CAPE COD CANAL IS THE WIDEST MANMADE CANAL IN THE WORLD. STARTED IN 1909 BY AUGUST PERRY BELMONT, IT OPENED IN 1914 ON THE SAME DAY AS THE PANAMA CANAL. WIDENED AND IMPROVED BY THE US GOVERNMENT IN 1933-1935.

THE CANAL ALLOWS SHIPPING TO AVOID DANGEROUS SHOALS OFF CAPE COD. THE CANAL AREA IS A POPULAR RECREATION AREA FOR FISHING, WALKING AND CAMPING.

THE VERTICAL LIFT RAILROAD BRIDGE IS NORMALLY IN RAISED POSITION FOR MARINE TRAFFIC TO PASS UNDERNEATH. IT IS LOWERED BY THE US CORP OF ARMY ENGINEERS TO ALLOW OUR DINNER TRAINS TO TRAVEL OVER THE CANAL TO THE TOWN OF BUZZARDS BAY, WHERE WE REVERSE OUR DIRECTION TO RETURN TO HYANNIS.

CRANBERRY BOGS SEEN AT VARIOUS POINTS ALONG THE TRACKS ARE AN IMPORTANT AGRICULTURAL CROP ON CAPE COD. THEY SHOW A SPECTACULAR DEEP RED COLOR IN THE FALL.

IN THE MARSHES, THE CURVING CREEKS ARE NATURAL, THE STRAIGHT TRENCHES ARE MAN MADE TO CONTROL MOSQUITOES.

DURING YOUR TRIP, BE SURE TO WATCH FOR THE MANY SPECIES OF BIRDS YOU MAY ENCOUNTER. ESPECIALLY NEAR THE MARSHES. YOU MAY SEE HAWKS, OSPREY BLUE HERON AMONG OTHERS. ALONG THE CANAL, YOU MAY SEE VARIOUS GULLS, TERNS, CORMORANTS & OTHERS. THE SPECIES VARY BY THE SEASON.



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YOUR TRIP BEGINS AND ENDS HERE AT THE HYANNIS RAILROAD STATION

Note: Only the Cape Cod Dinner Train crosses the Cape Cod Canal. Our other trains follow along the canal but do not cross it.