



Boating on Boston Harbor & the Islands

Visit Our Website

Thank you for visiting us at the New England Boat Show - February 13-21!

Thank you for visiting the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands at the 2016 New England Boat Show. We spoke to 100's of interested and interesting people, our raffle was successful (see the list of winners below) and our frequent prize wheel with items from [David's Tea](#) and [Taza Chocolate](#) was a hit! Thank you to our raffle prize donors:

- Bed & Breakfast Afloat/[Constitution Marina](#)
- [Cabela's](#) World's Foremost Outfitter
- [Fieldstone Lodge](#), Newfane VT
- Red Sox Pre-game Tour ([Anthem Events](#))
- Tour at [Smokey Quartz Distillery](#)
- [Vineyard Vines](#) (tie)

And a ***Special Thank You*** to the New England Boat Show Producers!



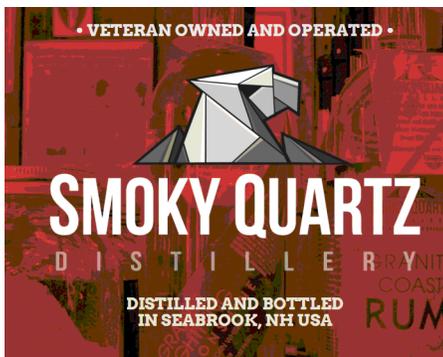
Auction Items for Boaters



[Ebay Item for Auction - \\$500 Gift Certificate for Boat Repairs & Maintenance](#)

For over 30 years Birch Marine has provided quality- dependable boat repairs and maintenance in Boston's Inner Harbor. Birch technicians travel to you on their own boat. Proceeds from this auction will benefit the Friends of the Boston Harbor Islands.

[BID HERE](#)



[Ebay Item for Auction - Tour for 2 of the Smokey Quartz Distillery in Salem NH](#)

Named after New Hampshire's official gem stone-the smoky quartz crystal-Smoky Quartz

Distillery is a veteran owned and operated distillery which utilizes locally sourced New England grain to concoct truly unique spirits. The distillery takes a grain-to-glass approach to its products, including its first creation, Solid Granite Vodka. Handcrafted in small batches, their vodka and Whiskey moonshine are distilled from corn grown within a 125-mile radius of the distillery.

Their new 'Granite Coast' white rum is made using USA Grade A molasses. All products are fermented, distilled, and bottled right on site using New Hampshire spring water.

[BID HERE](#)



Rainsford Island

Boston Harbor Boating Information

While at the show we hopefully chatted with you about the islands and which islands you can camp at, dock at, and moor off of. A good resource for information is the web site linked below:

Spectacle Island offers the only dockage at a Boston Harbor Island - For reservations call **508-830-5095** or email to **ahammerle@maritime.edu** at MassMaritime Academy.

[CLICK FOR MORE INFO](#)

While Boston Harbor is well marked, every summer dozens of boaters run aground and otherwise get 'stuck'. The link below will bring you to 9 of the better known "Dangers of Boston Harbor" Even if you're a seasoned boater - it's worth checking out!

[CLICK HERE FOR "Boating Dangers of Boston Harbor"](#)



FBHI Members Get Benefits!

- JOIN the FBHI by clicking **[HERE](#)** and use the password NURIDE to join with a 10% discount!
- **50% discount** of basic **Boat US Membership Package**
- **20% discount** of boat hauls at **Admirals Hill Marina** in Chelsea. The 20% discount is on the haul 'only', power-washing and storage 'time' is extra. Only 1 haul per season per boat.
- **20% discount**

on Boston Harbor Cruises Trips

(Inner Harbor Tours, Charles River/Locks Tours, Lunch Tours, and Provincetown High Speed Ferry Tickets).

- **Discounts on FBHI Boat Trips** (to islands that the public ferries often don't travel too, or sunset tours after the public ferries have stopped operating).
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Exercise your Sea Cocks

All underwater through-hull openings should be fitted with sea cocks (not gate valves), but a sea cock is worthless unless it works when you need it. To keep sea cocks functioning reliably, they must be exercised regularly and lubricated at least once a year. Cone- and plug-type sea cocks need to be disassembled to be properly serviced, but ball-valve sea cocks are easily maintained by spreading a dollop of waterproof grease on both sides of the closed ball. Outside the boat, the ball is usually within reach, but to lubricate the interior side of the ball requires removing the hose attached to the valve. Operate the valve handle a couple of times to spread the grease onto the seat, and make a habit of exercising the valve every couple of months.

From BoatUS - FBHI is a Cooperating Group Member - Join FBHI for a 50% discount when you join BoatUS!



Friends Annual Meeting - April 24th at Deer Island

Our Annual Meeting is a FREE event and will feature speakers from the National Park Service, Mass Water Resources Authority and more! Join us - Registration is required (for security purposes). You'll have an opportunity to tour the TOP of the "digester eggs", which offer an amazing view of Boston & Boston Harbor.

Please click **REGISTER** and [thank you to Whole Foods](#) for Sponsoring us with drinks for the event!



Welcome Intern Mary Therese Mucci!

I am a history student at Suffolk University. Boston is a great place to study history because there is so much evidence of the past all around the city today, from parks and memorials to historic homes, civic buildings, churches, and other sites. The Boston Harbor Islands are an amazing natural environment and the site of significant, yet lesser known, events of this region's past. Studying the history of the Boston Harbor Islands, located both physically and socially at the margin of the city, can reveal much about the workings of past societies and the influence of these ideas and events on the present.

Mary has written an article about the hospitals of Boston Harbor - a summary of the article is below. **The remainder of the article is on our web page** and can be found by clicking on [Writing Series](#)

Island Institutions

The simultaneous accessibility and isolation of the Boston Harbor Islands that makes them popular recreational destinations today was put to other uses in the city's past. At various times in Boston's history, the islands have been used to sequester the sick, the destitute, and the deviant. Quarantine facilities, houses of reformation, almshouses, and a hospital for physically disabled children were among the institutions that existed on the islands over the course of nearly 300 years.

Beginning in the late 17th century, quarantine stations were established on the Boston Harbor Islands for incoming vessels suspected of carrying passengers or cargo infected with "plague, smallpox, or any other malignant infectious distemper."¹ Massachusetts's first quarantine hospital was built on Spectacle Island in 1719. A new quarantine hospital was later built on Rainsford Island. Among the ships that passed inspection at Rainsford was The Beaver, one of the three ships boarded by colonists in the Boston Tea Party. In the late 1840s, thousands of Irish refugees of the Great Famine were admitted to the quarantine hospital on Deer Island, and at least 800 people were buried on the island.² Later in the 19th century, several city institutions were relocated to the islands. Deer Island was the site of an almshouse and house of industry, and on Rainsford Island was the House of Reformation for Boys. Multiple shelters and hospitals existed on Long Island, and programs continued to operate on the island until 2014. In the early 20th century, Boston businessman Arthur C. Burrage sponsored a hospital for children on Bumpkin's Island, where patients were expected to benefit from the "bright sunlight" and "cooling winds."³

¹ Klein, Christopher. *Discovering The Boston Harbor Islands: A Guide to the City's Hidden*

Shores. Boston: Union Park Press, 2011, p. 70

2 <http://www.bostonirish.com/history/many-famine-irish-deer-island-proved-their-only-glimpse-america>

3 The Boston Daily Globe, quoted in Christopher Klein, *Discovering The Boston Harbor Islands*, p.112

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