

Even though one Westport couple lives just twelve miles away, a few times each summer, they pack up their RV and spend several nights at Horseneck Beach.



LIFE'S A BEACH

There is nothing more luxurious than falling asleep to the sound of waves breaking onto the shore, then tripping over rocks as they recede. Waking up to it is pretty lovely too.

You could pay plenty of money for this. Or you could reserve a campsite at Horseneck Beach State Reservation on the shores of Buzzards Bay. The 100-site campground provides you with spectacular beachfront property at \$22/night. Not surprisingly, Forest and Parks Supervisor John Darcy says that many campers are repeat visitors, year after year.

John and Gracia Tripp are among the Horseneck faithful. The Westport residents live just twelve miles away but a few times each summer, they pack up their RV and spend several nights at Horseneck Beach. Darcy understands the draw. He came to work at the campground twelve years ago as a summer job in high school and he never left. "I've been here since I was 17," he says, "I understand the need to come back every summer."

Your insider tip: You need to know there is fierce competition for the sixteen sites directly on the waterfront. John Tripp says that getting a spot in the front row during the busiest months is "like hens' teeth" or rare. According to Tripp, you have to be ready to book the beachfront spots



online as soon as they become available 6 months before the reservation date at exactly 9 a.m. No worries, though. There is more flexibility with the other sites, all of which are within a short walk of the beach.

For more information, go to www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/massparks/region-south/horseneck-beach-state-reservation.html or call 508-636-8817 (seasonal). Horseneck Beach State Reservation, 5 John Reed Road, Westport.

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