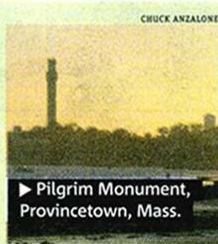


at home with metro

Provincetown: More than just a place to summer

► This charming seaside town is where the settlers first landed ► You might stay for its natural beauty, liberal mentality and artsy residents

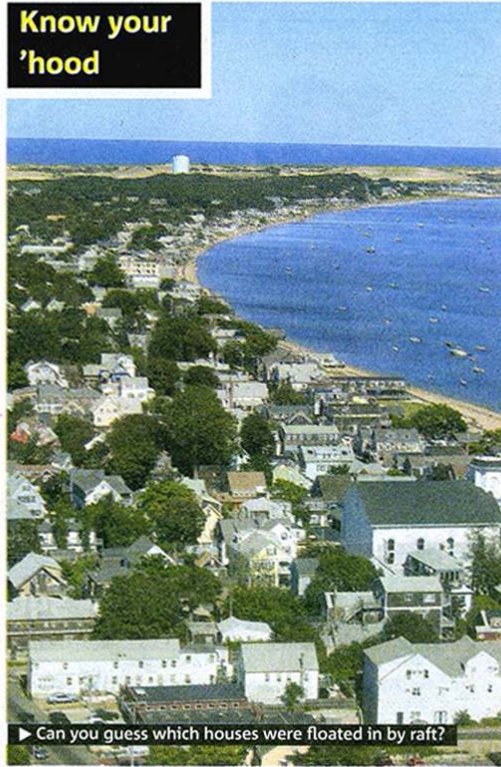


► Pilgrim Monument, Provincetown, Mass.

Things to do in P-town

Climb the 100-year-old Pilgrim Monument for views over the bay; stay at the antiques-filled, arts-and-crafts style Land's End Inn; or people-watch and eat al fresco at the charming Waterford Inn, which was built in 1860 for local mariner, Captain Lavender.

Know your 'hood



► Can you guess which houses were floated in by raft?

More than being the place where the Pilgrims first landed in 1620 before sailing into Plymouth, a longstanding artist colony or a popular gay and lesbian summer destination, it's Provincetown's warm, tight-knit residential community that people most remember when visiting the three-mile stretch of clapboard cottages and low-rise condos.

Increasingly, it's not just second-home owners buying in. More and more, year-round inhabitants call P-town home.

Surrounded by National Seashore, the area's beauty is another compelling reason for all-season living. Author Norman Mailer kept a P-town home and is now a permanent fixture: He's buried there.

Michael McIntyre, owner of Land's End Inn, moved to P-town in 1995. "There is energy here year-round," he says. That's obvious during summer, when vacationers swell the population of ap-

P-town's past

There's one reason why the houses in Provincetown, Mass., are so tightly crammed together.

Originally, this seaside town at Cape Cod's uppermost tip spread out along the spit that curls into Cape Cod Bay. But once the salt works located there closed down, the inhabitants literally floated their homes on barges down the shoreline and settled in between existing homes in Provincetown's center. These houses are marked by a plaque depicting a house on a raft.

proximately 3,800 to an average of 30,000-50,000. But in winter there's a different, more intoxicating energy. "Off-season, [we get to enjoy] all the natural beauty at the very end of the Cape," says McIntyre.

 **LINDA LABAN**
linda.laban@metro.us

Price profile

Provincetown sales prices

In 2009, the median home price was \$407,500. 2010 shows an increase to \$547,250. Prices for one-bedroom, 600-square-foot condos start around \$200,000.

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