A Sea Kayaking Tour of Southeastern Massachusetts

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MITOC Spring Kayaking Social 2012
The 30-Minute Tour:

• Clark's Island & the Real Plymouth Rock

• The North River and Surfing The Spit

• Cohasset Harbor

• The Long Way Home: Boston to Plymouth
Clark’s Island

- Clark’s Island from Powder Point in Duxbury, MA

- Trip Stats:
  - 5-6 miles RT (~2-3hrs)
  - Shallow, protected bay

- Highlights:
  - The “Real” Plymouth Rock
  - Saquish Beaches
  - Cowyard Currents
  - Afternoon SW Winds

- Pointers:
  - Clark’s Island is privately owned so ask permission
The Real Plymouth Rock??
In Search of the “Real” Plymouth Rock

• Pulpit Rock
  – The “Real Plymouth Rock”
  – The Corner Stone of America

• Historic Significance:
  – Site of Pilgrim’s first landing and religious service in Plymouth on December 20\textsuperscript{th}, 1620
  – Visited by Henry David Thoreau
Sunrise at Powder Point
Exploring the Shoreline
Island Interior
The “Real” Plymouth Rock

Bouldering on a National Landmark!?!?
Weak Sauce...
The 30-Minute Tour:

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The North River

- Union Street Bridge to the Driftway

- Trip Stats:
  - 4 miles one way
  - 8 miles with Scituate
  - Estuary environment

- Highlights:
  - Shipbuilding history
  - Great River Race
  - Surfing @ the spit

- Pointers:
  - Respect conditions at the mouth of N. River
  - Use tides to your advantage
Ship Building on the North River

- 23 shipyards in the 1800s
- 1078 vessels constructed, average weight 400 tons
- 3rd and 4th Cliff Canal
- Portland Gale of 1898
- Scituate Maritime and Irish Mossing Museum
North & South River Watershed Association

- Conservation and Education
- Kayak Expo in February
- Great River Race in July
NSRWA Great River Race

- 6.5 miles long (~1-2hrs)
- Kayaks, canoes and row boats
- Costume division
- Awards and BBQ
Surfing at The Spit

So we’re doing this??

Yuuuuuup!
Ben Rockin’ It
Dave Eatin’ It
The 30-Minute Tour:

- Clark’s Island & the Real Plymouth Rock
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- Cohasset Harbor
- The Long Way Home: Boston to Plymouth
Cohasset Harbor

- **Trip Stats:**
  - Fun trip for training, surfing, and sightseeing

- **Highlights:**
  - Numerous rock gardens
  - Minot’s Ledge Light
  - Standing wave

- **Pointers:**
  - Conditions outside of harbor not for beginners
  - Rocky coastline with few landings
Minot’s Ledge Light

• Built in 1855, 114ft tall, 3500 tons of Quincy granite
• Tragedy: Keepers Joseph Antoine and Joseph Wilson were lost to the sea during a NE storm
Lambs and Lions

Minot Light @ 1.5 miles

This wave is ~15ft tall!
Just Play!
Standing Wave

- Wave forms on the incoming tide (3hrs before high) at the mouth of the Gulf River in Cohasset Harbor
- Class I to II with building wave up to 3-4ft tall.
Caught on Camera...
The 30-Minute Tour:

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• The Long Way Home: Boston to Plymouth
The Looonng Way Home:
• 3 Great friends
• 50 Nautical miles
• 6 Legs
• 14 Hours on the water
• 1 Night on the beach
• 2 Portages
• 24 PB&J sandwiches
• 2.5 boxes of oatmeal pies

... and a pair of red panties
First Things First...EAT!!!

Yummm
PASTA!!!
Launch: Presidents Landing in Medford, MA @ 0700

Conditions: Clear Skies, Light Winds, Seas <1ft, High Tide
Portage #1: Mystic River Dam

Next time we should just call the lock operator on the radio like normal people!
Boston Inner Harbor
Rest Stop #1: Georges Island

Time: 1000, Distance Covered: 12 miles, Distance to Go: 38 miles
Crossing Nantasket Roads

I don’t need no stinkin’ sun screen!

Conditions: Clear Skies, Wind NE @ 5-10, Seas 3-4ft, Mean Tide
Rest Stop #2: Gunrock Beach in Hull, MA

Time: 1300, Distance Covered: 19miles, Distance to Go: 31miles
Cohasset Rock Gardens

I still don’t need any stinkin’ sun screen!

Conditions: Clear Skies, Wind NE @ 5-10, Seas 2-3ft, Low Tide
Rest Stop #3: Minot Beach in Scituate, MA

Time: 1530, Distance Covered: 25 miles, Distance to Go: 25 miles
Scituate Light

Conditions: Clear Skies, Wind NE @ 5-10, Seas 2-3ft, Surf is UP
That’s Enough for One Day...
Hummarock, MA

Time: 1800, Distance Covered: 35 miles, Distance to Go: 15 miles
About that sunscreen...
Sunrise at Hummarock

Hitting the water at 0530 was never better!
Sunrise Paddle Along the South Shore

Conditions: Clear Skies, Wind Light NE, Seas <1ft, High Tide
Portage #2: Duxbury Beach

Hey Guys! Look what I found...

Time: 0730, Distance Covered: 44 miles Distance to Go: 6 miles
Entering Plymouth Harbor

Conditions: Clear Skies, Wind NE @10-15, Seas 2-3ft, High Tide
Home, Sweet Home!

Time: 0900, Distance Covered: 50 miles Distance to Go: 0 miles!!!
An Epic Adventure

Sunscreeeennnnn!

My PFD is holding my body together!

Good thing I made it back in time for my Prom Date!
Caught on Google Earth!

Boston-to-Plymouth Paddle 2010
Alex, Dave & Josh
Rowe’s Warf, Boston as seen from Google Earth
Have a Safe Paddling Season!

- Always wear your PFD
- Dress for immersion
- Momentum Rules
- Beer is for the after party (Don’t pee in the boats!)
- Stay off of the CG’s radar
Have a Fun Paddling Season!

Special Thanks:
• MITOC
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• Meaghan
• All of my paddling partners

Check out KayakDave.com