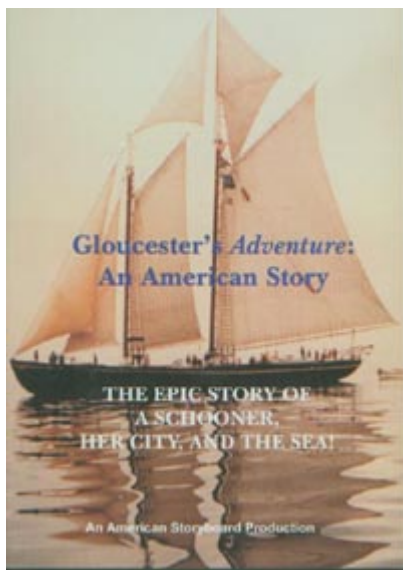


# WHALE Grill and Chill BBQ Fundraiser (14 Aug)

WHALE will be serving up a heaping helping of fun, food, and music at the Grill and Chill fundraiser on Sunday, August 14 from 4-8PM at the Howland House, 38 South Sixth Street in New Bedford.

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## Gloucester's Adventure: An American Story



The Dock-U-Mentaries film series continues on Friday, August 19th with Gloucester's Adventure: An American Story. This 60 minute film tells the story of Gloucester, Massachusetts, once one of the world's busiest fishing ports, and the sailing schooner Adventure, which was built there in 1926 and soon became one of the most successful fishing schooners of her time. As time went on and with the advancement of power technologies, many schooners were

left to die in a backwater sea cemetery, and Adventure was no exception. Eventually she was rescued, renovated and put to work as a windjammer in the great bays of Maine under Captain Sharp. Adventure, eventually returned to her homeport of Gloucester as a gracious gift from her captain, now serves as an educational tool for the seafaring town.

Dock-U-Mentaries is a co-production of New Bedford Whaling National Historical Park and the Working Waterfront Festival.

Films about the working waterfront will be screened on the third Friday of each month beginning at 7:00 PM in the theater of the Corson Maritime Learning Center, located at 33 William Street in downtown New Bedford. All programs are open to the public and presented free of charge.

The Working Waterfront Festival is a project of the Community Economic Development Center of Southeastern MA, a non-profit organization. The FREE festival, a family friendly, educational celebration of New England's commercial fishing industry, features live maritime and ethnic music, fishermen's contests, fresh seafood, vessel tours, author readings, cooking demonstrations, kid's activities and more. It all takes place on working piers and waterfront parks in New Bedford, MA, America's #1 fishing port, on the last full weekend in September, this year on September 25 and 25. Navigate to the website at [www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org](http://www.workingwaterfrontfestival.org).

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## **The New Bedford Portuguese Feast Survival Guide**



By Shonna  
McGrail

This is our 2011 New Bedford Portuguese Feast article. Check out of 8 Things to Know About the 2012 Portuguese Feast article for information on the 2012 Feast.

The New Bedford Feast of the Blessed Sacrament, a.k.a. the Portuguese Feast, a.k.a. Madeira Feast is the largest event the city has every year. More than that, it is the largest Portuguese feast in the world and the largest ethnic festival in New England. The feast was founded in 1915 by four Madeiran immigrants who wanted to recreate the festivities of their home island.

Between my own experience with the feast, some careful research and some very helpful guidance from Ed Camara, the Director of Media and Public Relations for Clube Madeirense S.S. Sacramento, I have come up with an overview of the feast which has become a major attraction for visitors from all over who come to celebrate the Portuguese culture through food, drink and entertainment.

For this year's 2011 feast, over 100,000 attendees are anticipated. If you are considering being one of them, here are eight things you should know about the feast:

## **1. Time and Location**

If you have never been to the feast it naturally makes sense to let you know where to go and when to be there. The feast is a a four day event, officially kicking off at 6:00 PM on Thursday, August 4th. The grounds close at 11:45 each night.



On Friday the grounds re-open from 6 PM to 11:45 PM. The weekend hours start a bit earlier with Saturday festivities begin at 10 AM for the 5K road race followed by Kid's Day afternoon. The last day of the feast is Sunday which starts off with a parade at 2:00 PM. For more information on when and where events will be taking place, go to the Portuguese

## Feast Entertainment Schedule.

Most of the events take place at Madeira Field (a permanent location in New Bedford's north end) that comes to life one weekend a year for the Portuguese Feast festivities. The address of Madeira Field is 50 Madeira Avenue, New Bedford, MA. Parking can be a bit tricky, you may have to plan to search a bit to find a spot and walk a few blocks, or pay to park in a nearby lot.

## **2. Costs**

The festival allows free admission and entertainment thanks to the hard work of the 52 committee members who comprise the 2011 Feast of the Blessed Sacrament Committee. While admission is free there are also many vendors at the grounds selling everything from handmade Madeiran souvenirs to cigars.

Tickets may also be purchased to buy authentic Portuguese cuisine or, if you're over 21, an impressive selection of alcoholic beverages. Tickets cost a dollar each and can be purchased at ten machines located throughout the grounds by placing a five, ten or twenty dollar bill inside. Tickets are non-refundable. There are also stands with employees who sell the tickets.

Prices of food are kept reasonable, and I was informed by the Mr. Camara (who has been a part of the feast's organization since 1982) that prices on some items are actually lower than past feasts and no prices have been increased in the past two years. To give you a general idea of the prices of items at the feast, a full meal is 12 tickets (which equates to 12 dollars), most sandwiches are around four tickets, and a soda or a water goes for one ticket.

## **3. Food**



carne de espeto!

One of the greatest features of the feast is the delicious Portuguese fare. There are many food stands located throughout Madeira Field that serve your favorites from the simple delights of linguica and cacoila sandwiches to full on Portuguese cuisine plates of chicken, beef, goat or tuna with potatoes, rice and vegetables.

Another major culinary draw is the Carne de Espeto, a massive, 40 foot barbecue pit where beef sirloin cubes can be cooked over an open flame on massive skewers. This is hard to miss since the aroma is absolutely mouth watering. Visitors are able to buy the meat for eight tickets a pound and a delicious aromatic salt is provided to cook with. Visitors are then able to roast their own dinner over the gas-fired lava rock grill. Mr. Camara advised me that if someone tells you to pour Madeira wine on the meat it is not advisable (it does not help the flavor and causes the meat to burn faster!)

In case you are not accustomed to the flavorful cooking style of Portuguese cuisine, go to the Food & Drink page of the Portuguese Feast website for definitions of some of the food you might expect to see.

#### **4. Drink**

One of the great draws of the feast is the consumption of Madeira wine, which is a central part of the festivities as it is part of a long tradition. Madeira wine is a sweet, fortified red wine. Genuine Madeira wine is made on the

island of Madeira, and exportation of actual barrels are restricted due to regulations. However, thanks to a special agreement made between feast officials and the President of Madeira, casks are able to be delivered to New Bedford and served for the weekend, making this a very rare treat for those who attend.

For those who want an alternative to Madeira wine, there are a great variety of additional options including a full liquor bar for mix drinks. Alcohol stands also serve sangria and white wine and Budweiser beer is on tap.

## 5. Entertainment

There is a great deal of quality free entertainment at the feast each year from Portuguese and American cultures. There are three stages throughout Madeira field, and each host a variety of performance types throughout the weekend. In addition, the



Museum of Madeiran Heritage will be featuring musical performances each night of the feast. These performances will be featuring fado music, a Portuguese genre of music that can be traced back to the 1820s but is believed to be even older than that. For a schedule of who will be performing go [here](#).

One of the cultural acts that you may see take the stage at Madeira field is Grupo Folclórico Clube Madeirense S.S. Sacramento. This group of dancers present traditional dancing performances to authentic Madeiran music and in traditional clothing. These performances are always very spirited and interesting to see.

There will be many bands on the smaller stages during the feast, but the largest stage is reserved for a special performance at 10:00 each night. Thursday night the band Soul

Asylum will take the stage. Soul Asylum had two platinum albums, and are perhaps best known for the song "Runaway Train."

Friday night will feature Johnny Hoy and the Bluefish, a band from Martha's Vineyard that specializes in "bluesy dance music" according to their website. On Saturday a Green Day tribute band called Dookie will be the main stage highlight to cap off the evening, and Backseat Lover will be playing Pearl Jam tribute music for the final night of the feast.

## 6. Families

Since Madeira feast involves alcohol consumption, some readers may be wondering if it is a family appropriate event. You will be glad to know that family values are integral to the foundation of the feast. While it is probably not advisable to bring young children later in the night due to large crowds and loud music, it should be mentioned that there are many features of the feast that children will love. Also, the feast takes great measures to prohibit underage drinking.



All who wish to consume alcoholic beverages are required to undergo a license verification process in order to receive a specially printed wrist band.

An interesting part of the feast is that it features carnival rides and games all weekend. Saturday is probably the best day for families with young kids thanks to Kids Day Afternoon which follows the 12th annual 5K road race. Kids day kicks off at 12:15 PM and involves a children's theatre, Toe Jam puppet show and much more family friendly entertainment.

For senior citizens in the community, special transport is being offered from the parking lot of Lincoln Elementary on

Saturday so that seniors can attend the event without having to worry about parking. They are also being offered the special deal of half price meals from noon to four o'clock that day, and special entertainment will be featured as well.

## **7. History**

The Feast of the Blessed Sacrament gains its roots from the island of Madeira which is located 390 miles off the coast of Morocco. Traditionally, each Roman Catholic parish in Madeira would observe a festival to celebrate their patron saint. A committee of four men called festeiros would be responsible for preparing the village for the celebration by decorating the streets, contracting entertainment (often in the form of a brass band and fireworks) and holding a ceremonial meal after mass on Sunday.

There are many versions of the tale of why the Feast of the Blessed Sacrament was first begun in New Bedford 97 years ago.

What is certain however is that the feast was initiated as a means of preserving basic values of the Madeiran culture. Of course, since it was first begun the feast has changed in many ways to accommodate thousands of eager participants and modern elements of celebration.

While there have been many changes in the feast, many aspects still remain central to the celebration. The tradition of Madeira wine is a very old one, dating back to the 15th Century when the Malvasia vine was planted on the island of Madeira to see it would yield an alternative supply of wine for England. When growth was successful Madeira wine quickly took to the market, but did not become a major export until many years later. It wasn't until the 16th Century that the flavor we know of today was created when they discovered that the flavor of the wine was actually improved by being repeatedly heated up. Follow the link for more information on the history of Madeira wine.



The religious aspect of the feast also remains a part of proceedings. As it did in 1915, the feast still takes place near Our Lady of Immaculate Conception which is located on the corner of Earle and Madeira Street in New Bedford. The Portuguese feast pays homage to its religious traditions by beginning the weekend festivities with a procession to the church where Father Daniel O. Reis gives a Benediction to the Blessed Sacrament. Throughout the weekend the church also hosts the music of organist Edward Viveiros and vocalist Derek Capobianco each evening from 6:00 to 9:00 PM.

## 8. Madeira Field



Santana House at the New Bedford Portuguese Feast.

The grounds on which the Feast of the Blessed Sacrament takes place are quite expansive and easy to lose people in. Be sure you have a plan for finding lost party members whether it be by cell phone or a designated area to meet up at.

When entering the feast you will need to get in line for a wrist band if you wish to purchase alcoholic beverages. One of the most prominent features you will notice upon entering the festival grounds is the Santana House. The house is designed after the colorful architectural styles of the homes in the village Santana, Madeira and is where the Madeira wine is served from.

Across from the Santana House is Stage One, which is massive

and where the main attractions will be hosted throughout the weekend. There are also two other smaller stages, one that is inside the gates and the other which is outside and amongst the souvenir vendors. You will also see many food and drink stands throughout the grounds, and towards the back you will find the barbecue pits for Carne de Espeto (or just follow your nose).

Enjoy the feast! If you enjoyed this article please share it. All photos courtesy of the Feast of the Blessed Sacrament 2011.

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## Five Places to Catch the Game for Less



By Shonna  
McGrail

Watching the game from the comfort of your own home can be ideal. But it can also be a blast to round up some friends, get out of the house and view the big game (whether that be football, baseball, basketball or hockey) surrounded by quality screens, inexpensive beer and tasty game-time snacks.

As the NFL lock out finally resolves, my adoration for everything football is beginning to creep back in again. Here are some of my favorite places to spend my Sundays during football season:

## **1. Striker's Pub**

66 Hathaway Road  
New Bedford, MA

Since Striker's Pub was renovated a couple years ago, this has been one of my favorite sports hangouts, both for the sheer number of screens and the awesome drink deals. Located at Wonder Bowl, Striker's has eight screens at the bar alone, and a gorgeous wide-screen projector. Striker's also allows you to view in the comfort of large plush armchairs which are dispersed throughout.



In terms of drinks, Striker's has a full bar that often offers great deals. I tend to enjoy sipping on a tall can of Rolling Rock, which only costs \$1.50. They also offer a great variety of draft beers and bottled beers, along with mixed drink specials. Striker's is open until midnight during the week and 1 AM on weekends, allowing you to catch even the late night games.

If you like to snack while you watch, Striker's offers some delicious options that won't break the bank. I highly recommend getting yourself a basket of sweet potato fries for only \$2.50. They also serve just about every game time favorite such as boneless chicken tenders and nachos, and if you're looking for a full meal Striker's serves up burgers, wraps and pizza.

## **2. Cafe Funchal**

12 Church Street  
New Bedford, MA

Alright, I know this is the second time I've brought up Funchal in an article, but there are a lot of things that I think this restaurant does great, and football is one of them. When it comes time for football season, this is the place to be.



Funchal provides four HD TVs to watch, along with a giant, 50 inch projector that you can easily see from any point in the cafe.

To top off the great atmosphere for sports lovers, Funchal offers a special menu that highlights some game time favorites such as nachos, chili and buffalo wings. The servings you get are impressive enough to satisfy a linebacker, and cheap enough to be afforded by someone who doesn't have an NFL salary. The menu also features drink specials such as a bucket of beer or pitchers of Miller Light or Bud Light for \$6.

### **3. Paul's Sports Corner**

19 Howland Road  
Fairhaven, MA

Paul's seems to often get overlooked, but I think that this is a great find. With a cozy atmosphere, large bar, big screen TV and pool table, this place is everything a classic sports bar ought to be. The bar offers very reasonably priced beverages, such as tall cans of PBR for \$2.00, and mixed drinks for under \$5. While Paul's does not have a huge menu of food options, they do offer you some game time standards such as burgers for \$3.50, a steak and cheese for \$4.50 and even free steamed hot dogs at about 90 percent of game days.

Paul's has been a family owned sports bar for over 33 years and has a great neighborhood atmosphere. Last time I went

there I got the opportunity to speak with Paul's wife Nancy who cooks the food herself and prides herself on the quality of the meat they serve in their burgers and dogs. As she explained it to me, "if I wouldn't serve it to my grand kids, I wouldn't serve it to my customers."

The walls are adorned with all sorts of cool New England sports memorabilia that I find to be a draw in and of itself.

Finally, I should mention that they have six TVs to watch and root on your favorite home teams.

#### **4. Ice Chest**

136 Huttleston Avenue  
Fairhaven, MA

The Ice Chest is probably one of the most happening bars in Fairhaven.

This is no small thanks to their mouth watering menu and ample supply of bottled and draft beers. The food and drink in combination with the fun atmosphere make Ice Chest a quality local draw. However, it also features six high-def screens for game watching, which make this a sports fan's favorite.



While the Ice Chest doesn't offer any major drink specials, it does have a great variety of beers and mixed drinks alike so that you can be sure to find something to match your pallet (or budget if you're like me). They also have some savory game time food options that are sure to keep you happy through all nine innings, four quarters, or three periods. The buffalo chicken dip is phenomenal, and at \$6.99 you get a large portion that is great to share. Potato skins will cost you only \$5.99, and if you're in the mood for something filling, go for a 12 inch "pub style pie" (personal pizza) for

only \$5.99.

## **5. Rose Alley**

94 Front Street  
New Bedford, MA

Much like Cafe Funchal, I have to say that Rose Alley does just about everything right as far as bars go. With the laid back atmosphere of an Irish pub, Rose Alley is the best place downtown to watch the game as far as I'm concerned. This is due to a combination of featuring nine HD televisions, an impressive variety of beers that range from your favorite cheap drafts to rare micro brews, and a delicious food menu that I cannot get enough of.

Whether your looking to split some appetizers and beer or get dinner while you watch, Rose Alley's menu is perfect game time fare. Their appetizer menu features every game time favorite such as mozzarella sticks (\$6) and beer battered onion rings (\$5), but it's their wings that I feel deserve the utmost praise. As a bit of a buffalo wing connoisseur, I have to say that Rose Alley's are my favorite in Greater New Bedford.

They offer you a wonderful selection of flavors and heat settings from "mild" to "suicidal" and sell by the pound, starting at a half pound of boneless wings for \$6. Couple this with your favorite beer, and your conditions are ideal for game time.

For more information on what Rose Alley has to offer, check out NB Guide contributor Amy Knox' review!

If you're looking for even more sports bar options in the area, check out NB writer Noah Griffith's article from last year, Best NFL Friendly Bars in New Bedford.

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# Skateboarding the South Coast



by Ron  
Dauplaise

Sometimes the simplest things in life give you the most joy. For millions of people around the world, skateboarding is that simple thing. Layered pieces of plywood, metal trucks, bearings, wheels, nuts and bolts, and grip-tape are what make up a skateboard. Whether its bombing down a big hill or doing a trick onto and off of a ledge, the feeling you get when you land something is amazing. Obviously skateboarding is an aggressive hobby that's not for everyone; you're bound to get cuts and bruises. If you can tough it out and have the balance to do so, there is limitless fun to be had.



Solstice Skateboard  
Shop New Bedford,

MA.

Skateboarding has thrived in the New Bedford area since the 1990s. Solstice Skate Shop (102 William St. New Bedford, MA) pretty much started the skate culture around the area. Solstice was co-founded by lifelong skateboarders, Grandison Taber II and Jay Vasconcellos in 1997. It's hard to believe that fourteen years have gone by so fast! Solstice is currently operation by Jay Vasconcellos and he is still dedicated to skateboarding. Still trying. Still rolling forever. Jay has been quoted as saying, "skateboarding has ruined life as we know it, thanks for reading this."

Local professional skateboarder Nick Dompierre was born and raised in New Bedford, and has been able to travel the world with his skills that were first honed here. He started skateboarding back in 1998 and has always had a natural balance for skateboarding. Since being a 12-year old shredder, he's now moved up to the professional level and competes against the best in the world. His current sponsors are Real Skateboards, Spitfire Wheels, Thunder Trucks, DC Shoes and Apparel, Monster Energy, No Problemo, and of course Solstice Skate shop.

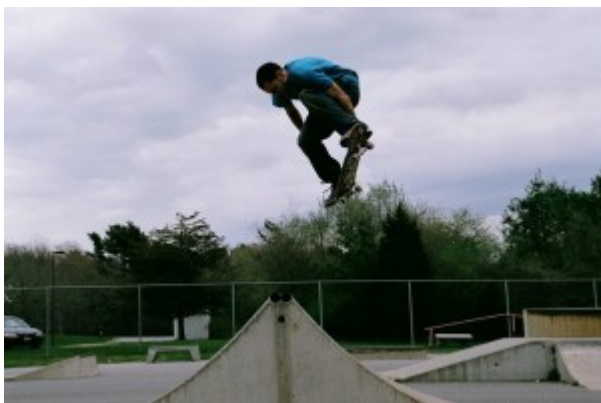
Solstice has put together many Skate Jams and demos for local youth throughout the years. There are plans to have one Thursday, July 14th downtown at the Customs House parking lot. Skateboarding is a great activity to get kids outside, stay in shape, and have a hobby that can be done almost anywhere that has concrete. Skateboarding can keep kids out of trouble, while also giving them something to focus their energy on and better themselves.



There are numerous places to skate in and around the city, many street spots as well as outdoor concrete parks. Downtown has a lot of street spots to offer, but it's best to skate on the weekend to avoid getting kicked out of a location and to avoid obstacles like people and traffic.



There are a few outdoor skate parks in New Bedford and the surrounding towns. **Riverside Skate Park** (the corner of Belleville Ave. and Coffin St.) was built in 1999, although some of the concrete has aged, there are still plenty of objects that you can have a great time messing around on (Rails, quarter pipes, boxes, a half pipe, etc). Fairhaven has **Livesy Skate Park** (Glenhaven Ave), which is about a mile from Riverside Park. Livesy is about as old as Riverside, with some different things to skate.



The newest outdoor park is **Mattapoissett Skate Park** (East on Route 6, right at the police station) which was built in 2004. This park has the smoothest concrete and transitions around, and is used by many skaters in the area.

Sometime within the next few months, the **Skate Factory** will have their grand opening. This is a brand new indoor wooden park, located in the **Wamsutta Mill off of Route 18**. Once this park officially opens, it will be a prime destination in the skateboarding community. It will be a great way for locals to sharpen their skills on big ramps, pyramids, boxes, and rails that aren't found in the area.

The next closest indoor park is **Skater's Edge in Taunton**,

which is a little over 20 miles away. It's definitely a solid park with a wide variety of obstacles including a foam pit. The park can get a little crowded sometimes, but is definitely worth the drive every once in a while.

Skateboarding, for me, has and will always be a great experience, and has brought me to some levels of defying gravity that I never thought were possible. Practice and you will get better. I'll skate for as many years as I can. Roll Forever.

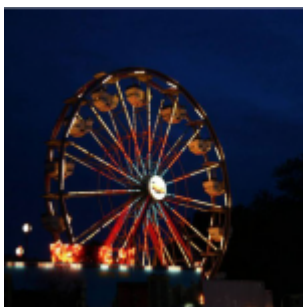
Ron at the Shred Fest Tournament Finals

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## 2011 Whaling City Festival



by  
Michael  
Silvia



The New Bedford Festival season is in full swing. Last weekend (2-3 July) Summer Festival took over downtown New Bedford with dozens of musicians and hundreds of street vendors. August will bring the world famous Feast of The Blessed Sacrament (Portuguese Feast/Madeira Feast) and the amazing Chowder Festival. This weekend (8-10 July, 9 AM – 8 PM daily) is the Whaling City Festival located at Buttonwood Park.

The Whaling City Festival has been running for an amazing 42 years and attendance is FREE of charge. The organizers claim that over 150,000 people visit each year. The festival offers over 200 retail vendors and 26 food vendors. The main attractions are the local bands, radio stations, vintage car shows and of course carnival rides. If you are looking for a great event outside this weekend, the Whaling City Festival is perfect for all ages.

Live music will include Beatles, Santana, Johnny Cash and Led Zeppelin tribute bands with some amazing local music to include Neal McCarthy Problem and Abby Normal. Other entertainment includes Top Rope Wrestling, Rosie's Racing Pigs, Poppytown Puppets, BINGO with Linda Morad, Whaling City Food Drive and much more. A full schedule of events can be found [here](#).



The Whaling City Festival Custom Car and Truck show will be held Sunday from 8 AM to 3 PM. Admission is FREE, but it costs \$15 per car entry. The trophy presentation will be at 3 PM. Don't miss yet another amazing festival that only hits New Bedford once a year!

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## 5 Dinners for \$10 or Less

Shonna McGrail is back with another article on places to find great dinners in the New Bedford area for \$10 or less.

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# **Fishing For a Cause**

The Schwartz Center for Children holds its first annual recreational fishing tournament on the weekend of June 17th.

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# **A Trip to the Vineyard**

Amy Knox has been going to Martha's Vineyard every summer for the last 16 years. Find out her favorite spots to visit.

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# **Outdoor Dining and Drinking 2011**

Noah Griffith delivers this comprehensive Guide to Outdoor Dining and Drinking on the South Coast.