

Experience Craft Beer, Wine & Art in “Taste the North Fork”

April 7, 2017

by Dylan Hoffmann

Visiting the North Fork became a lot easier with the arrival of the “Taste the North Fork” taking place this weekend. Held from April 7 to 9, 2017, visitors can take advantage of two free shuttle buses escorting passengers to hamlets from Mattituck to Greenport, N.Y. The shuttles make it easy to take in the various sights of the scenic North Fork and explore the dozens of wineries and vineyards that produce wines on the North Fork of Eastern Long Island.

“Taste the North Fork” will have two intersecting bus routes: the Mattituck-Cutchogue Loop and the Greenport-Southold Loop, both of which overlap at the Greenport Harbor Brewing Company’s Peconic location on Main Road (Route 25). The shuttle buses begin each day at noon and will continue all day until 5:30 p.m. Participants will receive a wrist band and a free bag that includes a map and a detailed listing of events and participating venues.

Wineries and vineyards take center stage in “Taste the North Fork,” which is designed to highlight the North Fork’s most prominent industry and the terroir that makes the wine so unique to its region. Not only renowned, the many wineries and vineyards of the North Fork act as a complement to the area’s rural, scenic landscape with the vast fields and terraces that line the roads all the way to Orient Point.



Macari Vineyard in Mattituck is one of the wineries on the the Mattituck-Cutchogue Bus Loop.

Each stop on the two routes provide easy access craft wine and beer purveyors that are steps away from the stop.

On the Mattituck-Cutchogue Loop, vineyards include Castello di Borghese, Sannino Bella Vita, Raphael Winery, Lenz Winery, Pindar Vineyard, Pugliese Vineyards, Waters Crest Winery, Lauren Lake Vineyards, Macari Vineyards, and Bridge Lane Tasting Room.

On the Greenport-Southold Loop, vineyards include Osprey's Dominion, Duck Walk Vineyards, and Sannino Bella Vita Vineyard. Together, these wineries provide a rich cross-section of the North Fork's wine country, each vineyard bringing to the table their own unique palates and flavors that represent the North Fork.

Craft beer is another highlight of "Taste the North Fork" and can be found at Greenport Harbor Brewing Co.'s two locations in Peconic and Greenport. As the North Fork's sole brewery, Greenport Harbor Brewing Co. has become one of the most renowned breweries on Long Island and a destination for so many visitors of the North Fork. Serving area craft beer (and local wines) is North Fork Taps & Cork, which is walkable from the Southold stop on the same Greenport-Southold Loop as the Greenport Harbor Brewing Co.

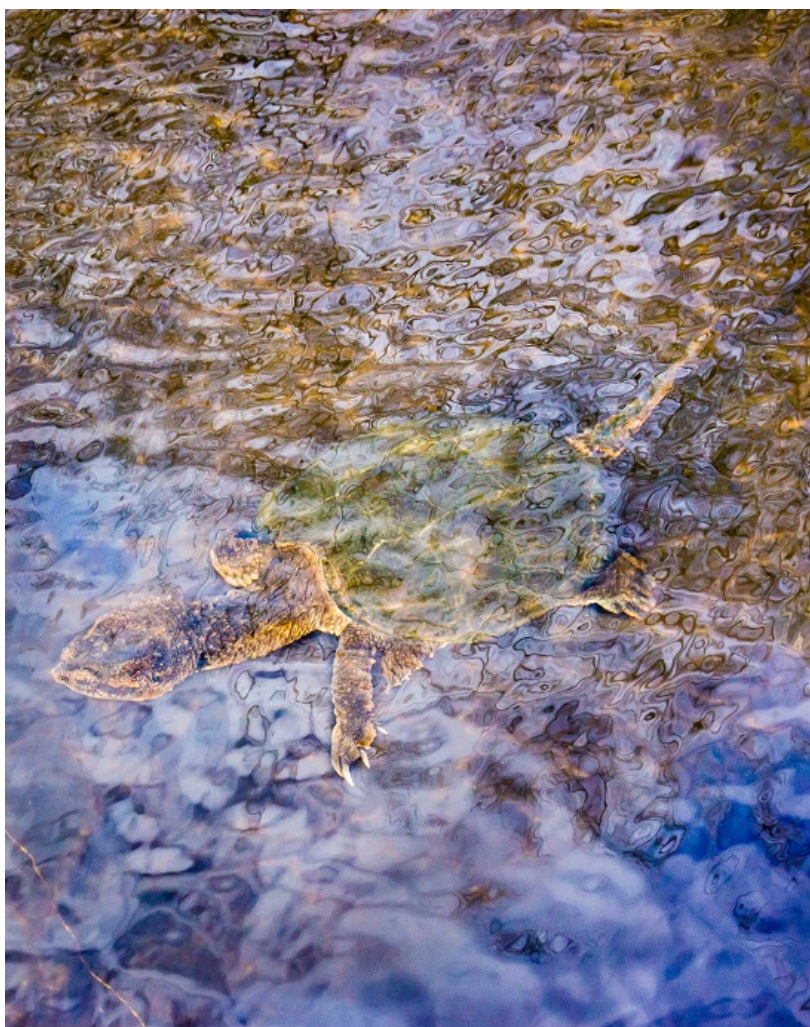
Along with the wines, brews, food and live music participating venues are offering, Taste the North Fork has several art exhibitions which share stops on the loop.

[Castello di Borghese Vineyard](#) in Cutchogue is hosting an art show presented by [Alexander's Angels](#), an organization dedicated to raising awareness and funds for further research of people with Downs Syndrome. The exhibition, "DOWNright Art" features work showcasing the creative

talents of these individuals. “DOWNright ART” continues on view through April 22, 2017.

On Saturday, April 8, 2017 [First and South](#) in Greenport teases its season opening with a pop-up art show “Flora and Fauna” exhibiting local artist [Kara Hoblin](#)’s latest work. The one-day only show is open from 2 to 5 p.m. when First and South’s delicious apps will be served. First and South will be reachable from the IGA stop on the Greenport-Southold Loop. The restaurant officially opens for the season on April 13, 2017.

On Sunday, April 9, 2017, [Waters Crest Winery](#) in Cutchogue will host an Artist Reception for photographers [Katherine Liepe-Levinson](#) and [Mike McLaughlin](#) from 3 to 5 p.m. While mingling with the artists, guest can enjoy wine and delicious apps. The exhibition is curated by photographer and North Fork gallerist Alex Ferrone. Waters Crest Winery shares a bus stop with the Mattituck-Cutchogue Loop.



“SNAPPER” by Katherine Liepe-Levinson. Archival photograph, 22 x 16 inches. Courtesy of the artist.

[Greenport Harbor Brewing Co.](#)’s Greenport tasting room also has a curated exhibition on view,

featuring the artwork of Greenport artist [Cindy Pease Roe](#) and East Hampton artist and illustrator [Scott Bluedorn](#). The show revolves around both artist's love and concern for our local waters, utilizing the sights and inspiring quality of the ocean as their central theme. Greenport Brewery's Carpenter Street location can be reached on the Greenport- Southold Bus Loop.

While not officially part of the "Taste the North Fork" event, [Alex Ferrone Gallery](#) in Cutchogue opens its season with an Artist Reception on Saturday, April 8, 2017 from 6 to 8 p.m. with the photography group show "Spring Into Collecting Exhibit." The exhibition remains on view through May 21, 2017. Click [here](#) for details.

[Go North Fork](#) is still offering premium weekend packages, featuring several options based in Cutchogue, Southold, Greenport, and East Marion. All packages include complimentary breakfast and may include an evening private wine dinner at either Caci in Southold, or Noah's and [American Beech](#) in Greenport.

No matter if your interest lies in exploring the possibilities on the North Fork, taking in the scenery or creating a unique experience with local vineyards, "Taste the North Fork" holds the promise of a fun way to experience the flavors and lifestyle of the North Fork.

BASIC FACTS: "Taste the North Fork" will be held April 7 to 9, 2017, with events and tastings taking place across the North Fork. The event features two free bus shuttles to make visiting venues easy. Click [here](#) for additional information and maps of the bus loops. Click [here](#) to order a weekend package. Click [here](#) for a full itinerary of events happening all weekend long. Visit www.gonorthfork.org for updates and events happening on the North Fork.

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