

## 72 Hours in Marion, Massachusetts: A Sailor's Escape

by BYC Fleet Travel Desk

Set on Buzzards Bay, the postcard-perfect village of Marion, Massachusetts, the kind of coastal New England town that seems frozen in time: hydrangeas bowing over white fences, kids riding bikes to the general store, and sailboats dotting the horizon. For one long weekend in August, this serene town hums with nautical energy during the **Bullseye National Regatta**, where mariners, enthusiasts, and curious spectators converge for competition, camaraderie, and quintessential summer charm.

Here's your tightly curated **72-hour itinerary** — in the style of someone who appreciates fine boats, local seafood, cold rosé, and sunsets that linger just long enough to make you feel like time is pausing for you.

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### Thursday, August 21, 2025 – Arrival and Orientation

#### 12:30 PM – Arrive in Marion

Drive in (2 hours from Boston, 4 hours from NYC), or fly into New Bedford Regional Airport (a quick 20-minute ride away). Drop your bags, breathe in that salt air.

#### 1:30 PM – Walk the Town

Stroll along **Front Street**, Marion's main drag. Pop into **Kate's Simple Eats** for a gourmet sandwich and homemade lemonade, and peruse **Mimis** or **the Healing Arts Villa** - two lovely boutiques with unique clothing and crafts.

#### 2:00 – 3:00 PM – Sail Measurement (location TBD)

If your sails need to be measured and signed, this is a regatta to-do.

#### 3:00 – 5:00 PM – Visiting Boat Launch at Burr Brothers Boats

Located just north of the Beverly Yacht Club (BYC), Burr Brothers Boats is a hub for the weekend's action. Visiting boats will be launched and our Saturday dinner is at this picturesque waterfront location.

#### 4:30 – 6:30 PM – Registration at Beverly Yacht Club (BYC)

Welcome to regatta headquarters. The **Beverly Yacht Club**, established in 1872 located on a historic waterfront property, is Regatta HQ. The Adirondack chairs on the lawn are great for boat-watching — or people-watching with your favorite beverage. The crowd is a heady mix of seasoned Bullseye veterans and fresh-faced challengers. Marion doesn't do hotels. Visitors who requested housing can collect your housing assignment at the duty desk. This would be a good time to purchase additional tickets for Friday and Saturday nights dinner.

### **Dinner: On Your Own**

BYC's dining room offers elegant seaside fare and will be open but reservations are required. Or walk to **Caste Seaside Bar and Bites**, a cozy chef-owned spot offering seasonal seafood with wine pairings. End the night with ice cream from **Sea Dips** and a twilight harbor stroll.

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## **Friday, August 22, 2025 – The Single-Handed Challenge**

### **8:30 AM – Skippers Meeting**

Important brief for the Singlehanded Challenge at BYC. It is an optional race, but it has become a new tradition at Bullseye Nationals. Grab a coffee and pastry before heading out.

### **9:00 AM – Harbor Start**

Time for the competitors to head to their boats and rig and head out to the racecourse. Some spectator boats are available – inquire at the duty desk.

### **10:30 AM – First Gun**

Races begin. Expect up to five short races.

### **1:00 – 3:00 PM – Sail Measurement Continues**

Another window for visitors to explore **Marion Arts Center**, just a short walk down Main Street to see their current show of local of artists,

### **5:00 PM – Annual Meeting of the Bullseye Sailing Association at BYC**

This is the time when all our fleet to touch base and hear the reports from committee chairs and participate in the election of new officers. You don't have to sail to attend but need to be a current member of the bullseye sailing association

### **6:00 – 7:30 PM – Dinner at Marsha Browne's (214 Point Road)**

Join your fellow sailors for dinner at a beautiful historic waterfront home with a spectacular view of the weekends racecourse. Bring your lawn chair for the amazing sunset.

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## **Saturday, August 23, 2025 – The Main Event**

### **8:30 AM – Coffee and Pastries at BYC**

**9:00 AM – Skippers Meeting**

The skippers meeting will be led by Liz Isdale, our guest PRO. This is the time to ask any questions you may have about the sailing instructions or the race course.

**9:20 AM – Group Photo on the BYC Steps**

It's tradition.

**9:30 AM – Harbor Start**

Jump on a launch and get out on your boat.

**10:30 AM – First Gun**

Today's races are the heart of the regatta. Multiple starts, with racing lasting until late afternoon. Some spectator boats are available – check in with the duty desk.

**Lunch – On the Water**

Skippers and crew can get bagged lunches. Spectators should plan on bringing their own lunch.

**5:00 PM – Dockside Dinner at Burr Brothers Boat Yard**

A post-race gathering by the water with **Ella's Authentic Wood Fired Oven** providing gourmet pizza — against a backdrop of boats and bay light and camaraderie.

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**Sunday, August 24, 2025 – Day 2 of nationals****8:30 AM – Coffee and Pastries (Again)**

Trust us — by now, you're addicted to the pastry trays.

**9:00 AM – Harbor Start**

The final stretch. Only a few races left. Everyone's got their game face on.

**10:00 AM – First Gun****1:00 PM – No More Starts**

The last gun. The weekend's races are in the books.

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**After Racing****Haul at Burr Brothers**

Visting yachts head to the boat yard. The experts at Burr Brothers will perform their magic.

**Awards & Farewell at BYC – Chowder and Sandwiches**

Celebrate the winners, laugh over near-misses, and eat your weight in clam chowder.

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## Before You Leave

**Swing by:** Sippican Historical Society, Marion Art Center, Island Wharf, or Washburn Park for one last dose of charm.

**Grab souvenirs:** Local crafts, handmade soaps, and vintage nautical prints from **Mimis**.

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## Essentials

- **Stay:** *Inn on Shipyard Park, Silvershell Bed and Breakfast, Marion Village guest suites, if needed.*
  - **Eat:** Atlantic Bistro, Kate's Simple Eats, Ella's Grill, the Brewfish Bar and Eatery, Uncle Jon's Coffee
  - **Explore:** Tabor Academy waterfront, Buzzards Bay Brewery (slightly inland), sunset at Planting Island Causeway (local tip: bring bug spray)
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