



Welcome Aboard
U.S. COAST GUARD
STATION CASTLE HILL



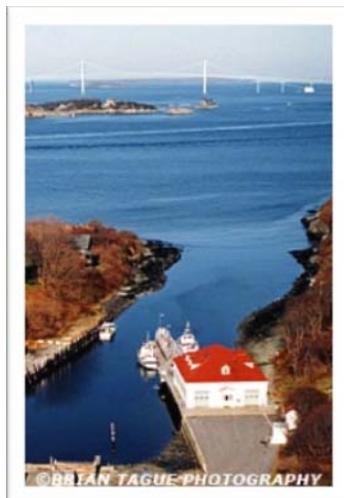
Commanding Officer
75 Ridge RD
Newport, RI 02840

Contact Information
401-846-3676

Welcome aboard U.S. Coast Guard Station Castle Hill. The following is some information about Station Castle Hill that we hope you find useful as you become part of the team.

Commanding Officer:	CWO4 Thomas Guthlein (3 rd Joshua James Ancient Keeper)
Executive Petty Officer:	BMC Scott Blackketter
Engineer Petty Officer:	MKC Jeff Glod
Operations Petty Officer:	BM1 Justin Shackelford
1 st Lieutenant:	BM1 Jason Eggers
Food Service Officer:	FS1 Julie Kahler
Command Chief:	MKC Jeff Glod

Castle Hill is a multi-mission station which conducts such missions as: Search & Rescue, PWCS, Recreational Boating Safety and Fisheries Regulation. The Station has 42 active and 24 reserve men and women.



UNIT INFORMATION

UNIT ASSETS: Station Castle Hill is currently assigned two 45ft RB-Ms and two 25ft RB-S.

TYPICAL SA/SN JOB ASSIGNMENT: All members assigned to the unit are required to qualify as Radio Communications Watch Standers and as Boat Crewman. Most members will work towards qualification as Boarding Team Members and Tactical Boat Crewman. All non-rates will perform the duties as a Mess Cook for a thirty day period.

TYPICAL FA/FN JOB ASSIGNMENT: All members assigned to the unit are required to qualify as Radio Communications Watch Standers and Boat Crewman. All Firemen will be required to qualify as Boat Engineers. Most members will work towards qualification as Boarding Team Members and Tactical Boat Crewman. All non-rates will perform the duties as a Mess Cook for a thirty day period.

DUTY ROTATION FOR ALL NON-RATES: This unit stands a Port and Starboard Duty Section rotations. This rotation consists of two day (48 hours) of duty follow by two days (48 hours) of liberty. Each duty section will have a sliding weekend duty period or liberty period, which means you stand 3 days (72 hours) of duty every other weekend. Members will live aboard the unit in an assigned duty room while on duty. All members assigned to Station Castle Hill are subject to immediate recall to duty during liberty periods when operational missions dictate. Members will have the recall policy fully explained upon arrival at the unit.

REPORTING TO THE UNIT: All reporting members should make sure their unit sponsor is provided their travel itinerary. Your sponsor can greatly assist and make your transfer process a positive experience if you provide them with your expected report date. Members should report during the duty day between the hours of 0800-1530 hours but can report at any time with advanced notice to the unit..

UNIFORM TO REPORT IN: Members should report in a Service Dress Blue Uniform (BRAVOS) between Labor Day and Memorial Day. During the summer months, members should report in the Tropical Blue Uniform (trops) with combination cover. Members should make sure they have an ODU uniform to change into after meeting with the Command.

INFORMATION A NEWLY ARRIVING MEMBER SHOULD KNOW: The nearest local airport is T. F. Green Airport, in Warwick, RI and is approximately 45 minutes drive from the unit. Members can coordinate with their sponsor for the unit to pick them up at the airport and reduce out of pocket expenses. The standard taxi fare from T. F. Green is \$75-100. Members are reminded that a receipt is needed for all travel expenses over \$75.

SPECIAL PROCEDURES FOR REPORTING AFTER HOURS: Reporting during afterhours requires advance notification to ensure the unit is ready to meet check in needs. Upon arrival at the unit the member will report to the Officer of the Day, who will show the member to his assigned temporary berthing area and familiarize the member with the unit and all safety measures.

UNIFORM NORMALLY WORN DURING THE WORKDAY: OPERATIONAL DRESS UNIFORM (ODU) with SUPERBOOTS

RECOMMENDED UNIFORM ITEMS IN ADDITION TO SEABAG ISSUE: EXTRA ODU UNIFORM AND A SET OF COVERALLS

AVERAGE TEMPERATURE SUMMER: 80 F WINTER: 30 F

WHAT TYPE OF CONTINUING EDUCATION IS AVAILABLE IN THE AREA: The local area has several local educational institutes, such as, Community College Of Rhode Island, University Of Rhode Island, Roger Williams University, and Salve Regina University.

RATINGS PRESENT AT UNIT: BM, MK, SK, EM, ME, AND FS.

NAME OF NEAREST CITY AND DISTANCE: MAJOR CITY: PROVIDENCE APPROX 45 MILES, WITH SMALLER CITIES BEING 10-15 MILES

NEAREST MILITARY FACILITY AND DISTANCE: Naval Station Newport and the Naval War College are located within 6 miles of Station Castle Hill.

LOCATION OF NEAREST EXCHANGE AND COMMISARY: Naval Station Newport is located within 6 miles of Station Castle Hill.

AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY

The station's area of responsibility consists of an extensive network of bays, rivers, creeks, harbors and coves which make up Narragansett Bay. Narragansett Bay is a bay and estuary on the north side of Rhode Island Sound. Covering 147 mi² (380 km²), the Bay forms New England's largest estuary, which functions as an expansive natural harbor. While there are over thirty islands in the bay the three largest are Aquidneck Island, Conanicut Island, and Prudence Island.

Bodies of water that are part of Narragansett Bay include the Sakonnet River; Mount Hope Bay; and the southern, tidal part of the Taunton River. The bay opens on Rhode Island Sound and the Atlantic Ocean; Block Island lies less than 20 miles from its opening. Bridges over parts of the bay include two suspension bridges, the Claiborne Pell Newport Bridge and Mount Hope Bridge, the Jamestown-Verrazano Bridge, and the Braga Bridge which forms the Narragansett Bay crossing of United States Interstate 195.

Narragansett Bay has three primary transit routes (East Passage, West Passage, Sakonnet River) that run north and south with access to Providence/Mount Hope Bay and numerous smaller water ways. Each of these transit routes can facilitate commercial traffic and are navigable for several Nautical miles. The East and West Passage can accommodate deep draft vessels.

In addition, to Narragansett Bay, the station has a comprehensive area of responsibility offshore. The southern boundary of the offshore AOR extends from the RI/Mass border south 15 Nautical Miles to position 41 ° 15'N-071 ° 07.2W; thence WNW to position 41 ° 25.45'N-071 ° 27.3, 4.5 Nautical Miles SW of Beaver Tail LT. This offshore area serves as the primary commercial route in and out of Narragansett Bay and the transit routes to and from Buzzards Bay (Cape Cod Canal). Buzzards Bay is adjacent to Vineyard Sound and Nantucket Sound which serves as the primary transit routes for offshore/near shore commercial fishing fleet.

ANNUAL MARINE EVENTS

Newport-Bermuda Race (Bi-annual)
Newport Fourth of July Fireworks
NAVSTA Fireworks
Bristol Fireworks
Save the Bay Swim
Fall River Celebrates
Sail Newport Blind National Championships,
RI National Guard Air Show (750+ spectator vessels)
Newport Folk Festival
Newport Jazz Festival

PORTS, WATERWAYS AND COASTAL SECURITY MISSION

The tiered Port of Providence encompasses Narragansett Bay to the Port of Providence shoreward from the "NB" Sea Buoy. Several critical infrastructure sites require random security patrols by unit boat crews that meet the manning criteria for PWCS missions.

The unit provides security LPG tankers, multiple random/HIV's vessels and numerous cruise ships. The boarding teams are transported by UTB from the station to the CG Boarding Area approximately 9 Nautical Miles SSW of Brenton Pt. All LPG's and cruise ships are escorted in and out of Narragansett Bay. The escorts require two station boats with mounted automatic weapons to meet COMDT policy procedures.

There are approximately 8 to 12 LPG tankers each year that requires escort to the Port of Providence. Transit from the boarding area to the Port of Providence is approximately 30NM and takes in excess of 6-8 hours.

There are approximately 50 cruise ships that visit Newport each year, with the majority occurring after Labor Day through the end of Oct. The unit provides random escorts and security zone protection for these vessels throughout the cruise ship season.

Provide resources for numerous VIP visits (POTUS, FLOTUS; ((present and past)), Military Officials) to the Newport Area. In addition, the station has also provided resources in support of international VIP's/dignitaries.

MEMBERS WITHOUT DEPENDENTS

IS MESSING AVAILABLE: All members are immediately entitled to BAS upon arrival to the unit. Members will receive a monthly allowance for subsistence. All meals are paid for by the member at the end of each month.

QUARTERS AND OR BARRACKS AVAILABLE: Newly reporting members will be assigned temporary berthing on board the unit. This time is allotted to assist the member in finding proper living quarters on the economy. All members must apply for a Housing Release in order to live out on the economy.

AUTO INSURANCE RATES: Members should contact their insurance agency to inquire into insurance rates. Rates vary amongst insurance agencies and are typically written to 6 month contracts.

IS UNACCOMPANIED PERSONNEL LEASED HOUSING AVAILABLE: The Coast Guard Housing Office does maintain a number of leased unfurnished apartments for use for unaccompanied personnel but these units are reserved for afloat units in the local area. All members must apply for a Housing Release in order to live out on the economy and if the Coast Guard Housing Office currently has vacancies you may be mandated to a leased unit.

WHERE WILL A SINGLE NON-RATE MORE THAN LIKELY LIVE: Most members assigned to this unit live out on the economy. All members must apply for a Housing Waiver prior to obtaining outside housing. The unit will assist members with housing by utilizing the Coast Guard Housing Office and the Naval Station Newport Housing Office. Single members may be referred to a civilian managed Realty company that manages former Navy-owned houses. This company will rent a furnished apartment to single members for the cost of the members BAH. Members may elect to find suitable housing on their own.

SHOULD MEMBER SUBMIT HOUSING APPLICATION TO HOUSING OFFICE: No, members should work with the unit to facilitate housing requirements and coordination with local housing offices. Most single members will complete this after reporting to the unit.

WHERE DO MOST PEOPLE BANK: Most people use local banks or continue to utilize the bank account they started their Coast Guard pay upon enlistment. Some examples of local banks are Newport Bank and Fleet Bank.

IS THERE A CREDIT UNION IN THE AREA: Yes, there are several local Credit Unions: People's Credit Union and Navy Federal Credit Union

IS THERE A MALL IN THE AREA: The nearest Mall is approximately a 40 minute drive off of the island. The local malls are located in Warwick, RI, Providence, RI and Swansea, MA. These are all large regional Malls.

MEMBERS WITH DEPENDENTS

COST OF AVERAGE TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT IN THE AREA:
\$ 600-1800.00 WITH AND WITHOUT UTILITIES

BAH RATE FOR AN E2: \$1512.00

E3: \$1512.00

IS LEASED HOUSING AVAILABLE: NO

IS GOVERNMENT OWNED HOUSING AVAILABLE?

No, all members must apply for a Housing Waiver prior to obtaining outside housing. The unit will assist members with housing by utilizing the Coast Guard Housing Office and the Naval Station Newport Housing Office. Members will be referred to a civilian managed Realty company that manages former Navy-owned houses. This company will rent a unfurnished homes to military families. The rent is equal to the members BAH and covers all utilities. These Housing areas are located with 6-8 miles of the unit. Members may elect to find suitable housing on their own.

WHAT IS THE AVERAGE WAIT FOR HOUSING: The waiting list for housing varies dependent upon the time of year. Members should contact the unit who may be able to provide a more accurate waiting time at any given period of time.

WHERE DO MOST DEPENDENTS LIVE: Most members live out in the community on the local economy. There is affordable housing in the local area and the unit will assist newly reporting members with referrals and guidance on the best places to live. Newport is a resort community and the cost of living can be expensive but is manageable. Members need to be cautious when seeking out residences and fully understands the potential for high heat and utility costs that may not be covered in your rent. The Naval Station Newport Housing Office has a large amount of housing information for the local area and can be contacted at 401-841-2232.

RATE OF AUTO INSURANCE FOR TYPICAL YOUNG FAMILY: Members should contact their insurance agency to inquire into insurance rates. Rates vary amongst insurance agencies and are typically written to 6 month contracts.

WHERE DO MOST DEPENDENTS RECEIVE MEDICAL CARE: Naval Clinic Northeast which is located at Naval Station Newport or they register for US Family Health Care a primary care provider under their HMO system.

WHAT LEVEL OF TRICARE IS AVAILABLE: ALL

IS DELTA DENTAL AVAILABLE: YES

CHILD EDUCATION: Dependents attend the school in the community they reside. Members can contact the unit for information on the quality of local schools and recommendations.

IS IT ADVISABLE TO BRING DEPENDENTS ALONG WHEN REPORTING: No, newly reporting members need to coordinate with this unit prior to arriving with your family without a place to live. Temporary lodging is available in the local area but can be scarce at different times of the year and very expensive. Please work with you sponsor or contact the Executive Petty Officer for information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR SPOUSES:

Remember, any transfer is tough on your family, especially to your first unit. Just as important to learning the information about your new job assignment and mission your spouse will want to know information about their new home, schools, employment opportunities and medical care. Most new members reporting from Cape May are not given enough time to get answers to all of their spouse's questions or concerns due to the demands of recruit training. Most times this information can easily be passed from one spouse to another. If your spouse would like the opportunity to speak to another spouse please have her contact the Executive Petty Officer at 401-846-3676, who can arrange for another spouse to contact them.

HAVE A JUNIOR MEMBER DESCRIBE THE AREA, JOB, AND ANYTHING ELSE OF INTEREST TO A NEWLY ARRIVED MEMBER.

The night life is very good. Newport is very busy in the summer. As for the job at the station, is pretty good. We work port & starboard duty rotation and when you get fully qualified it is very fun. In the summer it is non-stop. And in the winter things slow down and that gives us time to catch up on things that we couldn't get to in the summer. All in all here and if you come here with a good attitude you will have a good time.