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Hatteras to Ocracoke Passenger Ferry Service Launches May 20

After delays with the construction of the M/V Ocracoke Express, the NCDOT Ferry Division has acquired the services of the M/V Martha's Vineyard Express for the busy 2019 summer tourist season. The ferry will transport passengers from the Hatteras Ferry Terminal directly to Ocracoke Village, docking in Silver Lake.

The NCDOT is leasing the M/V Martha's Vineyard Express from the New Jersey based ferry company Seastreak Marine. The ferry is a catamaran style craft that has 149 seats, bike racks, and storage for luggage. It will also have free wifi and is pet friendly.

Once arriving in Ocracoke, passengers will have multiple transportation options. The new Ocracoke tram service will be available free of charge. Visitors can also rent transportation from one of the many private sector options that include vehicles, golf carts, and bicycles. Shuttles to the beach are also available.

The Ferry Division will hold a free preview for passengers on May 20th and 21st. The passenger ferry service will then run daily from May 22nd through September 5th. The ferry will make three round trips daily. The Hatteras departures will be at 9:00 am, 1:00 pm, and 5:00 pm. The Ocracoke Departures will be at 11:00 am, 3:00 pm, and 7:00 pm. A one-way trip takes approximately 70 minutes. Tickets for the crossing will cost \$1 each way and there is no extra charge for bicycles.

Passengers who would like to walk on to the passenger ferry should proceed to the Ferry Terminal at least 20 minutes before departure time. When reservations become available at a later date, they can be made online at www.ncferry.org or by calling 1-800-BY-FERRY (1-800-293-3779).



Photo Credit: Teresa Adams