The Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission invites applications for

Airport Director

Martha's Vineyard Airport (MVY)

Edgartown/West Tisbury, Massachusetts

Executive Search Services Provided by ADK Consulting & Executive Search
The Airport

**Martha’s Vineyard Airport (MVY)** is a public airport located in the middle of the island of Martha's Vineyard, several miles from each of the business districts of Vineyard Haven, Oak Bluffs, and Edgartown in Dukes County, Massachusetts. The airport is owned by Dukes County and operated by the Martha’s Vineyard Airport Commission. MVY lies on the border between the towns of West Tisbury and Edgartown. It is busy with general aviation traffic but is also served by one year-around and three seasonal commercial carriers.

MVY and its dedicated team of employees have served the needs of Island residents and seasonal guests since 1959 after the facility was converted from a Naval training base to a public use airport. The terminal building was completed in 1999.

Although the Airport's primary mission is to promote access to the National Airspace System by our general and commercial aviation users, it also supports our local economy and community in a numerous ways. We pride ourselves on providing superior standards of service to our clientele: pilots, tenants, passengers, and members of the public.

**The Martha’s Vineyard Airport Commission** is responsible for the care and operation of the Airport and the one-square-mile of land upon which the Airport is located. The seven-member volunteer commission is appointed to three-year terms by the County Commission and represents a cross section of experience and backgrounds. (continued...)
The Airport (continued)

The Airport Business Park is a large and important component of the Airport’s operation and the Island’s economy. It contains an array of businesses and retail outlets located in this center-of-the-island location.

The Airport has a recently completed Master Plan (2017) which recommends rehabilitation of both runways, expansion of parking aprons, renovation and expansion of the terminal and FBO buildings, and improvements to parking and the entrance road. Rehabilitation of the main runway will be completed in time for the coming season.

The Airport employs twenty full-time and up to ten seasonal employees who operate the airport, the FBO, the airport business park, airport water and waste water services, implement policy, and ensure compliance with state and federal guidelines.

Commercial carriers include Cape Air with year-round service and seasonal service from American, Delta, and Jet Blue airlines. There are also rental car operators, a restaurant in the terminal and a parking lot operator.

Enplanements for the year ending 2018 were 51,000 and the number of operations approached 37,000. The operating budget for 2018 was $5.3 million.
The Community

**Martha’s Vineyard**, a 100-square-mile island, sits in the Atlantic just seven miles south of Cape Cod with six towns and is a longtime East Coast summer colony. It encompasses harbor towns, lighthouses, sandy beaches, rugged hills, sand plains, and active farmland. It is accessible only by boat or air. Vineyard Haven, on the eastern end, is the year-round ferry port and a center of commercial activity.

Getting to and from the Island is relatively easy and convenient. The Vineyard is a short 40-minute flight from Boston’s Logan Airport, and a 45-minute ferry ride from Woods Hole on the mainland. Year-around ferry service for passengers and vehicles operates every hour and fifteen minutes. In season (May to October) ferries from Falmouth, Hyannis, New Bedford, Quonset, Rhode Island, and New York City transport day-trippers and residents alike.

Far less developed than Cape Cod yet more cosmopolitan than the neighboring island of Nantucket, Martha’s Vineyard has a double life. From mid-May through mid-October it swells and quickens into a vibrant, star-studded place with midsummer populations around 115,000. Then it gradually tapers off to a quieter, slower pace which many of the 16,000 year round residents say is the ‘real Vineyard’. Tourists visit all year long, however, including during the winter holidays. The quietest months are January and February. Population trends indicate an increase in year round residents.

The six Island towns, each with their own unique culture are governed by a board of selectmen elected by town voters annually. Each town is also a member of the Martha’s Vineyard Commission, a regional land planning entity with approval authority for developments of regional significance. Together with several local conservation entities the Martha’s Vineyard Commission is charged with maintaining and protecting the culture of the Island and preventing inappropriate development. Islanders support maintaining the unique characteristics of the Vineyard but also having it be inviting and welcoming to visitors as well as to new residents.

Islanders talk about ‘Up-Island’ and ‘Down-Island’ which is a reference to latitude rather than elevation. The three western towns: West Tisbury, Chilmark, and Aquinnah, with about one-quarter of the population are Up-Island and become increasingly rural as you travel west until you reach the beautiful clay cliffs of Gay Head with panoramic water views. The three Down-Island towns: Tisbury (Vineyard Haven), Oak Bluffs, and Edgartown host the regional services such as the ferries, hospital, high school, shopping centers, and the modern and first class YMCA and ice arena.

Regional transit services, car rentals, taxi service, and scooter, moped and bicycle rentals including a robust network of bike trails are available to help people get around.
The Community (continued)

A recently built $42 million state-of-the-art hospital overlooks Vineyard Haven harbor in Oak Bluffs. The Martha’s Vineyard Hospital is part of the Partners Healthcare Network which gives vineyarders access to doctors and treatments from Massachusetts General Hospital, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Brigham & Women’s Hospital, and Boston Children’s Hospital. These are all teaching hospitals associated with Harvard Medical School.

For well over a century the Island has hosted a rich summer population of celebrities including actors, singer/songwriters, authors, journalists, painters, poets, politicians, and, in recent years two presidents (Clinton and Obama). Many of these visitors arrive in private aircraft which contribute to the busy summer season at the Airport.

Once September arrives and the throngs of visitors have largely subsided there’s more time to linger over pastoral and ocean vistas free from cars, bicycles and mopeds. The water is still warm, the pristine sandy beaches are less crowded, and a sail on a clear, blue, warm September afternoon will make you never want to leave.

Food and Dining: Surrounded by the sea, rich in farmlands and open fields, the Island has a history of dairy and sheep farms. “Farm to Table” has become a local philosophy. Many acres of farmland supply an intensely popular farmers’ market that draws crowds to West Tisbury twice per week well into the fall. Locally made cheeses and yogurt are prizewinners. Local bakeries making artisan breads and pastries provide choices to satisfy any palette.

History, Culture & Diversity: Martha’s Vineyard has a rich cultural heritage that includes the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head (Aquinnah). Oak Bluffs has been an African-American resort area for more than 125 years and is home to The Inkwell, an African-American beach made famous in a 1994 movie. A vibrant arts and culture scene means that year round you can enjoy sophisticated experiences such as galleries, live music, theatre, dance and exciting speakers series in a wonderfully casual environment.

The Island brims with activity: The MV Film Festival, Martha’s Vineyard Jazz Festival, art galleries, live music in the summer. But during the winter, though the population is reduced and the winter brings New England storms, the vibrant cultural atmosphere persists. There are three theaters, a play house, six libraries, the modern YMCA and ice arena, and bird counts to name a few.

Education: Schools on the Island are located in five towns. There are four K-8 schools in the Down-Island towns, a nursery school, K-5 school and a K-12 charter school Up-Island (all support school choice), and a regional high school in Oak Bluffs. Most graduates of Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School go on to attend college or university.
The Position

The Airport Director serves under contract to the Martha's Vineyard Airport Commission, which is responsible for the care and operation of the Airport. The seven member volunteer commission is appointed to three-year terms by the County Commission and represents a cross section of experience and backgrounds. The airport is a fully certificated Part 139 airport with a long history of scheduled commercial air service. The Commission, in compliance with its enabling legislation, has retained significant proprietary exclusive rights on the airport property, by which the Commission supports itself.

The Commission selects the Airport Director to operate the airport, the airport business park, manage aviation and non-aviation tenants, airport water and waste water services, implement policy, and ensure compliance with state and federal guidelines.

The Airport Director provides overall management and administration of the Airport and shall be responsible for the safe condition and efficient operation of the airport to include aircraft operations, airfield maintenance, administration of lessee activities, and the administrative actions associated with these general areas of responsibility.

For a full job description, click here.
Position Requirements

Any combination equivalent to experience and training that would provide the required knowledge, skills and abilities would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge, skills and abilities would be:

**Experience:**
Ten years’ experience at a Part 139 airport with progressively responsible management and supervisory duties, which demonstrates administrative ability and leadership qualities. Experience should include management at a similar size facility and oversight of similar programs. FBO management experience highly desirable.

**Education/Training:**
Bachelor’s degree in Business, Aviation Management, Public Administration or a related field. Master’s degree is desirable. Accredited Airport Executive (A.A.E.) certification or International Airport Professional (IAP) designation is a plus.

Salary & Benefits

The starting salary range for this position is $140,000 - 185,000 DOE with an excellent benefit package. Relocation is negotiable.

How to Apply:

To apply online, click here.

Filing Deadline:
Tuesday, March 26, 2019

Project Manager: Rod Dinger, AAE
rod@adkexecutivesearch.com