

Relive a movie memory on the African Queen.

All Aboard the African Queen

Romantics and film buffs can experience the thrill of the "dear old" *African Queen* in the waters of Key Largo, Florida. The boat used in the 1951 eponymous film classic (remember Humphrey Bogart as Captain Charlie Allnut and Katharine Hepburn as Rosie Sayer, the missionary's daughter?) is docked from December through mid-May at the Holiday Inn Harbour. Though the boat did look a wreck by the end of the movie, reports of her demise proved false. In 1982, James Hendricks, a retired lawyer from Louisville, Kentucky, bought the 30-foot steam launch from the British East African Railway Co. for \$65,000. Today, a faded British flag flies from the mast, the steamboat is minus a canopy, and there are a few unpainted edges around the weathered mahogany decks. But tourists love her the way she is.

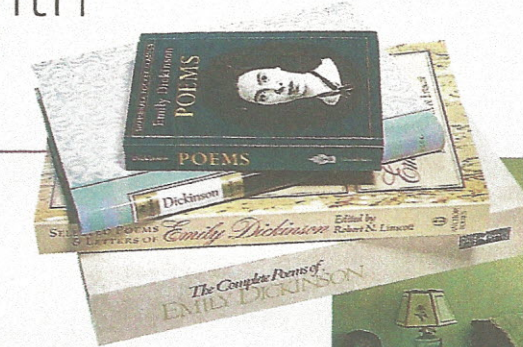
The *Queen* can be admired at no charge. But for \$15, visitors can take a three-mile, one-hour ride through John Pennekamp State Park and the National Marine Sanctuary. At the end, travelers are rewarded with an honorary captain's license and souvenir postcards. During the summer, the *Queen* makes charity and guest appearances up and down the East Coast. For more information, call (305) 451-4655. —Linda Marx

great escapes

Produced by Mary-Ellen Banashek and Susan A. Segrest

At Home With the Belle of Amherst

For a peek into the life of American poet Emily Dickinson, visit Dickinson's Homestead in Amherst, Massachusetts. The house, built in 1813 for Emily's grandparents, is where the poet was born in 1830 and where she lived for all but 15 years of her life. The Homestead, a designated National Historic Landmark, with the neighborhood on the National Register as the Dickinson Historic District, looks largely as it did in the 1850s, after Emily's father renovated it. Rooms open to the public contain many per-



sonal possessions. In Emily's bedroom, for example, one can view her sleigh bed, hatbox, Franklin stove, and a small table and chair. One of her white dresses on display shows how tiny this literary giant really was. Visitors can also tour the restored gardens where the poet found some of her inspiration.

The Homestead is open



Emily Dickinson slept here.

from March 1 to December 13. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$2 for children ages 6 to 11; reservations are required. Call (413) 542-

8161, or write well in advance to The Dickinson Homestead, 280 Main St., Amherst, MA 01002.

—Toni Brett ▸