

In 1874, Boston's State House dome was gilded with 23.5 karat gold leaf.



Smithsonian

STUDENT TRAVEL



HISTORIC BOSTON

- Round-trip transportation
- Air-conditioned motorcoach on tour
- 3 nights hotel accommodations (4 nights on 5-day tour)
- Breakfast and dinner daily
- Full-time Smithsonian Student Travel Tour Director
- Sightseeing tours led by licensed guides
- Visits to special attractions as per itinerary
- Evening activity
- Overnight security
- Educational materials developed by the Smithsonian
- Medical and accident coverage
- Travel ID Badges and student backpacks
- Smithsonian Membership
- Gratuities

Options

- Downtown hotel (private groups only)
- Extended stay
- Lunches
- Opportunity to earn credit for group leaders and students

DAY 1: BOSTON

Welcome to Boston • Travel by airplane or motorcoach to Boston, which was founded in 1630. Upon arrival, you are greeted by your Smithsonian Student Travel Tour Director, who will accompany you throughout your stay.

Walking tour of Boston • Your walking tour introduces you to Boston, the largest city in New England and the region's economic and cultural hub. Pass by Boston Common—originally a cow pasture, it has also served in centuries past to train militia and hang “witches.” See the Bull & Finch Pub that inspired the hit TV series *Cheers*. It stands at the base of Beacon Hill, whose rows of genteel brownstones have been home to the Bostonian elite since the city's founding. Continue along Newbury Street, a popular shopping street lined with sophisticated galleries, restaurants and boutiques. Pass through Copley Square and view the ornate stonework of Trinity Church.

Optional Boston Duck Tour (April–November) • Is it a boat? Is it a truck? It's a DUCK! Opt to see Boston by land and by sea in an authentic renovated amphibious WWII landing vehicle. Your conDUCKtor will narrate and navigate a comprehensive tour of the birthplace of freedom in one of the brightly colored “Duck Boats.” Sights include the Hatch Shell, Longfellow Bridge, Bunker Hill, the Old North Church and more. And just when you think you're nearly done, pass by EF Center Boston and splash into the Charles River for spectacular views of both the Boston and Cambridge skylines.

DAY 2: BOSTON ★ LEXINGTON AND CONCORD

Guided sightseeing of Boston and Cambridge • A local guide introduces you to Boston's Freedom Trail. See the Old Granary Burying Ground, the final resting place of notable Americans like John Hancock, Crispus Attucks and even Mother Goose. In the Italian North End, pass silversmith Paul Revere's house and the Old North Church, where two lanterns were hung to signal the Redcoats' arrival by sea. Walk up to Copp's Hill Burying Ground. Originally a cemetery in the 1660s, this site overlooking the Charles River was used by the British a century later as an emplacement for the cannon that fired on the Americans on Breed's Hill. See the *U.S.S. Constitution*—the world's oldest commissioned warship—which never lost a battle. Not far from here, you will find the Bunker Hill Monument, where colonial rebel William Prescott warned his troops not to fire until they saw the whites of British eyes. Pass by historic Faneuil Hall on your way to see the colonists' Old South Meeting House, where a grievance session about a new tax law sparked the Boston Tea Party. Pass the Old State House, from whose balcony the Declaration of Independence was first read to the citizens of Boston in 1776. Cross the Charles River as you head for Cambridge's Harvard Square, where you'll find a diverse mix of students, professionals and street performers. It was in Harvard Square that George Washington officially

took command of the U.S. Army in 1775. Encircled by brick walls and wrought-iron gates are Harvard Yard and the vine-covered brick buildings of the country's oldest university—Harvard was founded in 1636.

Guided sightseeing of Lexington and Concord • Journey with a local guide to Lexington, where the first shots of the American Revolution rang out on the Battle Green. Note that the statue of Captain John Parker gazes in the direction of Boston, still watching for the Redcoats. Concord was the Redcoats' next stop, but they were confronted by the Minutemen who fired the “shot heard 'round the world” at the Old North Bridge, which you will see on your tour. Visit either the Olde Manse—inhabited at various times by American literary giants Nathaniel Hawthorne and Ralph Waldo Emerson—or Orchard House, the historically preserved childhood home of author Louisa May Alcott and the fictional setting for her novel *Little Women*.

Prudential Skywalk • Take in a bird's-eye view of the city and surrounding environs from the Prudential Skywalk, on the 50th floor of the Prudential Building (known as “the Pru” to Bostonians). The Skywalk provides a 360-degree view of the “Hub”—on a clear day, your view might extend from New Hampshire's White Mountains all the way to parts of Cape Cod. Learn more about Beantown on an informative audio tour. Watch a spectacular aerial video of Boston in the film *Wings Over Boston* or see *Dreams of Freedom*, bringing to life the experiences of immigrants.

Optional theater performance • Get a taste of Boston's performing arts scene with a live theater performance this evening.

DAY 3: BOSTON AND PLYMOUTH

John F. Kennedy Library and Museum • Visit the John F. Kennedy Library, whose exhibits and archives explore the life of one of our nation's most prominent political figures and document the tenure of Camelot—JFK's “fairy-tale” administration. See a reproduction of the desk that stood in the Oval Office during President Kennedy's term, and view poignant and personal photos of his family life. You'll also hear an audiotape in which Rose Kennedy describes her role as matriarch of her highly accomplished clan.

Transfer to Plymouth • Travel south to the town of Plymouth, where the Pilgrims set up their first permanent settlement in 1620.

Plymouth Plantation and Mayflower II (April–November) • History comes alive as you observe costumed Pilgrims split wood, shear sheep and prepare fish stew in a skillful re-creation of a 1627 Pilgrim village. You'll also climb aboard the Mayflower II for a tour of this full-scale reproduction of the Pilgrims' sailing vessel and explore a Wampanoag Homesite to learn about the indigenous people who have lived in southeastern New England for more than 12,000 years.

Massachusetts State House (December-March) • Experience the magnificent setting of the Massachusetts government for over two centuries when you visit the State House. As you walk through marble-floored corridors lined with the portraits of past governors and murals depicting Massachusetts' unique heritage, reflect on how leadership of the state has evolved since colonial times. Relive the early years of government when you tour the hallowed House and Senate chambers where Adams, Hancock, Revere and Winthrop debated and orated.

New England Aquarium (December-March) • Visit the New England Aquarium, home to an enormous four-story glass tank full of a huge variety of marine life, including sharks, turtles, moray eels and tropical fish. Check out the always-entertaining penguin colony and view the many exhibits highlighting diverse aspects of aquatic life. You'll see the aquarium's new hospital, where you might glimpse marine veterinarians ministering to sick or injured aquatic creatures.

Evening activity • Enjoy an evening activity tonight. Experience Boston's ghoulish past on a ghost tour of the city. Or, try your hand at candlepin bowling, a variation of bowling invented in Massachusetts. Candlepin players use smaller balls (without holes) to strike down thinner pins.

DAY 4: SALEM ★ DEPARTURE

Excursion to Salem • Your tour director introduces you to Salem. Today, this town's mild, suburban demeanor doesn't immediately call to mind the superstitious fervor that so enthralled this Puritan village 300 years ago, culminating in the historic 1692 witch trials. Watch an introductory film at the visitor center.

House of Seven Gables • Step into the House of Seven Gables, the mysterious mansion that inspired Nathaniel Hawthorne's famous novel with the same name. Built in 1668, the house is the oldest surviving 17th-century wooden mansion in New England and is considered its own historic district on the National Register of Historic Places. Discover a secret staircase and magnificent seaside gardens as you explore America's past. The home and museum boasts more than 2,000 artifacts and objects, more than 40 framed works, 500 photographs and more than 650 volumes in a rare book library. Delve deeper into Hawthorne's life and work at the home where he was born, which was moved to a location a few feet away from the House of Seven Gables.

Departure • Head home today, or extend your tour.

★5-DAY TOUR★

DAY 4: BOSTON (CONTINUED)

Quincy Market • Experience the sights and sounds of bustling Quincy Market in the historic Faneuil Hall Marketplace, known as America's "Cradle of Liberty." You'll find a variety of shops and restaurants to explore and could get a glimpse of jugglers and magicians who often perform on the cobblestone promenade. The original Faneuil Hall, where fishermen and merchants once sold their wares, offers a view into the past. Here, colonists protested the Sugar Act of 1764 and created the slogan: "No taxation without representation." Imagine the voices of the many famous speakers who have taken the podium here, including George Washington, Samuel Adams, Susan B. Anthony and Bill Clinton.

Optional New England Aquarium and IMAX® show • Opt to visit the New England Aquarium, home to an enormous four-story glass tank full of a huge variety of marine life, including sharks, turtles, moray eels and tropical fish. Check out the always-entertaining penguin colony and view the many exhibits highlighting diverse aspects of aquatic life. You'll see the aquarium's new hospital, where you might glimpse marine veterinarians ministering to sick or injured aquatic creatures. Your visit also includes a ticket to an aquatic-themed Imax show.

Evening activity • Enjoy another evening activity tonight.

DAY 5: BOSTON ★ DEPARTURE

Museum of Science • Hundreds of interactive exhibits and demonstrations at Boston's Museum of Science make learning about space, technology, zoology and the natural world a fascinating experience! You might program a robot, watch a chick hatch or study the motion of the planets.

Photo stop at the Berlin Wall • No trip to Boston would be complete without a stop at EF Center Boston, where a section of the Berlin Wall stands. Originally erected during the 1960s to separate communist-ruled East Germany from the more democratic society of West Germany, the Berlin Wall was torn down when the Communist regime fell in 1989. The graffiti-covered piece now standing in front of EF Center Boston represents EF's ongoing commitment to breaking down barriers of language, culture and geography.

Departure • Your tour director assists with your return home.

Itinerary subject to change. For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions.



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