

# NEW ENGLAND & CANADIAN MARITIMES – 13 DAYS

## Day 1: Arrival day in Boston

Welcome to Boston, the largest city in New England. Boston is awash with things to do and if you're hoping to combine revolutionary heritage with cobbled streets and one of the best park systems in America then there's no better option on the East Coast. Discover Faneuil Hall, located along the waterfront and plenty of opportunities to eat and shop. A welcome meeting will be held at 18:00 hrs tonight where you'll meet your tour leaders and fellow travelling companions.

Accommodation: Hotel included | Meals: Paid locally

## Day 2: Boston to Baxter State Park

After leaving Boston, you travel north through New Hampshire and into the state of Maine, your destination being Baxter State Park - a large wilderness area in Piscataquis County in the northern central part of the state and the northern terminus of the Appalachian Trail. On arrival you check into your hotel for a two night stay.

Accommodation: Hotel included | Meals: Paid locally

## Day 3: Baxter State Park

You have a whole day free to explore the wonders of Baxter State Park; the largest and most remote natural preserve in Eastern USA. It was named after its donor and former Maine governor, Percival P. Baxter and covers an area of 809 square km. At its heart lies Mount Katahdin which has many peaks; at 5,267ft Baxter Peak is the highest point in Maine. There are many optional activities you can enjoy in this rare and wonderful wilderness including hiking, canoeing and scenic flights.

Accommodation: Hotel included | Meals: Paid locally

## Day 4: Fundy National Park

You cross the border into Canada and stop at coastal Fundy National Park in the province of New Brunswick. The main features of this park include the seaside habitats and the highland Acadian forests which you have time to explore as well as the beautiful waterfalls. The Bay of Fundy is known to have the highest range in tide levels of anywhere in the world with an average variance of 47.5ft and an extreme variance of an amazing 53.3ft.

Accommodation: Hotel included | Meals: Paid locally

## Day 5-6: Prince Edward Island

This morning you visit the beautiful Hopewell Rocks where these incredible rock formations make for some amazing photographs. From here you drive past the forests and farmlands of New Brunswick, crossing the Gulf of St Lawrence to Prince Edward Island. This is the smallest of all the Canadian provinces with a total population of 141,000. Often referred to as 'PEI', the province actually consists of one major island called Prince Edward Island as well as a collection of smaller islands. It's also referred to as the 'Birthplace of Confederation' as the Charlottetown Conference held in 1864 was one of a few events that established the framework which led the British colonies to confederation in 1867.

Enjoy free time to relax and choose from various activities at this popular summer retreat such as biking and beach combing. Prince Edward Island was the childhood home of author Lucy Maud Montgomery, whose best-selling novel, 'Anne of Green Gables' (published in 1908), was set here. It's possible to join a tour of Green Gables House, as well as stroll around on the Balsom Woods and Haunted Hollows trails that feature in the book.

Accommodation: Hotel included | Meals: Paid locally

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## Day 7-8: Cape Breton Highlands National Park

From Prince Edward Island it is a short ferry ride to Caribou Provincial Park. You then drive towards the impressive headlands of Cape Breton Highlands National Park in the province of Nova Scotia - Canada's second smallest province. Sheer cliffs rising from the sea at the base of the coastal range help to form the spectacular coastline. Enjoy your included sea kayaking adventure with a careful balance of gentle coves filled with tiny sea creatures and the thrill of paddling on the sea! You can see waterfalls, rugged coastline, Moon Jellyfish, soaring eagles and the unbelievable beauty of this untamed area.

During your time here you can hike beside the many forested lakes and to the top of the various rugged peaks for outstanding views and take to the sea for some fantastic kayaking along the remote and beautiful coastline. Consisting of Acadian and boreal forests, this park is home to various species of wildlife such as Black Bear, coyote and moose. If you're lucky you may see Bald Eagles circling overhead or perched high up in the trees.

Accommodation: Hotel included | Meals: Paid locally

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## Day 9-10: Halifax

Travel into Nova Scotia's provincial capital and largest city, Halifax, where you have two nights. With its large natural harbour, Halifax has historically been one of the busiest ports on the eastern seaboard. You have time to enjoy some of the many parks, museums, landmarks, art galleries and waterfront cafes of Halifax. The Maritime Museum in the Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) tells the story of the city's seafaring origins whilst the fortress on Citadel Hill with its iconic Town Clock overlooks the modern glass towers of the city, providing that link between the past and the present.

Accommodation: Hotel included | Meals: Paid locally

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## Day 11: Lunenburg and Digby, Nova Scotia

This morning you drive to the iconic area of Peggy's Cove to see the lighthouse which is always a prominent feature of the area and makes for some excellent holiday pictures. Next you travel to the World Heritage listed historic town of Lunenburg. A walk down the streets of Lunenburg is sure to remind you of a journey back to a bygone era with its unique architecture exemplified in the colourful wooden structures that date back to colonial times, reflecting the town's position as a seaport and a centre for shipbuilding. You then overnight in Digby, Nova Scotia.

Accommodation: Hotel included | Meals: Paid locally

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## Day 12-13: Acadia National Park

Leaving Canada, you catch an early morning ferry across the Bay of Fundy to St John, the largest city in New Brunswick, and travel back to the USA and the verdant state of Maine. Your destination is Acadia National Park - the only national park in New England. Situated on a series of rocky coastal islands, this reserve was originally named Lafayette National Park in 1919 and took on its present name in 1929. It's a perfect place to enjoy hiking and mountain biking, alternatively there's the chance to partake in an optional deep sea fishing excursion, where you could catch something delicious for dinner.

Accommodation: Hotel included | Meals: Paid locally

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## Day 14: Acadia National Park to Boston

On the way back to Boston, you stop to hike up Mt Battie. Although there are some steep pitches, and a bit of scrambling through rock and ledge areas is required, the views over Camden and the islands around Penobscot Bay make this climb worth the effort. Upon arrival to the top, why not continue to climb the stone tower on Mount Battie's 780' summit for even better 360-degree panoramic views. We recommend you book yourself a few extra nights' accommodation to explore the many attractions of one of America's oldest cities. Founded in 1630 by Puritan colonists, it has been in the forefront of American history and in particular the country's fight for independence. Events like the Boston

Massacre and the Boston Tea Party played pivotal roles in that struggle and have become part of American folklore. Faneuil Hall has been a government centre and a market place for centuries and even today it makes the hive of activity in the city centre. You may wish to stay on for a few days and pay a visit to Harvard University, located in the suburbs of Boston. New England is renowned for its delicious seafood, in particular the thick seafood soup known as New England clam chowder, so before you leave make sure you grab a bowl or two.

This tour ends at our gateway hotel at approximately 17:00 hrs. We can book you post-tour accommodation at our gateway hotel if required. If you are planning to fly tonight, please do not book a flight that departs before 21:00 hrs.

## **Special Departures**

If you want to make sure you're right in the heart of the action at the absolute best time to be there, then why not book one of our 'Special Departures'?



### **Fall Foliage Special Departures**

New England's fall foliage is legendary all across the world. During September and October the leaves turn from green to gold, crimson and orange. It's one of the most beautiful times of year to visit, and perfect for hiking and taking some unique photographs.

Book trips departing throughout September 2017 and 2018.