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New England Fall Foliage

Featuring a Lodge in Vermont, Lake and Ocean Cruises, Scenic Train Ride & Kennebunkport!

Oct 8-14, 2017

Sunday, Oct 8 – Vermont Lodge!

We meet at the Saint Louis Airport today before flying to the patriotic city of Boston. We board our private motorcoach as we travel northward to Vermont, known for its quirky residents and green environmental policies. Our home for the next two nights is the Lake Morey Resort, nestled in the Vermont hills above the Connecticut River. Enjoy the natural beauty and genuine hospitality of this 100 year old resort that combines classic Vermont style with modern day amenities. Upon arrival, enjoy a complimentary welcome reception while you receive an orientation tour of the resort. There will be time to refresh before dinner which will be served in the Main Dining Room that affords breathtaking views of the surroundings. The Executive Chef prides himself in using the freshest local ingredients as he prepares his creative new American cuisine. **(D)**

Monday, Oct 9 – Rock Quarries and Maple Syrup!

After breakfast, we meet our local guide and travel to one of our favorite spots in Vermont - the Morse Syrup Farm. Burr Morse is a fascinating man and a great example of a true Vermonter. See what “sugaring” involves, the different types of syrup, and what makes Vermont Syrup the best in the world. We tour the sugarhouse, sample freshly made maple syrup and visit the largest and most unique maple, crafts and mail order shop in the area. We even have the chance to enjoy a great syrup treat called *Sugar on Snow*.

Our next stop is Montpelier, Vermont’s capital city. Vermont is known for having the country’s smallest State House. Built in 1859, it is one of the nation’s oldest and best preserved state capitols in use. During your guided tour, marvel at the fossil embedded marble floors, the original representative’s desk still being used in the chambers today, a beautiful collection of artwork and original lighting fixtures. Lunch is included at the State House Café, where you just might find yourself dining next to the Governor!

Then we head to the Rock of Ages Granite Quarry, North America’s largest granite company. We tour the quarry, processing plant and amazing visitor center, and learn about their largest project – carving the World War II Memorial in Washington, D.C.

Use the remainder of the afternoon to get acquainted with the resort. Take a complimentary pontoon boat ride, walk along the gentle nature trails or take a dip in the indoor pool. Before dinner, gather for a cooking demo presented by one of the resort’s chefs. Learn how to turn an everyday ingredient into an impressive and unexpected culinary treat. Dinner will be served in the resort’s Main Dining Room following the cooking demo.

(B,L,D)

Tuesday, Oct 10 – Green and White Mountain Leaf Peeping!

Enjoy breakfast before we head East, watching the Green Mountains of Vermont transition into the White Mountains of New Hampshire. Our first stop is Littleton, NH, home of Chutters Candy Store. A visit to Chutters is a trip to Candyland where the air is delicious with the mouth-watering scents of candy and freshly made fudge. The longest counter of its kind anywhere, Chutters’ candy counter runs the entire length of the store. Witness an impressive 112 feet of gleaming glass jars filled with brightly colored candy ranging from yesterday’s favorites and unusual flavors, to the best of today’s most sought after treats.

We then travel into the White Mountain National Forest to Bretton Woods. For the first time on our New England itinerary we dine at this historic hotel and experience the ambiance of all the famous lodgers of the Victorian era. The minute you turn into the driveway, the grand Omni Mount Washington will capture your attention. Featuring Spanish Renaissance architecture, the resort was a two year labor of love for 250 master craftsmen. Conceived by industrialist Joseph Stickney, this National Historic Landmark opened in 1902 and has been attracting generations of families ever since. The most luxurious hotel of its day, the resort catered to

wealthy guests from Boston, New York and Philadelphia. As many as 50 trains made daily stops at Bretton Woods' three railroad stations! We enjoy a guided historic tour, lavish luncheon buffet and everyone will receive a keepsake guidebook.

Squam Lake, the second largest lake located entirely in New Hampshire and the filming location of 1981's *On Golden Pond*, awaits our arrival. We sail on a canopied pontoon boat for a fascinating and picturesque cruise, discovering the natural forces that created these lakes, the unique impact on the local wildlife and the people who have enjoyed them for over 5,000 years.

After our cruise, we continue with a scenic drive along the Kancamagus Highway, known as one of the best fall foliage viewing areas in the country, some say the world. The Kancamagus Highway is designated an American Scenic Byway for its rich history, aesthetic beauty and culture. There will be time to stop for photo ops along the way. Make sure your camera is charged!

Our hotel is located at the base of the White Mountains. Relax a bit before heading out for dinner served at a restaurant located near the hotel. **(B,L,D)**

Wednesday, Oct 11 – Castle in the Clouds and Scenic Railroads

After breakfast in the hotel, visit Castle in the Clouds. Thomas Plant, who made his fortune in the shoe manufacturing industry, built this exquisite New Hampshire country estate in 1913. This mountaintop property offers breathtaking views of Lake Winnepesaukee and 1,000 feet of waterfalls and walking trails.

Next on our agenda is Moulton Farm. Enjoy lunch on your own at the onsite café and then shop for freshly picked apples, baked goods and locally made gifts. You simply must try their amazing cider donuts! Your visit also includes a chance to get your hands dirty. Gather for a craft class and make a seasonal decoration to take home. There will be a competition so bring your best HGTV ideas to the table!

Head back to Conway and board the Conway Scenic Railroad for a ride through the spectacular fall foliage. Travel on historic rail routes aboard vintage passenger cars to the Town of Bartlett. Here you have the opportunity to watch the engine spin on the turn table for the return trip to Conway.

Return to the hotel for time to relax and refresh. Dinner is served at a local brewpub where you will enjoy a sampling of their own brews, followed by creative pub fare with flair! **(B, D)**

Thursday, Oct 12 – Seaside Villages in New Hampshire and Maine

After breakfast we head towards the coast, visiting the city of Portsmouth. New Hampshire has the smallest coastline of the eastern states, but the importance of Portsmouth cannot be underestimated. The Strawberry Banke Museum is an incredible slice of living history, preserving the lifestyles and traditions of four centuries of New Englanders. You will see buildings spanning from the late 1600s to the mid-1950s, when it rose to prominence as the Strategic Air Command's Pease Air Force Base. Enjoy lunch on your own in this charming seaside village before we head to Cape Neddick Nubble Lighthouse. The Voyager II spacecraft, which carries photographs of Earth's most prominent man-made structures and natural features, should it fall into the hands of intelligent extraterrestrials, includes a photo of Nubble Lighthouse with images of the Great Wall of China and the Taj Mahal. We promise this is a site you do not want to miss!

There will be time to disembark the coach, walk around the lighthouse, take photos, visit the gift shop and breathe in the fresh salt air.

We then depart New Hampshire and travel north to Freeport, home of Maine's most famous retailer, L.L. Bean. Enjoy time to explore the abundance of outlet shops as well as L.L. Bean.

Arrive late afternoon at your ocean side resort, The Anchorage Inn and Resort, York Beach, Maine. Enjoy time to stroll about this magnificent property, enjoy the two indoor pools, or simply sit back, relax and count the waves as they crash into the rocky coastline.

Dinner is served at a locals' favorite restaurant known for its amazing selection of fresh fish, cooked just the way you like it! **(B, D)**

Friday, Oct 13 – Kennebunkport sightseeing, Light House Cruise, and Lobster Bake

After breakfast at our seaside resort, we head further north toward Portland, stopping along the way in Kennebunkport. During our trolley tour, we'll learn about the town, its 300 year history, ranging from Native Americans and early settlers through the shipbuilding era, and learn about the most famous resident, former President George H. W. Bush. After the tour, enjoy time on Dock Square. Visit the charming shops and boutiques and have lunch at your leisure before heading into Portland's Old Port District.

Once in Portland, we embark on a 90-minute narrated, scenic Lighthouse Lovers Cruise, sailing through the busy harbor and innermost islands to see lighthouses, forts, lobster boats, seals and seabirds. Four lighthouses may be seen up close, with as many as seven in view during the cruise.

Then we take a break at Portland's Shipyard Brewery for a tour and a taste of one of Maine's most popular micro brews before we head back to the resort to relax and enjoy the beautiful property and its amenities. Bring your cameras and capture memories of your vacation.

Our farewell dinner is a New England tradition – a Lobster Bake! Served at one of the most popular restaurants in Maine, tie on your lobster bib and get ready to dig into clam chowdah’, steamers and whole steamed lobstah’. Don’t worry, as there are selections for landlubbers too! **(B, D)**

Saturday, Oct 14 – Farewell to New England

After breakfast at the resort, it’s time board the coach and depart Maine, traveling south to Boston’s Logan Airport for your flight home. Thank you for traveling with us! **(B)**

Tour Price includes:

- Round trip airfare on Southwest Airlines where your bags fly free!
- Deluxe Motor Coach transportation
- Great hotels, including a lodge in Vermont and a seaside resort in Maine!
- Visit Chutters Candy Store, Morse Syrup Farm and Rock of Ages Quarry
- Tour *Castle in the Clouds*, a massive home built in 1913
- City tours of Portland, Kennebunkport and Portsmouth
- Cruises on Lake Squam and the coast of Maine to see the lighthouses!
- Make a wonderful treat with Maple Syrup
- Two Professional Tour Directors that start with you from St. Louis
- Admission to all attractions as listed
- 14 Meals: 6 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches and 6 Dinners, including a Lobster Bake!
- Baggage Handling of one suitcase per person
- All gratuities to Tour Guides, Drivers, Servers at Included Meals

Please note: Any notice of fuel surcharges imposed by carriers and/or attractions will be disclosed at least 30 days prior to tour departure.

Tour Price:

\$2,576 pp double occ \$3,197 single occ \$2,358 pp triple occ \$2,274 quad occ

Save 3% on this tour! See the incredible colors of New England for \$2,499 pp double occ when you pay by check or money order!

\$2,499 pp double occ \$3,101 single occ \$2,288 pp triple occ \$1,206 quad occ

Make your reservation with a \$100 deposit per person. Once this tour fills, a wait list will be formed. Please send a check or call with a credit card along with your legal name, address, phone number, and all roommates’ names if you are sharing a room and any dietary or walking restrictions.

We encourage all travelers to purchase travel protection with initial deposit. Include Travel Protection payment with deposit, if purchasing. Please remember that certain benefits are Time sensitive. Plans help provide coverage for unexpected circumstances and help protect your trip and your investment.

Balance on base tour price is due July 31, 2017, and no refunds will be given after that time. If you purchase Travel Protection and need to cancel after July 31, 2017, you must file a claim. If you attempt to book after this date, there may be a substantial increase in price or you may have to arrive on a separate flight.