

# Fall Colors, Scenic Trains & Martha's Vineyard



Be dazzled by New England's brilliant autumn colors on this spectacular seasonal tour through Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and Connecticut. Experience the vibrant fall foliage on breathtaking rail excursions aboard some of New England's most scenic trains including the *Conway Scenic Railroad* and *Cape Cod Central Railroad* and delightful lake cruises.



Martha"s Vineyard

# Your tour includes:

- Hotel accommodations for 9 nights
- 12 meals including a lobster dinner
- Rail excursions aboard the Conway Scenic Railroad and Cape Cod Central Railroad
- Amtrak's Vermonter from White River Junction to Brattleboro
- Boston city tour including the Freedom Trail
- Farnsworth Museum of Art
- Lake Winnipesaukee Cruise
- Martha's Vineyard tour including the quaint village of Edgartown
- Gillette Castle
- Transportation by deluxe motorcoach
- Services of a professional tour manager
- Baggage handling

# **Departure Date and Rates:**

September 29 - October 8, 2016

This is a new departure date open to IPA members and non-members.

\$2,299 Twin accommodations \$3,298 Single accommodations

Prices are per person, land only.

Boston pre- and post-night hotel accommodations are available. Please inquire at time of reservation.

Travel insurance is recommended.

For more information contact Patti McDaniel at pattimcdaniel2000@att.net

To make a reservation, complete the reservation form and email to: groupagent@vacationsbyrail.com



#### Day 1 - Boston

Arrive in Boston today, check in to your hotel and take the remainder of the day to explore the city on your own. You may wish to take an Old Town Trolley tour to get acquainted with the city and see all of its most impressive sights. Meet your tour manager in the lobby of the hotel at 6:00 pm for a brief meeting and dining suggestions. Overnight DoubleTree Boston Downtown, Boston, MA.

# Day 2 - Boston Sightseeing / Portland, Maine

This morning learn about Boston's rich history on a guided city tour including the Freedom Trail. Your sightseeing ends at Quincy Market, where there is time for lunch on your own. This afternoon board your motorcoach for the journey north to Portland, Maine. Along the way we view the Portland Headlight Lighthouse. This evening is at leisure to explore the Portland Wharf district. Overnight Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland, ME. (B)

#### Day 3 - Maine

Embark on a full day of sightseeing and admire the fall coastal scenery as you travel past quaint seaside villages on the journey from Portland to Rockland. Your touring continues with a visit to the Farnsworth Museum of Art. Tonight, enjoy a traditional lobster dinner on Bailey's Island Overnight Holiday Inn by the Bay, Portland, ME . (D)

#### Day 4 - Conway Scenic Railroad

Today we drive to North Conway where we will board the *Conway Scenic Railroad* for a breathtaking journey through New Hampshire's fall foliage including lunch onboard the train. Keep an eye out for spectacular views of Crawford Notch and Mount Washington. There will also be time to explore the train depot, now a National Historic Landmark, museum and roundhouse. Later, board the motorcoach for the scenic drive to Franconia Notch State Park, located in the heart of the White Mountains via the Kancamagus Scenic Byway, known as one of the best fall foliage viewing areas in America. Overnight TownePlace Suites Marriott, Gilford, NH. (L)

## Day 5 - Lake Winnipesaukee Cruise

We travel to Weirs Beach today where we will board the MS Mount Washington for a cruise on Lake Winnipesaukee, which offers a new vantage point from which to see the brilliant red and gold fall colors. Step off the MS Mount Washington into the charming New England Village of Wolfeboro, New Hampshire for lunch on your own, and to browse the many quaint shops. We re-board the MS Mount Washington to return to Weirs Beach and Gilford, New Hampshire, with the remainder of the day at your leisure. Overnight TownePlace Suites Marriott, Gilford, NH. (B)

# Day 6 - Vermonter to Brattleboro / Old Sturbridge Village Late this morning we board Amtrak's Vermonter for the 1 ½-hour trip to Brattleboro, Vermont. Upon arrival we'll transfer by coach to Old Sturbridge Village. New England's largest live

by coach to Old Sturbridge Village, New England's largest living museum that focuses on life in rural New England from the 1790's to 1830's. Enjoy a typical New England dinner from years past. Overnight Comfort Inn & Suites Colonial, Southbridge, MA. (B, D)



Route Map

#### Day 7 - Gillette Castle

This morning's scenic drive takes us into Connecticut for a visit to Gillette Castle. Once a private residence and now part of Gillette Castle State Park, the estate has been on the National Register of Historic Places since 1986. Its grounds consist of the estate, a museum, and hiking trails on more than 180 acres sitting on a chain of hills overlooking the Connecticut River. Afterwards we enjoy a lunch at the Historic Griswold Inn, one of the oldest continually operating inns in the country and one of Essex's historic landmarks. After lunch, we have time to browse this quaint village. Overnight Hampton Inn, Mystic, CT. (B, L)

#### Day 8 - Mystic Seaport / Cape Cod Central Railroad

Our day begins with a visit to Mystic Seaport, a maritime museum founded in 1929 featuring tall ships, a recreation of a 19th-century coastal village and a preservation shipyard. Continue to Hyannis, where you will embark on an evening rail excursion through cranberry bogs and lush marshes aboard the *Cape Cod Central Railroad*'s Elegant Dinner Train. Enjoy a 5-course gourmet meal as the train crosses the famous Cape Cod Canal railroad bridge into the historic village of Buzzard's Bay. Overnight Holiday Inn, Hyannis, MA. (B, D)

#### Day 9 - Martha's Vineyard

Today's excursion takes us aboard the M/V Island Home, you passenger and vehicle ferry which crosses from the mainland of Cape Cod to the Island retreat community of Martha's Vineyard where we will explore six island towns. Highlights of our visit include the Gay Head cliffs in scenic Aquinnah and a beautiful stop on your own and sightseeing in historic Edgartown. Return by ferry to Woods Hole, Massachusetts and on to Hyannis. Overnight Holiday Inn, Hyannis, MA. (B)

# Day 10 - Return to Boston

Your fall foliage tour comes to a close this morning when you transfer to Boston's South Station or Logan Airport for your travel home. Transfers will accommodate flights that depart after 1:00 pm and trains that leave South Station after 1:30 pm. (B)

