

COLONIAL TOUR

Best Time to Visit: Year-round!



Image Courtesy: The Music Hall

Day 1

- Start at the [American Independence Museum \(1\)](#) in Exeter to see an original draft of the Declaration of Independence.
- Head to Portsmouth for a guided tour through four centuries at [Strawbery Banke \(2\)](#).
- Have the group split off to enjoy dinner on their own in this popular culinary destination. Meet up after dinner for a show at the [Music Hall Historic Theatre \(3\)](#). There are plenty of lodging options in or near downtown Portsmouth.

Day 2

- Wake up to a guided walking tour with the [Portsmouth Visitor Center \(4\)](#) in downtown Portsmouth to learn about its maritime history.
- End the tour at the [Discover Portsmouth Center \(5\)](#).
- Take a quick drive to [Fort Constitution \(6\)](#) in New Castle, the subject of Paul Revere's first ride.
- Drive through Dover, the location of a violent Native American attack in the late 1600's. Stop at the [Woodman's Museum \(7\)](#) to learn more about it.
- There are several group friendly lodging properties in Concord as well as some excellent dining options including the Common Man on Main Street or Unos, right off the highway.



Day 3

- Enjoy shopping in downtown Concord.
- Tour the [State House \(8\)](#), which is the only United States State House still using its original chambers.
- Visit the [Museum of New Hampshire History \(9\)](#).



Day 4

- Go to [Canterbury Shaker Village \(10\)](#) and arrange to have a guest juried craftsmen join the group for a workshop or demonstration.

Please contact the New Hampshire Division of Travel and Tourism Development for assistance finding group-friendly overnight and meal options.



Image Courtesy: Canterbury Shaker Village

LIVE FREE and
imagine

COLONIAL TOUR

Itinerary Map



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American Independence Museum, Exeter

Contact: Julie Hall Williams, info@independencemuseum.org
603-772-2622 • independencemuseum.org

Featuring stories of the brave men and women who overcame their uncertainties about freedom from Great Britain to establish our country. Among the museum's permanent collection of documents chronicling the nation's founding are an original Dunlap Broadside of the Declaration of Independence and early drafts of the U.S. Constitution.

Strawbery Banke, Portsmouth

Contact: Jonathan Brown, jbrown@strawberybanke.org
603-433-1110 • strawberybanke.org

Visitors to Strawbery Banke have the opportunity to experience and imagine how people lived and worked in this typical American neighborhood throughout four centuries of history. Through its restored houses, featured exhibits, historic landscapes and gardens, and interpretive programs, Strawbery Banke tells the stories of the many generations who settled in the Portsmouth, New Hampshire, community from the late 17th to the mid-20th century.

Music Hall Historic Theatre, Portsmouth

Contact: Kathleen Soldati, ksoldati@themusichall.org
603-436-9900 • themusichall.org

Take visitors behind the scenes and through the history of the celebrated 1878 theater, which has been designated 'An American Treasure.' The Music Hall, its architects, and designers have been awarded an "Excellence in Architecture" award by the American Institute of Architects.

Greater Portsmouth Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center, Portsmouth

Contact: Joan Chawziuk, jchawziuk@portsmouthchamber.org
603-610-5522 • portsmouthchamber.org

Portsmouth Harbour Trail Tours: Portsmouth boasts 400 years of history, culture, architecture, and beauty. Join a guided walking tour or book a step-on guide to learn about this growing destination from a local expert.

Discover Portsmouth Center, Portsmouth

Contact: Dominique Salvacion, Dominique@portsmouthhistory.org
603-436-8433 • portsmouthhistory.org

Immerse yourself in the rich 400 year history of Portsmouth. Visit historic houses, museums, and view exhibits, which features a large collection of maritime paintings and artifacts assembled by a Portsmouth resident. Stop by the gift shop for historic Portsmouth souvenirs and view a documentary highlighting the history of Portsmouth.

Fort Constitution Historic Site, New Castle

Contact: nhparks@dred.state.nh.us • 603-271-3556
nhstateparks.org/explore/state-parks/fort-constitution-state-historic-site.aspx

Visit Fort Constitution (formally Fort William and Mary) in New Castle (just a few minutes drive from downtown Portsmouth) and visit the Portsmouth Harbor Lighthouse. Built in the 1700s as Fort William and Mary, Fort Constitution was the subject of Paul Revere's first ride and, some say, the first overt act of the Revolutionary War.

Woodman Museum, Dover

Contact: Thom Hindle, contact@woodmanmuseum.org
603-742-1038 • woodmanmuseum.org

Established in 1916, the Woodman Museum is a traditional early 20th century museum featuring natural and local history and art. The museum consists of 4 historic buildings, one of which is an original 1675 Garrison house, featuring period artifacts and memorabilia, art, furniture, a Civil War exhibit, Native American artifacts and more.

New Hampshire State House Tour, Concord

Contact: Virginia Drew, virginia.drew@leg.state.nh.us
603-271-2154 • gencourt.state.nh.us

On January 5, 1776, six months before the people of the United States claimed self-government, the people of New Hampshire gave this country its first state constitution. The next day, the House of Representatives was created.

Museum of New Hampshire History, Concord

Contact: Joan Desmarais, jdesmarais@nhhistory.org
603-228-6688 • nhhistory.org

Retail store and exhibitions on the state's heritage and traditions as well as a variety of programs for children and adults.

Canterbury Shaker Village, Canterbury

Contact: Maisie Keith Daly, mkdaly@shakers.org
603-783-9077 ext. 284 • shakers.org

Living museum founded to preserve the 200 year history of the Canterbury Shakers. It includes 25 original Shaker buildings, over 600 acres of wooded land and trails, a restaurant, crafts, classes, and events. Weekend events occur throughout the year, including antique shows and holiday events.

League of New Hampshire Craftsmen, Statewide

Contact: Susie Lowe-Stockwell, info@nhcrafts.org
603-224-3375 • nhcrafts.org

We have talented wood-workers, potters, and craftsmen that are among the best in the country in which visitors can experience through the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen. Many of their members invite groups to visit them for demonstrations or workshops. This organization also runs the oldest crafts fair in the United States called the Annual League of New Hampshire Craftsmen Fair.