



StoryTeller Ambassador Kit

The Top Twenty Frequently Asked Questions By Visitors Coming to the North of Boston Region

1. What type of walking tours are available?

- Gallery Walk in Newburyport – third Saturday each month
- Heritage Trail in Salem
- Haunted Footsteps Walking Tour in Salem
- Terror Trail Tour with Derby Square Tours in Salem
- Vampire & Ghost Hunt Tour with Spellbound Tour in Salem
- Gloucester Maritime Trail – four separate scenic self-guided trails
- Historic Marblehead walking tour - Marblehead
- River Walk Along the Powwow River in Amesbury
- Rail Trail, Dock Lane Marsh and Barnes Island Trail - walking, biking, bird watching trails in Salisbury
- Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary – 10 miles of walking trails, Ipswich
- Derby Square Tours, Jim McAllister historian, Salem
- **New!** Robert Frost Walking Tour in Lawrence

2. What is type of land/trolley tours are available?

- New in 2003! Cape Ann Doubledecker Bus Tours – leaving from Dock Square
- Salem Trolley, Salem
- Moby Duck land/water tour - Gloucester

3. Are any tours offered in languages other than English?

- Salem Witch Museum offers translated presentations for individuals utilizing a Sony Walkman in Russian, French, German, Japanese, Spanish and Italian. For large groups (80 pax) the presentation can be offered in the preferred language without the use of Sony Walkman. For our hearing impaired visitors, written scripts are available in all languages as well as Chinese.
- House of Seven Gables, Salem offers written tour translations in Spanish, French, Italian, German, Russian, Japanese and Braille.

4. What options do I have for water activities?

- Whale Watching! -- due to our location to the whale feeding grounds – whale watching is better here (boats from Boston actually travel all the way up here on their tours!) sightings are guaranteed and the season extends from April – October. Some companies that offer this service include **in Gloucester**: Yankee Fleet; Cape Ann Whale Watch; 7 Seas Whale Watch; Capt. Bill's Whale Watch. **In Salem** – Salem Whale Watch and **in Newburyport** – Newburyport Whale Watch (refer to pages 29 & 73 in the North of Boston Visitors Guide)
- Ride on a Schooner/Tall Ship aboard the Thomas E. Lannon Schooner or the “new in 2003” Schooner Fame in Salem.
- Enjoy a harbor cruise with Agawam Boat Charters or Essex River Cruises in Essex; Defiance Sailing Charters in Rowley
- Go deep sea fishing with Yankee Deep Sea Fishing or Capt. Bills Whale Watch in Gloucester or Agawam Boat Charters in Essex.
- Beaches up and down the North of Boston coastline including the only seaside amusement park in Massachusetts – Salisbury Beach, Good Harbor in Gloucester, Rockport Beach, Lynch Park in Beverly, Crane's Beach in Ipswich

5. Is there anything offered year round that we can do for free?

- Visit Chestnut Street in Salem and read all the house plaques to learn about the people who built and lived in the exquisite Federalist mansions. Be sure to see the Stephen Phillips Trust House which offers free admission.
- Lawrence Heritage State Park, Jackson Street, Lawrence
- The Salem Witch Museum offers free admittance to teachers with a Teacher Association Card and residents year-round with proof of residency.
- The House of Seven Gables, Salem – free to children under 5
- JOJ Frost Folk Art Gallery, Marblehead
- Essex Shipbuilding Museum, Essex
- Cape Ann Historical Museum, Gloucester – free to members and children under 6
- Visit the beautiful gardens in the region including Lynch Park, Beverly (former site of the **summer home of President Taft**) and Long Hill Essex Street, Beverly the **summer home of noted author and editor of The *Atlantic Monthly***, Ellery Sedgwick, and his first wife, Mabel Cabot Sedgwick, an accomplished horticulturist, gardener, and author of *The Garden Month by Month*.
- Walking tour of historic old homes in Ipswich

6. Are there any historic gardens that I shouldn't miss when visiting?

- The Gardens at Glen Magna Farms Danvers – recently featured on House and Garden Television as one Americas great gardens. It typifies the golden age of American gardens when eclecticism and historicism dominated landscape as well as architecture
- Lynch Park, Beverly (former site of the **summer home of President Taft**)
- Long Hill Essex Street, Beverly the **summer home of noted author and editor of The *Atlantic Monthly***, Ellery Sedgwick, and his first wife, Mabel Cabot Sedgwick, an accomplished horticulturist, gardener, and author of *The Garden Month by Month*.

- Four Centuries of Gardens at the House of Seven Gables in Salem.
- Learn about the history of Castle Hill from its beginnings as a saltwater farm to its acquisition by Chicago plumbing magnate Richard T. Crane, Jr. and rebirth as a lavish summer residence. Ipswich
- The Lee Mansion Gardens at The Jeremiah Lee Mansion in Marblehead

7. Where can I see a lighthouse?

- **Derby Wharf Light Range Salem** – Derby Wharf at Salem Maritime, NHS
- **Annisquam Lighthouse**, near Gloucester Accessibility: There is limited, short-term parking at the lighthouse at the end of Lighthouse Road. Annisquam Light may also be viewed from Wingersheek Beach in Gloucester.
- **Eastern Point Lighthouse**, Gloucester Accessibility: The station is closed to the public, but there is a parking lot nearby and the breakwater next to the lighthouse is open all year, with good views of the lighthouse. There are "private road" signs posted in the Eastern Point neighborhood, but visitors are permitted to drive to the lighthouse.
- **Baker's Island Light, Salem** Accessibility: The lighthouse can be seen distantly from Salem Willows Park, Winter Island in Salem, Misery Island and from Chandler Hovey Park on Marblehead Neck. It can also be seen from Manchester-by-the-Sea's Boardman Ave. / Harbor Street loop. The island is closed to the general public; the lighthouse is best seen by boat.
- **Plum Island Light, Newburyport** Accessibility: The grounds are open all year; the lighthouse is sometimes open for open houses.
- **Hospital Point Light, Beverly** Accessibility: The station is closed to the public. The lighthouse can be seen fairly well from the nearby road (Bayview Ave.). It can be seen distantly from the pier at Salem Willows Park in Salem, but is best seen by boat. The Coast Guard opens the lighthouse for tours on a Sunday each August as part of [Beverly Homecoming Week](#).
- **Marblehead Light** Accessibility: The lighthouse is located in Chandler Hovey Park on Marblehead Neck. The grounds are open all year; there is a small parking lot at the park. The lighthouse is open by special arrangement only.

8. I haven't booked any accommodations – can you recommend a reservation service to call?

- Accommodation numbers and locations can be found in the North of Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau's visitor guide 2003-2004 on pages 55 – 67 and pages 74 – 75.
- Hotel Reservations Network, 305-892-6880
- Visit the Maria Miles Visitor Center on Route 95S – they keep in up to date list of hotel vacancies available in the area (perfect for last minute)

9. Where can I go camping?

- Winter Island Maritime Park – 57 seasonal R/V and tent sites, hot showers, beach, boat launch, pier, picnic area. Features Fort Pickering and lighthouse. 978-745-9430
- Cape Ann Camp Site, Gloucester

10. What annual events are there in Spring? Summer? Fall? Winter?

- Refer to pages 14-16 in the North of Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau's visitor guide

11. Are there any places to pick apples? Pumpkins? Blueberries?

- Brooksby Farm in Peabody – a 250 acre working apple orchard and conservation area, dating back to 1636.
- Cider Hill Farms in Amesbury – pick your own strawberries in June; raspberries, blueberries, apricots and peaches in July; nectarines, apples and plums in August; pumpkins and apples September & October.
- Connors Farm in Danvers – hayrides, scavenger hunts, picnics, Pick your own Strawberries: mid-June to mid-July; Peas: mid-June to mid-July Peaches: mid-July to mid-August Blueberries: mid-July to mid-August Raspberries: early July to frost Apples: Labor Day to Late October Pumpkins: October
- Russell's Orchard – Ipswich – Raspberries, Blueberries, Blackberries in July; Peach Festival of August 16-17; Cider Pressing September and October; Wine Festival November 8 & 9, 2003

12. I've heard that Essex County is a National Heritage Area – what does that mean? The North of Boston region is home to thousand of historical sites, miles of intact landscapes and coastal vistas, and lifetimes of traditions and rich experiences that chronicle the history of not only Essex County but also the country as a whole. So significant are these resources in our country's historical and cultural fabric, in **1996 the US Congress designated the county, Essex National Heritage Area.**

13. Could you recommend a terrific place to eat for Breakfast? Lunch? Dinner?

Breakfast served starting at 7AM at the **Century House Restaurant** on Route 114, Peabody. Century House stands on historic ground. The original house, the nucleus of the present Century House, formerly stood on the property of the King Hooper Mansion, later known as the Collins House and "The Linden's". Today, the restaurant features breakfast, lunch and dinner 7 days a week.

Great Steak!

Outback Steakhouse in Peabody – open for dinner only

Victoria Station, Salem - Although the unique décor is a nice reason to visit, it is the food that provides the reason to come and return. Slow Roasted Prime Rib is what made Victoria Station famous and it is served in three sizes: 11 oz., 21 oz., 30 oz. Each portion is carved to order and served au-jus with traditional creamy horseradish sauce along with choice of baked potato, French fries or rice pilaf. Beautiful views of Salem Harbor. Located on historic Pickering Wharf. Serving lunch and dinner.

Fresh and Delicious Seafood for lunch or dinner:

Finz Seafood Restaurant - Salem

Finz Seafood Restaurant offers waterfront dining, indoors and out, with inspired and innovative menus featuring the freshest in raw bar, seafood, meat and vegetarian options

Cameron's Restaurant - Gloucester

Located downtown in picturesque Gloucester, within walking distance to shops, museums, galleries, and the historic fishing port. Known for quality food at affordable prices. Diverse menu -- FRESH seafood from the boats, steaks, Italian sautéed specialties

Woodman's of Essex - Essex

Established in 1914 by Chubby Woodman "**Inventor of the Fried Clam**". Awarded "Best Local Food in Massachusetts" by Yankee Magazine and "Best Seafood in America" by Forbes FYI Magazine. Also, "Boston Classic Award 1999" given by Boston Magazine. Other Best Awards: Fried Clams, Chowder, Onion Rings, and Summer Spot. Family restaurant. "Eat in the Rough." Full bar, Raw Bar. Open Year Round.

Brackett's Ocean View Restaurant - Rockport

Casual oceanfront dining. Serving sandwiches, salads and New England favorites since 1990. Open April-October. Open 5 Days Serving Lunch & Dinner Wednesday-Sunday. Prime Rib offered Friday & Saturday Evening Local Codfish Cheeks available every day!!!

Italian: Calitri's Restaurant – Danvers – traditional Italian cuisine. They make their own fresh pasta and still use special family recipe for pizza and spagetti sauce. Serving lunch and dinner.

***refer to page 51 and 74 in the North of Boston Convention & Visitors Bureau's 2003-2004 visitor guide for additional details.

14. Is there a special souvenir I should be sure to pick up for my friends/family back home?

- Candy from the USA's first candy shop Ye Olde Pepper Company in Salem
- Ship home the ultimate souvenir – lobsters! Your own New England Clambake can be shipped by Woodmans of Essex and Ipswich Shellfish Company.
- A Cape Pond Ice "Coolest Guys Around" hat or T-shirt – as seen in the movie the Perfect Storm and worn by actor John Hawkes, aka, "Bugsy" Moran in the movie.

15. Are there any "Pet Friendly" accommodations in the region?

- **Salem** - Hawthorne Hotel
\$7.50 per day
Cats or dogs, no specific weight limit but does not allow St. Bernards.
- **Andover** -Wyndham Andover
Allows small dogs and cats.
Up to 20 pounds. Cannot leave alone in room. \$50 deposit

- **Peabody- Main Stay Suites**
Under 50 pounds. 150.00 refundable deposit, fee- 10.00 per night up to seven nights, 5.00 per night each additional night.
- **Danvers- Residence Inn**
100.00 nonrefundable fee, 10.00 per day
- **Sheraton Ferncroft**
Pets under 40 pounds allowed, 25.00 deposit
- **Woburn- Radisson**
Pets allowed no fee.
- **Salem-Salem Inn**
15.00 charge per night. Limited rooms must be arranged prior to check in.
- **Revere-Comfort Inn**
10.00 fee per day.