

NATURAL AND FAMILY RESOURCES, INC.
FRANCES PARNELL TRAVEL ADVENTURES
TOP OF NEW ENGLAND TOUR
SEPTEMBER 30 – OCTOBER 5, 2013
ITINERARY

Monday, September 30, 2013

***5:15 AM:** Check-in at ILM

6:46 AM: Flight departs (via PHL) for PWM

10:56 AM: Arrive PWM. All participants, including those who take earlier flights, will meet at baggage claim in Portland. Wait as a group with Frances for motor coach pick-up at the Portland Jetport (approximately 11:10 AM).

12:00 Noon: Portland, Maine - Lunch (on your own) at Weathervane Restaurant. Fresh Maine lobster choices will be lobster chowder, lobster roll, whole lobster. Other choices will be available to those who do not want to eat lobster. (You will tell me by Sept 16--our luncheon date.)

1:30 PM: Depart restaurant taking time for a Maine Signpost Photo-Op. Take time at the famous Maine Signpost featuring directions to some very exotic locations! Depart at 3:15.

3:30 PM: Depart for Sunday River Resort. Arrive at 4:15 (1 night stay)

5:00 PM: Moose Safari - At dusk, go with a local guide by coach to see these wonderful woodland creatures in their own environment. Visitors often see deer, hawks and an occasional bear. (Look for some small mammals too.) Locations are picturesque.

7:00 PM: Buffet Dinner included at your hotel.

Tuesday, October 1, 2013

7:00 AM: Bags outside your door. Go for full breakfast served in the restaurant.

8:00 AM: Depart hotel

9:30 AM: Meet your guide at North Conway Village and depart on your White Mountain Tour. Discover the fabulous White Mountain Region, including the Kancamagus Highway, Albany Covered Bridge, and Franconia Notch. Ready your cameras for a stop in one of New Hampshire's most charming villages framed by New England's brilliant foliage. Take in the Austrian-style train station, crisp white church steeples, and colonial-style shops.

1:00 PM: Drop guide and board the Conway Scenic Railway where you will enjoy a delicious lunch. Take the Valley Train and enjoy the scenery of the Mount Washington Valley countryside.

2:25 PM: Depart on coach for the 45 minute ride to the Omni Mount Washington Resort, Bretton Woods, New Hampshire (1 night). (I hope to have a guided tour of the property for you while we are there.) Dinner on your own at the hotel -- fine dining or casual faire.

Wednesday, October 2, 2013

OPT 1: FOR THOSE OF YOU GOING ON THE MOUNT WASHINGTON COG RAILWAY

7:45 AM: Please place your bags outside your room and enjoy your breakfast. You will not return to the hotel.

8:45 AM: Depart for Mount Washington Cog Railway – An unparalleled rail experience!! The colors of New England’s grand fall foliage surround you on your journey to the summit of Mount Washington, the Northeast’s highest peak (6,228 ft) as you ascend the three mile trestle on North America’s steepest track. The summit offers spectacular panoramic views, spanning the mountains and valleys of New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont, north into Canada, and east to the Atlantic Ocean. You will have about an hour on top to follow the railway’s history (since 1869) at the base station, check out the summit’s observatory and famous weather station. Take it all in with plenty of time for great photos. *This option has an additional cost of \$48 to be paid on September 16 at our luncheon.* Grab a bite of lunch.

OPT 2: FOR THOSE OF YOU STAYING TO ENJOY THE RESORT

Morning at the Resort with breakfast at your leisure. Enjoy this marvelous resort and all of its services this morning.

12:00 PM: Please place your bags outside your room. Enjoy lunch if you need it.

1:00 PM: Depart for cog railroad to join your fellow travelers

1:30 PM: ALL MEMBERS OF OUR GROUP WILL DEPART THE RR CAFÉ FOR STOWE, VERMONT. This will be a scenic drive.

4:00 PM: Gondola Sky Ride – Spectacular views from the peak of Stowe Mountain (Vermont’s highest). Visit the summit’s mountain-top restaurant for an afternoon pick-me-up (on own) or simply enjoy the incredible view and photo-op!

5:00 PM: Depart for Smuggler’s Notch Resort (short distance).

6:00 PM: Buffet Dinner (included) at Morse Mountain Grill located at hotel.

Thursday, October 3, 2013

7:00 AM: Put your bag outside the door. Full breakfast.

8:15 AM: Depart to discover Vermont’s Great Lake! Board the Ethan Allen for a gentle scenic cruise on Lake Champlain. Great views of the majestic Adirondack Mountains of New York and the Green Mountains of Vermont.

11:30 AM: Cruise returns. Enjoy time on your own at Church Street Marketplace in Burlington. Explore this award-winning marketplace located in the heart of downtown Burlington. A four block pedestrian mall with over 130 unique shops, restaurants and street vendors. Time to shop and have lunch on own.

1:00 PM: Ben and Jerry’s – Visit the ice cream facility, famous for Vermont’s finest.

3:00 PM: Depart for Von Trapp Lodge and historic tour, guided. “The hills are alive” on this one-of-a-kind guided tour. Start with an introductory film on Maria Von Trapp. Learn all about the “Sound of Music” family as you tour the property and grounds with the majestic Green Mountains providing the magnificent backdrop. Do take a walk in the woods behind the lodge!!

5:00 PM: Visit the gift shop!

5:45 PM: Enjoy a fine dinner in the Mozart Room at the Lodge, included.

7:15 PM: Depart Von Trapp and return to Smuggler’s Notch.

Friday October 4, 2013

7:00 AM: Full breakfast, included, place your bags outside your door before you go to breakfast.

8:00 AM: Depart for Coolidge Birthplace, Homestead & Plymouth Cheese Company – Visit the quaint village where our 30th president was raised. Includes historic museum, carriage barn, church and summer White House. Later, visit the Plymouth Cheese Factory.

12:00 PM: Depart for Woodstock Village. A true New England village nestled in the mountains. Take time for lunch, on own, browsing the shops and a walk through the covered bridge.

2:00PM: Depart for Quechee Gorge – Nestled in the Green Mountains, stop for a photo-op at “Vermont’s Little Grand Canyon”.

3:00 PM: Depart for TownePlace Suites by Marriott, Gilford, New Hampshire (1 night)
5:30 pm Dinner included – At famous Hart’s Turkey Farm.

Saturday October 5, 2013

6:00 AM: **Please place your bags outside your room. Deluxe continental breakfast.

7:00 AM: Depart for Kennebunkport on the Water

9:00 AM: Arrive in Kennebunkport and meet your guide. You will see this seaport village, views of the Bush Estate, Wedding Cake House, and the waterfront.

10:00 AM: Drop guide and enjoy time on your own. Browse the many shops and galleries on the waterfront of Kennebunkport. You may wish to eat snack.

11:00 AM: Depart for Portland Jetport for drop off at 11:45 AM.

***11:45 AM:** Check in at PWM. (There is a little restaurant at the gate. Eat one more lobster, if time permits.)

1:15 PM: Flight departs for PHL.

5:06 PM: Arrive ILM

*You will be given your final flight itinerary when we meet on September 16 for lunch. I do not like to issue final flight information early as it becomes confusing when people look at the earlier--but no longer valid--information. It is very likely that the times and flight numbers will still change a couple of times before we depart on this exciting journey. **My apologies for such an early start. It had to be this way for us to get to Kennebunkport.