

Saturday, Sept. 12 – Sunday, Sept. 27, 2026
200+ Free Events Across Essex County



ESSEX NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

TRAILS & SAILS 25

Celebrating 25 Years of Discovering Your Own Backyard



SPONSORED BY

EASTERN BANK, SALEM FIVE, INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS, AND CAPE ANN SAVINGS BANK



SCAN ME
FOR UPDATED
PROGRAMMING

Welcome to Trails & Sails!

16 DAYS OF FREE EVENTS IN THE ESSEX NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Celebrating 25 years of adventure!

Organized by Essex Heritage, Trails & Sails is an annual series of entirely free events showcasing the heritage resources of the Essex National Heritage Area (Essex County, MA).

Since our first season in 2002, the program has grown from one weekend to 16 days of exploration! The series now draws thousands of participants each year to the trails, waterways, historic sites, museums, farms, and cultural landmarks that define this remarkable region.

Across 34 communities on Massachusetts' North Shore and Lower Merrimack Valley, hundreds of partner organizations work alongside Essex Heritage to bring these experiences to life.

Now celebrating its 25th anniversary, this program is a testament to the communities, partners, and participants who have made it what it is. Whether you're a first-time visitor or a Trails & Sails enthusiast, we can't wait to help you discover everything Essex County has to offer. We'll see you out there!



ESSEX NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

Designated by U.S. Congress in 1996, the Essex National Heritage Area is a place of remarkable natural beauty and historic value. Spanning 500 square miles north of Boston, this lived-in landscape is abundant with many historic, cultural, and natural resources just waiting for you to discover them. What will you find?



25
YEARS OF EVENTS

175,000
PARTICIPANTS SINCE 2002

30,000
ANNUAL ATTENDEES

Special thanks to our sponsors!

PRESENTING SPONSOR



MEDIA SPONSOR



HIGHLIGHTING SPONSORS



trailsandsails.org

Trails & Sails – Annual Event Guidebook

WORKING TOGETHER TO MOVE OUR COMMUNITIES FORWARD

Salem Five is dedicated to helping our region thrive by understanding and supporting what matters most.

We are pleased to support **Trails & Sails.**

SalemFive

CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

salemfive.com | 800.850.5000

Member FDIC



ABOUT *Us*

JGPR provides custom website and digital marketing solutions to clients from coast-to-coast. Every design is built around the unique needs of the client. Whether you run a nonprofit, an insurance agency, small business, construction trade or major corporation, let JGPR create your window to the world!



JOHN GUILFOIL
PUBLIC RELATIONS



WE'RE YOUR
ONE-STOP
SOLUTION!



JGPR DIGITAL SERVICES

Contact us today to learn more about our services and how we can support your organization.

CALL (617) 993-0003

VISIT JGPR.NET/DIGITAL-SERVICES



Celebrate Milestones

weddings • retirements • graduations
showers • reunions • anniversaries

The historic Hawthorne Hotel understands the importance of traditions. As a family-owned hotel celebrating 100 years in Salem, the Hawthorne offers you flexible event space, customizable menus, photo areas, on-site coordinators, preferred vendors and comfortable accommodations, helping bring your family together to celebrate all of the important milestones.

Contact 978.825.4345 or visit hawthornehotel.com to plan your next event.

HAWTHORNE HOTEL • SALEM
WELCOMING GUESTS SINCE 1925



REBECCA NURSE HOMESTEAD

The only home of a 1692 witchcraft hysteria victim open to the public. It was from this homestead that 71-year-old Rebecca Nurse was arrested on charges of witchcraft in March of 1692.

Today you can explore over 25 acres which includes; the historically restored Nurse family home, a replica of the Salem Village Meetinghouse, and the Nurse/Putnam burial ground.

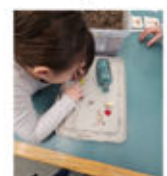
149 Pine Street, Danvers, MA
www.RebeccaNurse.org for hours and information

HISTORIC Beverly

3 Houses, 5 Centuries, 1000s of Stories

Historic Beverly is proud to offer several school programs that offer exciting and engaging educational opportunities for students. Our hands-on history programs are both engaging and fun!

Contact: education@historicbeverly.net



Scan for more!

Art Music Theater Dance

Come enjoy events
at Endicott College

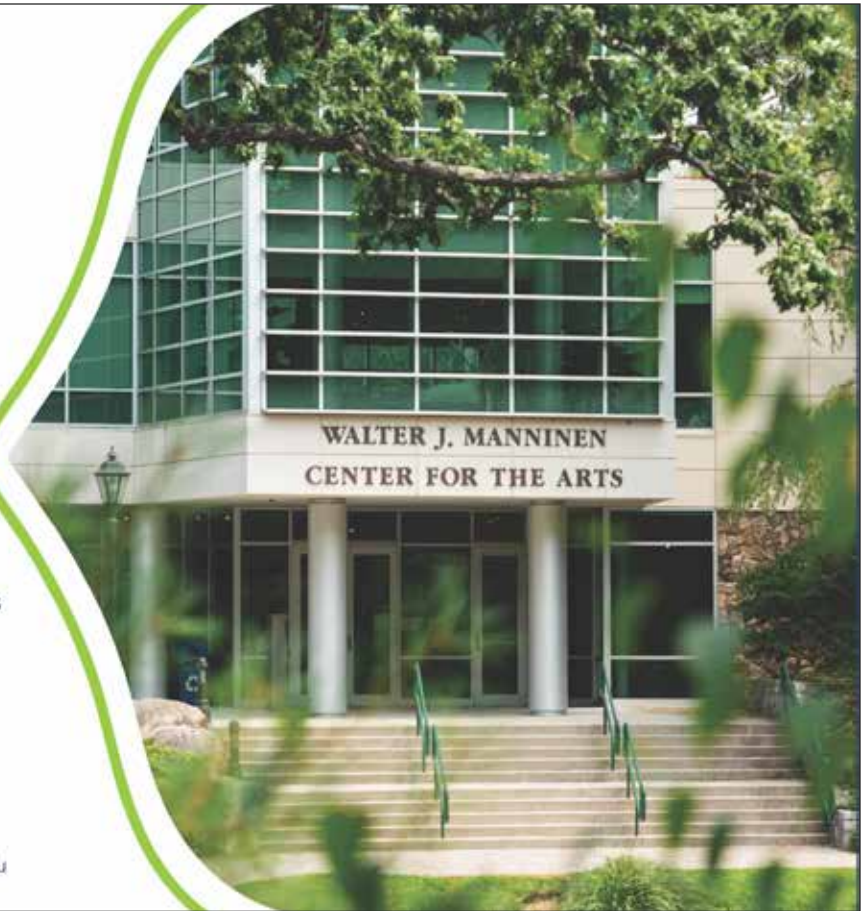
The School of Visual & Performing Arts
is thrilled to support Trails & Sails.



endicott.edu | 978-232-2250
centerforthearts@endicott.edu



tickets.endicott.edu



THE CABOT

**Live music • Film • Comedy
Community programming • Rentals**

Historic movie palace turned world
class performing arts center

Downtown Beverly • thecabot.org

Mass Audubon

Adventures in Nature Await

Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary offers an enchanting
12 miles of trails that beckon you to explore
forests, meadows, wetlands, drumlins, and eskers.
Whether you're walking along the paths
or paddling down the river, you'll be captivated
by the diversity of wildlife that surrounds you.

Plan your visit at
massaudubon.org/ipswichriver

Start with...

Salem's Most Visited Museum



On Historic Salem Common • Open Year Round
19 1/2 Washington Square North • Salem, Massachusetts 01970

Français, Deutsch, Español, Italiano, 日本語, Русский, 官话

Take the  or ride the Salem Ferry. Shop at our Museum store onsite & online!

978.744.1692 • salemwitchmuseum.org

Scan Me



Gibson | Sotheby's
INTERNATIONAL REALTY

*Trusted here.
Respected everywhere.*

Happily Sponsoring 2026 Trails and Sails



SERVING THE NORTH SHORE

Michael Selbst
Global Real Estate Advisor
MichaelS@GibsonSIR.com
617.504.9159

21 Central Street, Manchester-by-the-Sea
Each Office is Independently Owned and Operated.



trailsandsails.org

Trails & Sails – Annual Event Guidebook



Institute for Industrial Art and History harnesses its skills and resources to bring our mission of educating our visitors, school communities, and remote learners about the importance of the objects, engines, and artifacts that powered the industrial age.

Visit us: <https://www.iiah-usa.org/>
9 Village Way, North Andover



WE'RE FOR EVERY TREE.

EXPERT TREE CARE FOR 118 YEARS – AND GROWING.

Magnolia stellata, *Magnolia x soulangeana*, Better known as Star Magnolia and Saucer Magnolia, these are two of the thousands of species we specialize in. Discover how our passion is inspiring one beautiful property after another.

Call **978-927-1590** or visit **bartlett.com**

PRUNING | FERTILIZATION | CABLING & BRACING
INSECT & DISEASE MANAGEMENT | TREE INSPECTIONS
STORM DAMAGE | LIGHTNING PROTECTION | REMOVALS



**BARTLETT
TREE EXPERTS**

The F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Company

CELEBRATING 118 YEARS SINCE 1900



See the world from Salem.

We've been welcoming visitors since 1799.

Explore installations centered on maritime history and Essex County birds, or take one of our new self-guided tours.

pem.org/exhibitions

P | E | M
Peabody Essex Museum

Proud to Support Essex Heritage



www.capeannsavings.bank

Proud to Support Essex National Heritage Area Trails & Sails 2026

We salute Essex National Heritage Area and its' efforts to bring awareness of and appreciation for heritage resources around the county.



INSTITUTION FOR SAVINGS

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES TOGETHER SINCE 1820.

institutionforsavings.com



ESSEX HERITAGE

In 2027, Essex Heritage is celebrating 30 years!
Connecting People and Places throughout the Essex National Heritage Area

- * Trails & Sails
- * Bakers Island Light Station
- * Park for Every Classroom
- * Partnership Grants
- * Future Leaders

And much more!



Save the Date!

Join us on April 14, 2027 for an anniversary celebration. More info at:

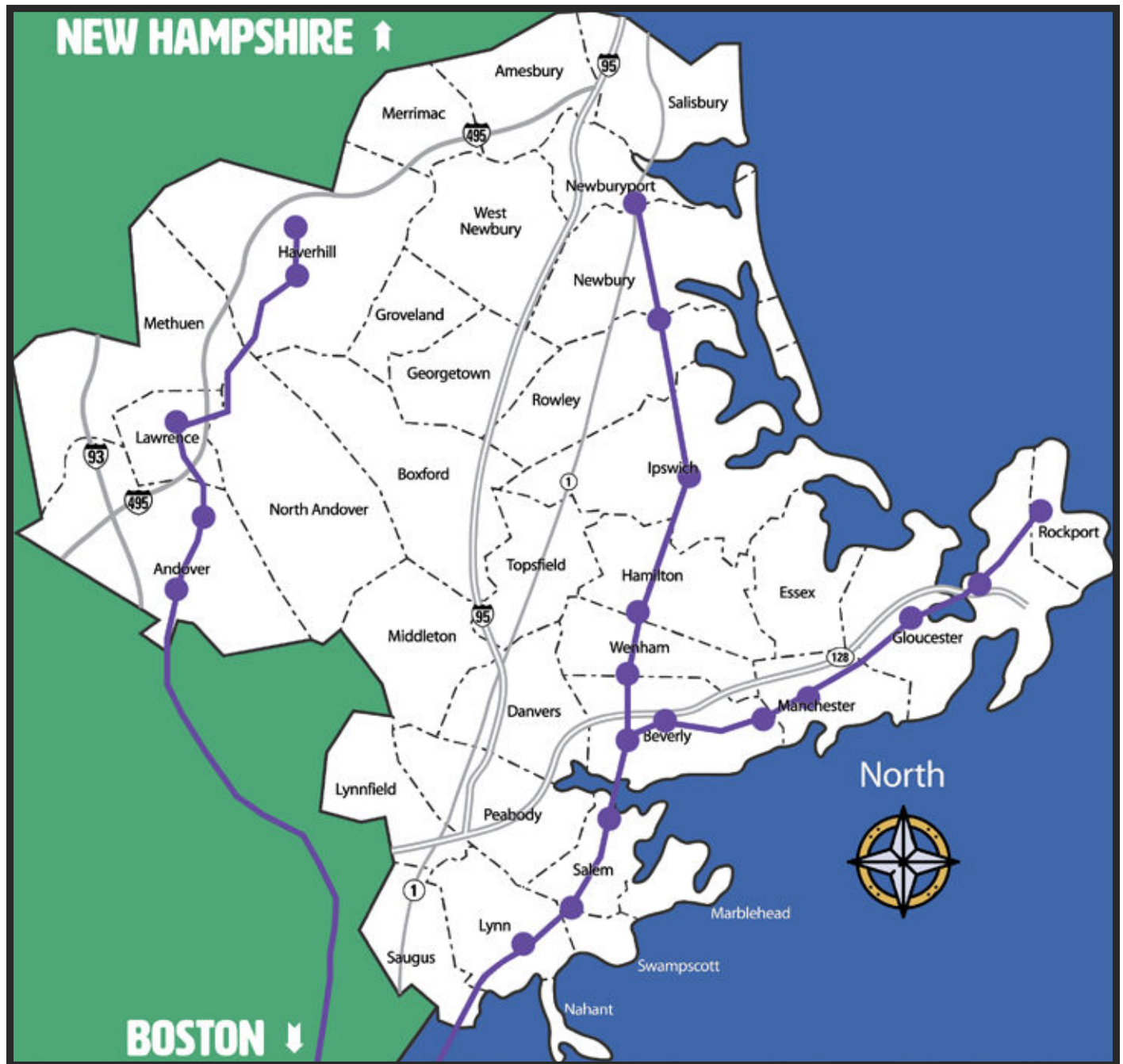
EssexHeritage.org



trailsandsails.org

Trails & Sails – Annual Event Guidebook

Welcome to the ESSEX NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA



Travel considerations

Some Trails & Sails events are accessible via the commuter rail and many are accessible via local bus lines! Incorporate the MBTA into your plans for a different way to travel.



Routes and information

Interstates 93
& 495

Interstate 95

U.S. Route 1, major
north-south route

City and town
boundaries

Know before you go!



CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR UPDATES. New events, cancellations, time changes, and other updates will be posted regularly on the Trails & Sails website. Please check online before you head to your event, as the times and dates listed in this guidebook are subject to change. Visit trailsandsails.org to view the most up to date information.



RESERVE YOUR SPOT. Some events require advance reservations and are listed as “Reservations Required”. If an event specifies this, make sure you reserve your spot! **RSVP instructions will be included in the event listing on our website.** Please try to notify the event host if you need to cancel as certain events have waitlists.



BRING A FRIEND. Adventures are better with a buddy...and Trails & Sails gets better every year because you spread the word! Invite friends and family along for the adventure as you explore Essex County.



WATCH THE WEATHER. Some events depend on good weather. If you are uncertain if the weather will affect an event, please be sure to check the online listing for special weather instructions or updates.



WATCH THE CLOCK. While many events have a set start and end time, some are considered “Open Doors” events which means you can stop in any time during the window of time they list. If an event says, “Reservations Required”, you need to RSVP before arriving. This information will be made available on the Trails & Sails website at trailsandsails.org.



THANK YOUR HOST. Trails & Sails remains FREE to the public thanks to the hard work of participating event hosts—many organizations that are in full swing of their busiest season. We appreciate the time hosts offer to this series!



REACH OUT. Any questions about specific events should be directed to that event host. Not sure who to talk to? Just give Essex Heritage a shout and we’ll point you in the right direction: info@essexheritage.org

2026 FEATURED EVENTS



ESSEX COUNTY REVOLUTION 250

Discover the people and places that shaped the Revolution!

REV250: THE TOWN THAT CARRIED THE REVOLUTION — A WALKING TOUR

By Lantern Tours

Saturday, September 12 | 10:00 am - 11:30 am

PAGE 30

REVISITING "COLONIAL REVIVAL" FOR AMERICA'S 250TH AT THE STEVENS-COOLIDGE HOUSE

The Trustees

Saturday, September 12 | 10:00 am - 11:00 am

PAGE 35

THE PICKERING MANUAL OF ARMS: REVOLUTIONARY WAR DRILLING DEMONSTRATIONS

Danvers Alarm List Company

Saturday, September 12 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

PAGE 20

THE MARBLEHEAD FORT EXPANDED IN 1775

Marblehead Architecture Heritage & Tours

Saturday, September 12 | 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Friday, September 18 | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

PAGE 30

HEARTH COOKING DEMONSTRATION

Buttonwoods Museum

Sunday, September 13 | 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

PAGE 25

MARBLEHEAD'S MOST FAMOUS LOYALIST

Marblehead Architecture Heritage & Tours and Marblehead Arts Association

Sunday, September 13 | 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

PAGE 31

VISIT A REVOLUTIONARY WAR-ERA TAVERN

Georgetown Historical Society, Inc.

Sunday, September 13 | 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

PAGE 23

TOUR OF WPA MURALS: ORIGINAL 1876 CENTENNIAL "SPIRIT OF '76" PAINTING IN MARBLEHEAD

Marblehead Architecture Heritage & Tours

Sunday, September 13 | 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

PAGE 31

MARBLEHEAD AT THE TIME OF REVOLUTION

Marblehead Architecture Heritage & Tours

Sunday, September 13 | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Friday, September 18 | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

PAGE 31

CELEBRATING THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY: LOOKING BACK 50 YEARS TO THE 1976 BICENTENNIAL

Local Historian Tom Spitalere & Searles Estate

Monday, September 14 | 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

PAGE 32

REVOLUTIONARY ARTIFACTS AT THE PEABODY INSTITUTE

Peabody Institute Library

Tuesday, September 15 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

PAGE 37

HANNAH IN CONTEXT: WHAT REALLY HAPPENED, AND WHY DID IT MATTER?

Essex Heritage & Salem Maritime National Historical Park

Thursday, September 17 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

PAGE 39

MARBLEHEADERS IN THE REVOLUTION

Marblehead 250 Committee

Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

PAGE 31

SALISBURY CELEBRATES AMERICA'S 250TH: PARADE

Town of Salisbury

Sunday, September 20 | 10:00 am - 11:30 am

PAGE 41

REVOLUTIONARY TEA ON A GAMBREL ROOF

Danvers Historical Society

Tuesday, September 22 | 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

PAGE 22

POWDER IN THE PULPIT

Lynn Museum & Arts Center

Wednesday, September 23 | 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

PAGE 29

HAVERHILL IN THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

Buttonwoods Museum

Thursday, September 24 | 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

PAGE 26

LIFE BY THE WATER

Get out on the water, or dive into its history!

HISTORICAL SELF-GUIDED KAYAK TOUR OF ROCKPORT HARBOR

North Shore Adventures LLC

Saturday, September 12 | 10:30 am - 11:00 am

PAGE 23

CHILDREN'S ART & HISTORY WORKSHOP: SCHOONER COLLAGE

Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum

Saturday, September 12 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

PAGE 29

KAYAKING AND WATERFRONT CRAFTS

**Salem Maritime National Historical
Park**

Saturday, September 12 | 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

PAGE 39

LAKE GARDNER PADDLE-HIKE

**Amesbury Recreation and Amesbury
Outdoors**

Saturday, September 12 | 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

PAGE 16

THE PORT OF IPSWICH

Ipswich Museum, Inc.

Saturday, September 12 | 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

PAGE 27

FINDING DORIES: SAIL ABOARD THE GLOUCESTER FISHING SCHOONER. ADVENTURE!

**The Gloucester Adventure, Inc. |
Schooner Adventure**

Sunday, September 13 | 11:00 am - 1:30 pm

PAGE 24

OUR WATERS, OUR FUTURE: A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON PLUM ISLAND SOUND

The Trustees - Crane Estate

Tuesday, September 15 | 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

PAGE 27

A STEP BACK IN TIME

Lowell's Boat Shop

Wednesday, September 16 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

PAGE 17

DIGGING FOR DATA TO SUPPORT LOCAL SHELLFISHING

**Plum Island Ecosystems Long Term
Ecological Research (PIELTER)**

Thursday, September 17 | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

PAGE 38

ANNUAL MEETING AND FALL SPEAKER SERIES: TREASURES FROM THE DEEP

Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum

Thursday, September 17 | 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

PAGE 30

HARBOR LIGHTS & SIGHTS TOUR

Essex Heritage

Friday, September 18 | 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

PAGE 39

OPEN HOUSE AND CRAFT HOUR AT THE CUSTOM HOUSE MARITIME MUSEUM

Custom House Maritime Museum

Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

PAGE 34

LEARN TO CLAM

**Parker River National Wildlife
Refuge and Backcountry Hunters &
Anglers**

Saturday, September 19 | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

PAGE 34

TIDEPooling AT LYNCH PARK, BEVERLY

Salem Sound Coastwatch

Saturday, September 19 | 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

PAGE 19

HOSPITAL POINT LIGHTHOUSE PROPERTY TOURS

US Coast Guard and USCG Auxiliary

Sunday, September 20 | 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

PAGE 19

EXPLORE NELSON ISLAND TRAIL AT PARKER RIVER NWR

Parker River NWR

Thursday, September 24 | 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

PAGE 33

CHILDREN'S ART & HISTORY WORKSHOP: COD FISHERY

Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum

Saturday, September 26 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

PAGE 30

OPEN HOUSE: ESSEX HISTORICAL SOCIETY AND SHIPBUILDING MUSEUM

**Essex Historical Society &
Shipbuilding Museum**

Saturday, September 26 | 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

PAGE 23



OUTDOOR EXPLORATIONS

Explore our natural scenery – and how to preserve it!

STAR PARTY AT BATTIS FARM

North Shore Amateur Astronomy Club

Saturday, September 12 | 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Friday, September 18 | 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

PAGE 16

BIRDING IN THE GREAT MARSH

Artists for the Great Marsh

Sunday, September 13 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

PAGE 38

HIKE ON THE BAY CIRCUIT & MYSTIC LINK TRAIL

Appalachian Mountain Club, Bay Circuit Trail, Mystic Link Trail

Sunday, September 13 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

PAGE 36

SOLES TO THE SOIL: A FOOT-FOCUSED SENSORY HIKE

"Hobbit" and Stacy Kilb

Sunday, September 13 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

PAGE 36

TOUR OF BEAVER PONDS OF VARIOUS AGES

Water Systems Analysis Group, University of New Hampshire

Friday, September 18 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

PAGE 33

FAMILY FIRE BUILDING AND S'MORES

North Shore Nature Programs

Friday, September 18 | 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

PAGE 23

RIDE THE COASTAL TRAILS

Coastal Trails Coalition

Saturday, September 19 | 9:30 am - 11:30 am

PAGE 34

75TH ANNIVERSARY WALK: A TWILIGHT WALK GUIDED BY POETRY

Mass Audubon

Saturday, September 19 | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

PAGE 43

BIRD WALK: FALL MIGRATION FREE-FOR-ALL

Merrimack Valley Bird Club

Sunday, September 20 | 8:00 am - 11:00 am

PAGE 18

BORDER TO BOSTON TRAIL BIKE RIDE

Border to Boston Trail Coalition

Sunday, September 20 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

PAGE 43

TRY EXPLORING ANDOVER - BESSIE GOLDSMITH RESERVATION AND ALL PERSONS TRAIL

Andover Village Improvement Society (AVIS)

Sunday, September 20 | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

PAGE 18

IRON OX FARM WALKING TOUR

Iron Ox Farm

Sunday, September 20 | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sunday, September 20 | 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

PAGE 42

HISTORIC FLETCHER STEELE GARDEN TOUR

Rolling Ridge

Monday, September 21 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

PAGE 36

KELSEY ARBORETUM WALK AND TOUR

Harlan P. Kelsey Arboretum

Tuesday, September 22 | 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

PAGE 20

BIOBLITZ: PARTICIPATORY SCIENCE AT HOOD POND

Ipswich River Watershed Association

Saturday, September 26 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

PAGE 43

WHEN GRANITE WAS KING!

Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR)

Saturday, September 26 | 10:00 am - 11:00 am

PAGE 38

WALKING TOUR OF USEFUL PLANTS AT FIRST CHURCH UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

First Church in Salem UU, Soul Gardens

Saturday, September 26 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

PAGE 40

FULL MOON HIKE ON THE BAY CIRCUIT TRAIL

Appalachian Mountain Club + Bay Circuit Trail

Saturday, September 26 | 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

PAGE 24

RIDE FROM NEWBURYPORT TO THE NEW HAMPSHIRE BORDER!

Border to Boston Trail Coalition and Coastal Trails Coalition

Sunday, September 27 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

PAGE 35

MARVELOUS MUSHROOMS WALK

Essex Forays

Sunday, September 27 | 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

PAGE 19

OVERLOOKING THE ESSEX RIVER: THE LANDSCAPE OF COGSWELL'S GRANT

Historic New England

Sunday, September 27 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

PAGE 23

STORIES WE SHARE

Uncover the lesser-known voices and histories of Essex County!

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE WORKERS: BREAD AND ROSES STRIKE WALKING TOUR

Lawrence Heritage State Park

Saturday, September 12 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

PAGE 27

75TH ANNIVERSARY TALK: COLONIAL SETTLEMENT THROUGH 1951

Mass Audubon and Topsfield Historical Society

Thursday, September 17 | 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm

PAGE 43

CAFECITO AT CASA DE ABUELA

North Shore CDC

Saturday, September 12 | 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

PAGE 39

RAÍCES | ROOTS GROUP EXHIBITION

North Shore CDC

Saturday, September 12 | 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

PAGE 39

VOICES OF THE HOMESTEAD: FROM INDIGENOUS HOMELAND TO HISTORIC MUSEUM

Rebecca Nurse Homestead

Monday, September 14 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

PAGE 21

GUATEMALAN CULTURAL & CIVIC CELEBRATION

Lynn Walking Shoe Tours

Tuesday, September 15 | 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

PAGE 28

THE AMERICAN STORY IN SONG

Danvers Historical Society

Wednesday, September 16 | 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

PAGE 21

GUIDED TOUR OF "BELONGINGS: CALLING LYNN HOME"

Lynn Museum & Arts Center

Thursday, September 17 | 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

PAGE 28

LYNN DE NOCHE/LYNN AT NIGHT

Lynn Walking Shoe Tours

Thursday, September 17 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Friday, September 18 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Friday, September 25 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Saturday, September 26 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

PAGE 28

AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERS OF THE ANDOVERS

North Andover African American History Committee in partnership with the North Andover Historical Society

Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

PAGE 36

WOMEN'S HISTORY TOUR

The House of the Seven Gables

Saturday, September 19 | 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

PAGE 39

CIVIL WAR SAILORS AND THEIR SHIPS

Nahant Historical Society

Sunday, September 20 | 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

PAGE 32

BOOK READING WITH EVELYN ELWELL UYEMURA

Lynn Museum

Friday, September 25 | 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

PAGE 29

MARY ESTEY: HER LIFE, EXECUTION, AND HER HISTORIC LEGACY

Rebecca Nurse Homestead/Danvers Alarm List Company

Tuesday, September 22 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

PAGE 22

THE LYNN SHOEMAKERS' STRIKE

Lynn Walking Shoe Tours

Thursday, September 24 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

PAGE 29

ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANNE BRADSTREET

North Andover Historical Society

Saturday, September 26 | 12:00 pm - 2:30 pm

PAGE 36

MERRIMACK MISHOON CANOE, INDIGENOUS FAMILY PROGRAMS

Imagine Studios, Newburyport Indigenous Peoples Day Event

Saturday, September 26 | 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Sunday, September 27 | 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

PAGE 35

POETRY WORKSHOP WITH LATINA BOHEMIAN

Lynn Museum & Arts Center

Saturday, September 26 | 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

PAGE 29

DISCOVER EL PUNTO: A FREE WALKING TOUR OF ART, CULTURE & COMMUNITY

North Shore CDC

Saturday, September 26 | 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

PAGE 40



DISCOVER EVENTS BY COMMUNITY

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY EXPLORING OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITIES!

Visit our website for details on how to make reservations, directions, and other instructions.

 **Outdoor
Explorations**

 **Essex County
Revolution 250**

 **Life by the Water**

 **Stories We Share**

Event key



Fun
for kids



Parking
available



Wheelchair or stroller
accommodating



Dog
friendly



Restrooms
available

AMESBURY

Rooted in Nature: A Gentle Yoga Class and Meditation

Saturday, September 12 | 10:30 am - 11:30 am

[Reservations Required](#)

Host: RISEilience and Phoenix Cafe

Step away from the noise of daily life and reconnect with the wisdom of the natural world. Rooted in Nature is a nourishing slow flow yoga class designed to help you slow down, breathe, and remember your connection to the earth beneath you.

29 Main Street, Amesbury



Lake Gardner Paddle-Hike, Amesbury



Lake Gardner Paddle-Hike

Saturday, September 12 | 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

[Reservations Required](#)

Host: Amesbury Recreation and Amesbury Outdoors

Join Amesbury Recreation and Amesbury Outdoors for an afternoon in the woods and on the water for a round-trip paddle-hike, where we will make loops between Town Beach and Camp Kent, paddling one way and then hiking the other! Participants will meet at the Lake Gardner Beach to hike first!
79 High Street, Amesbury



Star Party at Battis Farm

Saturday, September 12 | 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Friday, September 18 | 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

[Reservations Required](#)

Host: North Shore Amateur Astronomy Club

NSAAC volunteers will set up telescopes for public viewing. We'll show off things both near (the moon, 250,000 miles away) and far (galaxies over 10 million light years - 60 million trillion miles away) to attendees. Clear weather is needed.
Battis Farm, 76 South Hampton Road, Amesbury



Run of the Mill: Obstacle Course

Sunday, September 13 | 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Host: Amesbury Carriage Museum

Ever wonder what a bobbin feels like being wound up with string? Or to quickly weave through thread to make a masterful design? Explore life in Amesbury's mills during Trails and Sails at the Industrial History Center!

Mill 2 - Upper Millyard, Amesbury





A Step Back in Time

Wednesday, September 16 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Host: Lowell's Boat Shop

Take a self-guided tour of this National Landmark and centuries-old working museum. Experience the sights, smells and sounds that bring to life the history of wooden boatbuilding as you watch skilled craftsmen continue to build the dories and skiffs that were once the mainstay of the fishing industry in New England.

459 Main Street, Amesbury



Amesbury Oktoberfest

Available Daily

Kick Off: Friday, September 18 | 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Host: Amesbury Chamber of Commerce

Amesbury Oktoberfest runs from 9/18 - 10/3 featuring fun events, delicious food, and top-notch beer. Enjoy a 21+ beer garden, local food, and community fun. The festivities will kick off with a live oompah band in the Upper Millyard Amphitheater on September 18th from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. Join us to celebrate with local breweries, businesses, and the broader community!

Upper Millyard, Amesbury



Fall Fridays at Cider Hill Farm

Friday, September 18 & 25 | 2:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Host: Cider Hill Farm

Start fall weekends a day early with afternoon apple picking and hard cider! Every Friday in September, grab food from guest food trucks, hard cider on tap, pumpkins and apples from the farm store or just enjoy fall on the farm with free live music on the main lawn. Each date weather dependent.

45 Fern Avenue, Amesbury



Plum Island Museum of Lost Toys & Curiosities

Saturday, September 19 & 26 | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sunday, September 20 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Host: Plum Island Museum of Lost Toys & Curiosities

The Plum Island Museum of Lost Toys & Curiosities is an ever-changing time capsule of objects found by one person on a single ½ mile stretch of beach in Massachusetts. Legos, Happy Meal Toys, plastic soldiers, fishing lures, and Matchbox cars serve as a reminder that all the plastic we consume still exists somewhere.

14 Cedar Street, Suite 203, Amesbury



Rocky Hill Meeting House Tour

Saturday, September 26 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Historic New England

Rocky Hill Meeting House is one of the best-preserved examples of an original eighteenth-century meeting house interior. Tours are offered on the hour, from 11 AM - 2 PM. Tour sizes are limited, so it is recommended to book ahead. Use the code "TRAILSANDSAILS" for free tickets.

4 Old Portsmouth Road, Amesbury



ANDOVER

Guided Tour of West Parish Garden Cemetery

Saturday, September 12 | 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

Host: West Parish Garden Cemetery

Learn about the rich history of West Parish and notable individuals buried in the cemetery. The tour will conclude inside the Chapel, where visitors can hear the organ and view the original Tiffany windows. Meet at the Arch across from 129 Reservation Road. Donations welcome.

129 Reservation Road, Andover



Goldsmith Reservation, Andover

Andover Day

Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Host: Andover Chamber of Commerce

Get ready for Andover Day 2026 where Downtown Andover (Main Street) will come alive with music, entertainment on two stages, food, beer and wine gardens, kids zone, farmers market and over 240 vendor and community booths.

20 Main Street, Andover



Bird Walk: Fall Migration Free-for-All

Sunday, September 20 | 8:00 am - 11:00 am

Reservations Required

Host: Merrimack Valley Bird Club

Come birding with us! We will explore verdant forests, cool ponds, and vibrant marshes in Harold Parker Forest. You will experience beautiful local birds as well as species passing through on migration to distant lands. Youth and adults welcome regardless of skill level. Sturdy shoes and binoculars recommended. No pets.

Location and parking instructions will be provided directly to guests who have registered.



Try Exploring Andover - Bessie Goldsmith Reservation and All Persons Trail

Sunday, September 20 | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Andover Village Improvement Society (AVIS)

Come explore the Andover Village Improvement Society's (AVIS) Goldsmith Reservation. We'll hike a 5.0-mile loop hike with an elevation gain of 160 ft. We'll start on the new All Persons' Trail (APT), opened in May 2026, and visit some of the favorite spots including Journey's End, Bessie's Point and Scout Hollow.

26 Gould Road, Andover

BEVERLY

David Eure Quartet at Hale Farm

Saturday, September 12 | 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Historic Beverly

Spend the afternoon at Hale Farm with the David Eure Quartet for a lively outdoor jazz concert on the lawn. Bring a blanket or chair and enjoy music, history, and community in one of Beverly's most beautiful historic settings.

39 Hale Street, Beverly



Helen Popinchalk, Bee Vision Exhibit

Available Monday - Friday | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Host: Walter J. Manninen Center for the Arts at Endicott College

Bee Vision presents a vibrant selection of prints from Helen Popinchalk's Hot House series, combining screen printing, gelatin printing, drawing, and collage. Inspired by the way bees and pollinators perceive the world, the work explores color, light, and bioluminescence through layered, luminous compositions.

406 Hale Street, Beverly



Corita Kent, Heroes & Sheroes Exhibit

Available Monday - Friday | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Host: Walter J. Manninen Center for the Arts at Endicott College

This exhibition highlights Heroes and Sheroes, a powerful series of prints by Corita Kent created between 1968-1969. Using mass media imagery and bold graphics, the works address civil rights, nuclear disarmament, and political unrest during a pivotal moment in her career.

406 Hale Street, Beverly



Express Yourself, Bloom Exhibit

Available Monday - Friday | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Host: Walter J. Manninen Center for the Arts at Endicott College

BLOOM celebrates the creative growth that unfolds when young people are given the space to express themselves freely. Throughout the year, participants explored what it means to nurture ideas, take creative risks, and flourish together through the arts.

406 Hale Street, Beverly



Professor Danielle Currier, Mapping Equality Exhibit

Available Monday - Friday | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Host: Walter J. Manninen Center for the Arts at Endicott College

This exhibition features the sabbatical work of Danielle Currier, Professor of Graphic Design at Endicott College. Through large-scale posters and infographics, the work explores equity, policy, and lived experience across the U.S., centered on the LGBTQ+ Youth Climate Score and its impact on LGBTQ+ youth state by state.

406 Hale Street, Beverly



Powder House Tours

Thursday, September 17 | 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Saturday, September 26 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Host: Beverly Historic Districts Commission

Learn about Beverly's role in early US military history in this rare opportunity to see the powder house's interior and unique architecture. Built in 1808, this National Register-listed building is the only extant octagonal-sided powder house found in New England. It retains elements of its original wood interior. Restored in 2019.

Powder House Lane (Rear Madison Avenue), Beverly



Prospect Hill Walking Tour

Thursday, September 17 | 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Saturday, September 26 | 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Reservations Required

Host: Historic Beverly

Explore Prospect Hill's evolution from Nathan Dane's era to a 1900s residential neighborhood on this half-mile walking tour of the Nichols Field area and Prospect Street. Learn about historic homes and figures along the way, ending with a visit to the Beverly Powder House.

373 Cabot Street, Beverly

Tidepooling at Lynch Park

Saturday, September 19 | 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Host: Salem Sound Coastwatch

Explore the marine creatures that inhabit the tidepool on the rocky shore! Salem Sound Coastwatch staff will bring buckets, nets, and guides to help us identify what we find. Wear sturdy shoes (no open toes) that can get wet and traverse slippery rocks. Meet at the beach to the right of the parking lot.

Lynch Park, Beverly



Hospital Point Lighthouse Property Tours

Sunday, September 20 | 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Host: US Coast Guard and USCG Auxiliary

Semi-guided and self-guided tours of the historic Hospital Point Lighthouse property in Beverly, Massachusetts. Experience the view of Salem Sound from the top of the lighthouse tower.

1 Bayview Avenue, Beverly



Will Barnet Talk

Saturday, September 26 | 11:00 am - 12:15 pm

Host: Beverly Public Library

Join us for a presentation on the life and work of Beverly-born artist Will Barnet (1911-2012) and his special connection to the Beverly Public Library followed by a tour of the Will Barnet gallery.

32 Essex Street, Beverly



Marvelous Mushrooms Walk

Sunday, September 27 | 10:30 am - 12:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Essex Forays

Join local mycologist Jana Harris of Essex Forays for a guided walk in search of wild mushrooms. Get an up close look at local species and learn how to start identifying them safely and responsibly. A fun, approachable intro to mushroom foraging. Limited to 15.

Beverly Commons Conservation Area, 207 Greenwood Ave., Beverly



Tidepooling at Lynch Park, Beverly



An Afternoon of Jazz with the Riverside Renaissance Swing Band!

Sunday, September 27 | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Host: Beverly Historic at Hale Farm

The Riverside Renaissance Swing Band returns to Hale Farm for an unforgettable afternoon of live swing and jazz music in one of Beverly's most scenic settings. Bring a blanket or lawn chair, pack your favorite picnic, and settle in on the beautiful green lawn while enjoying a playlist filled with big band jazz!

Hale Farm - 39 Hale Street, Beverly



BOXFORD

The Boxford Apple Festival

Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Host: Boxford Historical Society

Come celebrate our family-friendly, traditional New England craft fair. It is America 250 so the 1760 Holyoke-French house will be open for tours. Browse 70+ craft vendors, enjoy musical performances, and grab some lunch.

2 Topsfield Road, Boxford



Kelsey Arboretum Walk and Tour

Tuesday, September 22 | 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Host: Harlan P. Kelsey Arboretum

Attendees can walk the many pathways or be part of a tour explaining the history of the arboretum and Harlan Kelsey.

18 Kelsey Road, Boxford



DANVERS

Discover Danvers Through Art

Available Daily

Host: Danvers Historical Society

Explore Danvers in this self-guided tour. Find historical events and important figures in murals around Danvers that were produced as part of the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Learn some of the stories that make up the rich legacy of the Town of Danvers. Learn more at <https://www.danvershistory.org/events>.

Multiple locations listed in tour document, Danvers



Atlatl Day

Saturday, September 12 | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Host: Eugene Winter Chapter of Mass. Archaeological Association

The technique of using an atlatl or spear throwing stick is an ancient global technology. Join the Eugene Winter Chapter of Massachusetts Archaeological Society, as they teach you the finer points of hunting a woolly mammoth or woolly rhinoceros in the ancient world! Fun and educational for all ages. Native American tools will be on display.

149 Pine Street, Danvers



The Pickering Manual of Arms: Revolutionary War Drilling Demonstrations

Saturday, September 12 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Host: Danvers Alarm List Company

What did it take to train a Revolutionary War soldier? Find out as members of the Danvers Alarm List Company demonstrate drilling techniques used by local militia 250 years ago. After the demonstration kids can try drilling with wooden muskets. This event is outdoors and will be run weather permitting.

149 Pine Street, Danvers



Origins of the Salem Witch Trials Walking Tour

Saturday, September 12 | 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Rebecca Nurse Homestead

You've heard the story of how the Salem Witch Trials began, but do you really know what really happened? Explore the Salem Village Historic District in Danvers for an in-depth 1hr walking tour where we delve through the myths to separate fact from fiction.

149 Pine Street, Danvers

Lunchtime History Film: Coconut Grove Fire

Monday, September 14 | 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Host: Danvers Historical Society

Lunchtime History Films, bring your lunch! Fire at the Boston Coconut Grove. A look at the factors that made this the 3rd deadliest single-building fire in our country's history. A casual discussion and 20-30 minute film. Presented by Heritage Films, Dan Tremblay, volunteer and member of DHS.

13 Page Street, Danvers





Atlatl Day, Danvers

Voices of the Homestead: From Indigenous Homeland to Historic Museum

Monday, September 14 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Host: Rebecca Nurse Homestead

Long before Rebecca Nurse walked its grounds, this land was home to generations of people. Join us for a journey through the Nurse Homestead's history, from Indigenous peoples to colonial settlers, the Nurse and Putnam families and the preservation of this beloved historic site. Doors open 5:30, space is limited.

149 Pine Street, Danvers



Dynamic Dames

Tuesday, September 15 | 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Thursday, September 17 | 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Reservations Required

Host: Danvers Historical Society

Discover five women of Danvers who accomplished amazing things in their lives. A poet/abolitionist, an author/historian, an educator/suffragist, political delegate/actress, and an entrepreneur businesswoman. 1-1/2 mile walking tour to explore the lives of these 5 dynamic women in Danvers history, 1760s through 1960s.

13 Page Street, Danvers



The Colonial Kitchen Garden: Food, Medicine, and Survival in Rebecca Nurse's World

Tuesday, September 15 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Host: Rebecca Nurse Homestead and Danvers Alarm List Company

Before pharmacies and grocery stores, kitchen gardens served as medicine cabinets, pantries, and safeguards against hunger. We will examine the plants Rebecca Nurse may have grown, their culinary and medicinal uses, and the growing, preservation, and storage practices that sustained families. Doors open 5:30, space limited.

149 Pine Street, Danvers



The American Story in Song

Wednesday, September 16 | 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Host: Danvers Historical Society

Sultana weaves history, original songs, and a slideshow for a unique look at U.S. history and legends. It is a story of heroes and celebrities, immigrants and indigenous peoples, injustices and progress, a legendary heroine, a sports superstar, a technological feat, a media circus and more. Funded by Mass Cultural Council.

13 Page Street, Danvers



Porch Swing Open Mic

Friday, September 18 | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Host: Danvers Historical Society

Live acoustic open mic on the Page House Porch. Bring your instrument or just tap your toes. Bring your lunch and enjoy your friends making music. Rain or shine. We'll move next door, into air conditioned Tapley Memorial Hall, if it is too cold, too hot, or too wet.

13 Page Street, Danvers



Inside our National Historic Landmark

Saturday, September 19 | 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Danvers Historical Society

Visit the iconic garden folly, which will be open for visitors to 'take the air' from the re-refreshed second floor and look over the historic gardens. Stroll the historic garden rooms and learn about this preservation project. Donations welcome.

Rain date 9/20.

29 Ingersoll Street, Danvers

Mary Estey: Her Life, Execution, and her Historic Legacy

Tuesday, September 22 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Host: Rebecca Nurse Homestead and Danvers Alarm List Company

Mary Estey's story is often overshadowed by her sister, Rebecca Nurse, in the history of the Salem Witch Trials. This presentation will encompass Mary's life from her humble beginnings in Great Yarmouth through to her trial and execution in 1692. Doors open at 5:30, first come first served.

149 Pine Street, Danvers



Revolutionary Tea on a Gambrel Roof

Tuesday, September 22 | 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Danvers Historical Society

Back by popular demand! A creative theatrical presentation of a circa 1875 local poem about the historic Danvers Jeremiah Page House. Period music adds to the illustration of the story: In about 1770, when the British monarchy started taxing tea in the colonies, Jeremiah told Sarah, "no tea shall be drunk under my roof"...

13 Page Street, Danvers



A Girl in Salem: The Story of Mercy Lewis and the Salem Witch Trials

Wednesday, September 23 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Host: Rebecca Nurse Homestead

Orphaned at 17 and living in the home of Thomas and Ann Putnam Sr., Mercy Lewis found herself at the heart of the 1692 Salem Witch Trials. Join us for this virtual lecture as we explore her life before, during, and after one of colonial America's most haunting chapters. Join through our website www.RebeccaNurse.org

Virtual

Judge Holten House Tour

Sunday, September 27 | 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: General Israel Putnam Chapter, NSDAR

Visit the home of Sarah Holten, Rebecca Nurse's accuser, and Judge Samuel Holten, the greatest Revolutionary patriot to come out of Danvers. Since 1921, it has been restored by and is headquarters of the Danvers Chapter of the Daughters and Children of the American Revolution. Come hear its history and see how a house has evolved over 340 years.

171 Holten Street, Danvers



ESSEX

Historic Essex Walking Tour

Available Daily

Host: Town of Essex

Learn how a New England village built close to 4,000 wooden vessels; see a 1797 Paul Revere bell; discover the birthplace of the fried clam; find out about the 1818 grave robberies.

Visit all 16 sites. The self-guided Historic Essex Walking Tour spans 1 mile of the Essex River Cultural District. Map at essexwalkingtour.org

Start at 30 Martin Street, Essex



Historical Self-Guided Kayak Tour, Rockport

Open House: Essex Historical Society and Shipbuilding Museum

Saturday, September 26 | 11:00 am - 6:00 pm

Host: Essex Historical Society & Shipbuilding Museum

Free museum admission during our Essex River Cultural District event for Trails & Sails participants on Saturday, September 26, 2026! Come experience Essex and the historic Essex Shipbuilding Museum, featuring local vendors, our annual Apple Armada, and a beer garden.

66 Main Street, Essex



Overlooking the Essex River: The Landscape of Cogswell's Grant

Sunday, September 27 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Historic New England

Walking tour of Cogswell's Grant, through hayfields and salt marsh to the river. Hear the stories of all the people who lived here – from Indigenous inhabitants, through the colonial period, and into the present. After the walk, a special ceremony to install five Stopping Stones markers to honor the lives of those enslaved here.

Cogswell's Grant, 60 Spring Street, Essex



GEORGETOWN

Visit a Revolutionary War-Era Tavern

Sunday, September 13 | 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Host: Georgetown Historical Society, Inc.

The Samuel Brocklebank House, built around 1680, was home to generations of Brocklebanks until it became a tavern, a local meeting place during the American Revolution. Join the Georgetown Historical Society as we share local history and lead tours of the tavern room, one-room schoolhouse, and 10-footer shoe-making shop.

108 East Main Street, Georgetown



Family Fire Building and S'mores

Friday, September 18 | 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: North Shore Nature Programs

Join staff of North Shore Nature Programs at Camp Denison for this free introduction to making a camp fire with flint and steel. We will provide all materials and instruction as well as the marshmallows! Appropriate for adults and families with children age 6 and up. Please register ahead of time.

Camp Denison, 84 Nelson Street, Georgetown



GLOUCESTER

Historical Self-Guided Kayak Tour of Rockport Harbor

Saturday, September 12 | 10:30 am - 11:00 am

Reservations Required

Host: North Shore Adventures, LLC

Come join us for some fun on the water! No experience necessary. Depart from a private beach in one of our safe, stable kayaks or paddle boards and paddle around the historic Rockport Harbor for 30 mins. See lobster boats, Motif #1, the Rockport Breakwater, and the gorgeous Headlands property.

9 Tuna Wharf, Gloucester



In the Footsteps of Artists: The Rocky Neck Historic Art Trail Tour

September 12, 13, 19, 20, 26 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Rocky Neck Art Colony

This 1 to 1.5 hour walking tour covers the rich history of Rocky Neck Art Colony, showcasing the many artists who worked here, especially from the late 19th century to today. Tours begin at the Rocky Neck Parking Lot and end at the Rocky Neck Cultural Center, 6 Wonson Street.

Rocky Neck Parking Lot, Gloucester



Climb Up Gloucester City Hall Tower

Saturday, September 12 | 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Host: Gloucester City Hall Restoration Commission

Climb up the interior of City Hall's clock and bell tower to experience the wow factor of looking out over Gloucester and Cape Ann, while learning about the history of Gloucester's most significant architectural building that has defined our skyline over 150 years.

City Hall, 9 Dale Avenue, Gloucester



Finding Dories: Sail aboard the Gloucester Fishing Schooner, Adventure!

Sunday, September 13 | 11:00 am - 1:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: The Gloucester Adventure, Inc. | Schooner Adventure

Sail on Schooner Adventure and hear how Gloucester fishermen worked from dories on the Grand Banks. A scenic harbor cruise meets hands-on maritime history. Hear true stories of risk, skill, and survival while sailing on this National Historic Landmark.

23 Harbor Loop, Gloucester



Street Stories with Phil Storey

Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Reservations Required

Host: The Gloucester Writers Center

Join noted raconteur Phil Storey for this "fun filled" Phil Facts about Gloucester's deep literary past! Phil Storey is a local historian, noted raconteur, and master storyteller. He developed this engaging literary walking tour during Gloucester's 400+ celebration and is excited to continue hosting it in partnership with the Gloucester Writers Center.

126 East Main Street, Gloucester

Self-Guided Tours of Hammond Castle Museum

Monday, September 21 | 9:00 am - 10:30 am ; 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Tuesday, September 22 | 9:00 am - 10:30 am ; 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Hammond Castle Museum

Enjoy self-guided tours of the Museum and grounds.

80 Hesperus Avenue, Gloucester



HAMILTON

Asbury Grove History Tour

Saturday, September 12 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Sunday, September 13 | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Host: Asbury Grove Historical Society

Join us for a guided walking tour of the grounds and buildings of this 19th century campground, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The tour will include the chapel, tabernacle, library, hotel/dining hall, vespers circle, church society buildings, and the historic cottages as a museum to depict life during the height of the Camp Meeting period. Some residential cottages will also be open for viewing.

27 Pleasant Avenue, Hamilton



Full Moon Hike on the Bay Circuit Trail

Saturday, September 26 | 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Appalachian Mountain Club and Bay Circuit Trail

Join us for a full moon hike as part of Trails & Sails! Explore Vineyard Hill, Bradley Palmer State Park, and the Bay Circuit Trail, ending with glowing moonlit views from Moon Hill. ~4 miles, moderate, forest trails. Bring a headlamp, layers, and water—experience the magic of fall under the full moon!

634 Asbury Street, Hamilton



HAVERHILL

Freeman Memorial Trail

Available Daily

Host: Whittier Birthplace

Hike the Freeman Memorial Trail at the Whittier Birthplace. This approximately half mile hike starts at the stonewall by Whittier Road, loops around the museum, up into the woods, across the fields, down to the apple trees, and ends across the street at the Welcome Center. Please dress appropriately.

305 Whittier Road, Haverhill





Schooner Adventure, Gloucester

Open House & Art Show: Rocks Village Hand Tub House and Toll House Museum

Available Weekends | 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Host: Rocks Village Memorial Association

Wander through the Hand Tub House and the Toll House Museum at your own pace while enjoying works of art by local artists. Try to imagine what life was like here two hundred years ago. The Hand Tub House has been a central figure of the Rocks Village district since it was constructed in 1829.

1 River Road, Haverhill



A Spiritual Quest weekend at Hilldale Cemetery

September 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 | 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Hilldale Cemetery, Essex County Ghost Project, and New England UFO Research

Join the Essex County Ghost Project, Paranormal Zone Podcast and the New England UFO Research Association for a night of paranormal intrigue at one of the most "haunted" cemeteries in New England.

331 Hilldale Avenue, Haverhill



Printing Demos and Museum Tours at the Museum of Printing

Sunday, September 13, 2026 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sunday, September 27, 2026 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Host: Museum of Printing

Visit the Museum of Printing and take a tour through the history of printing and communications. Don't be afraid to get inky and participate in our printing demonstrations too!

15 Thornton Avenue, Haverhill



Hearth Cooking Demonstration

Sunday, September 13 | 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Host: Buttonwoods Museum

Join us for a Hearth Cooking Demonstration at the Historic John Ward House, where the past comes alive around an open fire. Witness traditional hearth cooking techniques and watch as period-appropriate recipes are prepared using the tools and methods that households relied on for centuries!

240 Water Street, Haverhill



Shepherding with Farm Dogs Demonstration

Sunday, September 13 | 12:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Host: Tattersall Farm Charitable Foundation Trust

Using rare heritage breed Gulf Coast Native Sheep, shepherd, Tim Molinara, will demonstrate how dogs help manage the flock. We will also talk about the history of sheepherding, the border collie, and the importance of landrace breeds. Shepherd will interact with the audience and will be available for questions.

542 North Broadway, Haverhill



Essex County Ghost Project

Thursday, September 17 | 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Host: Buttonwoods Museum and Essex County Ghost Project

No matter what city or town you live in there are stories about things that go bump in the night. Join us at Buttonwoods Museum and we will be talking about UFO sightings, Big Foot sightings, and ghostly sightings here in Essex County.

240 Water Street, Haverhill



Whittier Birthplace Open House Weekend

Friday, September 18 | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm
Sunday, September 20 | 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Host: Whittier Birthplace

Start your visit in the Gus Reusch Welcome Center for an introductory video. Then, take a guided tour of the c. 1688 Whittier Homestead, walk the self-guided Freeman Memorial Trail, and more.

305 Whittier Road, Haverhill



Civil War Walk at Hilldale Cemetery

Friday, September 18 & 25 | 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Hilldale Cemetery

Are you a Civil War historian? Do you love that era of history? Join local Civil War historian Tom Spitalere for a historic walk through Hilldale Cemetery commemorating Haverhill's Civil War history. This tour will focus on some of 300 soldiers buried at Hilldale Cemetery.

331 Hilldale Avenue, Haverhill



Haverhill's Woofstock

Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Host: Chris' Farm Stand

Haverhill's Woofstock™ returns to Chris' Farm Stand in Haverhill, MA. Enjoy pet vendors, live music, great food, dog activities, apple picking, rescue dogs from Sweet Paws Rescue, and more. A free, family-friendly celebration of dogs, community, and connection.

436 Salem Street, Haverhill



Plum Island Sound, Newburyport

Bella Buildings

Monday, September 21 | 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Host: Buttonwoods Museum and Local Historian Thomas Spitalere

Take this guided tour of Haverhill's Little Italy as seen on "Chronicle". We will explore Haverhill's rich Italian past and the legacy they left on the city.

240 Water Street, Haverhill



Haverhill in the Revolutionary War

Thursday, September 24 | 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm

Host: Buttonwoods Museum

Join us at the Buttonwoods Museum for a talk on Haverhill in the Battles of Lexington and Concord! This talk explores how Haverhill's citizens responded to the first shots of the American Revolutionary War – who they were, how they mobilized, and the journey they made toward the fighting in Lexington and Concord.

240 Water Street, Haverhill



Bradford Center Walking Tour

Friday, September 25 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Buttonwoods Museum

Explore Bradford Center on foot! Join us for a 2-hour guided walking tour through the neighborhood's rich history. Along the way, discover the stories behind the area's remarkable historic houses. A perfect outing for history lovers and curious explorers alike. Drop in and walk with us!

10 Church Street, Bradford

Mia's Fairy Festival

Saturday, September 26 | 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Host: Chris' Farm Stand

Experience magical farm fairy day that blends adventure with fantasy, fun, and education. Our farm yard with animals you can see, smell, and touch; working tractors for picture-taking; a playground; and free rides on our cow train. See online for additional activities.

22 South Cross Road, Haverhill



IPSWICH

The Port of Ipswich

Saturday, September 12 | 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Ipswich Museum, Inc.

Join Ipswich's Scott Jewell for a fascinating in-depth walking tour of the Old Ipswich Port. Discover its history as a hub of maritime trade and commerce, and how its fate was tied to the rise and fall of Ipswich's 18th century economy, and the fortunes/misfortunes of many of its residents.

54 South Main St., Ipswich



Our Waters, Our Future: A Community Conversation on Plum Island Sound

Tuesday, September 15 | 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: The Trustees - Crane Estate

Join Mass Oyster Project and The Trustees for a community conversation about Plum Island Sound. Share observations of changes in local waters and discuss nature-based solutions to help strengthen and protect our coastline. Led by Valerie Perini of The Trustees and Liv Woods, Executive Director of Mass Oyster Project.

290 Argilla Road, Ipswich



LAWRENCE

In the Footsteps of the Workers: Bread and Roses Strike Walking Tour

Saturday, September 12 & 26 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Lawrence Heritage State Park

Walk the streets where Lawrence's immigrant workers went on strike for fair wages in 1912, and discover how they won their demands and created a legacy of reform and resistance in the process. This walking tour begins in the Visitor Center & Museum and covers 1 mile on flat, paved sidewalks and roads.

1 Jackson Street, Lawrence



Port of Ipswich Walking Tour, Ipswich

Crime and Urban Legends - Fact or Fiction

Saturday, September 19 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Lawrence Civil War Memorial Guard

Join us on a thrill-seeking historic candlelight tour of Lawrence. You'll be escorted by the Civil War Color Guard while listening to legends of an early curse, a Druid Sacrifice, whispers of confederate spies, 99 ghosts at City Hall, hidden passages, an attempt on a City Official's life, and more.

200 Common Street, Lawrence



Twilight Tour of Bellevue Cemetery

Friday, September 25 | 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Host: Lawrence Civil War Memorial Guard

Twilight at Bellevue offers a unique opportunity to see sunset & moonrise over the city. Visitors will tour the scenic 19th century garden cemetery and interpret the meaning of sculpture with special attention to the memorials of city founders, Civil War veterans, philanthropists, Pemberton Mill disaster victims and more.

100 Reservoir Street, Lawrence



A Look Inside the Essex County Jail Records (1854-1970s)

Saturday, September 26 | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Lawrence History Center

Built in 1853, the Essex County Jail in Lawrence, MA operated until the 1980s. It was demolished in 1997, and records were rescued and transferred to the Lawrence History Center. Research Fellows Marie Boyd and Betsy Brien explore daily life and operations at the jail through prisoner records, ledgers, and other documents.

6 Essex Street, Lawrence



LYNN

Civil War & Abolitionism in Lynn Self-Guided Biking & Driving Tour

Available Daily

Host: Pat Lee, Lynn Historical Commission

Lynn was home to many Union soldiers & abolitionists. This self-guided tour passes many sites tied to these histories of Lynn. Over 150 years later, some of these places resemble how they appeared in the 19th century, while others are unrecognizable. The tour is roughly 7 miles.

City Hall Square (to start tour route), Lynn

Walking, Biking, or Driving Richard Fay's Estate

Available Daily

Host: Pat Lee, Lynn Historical Commission

The Fay's Estate (original spelling) area of Lynn, also known as Lynnmere, was the site of the Lynn Mineral Springs Hotel from 1803 until it was torn down in 1916. It was, as has been quoted in Lynn History books, "a mecca for Bacchus and Venus." It was a playground for the wealthy of that era. Several of the buildings still stand as owner-occupied residences. The tour is less than a mile.

Start at corner of Western Avenue and Fay's Avenue, Lynn

Irene Axelrod as Lydia Pinkham

Saturday, September 12 | 11:00 am - 11:45 am

Host: Lynn Museum & Arts Center

Meet Lynn resident Lydia Pinkham, American inventor, businesswoman, and early promoter of women's health. Join Irene Axelrod as she brings Lydia to life and shares objects from her personal collection that illuminate the history, impact, and legacy of Pinkham's products.

590 Washington Street, Lynn



Historical Tour of Lynn Public Library

September 14 & 22 | 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

September 16 & 24 | 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

September 18 & 26 | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Lynn Public Library

Learn all about the beautiful and historic Lynn Public Library through a guided tour of our building, artwork and more.

5 North Common Street, Lynn



Guatemalan Cultural & Civic Celebration

Tuesday, September 15 | 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Host: Lynn Walking Shoe Tours

This event is a wonderful opportunity to experience the beauty and diversity of Guatemalan heritage in Lynn. Participants will enjoy ethnic folkloric dances and traditions from the Mayan Empire.

Lynn City Hall, 3 City Square



Guided tour of "Belongings: Calling Lynn Home"

Thursday, September 17 | 11:30 am - 12:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Lynn Museum & Arts Center

Join the Lynn Museum & Arts Center's Education Manager, Emily Pratt, for a guided tour of "Belongings: Calling Lynn Home." From indigenous history to modern immigration, this exhibition explores dynamic periods in Lynn's past and present, creating a fuller picture of this vibrant place.

590 Washington Street, Lynn



Lynn de Noche

Thursday, September 17 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Friday, September 25 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Lynn Walking Shoe Tours

Tour en Español! En esta caminata turística encontrarás rótulos antiguos, luces ultravioleta y pasillos a colores por debajo de los puentes del ferrocarril. Conocerás las historias detrás de la escultura de hierro, los edificios y murales que hablan de la comunidad y su cultura.

Frederick Douglass Memorial Park, 15 Essex Street, Lynn



Lynn at Night

Friday, September 18 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Saturday, September 26 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Lynn Walking Shoe Tours

Tour goers will uncover the stories behind the iron sculpture, the vintage signs and the illuminated underpass that makes Lynn a city rich in history and diverse culture.

Frederick Douglass Memorial Park, 15 Essex Street, Lynn





Lynn de Noche / Lynn at Night, Lynn

Powder in the Pulpit

Wednesday, September 23 | 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Lynn Museum & Arts Center

Learn how Lynn's sharp-tongued pastors lit the fire that ignited the city into rebellion. Join Christopher Locke for a discussion of Lynn's involvement in the fateful events of April 19th, 1775, from the soldiers who met the British in the field to the loved ones at home.

590 Washington Street, Lynn



The Lynn Shoemakers' Strike

Thursday, September 24 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Lynn Walking Shoe Tours

Participants will learn historical facts and the untold stories of women in their fight for fair wages and more.

Washington Sq. Residency, 144 Broad Street, Lynn



Book Reading with Evelyn Elwell Uyemura

Friday, September 25 | 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Lynn Museum & Arts Center

Author and Lynn native Evelyn Elwell Uyemura will read excerpts from her historical fiction novel "A Girl from Lynn." Set in 1857, Lynn, 16-year-old Kat Newhall encounters labor unrest, the abolitionist movement, and more while working in a shoe factory. Books will be available for sale and signing by the author.

590 Washington Street, Lynn



Poetry Workshop with Latina Bohemian

Saturday, September 26 | 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Lynn Museum & Arts Center

Join arts advocate Latina Bohemian as she returns for a second year to lead an interactive poetry workshop. Creatives will explore community building in the arts during a hands-on session, perform their own poems, and share visual art.

590 Washington Street, Lynn



Mary Baker Eddy: Her Years in Lynn

Sunday, September 27 | 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Lynn Walking Shoe Tours

Tour goers will discover the journey through the footsteps of the remarkable founder of the Christian Science Church in Boston, Mary Baker Eddy. Learn about who she was and her connection with Lynn and Boston.

112 Market Street (corner of Market Street and Oxford Street), Lynn



MANCHESTER-BY-THE-SEA

Children's Art & History Workshop: Schooner Collage

Saturday, September 12 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum

Geared toward ages 5 to 12, learn about historical seafaring and design your own schooner in this art & crafts activity, presented by artist Martha Chapman. Generously made available by the Hooper Fund.

10 Union Street, Manchester-by-the-Sea



Annual Meeting and Fall Speaker Series: Treasures From the Deep

Thursday, September 17 | 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum

Following the Museum's annual business meeting, local diver and maritime historian Ray Bates will discuss shipwrecks off Cape Ann and exhibit artifacts from his finds. The event is free and open to all with membership encouraged. Only members are permitted to vote in the business meeting.

First Parish Community Hall, 1 Chapel Lane, Manchester-by-the-Sea



Historic Town Tour

Saturday, September 19 | 10:30 am - 12:00 pm ; 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum

Matthew Swindell, Museum Director, leads a 60 to 90 minute walking tour of historic sites in downtown Manchester-by-the-Sea.

10 Union Street, Manchester-by-the-Sea



Children's Art & History Workshop: Cod Fishery

Saturday, September 26 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Manchester-by-the-Sea Museum

Geared towards ages 5 to 12, learn about the historical cod fishery, see our fishyard, and create your own cod on canvas or a t-shirt, presented by artist Martha Chapman. Generously made available by the Hooper Fund.

10 Union Street, Manchester-by-the-Sea



MARBLEHEAD

REV250: The Town That Carried the Revolution — A Walking Tour

Saturday, September 12 | 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Reservations Required

Host: By Lantern Tours

Before there was an army, there was a harbor. Marblehead's fishermen helped carry the Revolution — and the proof is all around you. Walk streets lined with nearly 300 homes built before 1775 and discover the town most history books barely mention.

1 Dock Ledge, Marblehead



The Marblehead Fort Expanded in 1775

Saturday, September 12 | 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Friday, September 18 | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Marblehead Architecture Heritage & Tours

A history of Marblehead's fort, established in 1644 with renovations in 1660, 1705 & c. 1743, which expanded to its current footprint in 1775 as the American Revolution began. It was named Fort Sewall c. 1800, after its next major renovation in the 1790s due to tensions with France, when its current brick structures were built.

Fort Sewall Lane, Marblehead



Marbleheaders in the Revolution, Marblehead

Marblehead's Most Famous Loyalist

Sunday, September 13 | 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Host: Marblehead Architecture Heritage & Tours and Marblehead Arts Association

Indoor tour of the two-part mansion of Robert "King" Hooper, Marblehead's most famous Loyalist, with a focus on his large family and the Revolution's impact on all of them, including the former "King." It's a poignant story, with much social history.

8 Hooper Street, Marblehead



Tour of WPA murals & Original Centennial "Spirit of '76" painting in Marblehead

Sunday, September 13 | 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Host: Marblehead Architecture Heritage & Tours

For Rev250, a guided tour of Abbot Hall, Marblehead's fourth town meeting hall, whose corner stone was laid in 1876, the nation's Centennial year. Be inspired by the life-size "Spirit of '76" painting, explore historical WPA murals from 1934, and more. A different program in Abbot Hall is offered the following Saturday.

188 Washington Street, Marblehead



Marblehead at the Time of Revolution

Sunday, September 13 | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Friday, September 18 | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Host: Marblehead Architecture Heritage & Tours

A walking tour of Marblehead's historic downtown which includes about 300 houses out of nearly 525 that stood in 1776, when the gritty but prosperous international Atlantic seaport was the sixth most populous metropolis in British N. America. Its high-style 1727-29 town house is America's oldest wooden municipal building.

188 Washington Street, Marblehead



Marbleheaders in the Revolution

Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Host: Marblehead 250 Committee

Learn about Marbleheaders during the Revolutionary War while visiting various historic sites in town, including Fort Sewall, the Jeremiah Lee Mansion & Slave Quarters, King Hooper Mansion, St. Michael's Church, and the Old Town House. A full schedule will be available at marbleheadmuseum.org/mhd250/.

Downtown Marblehead



trailsandsails.org

MERRIMAC

Merrimac Historical Museum Open House

Sunday, September 13 | 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Host: Merrimac Historical Museum

The Merrimac Historical Museum, set in the town's original Tudor Revival architectural style library, displays thousands of artifacts that will take you back to an era when the custom carriage market thrived. Be sure to also pay close attention to the Gothic Revival stained glass windows designed by Charles Jay Connick.

34 West Main Street, Merrimac



Visit the Old Sawyer House and Enjoy a Guided Walk

Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Host: Merrimac Town Improvement Society

Enjoy a look at early Colonial architecture and Colonial life during an open house at the Old Sawyer House. A one-mile looped trail behind the Old Sawyer House will also be open for guided walks to view some of the woodland that belong to the Merrimac Town Improvement Society. Mulled cider and refreshments will be served.

20 East Main Street, Merrimac



METHUEN

Edward & Mary Searles Estate Tour

Saturday, September 12 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: City of Methuen

Enjoy a guided tour of the Edward & Mary Searles estate, a grand late-19th- and early-20th-century residence in Methuen. The tour showcases artwork by sculptor Thomas Ball, finely detailed wood carvings by master carver Johannes Kirchmayer, and 19th-century Renaissance revival carved furniture by Italian artisan Luigi Frulini.

209 Lawrence St, Methuen

1877 Lower Green School House, Newbury



Celebrating the 250th Anniversary: Looking Back 50 Years to the 1976 Bicentennial

Monday, September 14 | 8:30 am - 4:00 pm

Host: Local Historian Tom Spitalere

Happy 250th, America and Happy 300th, Methuen! Local historian Thomas Spitalere, will have some of his collection of Bicentennial memorabilia on display in the Great Hall. This is one of the largest collections in New England. Come down to see this collection and the marvelous Great Hall built by Edward Francis Searles.

209 Lawrence Street, Methuen



Sights and Sounds of the Hall and Great Organ

Thursday, September 24 | 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Host: Methuen Memorial Music Hall

Experience the country's first concert pipe organ, originally installed in Boston, MA in 1863 while learning the history of the Hall and the story of the Great Organ's journey from Boston to Methuen. Understand Edward F. Searles, the millionaire who commissioned the magnificent Hall that serves as its home.

192 Broadway, Methuen



MIDDLETON

Riverside Squares - Square Dance Demo & Class

Thursday, September 17 | 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm

Host: Riverside Squares, Inc.

Riverside Squares demos Modern Square Dancing. It's Fun, Social, Active, & Brainy. No partner or experience necessary. The Caller starts with basic simple moves and terms. Must be there at 7pm if you are starting class. Anytime if you want to watch. Official classes start 9/24.

66 Maple Street, Middleton



NAHANT

Civil War Sailors and Their Ships

Sunday, September 20 | 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Host: Nahant Historical Society

One man, Andrew, was descended from Black Loyalists. The other, Mortimer, came from a long line of prominent white military men. Andrew was a stone mason. Mortimer was a career Navy man. Their lives converged in Nahant in the 1860s. Both went on to do great things. See their stories through an exhibit and lecture.

41 Valley Road, Nahant



Greenlawn Cemetery: A Place for Friends, Family, and Neighbors

Tuesday, September 22 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm ; 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Nahant Historical Society

Join Ken Turino, Essex Heritage Trustee and formerly of Historic New England, and historian Chris Mathias for a two-hour walking tour of Nahant's Greenlawn Cemetery, hosted by the Nahant Historical Society. The well-manicured rows are lined with both ornate monuments and plain markers. All have stories of community.

41 Valley Road, Nahant



NEWBURY

1877 Lower Green School House

Saturdays & Sundays | 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Host: Newbury Historical Commission

Come visit Newbury's restored 1877 School House with all its original desks and charm. Nestled between the Parker River and Old Town Hill you will find Newbury's Historical 1635 Lower Green home of Newbury's first settlement and a newly formed Historic District. Also part of the Lafayette Trail Inc. map system.

260 High Road, Newbury



Tour of Beaver Ponds of Various Ages

Friday, September 18 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Water Systems Analysis Group, University of New Hampshire

Participants will walk to several beaver ponds of different ages and learn about how the ecosystem evolves after beaver flooding.

Orchard Street, Newbury



Coffin House Tour

Saturday, September 19 | 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Historic New England

Explore Coffin House, home to the Coffin family for over 300 years. See how a simple post-medieval dwelling expanded with additions and partitions, later dividing into two homes. Rooms from three centuries reveal evolving ideas about privacy, family life, and daily living in rural New England.

14 High Road, Newbury



Swett-Ilsley House Tours

Saturday, September 19 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Historic New England

Tour the 1670 Swett-Ilsley House, Historic New England's first acquisition. Discover how this colonial home became a tavern, chocolate shop, and tea room, and explore stories of its residents alongside remarkable original 17th-century architectural details.

4 High Road, Newbury



Vintage Base Ball - Portsmouth Rockinghams vs. Newburyport Clamdiggers

Sunday, September 20 | 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Host: Historic New England

Take family and friends out to the ballgame—19th century style! Watch the Newburyport Clamdiggers face the Portsmouth Rockinghams at 12 PM in a vintage baseball game played by 1864 rules: no gloves, underhand pitching, and one-bounce catches count as outs.

5 Littles Lane, Newbury



Explore Nelson Island Trail at Parker River NWR

Thursday, September 24 | 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Parker River NWR

Join a ranger from Parker River National Wildlife Refuge on an out-and-back walk to explore this lesser known trail, passing through the saltmarsh and over a grassy drumlin before reaching the edge of the Plum Island Sound. We will delve into the unique geology, cultural history, and wildlife of these ecosystems.

Nelson Island Trail Parking Lot (off of Stackyard Road in Rowley), Newbury



1683 Jackman Willett House

Sunday, September 27 | 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Host: Sons and Daughters of the First Settlers of Newbury

The Jackman Willett House is owned and maintained by the Sons and Daughters of the First Settlers of Newbury (SDFS). Visible features include Indian Shutters, chamfered beams, wide floor boards, and low ceilings.

1 Cottage Road, Newbury



NEWBURYPORT

PlumFest

Saturday, September 12 | 12:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Host: PlumFest

PlumFest is a free island-wide celebration of live music and community on beautiful Plum Island. Part of the "porch-fest" movement, PlumFest brings more than 100 bands to 50+ locations across Plum Island and raises money for charities. Visit Plumfest.org for more.

Plum Island, Newburyport



Vintage Base Ball, Newburyport





Tour of the Museum of Old Newbury's Cushing House

Friday, September 18 | 11:00 am - 5:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Museum of Old Newbury

Our friendly, knowledgeable tour guides share fascinating stories in each of the museum's period rooms and galleries. All visitors must be accompanied by a guide throughout the museum. Tours are on the hour.

98 High Street, Newburyport



Ride the Coastal Trails

Saturday, September 19 | 9:30 am - 11:30 am

Reservations Required

Host: Coastal Trails Coalition

Join us on a bike ride on the Coastal Trails in Newburyport, Amesbury and Salisbury on quiet streets and paved and stone dust trails. We'll cycle through woods, salt marsh, neighborhoods, and Newburyport's historic downtown. Total length is 12 miles on mostly flat terrain, with short climbs on the bridges over the river.

Cushing Park, 41 Kent Street, Newburyport



Open House and Craft Hour at the Custom House Maritime Museum

Saturday, September 19 & 26 | 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Custom House Maritime Museum

Discover Newburyport's maritime history at the Custom House Maritime Museum open house! Enjoy free admission, hands-on exhibits, scavenger hunts, and family fun. Kids 7+ can make nautical flag banners (9/19) or build paper fishing dories (9/26) during special guided craft hours from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm.

25 Water Street, Newburyport



Learn to Clam

Saturday, September 19 | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Parker River National Wildlife Refuge and Backcountry Hunters & Anglers

Come enjoy one of the Great Marsh's greatest offerings - clams! Learn about the history of clamming in our area, how marsh and clam health are intertwined, and the rules and regulations around getting out to dig. Then, get a feel for the basics and dig your own clams. You must purchase a town permit to participate.

6 Plum Island Turnpike, Newburyport



Outdoor Sculpture at Maudslay 2026 - EDGE

Sunday, September 20 - 27 | Sunrise to Sunset

Opening Reception: Saturday, September 26 | 1:00 pm

Host: Maudslay State Park and Open Air Arts

Enjoy a self-guided walking tour of 50 site specific outdoor sculptures at Maudslay State Park in Newburyport, displaying from 9/20 - 10/16. Trail head signs will provide catalogs with photos, sculpture locations, artist bios, and statements about each work. This year's theme is EDGE. Join our opening reception on September 26th at 1:00 pm.

74 Curzon Mill Road, Newburyport



Historic Tours of the 'Whitefield Church'

Sunday, September 20 | 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Host: Old South Presbyterian Church

Founded in 1746, Old South Presbyterian Church was built in 1756 to accommodate the numerous people inspired by the preachings of George Whitefield. Learn about the Forgotten Founding Father of America and the role that Old South played in the history of the Great Awakening, Newburyport, and the American Revolution.

29 Federal Street, Newburyport



Visit Tinkerhaus, Newburyport's Community Makerspace

Sunday, September 20 | 1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Host: Tinkerhaus Community Makerspace

Have a tour, find out what we offer, try your hand at woodworking, sewing, 3D printing, etc. Find out about our work with disabilities advocates and environmental allies.

3 Graf Road, Newburyport



Merrimack Mishoon Canoe, Indigenous Family Programs

Saturday, September 26 | 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Sunday, September 27 | 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Host: Imagine Studios, Newburyport Indigenous Peoples Day Event

See the Merrimack Mishoon, 20 foot dugout canoe. Learn about Indigenous maritime and cultural traditions with artisans and educators, Darius Coombs (Mashpee Wampanoag), Larry Spotted Crow Mann (Ohketeau Cultural Center, Hassanamisco Nipmuc), Sarah Small Turtle (Lennox Island Mi'kmaq). Enjoy hands-on, interactive family activities.

Newburyport Waterfront Park (Near Somersby Landing Sculpture Park), Newburyport



Maudslay Farm Complex Historic Barns Tour

Saturday, September 26 | 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Host: MA Dept. of Conservation & Recreation

Join the park interpreter for a tour through the Farm Complex area of the former Moseley Family estate and learn about their historical significance. The walk includes viewing the interior of the hay and dairy barns, root cellar, and other small buildings.

74 Curzon Mill Road, Newburyport



Ride from Newburyport to the New Hampshire border!

Sunday, September 27 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Host: Border to Boston Trail Coalition and Coastal Trails Coalition

Come join Dave Read as he leads us on a scenic bike ride starting at the Graf Rink on Low St. in Newburyport. We'll cycle along the Clipper City Trail with its impressive trail art. Then we will ride over the Merrimack River to Salisbury, past salt marshes, and make our way to the New Hampshire border.

28 Low Street, Newburyport



NORTH ANDOVER

Revisiting "Colonial Revival" for America's 250th at the Stevens-Coolidge House

Saturday, September 12 | 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Reservations Required

Host: The Trustees - Stevens-Coolidge House

Celebrate Mass250 with a curator-led tour of the Stevens-Coolidge House. Discover how the Coolidges and architect Joseph Everett Chandler transformed an ancestral farm into a Colonial Revival estate. Highlights include Delft tiles, bowed windows, hand-painted murals, and staircase inspired by the Mayflower House.

153 Chickering Road, North Andover



Historic Parson Barnard (1715) Open House

Saturday, September 12 | 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Host: North Andover Historical Society

Join us as we open one of our most impressive properties. The 1715 Parson Barnard House is a stately Georgian style house built for Parson Thomas Barnard and passed from Reverends to teachers to families until bought and conserved as a museum by the North Andover Historical Society.

179 Osgood Street, North Andover



Agriculture & The Wool Industry in North Andover: Walking Tour

Saturday, September 12 | 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm

Host: North Andover Historical Society

Join us for a walking tour beginning at the Historic Parson Barnard House and around the Old Center of North Andover as we speak about the development and importance of agriculture and the wool industry to the development of Andover.

179 Osgood Street, North Andover



Hike on the Bay Circuit & Mystic Link Trail

Sunday, September 13 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Appalachian Mountain Club, Bay Circuit Trail, and Mystic Link Trail

Guided 3-mile hike in Harold Parker State Forest along the Bay Circuit and Mystic Link Trails. Explore quarries, ponds, the Skug River, beaver activity, an 18th-century cemetery, and Underground Railroad history tied to Frederick Douglass and Harriet Beecher Stowe.

614 Middleton Road, North Andover



Soles to the Soil: A Foot-Focused Sensory Hike

Sunday, September 13 | 11:00 am - 1:00 pm

Host: "Hobbit" and Stacy Kilb

A short barefoot hike in a local, foot-friendly park, with grass, asphalt, and smooth paths, plus guidance on best practices and what to watch out for. We will do our best to make this a safe, healthy, and fun hike while you experience the rich symphony of textures underfoot. Signed waiver required. Rain date: Sunday, 9/20.

Osgood Hill Trails, 723 Osgood Street, North Andover



African American Leaders of the Andovers

Saturday, September 19 | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Host: North Andover African American History Committee and North Andover Historical Society

Be inspired by the stories of three little known African American leaders from the Andovers: Revolutionary War hero Salem Poor, formerly enslaved church and community leader Cato Freeman, and Ice Cream Entrepreneurs the Hinton Family. Drop in to learn about these stories through a short program.

800 Massachusetts Avenue, North Andover



Homespun Textile Workshop

Saturday, September 19 | 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Host: North Andover Historical Society

Join us in the barn of the historic Parson Barnard House as we do a hands on lesson on how to clean, card, dye, spin, weave, and yarn the wool shorn from local sheep. Guests may approach or depart the program at any time.

179 Osgood Street, North Andover



Hike on Bay Circuit & Mystic Link Trail, North Andover



Institute for Industrial Art and History 2026 Fishing Derby

Saturday, September 19 | 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Institute for Industrial Art and History

Don't miss out on this fantastic event! Bring your fishing gear if you wish – we do give you old bamboo fishing rods to take home as well. Gather your friends and family, and make memories that will last a lifetime. We look forward to seeing you at the IIAH Annual Fishing Derby!

9 Village Way, North Andover



Historic Fletcher Steele Garden Tour

Monday, September 21 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Rolling Ridge

The garden at Rolling Ridge was the first creation of landscape architect Fletcher Steele. Join us for a tour of this historic garden now featuring sculptures by Mico Kaufman. Although the fountain is no longer in operation, discover the natural beauty of this 38 acre peninsula along Lake Cochichewick.

660 Great Pond Road, North Andover



Archaeology and Anne Bradstreet

Saturday, September 26 | 12:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Host: North Andover Historical Society

Educator and Archaeologist, David Blauvelt and Poet Laureate and Bradstreet scholar, Karen Kline, give a walking tour and presentation on the life, poetry, and impact of Anne Bradstreet, The New World's first published poet.

179 Osgood Street, North Andover



PEABODY

Bonfanti Nature Trail

Available Daily | Sunrise to Sunset

Host: Peabody Area Chamber of Commerce

Wander through 300 acres of peaceful woodlands and wetlands while spotting native plants, wildlife, and migratory birds that rely on this habitat throughout the seasons. Spring and Sydney's Ponds provide a tranquil backdrop and an important refuge for both resident and traveling bird species.

80 Granite Street, Peabody



Open House: Peabody Leatherworkers Museum and the George Peabody House

Saturday, September 12 | 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Host: Peabody Leatherworkers Museum and the George Peabody House

Join us for an Open House at the Peabody Leatherworkers Museum and George Peabody House with self-guided tours and family-friendly activities. Discover why Peabody is "The Leather Capital of the World." Visit the birthplace of America's first great philanthropist George Peabody.

205 Washington Street, Peabody



Revolutionary Artifacts at the Peabody Institute

Tuesday, September 15 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Host: Peabody Institute Library

Explore the Revolutionary artifacts collected by the Peabody Institute Library. We will meet at the Public Services Desk on the first floor.

82 Main Street, Peabody



Brewery Tour

Saturday, September 19 | 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Sunday, September 20 | 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Host: Granite Coast Brewing

Start to finish, learn how we started our brewery, check out some equipment and learn how we utilize local sources. Includes a taste of our featured beer.

77B Main Street, Peabody



Live Local Music with John Sacco

Sunday, September 20 | 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Host: Granite Coast Brewing

Local musician John Sacco will play all the hits you know and take requests.

77B Main Street, Peabody



Tour the Historic Home of the Felton Family

Wednesday, September 23 | 10:00 am - 1:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Peabody Historical Society & Museum

The Peabody Historical Society will open its doors to the oldest house in the City of Peabody – Nathaniel Felton Sr. House (47 Felton Street). A guided tour will walk you through the house, first floor and second floor, showing artifacts from that era. You will learn the history of the Felton family and land.

47 Felton Street, Peabody



Roots of the Brew: Understanding Regional Hops and Brewing

Friday, September 25 | 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Host: Granite Coast Brewing

Rob Dunn will present a lecture about regional hop growing, how we utilize it in local brewing and the origins of our beer names.

77B Main Street, Peabody



Peabody Leatherworkers Museum
& George Peabody House, Peabody

ROCKPORT

When Granite was King!

Saturday, September 26 | 10:00 am - 11:00 am

Host: Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR)

Granite Quarrying History Walking Tour at Babson Farm Quarry, Halibut Point State Park. Guided walk on our wide, gravel trails one mile around the quarry. Stops at significant sites. Learn how they moved large, heavy granite stones and how they “paved” dirt streets in our new Nation’s growing cities—and around the world!

4 Gott Avenue, Rockport



ROWLEY

Platts-Bradstreet House Tours

Saturday, September 12 | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Host: Rowley Historical Society

The Platts-Bradstreet House/Museum, home to Rowley Historical Society, will be open for tours of the house and barn. Tours are free and open to the public. Hope to see you there!

233 Main Street, Rowley



Birding in the Great Marsh

Sunday, September 13 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Artists for the Great Marsh

We will bird along the Hellcat Boardwalk, on Plum Island in the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge, to see many of the habitats in the Great Marsh and the birds that are there in the late fall.

Hellcat Parking Lot, Parker River NWR, Rowley



Digging for Data to Support Local Shellfishing

Thursday, September 17 | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Host: Plum Island Ecosystems Long Term Ecological Research (PIELTER)

With fewer clams and more areas closed to harvest, shellfishing around the Great Marsh has become increasingly challenging. We’ll demonstrate new research using screened boxes on mud flats to assess why clams are so few, and new techniques to identify sources of contamination, providing data that we hope will help management.

Batchelders Landing, 92 Railroad Ave, Rowley

Research & Discover

Saturday, September 19 | 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Host: Rowley Historical Society

A Rowley Historical Society representative will be in the Local History Room of Rowley Public Library for help with researching your family, your home, or local places. We’ll introduce you to the resources available at the library and help you however we can.

141 Main Street, Rowley



Phillips Library Open House: Recent Acquisitions

Friday, September 25 | 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Host: Phillips Library, Peabody Essex Museum

Join Phillips Library staff members for an informal, hands-on viewing of materials acquired during the past year. The wide variety of objects on display will reflect the local and global scope of our collections. Visitors are welcome to handle the items on view, and there will be something of interest for everyone!

306 Newburyport Turnpike, Rowley



Birding in the Great Marsh, Rowley

SALEM

Lady of Salem Maritime Public Art Exhibition

Available Daily

Host: Salem Beautification Committee

Participants can engage with the “Ladies of Salem” by taking a self guided walking tour OR by simply walking downtown and looking UP! Tentatively, there are two scheduled walks being led by a professional tour guide. Dates and times at trailsandsails.org. A family friendly “Scavenger Hunt” will be available at Destination Salem during open hours.

245 Derby Street, Salem



Kayaking and Waterfront Crafts

Saturday, September 12 | 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Host: Salem Maritime National Historical Park

Borrow a kayak or paddleboard and paddle along the waterfront between Derby Wharf and Central Wharf. Back on land, learn about the natural environment in Salem with special crafts and activities with park rangers. Kayaks and paddleboards are available first come, first served. Lifejackets and training will be provided.

Central Wharf, 193 Derby Street, Salem



Cafecito at Casa de Abuela

Saturday, September 12, 19, 26 | 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Host: North Shore CDC

Enjoy a cafecito while exploring an immersive Latin American grandmother’s home. Discover stories, traditions, sounds, objects, and memories that celebrate Latino culture, heritage, community, and the immigrant experience in Salem’s Point neighborhood.

98 Lafayette St Back Yard, Salem



Raíces | Roots Group Exhibition

Available Thursday - Saturday | 12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Host: North Shore CDC

New England-based artists explore the theme RAÍCES | ROOTS through artwork inspired by immigration, belonging, identity, family history, and cultural heritage. The exhibition highlights personal stories and the connections that shape us across generations.

34 Peabody Street, Salem



Rope Making and earn a Junior Ranger Badge

Sunday, September 13 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Salem Maritime National Historical Park

Visitors will learn to make rope with assistance from Park Rangers.

Salem Armory Visitor Center, 2 New Liberty Street, Salem



Hannah in Context: What really happened, and why did it matter?

Thursday, September 17 | 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Essex Heritage and Salem Maritime National Historical Park

Join Captain Michael Rutstein as he covers the events leading up to the famous battle between the armed American schooner Hannah and HMS Nautilus in October 1775. He will walk us step by step through the engagement and wrap up with the repercussions of this event and its impact on the course of the Revolution here on the North Shore.

Salem Armory Visitor Center, 2 New Liberty Street, Salem



Harbor Lights & Sights Tour

Friday, September 18 | 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Essex Heritage

Join Essex Heritage for a FREE 1-hour narrated harbor cruise departing from Central Wharf at the Salem Maritime National Historic Site as a part of Trails & Sails. Come aboard our boat, Naumkeag, and discover the wonders of coastal Essex County. From lighthouses to military fortifications, historic houses to grand estates, the sights of Salem Sound tell a fascinating story of communities shaped by the sea.

193 Derby Street, Salem



Women’s History Tour

Saturday, September 19 | 2:30 pm - 3:30 pm

Reservations Required

Host: The House of the Seven Gables

Tour The House of the Seven Gables through the lens of the many women who lived and labored here!

115 Derby Street, Salem



North Shore Concert Band Pops Concert

Saturday, September 19 | 7:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Host: Tabernacle Congregational Church

30 members of Boston Musicians Association Local 9 -535 present a family-friendly POPS Concert with repertoire ranging from Disney to Leonard Bernstein!

50 Washington Street, Salem



Guided Tour of Historic Hamilton Hall

September 21 - 23 | 10:30 am - 11:30 am

Wednesday, September 23 | 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Hamilton Hall

Enjoy the elegance and history of 1805 federal-style Hamilton Hall through a guided tour of the building. Learn about the caretaker Remonds' successful catering business and their family's dedication to equal rights for all. Uncover architectural history with a model of our ballroom floor's construction, and much more!

9 Chestnut Street, Salem



"The Ghosts We Work With" Exhibit Opening and Ghost Story Open Mic Night

Thursday, September 24 | 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Host: Salem Maritime National Historical Park

This spooky open mic night offers attendees the chance to share their true stories of ghostly encounters. Come out and regale your friends and neighbors with stories of the ghosts, specters, and questionably haunted places that continue to call the North Shore home well into their afterlife.

2 New Liberty Street, Salem



First Church in Salem Meetinghouse Tour

Friday, September 25 | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Host: The First Church in Salem, Unitarian Universalist

Join us for an unforgettable visit to the First Church in Salem, one of two churches involved in the infamous Witch Trials of 1692. Sit where Nathaniel Hawthorne sat in the meetinghouse; learn about our connection with the game "Monopoly," and see why our stained glass windows are a claim to fame.

316 Essex Street, Salem



For The Love of Trees VII - History and Nature in Greenlawn

Saturday, September 26 | 9:30 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Friends of Greenlawn

Salem's 55 acre, historic cemetery, Greenlawn Cemetery & the accredited arboretum F. Carroll Sargent Arboretum have so much to share. We will have tree lovers & those that know Greenlawn well sharing special history, trees & nature with guided strolls throughout Greenlawn. We will also view & share the 1894 Dickson Chapel.

57 Orne Street. (side gate entrance), Salem



Salem Athenaeum Tour

Saturday, September 26 | 11:00 am - 12:10 pm

Reservations Required

Host: Salem Athenaeum

The Salem Athenaeum will be having free guided tours of the building along with a brief history of the institution, established 1760.

337 Essex Street, Salem



Walking Tour of Useful Plants at First Church Unitarian Universalist

Saturday, September 26 | 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Host: First Church in Salem UU, Soul Gardens

Historic First Church Salem is beautifully landscaped; many of the plants have interesting uses – edible, medicinal, and more. Herbalist and foraging instructor Iris Weaver will lead a walk around the grounds as we learn about these plants and what they offer us. Bring your camera or a notebook to record what you learn!

316 Essex Street, Salem



Discover El Punto: A Free Walking Tour of Art, Culture & Community

Saturday, September 26 | 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: North Shore CDC

Explore the Punto Urban Art Museum on a guided walking tour through Salem's Point neighborhood, led by a trained Mural Ambassador. Discover vibrant murals, public art, and community stories that celebrate culture, history, creativity, and the rich immigrant heritage of El Punto.

98 Lafayette Street (Back Yard), Salem



Tour of Knowing Nature: Stories of the Boreal Forest Exhibition

Sunday, September 27 | 9:30 am - 10:30 am

Reservations Required

Host: Peabody Essex Museum

Join in a special hands-on tour of Knowing Nature with exhibition curator Jane Winchell, PEM's Sarah Fraser Robbins Director of the Art & Nature Center and Curator of Natural History.

161 Essex Street, Salem



SALISBURY

Salisbury Days

September 18 - 20 | Event times vary

Host: Town of Salisbury

Attendees will enjoy a weekend full of excitement and community fun, including the thrilling Fireman's Muster, an impressive car and motorcycle show, family-friendly activities, Kids and Castles, and our beloved fair in the square. The celebration also features a parade honoring America's 250th.

Salisbury



Salisbury Celebrates America's 250th: PARADE

Sunday, September 20 | 10:00 am - 11:30 am

Host: Town of Salisbury

Salisbury's America 250 Parade honors 250 years of American history with a festive, family-friendly parade. Enjoy marching groups, themed floats, historic tributes, youth organizations, first responders, and community partners from across New England, all along Beach Road filled with music, color, and hometown pride.

Beach Road, Salisbury



Discover El Punto Walking Tour, Salem



SAUGUS

Industrial Site Tour at the Iron Works

Saturday, September 12 | 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Host: Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site

Join a Park Ranger and explore the Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site buildings to learn about the iron making process in Colonial New England. Learn about the daily lives of the workers in the 1600s. See the turning of the waterwheels and the crash of the hammer.

244 Central Street, Saugus



Waterwheel Extravaganza at the Saugus Iron Works

Saturday, September 26 | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Saugus Iron Works National Historic Site

Join us for a special celebration of waterpower. Hear the crash of the hammer and the bang of the bellows as we demonstrate the waterwheels at the Iron Works. Learn how waterwheels were made historically, and how modern carpenters repair and rebuild waterwheels. Then, see all working waterwheels run at the same time!

244 Central Street, Saugus





Border to Boston Trail Bike Ride, Topsfield

SOUTH HAMILTON

Iron Ox Farm Walking Tour

Sunday, September 20 | 11:00 am - 12:00 pm ; 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Host: Iron Ox Farm

Enjoy a farmer led walking tour of Iron Ox Farm, a certified organic vegetable farm in Hamilton. Visitors will be treated to a behind the scenes peek at the diverse operations of a sustainable small farm as they walk the fields and greenhouses.

656 Asbury St, South Hamilton



SWAMPSCOTT

Town History in Swampscott

Sunday, September 13 | 10:15 am, 11:15 am, 12:15 pm

Host: Swampscott Historical Society

See a colonial first period National Register listed house that has indigenous geometric painted designs. Learn about our fishing industry, the era of summer hotels, monoplane development, the inventions of the lobster trap and dory. We also have apotropaic markings or witch deterrent marks.

99 Paradise Rd, Swampscott

Open House & Exhibit: The Historic Swampscott Church of Spiritualism and the History of Spiritualism

Saturday, September 26 | 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

Host: The Swampscott Church of Spiritualism

Step back in time in this 1890s Shingle-style church, built by the Swampscott Universalist congregation on the former Mudge estate. Since 1982, it has been home to the Swampscott Church of Spiritualism. View original features, then explore a History of Spiritualism exhibit tracing its evolution from its 1848 beginnings.

59 Burrill Street, Swampscott



A Demonstration of Evidential Mediumship at the Swampscott Church of Spiritualism

Saturday, September 26 | 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Reservations Required

Host: The Swampscott Church of Spiritualism

Join us for a mediumship demonstration. A medium will connect with Spirit, the presence and energy of loved ones who have passed away, to share messages of love, comfort, and guidance. Registration required: www.theswampscottchurchofspiritualism.org/events

59 Burrill Street, Swampscott



Guided Tour: Elihu Thomson House, Swampscott Town Hall

Sunday, September 27 | 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Host: Swampscott Historical Commission

This beautifully restored Georgian Revival Mansion serves as Swampscott's Town Hall. Built in 1889 for Professor Elihu Thomson, it is located in the Olmsted Historic District and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Docent-led tours run on the hour and half hour.

22 Monument Avenue, Swampscott



Olmsted Historic District Walking Tours: Swampscott Historical Commission

Sunday, September 27 | 10:30 am - 2:30 pm

Host: Swampscott Historical Commission

Guided walking tour of the National Register listed Olmsted Historic District, designed in 1888 by landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted. Brief introduction to take place in Swampscott Town Hall prior to both tours. A local architect will guide the tours, highlighting architectural features of Olmsted's unique vision.

22 Monument Avenue, Swampscott



TOPSFIELD

Parson Capen House Opening

September 12, 15, 19, 22 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Topsfield Historical Society

Could the Witch Hysteria have been stopped in a parson's study? How does a 300-year-old house survive when it's long gone out of fashion? Open doors, look behind ceiling beams and peer into the large fireplaces of this exactly restored two-story Colonial House in the quintessential colonial New England small town.

1 Howlett St, Topsfield



Clock Tower Tour - Topsfield Town Hall

Monday, September 14 | 2:30 pm - 5:00 pm

[Reservations Required](#)

Host: Topsfield Town Hall

The Topsfield Town Hall and clock tower is celebrating its 154th year! Come with us up 72 stairs to see the clock mechanism in action and learn about its history, design, and improvements. Each guided tour is 30 minutes. Entirely indoors and well-lit bottom-to-top, aided by handrails and no ladders (sorry, no elevator access).

Topsfield Town Hall, 8 W. Common Street, Topsfield



75th Anniversary Talk: Colonial Settlement Through 1951

Thursday, September 17 | 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm

[Reservations Required](#)

Host: Mass Audubon and Topsfield Historical Society

Travel through 350 years at the Ipswich River Wildlife Sanctuary from early European settlers through 1951. Meet the Bradstreet, Averill, and Proctor families, follow the rhythms of agricultural life, and come away with a richer understanding of the layered history beneath your feet every time you walk magnificent trails.

87 Perkins Row, Topsfield



75th Anniversary Walk: A Twilight Walk Guided by Poetry

Saturday, September 19 | 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

[Reservations Required](#)

Host: Mass Audubon

Discover what the river, meadow, sugar shack, or Red-tail Hawk might say on a twilight walk where poets share persona poems inspired by the landscape. Presented by Colleen Michaels with The Thursday Poets, this immersive trail experience invites reflection and connection.

87 Perkins Row, Topsfield



Border to Boston Trail Bike Ride

Sunday, September 20 | 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

Host: Border to Boston Trail Coalition

This low-stress ride will be led by Dave Read of the Border to Boston Coalition. We'll meet at the Munro Velo bike shop in Topsfield (intersection of Main St. and Grove St.) and ride south over the Ipswich River Bridge, past the Wenham Swamp Walk and into Danvers. In Danvers Center we'll stop at the Cherry St. Fish Market. This ride is 12 miles round trip.

7 Grove Street, Topsfield



BioBlitz: Participatory Science at Hood Pond

Saturday, September 26 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

[Reservations Required](#)

Host: Ipswich River Watershed Association

Activities will be tailored to the unique habitats around Hood Pond and may include: Plant identification training and surveys; Animal identification training and surveys; Water quality investigations, such as testing chloride levels; Instruction on using the iNaturalist app to upload observations

141 Haverhill Road, Topsfield



Farmstead Cheese Tour

Saturday, September 26 | 10:00 am - 11:00 am; 11:00 am - 12:00 pm

Host: Valley View Farm

Visit Valley View Farm to learn about Essex County's largest and oldest farmstead goat cheese maker. See a Nubian goat herd, learn about cheesemaking, see the cheese cave, and sample cheeses. Cheese and farm products available to purchase.

278 High Street, Topsfield





Eastern Bank is committed to recognizing
the good in our communities and
celebrating the work of
ESSEX HERITAGE

**We proudly support
TRAILS & SAILS 2026**

Congratulations on 25 years!



CAMBRIDGE TRUST

A DIVISION OF EASTERN BANK

Member FDIC