



New England Railroading Tour September 21-26, 2023



Ready to book? Questions?

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HIKE. BIKE. RAIL. TRAVEL EWEPHORIA

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Itinerary

Day 1 - Thursday, September 21: Arrivals in Boston

Arrive into Boston at your leisure and meet the group this evening for orientation to the week ahead.

Meals: Dinner

Hotel: [Courtyard by Marriott Boston Downtown/North Station](#)

Day 2 - Friday, September 22: Amtrak's Downeaster & Explore Portland

This morning, experience America's intercity passenger-rail renaissance aboard Amtrak's Downeaster to Portland, Maine. We depart from North Station, located a mile and a half from South Station, Boston's terminus for trains from outside of New England. The need to transfer across the congested city center led to the demise of intercity passenger trains in Maine and New Hampshire earlier than elsewhere in the Northeast. From 1965 until Downeaster service began in 2001, only commuter trains used North Station. Now five round trips a day link ten communities in three states. The two and a half hour ride winds along the Atlantic Coast through quaint towns in Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Maine. Our midday arrival provides opportunity for you to discover downtown Portland.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Hotel: [Portland Regency Hotel & Spa](#)

Day 3 - Saturday, September 23: Maine's Rail and Maritime History

This morning, we visit a gem of Maine history. In most of America "narrow gauge" meant three feet between the rails. In Maine, a gauge of two feet was adopted for logging railroads in the woods and by five common-carrier railroads that totaled 187 route-miles. The 43-mile Wiscasset Waterville & Farmington operated from 1895 until 1933. The WW&F Railway Museum has recreated 2.5 miles of the original railroad, which we ride on via train powered by a restored steam locomotive. Afterward we visit the Maine Maritime Museum at the historic Percy & Small Shipyard in Bath, ME. Exhibits tell the stories of the shipyard, the neighboring Bath Iron Works, and the place of Maine's people and vessels in global commerce. Tonight you are free to dine on your own in Portland.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Hotel: [Portland Regency Hotel & Spa](#)

Day 4 - Sunday, September 24: Conway Scenic Railroad in the Mount Washington Valley

From the 1870s through the 1920s, multitudes of eastern city-dwellers summered in the White Mountains of New Hampshire and western Maine. They came by train and we will recreate a bit of their experience. A transfer from Portland by vehicle will take us to a midday train on a rail line they traveled. It became part of the Boston and Maine Railroad in 1890, and its passenger trains connected this valley with Boston until 1961. Freight service continued until 1972 and excursion trains began in 1974. After we transfer to the famed Omni Mount Washington Hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Hotel: [Omni Mount Washington](#)

Day 5 - Monday, September 25: Crawford Notch in the heart of the White Mountains

In the morning we take another ride on the Conway Scenic Railroad through the White Mountains, this time through Crawford Notch in a historic dome car providing scenic views along this 5.5-hour ride. The Omni Mount Washington Hotel is among the finest of surviving historic resort hotels in the northeastern United States and we spend the afternoon exploring the hotel on a self-guided walking tour or simply relaxing on the wrap-around veranda.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Hotel: [Omni Mount Washington](#)

Day 6 - Tuesday, September 26: To the Summit of Mount Washington by Cog Railway

Ride to the 6,288-foot summit of America's most topographically prominent peak east of Colorado. After he got lost hiking and spent a freezing night on the mountain, New Hampshire native Sylvester Marsh conceived of a railroad to the top. Though his idea was ridiculed, the New Hampshire legislature gave Marsh a charter to build it in 1858. The Civil War intervened, and the Mount Washington Cog Railway was not completed until 1869. It was the first of its kind in the world and it stimulated hotel expansion and transportation improvements throughout New Hampshire, Maine and Vermont. Our train will employ a 19th Century steam locomotive built for the railway by Manchester Locomotive Works. After lunch we return to Boston for travel home.

Meals: Breakfast & Lunch

Please Note: The above itinerary is subject to change depending on a variety of factors. In every case, Black Sheep Adventures will endeavor to make you aware of changes as soon as possible, but, occasionally, changes must be made immediately prior to, or during, a departure. We strive to offer the best quality trip for each area and will make every effort to offer a comparable or better vacation. Rest assured our goal is to leave you with the best possible experience, so you choose to travel with us again and tell your friends all about us.



Trip Prices & Terms

Trip Price Includes:

- Fivenights lodging as described above
- Most meals (five breakfasts, five lunches & four dinners)
- All train rides, museum visits, park admissions as mentioned in the itinerary above
- Commentary by trip rail expert
- Services of professional tour manager/driver(s)
- Ground transportation during the trip by 12 or 15-passenger vans & portage service
- Black Sheep Adventures T-shirts, wool socks, water bottles & luggage tags



Trip Price Excludes:

- Pre & post tour travel
- One dinner
- Optional activities
- Alcoholic beverages
- Trip insurance – highly recommended

Group Size: 6-20 people

Trip Price: \$5,995 per person double occupancy

Single Supplement: \$1,650

Payment Terms:

- \$1,500 deposit due to hold space
- Balance due 90 days prior to departure

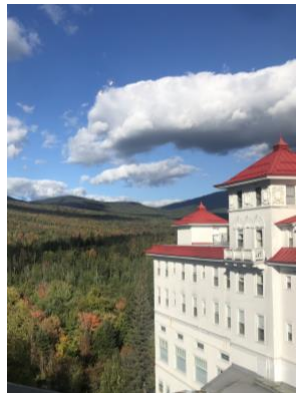
Cancellation Policy: If you cancel for any reason the following refund schedule applies:

- 91+ days prior to trip start: A \$100 fee per person will be deducted from any refund.
- 61-90 days prior to trip start: Cancellation fee equal to 25% of trip cost
- 31-60 days prior to trip start: Cancellation fee equal to 50% of trip cost
- 0-30 days prior to trip start: No refund

COVID-19 Policies (subject to change):

Everyone's safety (and concerns about safety) are paramount. While we cannot completely eliminate the risk, we are taking every reasonable precaution to mitigate risk of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 among our groups of travelers, our staff and the folks we encounter in the communities we visit along the way. Please note our current policies as of November 8, 2022:

- **Vaccination:** Previously we required vaccination. At this point we kindly request all guests and our staff to be fully vaccinated & boosted against COVID-19. We are now willing to accept travelers who are unvaccinated, provided they have previously had COVID-19, which therefore confers enough immunity to reduce the risk they pose to others, similar to someone who is vaccinated.
- **Pre-trip Testing:** We currently are requiring everyone to take a rapid, antigen "home test" within 24 hours prior to the trip start (we can provide these to anyone who has not taken one).



- **Masks:** We may ask everyone to wear a suitable mask while in close quarters indoors, such as in the support vehicles, or when requested by our vendors or required by local law.
- **Isolation:** If anyone tests positive or is feeling unwell and showing symptoms of COVID-19 prior to or during the tour they must notify the guide and remain isolated while a diagnosis is made. Black Sheep Adventures is not responsible for the cost related to medical treatment or isolation.

Travel Insurance:

We highly recommend travel insurance. For more information and to purchase, go to:<http://my.travelinsure.com/bsaselect>

Waiver: All participants must complete our waiver online at:<https://www.smartwaiver.com/v/bsahike2022/>

Disclaimer:

Black Sheep Adventures acts only as an agent for the various independent suppliers that provide hotel accommodations, transportation, sightseeing, activities, or other services connected with this tour. Such services are subject to the terms and conditions of those suppliers. Black Sheep Adventures and their respective employees, agents, representatives, and assigns accept no liability whatsoever from any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or any other incident which may be caused by the negligence, defect, default of any company or person in performing these services. Responsibility is not accepted for losses, injury, damages or expenses of any kind due to sickness, weather, strikes, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, local laws or other such causes. All services and accommodations are subject to the laws and regulations of the country in which they are provided. Black Sheep Adventures is not responsible for any baggage or personal effects of any individual participating in the tours arranged by Black Sheep Adventures. Individual travelers are responsible for purchasing a travel insurance policy, if desired, that will cover some of the expenses associated with the loss of luggage or personal effects.



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