



# *Cradle of Liberty Tour*

**September 17 - 24, 2011**

**Our fall motorcoach tour explores historic Massachusetts, including Boston, Plimoth Plantation, Old Sturbridge Village, Concord & Lexington, and more!**

***At a Glance:***

8-day, 7-night tour aboard Cardinal Motorcoach

Tour fee of \$1,599\* includes transportation, all lodging, all dinners and breakfasts, some lunches, all admission fees, taxes and gratuities.

**Attractions include:**

- \* The Mark Twain House
- \* Old Sturbridge Village
- \* Tour of Boston, including the Paul Revere House, USS *Constitution*, Faneuil Hall and Old North Church
- \* The John & Abigail Adams National Historic Site
- \* Plimoth Plantation and the *Mayflower II*
- \* Concord & Lexington, including the Louisa May Alcott House and Walden Pond



*Old Sturbridge Village*



*Interpreters at Plimoth Plantation*



“Old Ironsides”: the USS *Constitution* in Boston harbor.

\*Members' price, per person, double occupancy

## Cradle of Liberty Tour Itinerary

### Day 1 – September 17 (Saturday)

We'll depart the History Center parking lot in Berrien Springs bright and early for Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. En route we'll pass through the scenic cornfields of northern Indiana and view the spectacular barns and silos of Ohio. We'll dine on the way at one of the Midwest's premier fast-food emporiums and engage in a battle of intellects with a couple of Bob's Meaningless Trivia contests. We have fabulous prizes for the winners, who can then brag to everyone about knowing things that are of absolutely no use to anyone.

We'll leave the Ohio cornfields behind as we near Pennsylvania. Cluck the Rubber Chicken (ask one of our veteran travelers), will superintend the motorcoach stops. We'll stay the night at the Country Inn & Suites in Lewisburg, with dinner at the Victoria House nearby. The Victoria House is a gorgeous Italianate-style house that's been converted into a restaurant. You can see photos of it on the website, [www.thevictoriahouse.net](http://www.thevictoriahouse.net).

### Day 2 – September 18 (Sunday)

We'll have breakfast courtesy of Country Inn & Suites and then set off for Hartford, Connecticut. In Hartford we'll tour the home of author/humorist Mark Twain. This is Bob's all-time favorite home tour. Samuel Clemens ("Mark Twain") and his wife Olivia,

## Berrien County Historical Association Tour Guides

*Francie Porter Snyder, executive director*  
*Bob Myers, curator*

### BCHA Mission Statement

The mission of the BCHA is to collect, preserve, and interpret the history of Berrien County through exhibits, tours, publications, and educational and community outreach programs for public benefit.

Learn more about the BCHA by visiting  
[www.berrienhistory.org](http://www.berrienhistory.org).



*The Mark Twain House in Hartford.*

"Livvy" worked with architect Edward Tuckerman Potter to design the house, which they first occupied in 1874. Clemens and his family wrote extensively about the house, so the tour is replete with wildly funny stories about their time in Hartford.

Twain and his family lived there during the happiest and most productive years of his life. He wrote some of the greatest works of American literature during his time in Hartford, including *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*, *Life on the Mississippi*, *A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court*, *The Prince and the Pauper*, and his most important novel, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. As Ernest Hemingway noted about *Huckleberry Finn*, "All American writing comes from that. There was nothing before. There has been nothing as good since."

The Mark Twain House now includes a new, state-of-the-art museum. Opened in 2003, The Mark Twain Museum Center offers visitors an opportunity to learn more about Mark Twain, his family and the historic house. The museum houses a permanent exhibition on Twain's life and work; a rotating exhibition hall, a theater showing a Ken Burns mini-documentary on Twain, and The Mark Twain Store.

We'll have dinner tonight at the Chowder Pot IV (a local institution in Hartford) and stay at the Hampton Inn & Suites.

### Day 3 – September 19 (Monday)

After breakfast at the hotel, we'll drive an hour to Old Sturbridge Village for an all-day visit. As one of

the world's largest living history museums, Old Sturbridge Village celebrates early New England life from 1790-1840. Interpreters carry out the daily activities of an early 19th-century community. The site features historians in costume, 59 antique buildings, three water-powered mills, and a working farm. Visitors can ride a stagecoach, view exhibits, tour heirloom gardens, meet heritage breed farm animals, and enjoy hands-on crafts.

Sturbridge Village takes visitors on a journey through time to a rural New England town of the 1830s. Interpreters carry out the daily activities of an early 19th-century community on a site that sprawls across more than 200 acres. Buildings include homes, meetinghouses, a district school, country store, bank, law office, printing office, carding mill, sawmill, gristmill, pottery, blacksmith shop, shoe shop, and cooper shop.

The Village roots its portrayal of the past in historical research that includes archaeology, scientific analysis of 19th-century objects and buildings, and an in-depth study of letters, diaries, account books, and other documents.

We've arranged lunch for everyone at the site, so we'll have plenty of time to immerse ourselves in the world of the Early Republic.



*The Village Green at Old Sturbridge Village*

We'll leave Sturbridge and drive to Plymouth for dinner at Isaac's Restaurant. Lodging tonight (and for the next three nights) will be at Plymouth's Radisson Hotel. The hotel is located just a block from the historic Plymouth harbor, so we can stroll down to the

waterfront in the evenings. The Radisson's amenities include a fitness center, complimentary wireless Internet access, an indoor pool and a whirlpool.

#### **Day 4 – September 20 (Tuesday)**

Today's touring showcases Boston and the world of John and Abigail Adams. We head out from Plymouth to the Adams National Historical Park in Braintree, Massachusetts. This National Park Service site tells the story of four generations of the Adams family, from 1720 to 1927. The park has two main sites: the birthplaces of the 2nd U.S. President, John Adams, and his son, the 6th U.S. President, John Quincy Adams; and Peacefield, which includes the "Old House," home to four generations of the Adams family, and the Stone Library containing over 14,000 volumes.

We'll take a motorcoach tour of Boston in the afternoon with stops to visit sites around the city. These include the frigate USS *Constitution*

(better known as "Old Ironsides"), the Paul Revere House, Faneuil Hall, and the Old North Church.

Dinner tonight is back in Plymouth at the East Bay Grille.



*The Village Green at Old Sturbridge Village*

### Day 5 – September 21 (Wednesday)

We'll spend today in the historic villages of Concord and Lexington. We'll start with the Minute-man Visitor's Center in Lexington, have lunch, and then move to the Concord Museum for a great overview of the area's history. We'll then meet a step-on guide who will take us around the area.

Besides the famous "Shot Heard 'Round the World" that started the American Revolution, Concord is famous as a 19th century writer's colony. Its residents included Louisa May Alcott, Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Henry David Thoreau. The sites we'll visit include Walden Pond and Alcott's Orchard House.

Louisa May Alcott's "Orchard House" (ca. 1690) is noted for being home to the talented Alcott family, and is where Louisa May Alcott wrote and set her beloved classic novel, *Little Women*, in 1868.

Orchard House is one of the oldest, most authentically-preserved historic house museums in America. It brings the Alcott legacy in the fields of literature, art, education, philosophy, and social justice to life through tours, unique living history events, curriculum-based educational programs, and irreplaceable original family furnishings and archives.

### Day 6 – September 22 (Thursday)

Plimoth Plantation is one of Bob's favorite historic sites. It's amazing. You step into Plimoth in 1627, recreated exactly as it was in that era, with each day corresponding to a day in that year. The interpreters are role-players, and speak to you in 17th-century dialects.

This is not the typical historic site interpretation where the staff waits for you to venture in and then tells you about a given topic. Instead, the people of Plimoth go about their activities and draw you into their world. You learn what a pottage is or how a duck or bluefish is cooked on the hearth. You may hear about issues of land ownership and payment of debt, or the colony's latest gossip. Each day in the village is different, and each colonist is an individual whose conversation will intrigue and entertain.



*The John Adams home in Braintree*

The same is true of the *Mayflower II*, a reproduction of the ship that brought the "Pilgrims" to New England. Your experience there starts with an exhibit about why the colonists left England and Holland, and an explanation of 17th-century navigation. Onboard, you'll visit areas of the ship set up as they would have been in 1620, and can talk with modern guides about the history of Plymouth Colony. After viewing the ship, visitors may tour exhibits to learn more about this reproduction vessel; how she was researched and built; and about her voyage from England in 1957.

At the Wampanoag Homesite next to the Plimoth settlement, you can speak with Native interpreters in period dress as well as uniformed staff. The staff here does not role play, so they speak from a modern perspective to explain early Wampanoag history. The site includes the

wetuash (houses), including the puttakaukan (round house) and the neesquittow (house of two fires). These homes are beside the gardens, which show the traditional method of planting corn, beans and squash in mounds. Interpreters carry on many activities of daily life, including house construction, making a mishoon (dugout canoe), cooking a meal of bluefish, duck or sobaheg (stew) over the fire, and



tending and weeding the garden. Staff also utilize 17th-century technology and materials to re-create baskets, pottery, wooden bowls, stone tools and many other items.

We've arranged a box lunch on-site (included) so that we can devote our time to touring this fascinating living history site.

We'll have some free time in the afternoon to explore the village of Plymouth. We then return to Plimoth Plantation for dinner featuring (what else?) turkey! One of the Plimoth staff will also be on hand for a special presentation about the 17th century world of Plimoth.

### **Day 7 – September 23 (Friday)**

We depart Plymouth this morning on the return trip to Michigan. We stay the night at the Hampton Inn in Cheektowaga, New York (it's just outside Buffalo), but first we'll have dinner at the Akron House in the nearby village of Akron. The Akron House is situated in a fabulous 1872 Italianate-style building that originally served as a hotel, restaurant and saloon. The current owners renovated the building and reopened it as a restaurant in 1991.

### **Day 8 - September 24 (Saturday)**

Our last day is a "driving day," with more of Bob's Useless Trivia Games, lunch at a scenic Ohio interstate oasis (one of the ace attractions on our tours!) and an arrival back in Berrien Springs.

*We're **really** excited about this trip! We think it's our best one yet and hope you'll be able to join us. Give us a call at (269) 471-1202 or email Bob at [rmyers@berriehistory.org](mailto:rmyers@berriehistory.org) if you have any questions.*

*~ Francie & Bob*

### **Learn More On-Line ~**

*Visit these internet websites to learn more about our tour destinations :*

### **Attractions:**

*Mark Twain House: [www.marktwainhouse.org](http://www.marktwainhouse.org)  
 Old Sturbridge Village: [www.osv.com](http://www.osv.com)  
 Plimoth Plantation: [www.plimoth.org](http://www.plimoth.org)  
 John Adams National Park: [www.nps.gov/adam](http://www.nps.gov/adam)  
 USS Constitution: [www.history.navy.mil/ussconstitution](http://www.history.navy.mil/ussconstitution)  
 Louisa May Alcott House: [www.louisamayalcott.org](http://www.louisamayalcott.org)  
 Concord Museum: [www.concordmuseum.org](http://www.concordmuseum.org)  
 Minute Man Visitors Center: [www.nps.gov/mima](http://www.nps.gov/mima)  
 Walden Pond: [www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/walden](http://www.mass.gov/dcr/parks/walden)*



*The Mayflower II at Plymouth*

### **Hotels**

*Radisson Hotel, Plymouth: [www.radisson.com/plymouth-hotel-ma-02360/maplyhar](http://www.radisson.com/plymouth-hotel-ma-02360/maplyhar)  
 Country Inn & Suites, Lewisburg: [www.countryinns.com/lewisburg-hotel-pa-17837/palewisb](http://www.countryinns.com/lewisburg-hotel-pa-17837/palewisb)  
 Hampton Inn, Hartford: <http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=EHTCTHX>  
 Hampton Inn, Cheektowaga: <http://hamptoninn.hilton.com/en/hp/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=BUFARHX>*

## Cradle of Liberty Tour Itinerary September 17-24, 2011

**Day 1:** Saturday, Sept. 17

8:00 a.m. Depart Berrien Springs  
12:00 m. Lunch en route on your own  
6:00 p.m. Dinner at the Victoria House, Lewisburg, PA  
8:00 p.m. Check-in, Country Inn & Suites, Lewisburg

**Day 2:** Sunday, Sept. 18

8:00 a.m. Depart Lewisburg for Hartford, CT  
12:00 p.m. Lunch en route on your own  
2:00 p.m. Tour Mark Twain House in Hartford  
6:00 p.m. Dinner at Chowder Pot IV, Hartford  
8:00 p.m. Check-in at Hampton Inn & Suites, Hartford

**Day 3:** Monday, September 19

9:00 a.m. Depart Hartford for Old Sturbridge Village, MA  
10:00 a.m. Tour Old Sturbridge Village  
12:00 m. Lunch at Old Sturbridge Village (included)  
4:00 p.m. Depart Old Sturbridge Village for Plymouth, MA  
7:30 p.m. Dinner at Isaac's Restaurant, Plymouth  
9:30 p.m. Check-in, Radisson Hotel, Plymouth

**Day 4:** Tuesday, September 20

9:15 a.m. Depart Plymouth for Braintree, MA  
10:00 a.m. Tour Adams National Historic Park  
12:30 p.m. Depart Adams National Historical Park for Boston  
1:00 p.m. Lunch on your own  
2:00 p.m. Tour of Boston, including USS *Constitution*, Paul Revere House, Old North Church & Faneuil Hall  
5:00 p.m. Depart Boston for Plymouth  
6:30 p.m. Dinner at East Bay Grille, Plymouth  
8:30 p.m. Return to Radisson Hotel

**Day 5:** Wednesday, September 21

8:30 a.m. Depart Plymouth for Lexington, MA  
10:00 a.m. Tour Minuteman Visitors Center  
11:00 a.m. Tour Concord Museum  
12:00 m. Lunch at La Provence (included)  
1:00 p.m. Driving/walking tour of Concord, including Louisa May Alcott House & Walden Pond  
5:30 p.m. Dinner at the Colonial Inn, Concord  
7:30 p.m. Return to Radisson Hotel

**Day 6:** Thursday, September 22:

8:45 a.m. Depart for Plimoth Plantation  
9:00 a.m. Tour Plimoth Plantation  
12:00 m. Box lunch on site (included)  
1:00 p.m. Tour *Mayflower II*  
2:00 p.m. Free time in Plymouth  
5:30 p.m. Dinner & program at Plimoth Plantation  
7:30 p.m. Return to Radisson Hotel

**Day 7:** Friday, September 23:

9:00 a.m. Depart Plymouth for Cheektowaga, NY  
12:00 m. Lunch on your own  
6:00 p.m. Dinner at the Akron House, Akron, NY  
8:30 p.m. Check-in at Hampton Inn, Cheektowaga

**Day 8:** Saturday, September 24:

9:00 a.m. Depart hotel for Berrien Springs  
12:00 m. Lunch en route on your own  
6:00 p.m. Arrive in Berrien Springs



*The Paul Revere House, one of our tour stops in Boston.*

**Yes! Sign me/us up for the History Center's Cradle of Liberty Tour!**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

A \$200 per person deposit will reserve your place on the tour. Balance will be due at the reservation deadline, August 1, 2011. Deposits are fully refundable 60 days before the tour.

\_\_\_ Reservations at members' price, \$1,599 per person

\_\_\_ Reservations at non-members' price, \$1,649 per person\*

\_\_\_ Single supplement, \$500 per person

**Payment**

Enclosed is a check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please charge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to my Visa/Mastercard

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**Join the History Center Today!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Membership categories:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <i>Basic</i>                                | <i>Supporting</i>                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20    | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing \$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$30        | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$50   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Institutional \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$100      |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$500  |

**\* Your membership immediately qualifies you for the members' discount on the Cradle of Liberty Tour!**

Additional donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make checks payable to the Berrien County Historical Association or**

**Please charge my credit card: (Circle one)**  
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Tour of Massachusetts & Connecticut  
September 17 - 24, 2011*