

ARA Spring 2025 Cultural Tours Notice

Please save this Notice for reference until all the trips are over.

The Durham pick-ups will be at the Durham Evangelical Church, 114 Dover Road (Rte. 108).

Directions for Newington pickup: From the Portsmouth Traffic Circle, take Rte. 16 North (Spaulding Turnpike). Take Exit #1 (Gosling Road/Pease), turn right onto Gosling Road. Get in the left lane to turn left at the first set of lights (just past McDonald's). Stay in the left lane to make a left turn at the stop sign. You will be on the mall perimeter road. Turn right into the parking lot opposite the Longhorn Steakhouse. *Tours will be picked up at the times indicated.*

We will be using Premier Coach Lines for all tours.

PLEASE SIGN UP ONLY FOR TOURS YOU KNOW YOU CAN FULLY AND SAFELY ENJOY. Members and guests are asked to consider their health and well being before registering for tours requiring greater physical exertion than others (such as more walking, stair climbing, etc.).

PLEASE CALL DEBBI FORSTER (603-397-5788) if you will be asking for assistance for any tour.

Making Your Reservations: Reservations for Spring 2025 Tours will be accepted by mail and will be honored in the order they are received. Reservation forms are included with this mailing. Please **complete (with your luncheon choice where appropriate) and promptly mail** the reservation form(s) **with a separate check dated the date of the tour(s) along with each reservation form** to the address indicated on the form. **Separate checks are necessary** because checks are not deposited until after each individual tour. **Make your check(s) payable to ARA.**

Please do not staple, tape, or clip check to the reservation form. Email reminders will be sent approximately one week prior to tour date. If you do not have email, you'll receive a phone call reminder.

Eligibility: Members in good standing for the current 2024-25 year are eligible to participate in the trips.

Guest Policy: Reservations will be filled on a "Members First" basis. After this is accomplished, guests will be accommodated if there is room. If you would like to bring a guest, please check with **Debbi Forster (603-397-5788)** and she will guide you through the process.

Cancellation Policy: Refunds are made if there is a waiting list and someone else can take your place. Cancellations and/or substitutions must be made with Debbi Forster (603-397-5788). The bus company may cancel trips in the event of bad weather. Someone will contact you should this happen.

ARA Wait List Policy- When a tour is full, members assigned to a Wait List will be informed in a timely manner. **Contacting Tour Coordinator within 30 minutes of departure: If you need to reach the Coordinator of a tour just before time of departure, call their cell phone number listed with the information for each specific tour.**

DRIFTER POLICY: Note: *During the tour, for your own safety and to ensure that the schedule is maintained, individuals must not separate from the group for any reason, unless the tour leader has authorized "time on your own."*

Note: ARA cannot be responsible for those who leave the tour group should they get left behind. Occasionally during a tour schedule, changes must be made at the last minute. There is no way to communicate such changes to persons who have gone off on their own. Every effort will be made to locate drifters, but the bus will be held no longer than 15 minutes.

Other: Costs include all gratuities. *The cost for wine and alcoholic drinks, however, is not included and must be paid for separately.*

For Further Information: Contact Debbi Forster at (603) 397-5788.

REMEMBER: CHECKS WILL NOT BE DEPOSITED UNTIL AFTER THE TRIP.

Note: A separate check (payable to ARA and dated the date of the tour) must accompany each tour reservation. Please send your reservation as early as possible; reservations are honored on a first-received basis.

ARA Spring 2025 Cultural Tours Notice

TOUR #1 – THURSDAY MARCH 20, 2025

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

Lunch on your own at one of the Museum's 3 restaurants

Departure: Durham 8:15AM and Newington 8:30 AM

Approximate time of return: Newington 4:45PM and Durham 5:00 PM

TOUR COORDINATOR: Judith Simpson (617) 872-2073

Today we'll take a tour of the world on a day at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston. As Boston's oldest, largest and best-known art institution, the MFA brings many worlds together through art with its renowned collection of nearly 500,000 works that showcase the multi-faceted story of the human experience. See Mummies, Monet and Modern Contemporary Art, the Art of Ancient Greece, Rome and the Byzantine Empire, the Art of English Regency and much more!

Enjoy the Museum shop and lunch at one of the three venues for dining on your own schedule and tour plan. Your options are: Taste- a wine and coffee bar with pastries and snacks, (\$), The Garden Cafeteria, which offers sandwiches, salads, soups, pizza, etc., (\$); or the New American Café, an a-la-carte full menu with appetizers through dessert (\$\$).

As the tour date nears, you may receive an update on special exhibitions of interest. You may also wish to visit the www.mfa.org website before our tour. We'll depart for home at 3:00PM.

Handicap Accessibility: The Museum is handicap accessible.

Cost **\$75.00 per person.**

Tour #1 -Thursday, March 20, 2025

Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, MA

Lunch on your own at one of the Museum's 3 restaurants

\$75.00 per person

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

_____ Cell: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Emergency contact name _____ Relationship _____

Emergency contact's daytime phone _____

Please check here for NEWINGTON PICK UP _____

Mail with check payable to **ARA** dated the day of the tour (March 20, 2025) to: ARA, c/o Debbi Forster, 13 Marden Way, Durham, NH 03824.

ARA Spring 2025 Cultural Tours Notice

TOUR #2– THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2025

Boston Symphony Open Rehearsal, Symphony Hall, Boston, MA

Lunch on your own at the Prudential Center

Departure: Durham 8:00AM and Newington 8:15AM

Approximate time of return: Newington 6:00PM and Durham 6:15PM

TOUR COORDINATOR: Lynn Delicio (603) 692-8884

We are delighted once again to return to Symphony Hall for an Open Rehearsal of the Boston Symphony Orchestra (Dima Slobodeniouk conducting). Upon arrival you'll have time for coffee before the rehearsal begins at 10:30AM. Dima Slobodeniouk leads 3 works, all notable for their proximity to wartime. Edward Elgar's *Violin Concerto* can be seen in retrospect as an idyllic calm before the storm of World War I. Adolphus Hailstork's *Lachrymosa 1919* explores the Red Summer of 1919, a deadly backlash against Black American prosperity in the wake of the war. Stravinsky's *Symphony in Three Movements* was the composer's dark reaction to the universal devastation of World War II.

Following the morning rehearsal, our bus will take us to Prudential Center where you will enjoy lunch on your own at one of the many restaurants there including: The Cheesecake Factory, Eataly, California Pizza Kitchen, CAVA, Beacon Bistro, Clover Food Lab and Ben & Jerry's, to name a few. You may prefer to shop in one of the elegant boutiques or just sit and people watch. We'll depart for home at 3:30PM.

Handicap Accessibility: Handicap accessible.

Cost is \$85.00 per person.

Tour #2 THURSDAY APRIL 3, 2025

Boston Symphony Open Rehearsal

Symphony Hall, Boston, MA

Lunch on your own at the Prudential Center, Boston

\$85.00 per person

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

_____ Cell: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Emergency contact name _____ Relationship _____

Emergency contact's daytime phone _____

Please check here for NEWINGTON PICK-UP _____

Mail with check payable to ARA dated the day of the tour (April 3, 2025) to: ARA, c/o Debbi Forster, 13 Marden Way, Durham, NH 03824.

ARA Spring 2025 Cultural Tours Notice

TOUR #3 -Thursday, May 22, 2025

Fruitlands Museums and Farmhouse Historic District, Harvard, MA

Lunch on your own at the Museum Cafe

Departure: Durham 8:30AM and Newington 8:45AM

Approximate time of return: Newington 4:00PM and Durham 4:15PM

Cost: \$63.00 per person

TOUR COORDINATOR: Judith Simpson (617) 872-2073

Today you'll explore a bygone Transcendentalist community (1840's) whose pastoral landscape houses wide-ranging collections of art and artifacts. The museum includes the Fruitlands farmhouse which has been restored to appear as it did in the 1840's; a museum about Shaker life; an art gallery with 19th century landscape paintings, vernacular American portraits, and other rotating exhibitions; as well as a museum of Native American history.

A note of interest: the original community was joined by people interested in self-sufficiency, using no hard labor and growing all food themselves. The community ultimately failed because of the difficulty of growing crops.

Fruitland was also the former home of Louisa May Alcott. In 2023 visitors to the property voted to name it one of the ten best history museums in the U.S.

Handicap Accessibility: The museum and grounds are handicap accessible.

Cost: \$63.00 per person.

Tour #3 -Thursday, May 22, 2025

Fruitlands Museum and Farmhouse Historic District, Harvard, MA

Lunch on your own at the Museum Café

\$63.00 per person

Name(s): _____ **Phone:** _____

_____ **Cell:** _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Emergency contact name _____ **Relationship** _____

Emergency contact's daytime phone _____

Please check here for NEWINGTON PICK UP _____

Mail with check payable to ARA dated the day of the tour (May 22, 2025) to: ARA, c/o Debbi Forster, 13 Marden Way, Durham, NH 03824.