Daily Itinerary

Day 1: Flight to Boston
Today upon arrival meet your Tour Director and transfer to your Boston hotel for a one night stay. Enjoy a Welcome Drink with your fellow travelers.
Overnight: Boston area, MA

Day 2: Boston City Tour - JFK Museum - Cape Cod
This morning enjoy a Boston City Tour featuring Boston Commons, the Old State House, the Old North Church from where Paul Revere got the signal to start his famous ride, the Old South Meeting House, Beacon Hill and Old Ironsides. Visit the Faneuil Hall Marketplace, located in downtown Boston near the waterfront and originally gifted to the city in 1742. Later visit the John F. Kennedy Presidential Library & Museum, dedicated to the memory of our nation’s 35th president. Located on a ten-acre park, overlooking the sea that he loved and the city that launched him to greatness, the library stands as a vibrant tribute to the life and times of JFK. This afternoon head out to Cape Cod for a 5-night stay. Enjoy a Welcome Dinner this evening with your fellow travelers.
Meals: (B, D) Overnight: Hyannis/Farmouth, MA

Day 3: Plymouth Plantation – 400th Anniversary Mayflower II - Cranberries - provincetown
This morning visit Plymouth Plantation, an accurate re-creation of the Pilgrim’s 1627 village where costumed interpreters portray colonists in this living history museum. Then celebrate the 400th Anniversary of the journey that brought the pilgrims to the New World as you visit the Mayflower II, the 1620 ship reproduction was recently renovated for the momentous occasion. Then stop to see famous Plymouth Rock, the place where the Pilgrims first stepped ashore after a 66 day trans-Atlantic voyage. Later visit a traditional Cranberry Bog and learn about the harvesting of Cape Cod’s famous fruit. Then travel along the Cape Cod National Seashore, dedicated in 1961 by President JFK, which features forty miles of pristine sandy beaches, marshes, ponds, and uplands supporting diverse species of wildlife dotted with lighthouses, cultural landscapes and wild cranberry bogs. Arrive in provincetown, located on the tip of Cape Cod which boasts a lively artist community, beautiful beaches, great restaurants and charming shops. Enjoy some leisure time to relax, eat and shop. Later return to your Cape Cod hotel.
Meals: (B) Overnight: Hyannis/Farmouth, MA

Day 4: Martha's Vineyard Tour
This morning enjoy a scenic ferry ride to famous Martha’s Vineyard where little has changed since European settlers arrived early in the 17th century. The island’s resident population includes writers, artists, entertainers and fishermen. Your Martha’s Vineyard Tour includes the colorful Victorian cottages of Oak Bluffs, Edgartown with its stately houses built by whaling Captains, pristine beaches and colorful yacht harbors. Also view the picturesque Aquinnah Light-house and Gay Head. Later return via ferry and back to your hotel. Dinner is included this evening back on Cape Cod.
Meals: (B, D) Overnight: Hyannis/Farmouth, MA

Day 5: Newport, Rhode Island
Today visit Newport, Rhode Island, one of New England’s most delightful coastal cities and a longtime favorite vacation site of affluent socialites and yachting enthusiasts. Enjoy a Newport City Tour and drive by the Touro Synagogue, the oldest synagogue in America, the International Tennis Hall of Fame and the splendid estates along Bellevue Avenue. Marvel at the extravagant lifestyle of a bygone era with a guided tour of The Breakers Mansion, the Vanderbilt’s lavishly decorated turn of the century mansion. Then follow “Ten-Mile Drive” along the magnificent rocky coast which boasts exquisite estates from the early 1900’s.
Meals: (B) Overnight: Hyannis/Farmouth, MA

Day 6: Nantucket Island
This morning board a ferry and cruise to scenic and historic Nantucket Island featuring a cobble-stoned Main Street, unspoiled beaches, sea captains’ houses and art galleries. Enjoy a visit to the Nantucket Whaling Museum including its rooftop observation deck overlooking the harbor and other whale watching exhibits all reflections of an island that some 300 years ago was the whaling capital of the world. Enjoy some time at your own pace to shop or explore the yacht filled harbor and waterfront. This afternoon board a ferry and return to your hotel. Tonight’s Farewell Dinner is a traditional New England Lobster Dinner.
Meals: (B, D) Overnight: Hyannis/Farmouth, MA

Day 7: Cape Cod - Boston Flight Home
Today transfer to the Boston Airport filled with wonderful memories of your Cape Cod & the Islands Tour. 
Meals: (B)
Dear EXPLORERS and Friends,

“The Cape” – Cape Cod, located in eastern Massachusetts is among New England’s favorite summer vacation destinations and it thrives on tourism, beautiful ocean beaches and small unique businesses. Travelers come to lose themselves amongst endless miles of windswept seashore, dune-studded landscapes, inshore forests and historic sights. Enjoy your first night in exciting Boston & then head out for 5 Nights at One Hotel on ‘The Cape’ to experience its beauty and history. Visit amazing Boston, the JFK Museum, mansion filled Newport, RI, Provincetown, a Cranberry Bog and ferry to the two most scenic and famous Islands off ‘The Cape’, Martha’s Vineyard & Nantucket.

Today, Boston is the economic and cultural hub of New England yet retains its rich history in education, arts, culture, cuisine and architecture. Boston is one of America’s oldest cities, first incorporated as a town in 1630 with a rich economic and social history. The Cape’s recorded history starts with the Plymouth Pilgrims who first set foot in the New World at the tip of Cape Cod in 1620. On your Cape sightseeing day see the Mayflower II during its 400th Anniversary season then visit a traditional Cranberry Bog, see scenic Lighthouses & travel to the tip of Cape Cod to visit charming Provincetown. The island of Martha’s Vineyard is only seven miles off the coast of Massachusetts, but a world all its own. ‘The Vineyard’ is a true island as there are no bridges from the mainland, and most visitors arrive by ferry or plane. Explore the seaside city of Newport, RI famous for its historic mansions and an upscale downtown filled with cobblestone streets & brick sidewalks. The sight of the island of Nantucket coming into view from the bow of a ferry is a stirring one as lines of foaming breakers crash against vast stretches of sands on the shore while 17th century architecture dots the downtown horizon. Enjoy these wonderful New England sights during your 7 day adventure to Boston & ‘The Cape’.

Please review the Itinerary details and count the extras. With roundtrip airfare included, we hope you can join us and agree this is an amazing trip.

Cheers,

Jennifer Dillavou
President, University of Illinois Alumni Alliance
Associate Vice Chancellor for Alumni Relations, UIUC

EXPLORERS Alumni Travel Program
presents

Cape Cod & the Islands
featuring Boston, Martha’s Vineyard, Nantucket & Newport

7 Days  July 18-24, 2020

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