

TFA Newport Trip Itinerary - Thursday, September 15, 2016

9:00 a.m. Depart Renaissance Providence; group will meet in the hotel's front lobby

9:45 a.m. Arrive Beavertail lighthouse (located on the second largest of Rhode Island's 35 islands); tour guide will provide a general introduction to Rhode Island along the way.

9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. Explore the lighthouse and the tip of Conanicut Island; guide will identify landmarks and scenic spots. *Note: If weather is inclement, we will skip this stop.*

10:15 a.m. Arrive at Newport Visitors Center; day trippers and walking tour participants will depart the bus here. The Visitors Center is a great place to pick up maps, buy tickets to various attractions, and use the facilities!

10:30 a.m. Walking tour participants arrive at Newport Historical Society, 125 Thames Street in the Brick Market (this is 2 blocks from the Visitors Center.) *Note: Walking tour lasts approximately one hour; there is a small museum on the second floor that you may also want to explore.*

10:30 a.m. After a comfort break, full tour participants will re-board the bus for a narrated ride through Newport and along the coast, with stops for photographs along the way. You will travel along Ocean Drive, with its stately homes and gorgeous water views, and down Bellevue Avenue, past the former summer "cottages" of the Gilded Age, the Tennis Hall of Fame, and the beautiful Cliff Walk.

12:00 p.m. Our bus driver will drop you off downtown, where you can enjoy lunch on your own, and spend some time exploring the shops.

1:45 p.m. Full tour participants re-board the bus for the ride to Marble House. The excellent, self-guided audio tour of this magnificent home not only describes the exquisite furnishings and decor, but also provides a glimpse into the exciting and often scandalous lives of its mistress, Alva Vanderbilt, and the rest of Newport society. The site also includes a Chinese Tea House, gift shop and restroom facilities.

Note: Anyone wishing to explore the Cliff Walk should also board the bus at this time. We will drop you off on the way to Marble House, and collect you on the return trip.

3:30 p.m. Full tour participants re-board the bus in the parking lot at Marble House. Cliff Walkers, please be back at the northern entrance at this time!

3:45 p.m. Day trippers and walking tour participants meet the bus at the Newport Visitors Center for the return trip to Providence.

4:30 p.m. Arrive back at the Renaissance Providence