

Hobbyists Unlimited

A Coastal Newport Christmas

Two Day Tour ~ November 30-December 1, 2023

Highlights: Overnight at the Newport Harbor Hotel • Three Newport Mansions Elegantly Decorated for the Holidays: The Breakers, The Elms, Marble House • Free Time to Browse in Newport • Scenic Ocean Drive • Holiday Shopping • All Admissions • One Breakfast • One Lunch • One Dinner • Fully Escorted

Think cobblestone streets with the glow of white lights, the glitter and gold of Gilded Age mansions dazzled with dozens of Christmas trees along with thousands of poinsettias, and warm, quaint shops with candlelit windows and you will get a sense of the enchantment of the holiday season in coastal Newport. This historic New England seaport abounds with history, elegance and beauty, and possesses more historic houses dating from before the American Revolution, than any other city in America. You will experience Newport's old-world charm throughout its numerous shops and restaurants. Wandering through this charming town and within the sparkling opulence of each festively decorated mansion will be the perfect way to capture that holiday magic!

Day 1. Today we travel along the New England coastline to the picturesque town of Newport where the opulence of Gilded Age mansions meets the sparkle and magic of Christmas. Take your time to browse the festively decorated downtown, waterfront area and find a tasty lunch on your own. Our first magnificent mansion of the day is The Elms, modeled after an 18th Century French Chateau for America's coal king, Edward J. Berwind. From the moment you set eyes upon this opulent home, you will be astounded! The interiors and furnishings were designed by Allard & Sons of Paris and contain the Berwind's collection of Renaissance ceramics, 18th century French and Venetian paintings and Oriental jades. After, we check into the waterfront Newport Harbor Hotel located in the heart of the downtown, a perfect location for exploring the town. After time to settle in, relax and enjoy the included dinner, we'll spend an extravagant evening at The Breakers, the grandest of the Newport Summer Cottages. The Breakers façade will be bathed in



Breakers Mansion



Christmas at the Mansions

color during the Sparkling Lights display and its gardens and landscape will be aglow with festive colored lights as holiday music fills the air. As you make your way inside, the jaw-dropping interior will be lavishly decorated with thousands of poinsettias, spectacular ornamented evergreens, wreathes, fresh flowers, along with surprising festive touches along with the infamous 15-foot-tall poinsettia tree gracing The Great Hall.

Day 2. We begin our day with ten miles of historic landmarks and stunning coastal views along Newport's famous Ocean Drive. While keeping warm and cozy, we'll be wowed as we pass by the homes of Newport's rich and famous while hearing their fascinating stories. Now we step foot into one of those magnificent homes, Marble House, which offers a certain kind of holiday magic. Inspired by The Grand Trianon of Versailles, Marble House was constructed with 500,000 cubic feet of marble with the front resembling The White House and the interior consisting of an eclectic mix of Gothic and French style architecture. Now we head to picturesque Narragansett for a delicious, included seafood lunch before our trek back to New Jersey. © 2022 Group Tours & Travel

Departs South Plainfield High School, the end of Lane Ave, at 7:15 AM and returns at approximately 7:15 PM

Departs Madison's Kings Road Parking Lot, 62 Kings Rd. at 7:45 AM and returns at approximately 6:45 PM

Departs Ridgewood's Graydon Pool at the corner of Linwood Avenue and Northern Parkway at 8:30 AM and returns at approximately 6:00 PM

Price per person is \$695 Twin & \$795 Single. No reservations accepted without a deposit of \$150 per person. Make checks payable to "Group Tours & Travel" and mail to the address above. Final payment is due on September 9, 2021. Deposits are fully refundable until September 9, 2021. If cancellation occurs after September 9, 2021, there are no refunds. Travel protection/cancellation coverage is available and highly recommended (cost is approximately 10% of the total cost of the tour) but not included. One piece of luggage per person and one small carry-on are permitted. Group Tours is not responsible for any delays, cancellations, injuries or circumstances beyond its control and reserves the right to change this itinerary. All trip components are subject to change in accordance with Government, State and Local guidelines and/or mandates. This tour will run rain or shine. Visit our website at www.grouptoursandtravel.com for additional tours.

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Please reserve _____ seat(s). The enclosed check is for \$ _____ #3298

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____ Zip Code _____

Rooming with: _____ Phone: _____

I will be departing from Ridgewood _____ from Madison _____ from South Plainfield _____

Add email for registration confirmation/final payment notice: _____