



THE TRAVEL CLUB

Pre-Departure Itinerary

Harvest on the Harbor Festival

Portland, Maine

Friday, October 23 - Sunday, October 25, 2009

Hop aboard the **AMTRAK Downeaster** for a great new getaway to Portland—**Harvest on the Harbor**—A Maine Culinary Experience. For three days, Portland indulges in a food and wine festival, featuring over 100 food experts and endless palatable pleasures. Depart Boston's North Station Friday morning, arrive before noon and transfer to the **Holiday Inn by the Bay**, convenient to the **Arts District**, the **Old Port** and the festival locations. In the afternoon you'll attend a 90-minute seminar—the 2009 schedule will be announced in May but the 2008 seminars included Mixology, Wine Pairing and Oyster Tasting! On Saturday you'll enjoy a full-day of learning, tasting and sipping with admission to the Culinary Marketplace at the Ocean Gateway. As you wander through the marketplace you may watch a chef's demo, meet your favorite cookbook author and view the wares of local furniture makers, design studios and retailers. Dinner will be on your own this weekend and there's a plethora of choices within walking distance of your hotel and many local restaurants participate in the festival with special menu offerings.

Includes

- Round-trip transportation on AMTRAK, from North Station, Boston (coach class)
- Two nights' first-class accommodations at the **Holiday Inn By the Bay**
- Buffet breakfast daily
- Round-trip, train station/hotel transfers
- "Lobster Lady" meet and greet service upon arrival at Portland train station
- Admission to one Friday afternoon Culinary Seminar (3:30-5pm)
- Admission to Harvest on the Harbor Festival Marketplace with cooking demos
- Luggage handling at hotel

Rates

- \$369** per person double occupancy
- \$345** per person triple occupancy
- \$335** per person quad occupancy
- \$525** single reservations

Accommodations

HOLIDAY INN BY THE BAY

88 Spring Street, Portland, Maine 04101
Tel: (207) 775-2311

At the Inn By the Bay you are just a short walk from the excitement of downtown Portland, Maine. Stroll along the working Portland waterfront, take a cruise on island-studded Casco Bay...Taste the charm of the Old Port's restaurants, shops and galleries or experience Portland's many theaters. The Inn's amenities include a large indoor pool, sauna, and a fully equipped fitness center, restaurant and lounge.

<http://www.innbythebay.com>

DAILY ITINERARY

Day 1: Depart Boston

Depart from North Station via **AMTRAK** (coach class service) to Portland, ME at approximately 9:05am. Sit back, relax enjoy the scenery and camaraderie as you travel with your group to Portland, Maine's largest city-by-the-sea. Pass through the seacoast towns and villages through New Hampshire and Southern Maine. There is

a dining car on board for lunch on your own. Arrive at the Portland station at approximately 11:30am. You will be met at the train station by motorized trolley for transportation to your hotel. **The Lobster Lady** will assist with luggage and distribute local information, updates on Portland events this weekend. En route to the hotel, you'll take a quick tour around downtown Portland to familiarize yourself with the waterfront area and festival headquarters. Upon arrival at the Holiday Inn by the Bay, refreshments and luggage service is provided.

It is an easy walk from the hotel to Portland's historic Old Port waterfront district and the headquarters location of the **Annual Harvest on the Harbor Festival**. You'll have some free time this afternoon to explore Portland's famous cobblestone streets, Victorian brick architecture and a myriad of quaint shops and galleries with treasures from around the world or Made in Maine specialties.

This afternoon you'll attend a 90- minute festival seminar (such as Mixology, Wine Pairing etc.)

There are a myriad of excellent restaurants within walking distance of the hotel for dinner on your own tonight. Many local restaurants participate in the festival with special menu offerings. You'll be provided with a full festival schedule in advance for your review. Dining reservations are recommended on Friday and Saturday evenings. You may sign up for additional festival events and seminars on your own via the internet or telephone direct with the festival.

Day 2: Portland- Harvest on the Harbor Festival

Enjoy a buffet breakfast at the hotel (6:30am- 10:00am). The entire day is free for you to participate in the festival, or explore the museums and galleries all within walking distance of the hotel.

Admission is included to the Harvest on the Harbor Festival Marketplace which is held on Saturday from 10:00am-4:00pm. The Culinary Marketplace is a day-long event at Portland's new Ocean Gateway facility on the Portland waterfront. You will graze on Maine cheeses, breads, meats, seafood, confections and more, while sipping wines, spirits and beers. While you're sipping, wander through the Marketplace and the Lifestyle Lounge, discovering products from furniture makers, design studios and dozens of retailers. Or check out a chef demo or meet a popular cookbook author. **(B)**

Day 3: Depart Portland

Once again enjoy the buffet breakfast at the hotel. Luggage call and check out is at 10:30am. Your luggage will be stored at the hotel until re-boarding of the motorized trolley at 2:15pm. Spend your free time today enjoying one of Portland's fine museums, shops or waterfront activities. Depart Portland on the 3:00pm Downeaster Amtrak Train. The train will arrive in Boston's North Station at approximately 5:30pm. **(B)**

PLEASE NOTE: *This pre-departure itinerary is designed to give you an idea of how this itinerary is structured. We reserve the right to make any changes to your final itinerary if deemed necessary, at any time prior to departure.*

PLEASE NOTE: *This is not your final itinerary. You will receive final documents (itinerary, tickets (if applicable), etc.) approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure. Although we try our best to ensure that information is accurate at the time of publication, we are not responsible for any error, omission, misprint or liability that results from the use (or misuse) of this information.*