

Beautiful Boston

Exploring the Arts, Culture & History of the Hub

May 20–24, 2026

Tour Leader: Curt DiCamillo



Itinerary



Wednesday, May 20 • Welcome to Boston!

Tea, Reception, Dinner

Arrive in **Boston** no later than today and transfer independently to the **Fairmont Copley Plaza**, located on Copley Square in the heart of Boston's Back Bay. Dating back to 1912, this grand, iconic hotel has the most opulent lobby in the city, with 21-foot-high gilded coffered ceilings, restored mosaic tile flooring, and plenty of gold and bronze accents. *Check-in time is 4 p.m.; priority check-in has been requested. If your room is not ready, you may store your luggage with staff at the Reception desk.*

Reserved for American Ancestors members: Fairmont Gold Rooms (250-350 square feet), offering a choice of one king, one queen, or two double beds, with city or interior façade view. Fairmont Gold privileges include a private check-in desk, access to the Fairmont Gold Lounge, complimentary full American breakfast buffet, complimentary hors d'oeuvres, an honor bar, and a dedicated concierge. All rooms come with robes and slippers, coffee/tea maker, bottled water, and high-speed internet and WiFi.



Meet at the nearby **Chilton Club** at 2 p.m. for the 3rd Annual Boston DiCamillo Rendezvous—a special tea and lecture by Curt DiCamillo. This year's topic is "Murder Mysteries & The English Country House." Then enjoy free time at the hotel to get settled. This evening, we will ascend to the **top of the Prudential Tower**—one of the tallest buildings in New England—to experience breathtaking indoor 360° views of the city from the 52nd floor and gain a unique perspective of some of Boston's most iconic landmarks, such as Fenway Park, the Charles River, Back Bay, and more. Pre-dinner drinks, appetizers, and dinner will follow on the Tower's 50th floor as the lights of the city twinkle below!



Thursday, May 21 • Boston Back Bay/South End

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Curt DiCamillo will lead a lively [walking tour of Boston's Back Bay](#), one of America's most historic neighborhoods. Built on reclaimed land in the Charles River basin, today it is populated by rows of elegant Victorian houses along wide, tree-lined streets laid out on a grid, its designers influenced by Napoleon III's grand rebuilding of Paris in the 1860s. End at 97 Newbury Street, home of [American Ancestors](#), for lunch in its historic rotunda and opportunity to see the art collection. This afternoon we continue on foot to Copley Square, where we will tour [Trinity Church](#), the most praised church in American architectural history and the birthplace of Henry Hobson Richardson's Romanesque style. Our docent-led tour will focus on the historic building—from its elaborately carved exterior to its stained-glass windows, colorful mosaics, La Farge wall murals, and needle-worked kneelers—and how the open auditorium plan reflected the emerging needs of democratic contemporary American congregational practice, rather than the hierarchical, conventional Episcopal designs and worship practices of the day. Return to the hotel by 3 p.m. or so to relax. This evening enjoy refreshments at the [home of Brenton Simons](#), President Emeritus and Chief Stewardship Officer of American Ancestors, followed by dinner at Aquitaine, an award-winning Parisian inspired French bistro in Boston's South End.



Friday, May 22 • Boston Beacon Hill

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Today we will explore **Beacon Hill**, another of Boston's iconic neighborhoods with its historic collection of Federal and Greek Revival row homes on shaded streets (some still paved in brick or cobblestone). We will begin at the **Nichols House Museum** for a guided tour and learn about the Nichols family and their contemporaries in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

Continue on to the **Boston Athenaeum**, one of the oldest independent libraries in the United States. Prominent writers, scholars, and politicians have been members—including Ralph Waldo Emerson, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Louisa May Alcott, John Quincy Adams, John F. Kennedy, and many more—and its treasures include the largest portion of President George Washington's library from Mount Vernon, a first edition copy of John James Audubon's *The Birds of America*, portraits by Gilbert Stuart and John Singer Sargent, and one of the most extensive collections of contemporary artists' books in the United States. Lunch at the **Union Club of Boston**, joined by the Club President, who will share the story of its founding in 1863 to support the Union cause in the Civil War. This afternoon we will visit other sites on the Hill, including Kings Chapel, Kings Chapel Burying Ground, Old Granary Burying Ground, and The Common, America's oldest public park (1634). Return to the hotel by 4:30 p.m. Dinner tonight at Grill 23, a top-rated steak and seafood restaurant.



Right: Dining room at the Nichols House Museum. Photo courtesy of Nichols House Museum.





Saturday, May 23 • Gloucester Tour

Breakfast, Lunch, Reception, Dinner

Today we head an hour north to **Gloucester**, renowned for its granite quarries and fishing industry as well as its singular charms of light and sea which attracted countless artists—from the 19th century to the present. We will begin with a curator-led tour of the collections at the Cape Ann Museum. The museum's holdings reflect the importance and inspiration of Cape Ann as an art community, one of the oldest in the nation. Lunch at a **private home** in nearby Manchester-By-the-Sea with marvelous water views and treasures galore. This afternoon we will visit **Beauport, the Sleeper-McCann House**, a National Historic Landmark and the summer home of one of America's first professional interior designers, Henry Davis Sleeper. Perched on a rock ledge overlooking Gloucester Harbor, Beauport was Sleeper's retreat, backdrop for entertaining, and professional showcase. We will begin with prosecco and soft beverages on the terrace before a guided tour through the house. Then board the **Thomas E. Lannon schooner** for an evening dinner cruise ending at sunset—a spectacular finale to our wonderful time together!

Sunday, May 24

Breakfast

Depart or extend your stay. *Check-out time is 11 a.m.*



Terms & Conditions

TOUR COST

Land Package: \$4,750

Single Supplement: \$1,250

Additional Nights: \$625 per room per night including tax and breakfast

Tour price is per person, based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 16 paying participants.

Deposit & Final Payment: A deposit of \$1,500 per person is required to reserve a spot on the tour. Deposits are payable by check or credit card (MasterCard, Visa, or American Express). Final balance will be invoiced and is due on, or before, March 20, 2026. Final balance payments are payable by check, bank wire, or ACH transfer to Travel Muse Inc. Registrations will be accepted beyond this date on a space-available basis.

Activity Level: Moderate to strenuous; good walking ability is advised. Many visits require the use of staircases and a moderate amount of walking on uneven and sometimes wet ground. Comfortable shoes are essential.

Flights: Airfare is not included in the tour price. Participants are responsible for all aspects of their round-trip air arrangements to Boston. Please do not purchase airline tickets until the operation of the tour is confirmed.

Terms & Conditions: Upon receipt of registration, Travel Muse Inc. will send registrant a Participant Tour Agreement that details the full terms and conditions for this tour. This document must be electronically signed before participant's registration is considered complete and any arrangements can be confirmed.

COVID-19 Policy: American Ancestors and Travel Muse Inc. follow guidelines and mandates issued by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Tour participants are no longer required to wear face coverings during the tour. Proof of vaccination status is not required, nor is social distancing mandated. In line with CDC guidance, we advise anyone who is unvaccinated (and encourage anyone who feels more comfortable) to continue wearing a mask. We appreciate your adherence to this policy.

Travel Insurance: Travel Insurance is not included in the tour cost, but participants are strongly encouraged to purchase a travel protection plan in conjunction with this tour, including coverage of trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency evacuation/repatriation, medical expenses, lost or damaged baggage, and other expenses and/or losses incurred due to unexpected situations. Should a participant cancel at any time after registering for the tour, American Ancestors and Travel Muse Inc. must strictly abide by the cancellation policy outlined herein. Travel insurance information will be sent upon tour registration.

Tour Price Inclusions: Four nights' accommodation at the Fairmont Copley Plaza in Fairmont Gold Rooms with a choice of a king, queen, or two double beds; full American breakfast buffet daily, three lunches, two pre-dinner receptions, four dinners, and one afternoon tea; water and non-alcoholic beverages at all included meals, and wine with all included dinners; land transportation by private coach to and from Gloucester; entrance fees to sites and visits listed in the itinerary; leadership of Curt DiCamillo for the duration of the tour; services of an American Ancestors tour manager; expert local guides for all touring; gratuities for guides and drivers and at included meals; bottled water on coach; service charges and taxes.

Tour Price Exclusions: Airline tickets, airline taxes and surcharges, and baggage fees; airport and hotel portage; arrival and departure transfers; meals, other than those specified in the itinerary; gratuities for hotel housekeeping; personal items such as telephone calls, room service, valet service, à-la-carte orders, specialty wines and liquors, laundry charges, travel extensions, or tour deviations; travel insurance; any other items not specifically included in the itinerary.

Cancellations & Refunds: Cancellation by participant must be made in writing to American Ancestors and is effective only upon acknowledged receipt by American Ancestors. There is a non-refundable registration and planning fee of \$1,000 per person, regardless of cancellation date. Written cancellation received by American Ancestors on or before March 20, 2026: full refund, minus \$1,000 per person registration and planning fee. Written cancellation received by American Ancestors after March 20, 2026: no refund.

This tour is operated by Travel Muse Inc. for American Ancestors.

For more information, please contact Lauren Vitacco at
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American Ancestors is America's founding genealogical organization, the most respected name in family history, and one of the leading non-profit organizations in the field. We create enriching opportunities for members and the public to research their family history, attend educational programs and tours, exhibitions, and other inspirational experiences that communicate the power and importance of family history.

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