

TOUR ITINERARY

Departing in the morning from Boston (aka Beantown), you will enjoy a comfortable ride on one of our 25 passenger buses to the historic Town of Lexington, settled in 1642. Once we arrive, your guide will ensure you don't miss a thing with multiple stops and photo ops, starting with the Munroe Tavern built in 1735 (also known as General Percy's field hospital that was used by the British on their disastrous retreat back to Charlestown and onto Boston under continuous fire and hand-to-hand combat with militia); then proceeding to Battle Green, the oldest military burial site in the nation marked by a solemn revolutionary monument, the oldest in defense of liberty, April 19, 1775. Stand by the iconic statue of Captain John Parker, commander of the Lexington militia and an experienced veteran of the French and Indian War, for a once in a lifetime photograph. After visiting the adjacent Lexington Visitors Center, noted for the fantastic battle diorama, and several mementos to the USS Lexington(s), we'll tour the Buckman Tavern (1710), where those brave seventy-seven Minuteman under the command of Colonel Parker patiently awaited the early morning arrival of a British column of about 700 light infantry ("Red Coats") and grenadiers, marching overnight from Boston into Cambridge and along Boston Road (Massachusetts Avenue today). The Brits were looking for the troublemakers Sam Adams and John Hancock and an enormous stockpile of canons, muskets, gun power and muskets sufficient to arm thousands.

Departing Lexington Green, we will be meandering alongside Battle Road to our next stop at the National Park Service Minuteman Visitor Center for an orientation of the sites that mark that day long battle for liberty.

Continuing along the meandering five mile long restored Battle Road, your guide will point out:

- Fiske Hill
- Parker's Revenge Ambush Site
- Paul Revere's Arrest Site Monument
- Hartwell Farm (stop)
- Bloody Angle
- Meriam's Corner

Upon entering the quaint downtown of Concord, your guide will point out the Wayside (Nathaniel Hawthorne) and Louise May Alcott's Orchard House (Little Women), the Wright Tavern, Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, and the landmark Concord Inn (1716), a vibrant albeit haunted "witness" to those events so long ago.

Further down the road is our destination, the North Bridge where the regulars of the most powerful military in the world would face off in an epic confrontation with Colonel Barrett and a massing force of militia and Minutemen. You will note at the base of the North Bridge one of several gravestones sadly denoting the spot where three young regulars are buried, casualties of that fierce battle that broke out as the two opposing forces faced off against each other on the bridge.

To the left of the North Bridge is the Old Manse where Henry Longfellow and others were able to watch the "Shot Heard Round the World" battle as it unfolded. And across the street is the "bullet hole" house, serving as the backstop for an errant musket ball from that fateful encounter.

Across the North Bridge and up on the "overlook" is Major John Buttrick's House, National Park Service North Bridge Visitor Center. Buttrick's Farm and the recently restored Colonel James Barrett's Farm a bit further over were key objectives in the British foray in search of gunpower, canon and muskets that April day.

After a leisurely walkabout, we will reverse direction, again paralleling Battle Road for several miles, providing an opportunity now for passengers on the left side of the bus to observe the key sites along Battle Road while imagining the increasing intense exchange of musket fire and hand-to-hand combat between the column of regulars and flankers and several hundred militia. Only General Percy's relief column of 1,000 regulars armed with canon would stabilize matters would allow the retreating regulars some respite. Brigadier General Earl Percy set-up his temporary headquarters and field hospital at the Monroe Tavern.

We'll hop onto the Massachusetts Turnpike, returning to Boston, after a full-day of walking in the footsteps of history and learning about the battle that changed the world.