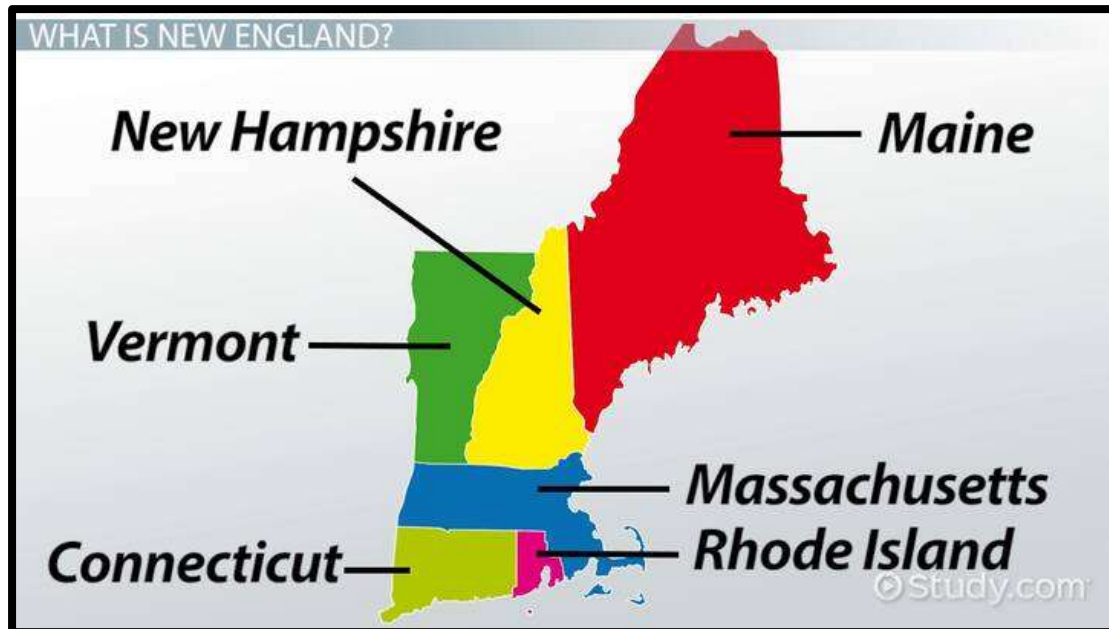


**AUTUMN IN NEW ENGLAND:
THE BEST DAY WALKS IN THE NORTH-EAST U.S.A.
21 September – 12 October 2024**



New England is a region in the northeastern United States, comprising the states of Maine (ME), New Hampshire (NH), Vermont (VT), Massachusetts (MA), Rhode Island (RI), and Connecticut (CT). The region was named by Capt. John Smith, who explored its shores in 1614 for some London merchants.

From mountain passes to coastal trails, New England is home to jaw-dropping hikes that you need to see to believe. There are thousands of kilometres of hiking trails crisscrossing the northeast – from backcountry trails to lakeside strolls. The best hikes in New England cover all types of terrain, so bring some water and good shoes and let's explore.

In this part of the US, there's a hiking trail for everyone. It's easy to fall in love with nature as you're trekking through the northeast. This is especially true during the autumn months when the trees are ablaze in fall colours. Few places in the US are more alluring to hikers and photographers than New England. In the same day, you can explore windswept coastlines and hike dramatic mountains. The region is compact, so you'll never have to go far to find an amazing hike.

In the north autumn colours come earlier (mid to late Sept) than in the south (early October onwards).

21 days, including 2 rest days

\$6995 ex-Boston

(based on a minimum of 10 participants and subject to currency fluctuations)

This is an estimated price as at May 2023

PRICE INCLUDES:

- All accommodations inclusive of taxes, mostly twin share rooms in hotels, motels etc
- Transport – hired minivan for the trip duration
- The services of an experienced and knowledgeable Kiwi leader throughout
- All breakfasts and 2 special dinners (welcome and farewell)
- National park fees, historic site entry fees.

PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

- Flights to and from Boston
- Lunches, dinners not otherwise included
- Any optional activities or choices, personal expenses outside of the inclusions
- Travel insurance (mandatory)

Trip Leader

Phillip Donnell lives in sunny Tauranga with his wife Katrina. He has three married children and eleven grandchildren. He has been involved in outdoor activities for more than 50 years, leading hundreds of tramping expeditions in New Zealand and overseas, as well as extensive involvement in kayaking and mountain-biking. He has also run more than 110 marathons and 110 half-marathons. He has an M.A. in Geography, which has given him a deep enthusiasm for travel and for exploring new places. He has been a teacher of Geography, History, English and ESOL and is a published author of poetry, articles and short stories. He really enjoys visiting other countries and interacting with different cultures, and has considerable experience in leading groups to overseas locations.



If you have any questions you would like to put to Phillip, he welcomes your contact: footstepsanz@gmail.com, 021 172 3244, 07 544 9509.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The glorious autumn colours of New England when they are reaching their peak.
- Salem, scene of the witchcraft trials of 1692, subject of Arthur Miller’s dramatic play “The Crucible”.
- Boston - historical, cultural and commercial hub and site of the famous “Teaparty” of 1773.
- 3 full days on Mt. Desert Island in spectacular Acadia National Park – the only one in New England.
- Up to 20 State Parks, scattered throughout all six states, with a huge diversity of features.
- The White Mountains (NH) and Green Mountains (VT) National Forests – scenic playgrounds.
- Sections of the famous Appalachian Trail (which stretches from Maine to Georgia) and the Long Trail (which stretches the length of Vermont).
- The Kancamagus Highway - arguably the most beautiful autumn drive in New England.
- An opportunity to tackle the most frequently climbed mountain in the world (Mt. Monadnock).
- A huge variety of scenery in a compact region: coastlines, mountains, wetlands, and forests.
- Cape Cod – the holiday domain of Henry David Thoreau and the Kennedy family.

New England Itinerary

DAY/ DATE

ACTIVITY

Participants should be in Boston by the evening of Saturday 21 September 2024.
Our initial briefing will be at 6 p.m., followed to dinner together.

Note: We do not undertake all the walks described. They are listed as *possibilities*. Walks are chosen by group consensus from among those listed. You are free to do as much or as little walking as you wish. You can opt out altogether on any given day or part thereof.

Day 1
Sunday
22 September

BOSTON (MA)

Freedom Trail (4.5km,2h) connects 16 historic Revolutionary War sites and takes most of the day if you stop at all of them)






This trail follows the events leading up to the American Revolution, visiting the sites where many of the seminal events took place. The walk, marked by a line of red bricks in the sidewalk, begins at the Visitor Centre in the Boston Common and visits 16 historic monuments and sites. These include the site of the infamous Boston Massacre and Old South Meeting House, where the speeches of patriots lead to the Boston Tea Party.

	<p>Emerald Necklace <i>More than 100 years ago, the preeminent landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted envisioned a long green space connecting downtown Boston to the suburbs. This Emerald Necklace he designed has survived intact, and today connects six different parks from the Boston Common to Franklin Park.</i> <i>You can walk the entire 11km or any part of it, either returning on foot or by public transportation (nearby stops are marked on the excellent Emerald Necklace map). On its way to Dorchester, the route passes two major art museums, Boston's famous Swan Boats, a stunning rose garden, the historic Fenway Victory Gardens, three ponds, a wildflower meadow, the Arnold Arboretum, and a zoo.</i> <i>The route is filled with things to see and do in Boston and its suburbs. The Emerald Necklace begins with the Boston Common and Public Garden, continuing along the tree-covered park in the centre of Commonwealth Avenue, lined on either side by rows of distinguished brownstone and brick townhouses that were homes to the "Boston Brahmins."</i> <i>You can walk the portion from Charles Street, through the Public Garden and the length of Commonwealth Avenue for a 4km round-trip, or add another 2.5km by strolling through the Fenway community gardens and the rose garden.</i> <i>A popular side trail on the Emerald Necklace circles Jamaica Pond; the main trail runs along its south side, where there is a scenic overlook.</i></p> <p>O/n Boston</p>
<p>Day 2 Monday 23 September</p>	<p>Travel from Boston (MA) to Portland (ME) (via Salem, Pawtuckaway and Ogunquit). Travel from Boston to Salem (35km,30m) SALEM (MA) Salem is famous for its 1692 witch trials, during which several locals were executed for allegedly practicing witchcraft. Landmarks from this episode include the Witch House, the former home of a trial judge, and the Salem Witch Trials Memorial.</p> <p>Travel from Salem to Pawtuckaway State Park (90km,1h) PAWTUCKAWAY STATE PARK (NH) Boulder Trail (3km, 1h) <i>Deep in the woods, granite boulders the size of small houses look as though they have been tossed here by a giant hand; in fact they were dropped here as the glaciers melted, having been scraped off mountaintops and cliffs exposed by the receding ice sheet.</i></p> <p>Travel from Pawtuckaway State Park to Ogunquit (70km,50m) OGUNQUIT (ME) Marginal Way Cliff Walk (1.6km, 30m)</p> <p>Travel from Ogunquit to Portland (60km,40m) PORTLAND (ME) Bradbury Mountain State Park Tote Road Loop (3km,1h) Popham Beach State Park Morse Mountain to Seawall Beach (6km,1h30m)</p> <p>O/n Portland</p>
<p>Day 3 Tuesday 24 September</p>	<p>Travel from Portland to Bar Harbor (280km, 3h) via Camden Hills State Park. CAMDEN HILLS STATE PARK (ME) Adams Lookout Trail (0.3m), Bald Rock Trail (0.5m), Cameron Mtn. Trail (1.9m), Carriage Trail (0.5m), Carriage Road Trail (0.8m), Frohock Mtn. Trail (1.9m), Jack Williams Trail (1.6m), Maiden Cliff Trail (1m), Megunticook Trail (1m), Mount Battie Trail (1km, 1h), Ski Shelter / Multi-use Trail (5m), Nature Trail (1.2km), Ridge Trail</p>

	<p>(2.5m), Scenic Trail (0.8m), Shoreline Trail (0,3m), Sky Blue Trail (1.5m), Slope Trail (1.5m), Summer Bypass Trail (0.8m), Tablelands Trail (1.5m), Zeke's Trail (1.3m).</p> <p>O/n Bar Harbor</p>
<p>Days 4-5 Wednesday 25 September Thursday 26 September</p>	<p>ACADIA NATIONAL PARK (ME) - East We explore Acadia National Park on Mount Desert Island, the second largest island on the eastern seaboard of the US, where land, sea and mountains meet.</p> <p><i>Possible Walks and Activities:</i> <i>Very Easy:</i> Park Loop Road (43 km), Hulls Cove Visitor Centre, Bar Harbour Shore Path (1.6 km), Ocean Path Trail (Thunder Hole and Monument Cove) (7.2 km,2-3h), Thunder Hole to Sand beach (2.7km,40m), Wild Gardens of Acadia (several short trails), Jordan Pond Nature Trail (1.6 km) or Full Loop Trail (5 km,1h30m), Cadillac Mountain Summit Trail (0.5 km), Cadillac Mountain (3.5km,2-4h), The Bowl via Bowl Trail (1.9km,45m), Baker Island Cruise.</p> <p><i>Easy:</i> Bar Island (distance varies), The Carriage Trails (72.4 km, walking, cycling, or coach rides), Ship Harbour Nature Trail (2.1 km), Witch Hole Pond Loop (3.7 km), Beehive Loop Trail (2.5km, 2h)</p> <p><i>Moderate:</i> Bowl Trail (2.2 km), The Bubbles (4.2 km), Cadillac Mountain North Ridge (7 km,2h30m), Champlain Mountain via Bear Brook Trail (3.5km), Gorham Mountain (2.6km,1h), Great Head (2.2 km), South Bubble Mountain (2.25km).</p> <p><i>Strenuous:</i> Cadillac Mountain South Ridge Trail (10.8 km), Jordan Pond - Bubble Pond Loop (13.2 km), Champlain Mountain Beachcroft Trail (3.8 km), Dorr Mountain (7.7 km), Norumbega Mountain (1.6 km), Pemetic Mountain (3.8 km), Precipice Loop (3.4 km - proceed with caution as you climb up this extremely steep cliff with narrow ledges, iron rungs, ladders, wooden bridge).</p> <p>O/n Bar Harbor</p>
<p>Day 6 Friday 27 September</p>	<p>ACADIA NATIONAL PARK (ME) - West Wonderland (2.2 km), Beech Mountain (1.9 km), Beech Cliff Ladder and Canada Cliff Trail (2.9km), Perpendicular Trail (to Mansell Mountain, 4km,2-3h), St. Sauveur and Acadia Mountain Loop (6 km), Mansell Mountain (3.2 km), Sluiceway Trail (2.6km,1h), Ledge Trail (1.6km,45m), Mansell Mountain-Great Notch-Knight Nubble-Little Notch-Bernard Mountain Loop (8km, 3h30m), Long Pond Loop (7.9km, 2h15m), Razorback (3.7km,2h), Bernard Mountain West Ledge (4.7km,2h), Bernard Mountain (5km,2h), Western Mountain Loop (6.3km, 2h30m).</p> <p>O/n Bangor</p>



<p>Day 7 Saturday 28 September</p>	<p>Travel from Bangor (ME) to Colebrook (NH) (290 km,3h30m)</p> <p>DIXVILLE NOTCH STATE PARK (NH) Table Rock Trail (2.4km, 1h) Huntingdon Falls/Three Brothers (4.5km,2h) Sanguinary Ledge (4.7km,2h30m)</p> <p>O/n Colebrook</p> 
<p>Day 8 Sunday 29 September</p>	<p>Rest day in Colebrook (NH). Population 2250. O/n Colebrook</p>
<p>Day 9 Monday 30 September</p>	<p>*Travel from Colebrook to Conway (150km,2h) WHITE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL FOREST (NH) - Mount Washington Auto Road to summit (from Glen House) - Possible brief side-trip to Chocorua Lake (Mt. Chocorua reflected in the lake is the most-photographed mountain in New England)</p> <p>*Travel from Conway to Lincoln via the <u>Kancamagus Highway</u> (55km, 45m). This is arguably the most beautiful scenic drive in a state full of beautiful scenic drives. A winding stretch of road takes you right through the White Mountain National Forest, running from Conway to Lincoln along the Swift River.</p>   <p>*Travel from Lincoln to Bretton Woods (45km, 35m)</p> <p>O/n Bretton Woods</p>

<p>Day 10 Tuesday 1 October</p>	<p>WHITE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL FOREST (NH): FRANCONIA NOTCH STATE PARK (25km, 20 mins from Bretton Woods) Artist Bluff Trail (2.4km, 1h) → Artist Bluff and Bald Mountain (5km,2h) Lonesome Lake (5 km,2-3h) Mount Pemigewasset (6 km, 2h30m) Lake Lafayette and Franconia Ridge Loop Trail (13.4km, 6h) Falling Waters Trail (9.5 to 19km round trip, 8-10h): Stairs Falls, Swiftwater Falls, Cloudland Falls, Little Haystack Mountain. You can continue along the Franconia Ridge Trail to Mount Lincoln and to Mount Lafayette, then descend to the parking lot via the Old Bridle Path. Basin-Cascades Trail <i>Rarely does a hiking trail begin with two great attractions before you've even begun to climb. The Basin is a giant pot-hole carved and scoured by a glacial waterfall. Signage beside the trail describes its formation, and it's worth a stop even if you don't hike the trail that begins here. Just a few metres beyond is one of the most appealing and approachable waterfalls in the state, a long gentle cascade over a series of ledges that invite climbing or sitting to enjoy the view. Follow the trail beside the falls to find an entire series of falls and cascades over flat ledges. About 1km above the first cascades is Kinsman Falls, then the trail gets steeper to Rocky Glen Falls. You can continue above this, crossing a wooden bridge and climbing to Lonesome Lake. To get to the trailhead, park at the exit signposted for The Basin and walk through the tunnel under the highway.</i></p> <p>O/n Bretton Woods</p>
<p>Day 11 Wednesday 2 October</p>	<p>WHITE MOUNTAINS NATIONAL FOREST (NH): CRAWFORD NOTCH STATE PARK (6.5km, 10m from Bretton Woods) Mount Willard (5km loop, 1h) <i>This small mountain that blocks the gateway to Crawford Notch rewards climbers with one of the White Mountains' finest views below timberline. Just over 5km round-trip, the trail climbs through cool woods until it emerges onto the cliffs at the top. Here, you'll be treated to a panorama of Crawford Notch spreading below you (and to wild blueberries in mid-summer). There's no better place to appreciate how the glaciers carved and scoured out New Hampshire's notches as they receded. There are two more shorter hikes, one around the lake and up to Elephant Head rock formation (0.5km, 20m), and to Beecher/Pearl Cascades (1.6km,30m).</i></p>





Arethusa Falls (4.5km, 1h30m),
 Frankenstein Cliff (6km, 2h40m), Arethusa
 Falls and Frankenstein Cliff Loop (8km,
 3h), Mount Jackson (8.2km, 3h).

*Mt. Washington Cog Railway (own
 expense) *The Mount Washington Cog
 Railway, also known as the Cog, is the world's
 first mountain-climbing cog railway. The*

*railway climbs Mount Washington using a Marsh rack system and both steam and
 biodiesel-powered locomotives to carry tourists to the top.*

O/n Bretton Woods



Days 12 and 13
 Thursday
 3 October
 Friday
 4 October

Travel from Bretton Woods (NH) to Stowe (VT) (135km, 1h50m)

En-route: GROTON STATE FOREST (VT)

(65km, 50m from Stowe)

Owls Head (1.5km,20m)


Peacham Bog Trail (7km,2h)

*Peacham Bog is one of the largest and most
 beautiful bogs in all of Vermont. It has an
 abundance of songbirds (various warblers),
 millions of dragonflies, and the carnivorous
 pitcher plant.*



MOUNT MANSFIELD STATE PARK (VT) (15km,20m from Stowe)

Mount Mansfield (via Sunset Ridge, 9.5km, 3h30m - access is from Underhill State
 Forest on western side), The Nose to the Chin via Long Trail (4.5km,2h), Spruce
 Peak via Sterling Pond (4.5km,2h), Nebraska Notch-Lake Mansfield (5km,1h45m),



	<p>Butler Lodge (5.8km,2h45m), Long Trail: Profanity/Hasselton (9.2km loop, 3h), Frost Trail to Butler Lodge (6.4km loop, 2h), Barnes Camp Loop (2k,45m), Long Trail and Nebraska Notch (6.8km,2h20m), Long Trail and Sterling Pond (9km,3h30m), Cantilever Rock (4.8km,2h), Burlington Overlook (4.7km,1h30m)</p> <p>SMUGGLER’S NOTCH STATE PARK (VT) (10km,10m from Stowe) Bingham Falls (0.8km, 5mins), Mount Hunger (8.2km, 3-4h), Sterling Pond (3.4km,1h30m), The Chin via Long and Profanity (7.9km)</p> <p>O/n Stowe (When the Von Trapps moved from Austria to the USA, they chose Stowe for their new home)</p>
<p>Day 14 Saturday 5 October</p>	<p>Travel from Stowe to Rutland (via Rochester, Warren Brandon, Pittsford) CAMELS HUMP STATE PARK (VT) (29km,30m from Stowe) Camels Hump Loop (11.9 km, 6 hours), Camels Hump View (2.5 km), Beane Trail (5 km), Camel’s Hump (Burrows Trail) (7km, 3-4h), Burrows Trail (3.3 km), Monroe Trail (10 km), Forest City (7 km), Dean Trail (3.2 km), Alpine Trail (5.4 km), Allis Trail (1 km).</p> <p>GREEN MOUNTAINS NATIONAL FOREST (VT): Mount Abraham from Lincoln Gap via Long Trail (7.7km out and back, 3h15m) One of the most scenic sections of the Long Trail stretches north from Lincoln Gap, where it crosses the road between Lincoln and Warren, just off Route 100. Chittenden Brook from Brandon Gap via Long Trail The Long Trail goes south from SH73 (Brandon Gap) to the Chittenden Brook Track Junction (7.6km out and back, 2h15m).</p> <p>O/n Rutland</p>
<p>Day 15 Sunday 6 October</p>	<p>Rest day in Rutland (VT). Population 16,500. O/n Rutland</p>
<p>Day 16 Monday 7 October</p>	<p>Travel from Rutland (VT) to Keene (NH) via Chester (115km,1h30m).</p> <p>MOUNT MONADNOCK STATE PARK (NH) Summit via White Dot and White Cross Trails (6km,4h) <i>Reputed to be the most frequently climbed mountain in the world, Monadnock stands alone in southwestern New Hampshire, where its rocky summit offers 360-degree views that reach as far as Boston on a clear day. You have several choices of hiking trails. The most popular is the White Cross Trail, a four-hour round-trip over moderate terrain. It begins at the entrance to Monadnock State Park off US 101 in Jaffrey.</i></p>  <p>Other walks include: Parker Trail (4.7km, 1h20m), Mossy Brook and Great Pasture Loop (6km, 1h30m), Harling Trail, 3km,1h).</p> <p>O/ Keene</p>

INTO THE BERKSHIRES

The **Berkshires** are a highland geologic region located in the western parts of Massachusetts and northwestern Connecticut. The term "Berkshires" is normally used by locals in reference to the portion of

the Vermont-based Green Mountains that extend south into western Massachusetts; the portion extending further south into northwestern Connecticut is grouped with the Connecticut portion of the Taconic Mountains and referred to as either the Northwest Hills or Litchfield Hills. Also referred to as the Berkshire Highlands, Berkshire Hills, Berkshire Mountains, and Berkshire Plateau, the region enjoys a vibrant tourism industry based on music, arts, and recreation. Geologically, the mountains are a range of the Appalachian Mountains.

<p>Day 17 Tuesday 8 October</p>	<p>Travel from Keene (NH) to Great Barrington (MA) with walks en-route. Travel from Keene to Mount Greylock (110km, 1h50m) MOUNT GREYLOCK STATE RESERVATION (MA) Drive to summit of Mount Greylock (highest peak in Massachusetts).</p> <p>Travel from Mount Greylock to October Mountain (via Pittfield) (40km,50m) OCTOBER MOUNTAIN STATE PARK (MA) Washington Mountain Marsh Trail (4.3km), Gorge Trail to Felton Pond (2.7km), Appalachian Trail: County Road to Becket Road (7km one way, 2h).</p> <p>Travel from October Mountain to Tyringham Cobble (12km,15m) TYRINGHAM COBBLE PARK (MA) Tyringham Cobble (3.2km, 1h15m) (part of Appalachian Trail)</p> <p>Travel from Tyringham Cobble to Monument Mountain (16km,20m) MONUMENT MOUNTAIN (MA) Monument Mountain Summit (6km, 2h), Hickey and Peeskawso Peak Loop (3.9km), Flag Rock (6.3km, 2h), Mary Flynn-Ice Rock-Lauras Tower (6.5km).</p> <p>Travel from Monument Mountain to Great Barrington (6.5km,10m)</p> <p>O/n Great Barrington</p>
<p>Day 18 Wednesday 9 October</p>	<p>Travel from Great Barrington (MA) to Stamford (CT), with walks en-route.</p> <p>Travel from Great Barrington to Bartholomew's Cobble (16km, 15m) BARTHOLOMEW'S COBBLE RESERVATION (MA) Bartholomew's Cobble (5.5km, 1h30m)</p> <p>Travel from Bartholomew's Cobble to Mount Washington State Park (12km, 15m) MOUNT WASHINGTON STATE PARK (MA) Bish Bash Falls (1km) Mount Frissell (3.7km, 1h30m)</p> <p>Travel from to Mount Washington State Park to Housatonic Meadows State Park (30m 45m) HOUSATONIC MEADOWS STATE PARK (CT) Pine Knob via Appalachian Trail Loop (4km, 1h30m)</p> <p>Travel from Housatonic Meadows State Park to Mianus River Park (104km, 1h20m) MIANUS RIVER PARK (CT) Mianus Maze Perimeter Loop (7.2 km, 1h45m)</p> <p>O/n Stamford</p>
<p>Day 19 Thursday</p>	<p>Travel from Stamford (CT) to Newport (RI) via coastal route (225km,2h20m), with walks en-route</p>

<p>10 October</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk near Jamestown (RI): Beavertail State Park → Lighthouse Loop (3.7km,45m) • Walk in Newport RI): Cliff Walk (5.8km,1h30m) • Walk near Middletown (RI): Sachuest Point National Wildlife Refuge Loop Trail (4km, 45m) <p>O/n Newport</p>	
<p>Day 20 Friday 11 October</p>	<p>Travel from Newport (RI) to Barnstable (MA) (120km, 1h30m) CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE (MA) Thoreau's Walk (9.7 or 13.7 km, 6 hours), Cape Cod Rail Trail (35 km, part), Dune Shacks Trail (near Provincetown) (3.9km,1h30m) <i>Martha's Vineyard Trails:</i> Woodland Wonderland Loop (Edgartown) (4km,1h), Cedar Tree Neck Trail (2.25km,30m), Tisbury Great Pond Trail (4km,1h), Cobblestone Beach Trail via Brickyard (6km,1h30m), Harris Loop-Nashawahkamuk-CobbleStone Beach Overlook-Great Sand Bank Overlook (6km,2h).</p> <p>O/n Barnstable or Provincetown</p>	
<p>Day 21 Saturday 12 October</p>	<p>Further walks in CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE See above.</p> <p>After lunch, travel from Barnstable to Boston (110km,1h10m)</p> <p>Farewell celebration dinner. Trip concludes after dinner.</p> <p>O/n Boston</p>	

Booking Conditions, Registration and Waiver forms are below...

AUTUMN IN NEW ENGLAND 2024: Booking Conditions :

1. Participants agree to all terms and conditions by signing the Registration Form.
2. Footsteps Walking and Travel Club is not responsible or liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident, delay or irregularity which may arise from weather, defect in any vehicle, vessel or aircraft, or through the acts or default of any person or company engaged in carrying out any of the arrangements of the trip.
3. We reserve the right to cancel the trip if minimum numbers don't eventuate. In such an event, all monies paid will be fully refunded. We also reserve the right to make any modifications that may be essential.
4. The trip price includes some subsidisation of the leader's administrative and travel expenses.
5. Registrations are accepted in good faith on a first comer's basis on receipt of the Registration Form. The deposit is \$495 per person.
6. Registrations **should be sent as early as possible** in order to obtain optimal arrangements. Once we reach "critical mass" the trip moves from "orange light" status to "green light" status and the earlier that happens the better because people can then book flights with confidence. The deadline for registrations is **15 March, 2024**, or earlier if fully subscribed.
7. Half of the balance (\$3250) is due by **1 May, 2024** and the remainder (\$3250) by **1 July, 2024**. Our preferred method of payment is internet banking to Kiwibank 38-9002-0435674-03 (please write your surname in the reference box).
8. Arrangements are made in other currencies. Events beyond our control, such as exchange rate fluctuations or any unforeseen additional costs, may affect the overall trip price. We cannot guarantee the price until such times as *full payment has been received* (1 July, 2024). Upon full payment, the trip price is guaranteed.
9. Cancellations. If you need to cancel your registration for any reason, you must advise Phillip in writing as soon as possible. An email is acceptable, a phone call alone is not. Full refunds are given up to 90 days prior. Following that, refunds are by negotiation, with the aim of refunding the maximum amount possible. Travel insurance can cover you for unexpected changes of plan that have a valid reason. If you find a suitable replacement person, cancellation fees MAY be waived.
10. Personal travel insurance is mandatory, and proof thereof should be carried by all participants.

A registration form is below...

Registration Form – Autumn in New England, 2024

Complete and send to Phillip Donnell with Waiver Form and a copy of the data page in your passport. The deposit required is \$495 per person Our preferred payment method is internet banking into Kiwibank 38-9002-0435674-03 (with your surname and “NE 2024” in reference columns).

Your full name(s) as per passport(s) and please underline or highlight your preferred first name(s)

Mailing address

Day phone

Night phone

Mobile

Email

Date(s) of birth

Are you comfortable in close contact with like-minded travellers for 3.5 weeks with all the give and take needed for harmony? Please extend your answers overleaf or on separate paper, or by email.

Specify any dietary requirements, allergies or medical conditions

Contact person in NZ for any emergencies : name, address, contact phone numbers, email and the relationship to you. In the event of any emergency, this is the sole person you are authorizing us to liaise with

I/We have read the full trip dossier and I / We enclose the per person deposit of \$495pp. I / We agree to pay the remainder of trip costs by the due dates. I/ We understand that the final trip price is subject to minimum numbers and other cost impacts as detailed under the Booking Conditions section; therefore the final trip price cannot be guaranteed until such time as *full payment has been made*.

Signed (all participants should sign here):

Send to : Phillip Donnell, 3B Te Arawa Place, Welcome Bay, Tauranga 3112. Email: phillipjohndonnell@gmail.com

FOOTSTEPS WALKING and TRAVEL CLUB OF AOTEAROA / NEW ZEALAND

RELEASE AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY FORM

PROVIDER: Footsteps Walking and Travel Club (Phillip John Donnell)(“Footsteps”)

PARTICIPANT:

(“the Participant”)

I, the Participant, release and forever discharge and hold harmless Footsteps from all and any liability, claims, demands and damages, of whatsoever kind or nature, whether foreseeable or otherwise, either at law or in equity, which arise or may arise from the services and activities provided and arranged by Footsteps.

I understand and acknowledge that this Release and Waiver discharges Footsteps from any liability or claim that I may have against Footsteps in respect of personal injury, illness, medical treatment, death, property loss or damage, and otherwise howsoever, resulting from the services and activities provided and arranged by Footsteps. I hereby waive all such rights and remedies.

I accept that I participate in the services and activities entirely at my own risk.

I acknowledge and accept that this Release and Waiver:

- (a) Extends to and covers all contractors, agents, volunteers and employees of Footsteps; and
- (b) Binds the executors, administrators, successors, attorneys and assigns of both parties.

Signed by the Participant:

Date:



FOOTSTEPS WALKING AND TRAVEL CLUB
OF AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

COVID POLICY AND SAFETY MEASURES

Footsteps would like to thank you for joining one of our excursions to share and experience some incredible destinations with us – you're in for a treat! We trust you are ready to disconnect in order to reconnect with nature, landscape, wellness and likeminded travellers.

With the 2023-24 Season upon us, we thank you for your ongoing support post the COVID-19 pandemic. As a touring enterprise we continue to navigate ongoing uncertainty related to travel. Regardless, the safety of our guests and staff is a priority.

In recent times there has however been significant relaxation of the rules around travel associated with COVID-19. In that context, we have updated our COVID-19 policy and associated safety measures in line with official advice.

Footsteps has appropriate safety measures in place to help manage and mitigate COVID-19 risks on all trips operated by us. We have robust procedures and protocols in place for your wellbeing.

We would like to acquaint you in more detail with the Footsteps Covid policy, which in turn reflects that of most tour companies. **These are our expectations, which are now a condition of your booking a trip and travelling with us:**

1. You will ensure that Covid cover is part of your travel insurance policy. It is essential that you do this in order that that any unexpected circumstances, including risks of needing to cancel tour participation due to COVID or illness, can be reimbursed by your insurance company.
2. No guest should present for a tour if they are unwell, or have symptoms that may impact their ability to complete the walks/activities safely, having regard to their own interests and those of fellow guests and guides.
 - If you are older, not up-to-date with vaccinations, or at high risk for other reasons, talk to your GP, community pharmacy or local healthcare provider to find out more.
 - Since airlines no longer require pre-flight testing, you should take a RAT test within 48 hours prior to coming on the trip. If positive, you should not embark on the trip in terms of contact with the rest of the group. You can fly to your destination if you wish, but not participate with the group until you are clear.
 - If upon pick up at our meeting location on day one you are displaying any symptoms, our guides may make a determination as to whether you are fit and healthy, and appropriately equipped, to attend the tour.
3. You should wear a mask in all crowded spaces, such as airports, planes, buses, shopping centres, restaurants, transport hubs. It is strongly recommended that you also wear a mask when with the group.
4. As an added safety precaution, Footsteps asks that all guests ensure prior to trip departure that they have an adequate supply of face masks, hand sanitiser and an approved rapid antigen COVID-19 test kit.
 - Since RAT tests are not supplied, you need to bring them with you on the trip, and test yourself every 3-4 days, as well as at the first sign of feeling unwell. If you have any suspicion of having

Covid, you should do a test. You must also take a RAT test if asked to do so by the trip leader or tour agency.

- You are most infectious (or contagious) in the first 5 days *after* your symptoms start. You can also spread COVID-19 in the 48 hours *before* your symptoms start. If you never have symptoms, consider yourself most infectious in the 5 days after you test positive.
5. Guides may choose to evacuate a guest off the tour if they have concerns about the ability of that guest to complete the walks/activities safely, having regard to their own interests and those of fellow guests and guides.
- If you contract Covid during a trip, it is anticipated that you will immediately isolate (at your own expense) until such time as you test negative. This may involve moving to another part of an accommodation facility, moving to a different accommodation facility, or returning home early. Isolation is necessary to protect others (from the risk of infection) and also yourself. Rest is vital - too much activity while having Covid or while taking anti-virals, can worsen the condition.
 - New Zealand Government advice is as follows:
If you test COVID-19 positive, self-isolate for 7 days with no further tests.
If you are a close contact of a positive case: Testing negative at day 3 and day 7 means that you can then you can leave self-isolation.
If you are a close contact who then tests positive your 7 days self-isolation restarts.
If you still have symptoms on day 7, isolate until 24 hours after you no longer have symptoms.
 - In the event of the need to evacuate a guest from a tour, arranging accommodation, treatment, medication, and meals are primarily your responsibility, as are any additional costs associated with the evacuation. However, our team will reasonably assist in organising these things (after having regard among other things to the interests of fellow travellers and guides).
 - On longer trips, you may re-join the group when your isolation period is over (at least 5 days after showing symptoms). No refund of trip fees is possible in these circumstances.

We cannot guarantee that nobody will contract Covid on any of our trips. That possibility is now a fact of life. However, the above measures are designed to prevent this from happening, and to ensure that everyone knows what to do in the event of it happening.

Thanks for your understanding and anticipated precautions.