

Magical History Tour 2019 Frequently Asked Questions



What is the Magical History Tour?

The Magical History Tour is an exploration of fascinating historic sites around Greater Portland that you've never seen – and maybe didn't even know existed & your key to unlocking fascinating historical places that are not usually open to the public.

The Magical History Tour is a self-guided adventure guaranteed to amaze and amuse both adults and children. Equipped with a map, and at your own pace, you will be greeted by guides at each location ready to share the history of the tour stop.

In this, **our 5th year** of the Magical History Tour we will be presenting an exciting **mix** of both new sites and favorites from years past, including the winner of our People's Choice Site Survey – voted your favorite site from the past four years!

You can also join us for the **Grand Reveal** of the sites, and a Live and Silent Auction at Mr. Longfellow's Cocktail Party at Portland's Masonic Hall on Friday night! Those who attend the Cocktail Party can avoid a stop at Maine Historical Society on Saturday morning.

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#) for updates, sneak peaks, opportunities to win tickets, and some other exciting opportunities! Feel free to share your tour experiences to our social media pages using #MHStour!

When is the Magical History Tour?

- + The Magical History Tour will take place on Saturday, May 11 from 10am-4pm.
- + Mr. Longfellow's Cocktail Party will take place from 5:30-8:30pm on Friday, May 10.

Does the tour take all day?

Yes, if you would like to visit all of our secret sites, we recommend that the tour will take the allotted amount of time between 10am-4pm.

However, it is not a requirement that you spend the entire day on the tour. We do advise that if you are unable to spend the entire time on the tour that you may not have the time to see all the sites.

Where can I purchase tickets?

- + Tickets can be purchased with a credit card online at <https://www.mainehistory.org>.
- + Tickets are also available for purchase via cash, check, or credit card in our Museum Store.
- + You may also purchase tickets over the phone with a credit card by calling us at 207-774-1822.

How much are the tickets?

- + \$60-Cocktail Party Only
- + \$75-Adult Maine Historical Society Member Combo | \$85-Adult Gen Adm. Combo (Both party and tour)
- + \$25-Adult Maine Historical Society Member Tour | \$35 Adult Gen. Adm. Tour | \$5-Junior Tour (Under age 18)

Is there a family discount?

We do not offer a family discount, but we do offer junior tickets at a low rate of \$5 each.

I'm an Maine Historical Society member, can I buy a ticket for my friend with my discount?

Yes, Maine Historical Society members may buy as many tickets as they would like at their member discount!

I'm a member at another Portland group/program/museum/library/etc., do I receive a discount on tickets?

Where the Magical History Tour is the major fundraiser of the year for Maine Historical Society, we are unable to offer discounts to this event to anyone other than our own members. Would you like to [become a Maine Historical Society member](#) today and receive a discount on your tickets?

What if I can't attend, but I have already purchased my ticket?

Due to the expenses associated with our programming, we are unable to offer refunds on ticket purchases. You can, however, transfer your ticket to a friend or family member who is able to attend.

Our full Refund and Return Policy is available to view on our website here, or through the "Refund and Return Policies" link at the bottom of all our webpages.

[https://www.mainehistory.org/PDF/MHS Refund and Return Policy.pdf](https://www.mainehistory.org/PDF/MHS%20Refund%20and%20Return%20Policy.pdf)

If you have more questions or concerns, please contact us at 207-774-1822.

What if the weather is poor on the day of the tour/Is there a rain-date?

+We do not have a rain-date for this tour and we will not cancel due to minor weather events (rain, snow(gasp!)).

+If the weather is poor on the day of the tour, we ask that you wear weather appropriate clothing and enjoy the day exploring Greater Portland!

When do I find out what sites will be on the tour?

The Magical History Tour offers **8-10 Secret Sites** in Greater Portland. These sites are revealed to those attending Mr. Longfellow's Cocktail Party at the party on Friday, May 10.

If you are not attending the Cocktail Party, you will learn which sites you will be visiting on the day of the tour, Saturday, May 11, via email or when you pick up your map and tour bracelet at Maine Historical Society's Brown Research Library. The mystery is part of the fun!

Where do I pick up my ticket?

If you are attending Mr. Longfellow's Cocktail Party, you will have an opportunity to pick up your ticket during the party on Friday, May 10.

If you are not attending Mr. Longfellow's Cocktail Party, you must pick up your tickets beginning at 9:45am on Saturday, May 11 in at Maine Historical Society's Brown Research Library located next to the Museum at 485 Congress Street.

Where should I park when I pick up my ticket?

There is a pay-to-park lot behind our museum building on Brown Street, metered street parking available on Congress Street, and pay to park garages on many streets surrounding Congress Street. [Click here for more information on parking in Portland.](#)

Are the sites ADA compliant?

Due to the nature of *historic sites* many portions of the tour will require climbing stairs, ladders, and walking over uneven terrain. Where there is ADA assess, it will be noted on the tour map. For more specifics on this, please contact us at 207-774-1822.

Do I have to drive to any sites?

The Magical History Tour takes place around Greater Portland, and we do anticipate that driving will be required. Many sites should be within walking distance of one parking hub, although you may need to move your vehicle throughout the day. In some cases, you may be able to utilize the [Greater Portland Metro](#), if you prefer.

Can I go into the Wadsworth-Longfellow House with my Magical History Tour Ticket?

No, a separate ticket purchase is required to visit the Wadsworth-Longfellow House. Where we believe the tour will take the allotted time between 10am-4pm, we suggest a visit to the house on a separate day.

Can I see the MHS Museum Galleries with my Magical History Tour Ticket?

Yes, we do allow access to our Museum Galleries with your Magical History Tour ticket, however where we believe the tour will take the allotted time between 10am-4pm, we suggest a visit to the museum towards the end of the day.