



Maine in Bloom: Coastal Gardens & Seaside Charm (TMC1947)

May 9-15, 2026

INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip motorcoach transportation from Buffalo, Rochester, or Syracuse
- 6-nights hotel accommodations
- 11 meals: 6 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 4 dinners including one lobster dinner
- Narrated tour of Portsmouth Harbor Trail, including John's Church and Prescott Park
- Free time to explore Freeport Village, Bar Harbor, Boothbay Harbor, and Portland's Old Port District
- Guided tour of Bar Harbor
- Guided tour of Acadia National Park, traveling the entire Park Loop Road with multiple scenic stops
- Enjoy the Wild Gardens of Acadia, displaying all 13 ecosystems found in the park
- Scenic Bar Harbor nature cruise on Frenchman's Bay
- Tour Asticou Azalea Gardens, a combination of formal English flower beds with informal Japanese effects
- Guided tour of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens
- Cruise on Linekin Bay for a Lobster Trap hauling and Seal Watch adventure
- Tour of historic Portland, ME including a stop at Portland Head
- Visit to Pineland Farms, a privately owned working farm
- Visit the Maine Wildlife Park, a 200-acre park with over 30 different native species of wildlife
- Narrated tour of Kennebunkport, including the Wedding Cake House and Franciscan Monastery
- Baggage handling (1 piece per person)
- Services of a AAA Group Travel Tour Host
- Services and Gratuities for a Professional Motorcoach Driver
- All applicable taxes, fees, local guide gratuities and included meal gratuities



ACTIVITY LEVEL: 3

ACTIVE: moderate pace; good mobility needed; stairs and prolonged standing for more than 2 hours at a time; some longer days involving early mornings and/or late evenings; some walking on varied terrain. This Activity Level is not recommended for travelers with mobility issues such as someone who uses a cane, walker, or wheelchair.

HOTEL(S):

Holiday Inn, Portsmouth, NH (1 night)
 Atlantic Oceanside Resort, Bar Harbor, ME (3 nights)
 Hyatt Place Old Port, Portland, ME (2 nights)

PRICING:

Double	\$3,289
Single	\$4,259
Triple	\$3,049
Quad	\$2,909
Optional Pre-Paid AAA Group Travel Tour Host Gratuity	\$28

Rates are per person based on occupancy and include AAA Member Discount. \$750 per person deposit due at time of booking. Final payment February 20, 2026.

NOTE: This tour is booked as the above inclusions state. It is possible due to unforeseen circumstances that some inclusions may change in future months. Should that happen, AAA Group Travel will take all necessary steps to find a suitable replacement for the tour.

PICK-UP LOCATIONS:

Buffalo

AAA Administrative Office
 100 International Dr.
 Williamsville

Rochester

RIT Inn & Conference Center
 5257 West Henrietta Rd.
 Henrietta

Syracuse

Syracuse Doubletree Hotel
 6301 State Route 298
 East Syracuse

CANCELLATION POLICY:

AAA recommends the purchase of Allianz Global Assistance products to protect your trip investment.
 Day of Deposit to 11-15-25 / \$150 Administrative Fee Per Person
 11-16-25 to 12-29-25 / Loss of Deposit Per Person
 12-30-25 to Day of Departure / 100% Non-Refundable Per Person



ITINERARY:

Day 1: Depart this morning from Buffalo, Rochester, or Syracuse and travel east toward the charming New England coast. Upon arrival in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, check in to the Holiday Inn Portsmouth, a full-service hotel featuring an indoor heated pool, on-site restaurant, and cozy lounge. Located just a mile from the historic waterfront district and the Maine border, it's the perfect base for your first night. This evening, enjoy a delicious, included dinner with your fellow travelers. (D)

Day 2: After breakfast at the hotel, meet your local guide for a narrated exploration of the Portsmouth Harbor Trail, where you'll discover the city's deep connection to the river and hear fascinating tales of early settlers, patriots, and ship captains. Stop to admire the trompe l'oeil ceiling at St. John's Church and take in the scenic views from Prescott Park, including the historic Portsmouth Shipyard. Continue north to Freeport Village for shopping time at L.L. Bean's flagship store and a variety of outlets and cafes for lunch on your own. Then, enjoy a scenic coastal drive to Bar Harbor, crossing the Causeway to picturesque Mt. Desert Island. Check in for a three-night stay at the Atlantic Oceanside Resort Hotel, offering pools, a Jacuzzi, and stunning views of Frenchman's Bay. Tonight, savor an included dinner at the resort. (B, D)

Day 3: Enjoy breakfast before setting out with your local guide for a full tour of Bar Harbor and Acadia National Park—the first national park east of the Mississippi. Travel the Park Loop Road to see Cadillac Mountain, Thunder Hole, Sieur de Mont Springs, and the Wild Gardens of Acadia, featuring plants from 13 distinct park habitats. Learn about the area's natural wonders and the wealthy summer residents who once built lavish "cottages" here. Break for lunch on your own and time to browse Bar Harbor's waterfront shops and scenic shoreline path. This afternoon, board a narrated nature cruise on Frenchman's Bay in search of eagles, porpoises, seals, and other wildlife, with views of Egg Rock Lighthouse and Acadia's rugged coastline. Tonight, don your souvenir Maine Lobster Hat and feast on a traditional Maine lobsterbake dinner with all the fixin's. (B, D)

Day 4: After breakfast, visit the tranquil Asticou Azalea Gardens, known for their brilliant blooms and blend of English and Japanese design elements. Then, enjoy a leisurely included lunch at the elegant Bar Harbor Club, with stunning views over Frenchman's Bay. The afternoon offers free time in Bar Harbor to revisit shops, stroll the shoreline, or simply relax before dinner on your own—either at the resort or in the heart of downtown. (B, L)



Day 5: Following breakfast, travel south to Boothbay Harbor, the sailing capital of mid-coast Maine. Learn about the area's maritime heritage as you tour the spectacular Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, where woodland and riverbank paths meet the rocky shoreline in a tapestry of native plants. Enjoy free time in Boothbay for lunch and exploring its charming village streets lined with galleries, boutiques, and fishing wharves. In the afternoon, embark on a Lobster Trap Hauling and Seal Watch cruise on Linekin Bay to see how lobsters are caught and keep an eye out for playful seals. Later, travel to Portland and check in for two nights at the Hyatt Place Old Port, located in the lively historic district with restaurants, nightlife, and shops right outside the door. Dinner is on your own tonight to enjoy Portland's vibrant dining scene. (B)

Day 6: Begin the day with breakfast, then meet your local guide for a tour of Portland, including the famous Portland Head Lighthouse and a private guided visit to another lighthouse typically closed to the public. Walk the granite jetty, see the keeper's quarters, and enjoy sweeping views of Casco Bay. Then, head to New Gloucester's Pineland Farms for a box lunch, time to explore the gardens, and a visit to the gift shop. Continue to the Maine Wildlife Park, home to over 30 native species including moose, black bears, mountain lions, eagles, and more. This evening, gather for a memorable farewell dinner at DiMillo's on the Water, a unique floating restaurant in Portland Harbor. (B, L, D)

Day 7: After breakfast, enjoy a narrated tour of Kennebunkport with its sandy beaches, rocky coastline, and charming historic center. Pass the Bush family estate at Walker's Point, hear the story of the Wedding Cake House, and visit the serene Franciscan Monastery with its landscaped grounds, shrines, and chapel. Then, relax on the journey home with wonderful memories of your New England adventure. (B)