

The Magnificent Mediterranean PAGE 62

Travel

SUMMER 2015
DISPLAY UNTIL SEPTEMBER 21

50 & Beyond

**RETRO
RESORTS**

GREAT
AMERICAN
FESTIVALS

**LET
FREEDOM
RING:**

*8 Revolutionary
Sights in the U.S.*

QUIRKY
Roadside
Attractions

**MUSICAL
MUSEUMS**

US \$3.95



A full-scale reincarnation of the original, the Mayflower II captures the essence of 17th-century ocean travel, from the restricted navigational equipment to its confined passenger quarters.



Let Freedom Ring

Celebrate summer, the season of independence, with these eight attractions around the U.S.

> BY **Rebecca Matheson**

A **MERICA, AMERICA:** It's the land of opportunity and democracy, and one that many of us are proud to call home. This summer, let these awe-inspiring landmarks lure you to explore "from sea to shining sea" on a patriotic escape.

You might take a moment to thank those who defend the red, white and blue while visiting the Aloha State. In Boston, you can remember revolutionaries who risked all in their quest for freedom. Take a moment for reflection on the National Mall, a Pennsylvania battlefield or a bus that rolled its way into civil rights history.

Or, for a family affair, take along the grandkids for hands-on lessons in U.S. history they won't soon forget. It might include a visit to an East Coast immigration center overlooking Lady Liberty in a search for familiar names.



Constructed in 1921, Plymouth Rock Portico protects the stone that represents the Pilgrims' 1620 landing on the Massachusetts coast.

A SANCTUARY

Plymouth, MA

They fled England in search of religious freedom and endured two months of seasickness aboard the Mayflower before landing in the New

World in the winter of 1620. Plymouth Rock has come to symbolize the Pilgrims' arrival in what now is Massachusetts. Each year, nearly 1 million people visit this chunk of American folklore; moved several times and occasionally chiseled by souvenir hunters, it's a battered, but still humbling, sight in Pilgrim Memorial State Park.

The Mayflower II, a replica of the Pilgrims' original ship, recently was restored and reopened for tours nearby, while impressive monuments to the founding families are found along the waterfront. www.SeePlymouth.com

TEA AND TAXES

Boston

The American Colonies' pursuit of sovereignty from England reached a boiling point on Dec. 16, 1773, when angry patriots boarded three merchant vessels and destroyed their tax-heavy wares. The Boston Tea Party Ships & ►



In-character docents share tales of the American Revolution along Boston's Freedom Trail. Right: Re-enactors gather every Dec. 16 at the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum to pay tribute to one of the most important protests in U.S. history.

Museum offers a thrilling taste of the event that changed a nation's fate, with costumed impersonators and interactive exhibits following the lead-up to the Revolutionary War.

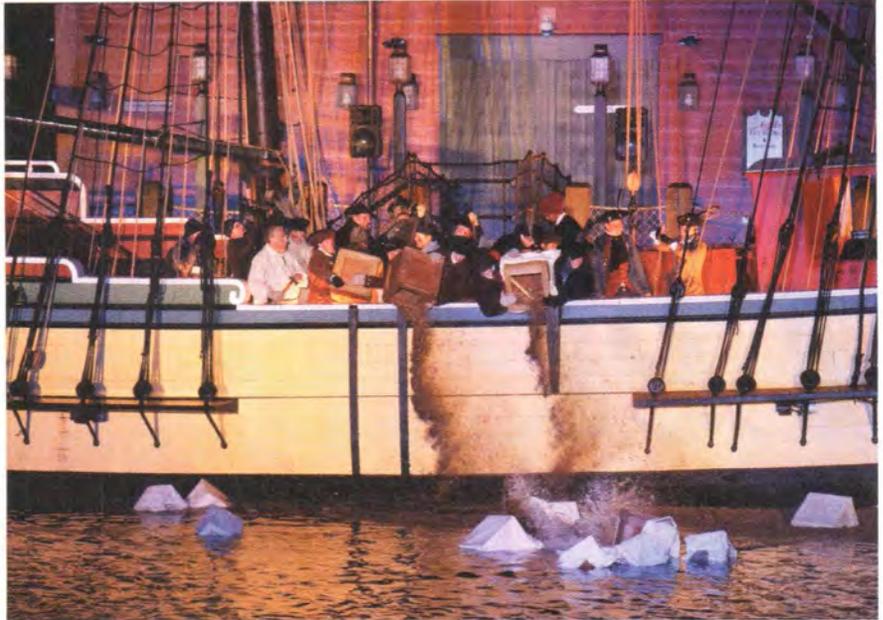
Visitors can join a meeting in support of "no taxation without representation," toss a few replica tea boxes into Boston Harbor and see the Robinson Half Chest, one of only two such artifacts known to have survived that defiant winter's night. Afterward, stop by Abigail's Tea Room for scones, cake and a signature beverage created by a "tea master" to pay homage to 18th-century flavors. www.BostonTeaPartyShip.com

WALKING THROUGH HISTORY

Boston

Stretching from the nation's first public park, Boston Common, to our oldest floating warship, the USS Constitution, the Freedom Trail boasts 16 historic sites along its 2.5 miles. Relive Paul Revere's wild ride while visiting his former home, or pause for a moment of silence at the site of the Boston Massacre.

Marvel at Faneuil Hall, host to town meetings and rebellious orators, and lift your spirits at Park Street Church, where "My Country, 'Tis of Thee" was sung for the first time on July 4, 1831. You'll also encounter a host of muse-



ums and meet characters dressed in period attire as you step back through time to explore Revolutionary America. www.TheFreedomTrail.org

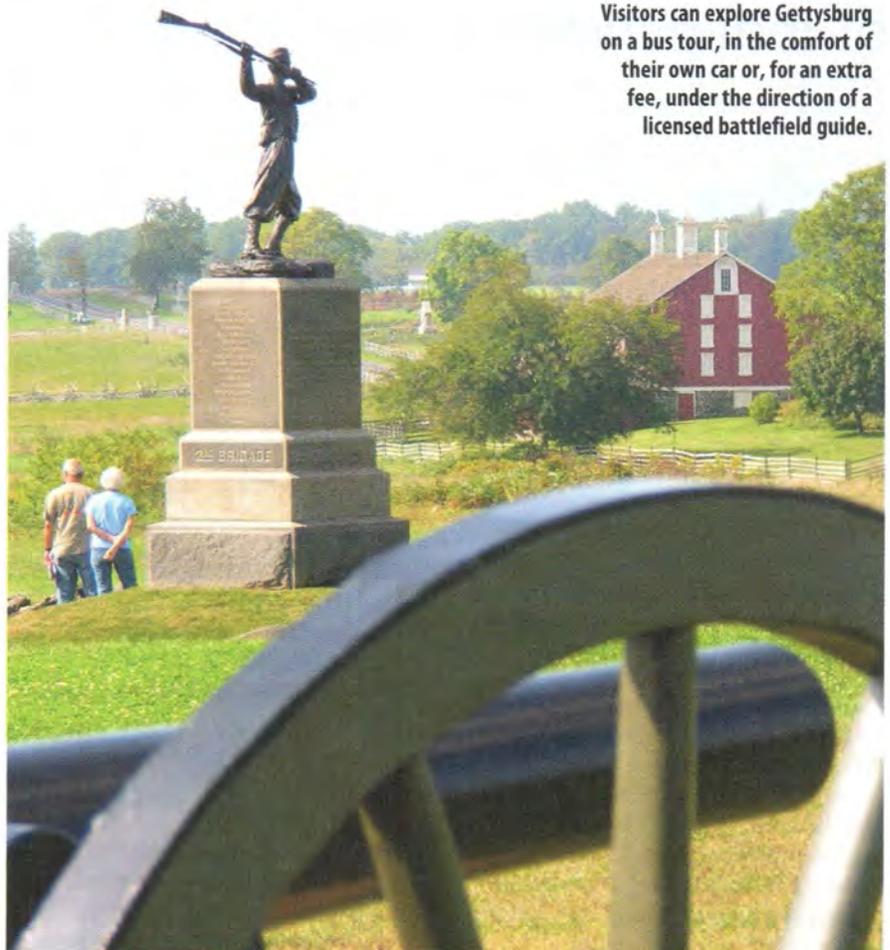
AN IMPORTANT ADDRESS

Gettysburg, PA

On Nov. 19, 1863, just four months

after the bloodiest battle of the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln returned to what now is known as Gettysburg National Military Park to dedicate a cemetery to fallen soldiers. He claimed "the world will little note" the speech he would give that day, but the memory of both the Gettysburg Address ▶

Visitors can explore Gettysburg on a bus tour, in the comfort of their own car or, for an extra fee, under the direction of a licensed battlefield guide.



and the Union Army victory that inspired it — one that modern historians consider the turning point in the war — live on.

Take a trip to south-central Pennsylvania to experience the solemnity of the battlefield and commemorate its quest for a brighter future, in which we remember that “all men are created equal.” www.NPS.gov/Gett

A FRESH START

Ellis Island, New York and New Jersey

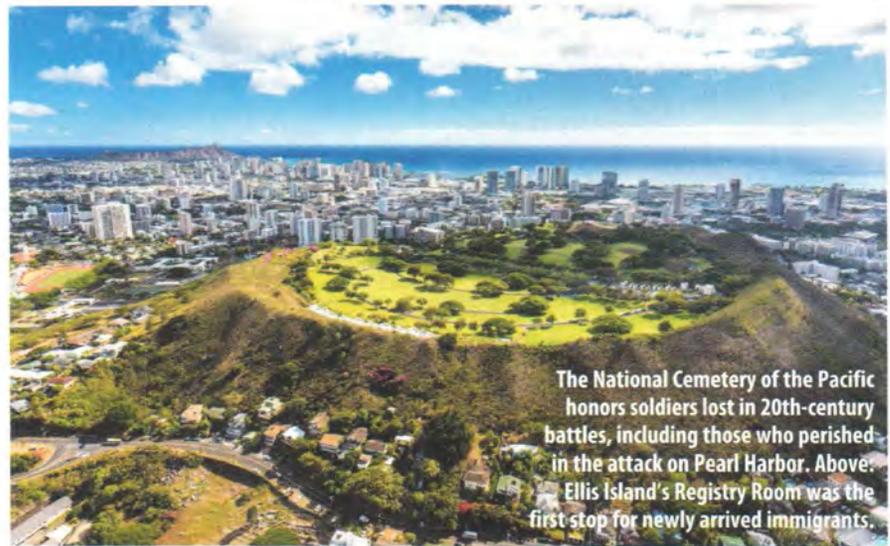
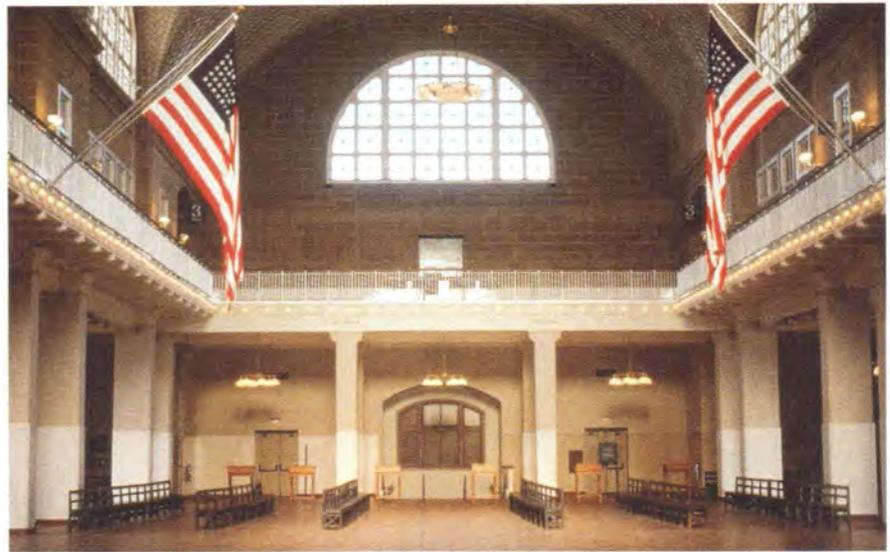
More than 12 million people from all over the world passed through Ellis Island, an immigration station shadowed by the Statue of Liberty, between 1892 and 1954. This spot is known as the Island of Hope, among other nicknames, and served as a symbol of freedom and a gateway to new opportunities.

The newly renamed Ellis Island National Museum of Immigration presents guests with the chance to look up their ancestors and explore the Peopling of America Center, opening May 20, to learn about the nation's growth as far back as the first indigenous groups. An audio tour available in nine languages walks guests through the “new arrival” experience encountered by optimistic immigrants to the U.S. www.LibertyEllisFoundation.org

FREEDOM'S PRICE

Honolulu

Among the symbols of liberty across the country are monuments to the men and women who have bravely dedicated or even given their lives in the



The National Cemetery of the Pacific honors soldiers lost in 20th-century battles, including those who perished in the attack on Pearl Harbor. Above: Ellis Island's Registry Room was the first stop for newly arrived immigrants.

course of military service. Two awe-inspiring tributes exist on the Hawaiian island of Oahu: the National Memorial

Cemetery of the Pacific, tucked inside Punchbowl Crater, and the World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, which features the USS Arizona Memorial at Pearl Harbor.

The location of the former also is known as Puowaina, a Hawaiian name meaning “hill of sacrifice,” and more than 53,000 soldiers and sailors have been laid to rest atop this volcanic formation. The latter invites visitors to board a shuttle boat operated by the U.S. Navy to pay their respects over the sunken battleship. www.GoHawaii.com

TAKING A STAND — WITH A SEAT

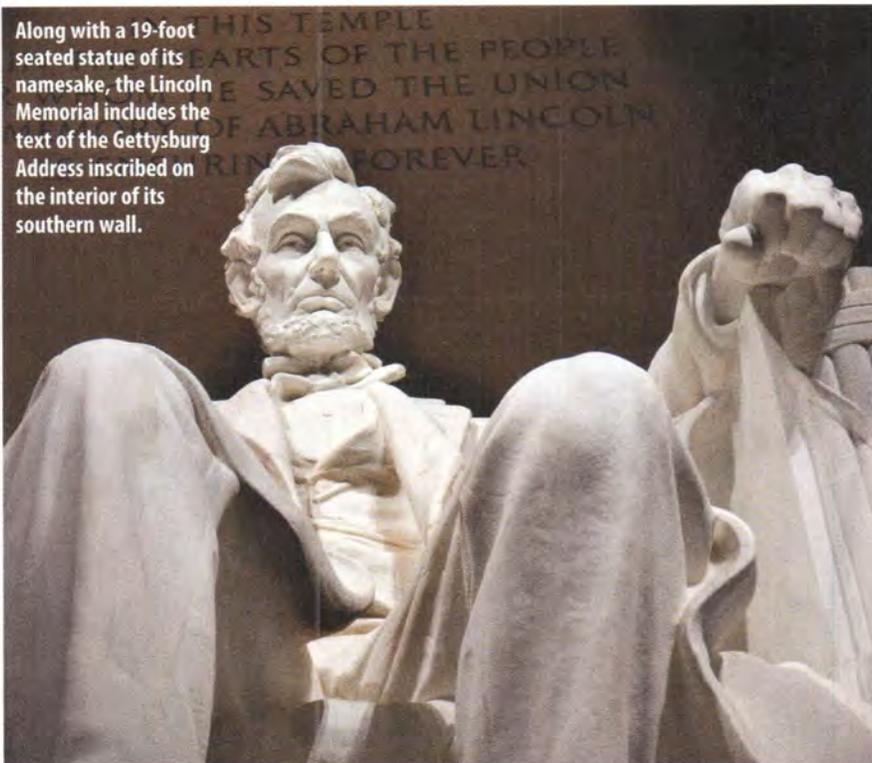
Dearborn, MI

A monument to the civil rights movement is fully restored and looking like new at the Henry Ford Museum, an exhibit hall dedicated to its namesake as well as other historic innovators. The Montgomery, AL, bus that played host to Rosa Parks' 1955 defiance of ▶



A seamstress on her way home from work, Rosa Parks changed the course of American civil rights aboard this Montgomery city bus.

Along with a 19-foot seated statue of its namesake, the Lincoln Memorial includes the text of the Gettysburg Address inscribed on the interior of its southern wall.



racial segregation had been left to rust in a field for more than 30 years before it was bought at auction and returned

to its green-and-gold glory.

Museum visitors can take Parks' hard-fought seat and reflect on the

firestorm she ignited: the Montgomery bus boycott led by Martin Luther King Jr. and the 1956 U.S. Supreme Court case that found the city's transportation divide to be unconstitutional. www.TheHenryFord.org

AMERICA'S FRONT YARD

Washington, DC

For the ultimate in patriotic escapes, look no further than the nation's capital. The National Mall and Memorial Parks, a nearly 150-acre public space, contains some of America's most prized monuments, from the Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln memorials to tributes to veterans of the Civil, Korean and Vietnam wars, among other fierce conflicts. Each marker represents a different piece of the country's storied past, including honors for the Founding Fathers.

Spend Independence Day 2015 on the Mall to enjoy a parade along Constitution Avenue, concerts in front of the Washington Monument and U.S. Capitol and, after nightfall, fireworks over the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool. www.NPS.gov/NaMa 50