

BOSTON TEA PARTY
 SHIPS & MUSEUM. ★★★★★ DECEMBER 16, 1773
 A REVOLUTIONARY EXPERIENCESM

FACT SHEET

OPENING	The Boston Tea Party Ships SM & Museum opened in June 2012.
LOCATION	Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum is located on the Congress St. Bridge on the Fort Point Channel, in the same body of water where Griffin's Wharf was upon which the Boston Tea Party took place on December 16, 1773.
ABOUT	<p><i>"The Boston Tea Party – the single most important event leading up to the American Revolution"</i></p> <p>The Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum provides a unique immersion and experience in history by representing a key time in history (from 1773 to 1775), through live actors, tea throwing reenactments, high-tech interactive exhibits, authentically restored tea ships and an award-winning multisensory film, <i>Let it Begin Here</i>. The Museum tells the story of the Boston Tea Party and immediate aftermath that led to the beginning of the American Revolution. The tours last 1hr.</p>
ACCOLADES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2016 10Best Readers' Choice Award - '#1 Best Patriotic Attraction' - <i>USA Today</i> • 2014 Certificate of Excellence - <i>TripAdvisor</i> • 'Best of the New 2012' - <i>Boston Globe Magazine</i> • 'Best New Museum' - <i>Yankee</i> '2012 Best of New England Issue' 
THE EXPERIENCE: ACT I – THE MEETING HOUSE & TEA PARTY REENACTMENT	Tours begin in the Meeting House where actors, with the help of visitors who are assigned names of actual historic participants of the Boston Tea Party, tell the story leading up to that infamous night on December 16, 1773. Here, visitors hear Samuel Adams speech protesting the tax on tea then march to Griffin's Wharf where guests board the ships and help toss tea crates into the water. Visitors then explore the vessels, meet the captain and see what life was like aboard an 18 th -century ship.
HISTORIC SHIPS – BEAVER, ELEANOR & DARTMOUTH	<p>The Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum currently features two (of the three) historically accurate replica 18th century ships, the <i>Beaver</i> and the <i>Eleanor</i>, which took part in the Boston Tea Party. The third ship, the <i>Dartmouth</i>, has not yet begun construction.</p> <p>Fun facts about the ships:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fir planks used on the decking of the <i>Beaver</i> are 100-year-old wood reclaimed from a factory in Fall River, Mass.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 400 sheets of copper on the hull of both ships were from the Paul Revere Copper Company, founded by Revere in 1810 and still in operation. • It took 22,000 bronze nails to install the copper sheets. • Both ships feature crews' quarters and captain's quarters exhibits offering a glimpse into life at sea in the 18th century.
<p>THE EXPERIENCE: ACT II – GRIFFIN'S WHARF, THE DAY AFTER</p>	<p>Guests are then guided indoors where through innovative holographs they hear the perspectives of two women - one a Tory and one a Patriot - who get into a heated discussion about the truths and consequences of their own views at Griffin's Wharf the next morning.</p>
<p>ROBINSON HALF TEA CHEST</p>	<p>On display in the next phase of the tour is the Robinson Half Chest the only known tea chest still in existence from the original Boston Tea Party on December 16, 1773. The story is told of how the chest has been protected and preserved for more than two centuries and its 'homecoming' back to Boston. In 1773, John Robinson, a young apprentice, found the chest in the sand just off Dorchester Heights and carried it home. His mother knew that having anything in their possession from the Tea Party was considered treason and could have dire consequences for their family. The chest was kept safe by the Robinson family who brought the chest to New York where it was passed down through generations. This tea chest now lies over the same body of water in which it was thrown overboard more than 240 years ago.</p>
<p>THE DEBATE BETWEEN KING GEORGE III AND SAM ADAMS</p>	<p>While King George III and Sam Adams never met in real life, visitors hear their actual heated written correspondence come to life through state-of-the-art portraits hanging in the portrait gallery.</p>
<p>THE EXPERIENCE: ACT III – THE MINUTEMAN THEATRE</p>	<p><i>Let it Begin Here</i> – the final segment of the tour, guests watch an award-winning, emotionally charged epic short film that authentically recounts the events and participants that led up to the American Revolution and the “shot heard round the world.” <i>Let it Begin Here</i> has won numerous awards including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Bronze Winner, History/Biography Documentary - 33rd Telly Awards 2012</i> • <i>Award of Excellence, History/Biography - The Indie Fest Awards 2012</i> • <i>Award of Merit, Direction - The Indie Fest Awards 2012</i>
<p>ABIGAIL'S TEA ROOM</p>	<p>Named after Abigail Adams, local resident (Quincy, Mass.) and wife of the second President of the United States, John Adams, the tea room (seats 120), offers beautiful waterside views and serves visitors a selection of hot and cold teas, lemonade, cider, beer, wine and coffee along with an assortment of pastries and baked goods such as scones, muffins and cookies including sugar, chocolate chip, peanut butter cup, triple chocolate chip, oatmeal raisin, marshmallow and s'mores. Guests also can gossip with Patriot women (servers) about life in Boston in 1773.</p>

	<p>Tea tastings include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2.99 - taste sample 5 teas - the same blends thrown overboard during the Boston Tea Party. • \$6.95 - includes a limited ceramic limited edition souvenir mug • \$12.00 - Abigail's Tea Platter - Includes pot of Abigail's Blend tea, 2 scones and toppings (serves up to 4 people)
<p>GIFT SHOP</p>	<p>Visitors, exiting from the museum and/or the tea room, make their way into the retail store where they have the opportunity to purchase memorabilia, souvenirs and keepsakes relating to colonial Boston and the Boston Tea Party of December 16, 1773.</p>
<p>HOURS & TOUR PRICING</p>	<p><i>Museum Winter/Spring Hours:</i> <i>Daily</i> - 10:00 a.m. - 4 p.m. (last tour begins at 4 p.m.) <i>Tours:</i> run every 30 minutes and last approx. 1 hr 15 min.</p> <p><i>Museum Summer/Fall Hours:</i> <i>Daily</i> - 10:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. (last tour begins at 5 p.m.) <i>Tours:</i> run every 15 minutes and last approx. 1 hr 15 min.</p> <p><i>Online pricing:</i> Adult - \$23.40 Child - \$14.40 Students/Seniors/Military - \$20.70 Children under 4 – Free</p> <p><i>At the door pricing:</i> Adult - \$26.00 Child - \$16.00 Students/Seniors/Military - \$23.00 Children under 4 – Free</p> <p>Tickets can be purchased at the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum Congress Street box offices or via the Web site - http://www.bostonteatartyship.com.</p>
<p>'HOMETOWN PASS' PROGRAM</p>	<p>Any current Massachusetts resident is eligible for a free ticket to the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum when they bring along someone who buys a full price adult ticket (\$25). Massachusetts Residents must sign-up for the program by going to www.hometownpass.com then print out the Hometown Pass and bring it to the Museum. A valid driver's license, government issued ID or voter's registration must be shown at the ticket booth in conjunction with the Hometown Pass. The accompanying adult guest ticket must be purchased at the Museum ticket booths. Tickets may not be purchased online and may not be purchased using any other discounts or coupon. The Hometown Pass Programs is valid indefinitely.</p>
<p>VICE PRESIDENT and EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – SHAWN P. FORD</p>	<p>A 26-year veteran with Historic Tours of America®, Shawn started his career with the company as a tour conductor with Old Town Trolley Tours® of Boston. In 1989, Shawn was named general manager of the former Boston Tea Party Ship & Museum.</p>

	<p>Shawn created Historic Tours of America's International and Domestic Sales Department where he represented the company in the tour and travel industry with the American Bus Association, the National Tour Association, U.S. Tour Operators Association and United States Travel Association. Shawn is the past president of the Boston chapter for SKÅL and has served on numerous tourist industry related boards and commission.</p>
<p>MASTER SHIPWRIGHT – LEON POINDEXTER</p>	<p>Leon Poindexter, the architect and contractor for the <i>Beaver</i>, <i>Eleanor</i> and <i>Dartmouth</i>, is a master shipwright of several historic vessels and replicas and consultant to maritime museums. He builds, repairs and restores large traditionally-built historic wooden sailing vessels and their rigs. Some of his vessels are on the National Register of Historic Places. Leon learned his trade from some of the last of the "old timers" who worked in the famed shipyards of Essex and Cape Ann, Mass. He has also worked on many important vessels including the <i>USS CONSTITUTION</i> and the <i>USS MASSACHUSETTS</i> and was master shipwright for and created the <i>HMS Surprise</i> used by the Academy Award-winning movie "Master and Commander" starring Russell Crowe. He has more than 30 years experience in this trade and is based in Gloucester, Mass.</p>
<p>TEA MASTER – BRUCE RICHARDSON</p>	<p>Bruce Richardson, the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum's tea master, is a leading tea expert involved in tea's American renaissance for more than 20 years. A writer/author, photographer, tea blender, and frequent guest speaker, Bruce spends much of his time educating Americans in the art of celebrating the communal cup of tea. He has appeared on television, radio and as a guest speaker at professional seminars such as World Tea Expo. He is a member of the editorial board for <i>Fresh Cup</i> magazine, is a columnist for <i>TeaTime</i> magazine and a contributing editor for <i>TEA</i> magazine.</p>
<p>PARKING</p>	<p>Farnsworth Street Garage - 17 Farnsworth St. Boston, MA Stillings Street Garage - 11 Stillings St. Boston, MA Weekdays - Museum visitors receive a discounted rate of \$24 per visit before 5 p.m. with museum validation Weekends - Museum visitors receive a discounted rate of \$14 per visit with museum validation. Evenings - Museum visitors receive a rate of \$10 per visit after 5 p.m. (and before 5:30 a.m.) with museum validation.</p>
<p>ANNUAL BOSTON TEA PARTY ANNIVERSARY & REENACTMENT - EVERY DECEMBER 16th - 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p>The Boston Tea Party comes alive every December! The Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum and the Old South Meeting House team-up to host a Boston Tea Party Reenactment annually every Dec. 16 with hundreds of reenactors. This annual reenactment, one of the largest theatrical moving performances in the United States, is an opportunity for the public to experience one of America's most iconic public protests live</p>

	<p>where reenactors from across New England bring to life the story of The Boston Tea Party and theatrically recreate the evening of Dec., 16, 1773.</p> <p>The reenactment begins with a fiery tea tax debate at Old South Meeting House, the actual historic hall where the colonists gathered to protest taxation without representation (ticketed portion). Then, the public joins a lively procession to the waterfront, and witnesses as the Sons of Liberty destroy actual tea into Boston's historic waters at the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum located over the same body of water where the Boston Tea Party took more than 240 years ago! The 243rd Boston Tea Party Anniversary & Annual Reenactment will be taking place this year on Fri., Dec. 16, 2016. Tickets go on sale as of July 2016.</p> <p>The Boston Tea Party Annual Reenactment event sells out every year (this is the Old South Meeting ticketed portion of the event). The Destruction of the Tea portion, where spectators witness actual tea is thrown into Boston's historic waters at the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum, is FREE and OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.</p> <p>Every year during December, Boston hotels, restaurants, bars, cafes and Harpoon Brewery offer tea-infused and/or inspired packages, cocktails, beers and/or specials in honor of the annual Boston Tea Party Anniversary & Annual reenactment.</p>
<p>CONTACT INFORMATION</p>	<p>Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum 306 Congress Street on the Congress Street Bridge Boston, MA 02210 Ph: 1-617-338-1773 Web site: http://www.bostontepartyship.com</p>
<p>MEDIA CONTACT</p>	<p>Stephanie Loeber Loeber Communications Phone: 617.510.0577 E-mail: stephanie@loebercommunications.com</p>

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