

Portland Museum of Art & the Winslow Homer Studio

Wednesday, September 28

7 am – Depart from the Museums’ State Street lot located across the street from the Springfield Main Library. Park in the lot and meet the bus at the curbside. *We ask participants to arrive no later than 6:45 am.* We will make one rest stop en route.

Portland Art Museum. Enjoy a guided tour of the museum and the Winslow Homer studio in nearby Prouts Neck.

The Portland Museum’s collection of more than 18,000 objects includes decorative and fine arts dating from the 18th century to the present, and includes the State of Maine Collection—which features works by artists such as Winslow Homer, Marsden Hartley, Rockwell Kent, Louise Nevelson, and Andrew Wyeth—along with the largest European art collection in Maine, and a diverse range of contemporary work.

The Winslow Homer studio was purchased by the museum from Charles Homer Willauer, the great grand-nephew of Winslow Homer, in 2006. It has been totally renovated and opened to the public in 2012. The Studio is filled with various types of Homer ephemera, including furniture, artwork, and photographs. We’ll have an exclusive tour of the studio where this great American artist lived and painted many of his masterpieces from 1884 until his death in 1910.

Winslow Homer first discovered Prouts Neck, Maine, with his parents and two brothers in 1875. The family fell in love with the natural beauty of this small seaside community and began purchasing property and spending summers in Maine in the early 1880s. When Winslow Homer decided to relocate permanently from New York City, where he had lived for more than 20 years, to Prouts Neck, he hired John Calvin Stevens, a Portland architect and leading proponent of the Shingle Style, to convert a carriage house into his residence and studio. Perched on the rocky coast and commanding panoramic vistas of the Atlantic ocean, this 1,500-square-foot structure served as Homer’s primary residence and workspace from 1884 until his 1910 death. From the Studio’s second-story balcony and from daily walks along the shore, Homer drew inspiration for his celebrated late marine paintings from the crashing surf and ever-changing weather along the Maine coast.

Lunch is included at the museum. Menu to be announced.

Photography policy: Only non-flash photography allowed in the museum. There are select artworks and exhibitions where photography may be limited. These are indicated by the symbol of a camera with a strike through it on some labels.

4:15 pm – Meet the bus and depart for Springfield with an estimated return by return: 7 pm;

What to bring: Comfortable walking shoes, hat, camera, snacks for the bus ride.