



Brookline, MA
JFK Home & FL Olmstead National Historic Sites
Wednesday, April 25

8:30 am – Depart from the Museums’ State Street parking 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 by 8:15 am**. We will make one rest stop en route.

We’ll tour two National Historic Sites in Brookline, MA.

The Frederick Law Olmstead National Historic Site was the home and studio of Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903), recognized as the founder of American landscape architecture and the nation's foremost park designer.

In 1883, after supervising the design and construction of such landmarks as Central Park and the US Capitol Grounds, Olmsted moved his family from New York City to 99 Warren Street in Brookline, Massachusetts. It was here that he also re-established his office. "Fairsted," as he called it, served as both a home and the world's first full-scale professional practice of landscape architecture. All the processes of design, from drafting to printing, were carried out here. Thousands of projects, from conception to completion, are reflected in the vast design records of the Olmsted firm.

The National Park Service acquired Olmsted's home and office in 1979 and maintains many of the working records in the interest of understanding and preserving the special places this firm created.

Lunch is included at a nearby restaurant. Menu and details to be announced.

Following lunch, we will tour the **John Fitzgerald Kennedy National Historic Site**, the childhood home of John F. Kennedy, the 35th President of the United States. The house was purchased by Joseph P. Kennedy, Sr. on 20 August 1914 in preparation for his marriage to Rose Elizabeth Fitzgerald on October 7, 1914. John and his sisters Rosemary and Kathleen were born in the upstairs master bedroom. The family lived there until 1920.

In 1966, the Kennedy family repurchased the home. From 1966 to 1969, Rose Kennedy restored the house to her recollection of its 1917 appearance. She wanted to restore the home to the hour of Jack's birth. The home really paints a picture of a typical American home 1914–1920, showcasing Kennedy photographs, furniture, and mementos. Rose Kennedy donated the home to the National Park Service in 1967 as a memorial to her son. The John Fitzgerald Kennedy National Historic Site was established in 1969, on what would have been JFK’s 52nd birthday.

3 pm – Depart for Springfield for an estimated return by 5 pm.

What to bring on the bus: Snacks, beverages for the ride. Items may be left on the bus while touring the sites. Bottled water is provided for the return home.