



Local Treasures - Friday, January 25

The New England Air Museum & the Windsor Historical Society

9:15 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 by 9:00 am.**

9:45 am – Estimated arrival at the New England Air Museum in Windsor, CT, the largest aviation museum in New England. This educational organization is dedicated to preserving and presenting historically significant aircraft and related artifacts.

Enjoy a guided tour of the museum’s collection featuring over 100 aircraft ranging from early flying machines to supersonic jets. Aircraft are on display in three large exhibit hangars and in an outdoor display area (open depending on weather). Exhibits include the history of Sikorsky Aircraft, computer-based flight simulators, and the 58th Bombardment Wing Memorial’s B-29. Additionally, there are exhibits on early French aviation, the Tuskegee Airmen, the Kosciuszko Squadron, and the 57th Fighter Group. Have a seat in a cockpit!

12:15 pm – Board the bus and depart for a private group lunch at the Mill on the River Restaurant. This picturesque 200-year old Connecticut mill has been converted into one of East’s most esteemed restaurants featuring New England comfort and upscale dining elegance. Its original dam, built by Colonists and Indians, is the oldest in Connecticut. The first mill was destroyed by a huge flood in 1750. In 1775, the mill was rebuilt by Joseph Rockwell.

Corn, buckwheat, and rye were ground at the grist mill and stored in large bins until ready to be sold. The kitchen area was then the first Post Office with the miller as the postmaster. We’ll enjoy a three-course lunch with coffee or tea included. Menu will be provided at the restaurant.

Following lunch, we will make a stop at the Windsor Historical Society. Windsor is Connecticut’s first English settlement. We will have a guided tour of two of their treasured, historic houses -- the 1758 Strong-Howard House and the impressive brick mansion house, built by Dr. Hezekiah Chaffee around 1767.

3:15 pm - Board the bus for the return to Springfield with an estimated return by 3:45 pm.

What to bring: Camera, water and snacks for the bus. Dress in layers for variable temperatures on the bus and museums. Items may be left on the bus. Bottled water is provided for the return home.



Inclement weather concerns: If snow impacts our travel plans, the trip will be cancelled and rescheduled. If we are able to make the determination the day before, we will contact all participants to notify them of the cancellation.

In case of unexpected inclement weather on the day of the trip, please call 413-263-6800, ext. 377 or 382, for up-to-date information on the status of the trip. If a trip is cancelled and you are unable to participate in the rescheduled trip, a full refund will be issued.