

There is only a thin line
between the past and the
present... Discover it today.

A large black silhouette graphic that serves as a background for the title. It features various historical and cultural elements: a tall steeple on the left, a domed building with a weather vane, a rider on horseback on the right, and the masts of a three-masted sailing ship at the bottom. The text 'The Freedom Trail' is overlaid on this graphic.

The
Freedom
Trail



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

The Spirit of Adventure Council

The Freedom Trail

The Freedom Trail is sponsored by The Spirit of Adventure Council, in conjunction with the Boston Chamber of Commerce. It was officially opened as an authorized historic trail of the Boy Scouts of America on May 28, 1972.

Participation in the Freedom Trail hike is intended to help Cubs Scouts, Scouts and Explorers, as well as parents and unit leaders become more aware of the historic significance of Boston, Massachusetts and its role in American heritage.

The Trail

The Freedom Trail is a 2.5 mile hike through two and a half centuries of America's past in downtown Boston. It begins at the Boston Commons Visitor Information Center on Tremont St. near the Park St. MBTA station. Park St. can be reached using the MBTA Red and Green lines.

The trail ends at the U.S.S. Constitution in Charlestown. This walking tour permits visitors to discover more than sixteen historical sites. The trail is marked by a red line painted on the sidewalk that will lead you from site to site.

Note: You are not required to pay admission at sites to earn the trail awards. Also, on- street parking is hard to find in downtown Boston and parking lot prices can be expensive. We suggest using the MBTA as an alternative to driving into Boston.

Requirements

Registered youth and adult members of the BSA can qualify for the Freedom Trail Awards. All hikers must wear as much of the official uniform as possible. BSA policy requires two (2) adult leaders on all trips and tours. The tour leader in charge must be at least 21 years old and accompany the group at all times.

Freedom Trail Sites

1. Boston Common: The oldest public park in the country; it was once used as a cow pasture for grazing herds and as a training area for the militia.

2. The Massachusetts State House: Designed by Charles Bulfinch, a famed Bostonian architect of the time, the building was completed in 1798. It is considered to be Bulfinch's finest work. Open Monday-Friday 10am-4pm.

3. Park Street Church: Built in 1809, this was the site of William Lloyd Garrison's first anti-slavery address in 1829. Open July and August for historical tours. Open Tuesday-Saturday 9:30am-3:30pm.

4. Granary Burying Grounds: This 1660 cemetery is the final resting place for a host of historical figures, including three signers of the Declaration of Independence, eight governors and five victims of the Boston Massacre. Open daylight hours only.

5. King's Chapel: The first Anglican church in Boston built under the authority of Kings James II in 1688, it became the first Unitarian church in America after the American Revolution. Open May-September, Monday-Saturday 10am-4pm Open March-May and September-October on Monday, Friday, and Saturday from 10am-4pm Open November-February on Saturday from 10am-4pm ***Donation suggested for groups**

6. Boston Latin School Site & Benjamin Franklin Statue: Built in 1636, Boston Latin School was the first public school and was attended by Samuel Adams, John Hancock, Ben Franklin, Cotton Mather and other noted historical figures.

7. Old Corner Bookstore: Constructed in 1718, the Old Corner Bookstore is downtown Boston's oldest commercial building and was home to the 19th-century publishing giant Ticknor and Fields, where many famous books found publication, including *The Scarlet Letter* and *Walden*. Saved from demolition in 1960, the building's various commercial leases help subsidize important historic preservation projects in Boston's neighborhoods

8. Old South Meeting House: It was here that outraged colonists met on Dec. 16, 1773 for what became known as the Boston Tea Party.
***admission fee required**

9. Old State House: Built in 1713 as the first seat of the Colonial government. John Hancock, first governor of Massachusetts, was inaugurated here. Open November through April Monday-Friday 10am-4pm Saturday 9:30am-5pm and Sunday 11am-5pm ***admission fee required**

10. Boston Massacre Site: Located across from the east balcony of the Old State House where the Declaration of Independence was read to the city of Boston in 1776, this bloody moment in American History is marked with a simple symbol.

11. Faneuil Hall: Built in 1742 and presented to the town by Peter Faneuil, the hall has been a meeting place upstairs and a marketplace downstairs ever since. The fourth floor is now the home of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company Museum. Open daily 9am-5pm

12. Paul Revere House: Located in Boston's North End is the Paul Revere House. The oldest house in Boston, this is where Paul Revere started his famous ride. Open November to April 9:30am-4:15pm Open

April to October 9:30am-5: 15pm. (Closed Mondays) ***admission fee required**

13. Old North Church: Built in 1723 as a "House of prayer for all people", this is the city's oldest standing church. It was from the steeple of this church that Sexton Robert Newman hung two lanterns to warn of the British attack. Open daily 9 am-5 pm **with admission fee**. Sunday services conducted 9 am, 11 am, 4 pm.

14. Copp's Hill Burying Ground: Founded in 1659, Copp's Hill is the second oldest cemetery in Boston and contains the remains of some of the most notable Bostonians of the colonial period. Open daily 9 am-5 pm.

15. USS Constitution: Nicknamed "Old Ironsides", the USS Constitution is the oldest commissioned warship in the world. Launched in 1797 from Boston Navy Yard, she sailed against the Barbary pirates and fought the British in the war of 1812. To this day Old Ironsides has never lost a battle. Open daily 9 am-5 pm.

16. Bunker Hill Monument: The monument was built to commemorate the first major battle of the American Revolution fought here on June 17, 1775. Open daily 9 am-4:30 pm.

FREEDOM TRAIL HIKE CREDENTIAL

The following information and/or signatures should be provided:

1. Obtain the signature of the receptionist at the Freedom Trail Information Center on the Boston Common at Tremont Street.

Name Date

2. Two figures flank the staircase at the Bulfinch Entrance to the State House. What are the names of these men? Who were they?

3. What is the historic significance of the Park Street Church?

4. Obtain names of three historical figures buried at the Old Granary Burying Grounds and dates on headstones:

Name Date

Name Date

Name Date

5. How many columns stand in front of the King's Chapel?

6a. Describe one of the engravings on the side of Ben Franklin's statue.

6b. How many children are in the mosaic at the site of the oldest public school in the United States?

7. When year was the Old Corner Bookstore originally opened?

8. In what year was the Boston Tea Party planned and carried out?
9. What date was the Old State House was built: _____
- 9b. Who was Governor then?
10. What marks the site of the Boston Massacre?
11. What is the historical significance of Faneuil Hall?
12. Name something Paul Revere is known for other than his famous ride:
13. On what date were the two signal lanterns displayed in the steeple of the Old North Church?
- 13b. Who donated the four angels in the back of the church?
14. In which famous battle did the British man a battery from Copp's Hill?
15. Signature of the Officer on duty at the U.S.S. Constitution:
16. What famous quote was spoken during the Battle of Bunker Hill?

THE MBTA

Daily service is available between the hours of 5 am and 1 am.
For information on MBTA services for fares, please refer to the map, call 1-800-392-6100 or visit www.mbta.com. If you choose to take the "T" into Boston, park at "Quincy Adams Station" located in Braintree, MA and get off at the Park St Station in Boston.

Directions from New England Base Camp:

Take Rte 93 North to where Rte 93 North and Rte 3 South meet
Signs will direct you to "Quincy Adams Station."

Take Exit # 18 and the exit for the station will be halfway down the ramp on your left. (Parking is available for \$7 /day.)

