Alabama Public Television presents…

Roaming Coastal Maine

September 29 – October 5, 2023

For more information contact
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**Small Group Travel** rewards travelers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

**7 Days ● 9 Meals:** 6 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 2 Dinners

**HIGHLIGHTS…** Portland, Choice on Tour, Oyster Farm, Bar Harbor, Acadia National Park, Lobster Trap Pull Demonstration, Wine Tasting, Camden, Freeport, Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, Boothbay

**ITINERARY AT A GLANCE**

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*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

**Day 1: Friday, September 29, 2023 Portland, Maine - Tour Begins** Welcome to Maine, a “Vacationland” of intricate coastlines and all-encompassing natural beauty that serves as the perfect getaway. From charming towns and scenic ocean overlooks to oyster shucking and lobster hauling, experience the best of this New England retreat.

**Day 2: Saturday, September 30, 2023 Portland** Discover the essence of this vibrant harbor city by means of a true New England classic – a trolley. From the opulent Victoria Mansion to the hum of the Old Port, your guide will introduce you to Portland’s hidden gems. Trade in the charming streets of the city for the rugged coastline, stopping at the picturesque Portland Head Light. This afternoon, it’s your choice! Visit the Portland Museum of Art,* Maine’s oldest and largest public art institution whose collection includes pieces from Andy Warhol and Claude Monet -OR- join a locally-guided walking tour through Portland’s oldest neighborhood and learn about its diverse beginnings. Get a chance to delve into the culture of Portland with free time to explore this seafaring city on your own. *(B, D)*

**Day 3: Sunday, October 1, 2023 Portland - Bar Harbor** This morning, get an intimate look at a working oyster farm and learn how to dig into these local delicacies with an oyster shucking demonstration. Later, arrive in Bar Harbor, an iconic vacation spot featuring rich blue waters and home to Acadia National Park. With an evening at leisure, explore the bustling downtown, full of cozy cafes and indulgent ice cream shops just steps from your hotel. *(B)*

**Day 4: Monday, October 2, 2023 Bar Harbor - Acadia National Park - Bar Harbor** This is Acadia National Park. Breathe in the crisp, fresh air and allow the nature around you to captivate your senses. Admire the striking mountains, towering forests, and rocky shorelines as you drive scenic Park Loop Road with a local guide. Take in the sweeping views from the summit of Cadillac Mountain. Then, dive into the cuisine and culture of Maine when you join a local lobsterman on a lobster boat. See how lobster traps are retrieved from the ocean and watch the cages get pulled to the surface. *(B)*

**Day 5: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 Bar Harbor - Camden - Freeport** Sip some regional wine during a tasting at a local vineyard. Your scenic journey continues with a stop at a lobster shack to indulge in a must-try local favorite, the Maine lobster roll.** Head to Camden for some time at leisure, giving you the perfect opportunity to explore this quintessential Maine town. Later, arrive in Freeport, your home for the next two nights. Enjoy an evening at leisure. *(B, L)*

**Day 6: Wednesday, October 4, 2023 Freeport - Boothbay - Freeport** Today, enter the natural wonderland of Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, nearly 300 acres of grassy fields and woodland trails overflowing with floral hues. Enjoy some free time in Boothbay browsing this quaint, seaside town’s cute shops and restaurants. Return to Freeport where you will visit the Maine Beer Company for an Impact Moment. Enjoy a guided tasting and learn all about the brewery’s “Do What’s Right” program in which they commit to employee wellness, minimizing their carbon footprint, and donating proceeds to environmental nonprofits. Tonight, toast to the end of your trip and bid Maine farewell over dinner. *(B, D)*

**Day 7: Thursday, October 5, 2023 Freeport - Portland - Tour Ends** Your tour of coastal Maine comes to a close today. *(B)*
Experience It! Acadia National Park

Stretching over an expanse of 47,000 acres, Acadia National Park is home to a vast range of natural beauty. Acadia fully encompasses the quintessential essence of Maine’s best nature. Take in the rugged mountains peeking out above the treetops, covered in a blanket of evergreen forests. From streams and sounds to ponds and ocean coastline, admire the striking contrast of the gentle blue waters to the rocky shores. In autumn, colorful foliage appears to go on for miles, continuing out of sight over the hills and valleys. In the early 1900’s, J. D. Rockefeller commissioned a network of roads throughout the park, initially designed for horse and carriage. These paths remain today but are frequented by bikes and adventurers rather than buggies.

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