

“Must See” Places to Visit in Plymouth

You may not have time to see all the sights while in Plymouth, but here is a list of the pilgrim hot spots to help you plan ahead. There is a little booklet called “Plymouth Guide” which is free and found all over town with maps and information.

HOWLAND HOUSE

Come “home” to Howland House, once owned by John and Elizabeth’s son Jabez and most certainly slept in by our Pilgrim ancestors. Take a tour with our hostesses and see many 17th-18th century artifacts. Each year a new exhibit is featured. This year it is about Howlands and whaling. “Our” house is located at 33 Sandwich Street.

HOWLAND HISTORIC SIDEWALK MARKER

Dedicated in September 1978, and reads: “On This Lot Stood the First House of the Mayflower Pilgrim John Howland, The Pilgrim John Howland Society, 1978.” Clinton W. Sellow did the research and was responsible for this very important marker. It is located at 16 Leyden Street.

ROCKY NOOK

This was the home of John and Elizabeth from 1638-1672/3 when John died. They bought the property/house from John Jenny. This is the sight of the archaeological digs you have been reading about the past few years. It is located in Kingston, just north of Plymouth. Take route 3A north. You will see a sign for Rocky Nook/Gray Beach. Right after that Howland Street, turn right. Go about three miles. See a sign for Cole; Standish. Right after that you will see the big boulders on the right, pull over here. You cannot see our large granite monument from the street, so you will have to walk a very short distance up the hill in the woods. The Joseph Howland monument is across the street.

LEYDEN STREET

This street runs from Brewster Gardens near the water up to First Church. It was named for Leyden, Holland, a refuge for Pilgrims. There are tablets on the houses that give names of original buildings.

BURIAL HILL

After our luncheon on Saturday we will meet here to place a wreath at John Howland’s grave. Lovely view of the water. Lots of old monuments. Enter via the stone steps near First Church. Located between So. Russell St. and Summer St. (Near the John Carver Inn.)

PILGRIM HALL MUSEUM

The Pilgrim Society began in 1820 and the museum building was completed in 1824. It is the oldest public museum in continuous use in America. Visit Pilgrim Hall and learn once again the dramatic story of the Pilgrims. See items that actually came over on the Mayflower such as Myles Standish’s sword, the Bibles of John Alden and William Bradford, the Brewster chest, the Warren napkin and the Peregrine White cradle, all displayed in imaginative settings within the historic 1824 building. Also on display is the Loara Standish sampler, embroidered by the teenage daughter of Myles Standish and

the earliest made in America, the portrait of Edward Winslow – the only known portrait of a Mayflower passenger, as well as the baby shoes, portrait and tombstone of Josiah Winslow, son of Susanna White and Edward Winslow and the first native-born governor of Plymouth Colony. The children will enjoy the “treasure hunt” activity sheets that are fun and educational. The Museum features permanent, changing and online exhibits. The museum is located at 75 Court St. (Rte 3A). 508-746-1620. www.pilgrimhall.org

PLIMOTH PLANTATION

It is like a blast to the past! You can really feel like you are in the 17th century in this recreated 1627 village complete with Pilgrims, Indians, crafts, and much more sure to please. There are costumed interpreters who will teach you about their lives and crafts. Located off of Route 3A about 2 ½ miles south of Plymouth.

MAYFLOWER II

Replica of our beloved little ship. Go aboard her and see how our ancestors lived and survived on the voyage. Located near Water Street....in the water.

PLYMOUTH ROCK

An icon of Pilgrim life, under a classical canopy on Water Street.

PLYMOUTH GRIST MILL *(formerly Jenney Grist Mill)*

This is the site of the first known mill in Plymouth, built in 1636 by John Jenney. Located at 6 Spring Lane.

MAYFLOWER SOCIETY MUSEUM

Elegant home with formal gardens, a flying staircase, and antique furniture. Owned by the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Located at 4 Winslow Street.

FIRST CHURCH

Located in the center of town you will see the great stone church at the head of Leyden Street. This is the 4th building to occupy this precise spot, the first being in 1648. In 1899 the Howland Society presented the church with the Memorial Pulpit in memory of John Howland and Elizabeth Tilley.

COLES HILL AND THE SARCOPHAGUS

Burial area of those who died the first winter. The Sarcophagus contains the bones of the first settlers that were washed out of the hillside by rainstorms before streets were paved. Located across the street from the Plymouth Rock canopy.

BREWSTER GARDENS

One of the loveliest spots in Plymouth. It was here at Town Brook where the Indians caught herring and taught the Pilgrims how to use them for fertilizer. Reed grew here that was used for thatching their first buildings. The Pilgrim Maiden Statue is here too. Located at the foot of Leyden Street, to your right.

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JENNEY MUSEUM

17th Century Educational Living Historic Tours:

Discover Plymouth's History – A Walking Tour

For those who hunger for true history! Join Leo, our historian and your guide, and discover the sacrifices the Pilgrims made to give our country the freedom we so richly enjoy today. Hear about the challenges they faced and learn the truth about the part their faith in God played in their journey to America and in their daily life. Is Plymouth Rock REALLY the true landing place of the Pilgrims? Find out why we believe it is! Discover little known facts and hear interesting stories of American history as you walk the same paths the Pilgrims walked hundreds of years ago. This one-hour tour will help you to see history in a whole new light! Other tours include:

Forefathers Monument Tour

Located on a hill in historic Plymouth, this hidden gem is the largest free-standing solid granite monument in our country. This monument tells the faith story of the Pilgrims and how their faith shaped the founding and development of our country. Don't just drive by it! Come and learn what each of the five statues represents on this 40 minute narrated tour.

Business Not as Usual Tour

What launched the beginning of industry, free trade, and capitalism in our country? How did it affect the development of our country? Your guide, dressed in period clothing, will take you back in time as he tells stories of struggles, survival, and faith that set the cornerstones of our country. Learn about the relationship between the Pilgrims and Natives and how they worked together in support of each other. Learn about the development of tools from the very simple to a complex machine like a grist mill. Visit mid-April to mid-May and see thousands of river herring migrate up Town Brook on the way to spawn.

Conversations with a Pilgrim Series

Educational programs meant to engage and challenge. Meet a Pilgrim, learn about their life, their challenges, and their beliefs. Ask questions, have a conversation.....join in. We invite you to take part in this new series of events. Some will be offered daily, some will be "special or one-time" only. Seating is limited. Go to Book a Tour page for info. All these tours begin at the Jenney Museum which is located at 48 Summer Street, right down the street from Howland House.

2016 Season: April 4th through November 26th

To book a tour or a program reservation: Please call 508-747-4544 or email us at info@jenneymuseum.org. Please leave details on which tour(s) or program you are interested in, the date and time you would like and your name and a cell phone number where we can contact you and the number of adults and children in your party. A credit card is required to hold your reservation.