Thu 3: Alexander Hamilton Tour of Elizabeth: Explore Hamilton's first (Liberty Hall) and second home (Boxwood Hall)

Day: Thursday, August 28, 2025	Start Time: 8:30 am	End Time: 1:30 PM
Leader:	Co-Leader:	Limit: 5-10 pending
		transportation limits.
Transportation: See Below		Location: Elizabeth
Tour Cost: Boxwood Hall: Free Liberty Hall Museum: \$14 Adults / \$10 Seniors (pay as you go)	Travel Distance: 1.5 miles	Travel Time: 30 minutes via car / two hours via bus

Thu 2: Alexander Hamilton Tour of Elizabeth: Explore Hamilton's First (Liberty Hall) and Second Home (Boxwood Hall)

Boxwood Hall: Tread the floors once used by the famous, the infamous, and the should-be famous who helped build New Jersey & the United States. Boxwood Hall has a vibrant history that connects it with an early mayor of Elizabethtown, a President of the Continental Congress, the first President of the United States, the first Secretary of the Treasury, and three signers of the United States Constitution. Boxwood Hall was built circa 1750 by Samuel Woodruff, then the Mayor of Elizabethtown. Elias Boudinot lived here from 1772 to 1795. Boudinot was a member of the Continental Congress and served as the President of Congress in 1782-1783. On October 31, 1783, word reached Congress that the Treaty of Paris had been signed, officially ending the Revolutionary War. When a young Alexander Hamilton studied in Elizabeth in 1773 at the Presbyterian Academy, he was a visitor at Boxwood Hall. He developed a friendship with the Boudinots that would last his lifetime. Hamilton fought in the Revolutionary War and served as an aide-de-camp to General Washington. He went on to serve under President Washington as the country's first Secretary of the Treasury, and his face is familiar to most people as it has appeared on the ten-dollar bill since 1928.

<u>Liberty Hall Museum</u>: Discover a treasure trove of American history at The Museum at Liberty Hall! A 23-acre National Historic site built in 1772 by New Jersey's first governor, William Livingston, Liberty Hall Museum at Kean University chronicles more than 240 years of American History. Explore the rooms of the Liberty Hall mansion that welcomed many distinguished guests, such as George and Martha Washington, Alexander Hamilton, and Presidents Ulysses S. Grant, William Howard Taft, Herbert Hoover, Gerald Ford, and George Herbert Walker Bush.

The museum also houses extensive collections of furniture, ceramics, textiles, toys, and tools owned by seven generations of the Livingston and Kean families. The Firehouse Museum, built in 2004, houses three antique fire engines, including a rare 1911 American LaFrance Metropolitan Steam Engine.

The site is not just home to the stories of public servants and bold industrialists; its magnificent grounds also include an elegant English parterre garden and maze. Visit to view the scenery or explore the collections of antique furniture and decorative artifacts collected by the seven generations, including the Livingston and Kean families, who called Liberty Hall home.

Costs:

- Transportation fees: NJ Transit Bus: \$2.90 / \$1.90 Senior 62+ (x3) / Uber Ride from Liberty Hall to Hotel
- Entrance Fees: Boxwood Hall: Free / Liberty Hall Museum: \$14 Adults / \$10 Seniors +65 (pay as you go)

Plan:

- Travel from the Crown Plaza Hotel to Boxwood Hall and take the guided tour around 9 am.
- Then, head to the Liberty Hall Museum for their guided tour at 11 am.
- Afterward, grab lunch at <u>Farmers Fridge</u> (near Liberty Hall Museum).
- Return to the hotel by 1:30 p.m. to catch the transportation to camp for the main event.
- Both locations offer one-hour guided tours.
- Liberty Hall Arboretum is not included in the guided tour but should allow time for viewing the grounds.

Transportation:

- Boxwood Hall is approximately 20 minutes (3 Miles) by car or NJ Transit bus from the hotel.
- Liberty Hall Museum is approximately 5 minutes (2 ½ miles) by car or 25 minutes via NJ Transit from Boxwood Hall.
- Framer's Fridge Restaurant is ½ mile walk from Liberty Hall Museum.
- The Crown Plaza Hotel is approximately 20 minutes (3 miles) by car or 50 minutes via NJ Transit from Liberty Hall Museum or Framer's Fridge Restaurant (suggest Uber/taxi back to the hotel if taking public transit for other stops).
- Total travel time: 30 minutes via car / 1 hour via bus (w/uber back to the hotel at the end)
- Be back by the Hotel by 1:15

Costs (no fees collected during registration):

- Transportation fees: TBD
- Entrance Fees: Boxwood Hall: Free / Liberty Hall Museum: \$14 Adults / \$10 Seniors (pay as you go)

Logistics:

8:30 am -9:00 am: Travel from the Crown Plaza Hotel to Boxwood Hall

• 9:00 am – 10:15 am Tour Boxwood Hall.

• 10:15 am - 10:45 am Travel to Liberty Hall

• 10:45 am – 12:15 am Tour Liberty Hall Museum

• 12:15 am – 12:30 pm Travel to Framers Fridge

• 12:30 pm – 1:00 pm Lunch at Framers Fridge

1:00 pm – 1:30 pm Travel back to Crown Plaza Hotel

Boxwood Hall

Notes:

- No public restrooms are available at this historic site.
- Off-street automobile parking is available on site
- The first floor of Boxwood Hall is ADA-accessible.
- Visitor seating is provided on the first & second floors.
- Interior photography, videotaping, or audio taping **are not permitted** in the Historic structure/visitor center/museum except by prior written permission and for **educational purposes only**.

Costs:

Boxwood Hall is free, Liberty Hall Tours: \$14 Adults / \$10 Seniors (pay as you go)

Distance:

• Three Miles / 7-14 Min via car / 19 – 36 Min via NJ Transit bus.

Transportation:

• TBD. Options are private cars, Uber, and NJ Transit.

NJ Transit:

- Bus # 62 will pick up near the hotel (see MAP) at ~8:31 a.m. and drop off ½ blocks past Boxwood Hall at ~8:50 a.m. (19 min). Bus # 62 runs every approximately 20 minutes. Allow 10-15 minutes to walk from the hotel to the bus stop.
- See NJ Transit MY BUS for live updates of bus # 62 arrivals at Us-1 & 9 at North Ave: Stop ID: 28768

Location:

- 1073 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07201-2503 (11 Min / 2.3 Miles from Hotel)
- 908-282-7617

Historic Site Hours: Open M-F from 9 am to 5 pm

Park Fees: Entrance Fee

Liberty Hall Museum and Grounds

What to see and do:

- Start your visit at the Visitor Center
- See the orientation Film
- Take a guided tour of Liberty Hall and the gardens.
- See the changing exhibits in the house.

Contact:

- 1003 Morris Avenue, Union, NJ 07083
- libertyhall@kean.edu
- 908-527-0400
- https://libertyhall.kean.edu/about/

Hours:

- Hours10:00 am 3:00 pm
- One-hour guided tours run @ 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, and 3:00 pm
- All tickets must be pre-purchased online at least 1 hour before the scheduled tour. Tickets are timed. Please check in at the Visitor's Center, the Blue House.

Cost:

- \$14 Adults
- \$10 Seniors (65+), Children, and College Students.

Museum

Explore a revolutionary-era home that grew into a 50-room mansion, and trace one family's history through furnishings, decorative arts, clothing, and more. Take a guided tour with one of our knowledgeable museum educators and hear the fascinating stories and legends that make Liberty Hall one of New Jersey's most treasured historic homes. Explore the exquisite arboretum and gardens highlighting an artistic array of historical horticulture, including some of New Jersey's oldest trees.

Please note that the walkways on the Liberty Hall property are gravel, and the mansion is not ADA-compliant. Thanks to a grant from the NJ Historic Trust, we are working towards making it ADA-compliant.

The Museum at Liberty Hall is part of the *Passport To Your National Parks* program. Please bring your passport when you visit and get it stamped!

The Museum, Arboretum, and Gardens at Liberty Hall, one of New Jersey's premier historic destinations, offer something for everyone.

Gardens

Finish with a garden tour observing the artistic display of historical horticulture, including some of New Jersey's oldest trees. While there's not quite one garden for each room in the mansion, the variety and beauty of the grounds astound.

The Herb Garden awakens the senses with basil, echinacea, rosemary, bee balm, and others. Looking for a challenge? The English Maze parterre garden's full-length puzzle shows the estate's seasonal blooms.

Ahead of its time at the time, the Serpentine Path adds a sense of wonder as you meander through the grounds. The Flowers & Rose Garden tops off the outside portion of your day, boasting centuries-old rare rose blooms and a supporting cast of lilies, oleander, sunflowers, hydrangeas, and greenhouse plants.

Tour the lavish gardens and take in the tranquil ambiance from Wednesday to Sunday, with sessions at 11:00 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. This stunning green space can also be explored through a self-guided tour.

Links of Interest:

- Liberty Hall 360: Revolutionary Wedding | Feature Film via YouTube
- https://libertyhall.kean.edu/
- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Liberty_Hall_(New_Jersey)
- https://americanaristocracy.com/houses/liberty-hall
- www.facebook.com
- twitter.com
- <u>www.instagram.com</u>

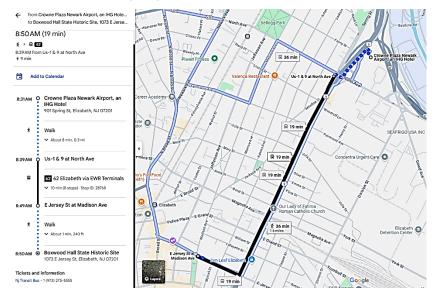
- Crowne Plaza Newark Airport, an IHG Hotel, 901 Spring St, Elizabeth, NJ 07201
- Boxwood Hall State Historic Site, 1073 E Jersey St, Elizabeth, NJ 07201
- Liberty Hall Museum, 1003 Morris Ave, Union, NJ 07083

Via Automobile: https://maps.app.goo.gl/32xUYLnpKmUivA386



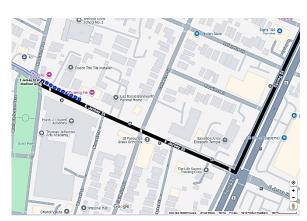
Hotel to Boxwood Hall via Bus:

https://maps.app.goo.gl/SpodP4cfPYmMraJQ8



<u>Click HERE</u> for live updates of Bus 62 arriving at US1 /9 & North Ave.



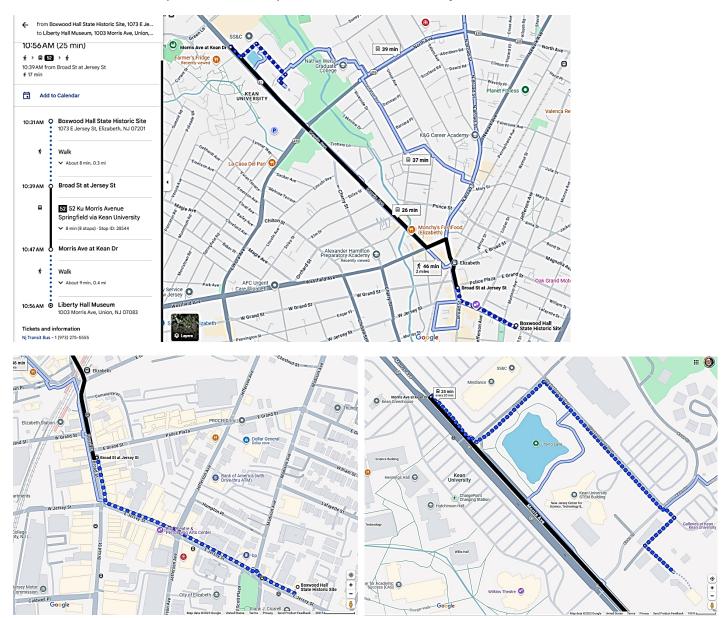


From Boxwood Hall State Historic Site, 1073 E Jersey St, Elizabeth, NJ 07201

To Liberty Hall Museum, 1003 Morris Ave, Union, NJ 07083

Via Bus 52 https://maps.app.goo.gl/2CnwtyJBHMyi5i6R8

Click HERE for live bus updates at Bus Stop 28544 at Broad St at Jersey St.



To Crowne Plaza Newark Airport, an IHG Hotel, 901 Spring St, Elizabeth, NJ 07201

Via Automobile

https://maps.app.goo.gl/2CnwtyJBHMyi5i6R8

