

NEWS from FRAUNCES TAVERN® MUSEUM

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Old New York will tell its tales in the hush of night at...

The 8TH ANNUAL JULY 4TH ALL-NIGHT WALKING TOUR

When a blanket of night settles over lower Manhattan and the stars blink in the wee hours of Independence Day 2010, the New York of George Washington's time will reveal itself to the sightseers attending Fraunces Tavern Museum's 8th Annual July 4th All-Night Walking Tour of lower Manhattan. It will begin at 2:00 a.m. and end at 6:00 a.m. Starting location will be revealed to ticket holders at time of advance ticket purchase. The public is advised to buy tickets early as this popular tour sells out every year.

The tour will:

- Step into little-known Thomas Paine Park – dedicated to the man who helped ignite the American Revolution with the writing “These are the times that try men’s souls.”
- Visit the site of the speech that launched Alexander Hamilton’s career.
- Stand at the St Paul’s gravesite of General Richard Montgomery, who almost conquered Canada.
- Touch the historic statue of Nathan Hale as his sacrifice is recalled.
- Learn how George Washington, in his famous letter to the Jewish Congregation in Newport, set forth the basic principles of religious liberty that distinguish the United States today.
- Visit the unmarked grave at Trinity Church of forgotten hero General Horatio Gates, whose brilliant victory at the Battle of Saratoga was the turning point in the American Revolution.
- And, of course, behold Fraunces Tavern itself—the site of George Washington’s farewell to his officers, the headquarters of The United States’ first Departments of War, Treasury and State.

The tradition of July 4 all-night walking tours began 25 years ago. For the past 13 years historian and veteran walking tour guide James S. Kaplan has been the guide, first under the auspices of the 92nd Street Y and for the last eight with Fraunces Tavern Museum. The tour has been written about in the Wall Street Journal in 2008, the New York Post in 2007 and by Clyde Haberman in the New York Times in 2006.

Advance Ticket Purchase Required

Reservations by advance ticket purchase are required for admission to the July 4 tour at \$20 each (\$15 for Museum members) and may be obtained through the Museum website at: www.FrauncesTavernMuseum.org. Once tickets have been purchased, the buyer will be emailed a confirmation receipt & the starting location of the tour. For more information call the Museum at 212-425-1778, ext. 1.

More on July 4 Weekend at Fraunces Tavern Museum -

Fraunces Tavern Museum will also host its annual Independence Day Open House throughout the Independence Day weekend. This includes special reduced admission of just \$1 on both Saturday, July 3rd & Sunday, July 4th. Visitors will be able to see a rare, early copy of the Declaration of Independence on display in the exhibit, "Foundations of Freedom" which will conclude with the July 4 weekend.

- About Fraunces Tavern -

Fraunces Tavern was built in 1719 as an elegant residence and purchased in 1762 by tavern-keeper Samuel Fraunces. The tavern played a significant role in pre-Revolutionary War activities and later housed early U.S. government offices of the Departments of War, Treasury and Foreign Affairs (today's State Department). It is best known as the site where General George Washington bade farewell to the officers of the Continental Army on December 4th, 1783.

In 1904, the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York purchased the tavern, saving it from the wrecking ball. A restored Fraunces Tavern was opened to the public in 1907 featuring a Museum and Restaurant. In 2008 Fraunces Tavern was added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Fraunces Tavern® is a registered service mark of Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York, Inc., a not-for-profit corporation, instituted in 1876 and incorporated in 1884.

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