



# THE AMERICAN MIRACLE:

## An Independence Road Trip

### Led by Michael Medved

July 3 – 11, 2016

*Join us for an exciting tour of inspiring sites of the American Revolution and the nation's founding with Michael Medved, best-selling author and nationally syndicated talk radio host. Visit the places where "The American Miracle" began and where our founders launched their world-changing struggle for independence. Explore the great ideas behind the establishment of The Greatest Nation on God's Green Earth while experiencing the places these ideals first made history.*

*This tour will take us to sites of historical and cultural significance as well as grand vistas of natural beauty in off-the-beaten-path locales from Boston to Washington D.C., reliving the great events of America's colonial and Revolutionary beginnings. Stay in elegant hotels, dine on the finest food and travel alongside Michael Medved and his family while he provides his unique perspective on the stirring locations we'll explore together.*

#### **Sunday, July 3:                    *Preparing for Independence***

- Independent arrival in Boston. Hotel transfers by taxi or airport shuttles on your own.
- Check-in at **Hotel Sonesta** in Cambridge, MA. Overlooking the **Charles River** and **Lechemere Canal**, this boutique hotel provides stylish, luxurious accommodations in a setting close to all that Boston and Cambridge have to offer.
- 6:00 PM: Cocktails with Michael Medved and a welcome dinner at dining hall in **Historical Venue** (To be determined).

**O/N: Hotel Sonesta, Boston**

**Monday, July 4:           *The Spirit of '76***

Breakfast at the hotel

- Freedom Tour of greater Boston: This tour will include **Beacon Hill**, the **North End** parts of the “**Freedom Trail**”, **Boston Common**, **Charlestown**, **Cambridge**, **Harvard University** and more.
- **Boston Harbor Luncheon** Cruise
- Visit **Lexington** and **Concord**. The Battles of Lexington and Concord, fought in 1775, kicked off the American Revolutionary War (1775-83). This is where British troops, marching from Boston to nearby Concord, tried to seize an arms cache. Paul Revere and other riders sounded the alarm, and colonial militiamen began mobilizing, leading to a confrontation which sparked a war fought until 1783 when the colonists formally won independence.
  - Return to hotel
  - Dinner at Legal Seafood (or other restaurant.)

***O/N: Hotel Sonesta, Boston***

**Tuesday, July 5:           *New England Culture***

▪ Breakfast at the hotel

- **Salem**: Salem is a city on the north coast of Massachusetts above Boston. It's famous for its 1692 witch trials, during which several locals were executed for allegedly practicing witchcraft. While in Salem, visit:
  - **House of Seven Gables**: Inside of The House of the Seven Gables, also known as the Turner-Ingersoll Mansion, you will discover a mysterious secret staircase where you least expect it!. The House of the Seven Gables inspired author Nathaniel Hawthorne to write his legendary novel of the same name.
  - **Peabody Essex Museum**: Considered one of the oldest continuously operating museums in the United States. It is a successor to the East India Marine Society, established in 1799.
- Lunch on your own in Salem.
- Depart for **Newport, RI**. Check-in at Hotel Viking.
- Dinner on your own in Newport.

***O/N: Hotel Viking, Newport***

**Wednesday, July 6:       *Religious Diversity in Colonial America***

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Visit **Touro Synagogue**, the oldest synagogue in the United States. President George Washington visited this town together with Secretary of State Thomas Jefferson, pushing for support for two amendments to the Constitution: One for Freedom of Religion and the other for Freedom of the Press.
- Depart for **Mystic, CT** and **Mystic Seaport**. Mystic Seaport is a world-renowned maritime museum featuring exhibit halls and historical interpreters.
- Lunch on your own
- Travel to **New Haven** to visit Yale.
- Walking tour of **Yale University** from **Sterling Library** to **Cross Campus**.
- Check in to Study at Yale Hotel
- Dinner on your own.

***O/N: Study at Yale Hotel, New Haven***

**Thursday, July 7:           *The Battle of Princeton***

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Continue south to the **Princeton Battlefield State Park**, where George Washington was nearly killed by a cannonball on January 3, 1777. During the desperate battle fought here, American troops under General George Washington surprised and defeated a force of British Regulars. The Battle of Princeton gave Washington his first victory against the British Regulars on the field.
- Lunch on your own.
- Continue to **Philadelphia**
- Check-in to the Hilton Philadelphia at Penn's Landing Hotel.
- Enjoy dinner in historical South Philadelphia

***O/N: Hilton Philadelphia at Penn's Landing, Philadelphia***

**Friday, July 8:               *From the Hudson River Valley to Philadelphia***

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Visit **Valley Forge**, where the Continental Army spent the winter of 1777-78 in one of the greatest traumas of the Revolutionary war and from where they emerged energized and eager to pursue their battle against the British.
- Continue to **Chadd's Ford**
- Visit the outstanding **Brandywine River Museum of Art**
- Continue to **Philadelphia**
- Shabbat (Sabbath) services for those who wish to attend, at **Congregation Mikveh Israel**.
- Enjoy a traditional Shabbat dinner with Michael Medved and his family at the synagogue (based upon availability.)

***O/N: Hilton Philadelphia at Penn's Landing, Philadelphia***

**Saturday, July 9:           *Proclaim Liberty Throughout the Land***

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Walking city tour of Philadelphia including:
  - **Carpenter's Hall**
  - The **State House of Pennsylvania**, known today as **Independence Hall**
  - **Congress Hall**
  - The **Liberty Bell**
  - The **President's House in Philadelphia**
  - **Betsy Ross House**
  - **Elfreth's Alley**
  - **Christ Church**
- Optional bus transfer to visit:
  - The **Philadelphia Art Museum** including the **Diana Statue** at the entrance
    - Then choose between touring this museum OR
    - Visiting the new **Barnes Foundation** (Museum) with its world-class collection of Impressionist paintings (more than 90 Renoirs!)

***O/N: Hilton Philadelphia at Penn's Landing, Philadelphia***

**Sunday, July 10:                   *The Founding Father of Our Country***

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Drive south to **Mount Vernon**, the estate of George Washington, including the **Ford Orientation Center & Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center**.
- Continue to **Washington, D.C.**
- Visit the **National Portrait Gallery**
- Visit the **National Museum of American History**.
- Check-in to The Melrose Hotel.
- Farewell Banquet Dinner and summary discussion with **Michael Medved** (Venue to be determined)

***O/N: The Melrose Hotel, Washington, D.C.***

**Monday, July 11:                   *United States Capitol***

- Breakfast at the hotel
- Enjoy a VIP tour of the **United States Capitol**. Meet with **Congressional leaders** and visit the floors of the **House of Representatives** and the **U.S. Senate**. Visit the **Office of the Speaker of the House**, the **House Dining Room**, as well as the **Statuary Hall** (VIP elements pending availability).
- Tour ends approximately 3:00 p.m. in Washington, D.C.
- Travel to airport available depending upon flight times.



**The Center for Educational Tourism in Israel**

PO Box 8540 Jerusalem 91084 Israel  
Phone: 972-2-671-3518 | Fax: 972-2-671-3624  
keshet@keshetisrael.co.il | www.keshetisrael.co.il