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## For Immediate Release

### **MADE IN MASSACHUSETTS: THE STATE HOME TO THANKSGIVING OFFERS THE SEASONS BEST CULINARY HARVEST FEASTS AND HOLIDAY EVENTS**

This November Fall Harvest Delights, Cranberry Bogs, And Thanksgiving Celebrations Provide Travelers With Experiencing The Season From Where It All Started

BOSTON, November 9, 2009 –To celebrate Thanksgiving where the tradition started, the Massachusetts Office of Travel + Tourism (MOTT) provides a getaway plan for travelers. Massachusetts offers a bounty of November travel possibilities featuring Thanksgiving and seasonal harvest cuisine as well as festivals and events.

Thanksgiving Day dinner train adventures, apple celebrations and villages offer unique experiences that can only be found in Massachusetts. Whether travelers visit Provincetown on Cape Cod, where the Pilgrims first set foot on Massachusetts soil 389 years ago, or live a day in the life of a 1627 English Village at Plimoth Plantation, or find their way west to Central Massachusetts and the Berkshires or to the North Shore, visitors can find lots to do as they criss-cross the state this Thanksgiving season.

“It really is a wonderful time to be here in Massachusetts, where history, culture, culinary experiences and family fun all come together to showcase everything that the Commonwealth has to offer,” said Betsy Wall, Executive Director of MOTT. “ From the living museums like Plimoth Plantation and Old Sturbridge Village to the unending list of holiday fairs and events, Massachusetts proudly celebrates its beginnings”

Make sure to take advantage of great accommodations across the state from the Berkshires to the Cape and follow MOTT on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Visit-Massachusetts/132857061913> and on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/VisitMA> for updates on the state's culinary events, festivals, activities and much more no matter what time of year.

The following is just a sampling of upcoming events across the State, be sure and log onto [www.massvacation.com](http://www.massvacation.com) for a multitude of other listings:

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**Annual Lighting Ceremony of the Pilgrim Monument**, November 25. The lighting celebrates the Pilgrims' First Landing in America at Provincetown on November 11, 1620 and is one of Cape Cod's most beautiful traditions. <http://www.pilgrim-monument.org/lighting.html>

**Thanksgiving Day Dinner Train aboard the Cape Cod Central Railroad.** November 26.

Enjoy a leisurely five-course gourmet meal, beautiful scenery, climate-controlled dining cars and a trip over the Cape Cod Canal Railroad bridge. You can choose from a traditional turkey dinner with all the trimmings, or several other gourmet entrées. <http://www.capetrain.com/train-thanksgiving.php> □ □

**The Red Lion Inn Thanksgiving Dinner, Stockbridge, MA,** November 26

On Thanksgiving, Executive Chef Brian J. Alberg pulls out all the stops and prepares a special, prix fixe four-course dinner. Chef Alberg is a huge proponent of supporting local farms, so guests will enjoy the freshest local ingredients possible.

[http://www.redlioninn.com/rli/holiday\\_dining.html](http://www.redlioninn.com/rli/holiday_dining.html)

**Lowell Cranberry Bog,** November

The only working cranberry grower in the Merrimack Valley region, in operation since 1904. Farm in includes a 1905 historic bog house and several hiking trails that are part of Carlisle's conservation land and open to the public.

[http://www.carlislema.gov/Pages/CarlisleMA\\_Steward/Cranberry](http://www.carlislema.gov/Pages/CarlisleMA_Steward/Cranberry)

**Flavors of Fall 2009, Regattabar Charles Hotel – Cambridge,** November 9

BostonChefs.com's 6th Annual Flavors of Fall at Regattabar is a fundraising food event celebrating New England's bountiful fall harvest with delicacies from Somerville and Cambridge's most talented chefs. Select brewers, vintners, drink mixers and ice cream makers will also be on hand to quench your thirst and satisfy your sweet tooth. To top it all off, the Rollo Tomasi Quartet will be on hand to serve up their unique blend of funky jazz.

<http://bostonchefs.com/news/2009/10/14/sixth-annual-flavors-fall/>

**Plimoth Plantation, November**

Plimoth Plantation, a bicultural museum, offers powerful personal encounters with history built on thorough research about the Wampanoag People and the Colonial English community in the 1600s. Exhibits, programs, live interpreters and historic settings encourage a new level of understanding about present-day issues affecting communities around the world.

<http://www.plimoth.org/>

**Historic New England-The Gropius House,** November 27, 28, 29, 2009

Celebrate the holiday spirit at the Gropius House-Bauhaus Style. View the Gropius collection of holiday greeting cards created by Bauhaus artists and friends. Enjoy mulled cider, gingerbread cookies, apples and other seasonal treats. [www.historicnewengland.org](http://www.historicnewengland.org)

**Hancock Shaker Village, Pittsfield, MA,** November 7 and November 28

Reserve your place at the table for a fall family tradition – visit Hancock Shaker Village for a Shaker-inspired candlelight dinner in the historic 1830 Brick Dwelling. A private guided tour, traditional seasonal fare and a Shaker music program make this a perfect evening for family and friends to share. Recipes are adapted from The Best of Shaker Cooking by HSV founder Amy Bess Miller. [www.hancockshakervillage.org](http://www.hancockshakervillage.org) □

**Berkshire Grown Holiday Farmers' Markets,** November 21

Berkshire Grown will host the first annual Holiday Farmers' Markets, scheduled for Williamstown and Great Barrington. Many components for the Thanksgiving holiday meal will be offered from farmers and artisan producers in the region including produce, cheese, eggs, meat, poultry, bread, pies and other baked goods, plus pickles and jams. Entertainment will feature live music at both venues and pre-order pickups will be available. The two events will create a community marketplace to extend the selling season of farmers as well as invite community members to join in celebration of the wide array of farms and food producers available in the region. In support of Berkshire Grown, this event is sponsored by the Williams

College Sustainable Food and Agriculture Program, Mezza Restaurant Group, Slow Food of Western Massachusetts and Williams College Dining Services.

<http://berkshiregrown.blogspot.com/>

**The Concord Museum**, November 27

Bring the whole family to the Concord Museum over the holiday weekend, where craftspeople from the North Bennet Street School (NBSS) will lead hands-on activities and demonstrations in two engaging programs in association with the special exhibition, *A Dedication to Craft: North Bennet Street School @ 125*. *A Dedication to Craft* is a juried exhibition of furniture, jewelry, musical instruments and fine bookbindings, crafted by 59 distinguished alumni of the renowned North Bennet Street School in celebration of the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the school in Boston's North End. The exhibition and related activities are free with Museum admission.

[www.concordmuseum.org](http://www.concordmuseum.org)

**New England Quilt Museum**, November

Throughout the month of November, harvest and autumn-themed quilts will be on display at the New England Quilt Museum in Lowell. <http://www.nequiltmuseum.org/>

**5th Annual Chatham Turkey Trot**, November 26.

A 5K fun walk/run to benefit Lower Cape Outreach Council, co-ordinated by Chatham Walkers and the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House. <http://www.chathaminfo.com/event/show/577>

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About MOTT:

*The Massachusetts Office of Travel and Tourism is the state agency dedicated to promoting Massachusetts as a leisure travel destination and to stimulate the Massachusetts economy by generating state and local tax revenues, creating jobs, and supporting the growth of travel related businesses. MOTT serves as a leader in the tourism industry, bringing together the public and private sectors to promote Massachusetts as a leisure travel destination. For more information about MOTT visit [www.Massvacation.com](http://www.Massvacation.com)*