



Group Tours of the Crane House Museum FACT SHEET

Availability: Group tours are available Monday through Thursday afternoons and Friday mornings or afternoons year-round.

Booking Information: To book a group tour, call the Montclair Historical Society at 973-744-1796 Monday through Friday from 9am to 5pm, and request a group tour booking form be sent/faxed to you. Fill out the form with your choice of dates and return to us by mail or fax. We will contact you to confirm your date. Groups must consist of no fewer than 10 persons, up to a maximum of 20. If you would like, please request at the time of booking that the Museum Shop be open following your tour. The Tour Coordinator is Elizabeth Rounds, who is in the office Thursday and Friday afternoons from 12:30 to 4:30 pm.

Restrooms: Two public restrooms, one fully accessible, are available in the lower level of the Crane House. One public restroom is on the second floor of the Museum Shop.

Special Needs: Please identify any special needs of your group, physical or academic, when scheduling your visit. The Crane House Museum is an historic building and adaptations have been made to give wheelchair users access to the first floor and basement. There is a lift to take any children or adults with physical disabilities from the main entrance to the museum at the side of the house to the lower level, and the first floor is accessible using an exterior ramp. The second floor of the museum is not accessible to persons with a physical disability.

Price: \$50 for a group up to 20 persons for 1 hr. tour (\$2 each additional person)

Combine Your Visit: Add value to your field trip by combining it with an excursion to the Montclair Art Museum! Payments and bookings must be made separately.

What can you expect?

- Guided Tour of the Crane House: A trained guide will lead you through this Federal style mansion of the time: learn about the Crane family, who they were, their ancestors who settled Montclair (then named Cranetown); Crane's business interests including the Newark Pompton Turnpike and his general store, the first in Cranetown; the home he built and that was lived in by three generations of the Crane family followed by the YWCA before being moved to its current location. The home has period room settings in the Federal and Greek Revival styles, and a formal garden of the early 1800s is recreated outside. You can see the first floor dining room, front parlor, back parlor and kitchen as they might have been during the Crane family's life. The upper floors feature four bedrooms recreated the way the Cranes might have had using period antiques and family objects and photos. One of the original bedrooms is now used a temporary exhibit display room.
- Visits to our permanent exhibit areas located in the Museum Shop. School room (second floor): children will learn about early schools in Montclair, when they started, what the

children studied, do some hands-on exercises, try on replica clothing. General Store (first floor): learn about Israel Crane's general store, the first in Montclair, that helped convert this agricultural community into a thriving commercial center; learn about 1800s products and goods that were bought and sold at a general store, early notions of credit and barter.

- Visits to our temporary exhibit areas: most temporary exhibits are in the lower level of the Crane House Museum, which is fully accessible. In 2003, these exhibits will focus on Montclair's architecture and in 2004 the theme is food; the idea of American food and influences on American and local cuisine, the social history learned through food and cooking.

Shopping in the Museum Shop: Upon request, at no additional charge, we can have the Museum Shop open for the students to browse and make purchases. The Museum Shop sells postcards, maps, historic candy, souvenirs, books and videos of historical interest. Prices in the Museum Shop start at 10 cents so there is something for everyone's little budget.

Directions: The Crane House Museum is located at 108 Orange Road in Montclair. Orange Road is just off of Bloomfield Avenue, between Mountain Avenue and Valley Road. The Crane House is on the right hand side, just before Union Street (traffic light).

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