

Ed & Rob's Great **Adventure to** the Northeast **US** states, or the New England states...

From now on referred to as NE09

July 8-15, 2009

A new "angle" was added to this trip with use of a Garmin GPS system and Apple iphones. We NEVER had to sacrifice our male dignity to ask directions. Well... not too often







Day #1: 08 July 2009: Following our early flight from Austin to **Chicago**, then **Chicago to Boston, we soon** found ourselves in familiar territory: the metro station just a short bus ride away from Logan.

We soon found our lodging for the night: The Berkeley YWCA.

Berkeley Residence

YWCA

This room looked like college dorms in the 1970's

CANDER

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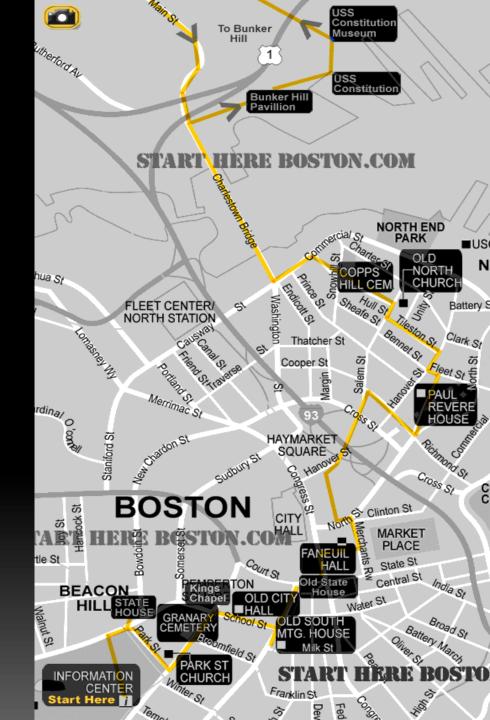


After lunch at a deli across the street from the YWCA, we began our walk of the Freedom Trail starting at Boston Common.



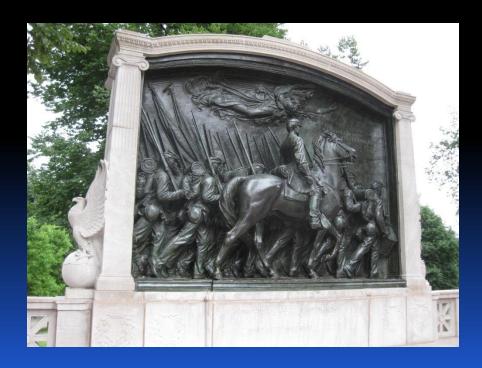


Freedom Trail is a three-mile ribbon of red paint that links 16 historical sites. Most visitors start the trail at the Boston **Common. Here were** many places that we learned about in elementary school and are now finally seeing at the young, tender age of 53.









We had downloaded the self-guided audio tour on our iphones, but quickly abandoned it because it didn't quite fit our fast-paced mode of sight-seeing

HHHH



Burying ground where Ben Franklin's parents are buried.







UNDER THE ROTUNDA Featuring New England Favorites Ice Cream · Candy · Fun Family Dining

FOOT

19

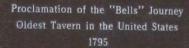
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DANCE PARTY! LIVE MUSIC! SATURDAY, JULY 11TH 12:00PM - 11:00PM (RAIN DATE: SUNDAY, JULY 12TH)

DOG OHAN B

Our first lobster sighting. These two ladies were kind enough to let us take their picture with their lobsters

The BELL IN HAND tavern claims to be the oldest in America



HOL

"Old Jimmy" Wilson, Boston's last town crier, first hofsted the sign of the "Bell" in 1795 under the Exchange Colfee House in Congress Square. The tavern gained a popular reputation for selling "the best Ale in Boston," and floarished under a succession of keepers.

When it's stock in trade was relocated to Pi Alley in 1853, the ale house thrived amidst the bustle of "Newspaper Row," and soon became a social hub for newspaper men, bankers, Harvard prolessors, artists and writers.

After another move to Devonshire Street, The BELL-IN/HAND, under the proprietorship of Morris Levi, continues it's centuries old tradition here on the corner of historic Union and Hanover Streets. This landmark building seems an appropriate location for "Old Jimmy" Wilson's sign to hang. Today The Bell-In-Hand is managed by Eddle and Bryns Kaplan.



Listen my children and you shall hear Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere, On the eighteenth of April, in Seventy-five; Hardly a man is now alive Who remembers that famous day and year... Then he climbed the tower of the Old North Church, By the wooden stairs, with stealthy tread, To the belfry chamber overhead.....



The Episcopal Church Welcomes You

> **Christ Church** in Boston

THE **OLD NORTH CHURCH**

Sunday Services 9 a.m. 11 a.m. 277.m.

Open Daily to Visitors 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The Rev'd Stephen T. Ayres

But mostly he watched with eager search the belfry tower of the Old North Church, As it rose above the graves on the hill...

THE STEEPLE

Gift of Honduras merchants 1740 as guide to mariners Toppled in the great gale of October 9, 1804 Destroyed by Hurricane Carol August 31,1954 through public subscription and the gifts of children

THE WEATHERVANE

Designed 1740 by Shem Drowne still stands aloft having withstood gale and hurricane

THE EIGHT BELLS

Cast 1744 by Abel Rudhall in England Rehung 1983 North America's oldest peal they still call to worship. From Stamp Act Repeal May 19, 1766 the visit of H.M.Queen Elizabeth II July 11, 1976 they continue to mark historic events



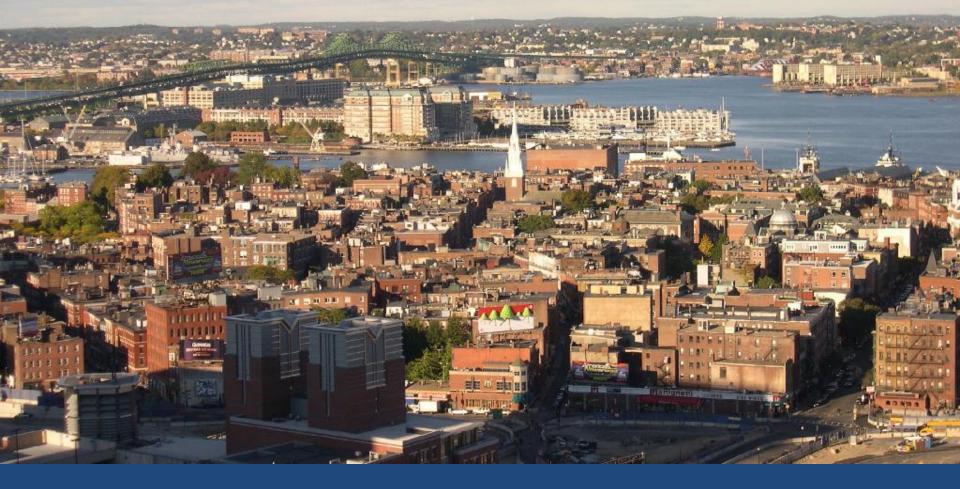


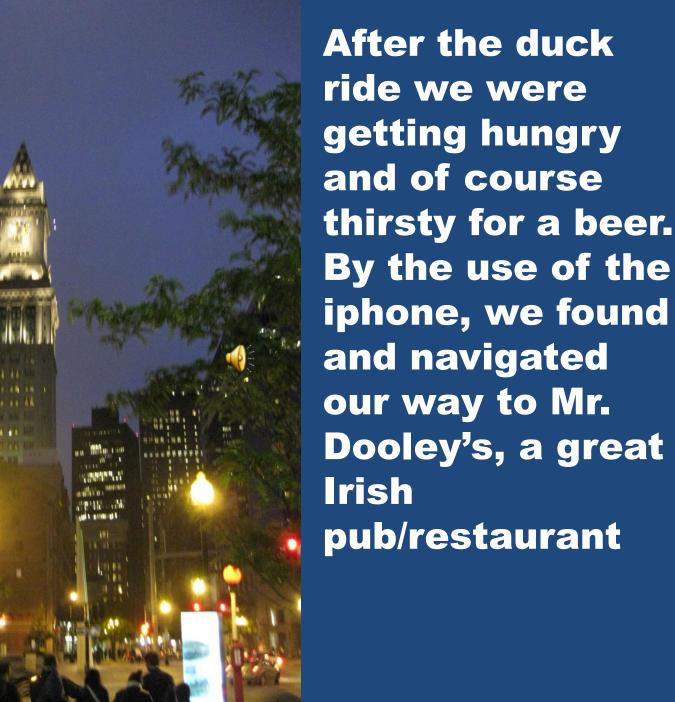
Image of the North End, Boston neighborhood. The Old North Church is at center, a Big Dig vent building is near the bottom, and the green Tobin Bridge over the Mystic River is at the top. Our next goal was to find "Old Ironsides" but I don't think we were successful



We both got to "drive," "pilot," "navigate" the duck

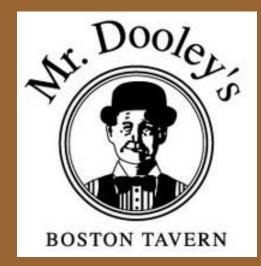
MSN37 Dereks in







We feasted on things like **Shepherd's Pie** and Irish Stew, and of course some good ale.



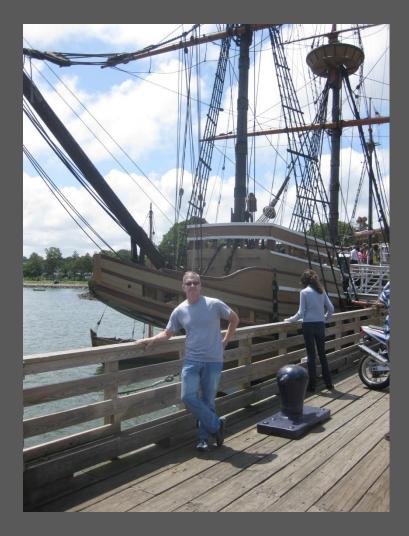
We enjoyed a night cap at a corner bar whose name escapes me right now that was near our room. Then hit the hay to rest up for tomorrow's adventures.

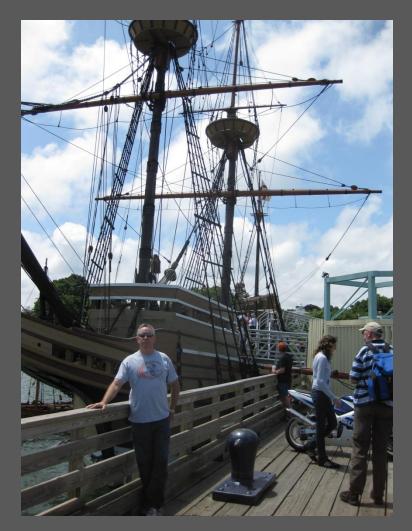
Day #2 - 09 July 2009 – We walked downtown Boston to find our rent car – a KIA Sportage - and quickly headed south.

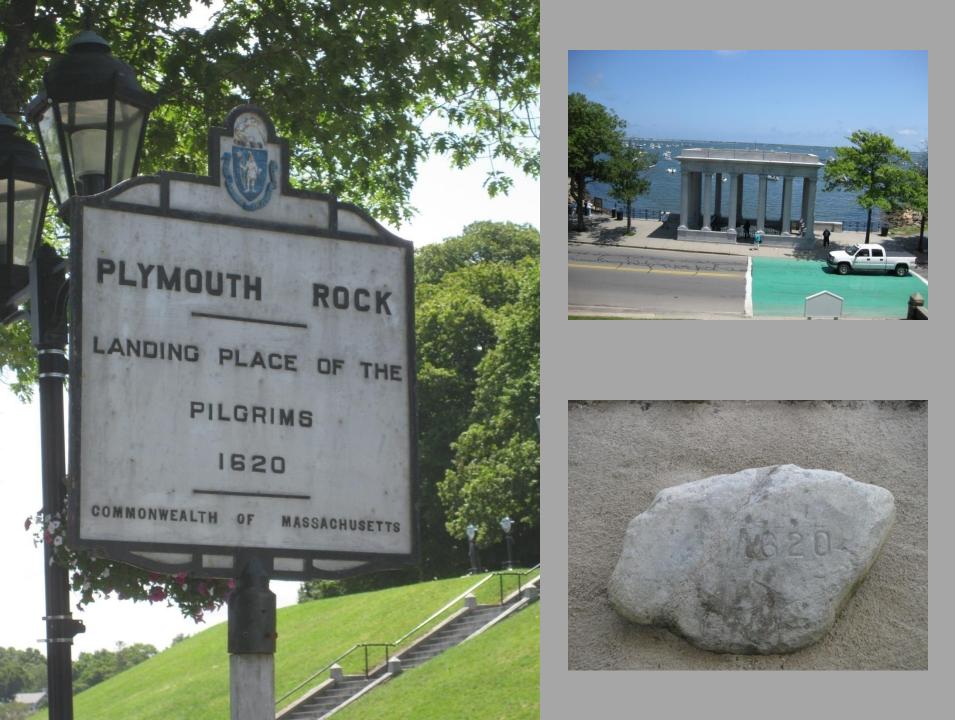


We visited the MAYFLOWER II, a seaworthy replica of the original, built in 1955-56, the same time the two of us were being "built."

Except for electric lights and stairs that replaced a ladder, everything is true to the original







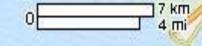
The grounds in the area were well manicured





We enjoyed a late lunch of clam chowder at this street café kinda place





Cape Cod was our next destination. It's 20 miles from Plymouth to Sandwich

CAPE COD BAY BARNSTABLE

Sandwich

ATLANTIC

Duxbury

Blymouth

25

6A

28

Otis Air

National

Guard Base

Wareham

BUZZARDS

BAY

27

PLYMOUTH

495

195

106

MAPQUEST.

Bridgewater

Middleboro

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and bar called the BEE HIVE TAVERN in E. Sandwich



A cold beer for weary travelers

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New England

This bar tender was fun to visit with

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Our next 1.5 hours was to get to Newport for our Rhode Island beer. 62 miles

With the help of the iphone and Garmin we made it to the place the Bee Hive lady recommended: Brick Alley Rest. & pub in Newport, RI

Here's where we had our Rhode Island beer

1111

ROOM



It was around 5 pm at this time and we moved on to cover more ground

BRICK

-

Welcome to

265 XMB



Before leaving Newport we took a few minutes to look at some of those famous gazillion dollar homes

mm





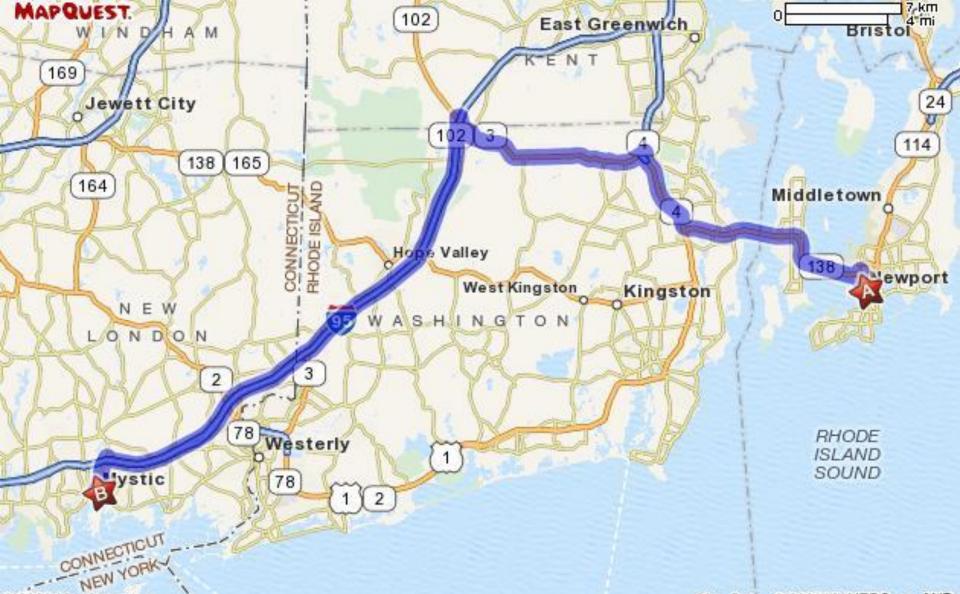




The Breakers - built by the Vanderbilts

HERE AND A

Some bushes behind a gas station to 'pay rent' for the beer (a.k.a. P.O.R.I.), and off to Connecticut



We read some stuff about Mystic, CT and decided to take a quick visit. While it looks a long distance, mapquest says it's 49.99 miles from Newport RESTAURANT Bravo Bravo

UNCH & DINNER

Mystic was a little tourist, artsy-type town with it's drawbridge JU-8448





It was getting close to 8pm and we needed to eat. Found this place LIZ

LLY

HONDA

CRI

Che Harp on Hound

Skypherds Pie Bangers & Mash Beef Stew (Source Chicken Sandwich

BLT. Sandwich Lobater Roll (Caus Soup Du Gour And More

Bangers & mash was a good choice

We caught this colorful sunset pic as we were leaving Mystic.



Figured we'd make the 55 mile trip on up to Hartford for the night. We clocked 225 miles today.

We spent the night at the Madison Motor Inn, 393 Main St., East Hartford, CT. The place was certainly less than 5-star. In fact, later research gave us two "terrible" ratings of the place. One person says:

The homeless live better. The neighborhood is consumed by a mix of hard working people, homeless and drug abusers. If you keep your door closed and mind your business, it is fair.

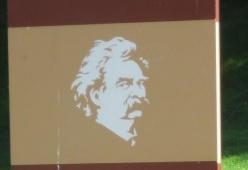
Another person: "...poor, drug-using, sex-abused rooms."

Regardless, we found *Gilo's Café* next door which was really a bar with a very good rock band: *Jimmy Bell and the Tattered Tramps*, a group who plays there every Thursday night. Music was good, beer was cold.



Day #3, 10 July 2009

Our day began with breakfast at a café we can't remember the name of. **Then into** downtown Hartford.



The Mark Twain House & Museum

The Mark Twain Store

Entrance \rightarrow

Open Monday – Saturday 9:30 am – 5:30 pm Sunday 12:00 – 5:30 pm

Last tour starts one hour before closing

Closed Tuesdays January – April **After finding the** place where Mark **Twain lived and** worked from 1874-**1891, we walked** the grounds and visited the Museum shop. We opted not to spend the time and money on the house tour.







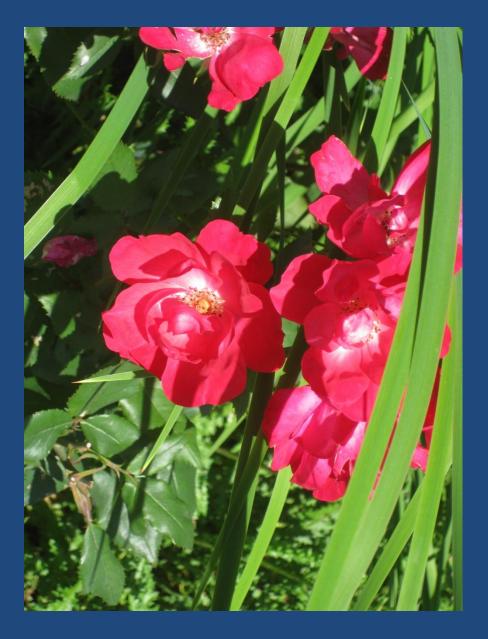
Our first driving jaunt of the day was a 73 mile stretch to Shelburne Falls, MA, enroute to Vermont.

Somebody told us we couldn't miss the BRIDGE OF FLOWERS in Shelburne Falls, MA.

We honor the memory of Antoinette and Walter Burnham who had the vision to take an abandoned trolley bridge and turn it into a beautiful flower bridge. We celebrate the Bridge of Flowers 75th Birthday this year (1929-2004)

15,000 guests per year sign the guest book at this sight. We didn't, we took a picture and left.







SPÉED LIMIT 50 THROUGH WAY BEGINS HERE

Our entrance into Vermont happened close to noon.



sharp curves.

Lunch break in Jacksonville. A nice chicken wrap at Valbert's.

Valbert's

DINER

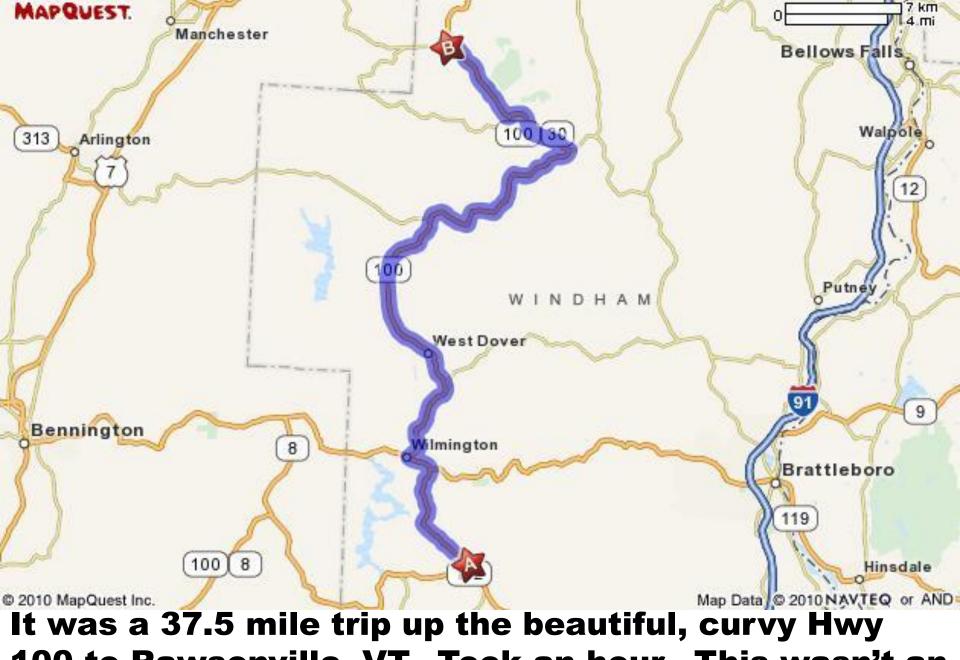
WHITINGHAM READSBORO GREENFIELD MASS BRIGHAM YOUNG MONTIMENT



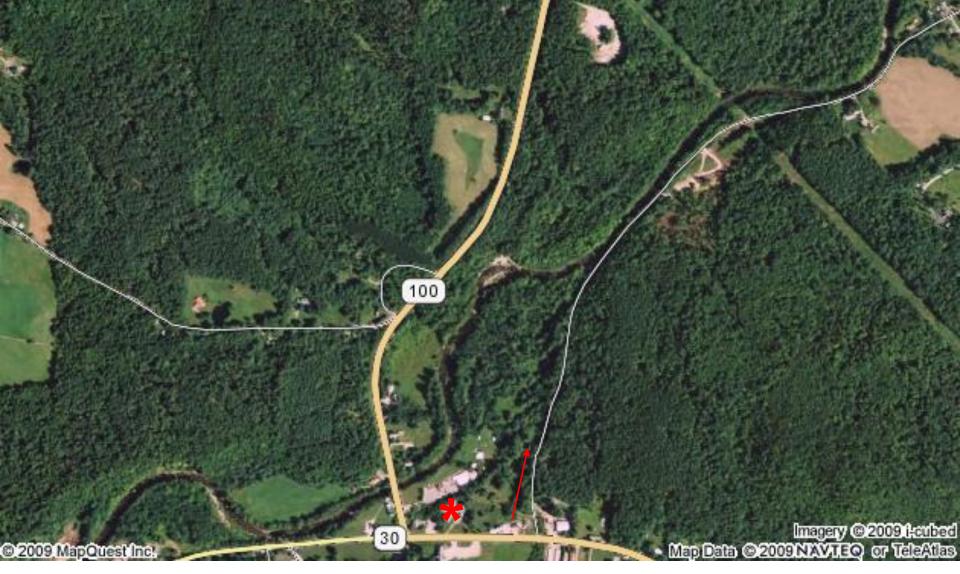
Everything about the visit to this place was perfect. Good lunch, warm sun with cool breeze, sound of rolling stream from just beyond rock wall.



After our respite, we headed up Hwy 100



100 to Rawsonville, VT. Took an hour. This wasn't an intended destination, but it turned out to be fun.



Rawsonville, VT is at intersection of 100 & 30. Star is location of *Mountain Riders* who rent bikes, etc. The arrow by thin, white line is dirt road we took.

We figured after much time in the car, mountain biking a couple hours would be a good way to get some fresh air and soak up some scenery.

KIA

AUG Massachusetts







This deserted camper rivals the place where we stayed last night

We continued the drive up Hwy 100. We still haven't had a Vermont beer. Maybe Woodstock would be a good place for that.

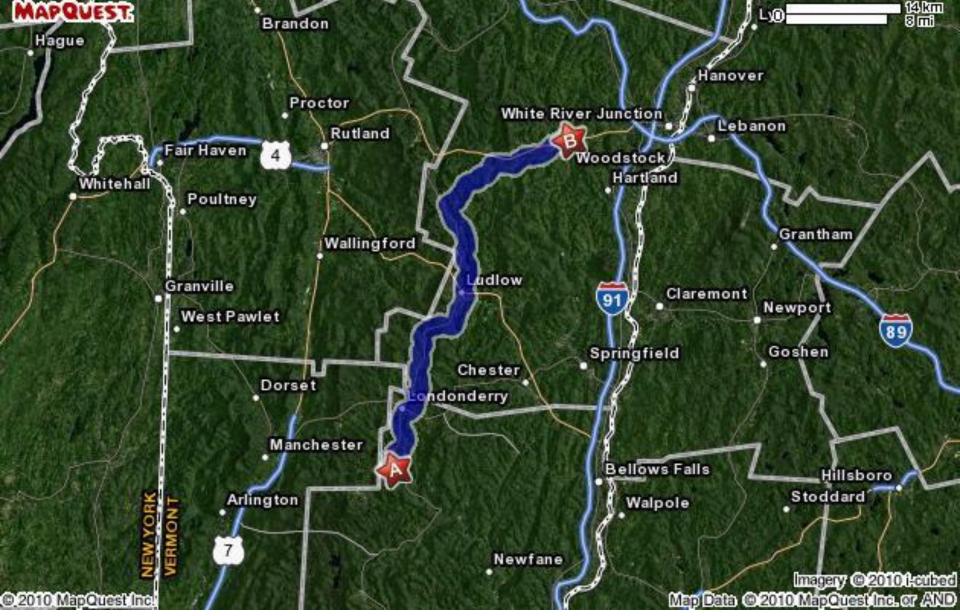
Interesting sights along the way

WHENTINGTON

ANT PROPERTY

ROAD CLOSED





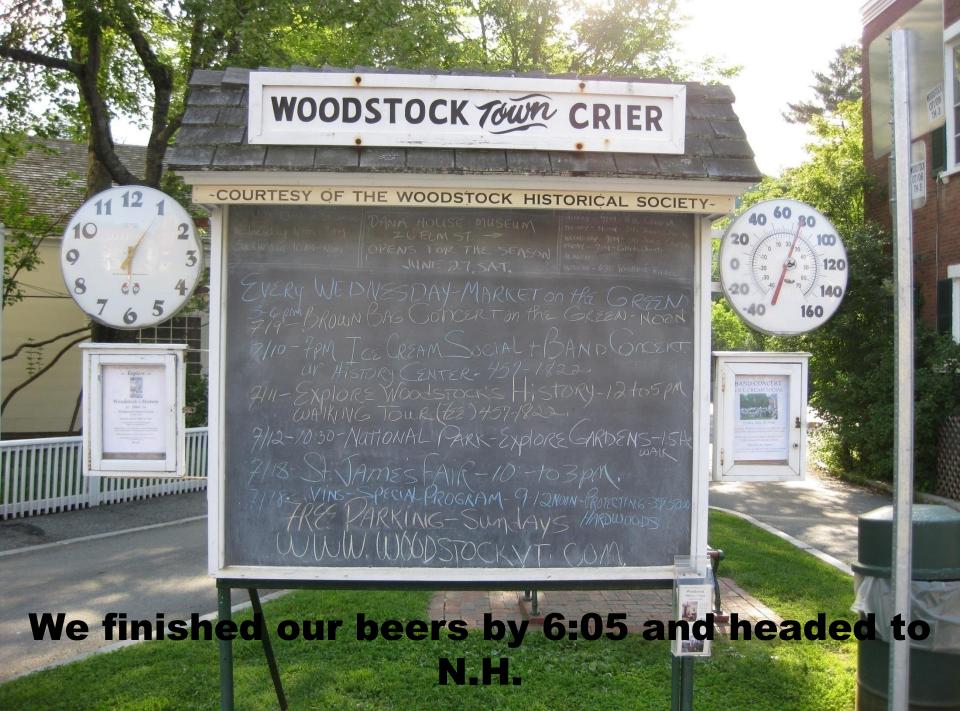
Took us about 1.5 hours to drive the 48.2 miles from Rawsonville to Woodstock.

Woodstock looked nice, and the weather was perfect the whole day.

Bentley's was a good spot for our Vermont beer

RESTAURA





Took a short break at Quechee Gorge on Hwy 4 in Vermont. Nice place for a 10-minute stop

605







Back on the road again... typical shot of the two of us in the shotgun seat. Map and travel guides handy. Now heading into New Hampshire.

We 'landed' in Littleton NH for the night. Had a nice dinner and beer at "Ninety Nine" a restaurant/pub quite similar to Applebees.



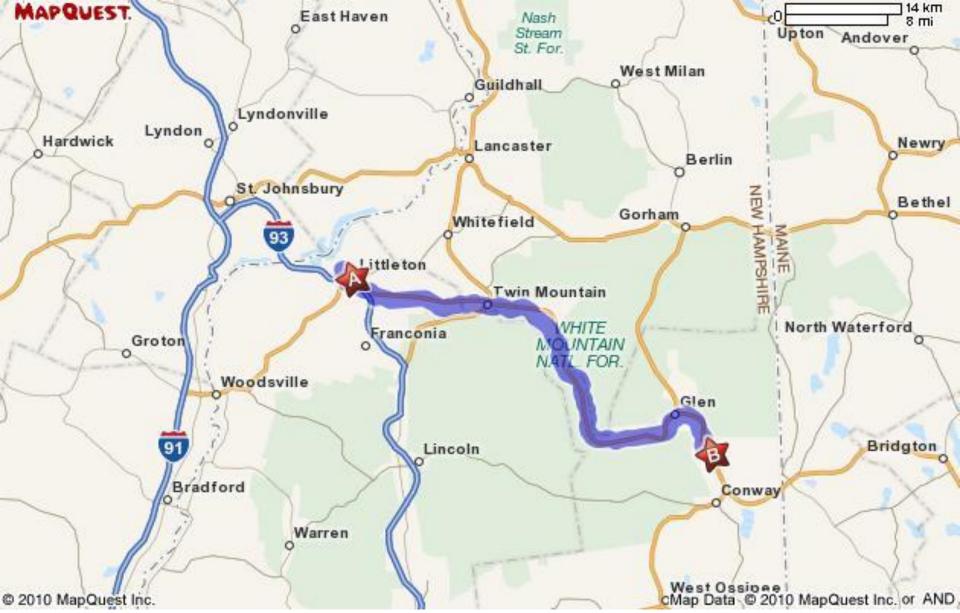




A quiet evening was in store with a six of cold beer from a convenience store and some reading time. We drove 273 miles today, plus a few on bikes.



Day #4 11 July 2009 After a good night sleep and an adequate motel breakfast we departed the Eastgate Motor Inn for the 51 mile drive to North Conway, NH.



What we were to see in North Conway (or is it Bretton Woods?) was a true "guy" experience....

We got to Mt. Washington Cog Railroad, the first of its kind in the world they say

This was so completely cool. A complete presentation could be done on this visit alone. I'll try to be brief. This cog railroad was built in 1869.





It was an hour up, an hour at the summit, then about an hour back. You could feel the temperature drop as we ascended the mountain







Museum and observatory at Mt. Washington summit



There happened to be a bicycle race up the mountain on this particular day. Here is one of the contestants just feet from the finish line We made it to the very top. This place boasts the worlds worst weather. The temp was probably about 40. It is at this moment that I type, -25F with 68 mph winds and a wind chill of -71F.

MT WASHINGTON

1,917M

6,288 F

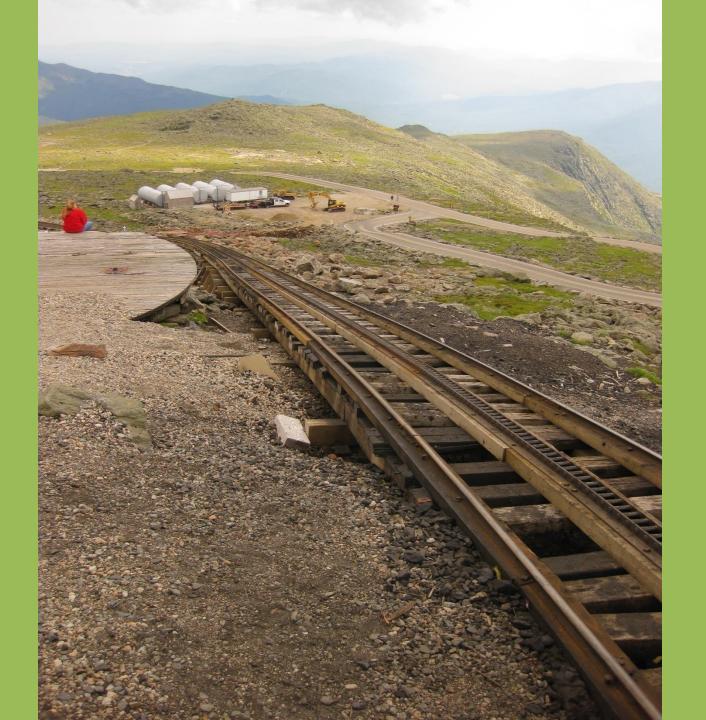
While they can't boast the coldest temps, they <u>held</u> the record for the strongest wind – 231 mph set in 1934. However....

• MOUNT • WASHINGTON • STATE PARK

NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF PARKS & RECREATION

On Friday, January 22, 2010, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) released a report stating that a new world record wind speed was recorded on April 10, 1996 in Barrow Island, Australia during Typhoon Olivia. According to the report, the new record stands at 253 mph, far surpassing the Observatory's record of 231 mph recorded on April 12, 1934. The new record was discovered by a special WMO evaluation panel during a comprehensive review of global weather and climate extremes.

Shortly before boarding the train heading down the mountain



Hikers going down the mountain



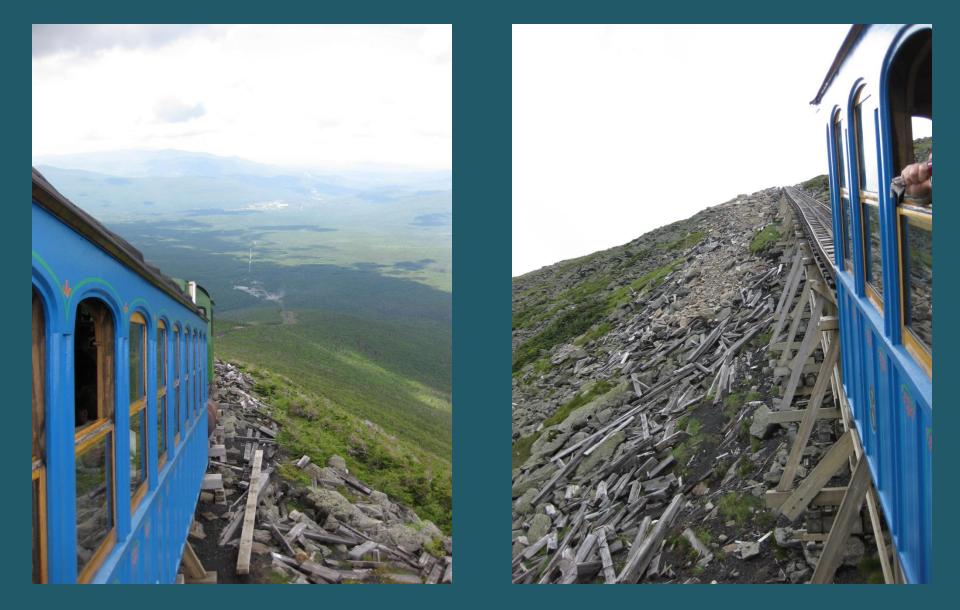
Was interesting watching this guy switch tracks before and after other train came up



Other train on their way up

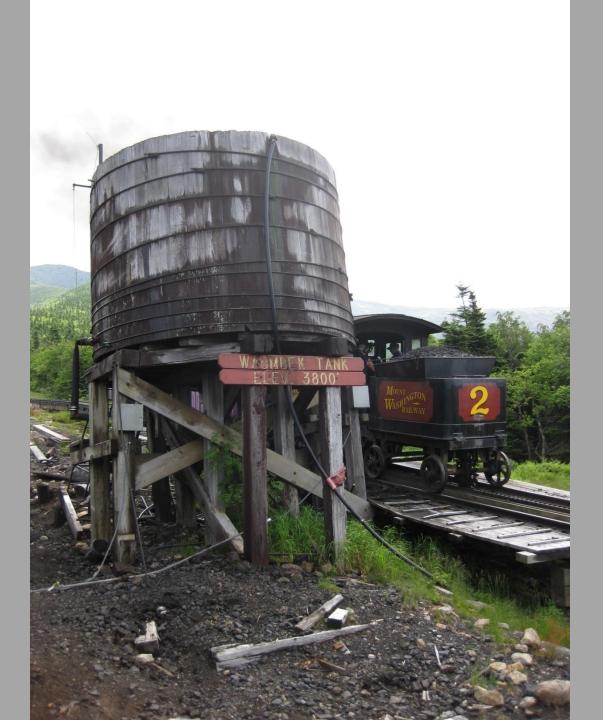
Contraction of the second second





Mountain much steeper than the photos show









49 ·A

JENELL TRAIL PEPPERSASS

Omni Mt Washington Resort, Bretton Woods, NH

land al man

Heading East on 302, we drove 24 miles before lunch at a grocery/deli NEXT to this place in Glen, NH.

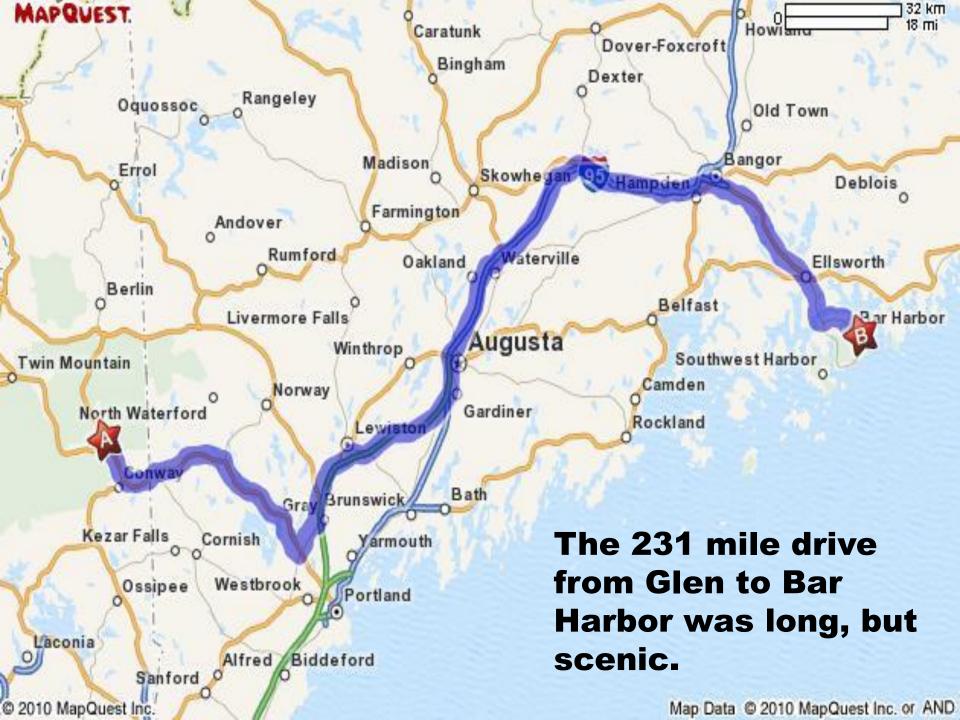






Somewhere near the NH/Maine border we went through this hoppin town that centered around its lake recreation.

PLEASE



Our room

: Lils





I stayed in a place like this... in the 1960's



Nice view from our table of Frenchman Bay. Low tide



Then on to Bar Harbor (often pronounced *Bah Haba*) night life. Some guy at the bar tried to start conversation with us – like "Bear" in Ohio Somewhere here along 3 north of town is where we ended the evening at *Jack Russells.* Our hotel is about where the upper "3" is on the map. 306 miles today



Day #5 12 July 2009 We were slow getting rolling this morning and it was great. Very relaxing





Acadia Nat'l Park is billed as one of the most beautiful in the nation, and rightfully so. We started our visit by driving the route in purple

Cadillac Mountain was our first destination on this drive, but the fog did not permit much of a view

Some of the views that followed were spectacular





The fog cleared and we had a much nicer visit to Cadillac Mountain



After a good lunch in Bar Harbor, we set out on bikes on the "Carriage Paths" built by John D. Rockefeller through Acadia. Was very scenic





After the ride in Acadia, Ed headed to the car to read, while Rob continued on the bike through Bar Harbor. This was one of the first days of sunshine in the summer, so everybody was out soaking it up



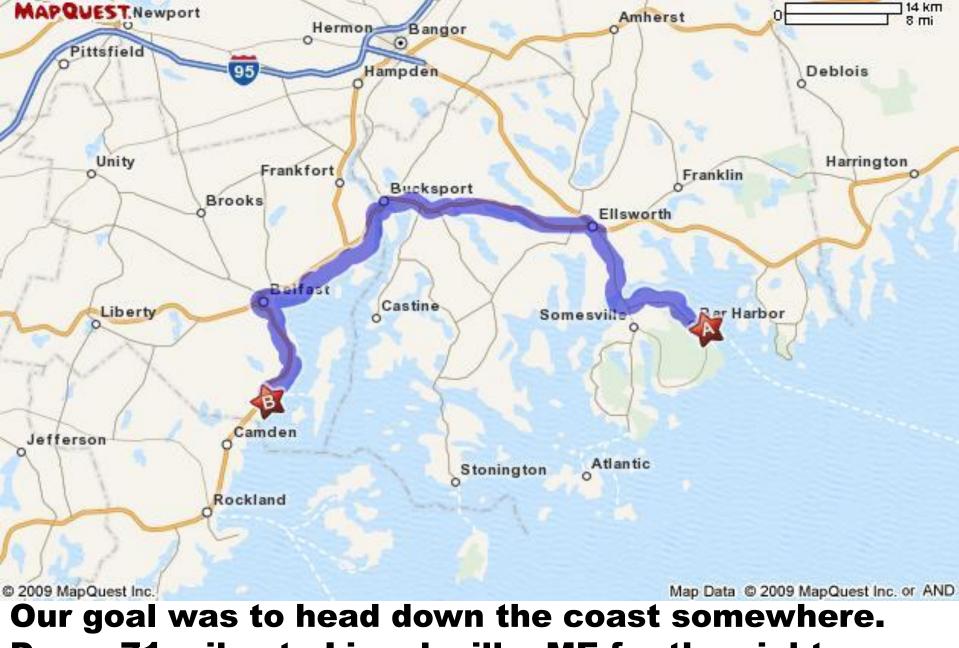
Rob found a small Episcopal church whose door was standing open. Quite coincidently was an early opus Visser-Rowland pipe organ





Grabbed some ice cream at the place pictured on previous slide, then headed out of Bar Harbor about 24 hours after arriving





Drove 71 miles to Lincolnville, ME for the night

Got to Lincolnville, ME and went to the LOBSTER POUND for lobster. Saw this nice-lookin '57 Chevy there too.







After a good dinner we checked into Ducktrap Motel then found this place for beers and watched the Tour de France



Par for the course, we found the staff to be friendly and jovial. Lady on the left owns the joint with her husband. Think her name was Dorothy.

Day #6 – Monday, 13 July 2009 The Ducktrap Motel on 12 Whitney Rd in Lincolnville was our lodging last night. We got up and headed down to Camden, ME for breakfast

Downtown Camden, ME

VILLAGE RESTAURANT

STO

Breakfast at the Camden Deli looking down where we'd take boat ride a short while later.



An interesting sight in Camden

JOHN ST

Car

WIMES YSPRING

Kinda sums up what we did next

Sail Schooner SURPRISE

57 foot Windjammer built in 1918 Enjoy a 2 hour cruise with a limited number of passengers **SURPRISE is on the National Historic Register** Cushioned seating for all passengers • Fresh fruit & cookies included Sail past Curtis Island Lighthouse Watch for seals, porpoise, osprey and eagles **2 HOUR SAIL NEXT SAIL** assengers Chil . and older 10Am g cruise stain Jack and Badvara Moore

perated sailing since 1984



The 2-hour ride on this 1918 windjammer – the oldest of its kind in Camden – was yet another great experience. Capt. Jack (retired surgeon) & Barbara Moore were great guides on Penobscot Bay.



A couple of salty mates

MOUNT WASHINGTON



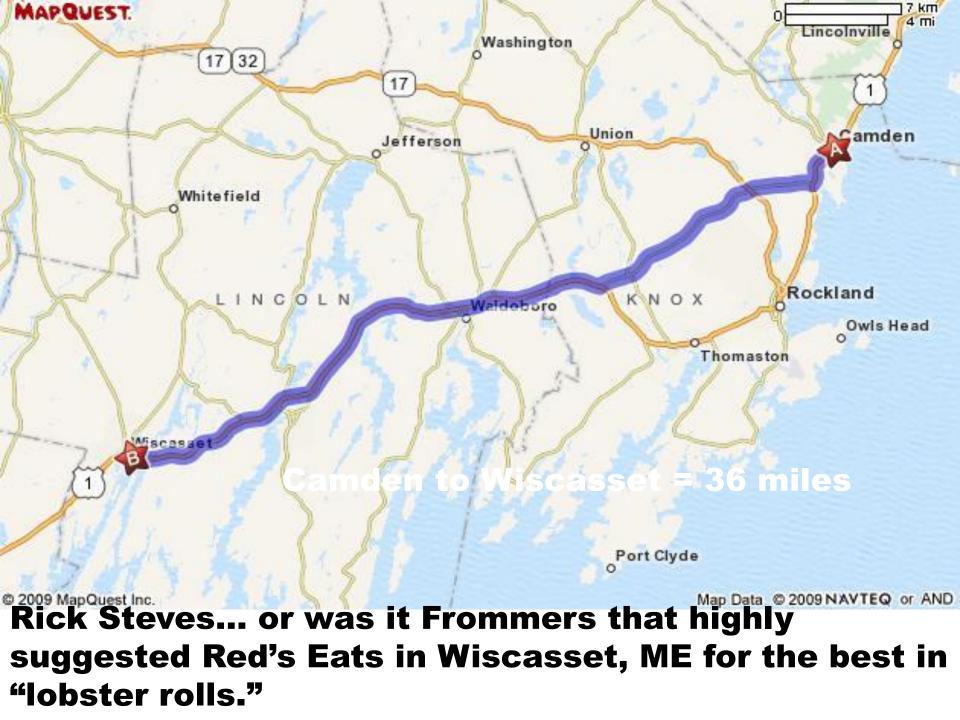
PruCare

Osprey nest on top of chimney

B H == U L



Captain Jack and Barbara Moore





We stood in line over an hour for our lobster roll, part of this time it rained too.







This is a *Red's Eats* lobster roll, voted #1 in Maine

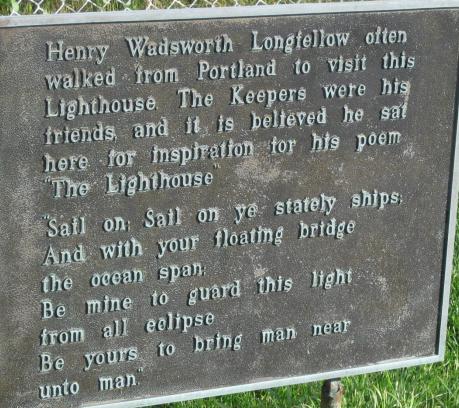


The next leg of the trip was to Cape Elizabeth, ME from Wiscasset = 48 miles – with a stop at I.I. bean store in Freeport, ME



One thing on our "to do" list was to see an authentic Maine lighthouse. We found what is supposedly the **best - Portland Head Lighthouse** in Cape **Elizabeth, ME.** Construction completed in 1791



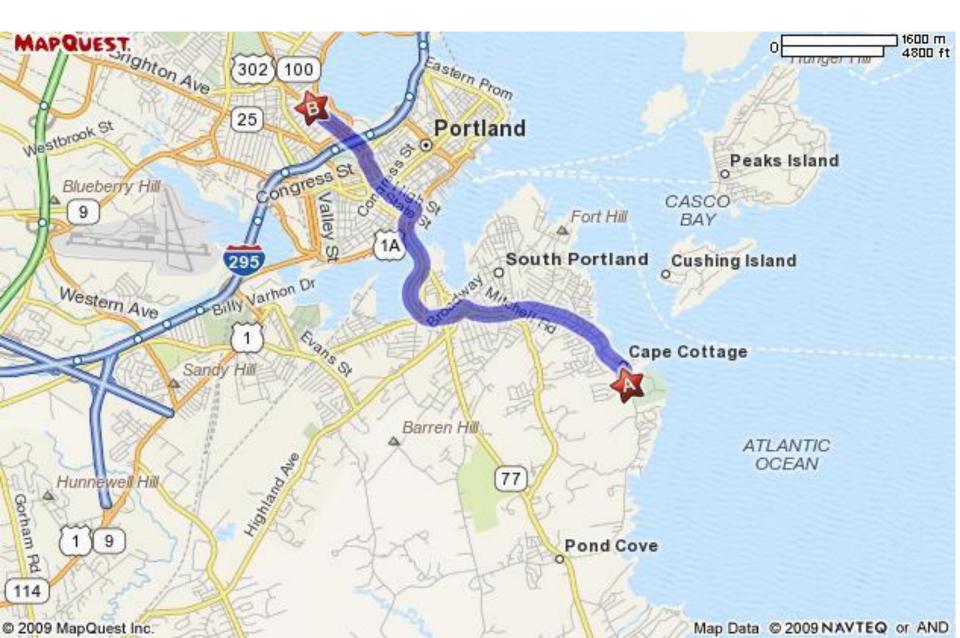






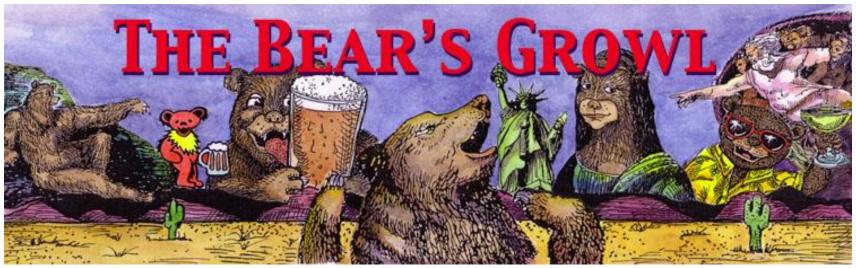


A mere 5.33 miles from Cape Elizabeth to our first beer du jour.

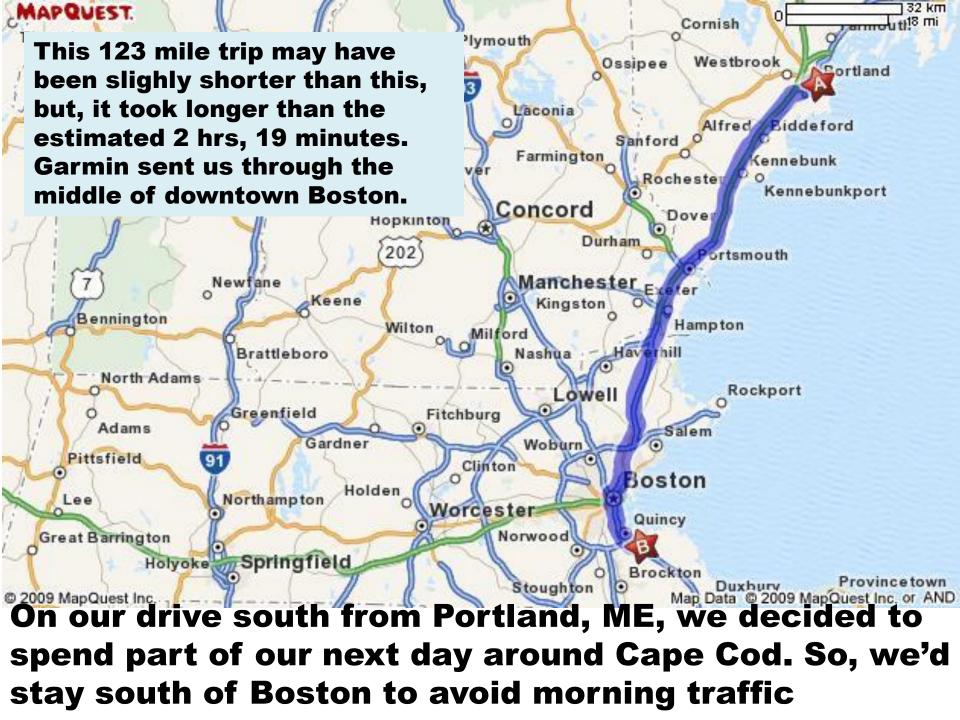




After an enjoyable walk around the lighthouse, it was time for a beer & food. With iPhone help and then Garmin, we found *The Great* Lost Bear. Supposedly a 'top ten' on the American beer-bar list. Had a good beer and food.







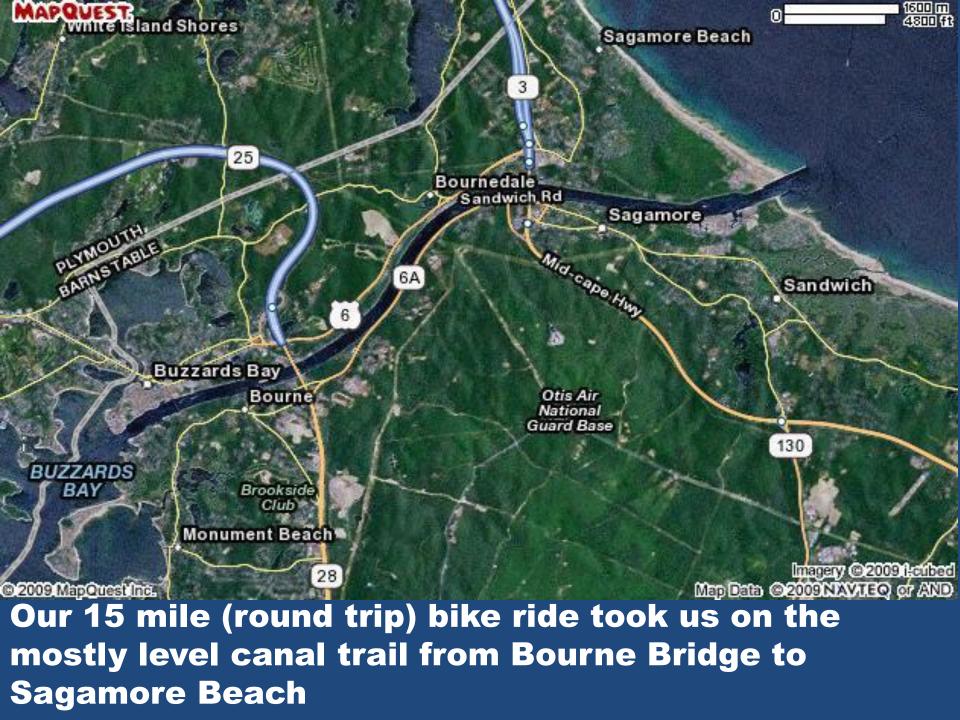


0.2 miles on Washington St. from our *Super 8 Motel* in Weymouth, MA was where we closed out the night with some good beer – Union **Brewhouse.** They had a large flat-screen on the bar so we watched the nightbefore festivities for the All-Star game.



Day #7, 14 July 2009 After a light breakfast in Weymouth, we made the 57 mile trip to the Hyannis area for a bike ride along the canal.





Bourne Bridge





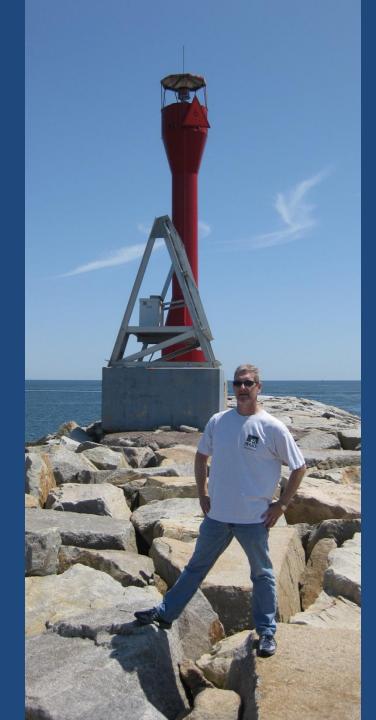




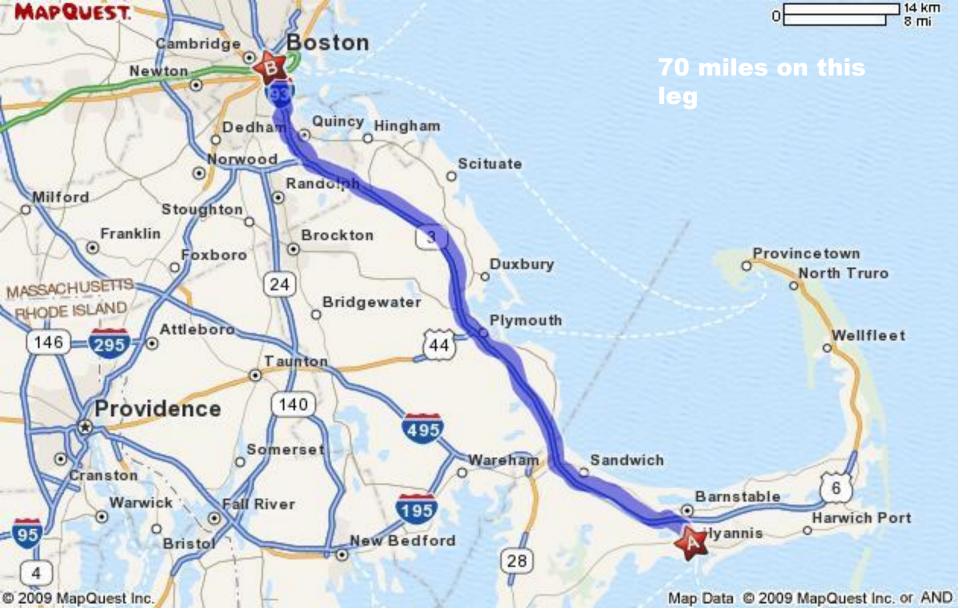


Scusset Beach









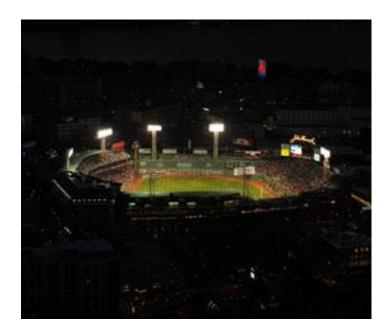
After turning in the bikes, we had a sandwich for lunch, then back to Boston to turn in the KIA.



We dropped off the car sometime around 4 pm before traffic got too bad. Checked into the Berkeley **YWCA** again then some last hour sight-seeing in downtown **Boston. 1,170** miles in the car.



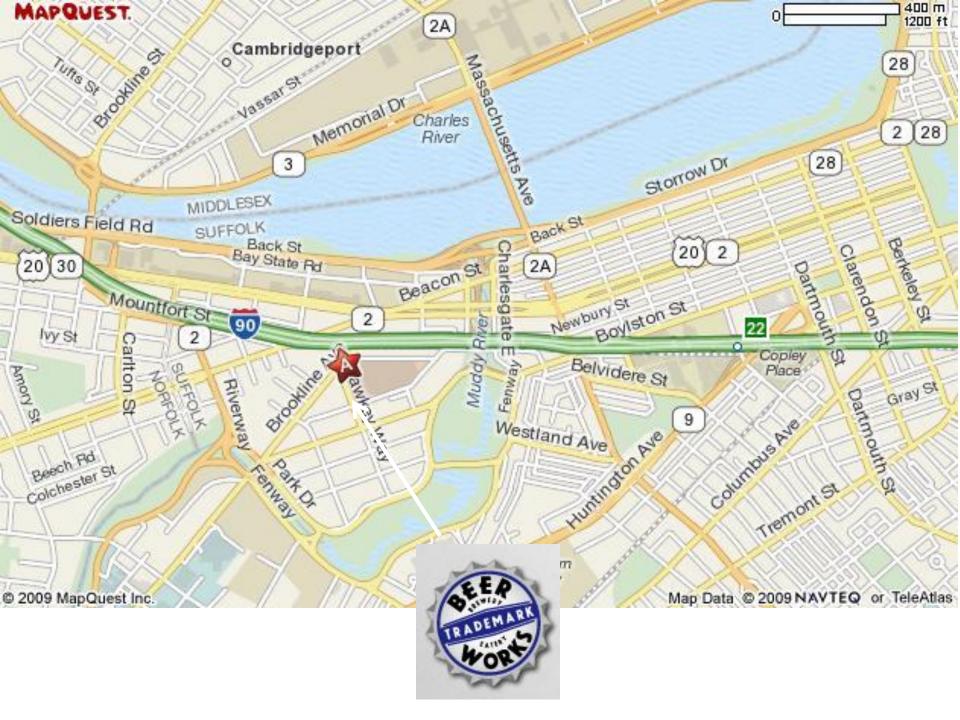
Fenway Baseball Park

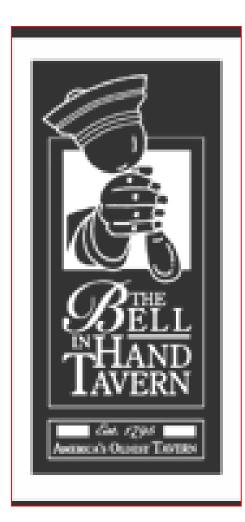




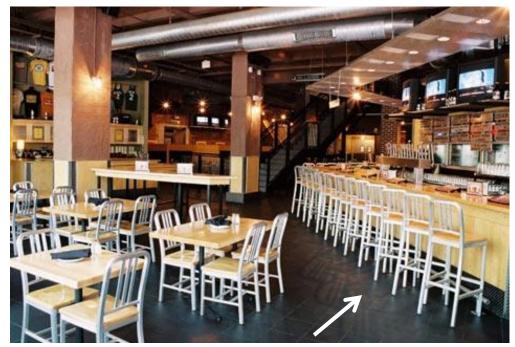
Our first beer of the day







After a beer at *Boston Beer Works* by Fenway Park, we went for dinner and beer at *The Bell in Hand Tavern* and watched the beginning of the All-star game. This was near another *Boston Beer Works* on Canal St.



We sat here by a drunk

guy

We headed back to our room with a stop at that corner bar near YWCA that we can't remember the name of. **Kinda sad** that our trip was nearing its end.



Day #8 14 July 2009 We got up, checked out of our room, ate breakfast at a little nearby café, then headed to the airport for the return flight.

Another trip for the books. Six (6) more states added to our list of states where we've drank beer.

Again, we thank our dear wives Mary Kay and Joan for letting us do our "guy-type" of trips, a.k.a. *mancations*.

Other trips these guys have made











Euro 07 including Dublin and Prague and others



Don't forget the city dump (above) and numerous guy trips to Medina,

TX





And of course "Great Lakes 2008" Here in Owen Sound, Ontario

The state

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The End

MARKE FUN...