

# HISTORIC BRONX BUS TOUR

*Saturday, May 20, 2023*

For a number of years, a local Queens political club has offered historic bus tours, covering a different borough each year. This year, however, the sponsorship has been transferred to the Queens Civic Congress Foundation. The Bronx is a borough very different from the others. It is the only borough that is not an island, and one of the most recent counties of New York State, having been only created in 1914. Prior to that it was part of Westchester County, then, then later New York County. This tour is an all-day, all-inclusive, chartered bus tour. Reserve early as we are limiting this event to only 32 people. (Starting/ending point at Queens County Farm Museum, 73-50 Little Neck Parkway, Bellerose.) Meet at 9 AM.

**Cost is \$150. inclusive of transportation, admission fees, guided tours, tips, and lunch.**



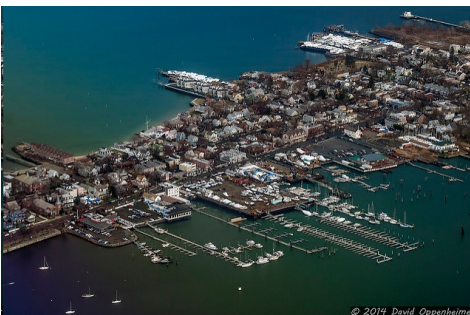
**Poe Cottage:** Edgar Allan Poe Cottage, built c. 1812, is a New York City and State landmark listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The historic house museum is famous as the final home of the writer. The house sits at the north end of Poe Park, close to its original location. Poe wrote some of his most famous works in the cottage, including “Annabel Lee,” “Eureka,” and “The Bells.”



**Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum** was Built between 1836 and 1842, and exemplifies a type of country living that existed in the Pelham Bay Park area in the early 19th Century. Officially open as a museum since 1946, Bartow-Pell Mansion Museum's mansion, gardens and landscape offer visitors a source of serenity in the urban landscape. The sunken garden in the rear of the house, (shown at left) was designed by the noted turn-of-the-20th Century architectural firm of Delano & Aldrich. Also open for viewing is a carriage house with antique carriages and a tiny family cemetery. There are six steps with railing to enter the ground floor, and 21 steps to the second floor. There is no elevator. Located in the heart of the huge forested park, one cannot see any urban development once you are at the house. It is a total transformation back to the mid-Nineteenth Century both in terms of the architecture and landscape.



**City Island** has sometimes been described as a New England fishing village plopped down in the heart of New York City. Although ship building, once a major industry on the island, has mostly vanished, it still retains the feel of a quaint seaside village with small, low-scale buildings. We will tour around the island with our bus. We anticipate a guide from the City Island Historical Society will join our bus and describe the sites. City Island is accessed via a bridge; we will not have to board a ferry.



**City Island Nautical Museum** is located in a former public school. Beautifully restored after a fire, it contains exhibits that chronicle the maritime history of City Island. Located on a small hill, there is ramp access to the interior. The building is the former P.S. 17 designed by the noted school architect C.B.J. Snyder who designed some 140 schools for New York City as head of the Board of Education's school buildings division, many of which are now landmarked. P.S. 17 was built in 1897 in the Georgian style of architecture and decommissioned in 1975. There is a newer P.S. 17 located elsewhere on the Island. A guide will explain the exhibits.



**Portofino restaurant** will be our headquarters for a relaxed lunch. Portofino is more of an Island restaurant, that is, less touristy than others. It includes a five-course lunch with soda, coffee and tea included.

All participants will receive a free Souvenir Journal as a keepsake of this trip.

**For further information, call James Trent at 718-343-8830**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ seats (state number) on the Historic Bronx Bus Tour for May 20, 2023. Make checks out to the Queens Civic Congress Foundation and send to James Trent, 242-33 90<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Bellerose, NY 11426-1115. E-mail: jtrent251@gmail.com.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_