

# Salem sure to sweep you off your feet

## Witch trial, beaches, architecture define Mass. town

**S**pooky doesn't always mean scary. It also can be intriguing. No place in the U.S. better fits that description than Salem, Massachusetts. It's mysterious, interesting and – perhaps surprisingly – a vacation destination.

Located 25 miles north of Boston, Salem sits between Beverly and Salem harbors. Its vast coastline and small-town persona make it an ideal spot for travelers in search of a peaceful getaway.

Excellent food, beautiful architecture, stunning hotels and cozy inns define its character, but don't tell its entire story. Salem has a Jekyll-and-Hyde personality.

Its history dates nearly 400 years and it's most famous for the Salem Witch Trials that took place in 1692. Hysteria overwhelmed that era. Witchcraft became the town's primary issue. A legend had been created.

It's safe to assume witchcraft didn't exist in Salem, but it made for a good story – one that has reverberated ever since and added to the attraction of visiting the New England town. Salem is a unique place.

Architecture quickly grabs your attention. The McIntire Historic District is a popular stop where guests can take a self-guided, walking tour of the area.

The House of Seven Gables quickly stands out. The place inspired author Nathaniel Hawthorne's book of the



**TIDY SETTINGS** – Historic homes highlight the persona of Salem, Massachusetts. *Image: pabrady63. Adobe Stock.*

same title. Built in 1668, the seaside mansion is open for tours. Guests can visit Hawthorne's birthplace and stroll through the Colonial Revival seaside gardens.

Indulge yourself into Salem's history at The Salem Witch Trial Museum. The main exhibition features 13 life-sized stage sets, figures, lighting and narration of the trial.

The Jonathan Corwin House – aka

the Witch House – is another notable location. Corwin served on the Court of Oyer and Terminer – which sent 19 people to the gallows. It's the only structure remaining with direct ties to the trials.

Salem is teeming with tours to keep you on the move. Hocus Pocus Tours provide in-depth overviews of the town. These 90-minute walking excursions delve into the Witch

Trial hysteria, Hawthorne, as well as stops showcasing the sites of classic Halloween movie "Hocus Pocus."

Ghost tours feature engaging guides that creatively present Salem's haunted history. They regale you with true tales of documented paranormal activity, chilling cemeteries and centuries-old murders.

Horror isn't Salem's only niche. Guests can sunbathe on beaches. More than a half-dozen offer eclectic settings meant to provide hours of relaxation. Scrunch your toes into the sand and get lost in a book, cool off in the water or take a stroll on the shoreline.

Lodging adds to Salem's small-town style. Escape busy resorts for an intimate bed-and-breakfast. Colorful buildings surrounded by pristine landscaping add charm to the setting. Fireplaces enhance sizeable rooms, providing a hometown experience.

Dining also is a blessing in Salem. Eateries vary from smalltown restaurants, pizzerias and cocktail bars.

Red's Sandwich Shop is a must-stop eatery. Located in the historic London Coffee House – built in 1698 – it's one of Salem's most beloved restaurants. Fried-egg dishes, omelets and specialty sandwiches highlight a menu sure to satisfy your appetite.

Witches are synonymous with Salem, but they needn't cast a spell to attract your attention. The town does fine on its own.

# O.K. Corral® tells tales of Wild West legends

## Wyatt Earp, Doc Holliday among many stories told in Tombstone

**T**he legends and tales of the Wild West have intrigued our imaginations for decades. Big and small screens, novels and music have enhanced our romance with sawdust saloons, gambling, whisky and a good gunfight.

A trip to the O.K. Corral® in Tombstone, Ariz. allows Wild West enthusiasts to visit the sites, relive the happenings, gussy up to a bar for a shot and a beer and acquire in-depth detail about fabled lawmen and outlaws.

Some of the Wild West's most famous characters took up residence at the O.K. Corral®, including Wyatt Earp and Doc Holliday. Earp's brothers, Virgil and Morgan, followed their brother to the Arizona town in hopes of striking it rich during a silver rush. But sporting a badge and maintaining the town's peace became their destiny.

The stories are endless. Folklores and tales that seem too good to be true come to life at the O.K. Corral®. Gunslingers stare one another down in a cloud of fluttering dust. Only one will be left standing.

Guests can see Doc Holliday, Wyatt Earp and his brothers fight the McLaurys and Clantons in daily reenactments of the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral® in The Streets Tombstone Theater. Stand beside life-sized figures of the eight gunfighters located on the very spot where the



**OLD WEST** – The O.K. Corral® unwraps tales about legendary gunslingers and more. *Image: ehrlif. Adobe Stock.*

gunfight began, according to a map on display and drawn by Wyatt Earp.

Details about what caused the 30-second showdown that left three cowboys dead and Morgan and Virgil Earp wounded are thoroughly explained, providing visitors an up-close and personal view of the Wild West.

C.S. Fly's Photo Gallery has photo-

graphs of Apache warrior Geronimo and other images that tell the story about life at Tombstone in the 1880s.

Walk through the O.K. Corral® stables as they appeared in the late-19th century. A blacksmith shop captures the essence of the period. Sit in buggies or pan for gemstones in a running-water mining sluice.

Historama Theater adds to the rich ambiance. Witness dramatic events that made Tombstone famous like the silver boom, the great fire, the assassination of Morgan Earp and more. Hear actor Vincent Price narrate this multimedia history.

Wander into the 1880s museum of Arizona's oldest newspaper – the Epitaph – which is still published today. Read the original 1881 reports of the Gunfight at the O.K. Corral®. A reprint of the 1881 Epitaph with the original Gunfight reports is included free with an admission ticket.

Learn how Epitaph editor, John Clum, captured Geronimo and why Clum hired the Earps to defend Tombstone. Guests can watch how the publication was printed in the 1880s on the original Washington hand press.

The Cowboy Bunkhouse includes an exhibit of cowboy paraphernalia and a Phaeton buggy. The O.K. Corral® Office Museum traces the history of the town and its operation. Learn about daily life in the Corral and the murders that took place there. And see the medical practices of Dr. Goodfellow – Tombstone's famous gunshot-wound surgeon.

The Wild West is the backdrop to many of our country's most remarkable stories. A trip to the O.K. Corral® will turn legend into reality.