



Local Currency The official unit of currency in Portland, Maine is the U.S. Dollar. Notes are available in denominations of \$1, \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100. Coins are available in denominations of 1 cent, 5 cents, 10 cents and 25 cents. There are banks and ATM machines accessible throughout the downtown area.



Office/Telephone Facilities Portland's main Post Office is located at 125 Forest Avenue.

There are a few public pay phones available at the pier. American coins and calling cards are accepted in pay phones. For international calls, dial 011 to obtain a line out of the country. An international operator can be reached by dialing 00.



Tourist Information The Downtown Visitor Information Center is located at 305 Commercial Street. Portland also has Downtown District Guides, recognized by their "out-back" hats and purple shirts. Their service is free and they can provide information on shopping, sightseeing, restaurants, etc.



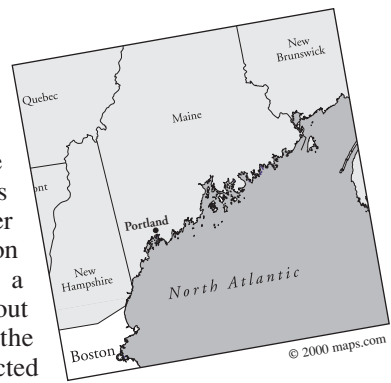
Transportation Downtown Portland is just a few blocks from the ship's berth. Some taxis will be available on the pier. It is recommended that a price be agreed upon prior to leaving the pier.

Portland Maine

Port Explorer

General Information

The largest city in Maine, Portland is home to some 64,000 residents. With a population of 230,000 the Greater Portland area is where almost one quarter of Maine's total population resides. The city sits on a small peninsula that juts out into Casco Bay along the coast of Maine. The protected harbor and easy access to the waters of the Atlantic made Portland a prime spot for the expansion efforts of the English in the 1600's.



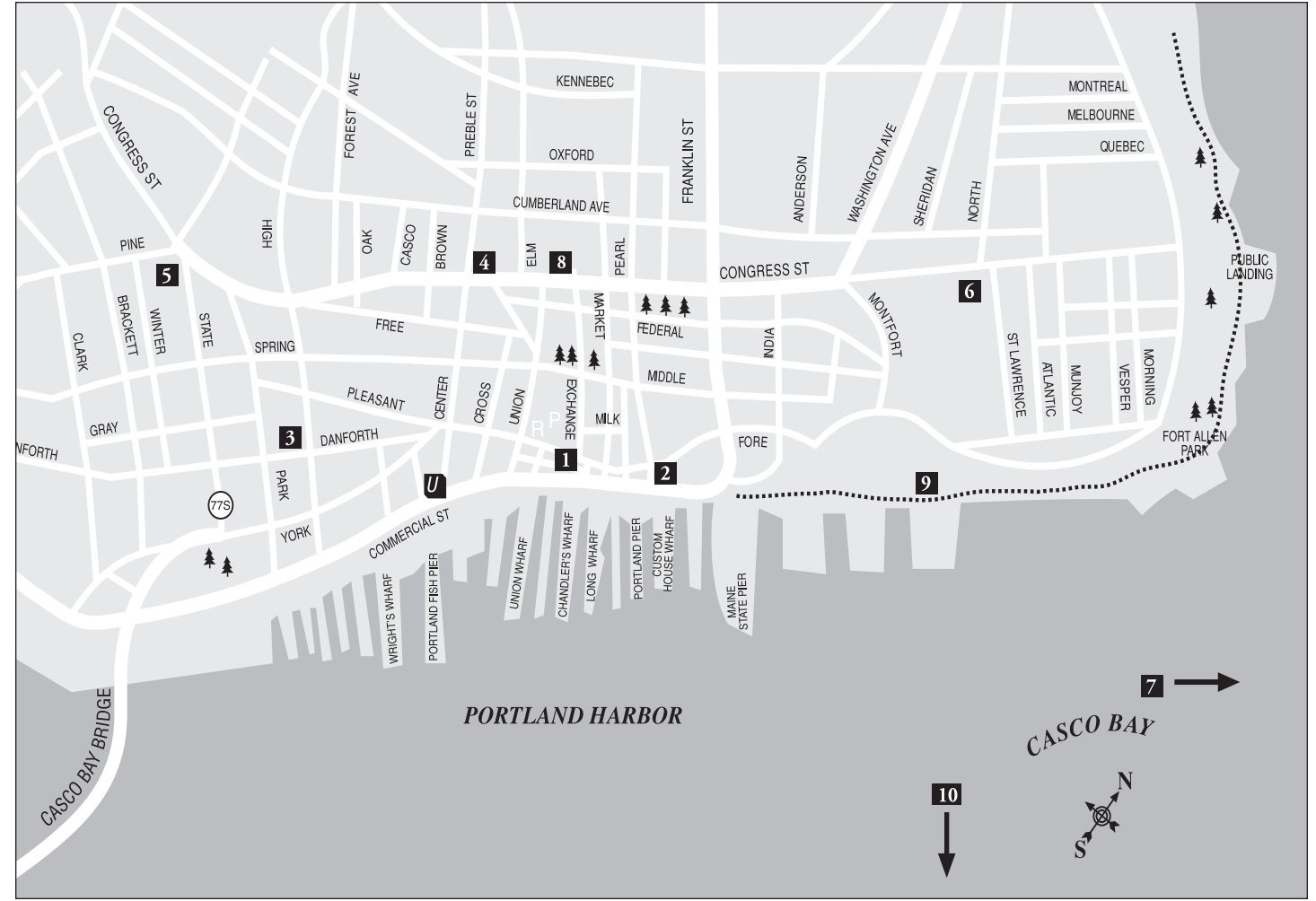
Signs of prosperity flourished throughout the city as the railroads brought the Canada Trunk Line terminus to Portland's quayside. Today, many of these merchant homes and warehouses have been well preserved. Portland is also home to the great American poet Henry Wadsworth-Longfellow, and has continued a tradition of culture with its many museums.

In many ways Portland is the entrance to Maine, both geographically and historically. The small communities of Kennebunkport, Freeport and Yarmouth are a short distance away and provide the classic charm of the state's small town atmosphere.

In modern Portland history is kept alive through exhaustive landmark preservation efforts. Throughout the downtown area old world charm and modern buildings mix to form a relaxed atmosphere. A redeveloped working waterfront buoyed by export and fishing industries has brought new life to the area, earning the city its nickname given it by Henry Wadsworth-Longfellow, "The Jewel by the Sea."



Places of Interest



In downtown Portland visitors can discover one of the best preserved Victorian residential districts along the Western Promenade, or explore the heart of the city's historic fishing industry in the Old Port. Outside downtown Greater Portland consists of Casco Bay, South Portland, and the Back Cove area. Still further outside the city lie the towns of Freeport, Kennebunkport and Yarmouth, all of which are worth a visit.

1 The Old Port Exchange is the heart of downtown Portland. This is a collection of 19th century brick buildings originally constructed to support the vast export and fishing industries. Today, the buildings house specialty shops, restaurants and pubs.

2 U.S. Customs House, at 312 Fore Street, was built in 1867 after the Great Fire that leveled most of the city. It is still used by the Customs Service and Coast Guard.

3 The Victoria Mansion is one of America's most significant Victorian Homes and dates from 1858. All of the interiors are original with antique furniture, carpets, ceramics and wall decorations.

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