

= Plymouth , Massachusetts =

Plymouth / ˈplɪm?? / ( historically known as Plimouth and Plimoth ) is a town in Plymouth County , Massachusetts , United States . Plymouth holds a place of great prominence in American history , folklore , and culture , and is known as " America 's Hometown . " Plymouth was the site of the colony founded in 1620 by the Pilgrims , passengers of the famous ship the Mayflower . Plymouth is where New England was first established . It is the oldest municipality in New England and one of the oldest in the United States . The town has served as the location of several prominent events , one of the more notable being the First Thanksgiving feast . Plymouth served as the capital of Plymouth Colony from its founding in 1620 until the colony 's merger with the Massachusetts Bay colony in 1691 . Plymouth is named after the English city of the same name .

Plymouth is the largest municipality in Massachusetts by area . The population is 58 @, @ 271 , according to the 2014 Demographics by Cubit . U.S. Census . Plymouth is one of two county seats of Plymouth County , the other being Brockton .

Plymouth is located approximately 40 miles ( 64 km ) south of Boston in a region of Massachusetts known as the South Shore . Throughout the 19th century , the town thrived as a center of ropemaking , fishing , and shipping , and once held the world 's largest ropemaking company , the Plymouth Cordage Company . It continues to be an active port , but today the major industry of Plymouth is tourism . Plymouth is served by Plymouth Municipal Airport , and contains Pilgrim Hall Museum , the oldest continually operating museum in the United States .

As one of the country 's first settlements , Plymouth is well known in the United States for its historical value . The events surrounding the history of Plymouth have become part of the ethos of the United States , particularly that relating to Plymouth Rock , the Pilgrims , and the First Thanksgiving . The town itself is a popular tourist spot during the Thanksgiving holiday . Plymouth is home to the Old Colony Club , one of the oldest Gentlemen 's clubs in the world .

= = History = =

= = = Pre @-@ colonial era = = =

Prior to the arrival of the Pilgrims , the location of Plymouth was a village of 2 @, @ 000 Wampanoag Native Americans called Patuxet . This region that became Plymouth was visited twice by European explorers prior to the establishment of Plymouth Colony . In 1605 , Samuel de Champlain sailed to Plymouth Harbor , calling it Port St. Louis . Captain John Smith , a leader of the colony at Jamestown , Virginia , explored parts of Cape Cod Bay ; he is credited with naming the region " New Plimouth . "

Two plagues afflicted coastal New England in 1614 and 1617 , possibly transmitted from British and French fishermen to natives on the shore ( although no concrete evidence exists to prove such a connection ) . The plague killed between 90 % and 95 % of the local Wampanoag inhabitants . The near disappearance of the tribe from the site left their cornfields and cleared areas vacant for the Pilgrims to occupy ; it also meant that the Indians were in no condition to resist the arrival of the colonists .

= = = Colonial era = = =

Plymouth has played a very important role in American colonial history . It was the final landing site of the first voyage of the Mayflower , and the location of the original settlement of the Plymouth Colony . Plymouth was established in December 1620 by English separatist Puritans who had broken away from the Church of England , believing that the Church had not completed the work of the Protestant Reformation . Today , these settlers are much better known as " Pilgrims " , a term coined by William Bradford .

The Mayflower first anchored in what became the harbor of Provincetown , Massachusetts on

November 11 , 1620 . The ship was headed for the mouth of the Hudson River near Manhattan , which was part of the Colony of Virginia at the time , but it eventually reached New England .

The Pilgrim settlers realized that they did not have a patent to settle in the region , so they signed the Mayflower Compact prior to disembarking . The Pilgrims explored various parts of Cape Cod , and eventually sought a suitable location for a permanent settlement to the westward in Cape Cod Bay . The Pilgrims eventually came across the sheltered waters of Plymouth Harbor on December 17 . The appealing protected bay led to a site in the present @-@ day Harbor District being chosen for the new settlement after three days of surveying .

The settlers officially disembarked on December 21 , 1620 . It is traditionally said that the Pilgrims first set foot in America at the site of Plymouth Rock , though no historical evidence can prove this claim . The settlers named their settlement " Plimouth " ( also historically known as " Plimoth " , an archaic English spelling of the name ) after the major port city in Devon , England from which the Mayflower ultimately sailed . ( Plymouth , Devon , United Kingdom was named after its location at mouth of the River Plym . )

= = = = First Winter = = = =

Plymouth faced many difficulties during its first winter , the most notable being the risk of starvation and the lack of suitable shelter . From the beginning , the assistance of Indians was vital . One colonist 's journal reports :

We marched to the place we called Cornhill , where we had found the corn before . At another place we had seen before , we dug and found some more corn , two or three baskets full , and a bag of beans ... In all we had about ten bushels , which will be enough for seed . It is with God 's help that we found this corn , for how else could we have done it , without meeting some Indians who might trouble us .

During their earlier exploration of the Cape , the Pilgrims had come upon an Indian burial site which contained corn , and they had taken the corn for future planting . On another occasion , they found an unoccupied house and had taken corn and beans , for which they made restitution with the occupants about six months later . Even greater assistance came from Samoset and Tisquantum ( better known as Squanto ) , an Indian sent by Wampanoag Tribe Chief Massasoit as an ambassador and technical adviser . Squanto had been kidnapped in 1614 by an English slave raider and sold in Málaga , Spain . He learned English , escaped slavery , and returned home in 1619 . He taught the colonists how to farm corn , where and how to catch fish , and other helpful skills for the New World . He also was instrumental in the survival of the settlement for the first two years .

Squanto and another guide sent by Massasoit in 1621 named Hobomok helped the colonists set up trading posts for furs . Chief Massasoit later formed a Peace Treaty with the Pilgrims . Upon growing a plentiful harvest in the fall of 1621 , the Pilgrims gathered with Squanto , Samoset , Massasoit , and ninety other Wampanoag men in a celebration of thanksgiving to God for their plentiful harvest . This celebration is known today as the First Thanksgiving , and is still commemorated annually in downtown Plymouth with a parade and a reenactment . Since 1941 , Thanksgiving has been observed as a federal holiday in the United States .

Plymouth served as the capital of Plymouth Colony ( which consisted of modern @-@ day Barnstable , Bristol , and Plymouth Counties ) from its founding in 1620 until 1691 , when the colony was merged with the Massachusetts Bay Colony and other territories to form the Province of Massachusetts Bay . Plymouth holds the unique distinction of being the first permanent settlement in New England , and one of the oldest settlements in the United States .

= = = 19th century = = =

In the 1800s , Plymouth remained a relatively isolated seacoast town whose livelihood depended on fishing and shipping . The town eventually became a regional center of shipbuilding and fishing . Its principal industry was the Plymouth Cordage Company , which became the world 's largest manufacturer of rope and cordage products . The company was founded in 1824 . At one point , the

longest ropewalk in the world , a quarter @-@ mile ( 0 @.@ 4 km ) in length , was found on the Cordage Company 's site on the North Plymouth waterfront . It thrived into the 1960s , but was forced out of business in 1964 due to competition from synthetic @-@ fiber ropes . The refurbished factory , known as Cordage Commerce Center , is home to numerous offices , restaurants and stores .

= = = Modern history = = =

In the last 30 years , Plymouth has experienced rapid growth and development . As in many South Shore towns , Plymouth became more accessible to Boston in the early 1970s with improved railroads , highways , and bus routes . Furthermore , the town 's inexpensive land costs and low tax rates were factors in the town 's significant population rise . Plymouth 's population grew from 18 @,@ 606 residents in 1970 to 45 @,@ 608 residents in 1990 , a 145 % increase in 20 years . The population has continued to expand in recent years . While Plymouth has already surpassed several Massachusetts cities in population , the town is still officially regarded as a town , as it has not been re @-@ chartered as a city and continues to be governed by a board of selectmen rather than a mayor . Plymouth has emerged as a major economic and tourist center of the South Shore .

One of the largest towns in Massachusetts , Plymouth spans several exits on its main highway , Route 3 . Plymouth boasts several larger shopping plazas and the nearby Independence Mall in Kingston , MA , much of which has been built in just the past 5 years . As it has grown , additional access is possible via a recent extension to Plymouth 's second largest highway , U.S. Route 44 .

= = Geography = =

The latitude of Plymouth is 41 @.@ 95833 and its longitude is -70.66778 . According to the United States Census Bureau , the town has a total area of 134 @.@ 0 sq mi ( 347 km<sup>2</sup> ) , of which 96 @.@ 5 sq mi ( 250 km<sup>2</sup> ) is land , and 37 @.@ 5 sq mi ( 97 km<sup>2</sup> ) ( 28 % ) is water .

With the largest land area of any municipality in Massachusetts , Plymouth consists of several neighborhoods and geographical sections . Larger localities in the town include Plymouth Center , North , West and South Plymouth , Manomet , Cedarville , and Saquish Neck .

Plymouth makes up the entire western shore of Cape Cod Bay . It is bordered on land by Bourne to the southeast , Wareham to the southwest , Carver to the west , and Kingston to the north . It also shares a small border with Duxbury at the land entrance of Saquish Neck . Plymouth 's border with Bourne makes up most of the line between Plymouth and Barnstable counties . The town is located roughly 44 miles ( 71 km ) southeast of Boston ( it is almost exactly 40 miles ( 64 km ) from Plymouth Rock to the Massachusetts State House ) and equidistantly east of Providence , Rhode Island .

Located in the Plymouth Pinelands , the town of Plymouth has many distinct geographical features . The town 's Atlantic coast is characterized by low plains , while its western sections are extremely hilly and forested . Plymouth contains several small ponds scattered throughout its western quadrant , the largest being the Great Herring Pond ( which is partly in the town of Bourne ) . A major feature of the town is the Myles Standish State Forest , which is in the southwestern region . Cachalot Scout Reservation , operated by the Cachalot District of the Narragansett Council of the Boy Scouts of America , lies adjacent to the state forest lands . There is also a smaller town forest , as well as several parks , recreation areas and beaches .

Plymouth has nine public beaches , the largest being Plymouth Beach . Plymouth Beach guards Plymouth Harbor and mostly consists of a three @-@ mile ( 5 km ) long , ecologically significant barrier beach . Clark 's Island , a small island in Plymouth Bay , is the only island in Plymouth . It is off the coast of Saquish Neck and has nine summer houses but no year @-@ round inhabitants .

= = Climate = =

Plymouth 's climate is a transitional humid continental / cold humid subtropical / marine type , which

is the predominant climate for Massachusetts . Due to its location on the Atlantic Ocean , humidity levels can be very high year @-@ round . Plymouth 's coastal location causes it to experience warmer temperatures than many inland locations in New England . Summers are typically hot and humid , while winters are cold , windy and often snowy .

Plymouth 's warmest month is July , with an average high temperature of 80 @.@ 6 ° F ( 27 @.@ 0 ° C ) and an average low of 61 @.@ 6 ° F ( 16 @.@ 4 ° C ) . The coldest month is January , with an average high temperature of 38 @.@ 1 ° F ( 3 @.@ 4 ° C ) and an average low of 20 @.@ 1 ° F ( ? 6 @.@ 6 ° C ) .

Much like the rest of the Northeastern seaboard , Plymouth receives ample amounts of precipitation year @-@ round . On average , summer months receive slightly less precipitation than winter months . Plymouth averages about 47 @.@ 4 inches ( 120 cm ) of rainfall a year . Plymouth , like other coastal Massachusetts towns , is very vulnerable to Nor 'easter weather systems . The town is sometimes vulnerable to Atlantic hurricanes and tropical storms , which infrequently threaten the Cape Cod region during the early autumn months .

## == Demographics ==

As of the census of 2010 , there were 56 @,@ 468 people , 21 @,@ 269 households , and 14 @,@ 742 families residing in the town ; by population it is the second ? largest town in Massachusetts , after Framingham . It is also the 21st ? largest municipality in the state . The population density was 536 @.@ 0 inhabitants per square mile ( 207 @.@ 0 / km2 ) . There are 21 @,@ 250 housing units , at an average density of 85 @.@ 1 / km2 ( 220 / sq mi ) . The racial makeup of the town was 93 @.@ 8 % White , 2 @.@ 0 % Black or African American , 0 @.@ 3 % Native American , 0 @.@ 9 % Asian , < 0 @.@ 1 % Pacific Islander , 0 @.@ 9 % from other races , and 1 @.@ 48 % from two or more races . Hispanic or Latino of any race were 1 @.@ 8 % of the population .

There are 21 @,@ 269 households out of which 29 @.@ 5 % have children under the age of 18 living with them , 54 @.@ 6 % were married couples living together , 10 @.@ 8 % had a female householder with no husband present , and 30 @.@ 7 % were non @-@ families . 23 @.@ 7 % of all households are made up of individuals , and 10 @.@ 0 % had someone living alone who was 65 years of age or older . The average household size is 2 @.@ 55 and the average family size is 3 @.@ 04 .

In the town the population is spread out with 24 @.@ 3 % under the age of 20 , 10 @.@ 7 % from 20 to 29 , 28 @.@ 8 % from 30 to 49 , 22 @.@ 2 % from 50 to 64 , and 14 @.@ 1 % who were 65 years of age or older . The median age was 41 @.@ 4 years .

The median income for a household in the town was \$ 54 @,@ 677 as of the 2000 census , and the median income for a family was \$ 63 @,@ 266 . Males had a median income of \$ 44 @,@ 983 versus \$ 31 @,@ 565 for females . The per capita income for the town was \$ 23 @,@ 732 . About 4 @.@ 4 % of families and 5 @.@ 4 % of the population were below the poverty line , including 7 @.@ 1 % of those under age 18 and 6 @.@ 9 % of those age 65 or over .

## == Government ==

Plymouth is represented in the Massachusetts House of Representatives as a part of the First and Twelfth Plymouth Districts . The town is represented in the Massachusetts Senate as a part of the Plymouth and Barnstable district , which also includes Bourne , Falmouth , Kingston , Pembroke , Plympton , Sandwich , and part of Barnstable . On the state level , primary but shared patrolling responsibility of the town 's limited access highways falls upon the Seventh ( Bourne ) Barracks of Troop D of the Massachusetts State Police .

On the national level , Plymouth is a part of Massachusetts 's 9th congressional district , and is currently represented by William R. Keating . The state 's senior ( Class I ) member of the United States Senate is Elizabeth Warren . The state 's current junior ( Class II ) Senator is Edward Markey . On the local level , the town uses the representative town meeting form of government , led by a town manager and a board of selectmen . The current town manager of Plymouth is Melissa Arrighi .

Plymouth has a centralized municipal police force , the Plymouth Police Department . The town also has a professional fire department , with seven firehouses spread around the town . There are also six post offices for the town 's five ZIP codes , with one in the downtown area , one in North Plymouth , one in Manomet , one in White Horse Beach , one near the Plymouth County Jail , and one near the town forest in " The Village Green " shopping area of The Pinehills .

The town has a public library , with a branch location in Manomet . Both libraries are a part of the Old Colony Library Network , which services 28 libraries throughout the South Shore . Additionally , as a seat of Plymouth County , there are several county facilities located in Plymouth . These include a County farm , the Registry of Deeds , two jails ( the Massachusetts Correctional Institution - Plymouth and the Plymouth County Correctional Facility ) and the County Courthouse ..

= = Economy = =

Plymouth is an economic and tourism center of the South Shore . The major industry is tourism , with healthcare , technical and scientific research , real estate , and telecommunications also being primary industries . The largest employer in the town is Jordan Hospital .

Plymouth has experienced commercial and industrial success , with the downtown area and North Plymouth each becoming commercial centers and an industrial park opening outside of the town center . A large commercial project titled Colony Place located near the Industrial Park was completed in late 2007 . It consists of several large retail stores , various chain restaurants , and contains one of the largest outdoor designer outlet malls in the South Shore . Another large retail development that has recently finished construction off Route 3 's exit 5 is The Shops at 5 . The only nuclear power plant in Massachusetts , Pilgrim Nuclear Generating Station , is located in Plymouth .

Plymouth has also recently seen the development of several residential projects , among them The Pinehills , which consists of over 1 @, @ 000 residential units , two golf courses , a country club , and a shopping village . When completed in 2010 , it is expected to contain 2 @, @ 877 homes .

= = Education = =

Plymouth operates a large school system , with an enrollment over 8 @, @ 000 students . The Plymouth School District is one of the largest in the state , operating fourteen schools . This is larger than the Massachusetts average of eight schools . The school district operates 86 school buses under contract with First Student bus company .

The schools in Plymouth include the Mount Pleasant Preschool , eight elementary schools ( Cold Spring , Federal Furnace , Hedge , Indian Brook , Manomet , Nathaniel Morton , South and West Elementaries ) which generally serve students from kindergarten to fifth grade , two middle schools that serve grades 5 ? 8 , Plymouth Community Intermediate School ( PCIS ) and Plymouth South Middle School , and two high schools , Plymouth North and Plymouth South . Both high schools play in the Atlantic Coast League , and the two schools share a rivalry with each other . Students who decide to receive a technical education have the option of attending Plymouth South Technical School . There were also 120 home educated children in Plymouth as of 2011 .

There is also a charter school in the town , Rising Tide Charter Public School , which serves middle and high school @-@ aged students . Two special education schools , the Baird School and the Radius Pediatric School , are located in the town .

The town has two institutions of higher learning . Quincy College has a campus located in Cordage Park . The Plymouth campus opened in 1991 , and the college 's main campus is in Quincy . Curry College has a campus at the northern edge of Plymouth Center in the Citizens Bank building . The campus opened in 1994 , and the main campus is located in Milton . While the University of Massachusetts Boston does not have a campus in Plymouth , it offers some courses at another location in Cordage Park .

= = Healthcare = =

Plymouth is home to Beth Israel Deaconess - Plymouth Hospital ( Jordan Hospital ) , the largest hospital in the southern region of the South Shore . It is the only major healthcare provider in the town . The hospital is a community medical center serving twelve towns in Plymouth and Barnstable counties . It consists of more than 30 departments , with 150 patient beds . The hospital also offers a rehabilitation center in The Pinehills region .

While Beth Israel Deaconess - Plymouth Hospital ( Jordan Hospital ) is the only hospital in Plymouth . South Shore Hospital operates several offices and physician labs in South Pond . South Shore Hospital , in South Weymouth , is the largest hospital in southeastern Massachusetts .

= = Transportation = =

= = = Highways = = =

Plymouth lies along the " Pilgrims Highway " portion of Route 3 , which is the major route between Cape Cod and Boston . The town can be accessed from six exits on the highway , which is more than any other municipality along the Pilgrims Highway . Plymouth is also the eastern terminus of U.S. Route 44 . The route has changed recently , as a new divided highway section has linked it to Route 3 , before heading south and exiting at its old location before terminating at Route 3A , which more closely follows the shoreline and passes through Plymouth Center . Route 80 's western terminus is at its intersection with old Route 44 . Route 25 goes through a remote section of the town north of Buzzards Bay , but does not have an exit . Finally , the short Plimoth Plantation Highway allows easy access between Routes 3 and 3A , with an exit that allows direct entry to Plimoth Plantation 's parking area . The highway is north of Manomet and south of Plymouth Center .

= = = Rail = = =

Plymouth is one of two termini of the Kingston / Plymouth Old Colony Line of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority 's commuter rail , providing non @-@ peak service to Braintree and as far north as Boston 's South Station . The Plymouth MBTA station is near Cordage Park in North Plymouth , along Route 3A . ( The other terminus is in Kingston and has more frequent train arrivals and departures . Its station is behind the Independence Mall . ) No other railroad lines pass through the town .

= = = Ferry = = =

There is a seasonal ferry to Provincetown and several other excursion lines that offer cruises of Plymouth Bay and Cape Cod Bay . The ferry is operated by Capt. John Boats and offers one round trip daily from June to September . The ferry leaves from the State Wharf in Plymouth Center . In addition to the ferry , Plymouth Harbor offers service for harbor excursions , whale watching tours , and deep sea fishing .

= = = Bus = = =

The Plymouth & Brockton Street Railway Company offers scheduled service to Logan Airport , downtown Boston , Hyannis , and Provincetown . Buses can be boarded at the commuter parking lot at exit 5 off Route 3 , behind the McDonald 's rest stop . The Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority ( GATRA ) operates public transportation buses known as the Plymouth Area Link ( PAL ) throughout much of Plymouth and Kingston .

= = = Air = = =

The town is home to the Plymouth Municipal Airport , which lies on the border between Plymouth and Carver . Founded in 1931 , it offers scheduled service to Nantucket , as well as private service . The airport features a local restaurant and gift shop , but does not have an on @-@ site traffic control tower .

Barnstable Municipal Airport , in Hyannis , offers additional scheduled carrier service . The airport offers scheduled flight services to Nantucket , Martha 's Vineyard , Boston and New York City . It is approximately 30 mi ( 48 km ) from Plymouth .

The nearest national and international airport is Logan International Airport in Boston , roughly 43 mi ( 69 km ) away . T.F. Green Airport , a state airport located in Warwick , Rhode Island , is about 63 mi ( 101 km ) away .

= = Sports = =

Plymouth is the home of the New England Collegiate Baseball League 's Plymouth Pilgrims , who play their home games at Forges Field .

= = Points of interest = =

Promoted as America 's Hometown , Plymouth is a tourist destination noted for its heritage . The town is home to several notable sites .

= = = Plymouth Rock = = =

Plymouth Rock is one of Plymouth 's most famous attractions . Traditionally , the rock is said to be the disembarkation site of the Pilgrims . However , there is no historical evidence to support this belief . The first identification of Plymouth Rock as the actual landing site was made in 1741 by 94 @-@ year @-@ old Thomas Faunce , whose father had arrived in Plymouth in 1623 , three years after the arrival of the Mayflower . The rock is located roughly 650 feet ( 200 m ) from where the initial settlement was thought to be built .

Plymouth Rock became very famous after its identification as the supposed landing site of the Pilgrims , and was subsequently moved to a location in Plymouth Center . During the process , the rock split in two . It was later moved to Pilgrim Hall and then to a location under a granite Victorian Canopy , where it was easily accessible and subject to souvenir hunters . The rock was finally moved back to its original location along the town 's waterfront in 1921 . " Plymouth Rock " , a large boulder , now sits under the historic Plymouth Rock Portico . The Neo @-@ Classical Revival structure was designed by the highly influential architectural firm of McKim , Mead and White , designers of the Boston Public Library , Rhode Island State House and the former Pennsylvania Station in New York City . Built in 1921 the existing granite portico replaced an earlier Gothic Revival style monument designed by Hammatt Billings ( who also designed the National Monument to the Forefathers ) . In 1970 the Plymouth Rock Portico was listed in the National Register of Historic Places . The rock and portico are the centerpiece of Pilgrim Memorial State Park . The park is the smallest park in the Massachusetts state forest and park system , but is also the most heavily visited .

= = = Plimoth Plantation = = =

Plimoth Plantation is a living history museum located south of Plymouth Center . It consists of a re @-@ creation of the Plymouth settlement in 1627 , as well as a replica of a 17th @-@ century Wampanoag homesite . The museum features role playing tour guides , as well as a large crafts center . The Nye Barn , a replica of a 1627 farming homestead in Plymouth , is also part of the museum . The farm features several animals that would have been found in Plymouth Colony , but are very rare in modern times .

The museum opened in 1947 under the guidance of Henry Hornblower II , a wealthy Boston stockbroker who grew up in Plymouth . The museum originally consisted of the Mayflower II and a " First House " exhibit in Plymouth Center , but was expanded into a large fortified town and a Native American village by 1960 .

= = = Mayflower II = = =

The Mayflower II is a full @-@ size replica of the Mayflower , the ship which brought the Pilgrims to Plymouth in 1620 . It is located at the State Pier in Plymouth Center . The ship is open as a museum about the Pilgrims ' historic voyage from Plymouth , England , and is considered a faithful replica of the original Mayflower . It is officially a part of Plimoth Plantation .

The ship was built in Brixham , England in 1956 , and sailed to Plymouth across the Atlantic Ocean in 1957 by famous mariner Alan Villiers . The ship is still seaworthy , and routinely takes voyages around Plymouth Harbor . In the year 2007 , the Mayflower II celebrated the 50th anniversary of its arrival in Plymouth .

= = = Other sites = = =

= = = = Historic interest = = = =

In addition to the Plymouth Rock Memorial , several other monuments were constructed in celebration of Plymouth 's tricentennial . These include statues of Massasoit and William Bradford , and a sarcophagus containing the bones of the 51 Pilgrims who died in the winter of 1620 , which rests atop Cole 's Hill .

Pilgrim Hall Museum , founded in 1824 , is the oldest continually operating museum in the United States . It is located in Plymouth Center . Plymouth also features the National Monument to the Forefathers , which was dedicated in 1889 . Standing at 81 feet ( 25 m ) tall , it is the tallest free @-@ standing solid granite monument in the United States . Other notable historical sites include the Jenney Grist Mill , a working replica of an original mill built in 1636 , as well as the 1640 Richard Sparrow House , the oldest house still standing in Plymouth . At the edge of the town on Route 80 is Parting Ways , a 94 @-@ acre ( 380 @,@ 000 m2 ) site that is notable for containing the remains of four former slaves who fought in the American Revolutionary War and their families . Other historic houses include the Mayflower House Museum .

There are 21 locations in Plymouth that appear on the National Register of Historic Places , including Plymouth Rock , Cole 's Hill , and Pilgrim Hall .

= = = = Parks and recreation = = = =

Myles Standish State Forest , the Commonwealth 's second largest state forest , is located in Plymouth . It is a camping and hiking destination , and contains 16 freshwater lakes and ponds . Ellisville Harbor State Park , located in the extreme southern portion of the town , contains a natural beach inside Cape Cod Bay . Plymouth is also home to 11 public and private golf courses , which include Squirrel Run , Pinehills , Plymouth Country Club , and Southers Marsh , a course that runs through a series of actively maintained cranberry bogs .

= = = = Entertainment = = = =

Plymouth is also home to a vibrant music and arts community , including the Plymouth Center for the Arts , the Driftwood Folk Cafe , and three free summer concert series : The Project Arts Wednesday night series , the L. Knife and Son Thursday night series , and the Plymouth Independent Music Festival .



= = Notable people = =

Chris Alberghini , television producer @-@ writer , born in Plymouth  
Oliver Ames , Jr . , railroad official , former resident of Plymouth  
John Bartlett , publisher of Bartlett 's Familiar Quotations , born in Plymouth  
Amy Lynn Baxter , adult film star and nude model , born in Plymouth  
Jamie P. Chandler , political commentator and author , born in Plymouth  
David Chokachi , actor , born in Plymouth  
Ken Coleman , sportscaster , died in Plymouth  
Nancy Darsch , WNBA Coach , current resident of Plymouth  
Thomas Davee , United States Representative from Maine , born in Plymouth  
Gary DiSarcina , former shortstop for the California Angels and manager of the single @-@ A team  
Lowell Spinners , currently resides in Plymouth .  
Dave Farrell , bassist with Linkin Park , born in Plymouth  
Peter J. Gomes , preacher and theologian at Harvard Divinity School , resident of Plymouth  
Glen Gray , saxophonist , leader of the Casa Loma Orchestra , born in Plymouth  
Dick Gregory , comedian , activist and nutritionist , current resident of Plymouth  
Pee Wee Hunt , trombonist and co @-@ founder of the Casa Loma Orchestra , died in Plymouth  
Frederic Augustus Lucas , Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences museum director , author of  
many scientific papers , born in Plymouth  
Aaron Matson , a United States Representative from New Hampshire , born in Plymouth  
Violet Mersereau , silent film actress , died in Plymouth  
Warren G. Phillips , Inducted into the National Teachers Hall of Fame in 2010 , taught in Plymouth  
Henry Picard , Professional golfer , won The Masters Tournament  
Chris Raab , Member of the CKY crew .  
Beatrice Roberts , film actress  
Michael Sweet , Stryper lead vocalist and lead and rhythm guitars , resident of Plymouth  
James Warren , president of the Massachusetts provincial legislature and prominent colonial @-@  
era politician .

= = Twin and sister cities = =

Since 2001 , Plymouth has shared a twin @-@ city status with : Plymouth , Devon , United  
Kingdom . In addition , since 1990 , Plymouth has shared a sister @-@ city status with  
Shichigahama , Miyagi Prefecture , Japan .