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The Freedom Trail Foundation is bringing the British back to Boston!

The Freedom Trail Foundation will host the Second British Encampment where over 20 companies of 18th century British army re-enactors set up an exact replica of the original camp on Boston Common's Traying Ground during the Siege of Boston in 1776. The Foundation expects over 80 tents to be pitched, housing re-enactors who will sleep overnight during the weekend of August 13, 14 and 15, 2010. While these encampments have taken place in various Massachusetts towns (i.e. Lexington and Concord) **the largest contingent of Red Coats were stationed in Boston.** The campsite will become a **living history site where children and families can participate in the daily life of an 18th century British soldier.** There will be activities and demonstrations scheduled throughout the weekend which will include: drills; cooking; making clothes, shoes and equipment; a surgeon's tent; musket firings; suttler tents (tradespeople who traveled with the army); a skirmish with Colonists; music; dancing; and a chance to meet and greet the re-enactor soldiers. This is a unique opportunity for **interpretive educational activities for children and families**, exactly at the spot where the British held Bostonians in a vice-like blockade from 1775 through 1776.

The Freedom Trail Foundation's first British Encampment in 2008 (they hadn't been here since 1776 !) garnered local and national attention as a unique, inner-city historic event. The weekend event also brought increased visitation to the Freedom Trail and attention to much needed preservation projects – which currently amount to over \$58 million. The audience is desirable high income, well-educated couples and families whose primary reason for visiting Boston is its history and who enjoy doing many things when they travel. More than 25,000 people visited the camp in 2008.

The Freedom Trail is the largest attraction in New England drawing more than three million visitors annually and is a powerful economic engine. It is a national icon, located in the heart of a sophisticated city, and generates nearly \$1 billion in spending in the city and region. The British Encampment brings new energy and attention to this national treasure as well as a modern-day experience that is historically accurate and lots of fun.

About the Freedom Trail Foundation

The Freedom Trail Foundation is a non-profit foundation dedicated to marketing, promoting and preserving the Freedom Trail. The Freedom Trail is a 2.5-mile path that leads to 16 of the country's most significant historical landmarks. The Sites are not adaptations or re-creations, they are real and each one played a pivotal role in America's rebellious beginning – familiar events such as the Boston Tea Party, the Boston Massacre, Paul Revere's role in the first battle, the Battle of Bunker Hill – and the growth of the young nation. Marked by a red brick path or a painted red line, the Trail weaves its way through Boston's proud past in the midst of this vital, modern city.

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