

THE BOWNE HOUSE

37-01 Bowne Street, Flushing, NY 11354

Phone – 718-359-0528

[www.bownehouse.org](http://www.bownehouse.org)

GROUP TOUR RESERVATION FORM

(School tours)

Thank you for planning a visit to the Bowne House. Bowne House, built by John Bowne in 1661 or earlier, is the oldest house in Queens. It is an amalgam of both New World Dutch and English traditions of building, with rare and often unique examples of construction types used by both groups. Continuity of ownership by the Bowne and Parsons families provides an interesting view of changing cultural values and increased prosperity over time. The house was occupied by nine generations of the family, whose offspring have included prominent politicians, businessmen, educators, abolitionists and horticulturalists.

Bowne House is noted for its connection to the principle of religious freedom on America, due to the courageous actions of John Bowne. In 1662, he defied a ban on the imposed by Governor Peter Stuyvesant and permitted Quakers to worship in his home. His arrest and deportation to Holland was followed by his successful plea before the Dutch West India Company. He returned home victorious in 1664, and the principle of freedom of conscience was established in the colony.

Bowne House is a city and state landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a New York State Site of National Significance.

We can accommodate school groups of up to 30; adult groups should range from 8-15.

Complete this reservation form and enclose a deposit check for \$30 payable to the Bowne House Historical Society. The flat fee group fee for tours is \$75. The balance is payable at the time of your visit.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Visit:

Arrival Time:

Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Approximate Number of Children: \_\_\_\_\_

A confirmation will be sent. Dates are subject to availability and you must have a written confirmation of your visit.

Your visit will include:

- . A guided tour of the parlor and, weather permitting, the garden. Tours last about one hour.
- . An introduction to family life in early New York.

The following are a few questions to help prepare your group for your visit to the Bowne House.

1. Why did the Dutch settle in New York City?
2. Why did the English settle in Flushing and in Queens?
3. What did Flushing look like in the 17<sup>th</sup> century, when John Bowne lived there?
4. How did the early settlers build their homes?
5. How did the early settlers heat and light their homes?
6. How did they feed their families?

Please note the following:

#### FACILITIES

- . There are no restroom facilities on site.

#### RULES

- . All tours are guided.
- . No food, candy, or gum may be brought into the museum.

Thank you and we hope you enjoy your visit.

#### GROUP TOURS FOR ADULTS

For adult groups, please complete the above form with your name, the name of the group, contact information, requested date and time, number of visitors, and indicate any special interests you may have.