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August Schell Brewery - New Ulm

MIDWEST'S GROUP TRAVEL MAGAZINE

# ITINERARIES

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summer 2007

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- 4 – 5:00 pm  
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- 6 – 9:00 pm  
**DINNER EVENT FOR GROUP TRAVEL BUYERS**  
 Host: Shakopee CVB

**Tuesday, October 16**

- 8 – 9:00 am  
**SPONSORED BREAKFAST**  
 Special Guest Speaker: Destination Winnipeg Inc.
- 9 – 12:00 pm  
**ITINERARY PLANNING TIME**  
 In-depth face-to-face meetings with suppliers. Time to "seriously" have fun planning itineraries with suppliers.
- 12 – 2:00 pm  
**GREAT NORTH LUNCHEON & THE GRAND PRIZE GIVEAWAY**  
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- 2 – 4:30 pm  
**SHAKOPEE AREA FAM TOUR for buyers**  
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- 4:30 – 5:30 pm  
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**NEW!** Student & Youth Field Trip Planners [teachers, scout leaders (boy & girl), community educators, church youth group leaders, etc.] are invited to the **FREE FIELD TRIPS Expo** on October 15, 2007 from 6-8 pm at Canterbury Park in Shakopee, MN. For more details go to [www.itinerariesminnesota.com](http://www.itinerariesminnesota.com) or call 877-832-7267.

LETTER FROM  
**the publishers**



Dear Reader,

*So what exactly does it mean to tour a winery...and is a brewery all about drinking beer?*

*No, not by a long shot! We like to go and experience the same things that we suggest to you in each feature, so we did just that! Now we'll show you what we've discovered for your groups to go behind the scenes of the wineries and breweries of Minnesota and the upper Midwest. You'll learn about the popularity of modern wineries in the Midwest and its cold hardy variety of grapes and why they are so important to Minnesota. Mix that in with the tasty history of still thriving breweries and the microbreweries of today and you've got yourself a busload of fun!*

*Take your student and youth groups on the Prohibition Tour at the August Shell Brewery where history comes alive for the kids and samples of root beer await at the end!*

*Now is also the time to set your sights on the GREAT NORTH GROUP TRAVEL SHOW for this October 15-16, 2007. We'll be guests of the Shakopee Area CVB, and in addition to meeting many group-friendly exhibitors from the upper Midwest (and even Canada!), you'll have a FAM opportunity to visit some top itinerary spots that will surprise you and help to sell your packages. Get registered today--because reservations are limited!*

*As you know, this magazine is definitely not just for groups in the upper Midwest. We invite travel and trade professionals from all over the U.S. and Canada to visit our region by presenting quality itineraries filled with new and unique ideas that will help fill your motorcoaches time and time again. We invite you--no matter where you're from--to not only create upper Midwest packages for your groups, but also to take some special "FAM-time" by visiting us first! We know of many attractions and venues that are looking for groups, so feel free to call us for insight or advice.*

*Now sit back and enjoy a glass of wine or a cold beer as you read through these new and exciting itineraries, and we'll see you on the road! Cheers!*

**Heather Labren and Mark Peterson**

Co-Publishers, ITINERARIES MINNESOTA Magazine

*Coming Fall 2007*  
**Hand-On-Tours...  
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As you know, the numbers of boomers traveling in groups is growing as more boomers enter the travel market. And they don't just want to sit and watch anymore. They want to get right in there, roll up the sleeves, and participate! For the travel trade professional, this means more opportunities than ever!



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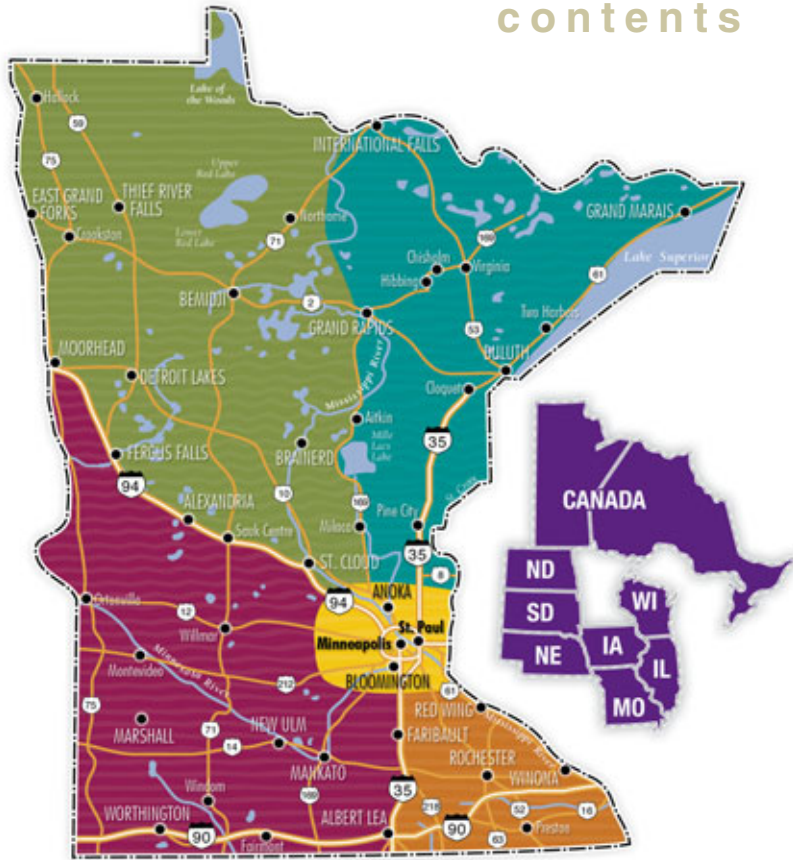
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## MAKING THIS MAGAZINE WORK FOR YOU:

ITINERARIES MINNESOTA Magazine is published specifically for the travel trade professional three times a year: Winter/Spring, Summer, and Fall. Minnesota and the upper Midwest are presented topically and by region, and strive to communicate the rich flavors of our destinations through unique sample itineraries, travel ideas, and fresh editorial. This publication is purposefully designed as a planning tool and resource to assist you with your group travel planning. The sample itineraries suggest destinations, are not intended for sale, and are presented in formats that can be easily customized to your needs. Simply call your tour operator or the direct contact at the end of each itinerary, or fax the Reader Response page to us after indicating which destinations you have an interest in and would like more information on. We suggest that you contact our group-friendly advertisers since they specifically seek your group travel business. Their presence in Itineraries Minnesota underscores the importance of your business for them.



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## on the cover

### cover photos

*Working on the Line...* These two guys never knew they'd be cover models for a nationally acclaimed travel trade magazine. With thanks to the August Schell Brewery in New Ulm, Minnesota for giving us a picture into their colorful history.

*The Main Reasons for upper Midwest Wineries...* The new hardy grapes that flourish even during cold winters are the stars that make your upper Midwest wine tours possible. With heartfelt thanks to Elmer Swenson, developer of the Frontenac gris grape.

## Winning Ways with Wine and Beer

BY KATHLEEN SOMERS



**B**rewery and winery tours seem somehow related to the baby boomer demographic. According to Dr. Rich Harrill, director of the International Tourism Research Institute at the University of South Carolina “You have people who are retiring, people with lots of discretionary time and income, some level of sophistication . . . they’re educated, they’re interested in wine” and I would add, beer. It’s a match made in, well, if not Heaven, then certainly God’s country. So the idea is to make the trip memorable, and maybe show your group a rip-roaring good time to boot! Any ideas? Thought you’d never ask. After having talked to a great number of both breweries and wineries, I’ve compiled a list. Now granted, this is not in anyway meant to be complete, but combined with your own professional expertise and creativity, I’m sure this will get you well on the way to success.

For starters, lets dispel the idea “You’ve seen one brewery you’ve seen them all”. In Minnesota we have three breweries that welcome motorcoach tours. Each is unique. Each offers a tour reflecting it’s individual personality. Wisconsin has more breweries and again, each is unique. The same can be said about wineries. And let’s talk about wineries for a moment. Consider the many skills required of a small winery owner. He/she must keep abreast of technical advances in winemaking and vineyard management, be some sort of super salesman, ace marketer, grassroots politician, and financial wizard. The work can be staggering. So when you bring your group to a small Midwest winery, it’s sort of like being a dinner guest in someone’s home. Treat your host with that level of courtesy. They’ve worked hard, and are literally sharing the fruits of their labors. As Andy Cutter of Duxoup Winery in California tells us “Wineries and their tasting rooms are places to learn about wine people and the wines they produce.” He recommends a slow pace leaving time to learn and relax at each winery.

As a tour operator you’ll want to prepare and research your schedule. Be sure to have a contact person at each stop. A recent trend is toward wineries to employ “educators”, a person whose focus is to improve the wine consumer’s bank of knowledge about wine. Your wine stops may not have this person yet, so it might help to educate your group yourself or through a step on guide.

Often breweries and wineries are not prepared

to accept large groups unless an appointment is made ahead of time. And while you have them on the phone, be sure to ask about parking. If the bus is too big for the driveway, or must park a block away, you will want to know in advance. Also, be sure to ask how long the tour lasts and how long you should plan for your stop. They may tell you the tour is an hour but forget to mention that is before the tasting room. Also inquire about dress. Do you need special shoes? Will you be outside? Will it be loud or slippery where you are going? Are there stairs? Is there a video for those opting out of the tour segment?

It’s a fun idea to plan lunch (boxed or picnic) at the winery/brewery. Call and check to see if the facility can accommodate your group this way. And never bring a competitors wine/beer in for lunch. Along those lines, it’s a good idea to keep the alcohol consumption at a minimum. Some tour operators like to add to the fun by offering additional wine or champagne on the bus. I don’t recommend this if you’re serious about wine as it can interfere with the palate and detract from the actual wine tasting experience.

A basic tenant of this sort of tour is to remind your group that tasting is just that, tasting. Breweries will hope you like what you taste and choose their brand when you are at the liquor store. Wineries will hope you like their product and make a purchase right there. Never feel you must purchase any wine. Buy the wine you like. If you find your groups are never purchasing from a particular winery, perhaps that stop is not a good fit

for your groups.

“Many wineries are able to ship wine, saving you the carting of bottles during your trip” say Andy and Deb Cutter. “As a group, you can pick up case discounts by pooling your orders at each winery. The wine can be shipped to a designated person and a party is guaranteed when the bottles are split up after the return home. Save money and have an extra party to remember your wine tour.” Just be aware that laws dictating shipping vary by state and depend on where the order originates and where it is going.

Wineries put a lot of work into accommodating your groups. They must have the right staff on hand for one thing, and then there are all those glasses to clean. If they’ve said yes to your group it’s because they want to impress you. Do them the courtesy of bringing in groups who are genuinely interested in wine. Mystery tours don’t work well for this type of tour. In fact, the more you can do to educate your group about the stop and the tasting, the happier everyone will be.

And finally, brewery and winery tours work well with other types of stops. You might focus on a region and visit an art gallery, learn food and wine pairing at a cooking class, or make some other stop unique to that particular area. (Wisconsin beer and cheese?) Or perhaps your group would like to simply explore an entire wine trail. Use your imagination to make it educational, unusual, and above all fun. 🍷



## WE Fest

august 3-5, 2008 – Detroit Lakes, MN

WE Fest is the biggest country music and camping festival in the nation, attracting 50,000 fans annually to the scenic Soo Pass Ranch in Detroit Lakes for three days of full production concerts and five nights of camping, or lodging at area hotels. 2008 is the 25th Anniversary of WE Fest, and will feature Toby Keith, Carrie Underwood, Alan Jackson, Keith Urban, Willie Nelson, Trace Adkins, Sheryl Crow, and many more headliners. Situated in the heart of Minnesota's beautiful Lakes Region, the Soo Pass Ranch sits on the shores of Lake Sallie, with meadows and woods surrounding the concert bowl.

For group information, contact Dave Larson at 218-847-1681, or go to [www.wefest.com](http://www.wefest.com).



## FALL HARVEST FESTIVAL

september 15-16, 2007 – Chateau St Croix Winery, St Croix Falls, WI

Chateau St. Croix Winery celebrates fall with their 4th annual Fall Harvest Festival. The winery is in full swing at this time of year. Grapes are coming in from the harvest and being crushed to become award-winning wine. The festival includes live music throughout the weekend, arts and crafts vendors, gourmet food booths as well as a grape stomp, winery tours and complete wine tasting.

For more information on the beautiful St. Croix River Valley and Chateau St. Croix Winery, contact Shannon at 715-483-2556, or go to [www.chateaustcroix.com](http://www.chateaustcroix.com).



## OKTOBERFEST

october 19-21, 2007 – Ruttgers Bay Lake Lodge, Deerwood, MN

Stay in the middle of fun! Ruttger's hosts this annual event each year to celebrate the Ruttger's family German heritage. This year's Oktoberfest will be held October 19th – the 21st. Come join the fun and enjoy lots of great Ruttger food, Schell's Beer, plus over 150 art and craft booths. On the entertainment stages, listen to the sounds of The Concord Singers and the Wendinger Polka Band from New Ulm, and the S.G. Edelweiss Dancers. Ruttger's Oktoberfest is held at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge, five miles south of Deerwood MN in the heart of the Brainerd Lakes Area.

For more information, contact Todd Bymark at 800-450-4545, or go to [www.ruttgers.com](http://www.ruttgers.com).



## 10th ANNUAL FOOD AND FROTH FEST

february 9, 2008 – Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, WI

Wander among the wonderful Museum exhibits while sampling more than 200 types of crafted beer from Midwest and international breweries, including special creations and seasonal beers. Taste savory food creations from more than 30 of Milwaukee's hottest vendors. Take home a commemorative glass. Enter a raffle to win exclusive prizes. This annual one-night Museum fund-raiser welcomes groups, and reservations are strongly recommended. Admission covers food, beer, live entertainment, and one free raffle entry per ticket purchased.

For more information, contact Jason Reehorst at 414-278-6933, or go to [www.mpm.edu](http://www.mpm.edu).



# NEW ULM

## The Nation's Most German City

BY KATHLEEN SOMERS

When you bring a motorcoach to New Ulm you get the red carpet treatment. Literally...they actually roll out a red carpet! They cone off parking for the bus and your group is treated to coffee, apple strudel, and perhaps more importantly, four stalled bathrooms. New Ulm, the most German city in America, knows how to treat groups, starting with some exceptional step on guides. Just as museums need the stories to have meaning, New Ulm needs its history set alive in order to be truly appreciated. These guides know how to do just that in a fun and fascinating way.

And who's being commemorated in all those statues sprinkled throughout town? Why is Herman such a big deal? You know there has to be a story there! The **Hermann Monument** was erected in 1897 and designated in 2000 by the U.S. congress as "an official symbol of all citizens of German heritage." Built to honor Hermann of Cherusci, credited with liberating Germany from Rome in 9 A.D., Hermann the German, as he is affectionately dubbed, towers 102 feet over the city and is second only to the taller copper sheathed Statue of Liberty. But there is so much more to it all and your guide will fill you in. For instance, were there really sixty bullet holes in Hermann's back?

One glance at the **Brown County Historical Society-Museum** with its German Renaissance style and you'll want to know more. Placed on the National Register of Historic Places, the museum is chocked full of stories and history from the "beer, brats and bricks exhibit" to premier exhibits depicting lives of the Dakota Indians and early German settlers. And what about those bricks. You see a lot of them in town. Did you know one of the town's first businesses was a brick yard?

There is a great story about **Turner Hall** (Turnhalle) with its Germanic Rathskeller, European murals and historic displays. Motorcoach visitors are always welcome there as well as at the **John Lind House**. Arrange for your group to have lunch or tea at this elegant example of Victorian architecture and maybe someone in the group can play the 150 year old square grand piano for added entertainment. Now if you're looking for something particularly unusual, I highly recommend a visit to the **Wanda Gag House**. Restored to its early 1900's period, this house, where the author of the classic children's book *Millions of Cats* grew up, has skylights, open turrets and some very unique surprises inside.

City tours typically end at the **Glockenspiel**, one of a few free-standing carillon clock towers to be found in the world. Bells chime the time of day in Westminster style at noon, 3, and 5 p.m. while three animated polka band figures perform on the

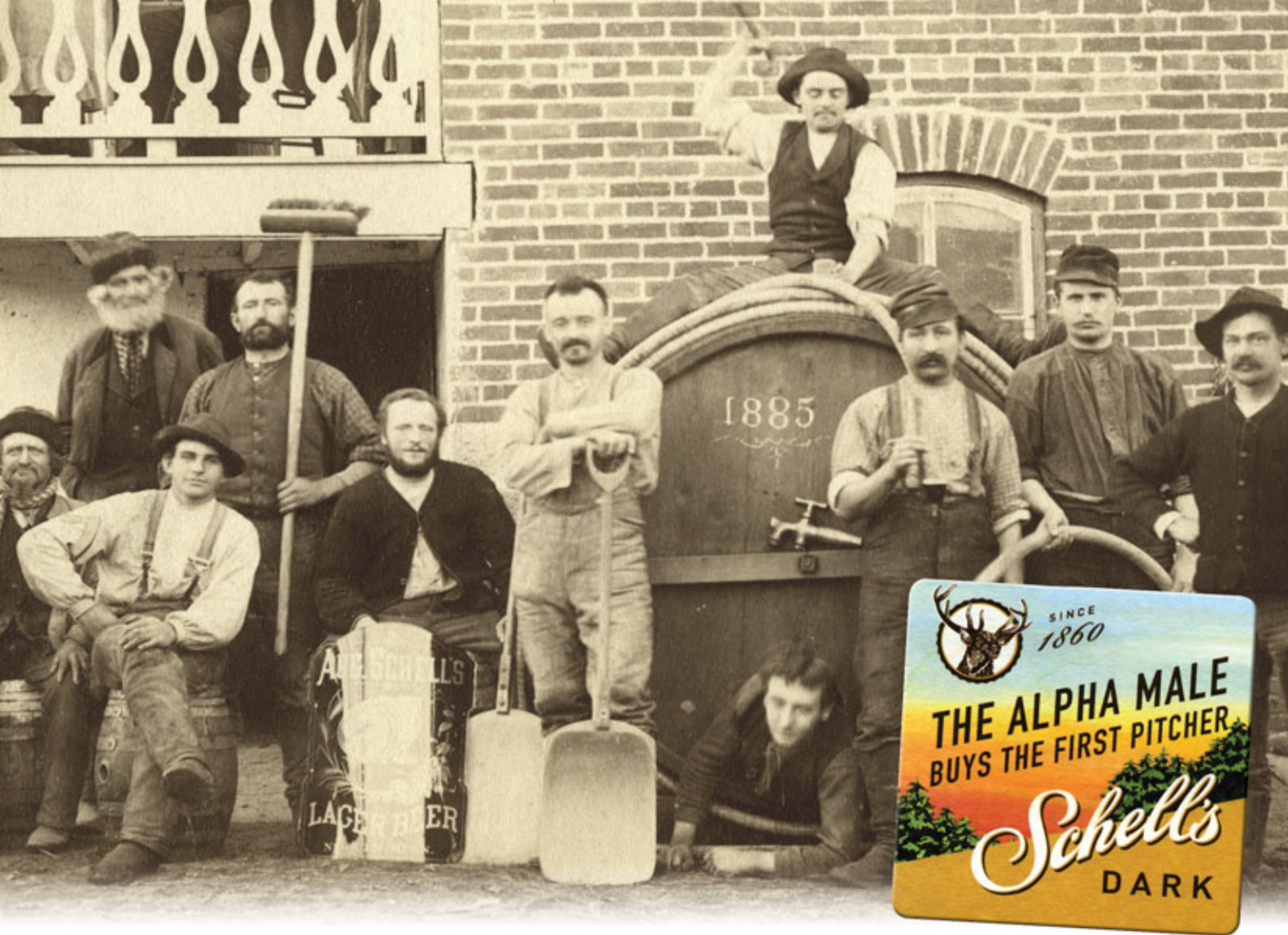
west side of the tower. Simultaneously a stage projects from below those figures to reveal 12 three-foot high animated figurines depicting New Ulm's history and development. Your guide might also arrange for the famous (since 1931) **Concord Singers** to do a 15 minute performance of Festive German Music at the Glockenspiel.

All of this is just the start. There is so much to do in New Ulm, you'll want to bring your groups back again and again. Or better yet, do them a favor and stay overnight... particularly if you come during a festival. A very special attraction is the **August Schell Brewing Co.**, also the city's oldest industry. Celebrating 147 years of brewing tradition, the company unveils its 9000 square foot addition in May of 2007. Keenly blending into the charming Old World design, the new museum structure wraps around the original on three sides resulting in a new gift shop three times the old plus a museum nearly tripled in size. Ted Marti is 5th generation owner making this the second oldest family owned and managed brewery in the United States. August Schell originally built this brewery to bring "real" German beer to the new land. Today the tradition continues as the company produces a line of distinctive beers in a variety of styles unmatched by any other domestic brewery.

Tours can handle groups as large as 40-45 and motorcoaches can always arrange for private tours in advance. Plan a minimum of 1 1/2 hours for your tour. Groups may feel short changed if you try to skimp with less time. That allows for the tour, tasting, and bathrooms, plus a stroll of the grounds with those beautiful peacocks wandering freely. Built in 1885, the exquisite Schell Mansion complete with deer park and formal gardens (40,000 plants), remains on the brewery grounds today and is listed on the National Register of Historic Sites.

Touring the Brewery involves walking and stairs. However, for those not up to steps, an elevator can bypass the brewery and a 7 minute video option allows you to not miss a thing. Tours end in the tap room where groups sample a variety of beers, light to dark. That's the educational part. You get to decide what kinds of beer suit your palate and then enjoy a full glass of that beer, or if you prefer, 1919 root beer (also made by Schell). Be prepared, they do check IDs. There is a new patio off the tap room where you can linger with your drink and enjoy a relaxing view of the Cottonwood River.

The expanded museum is extremely well done. You'll see an original delivery truck and actual beer barrels. They weigh 160 pounds empty and over 300 pounds filled. You'll see examples of rare beer cans, baseball uniforms and remnants



## DRINKING BEER, SIPPING WINE, AND HAVING FUN!

from Schell's Hobo Band. Family photos depicting the history of the brewery and family line the walls telling how Schell managed to survive the Dakota Conflict, prohibition and changes in beer trends. If your market is the youth set, you will be pleased to know they also offer a *Prohibition Tour* where history comes alive for the kids and samples of root beer await at the end. A special treat for the bus driver is the new parking lot offering easy access to it all.

While the August Schell Brewery tour is a must for groups from youth to seniors, you'll want to bring only the adults to **Morgan Creek Vineyards**. Located just outside New Ulm, this is one of the better wineries for group tours. Owners Georg and Paula Marti specialize in the production and growing of German, French, and American style wines, as well as Minnesota cold-hardy varietals. As part of a Green Route, and in conjunction

with *Renewing the Countryside* (a non profit organization dedicated to balancing in sustainable ways, environmental, social, and economic needs of rural communities), the Marti's host an outstanding tour. In fact, they were the first in Minnesota to give a comprehensive wine tour including tasting, education and food. Efforts are made to serve local food and promote local artists. Tours last an hour and include educational wine pouring, extensive background stories, information on wine and food pairing and European style hot appetizers. The Marti's are both musicians so there is always music of some sort at the winery, which, when coupled with the inviting personalities of the staff make for extra fun times. Friday tours are completed in time for *Winedown for the Weekend*, a combination of live music wine and appetizers in the beautiful vineyard setting. With 3 acres of the vineyard designated

organic, watch for Morgan Creek to produce Minnesota's first line of totally organic wines.

And speaking of music, did you know the **Minnesota Music Hall of Fame Museum** is right here in New Ulm? The first Saturday of November is the Inductee Showcase Day and it's free. It also coincides with the **Shopping Opener**, a collection of events designed to appeal to hunting widows. Entering its third year, this popular extravaganza has expanded to two week-ends. For details on this or anything New Ulm has to offer contact the Chamber at [nuchamber@newulmtnet.net](mailto:nuchamber@newulmtnet.net). Maybe it's the German heritage, maybe it's that the community is landlocked between the Minnesota and Cottonwood Rivers, or maybe it's just that everyone is so darn nice. Whatever the reason, you can be sure your visit will reflect the town's special charm and energy leaving your group feeling satisfied with some very happy memories. 🍷

# Minnesota's only *One-Stop Wine Shop*

BY RICK PEARSON

**M**innesota is a sizable state, right up there with the big boys. In fact, it's number 12 in the U.S. by area, encompassing 86,943 square miles, including water. Okay, yes, in Minnesota a lot of those square miles ARE water, but that's not the point.

*The point is*, no matter how many of those miles your tour manages to traverse, and even if you were to visit all 22 or so of Minnesota's wineries from Plummer up north to Lanesboro in the southeast, there is only one place to find the best of Minnesota wine...and nothing but Minnesota wine.



Inside Roseville's "Love From Minnesota" Gift Shop there are some 1,200 square feet called "Wine Time". Therein your group will find the best and most popular wines from some of the state's most renowned wineries. They can sample them, too.

They'll enjoy a **Wine of the Month** available for evaluation, as well as a **Wine of the Week** beginning every Thursday. For groups of 25 or less, full-fledged wine-tasting soirees can be arranged. At the end of winery-oriented tours, another wine tasting might seem like overkill. But if there are wines your tour members would like to try again before making their final "take home" or "ship home" selections, **Wine Time** is the place. (NOTE: The Wine of the Month and Wine of the Week always are 25% off. Wine purchased by guests at a group tasting are 10% off).

This spacious area's walls sparkle with gleaming bottles and the colorful and distinct labels of **ten - top Minnesota vintners**...Alexis Bailly, Carlos Creek, Cannon River, Forestedge, Saint Croix, WinterHaven and the whimsically named **Two Fools**, among them.

Wine Time stocks 8 to 10 wines from each winery, ranging from the decidedly fruity offerings of **WinterHaven** to the delightfully dry whites of **Scenic Valley**. If some in your group have discovered the intriguing taste of wines made with fruit and entirely without grapes, a number of selections from **Forestedge** are on hand.

You'll also find **Honeymeades** (supposedly they relate to the evolution of the word "Honeymoon"), wines from **Minnestalgia**, which began as a crafter of famous jellies and

expanded into winemaking, and interesting **Ice Wines** that can be perfect with dessert.

How good are these Minnesota wines? Barbara Christiansen of Wine Time tells of a highly placed individual from the restaurants of a famous chef whose initials are "W.P.". He said Wine Time amazed him because, "It was exciting to find wines that are every bit as good as imported wines priced at \$1,000 a bottle."

Well, then, considering prices range from \$10 to \$34 a bottle with a typical price around \$12, suddenly Wine Time becomes a great place for bargain hunters, too. Bargain hunters looking for superb wines, that is.

Tasting Minnesota wines never ceases to be a treat. The harsh winters and short growing season make the perennial preservation of grapes difficult. The result is something new and exciting each year almost across the board. While some wine aficionados see this as a negative, local wine lovers are captivated by the new discoveries to be made year in and year out.

Some vintners do preserve their wines from year to year though, and Wine Time stocks these "Old Wines," too. All you need do is ask.

Gift baskets to be carried home or shipped to others are available. Baskets themselves start at \$2. Fill and shrink-wrapping are free. Wine Time annually produces hundreds and hundreds of such gift baskets for Minnesota corporations...meaning they're very, very good at what they do.

As if Wine Time weren't enough reason to stop, there's the **Love From Minnesota** store itself. Wine Time takes up, at best, a quarter of the space. The remainder of the establishment

features just about anything and everything Minnesota on display and for sale. From mementos to wooden furniture, if it speaks of Minnesota your tour members will find it. That makes Love From Minnesota perhaps the best possible final stop for your tour. Anything your group intended to buy, forgot to buy, or didn't know they wanted to buy, fills the endless shelves and aisles.

Yes, there are the famous Minnetonka Moccasins, and recipe books ("The Joy of Rhubarb," for example) and history books and charming figures and vintage signs. There are tee shirts, hoodies and hats, maple syrup, wild rice, remarkable chocolates, woolen blankets and jackets and jerseys... such as actual Minnesota Twins pinstriped home togs. It is, in short, a treasure trove.

So stop. Your tour members will thank you for the fun, and the convenience, of it all.



Love From Minnesota is located in Roseville at 2471 Fairview, which borders the west side of **Rosedale Mall**. Phone 651-697-0162 to arrange your visit and perhaps your wine tasting party. Love From Minnesota is open seven days a week; Wine Time is closed Sundays. There is a Love From Minnesota store at Mall of America, but only the Roseville location features Wine Time. 🍷

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**Austin**  
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**Kasson**  
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**Belle Plaine**  
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# TWO FOR THE

## time for some fun

What's a craft beer? Do you know what a growler is? How about the difference between ale and lager? Or try this; do you know what viticulture is, or varietals? If your answer is "huh?" then you probably haven't taken a group on a wine or brewery tour. And if that's the case, then you are missing out on some great fun. Now we can't have that, so let us look more deeply into the burning question: Why would a tour operator want to take a group on this type of tour? Consistently, the number one answer seems to be "because it's so much fun". Also, it's educational. Plus it's a lot of fun. Besides, you get to drink beer or wine at the end. And did I mention it's a whole lot of fun? Just in case you're not yet convinced, consider it's a really easy tour to sell because, you guessed it, it's so darn much fun. (More about the fun in a moment). Take a stroll through our written tour and you'll see why:

## we will sell no wine (tour) before its time

With the country's interest in beer and wine rising, you are undoubtedly aware of some very popular tours of this type on a national level. Can the upper Midwest compete? You betcha...well, sort of. Okay, so we're not California, Italy or France, but **Minneapolis** does lie at the same latitude (45 degrees north) as the Bordeaux wine region in France. That might explain why grapes have grown wild in **Minnesota** for over a hundred years. Still, the northern

Midwest lacks ideal conditions for cultivating grapes. The challenge has always been to find the hardy grape varieties that can be harvested early and survive the harsh winter climate. Enter **Elmer Swenson** (1913-2004), generally acknowledged as the *Godfather of the Midwest's wine industry*. Toiling on his dairy farm in **Wisconsin**, Swenson painstakingly created a cold hearty grape by crossing flavorful French varietals with grapes native to his own area. Today, his work, combined with that of the **University of Minnesota** has made the current push in new regional wineries possible. The shortened growing season and cold temperatures make the grapes sweeter and the wine more acidic. Vintners typically combine these grapes with fruit or imported grapes, mindful that MN law requires a minimum of 51% MN grown grapes to comprise a MN wine. The results have been attracting attention and awards. When you bring a group to any of these "boutique" wineries, you'll find opportunities to experience first hand where these wines were born. You can tour the winery, see the vineyard or maybe even meet the vintner and pick a few grapes. In addition there are tastings, stories, and offerings unique to each stop.

Midwest vintners are a dedicated group who bring passion and love to their work, qualities that spill over into both their product and their tours. They love making wine and welcome tours as a way of sharing what they love. Keep in mind that tasting is a necessary

component of marketing for both wine and beer. There's little chance you or anyone else would choose to purchase these beverages if not for the opportunity to sample. Combine tasting with a great tour experience and presumably a good product and you have a winning combination all around. Throw in a bit of history, a good view or some remarkable architecture and don't forget the opportunity for souvenirs. You might just have the perfect outing.

## first time experience

Two seemingly opposite facts combine to make brewery and winery tours a very attractive strategy for filling those motorcoaches. Americans now officially drink more wine than beer per capita, and craftbrewing is the fastest growing segment of the alcohol industry. Add these facts with the knowledge that, for many people, this is a first time experience, and you are sure to have a winning combination. Tours in the upper Midwest are typically not your big-room-to-big-room type of tour. Here you will find the welcoming attention that only a family setting can offer. Yet each brewery/wine stop reflects a unique personality making no two visits ever the same.

## it's educational

Brewing has a long and often interesting history in the upper Midwest. Many breweries were started back in the mid 1800's by German immigrants longing for the taste of beer like they enjoyed in Europe. The hardships of starting a

# ROAD

BY STEVEN J. KLINE

brewery in a new country must have paled against the challenges of Indian attacks, Civil War, and prohibition. Today there are no national breweries in Minnesota; however there is **Miller** in **Milwaukee, WI** and **Anheuser Bush** in **St. Louis, MO**. It works like this: There are 16 gallons to a keg, and a keg is considered a half-barrel. A regional brewery produces up to a million barrels per year, a microbrewery up to 15,000 barrels, and a brew -pub will be less than that and include a restaurant. The term craft brewing refers to a hand-crafted beer, generally all malt with no corn or rice. Like the wineries, breweries want to offer tours as a way of getting groups to taste their beer. Some, like **Schells** in **New Ulm**, will go to great lengths to educate individuals about the beer they taste in hopes consumers will look for it in restaurants and liquor stores. Tod Fyten, co-publisher of the *Brewers Digest* and owner of the area's smallest brewery (**Mantorville Brewing Co.**) was instrumental in getting state law changed to allow the sale of growlers. Growlers are refillable half-gallon glass containers used to sell beer at the smaller breweries. Groups often find it fun to purchase growlers and enjoy the taste as well as the memory of the trip later.

Brewery tours are every bit as individualized as the winery tours. You may find there is a museum

associated with the brewery, offering rich tales of history and fascinating antiques. You might learn that light beer originated as a beer for diabetics, or that ale is top fermenting and lager is bottom fermenting with ale being the fruitier. There may be a special view, a gift shop, or as in the case of **LaCrosse**; the worlds largest six-pack. Whatever you find, it will be great, because your group will be seeing something very few people get to see.

## blaze new trails make new friends

Tours of this type lend themselves very well to combining other stops. You might include a wine or brewery tour with a stop at a special restaurant, or a visit to the fall colors. You could easily include historic homes, live theater or a garden tour. Most tours last an hour from start to finish, but some are shorter and some longer. As always, check with the winery or brewery when planning. And to make it all just a little easier, there are now viticulture areas, where the climate works for growing grapes, teaming together to form a trail. The most recent such trail, new in Summer 2007, is called the **Minnesota River Wine, Beer, and History Trail**. Tagged **Sips of History**, this trail includes wineries, breweries, and historic homes all along the **Minnesota River**. **Three Rivers Wine Trail**, of Minnesota,

combines 6 wineries and one grape juice plant and vineyard. Look for other trails such as Iowa's **Iowa Wine Trail** to help brand areas as wine regions. Then go have some fun. Make some new friends. After all, vintners and brew masters already know they are in the business of making friends. They know that whatever you are doing, a glass of wine or mug of beer will make it all taste better. *Cheers!* 🍷



# Wineries with a Beer Chaser

## A Five-Day Sample Itinerary for Group Tours



Minnesota's largest vineyard plus an apple orchard with 8,000 trees. Your tour will include information about "Alexandria Lakes Area Viticulture Area", Minnesota's first federally recognized wine region. Visit the wine cave then sample fine award winning wines. Feel free to stroll the



grounds and check out the largest permanent maze in the US made from Siberian Elms.

1 – 2:15 pm

Your journey continues down I-94 E and Hwy 23 W to **Cold Spring, MN**.

2:15 – 4pm

Tour Minnesota's largest brewery; **Gluek's Brewery**, (pronounced Glick, rhymes with click) celebrating their 150th Anniversary this summer! The Gluek water source is world famous for its purity, resulting in a beer of extraordinary taste. Did you know Gluek was a beer before



Minnesota was a state? And here's another one; Gluek is also the largest bottler of energy drinks. Tours are free but no new tours are being scheduled this summer due to expansion. Tours end in the tasting room where you can purchase souvenirs.

4 – 7:00 pm

Take the short ride back to **St Cloud** and relax with a delicious dinner at the **Granite City Food and Brewery** with their made-from-scratch menu, complemented by hand-crafted beers. A particular favorite is their Grilled London Broil with Bourbon Sauce! Try their sampler tray of micro beers so you can better choose which one is your favorite! Ask your tour operator what "Fermentus Interruptus" means. It's unique to Granite City Food and Brewery.

7:00 pm

The evening is yours to further explore St. Cloud or retire for the evening in one of their group-friendly hotels.

### DAY TWO

7 – 8:00 am

Rise and shine to a tasty continental breakfast.

8 – 9:30 am

Board your coach and head over to **Scheels Sports Store**

in **Crossroads Mall**. Minnesota's largest all Sports Store! (It has its own two-story tree!) Two floors of ever-y-thing for sports and outdoor sports enthusiasts, plus home décor and beautiful prints by famous artists.

9:30 – 11:00 am

Travel to the **Twin Cities** along I-94. You are in for a treat for lunch at **Kieran's Irish Pub** in downtown **Minneapolis**.

11- 1:30 pm

Worked up an appetite yet? You can choose from authentic Irish Corned Beef and Cabbage to Bangers and Mash...or anything in between! Add a hot cup of famous Irish Coffee or locally brewed Finnegan's Irish Amber made from potatoes. Reserve the **Titanic Lounge** for your group, with its full service bar, hardwood floors, and murals done by a local artist.

1:30 – 3:30 pm

Next stop is in **Saint Paul** at **Summit Brewing Company**, founded in 1986. See Minnesota's 1st new brewery in over 100 years and the process used to bring their beer to perfection. Listen in as they tell you about the authentic brewhouse that had to be shipped directly from Germany. Three free sample beers await at tour completion.

3:30 – 4:00 pm

Hop(s) back on board and travel to **Stillwater** enjoying beautiful scenery along the way.

4 – 5:30 pm

Be sure to pre-arrange a late day visit to the local downtown wine co-operative. **Northern Vineyards Winery** offers wine tasting at their retail store, tours of the wine cellar and the process of producing their wines. Sample the award-winning St. Croix and Prairie Rose while relaxing on the deck overlooking the scenic **St. Croix River** and the historic lift bridge.

5:30 –10:00 pm

Options for dinner include the **Minnesota Zephyr Train** for an evening dinner excursion. Enjoy a delicious, elegant five-course dinner while being entertained by **The Zephyr Cabaret**. Or there's the historic **Lowell Inn**, known for the four-course fondue dinner with wine in the **Matterhorn Room**, or classic continental cuisine in the elegantly old-fashioned **George Washington Room**.

10:00 pm

Retire after a long day to a quiet room at the **AmericInn**.

### DAY THREE

8 – 9:00 am

Good Morning Stillwater! Grab a quick breakfast at your hotel before check out.

9 - 10:30 am

Do a little antiquing around town. Over 250 dealers display their antiques in downtown Stillwater shops, and they welcome groups of treasure seekers.

10:30 am - 12:30 pm

The bus is waiting to take you just west of downtown, to the **St. Croix Vineyards**, a working vineyard, in a charmingly rustic setting. Stroll the picturesque vineyards then sample their famous Raspberry Infusion, which the Star Tribune called "...a decadent dessert wine that

### Calling ahead...

- 1- **Carlos Creek Winery**  
www.carloscreekwinery.com ... 320-846-5443
- 2- **St Cloud CVB**  
www.granitecountry.com. .... 800-264-2940
- 3- **Meet Minneapolis**  
www.minneapolis.org ..... 800-620-1958
- 4- **Saint Paul CVB**  
www.stpaulcvb.org ..... 800-627-6101
- 5- **Greater Stillwater Chamber of Commerce**  
www.ilovestillwater.com ..... 651-439-4001
- 6- **Hastings Area Chamber of Commerce**  
www.hastingsmn.org ..... 888-612-6122
- 7- **Red Wing VCB**  
www.redwing.org ..... 800-498-3444
- 8- **Cannon Falls Chamber of Commerce**  
www.cannonfalls.org. .... 507-263-2289
- 9- **New Ulm Chamber of Commerce**  
www.newulm.com. .... 888-463-9856
- 10- **Fieldstone Vineyards Winery – Morgan, MN**  
www.fieldstonevineyards.com ... 507-249-WINE

### DAY ONE

11 – 1:00 pm

Arrive in **Alexandria** at **The Carlos Creek Winery**,





begs to be served with chocolate".

12:30 – 2:00 pm

Grab lunch along the way to **Hastings**.

2 – 3:30 pm

Arrive at the **Alexis Bailly Vineyard**, Minnesota's oldest winery. Sample the elegant dry table wines, which have earned national acclaim. Be sure to ask about its founder and his dream and motto of "Where the grapes can suffer". Note: Be sure to call ahead so they are better able to accommodate your group.

3:30 – 5:00 pm

Take the short jaunt to **Red Wing** where the first stop will be the **Historic Depot in Levee Park**, home to the **Red Wing Visitor Center**. You will be joined by a knowledgeable step-on guide for a narrated tour of Red Wing, taking you past Victorian homes; historic buildings and landmarks, spectacular bluff top vistas and beautiful riverside parks. (Note: Red Wing is celebrating its sesquicentennial in 2007)

5 – 7:00 pm

Arrange a late afternoon tour with **Falconer Vineyards** in



Red Wing, one of Minnesota's newer vineyards. Enjoy wine tasting, a winery tour, or a walk through the vineyard. (Must arrange in advance for weekday / late day tours)

7 – 9:00 pm

The motorcoach will take you to one of Red Wing's group friendly hotels to freshen up then head out for a relaxing dinner at the historic **St James Hotel's Port Restaurant**. Featuring smart-casual dining with an outstanding wine collection. (Awarded Wine Spectators Award of Excellence)

#### DAY FOUR

7 – 8:00 am

Check out and bid farewell to Red Wing. Gaze out your window at the over 350 flower baskets adorning downtown Red Wing.

8 – 10:30 am

Travel west on MN Hwy 61, and tucked into the landscape of wooded hills, meandering rivers and farms, you'll find the **Cannon River Winery**. They offer wine tastings as well as guided tours of the winery and walking tours of their scenic vineyard in the beautiful **Sogn Valley**, just a

couple miles away. You can also purchase wines or one-of-a-kind gifts by Minnesota artists in their gift shop.

10:30 am – 1:00 pm

Head southwest and continue the winery journey to **New Ulm**. (There's beer there too!)

1 – 2:00 pm

Lunch in New Ulm has many opportunities for spending time over a cup of coffee, a hearty meal or a great pizza.

2 – 4:30 pm

Schedule a tour at **Morgan Creek Vineyard and Winery**, specializing in German, French, and American style wines. Minnesota's only underground winery offering European-style hospitality, and traditional woodfire wine appetizers. The underground earth shelter provides perfect cellar temperature for wine production, and creates an inviting atmosphere for tasting room and gift shop visitors. Seasonal events celebrate the joy of living and the art of fine winemaking; check their calendar of events!

4:30 – 6:00 pm

Head back into New Ulm and check into the **Holiday Inn** and freshen up before dinner.

6 – 9:00 pm

Dinner will be a special treat at the **Kaiserhoff German Restaurant**, New Ulm's oldest and most venerable dining establishment. They are famous for their delicious ribs! Schmecht gut! (Tastes good!) Sample a German beer!

#### DAY FIVE

9 – 10:00 am

Enjoy a fabulous breakfast at **Otto's Feierhaus & Bierstube**, a distinctive, German-themed restaurant.

10 – 12:00 pm

No visit to New Ulm is complete without a tour of the

**Schell's Brewery**. Located along the banks of the **Cottonwood River**, discover a magical place with roaming peacocks, deer, gnomes, and barrel after barrel of the finest beers. Touring the second oldest family owned brewery in the U.S., you'll learn of the family's history, details of the brewing process, and the brewery itself, then end with a tasting in the **Tap Room**. Be sure to go by Center Street and see the statue of **Hermann the German**. There since 1897, **Hermann** is modeled after a similar monument near Detmold, Germany. (See profile article on page 8 for more information)

12 – 1:30 pm

Grab a little lunch at **Ulmers**, a group friendly café serving German and American style food before leaving town.

1:30 – 2:15 pm

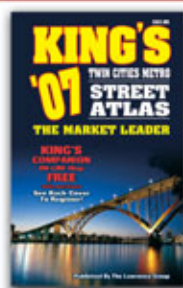
Relax on your motorcoach as it glides along MN Hwy 68 W to **Morgan, MN**.

2:15 – 4:15 pm

Just off the highway, pull into the yard of a **Century Farm** site that has been lived on for over 100 years by the same family. Now called **Fieldstone Vineyards**. Enter the circa 1930's style barn that was renovated to be used as their winery and tour the vineyard. Their wines are all handled berry to bottle right there. Be sure to take a bottle of your favorite wine home with you! 🍷

Thank you for bringing your groups to our region. This sample itinerary contains just a few of many itinerary ideas you can use to customize a tour package for groups. Form more information and assistance contact your tour operator, our advertisers or local CVB's throughout the region.

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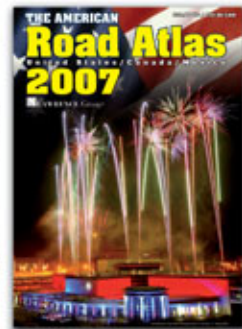


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# River Bluffs & Rolling Hills southeastern minnesota

## se mn cities

AUSTIN, CANNON FALLS, FARIBAULT, HARMONY, HASTINGS, KELLOGG, LAKE CITY, LANESBORO, MANTORVILLE, NORTHFIELD, OWATONNA, PLAINVIEW, PRESTON, RED WING, ROCHESTER, WABASHA, WELCH, WINONA

## calendar of events

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

### september

- 5-9 **Defeat of Jesse James Days**, Northfield 507-645-5604
- 6-8 **Watermelon Fest**, Wabasha 800-565-4158
- 8 **Celebration MN Children's Author's and Illustrators**, Red Wing 651-388-2009
- 8-9 **Fort Belmont Rendezvous Days**, Jackson 507-847-3867
- 14-15 **Winona Heritage Fair**, Winona 507-454-2723
- 14-16 **Faribault Area Balloon Rally and Airstef**, Faribault 800-658-2354
- 13-16 **La Crescent Apple Festival**, La Crescent 507-895-2800
- 15-16 **Tree Frog Music Festival**, Faribault 507-334-4381
- 22-23 **Zumbro Bend Rend**, Mantorville 507-634-7092

### october

- 6 **Harvest Day**, Preston 507-765-2785
- 6-7 **Johnny Appleseed Days Festival**, Lake City 651-345-4123
- 15-Nov 18 **Tundra Swan Watch**, Winona 888-291-5719

### november

- 16-19 **Home for the Holidays with the Hornels**, Austin 507-433-4243
- 17-Dec 23 **"Inspecting Carol"**, Lanesboro 507-467-2525
- 23-24 **Old World Christmas**, Winona 507-452-0735
- 30-Dec 1 **Christmas in the Village**, Owatonna 507-451-1420

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IS RIGHT FOR YOU.**



Falconer Vineyards Winery - Red Wing, MN

## Falconer Vineyards Red Wing, Minnesota

Falconer Vineyards offers something for all palates and pleasures and is the ideal place to take any group. From wine tasting to calming vineyard walks, there is a lot to do at this charming winery. These wines are based on hybrid grape varieties made to withstand harsh weather. Just like Minnesotans, these grapes earn plenty of character after each infamous winter. Individual harvests are made from Minnesota grapes picked and crushed by volunteers looking for a unique hands-on experience. Guests can bring a picnic lunch and sit overlooking the bluffs, or enjoy the Music in the Vines Concert series that features local and nationally touring artists.



## other wineries & breweries in southeast minnesota



### Mantorville Brewing Mantorville

A quaint brewery fondly dubbed the state's smallest, produces Stagecoach Amber Ale near Rochester. Offering a taste of days gone by in an old-time setting, the brewery also makes an excellent root beer.



Mantorville Brewery

### Cannon River Winery Cannon Falls

Tucked between the wooded hills and meandering rivers of Minnesota lies the perfect spot for a day trip. Not only will you find great Minnesota wines such as red, white, blush, fruit and honey, they also feature one-of-kind wine related gifts and artwork from local artists.

### Scenic Valley Winery Lanesboro

Established in 1984, this winery invites you to come sample a few wines in what was once the old town creamery. The private label wines are made from the finest local berries, fruits and vegetables. They feature red, white, dessert, rhubarb, and cooking wines.



## Historic Mantorville

This itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. You'll find it at coordinates K-18 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map, distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

**Mantorville**, a Nationally Registered Historic Place, is located halfway between Rochester & Owatonna.

### 11:30 – 12:30 pm

Start your tour with lunch at the **Hubbell House**. Enjoy fine dining amidst decor and antiques of the Stagecoach era. A special Tour Banquet Menu is available for your group to order from.

### 12:30 – 2:00 pm

Take a guided tour of the **Mantorville Brewing Company**. See the historic brewers log cabin from the original **Mantorville Brewery** dating back to 1858. End the tour with a sample of their famous **Stagecoach Ale**.

### 2 – 2:45 pm

Tour the **Restoration Home**. Restored and furnished by the Mantorville Restoration Association, this 1856 is filled with hundreds of interesting and unusual items. A well-versed hostess is on duty to interpret the artifacts and

furnishings as they relate to the area's history.

### 2:45 – 4:00 pm

Enjoy the antique shops and unique gift shops where you can find home accents, antiques, and much more! Make sure you stop at **The Chocolate Shoppe**, "The Sweetest place in town", for homemade caramel and toffee or an ice cream cone. Yummy!

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please call your tour operator or the Mantorville Chamber, 507-635-5464.



*Falconer Vineyards Winery*

*A special place to relax, taste wine, and tour the winery among the river bluffs of Red Wing.*

Our International award-winning wines will provide you with a taste of Minnesota's new wine region.

Group Contact: Ann or Erica  
3572 Old Tyler Road | Red Wing, MN  
651-388-8849 | potterj@redwing.net  
[www.FalconerVineyards.com](http://www.FalconerVineyards.com)

# Historic Mantorville

*The perfect small town for tours!!*



### Festivals & Events

- Old Tyme Days
- Swissfest
- Marigold Days
- Old Fashioned Christmas
- Rendezvous

### Shopping & Antiquing

- Riverside Gifts
- Chocolate Shoppe
- Mantorville Square
- Memorabilia Antiques
- Friends and Co.

### Theater & Dining

- **Hubbell House** - Superb Cuisine since 1854. Tours Welcome. For Reservations call 507-635-2331. [www.hubbellhouserestaurant.com](http://www.hubbellhouserestaurant.com)
- Opera House



### Museums & Historic Sites

- Restoration House
- Log House
- Carriage House
- Dodge County Historical Museum



### Arts & Crafts

- Mantorville Art Guild



### Mantorville Brewing Co.

Guided Tours and Tasting: Contact Tod Fyten  
[tod@mantorvillebeer.com](mailto:tod@mantorvillebeer.com) or 651-387-0708



One hour south of the Twin Cities. *Tour planning and guide available.*

**Mantorville, MN**

**507-635-5464 or 1-866-313-8687**  
**[www.MantorvilleTourism.com](http://www.MantorvilleTourism.com)**



## Exciting Endeavors in Austin

This itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. You'll find it at coordinates J-19 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

This sample itinerary highlights some of Austin's finest attractions. We're ready to roll out the red carpet and welcome your group to **SPAM Town USA!**

### DAY ONE

**10 – 11:30 am**

The tour starts at the **Historic Hormel home** with a cinnamon roll and a cup of coffee. The historic home of **George A. Hormel** embodies the unique history of the **Hormel Company** as well as the man who founded it.

**11:30 – 12:30 pm**

The next stop is at the home of **Jay C. Hormel**, otherwise known as the **Gerard Mansion**. Jay's home is a 97-room chateau, built in 1925.

**12:30 – 1:45 pm**

Lunch at the **Brick House Coffee House** is the perfect way to entertain your group. The café offers a wide variety of entrees including fondue and pasta.

**1:45 – 2:30 pm**

Head to the **Hormel Institute**, one of the nations leading organizations in cancer research, and learn about the dedication the organization has towards the prevention

and treatment of cancer.

**2:30 – 4:00 pm**

Learn all about the rich history and current marvels of **Austin** on your tour of the city. Everyone receives a **"Welcome Bag"** that includes a **SPAM cookbook!**

**4 – 6:00 pm**

Check into one of our lodging facilities that know just how to treat your group.

**6 – 7:30 pm**

Get ready for the show! It's not just dinner tonight...it's a murder mystery dinner, **"Murder on the Grille, Pasta, Passion and Pistols."** This show will have your guests talking for years to come.

**7:30 – 9:00 pm**

Sit back and relax after dinner with a reserve wine tasting by **Apollo Liquor**. This unique encounter features 50 reserve wines complimented by specialty appetizers to enhance your wine tasting experience.

### DAY TWO

**9 – 11:00 am**

Your second day begins with a trip to **Eclectic Candles**. Learn how soy candles and glycerin soap is made. Then it's your turn!

**11 – 12:30 pm**

No trip to **Austin** is complete without a stop at the world famous **SPAM Museum**. Featuring sophisticated

exhibits and displays of the famous company. Your stop at the museum will be educational, interactive and lots of FUN!

**12:30 pm**

Before heading out of town, be sure to stop and have a quick bite at **Jerry's Other Place**, where **SPAM burgers** are always on the menu.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary please contact your tour operator or the Austin CVB, 800-444-5713.



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# Austin

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## Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau

104 11th Avenue NW, Suite D - Austin, Minnesota 55912

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Three free-spirited towns. One picture-perfect plan.

This itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. You'll find Owatonna J-18, Faribault J-17 and Northfield J-17 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

**DAY ONE**

**9 – 11:00 am**

Begin with a tour of one of **Owatonna's** numerous attractions: **Cabela's**, **State School Orphanage Museum**, **Village of Yesteryear** or **Owatonna Arts Center**.

**11:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Stroll Owatonna's downtown and enjoy historic architecture, or walk the trails and enjoy the beautiful park areas.

**12 – 1:00 pm**

Enjoy a picture-perfect picnic lunch at **Rice Lake State Park** before traveling north on I-35 to **Faribault**.

**1 – 2:30 pm**

Gather up some interesting tidbits of information about the area while touring the **Rice County Museum**. Be sure to plan time to stop in the research center and gift shop.

**2:30 – 3:30 pm**

Tour the **Faribault Woolen Mills Factory** and plan to shop a while in their retail store. During the tour you

will learn about the quality and traditions the factory still adheres to in making each of their famous wool blankets.

**3:30 – 4:30 pm**

Enjoy the autumn colors while taking the **Guided Historic Site Tour**.

**4:30 – 6:00 pm**

Travel to **Northfield**, check into one of Northfield's cozy lodging facilities and freshen up for dinner.

**6 – 7:30 pm**

Order a scrumptious dinner from the eclectic Indian, Greek, Mexican, Chinese or American restaurant options.

**7:30 – 9:30 pm**

Paint the town red with good seats to a concert or theatrical performance, or take advantage of the many pubs and restaurants that provide live music into the evening hours.

**DAY TWO**

**9 – 10:00 am**

Begin your morning with a hearty breakfast.

**10 – 11:30 am**

Stroll along the scenic **Cannon River** and take in the incredible view of the river and falls in the downtown historic district. You'll wonder at the charming, historic buildings that have been imaginatively adapted for today's businesses.

**11:30 am – 12:30 pm**

Stretch out and relax for lunch — several restaurants offer patio and deck dining with the perfect breeze and great views.

**12:30 – 1:30 pm**

Visit the **Northfield Historical Society Museum**, and the restored bank site that the James-Younger gang attempted to rob, or take the **Outlaw Trail** and **Historic Sites Tour**.

**1:30 – 2:30 pm**

Shop Northfield's fabulous stores and art galleries for that one of kind bargain and experience.

Three communities have come together to work with your tour groups. We can develop a customized two- or three-day itinerary based on the interests of your group. Contact:

Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism, 800-423-6466, [www.owatonna.org](http://www.owatonna.org)  
 Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism, 800-658-2354, [www.faribaultmn.org](http://www.faribaultmn.org)  
 Northfield Area Chamber of Commerce, CVB Division, 800-658-2548, [www.visitingnorthfield.com](http://www.visitingnorthfield.com)



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 800-658-2548 | [visitingnorthfield.com](http://visitingnorthfield.com)

Faribault Area Chamber/Tourism  
 800-658-2354 | [faribaultmn.org](http://faribaultmn.org)

Owatonna Area Chamber/Tourism  
 800-423-6466 | [Owatonna.org](http://Owatonna.org)



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### Whoa, that's good!

When you're out on the trail with a wagon or motorcoach full of hungry travelers, you need fast, you need good, and you need to know who will greet your group with a pleasant smile and the kind of attention to detail that you yourself put into arranging your trips. For just those reasons tour operators are rapidly acquainting themselves with the excellent hospitality of the *Midwest's number one pizza restaurant*. . . Pizza Ranch.

We're not talking your same old run of the mill pizza place here. No sir-ee Bob! We're talk'n local owners, often husband and wife teams, who strive to offer quality food and superb service at a fair price. And you know...they're doing it! Plus, they're doing it in a way that leaves guests happy and satisfied. It's fast casual with the added bonus of healthy choices. The company recently began using Asoyia's Utra low Lin Soybean oil for healthier eating options while retaining the same great taste.

### It's not just pizza y' know.

What makes Pizza Ranch unique is the host of dining options. Guests can order from the menu always, plus during certain hours, the mile long buffet is available. Handy when you have a schedule to keep. There's broasted chicken with all the usual fix'ns, like mashed potatoes, gravy, and a nice hot vegetable. There is a yummy salad bar, and a drink fountain, and of course, pizza. The assortment may boggle your mind. Be sure to save room for dessert. Pizza Ranch® owners pride themselves in being the best value on the plains. And so they are. . .raising the bar on quality and becoming more innovative in 8 Midwest states. It all started with one store in Hull, Iowa. Now Pizza Ranch is the largest regional pizza chain in Iowa, Minnesota and the Dakotas, but gaining strength in Wisconsin, Nebraska and Michigan.

Recently a group out of North Dakota found a morning stop at the Pizza Ranch in Luverne, MN to be a perfect addition to their Mystery Tour. Coffee and desert pizza was arranged for a 9:30 stop. Come see for yourself. For more information check out our ad on the inside cover.

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# directory

## ACCOMMODATIONS

- AmericInn Lodge & Suites Faribault ..... **507-334-9464**  
 AmericInn Lodge & Suites of Caledonia Caledonia ..... **866-465-5026**
- ▶ **AmericInn Lodge & Suites of Wabasha** ..... **651-565-5366**  
 150 Commerce Drive - Wabasha, MN 55981 / americinnw@lakes.com / www.americinn.com  
 64 rooms- beautifully decorated theme suites with fireplaces and whirlpools. Welcoming lobby with fireplace and cozy conversation areas. Free enhanced continental breakfast. Enjoy our spacious recreation area with pool, whirlpool and sauna. Rooms starting at \$65 plus tax.
- AmericInn Motel & Suites Austin ..... **507-437-7337**  
 AmericInn of Kasson Kasson ..... **507-634-3444**  
 AmericInn of Owatonna Owatonna ..... **507-455-1142**

- ▶ **St. James Hotel** ..... **651-385-5541**  
 406 Main Street - Red Wing, MN 55066 / www.st-james-hotel.com  
 Experience the charm of historic Red Wing with the classic elegance of the St. James Hotel. Choose from 61 enchanting Victorian guestrooms, each named after a 19th century riverboat, & four distinct dining options.

## ATTRACTIONS

- ▶ **Falconer Vineyards** ..... **651-388-8849**  
 3572 Old Tyler Rd - Red Wing, MN 55066  
 From wine tastings to strolling the vineyard, there's a lot to do. Visit in the fall and see the harvest fruit picked and crushed by volunteers. Bring a picnic lunch and sit overlooking the bluffs, or enjoy the Music in the Vines Concert series, featuring local and national touring artists.

- Historic Forestville Preston ..... **507-765-2785**

- ▶ **Mantorville Brewing Company, LLC** ..... **651-387-0708**  
 105 East 5th Street - Mantorville, MN 55955 / tod@mantorvillebeer.com / www.mantorvillebeer.com  
 Guests will tour the historic brewers log cabin from the original Mantorville Brewery of 1858. Then stroll over to the current Mantorville Brewery and receive both a guided tour and a sample of their famous Stagecoach Ale. Call ahead for tours. Prost from Brew Master Tod Fyten.

- Orphanage Museum Owatonna ..... **800-423-6466**  
 Village of Yesteryear Owatonna ..... **507-451-1420**  
 Watkins Museum & Store Winona ..... **507-457-6095**  
 Winona County Historical Society Winona ..... **507-454-2723**

## CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAUS AND CHAMBERS

- ▶ **Austin CVB** ..... **507-437-4563**  
 104 11th Avenue NW Suite D - Austin, MN 55912 ..... **800-444-5713**  
 visitor@austinmn.com / www.spamtownusa.com  
 SPAM Town, USA. Southern Minnesota Tourism at its best! Home of Fortune 500 Company Hormel Food Corporation. Tourists will be delighted with the new SPAM Museum, Historic Hormel Home, Paramount Theatre, and other exciting attractions.

- ▶ **Faribault Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau** ..... **507-334-4381**  
 530 Wilson Avenue - Faribault, MN 55021 ..... **800-658-2354**  
 chamber@faribaultmn.org / www.visitfaribault.com  
 Faribault is located south of the Twin Cities along the Cannon River Valley corridor only 25 minutes on Hwy 35W. Whether you stay for a day or overnight, you'll be surprised by the choices in Faribault.



- ▶ **Lanesboro Area Chamber of Commerce** ..... **507-467-2696**  
 PO Box 348 - Lanesboro, MN 55949 ..... **800-944-2670**  
 lvc@acegroup.cc / www.lanesboro.com  
 Visit Historic Lanesboro—the heart of the Root River State Bike Trail. In the deep valley of the Root River, Lanesboro offers biking, hiking, canoeing, fishing, art gallery, professional theatre, shopping, tours, dining and lodging.

- ▶ **Mantorville Chamber/Hubbel House** ..... **507-635-5464**  
 Box 44 - Mantorville, MN 55955 ..... **866-313-8687**  
 benn3@citilink.net / www.mantorvilletourism.com  
 Mantorville an 1856 village, which still uses many of the original buildings, offers fine dining, antiques, gift shops, chocolate shop, art guide & coffee shop. Museums & restored buildings are open for touring.

- ▶ **Northfield Area Chamber of Commerce** ..... **507-645-5604**  
 205 3rd Street West Suite A - Northfield, MN 55057 ..... **800-658-2548**  
 info@northfieldchamber.com / www.visitingnorthfield.com  
 Enjoy the beauty and hospitality of this charming historic river city that offers guided tours, entertainment, shopping, dining, lodging, meeting and event accommodations, recreation, culture and history. Only 25 miles from Twin Cities.

- ▶ **Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce** ..... **507-451-7970**  
 320 Hoffman Drive - Owatonna, MN 55060 ..... **800-423-6466**  
 www.owatonna.org  
 Located in south central MN, 45 minutes from Mpls/Saint Paul on I-35. Come "discover our faces & places" - filled with historical, recreational & cultural opportunities as well as nearly 700 guest rooms to accommodate any group.

## RESTAURANTS

- The Pizza Ranch Owatonna ..... **507-449-9990**

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## calendar of events

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

### september

- 7-9 **Re-enactment of the capture of the Younger Brothers**, Madelia 507-642-8822
- 8 **Scarecrow Festival**, Morton 507-697-6912
- 14-15 **33rd Annual Arts and Crafts Festival and Taste of Hutchinson**, Hutchinson 800-572-6689
- 14-16 **28th Annual Applefest**, Appleton 320-289-1527
- 15 **23rd Annual Czech Harvest Festival**, New Prague 952-758-4360
- 15 **King Turkey Day**, Worthington 507-372-2919
- 22 **Old Fashioned Fall Festival**, Redwood Falls 507-637-2828
- 29 **Tri-State Band Festival**, Luverne 507-283-4061

### october

- 5-6, 12-13 **Oktoberfest**, New Ulm 507-233-4300
- 6-7 **21st Annual Big Island Rendezvous and Festival**, Albert Lea 800-682-4871
- 11-13 **History Fest**, Mankato 507-469-1499
- 11-14 **St. Peter Chautauqua**, St. Peter 507-934-3400

### november

- 16 **Fairmont Glows Celebration**, Fairmont 507-235-8585
- 16 **Razzle Dazzle Lighted Parade**, Madelia 507-642-8822
- 16-18 **Beneath the Village Wreath**, Morton 507-697-6912
- 17 **Holidaze Parade**, Willmar 320-235-3552
- 23 **Parade of Lights**, New Ulm 888-463-9856
- 30-Dec 2 **Winterfest**, Luverne 507-283-4061

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# Native Prairies southwestern minnesota



Morgan Creek Vineyards - New Ulm, MN

## Morgan Creek Vineyards New Ulm, Minnesota

It all started with an ad in the newspaper back in 1992. Ten acres along Morgan Creek was just what the Marti's were looking for. The family bought the land immediately and a year later established Morgan Creek Vineyards. Now in their 14th year of business the vineyard bears red, white, blush, fruit and dessert wines. They are the state's only underground winery; an arrangement that makes for ideal cellar temperature and wine production. Comprehensive tours and tastings, with a strong emphasis on music and grape education are a great way to experience the vineyard. Visitors will have a ball taking part in The Great Annual Grape Stomp in the fall.



## other wineries & breweries in southwest minnesota



August Schell Brewery



### August Schell Brewery New Ulm

The great thing about touring this family operated brewery, is you not only get to see how their beer is made (Ale, Bock, and Pilsner), but also view their peacocks, deer and garden gnomes too!

### Brau Brothers Lucan

Humble and only a year old, Brau Brothers takes care to make their malt beverages in tiny batches with extra attention to detail. Found minutes from anywhere.

### Crofut Family Winery and Vineyard Jordon

With three generations of experience and 63 acres of land, the experts at Crofut will make sure you have a great time touring and tasting their red, white, and Frontenac wines.

### Fieldstone Vineyards Morgan

Resting on a 106-year-old family farm, the vineyard specializes in making white, red, fruit and Frontenac wines.

### Olde Country Vineyards Lake Lillian

One of Minnesota's newer winery experiences, this schoolyard turned vineyard now showcases 44 different wines including reds, whites and cooking wines.



## Out of this World and Back Again

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. You'll find it at coordinates D-17 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of *Itineraries Minnesota Magazine*.

### DAY ONE

**8:30 – 10:30 am**

Explore the **Planetarium of Southwest Minnesota State University (SMSU)** along with the **Museum of Anthropology**, the **Natural Science Museum**, and the **SMSU Art Museum**.

**10:30 am – 12:30 pm**

Tour the **Landmark Bistro** and learn how this unique restaurant began at the Historic Hotel in downtown **Marshall**. Watch as the Chefs prepare delicious meals for your group.

**12:30 – 2:00 pm**

Head over to the **Lyon County Museum** and get absorbed in a history story of the county. Browse the American Indian artifacts exhibit and enjoy an old-fashioned ice cream soda.

**2 – 3:00 pm**

Next stop is the **Marshall Area Fine Arts Council**. They have a new location and expanded gift shop displaying a variety of paintings, prints, pottery, jewelry, and carvings by area artists.

**3 – 5:30 pm**

Shop downtown Marshall before checking into the **Best Western Hotel**.

**5:30 – 7:00 pm**

Dine at **Shay's**, the hotel's restaurant, or **Applebee's** across the street.

**7 – 10:00 pm**

Choose from an **SMSU Theater Production**, a performance by the **Minnesota Orchestra**, or if the timing is right, see the **Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant** for your groups evening entertainment.

### DAY TWO

**7:30 – 8:30 am**

Enjoy a complimentary hot breakfast buffet in the hotel.

**8:30 – 10:00 am**

Tour the **Schwan's Historical Museum** and enjoy some delicious **Schwan's Ice Cream**.

**10 – 11:30 am**

Take a ride with the Red Baron in the **Imersa-Dome** at the **Red Baron Museum**. Then hop into the **MaxiFlight** simulator and see how it feels to fly a **Stearman Biplane** or fight in combat.

**11:30 am – 1:30 pm**

Savor the tantalizing tastes of ethnic foods at the **Mariachi Fiesta Mexican Restaurant** or at the **Hunan Lion Chinese Restaurant**. Head for home when your bellies are full!

For more information or to customize this tour for your group, contact your tour operator or Andrea at the Schwan's Historical Museum, 507-537-8236.



## A RENDEZVOUS to Remember

Tour Available October 6-7, 2007 or the first weekend in October each year.

Enjoy the fall colors in Southern Minnesota as you visit the Midwest's largest Early America Reenactment. Voted as one of the "Top 25 Festivals in Minnesota" by the Minnesota Office of Tourism, the **Big Island Rendezvous & Festival** allows visitors to step back in time to celebrate their own heritage and see how their ancestors lived in the wilderness 150-200 years ago.

See a live Civil War cannon drill shooting real rounds at targets twice each day. View a Red River cart and oxen in the pioneer camp. Demonstrations and street performers engage you with black-

smithing, woodworking, candle making, spinning, weaving, pottery, and other colonial crafts offered for sale. Musical stage performances throughout the day include folk, bluegrass and old-time country and dance.

Choose from a variety of ethnic cuisines such as kettle corn, smoked turkey legs, funnel cakes, fry bread, beef stew, homemade root beer and more.

Spend the day taking in the sights, tastes, sounds and smells that make the Rendezvous & Festival a family oriented learning experience to be enjoyed by young and old alike.

For more information call the Albert Lea Convention & Visitors Bureau, 800-345-8414.

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Phone: 507-537-8236

### Red Baron Museum® facility

Museum Hours:

Tuesday - Saturday

10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Closed Sunday, Monday and  
all major holidays.

Phone: 507-537-8909





## Willmar, Wine and Wanderment

This itinerary is best on weekends in the summer. You'll find it at coordinates F-14 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map, distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

### DAY ONE

12 – 1:30 pm

Roll into **Willmar** and enjoy lunch at one of our many fine restaurants. From soups and salads to heartier fare, we have a choice to fit any taste and any appetite.

1:30 – 4:00 pm

Take a step back in time as you tour **The Mikkelson Collection** – the worlds largest and finest of Larson Boat Work's, featuring the famous Falls Flyers. The collection is adorned with all the boating memorabilia imaginable.

4 – 5:00 pm

Time to check into your hotel. During this visit, you'll be a guest at the **Holiday Inn** – a full-service hotel with a lounge and restaurant. Unpack, freshen up, and get ready to enjoy the evening's activities.

5 – 7:30 pm

Dinner and theater – what a lovely combination. Enjoy dinner at **Blue Heron on the Green**. From surf and turf, to burgers and ice-cold beer, your group will be sure to enjoy, but don't get too comfortable it's show time!

7:30 – 10:00 pm

The show changes throughout the year, but no matter what the production, you're in for a treat. **The Barn Theater** is a community theater group with a pool of

talent and committed volunteers that rival most professional companies. So sit back and enjoy.

### DAY TWO

8 – 9:00 am

Breakfast at your hotel – satisfying continental breakfast available to all hotel guests.

9 – 11:00 am

Make an appointment with **The Schwanke Museum**. You'll be amazed at this 45-year collection of vintage



tractors, trucks and other farm vehicles. Truly a pleasure for the young, young at heart and anyone who enjoys just a little bit of history.

11:00 am – 2:00 pm

Try something new in the area and head south

approximately 25 miles to **Lake Lillian** and tour the **Olde Country Winery**. See the vineyard and learn about the grape growing process, the wine making, and finally taste the finished product. Relax and enjoy a catered lunch over a glass of their wine. (Word is their Apple Pie Wine is incredible!)

2 – 2:30 pm

Travel back to Willmar.

2:30 – 4:30 pm

Off to the "Ranch", **J & L Bison Ranch** that is. Talk about a step back in time – you'll have the opportunity to view the herd in their natural habitat. As educational as it is



astonishing, there's much to know and learn about this sacred animal. We'll save the details for the tour.

For more information and to customize this tour for your group, contact your tour operator or the Willmar CVB, 320-231-0280.

## Check this out!

This sample itinerary is best September 15, 2007 for the 23rd Annual Czech Harvest Festival. You'll find it at coordinates I-17 & I-16 on your 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

10 – 12:00 pm

Tour the **Big Honza's Museum of Unnatural History**, in the friendly Czech town of **Montgomery**. Discover a place filled with unnatural attractions to tickle your funny bone!

Dr. Monty Gomery Ph.D (Promulgator of "Honzonian" Data), and distinguished graduate of ISD (Imaginary State University) will be your personal tour conductor.

12 – 1:00 pm

Enjoy a mouth-watering, Czech heritage meal: pork & dumplings or soup & salad at the Museum.

1 – 2:00 pm

Follow it up with a variety show that highlights superb talent featuring original and familiar music, story telling and family string players.

2 – 2:45 pm

Witness the world-famous wood carving artist, **Marvin Kaisersatt**. Take a look at his numerous creations showcased in his studio, located next to the museum.

2:45 – 3:15 pm

Board your motorcoach and head North on MN-13 to **New Prague**, for the **Dozinky™** (doe-shink'-key), a Czech Harvest Festival patterned after the "Old Country" original. Held annually every 3rd Saturday of September.

3:15 – 5:00 pm

The city's beautiful **Main Street** is transformed into an open-air market with vendor booths lining the sidewalks and a beer garden featuring authentic Czech beer. You can sample tasty treats and traditional Czech dishes.

5:00 pm

Head for home, exhilarated, and perhaps enlightened.

For more information or to customize this tour for your group, please contact your tour operator or John Grimm, Big Honza's Museum of Unnatural History, 612-756-1075 or New Prague Chamber of Commerce, 952-758-4360.

**BIG HONZA'S MUSEUM OF UNNATURAL HISTORY**

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612-756-1075

info@BigHonza.com  
www.BigHonza.com

# WILLMAR

## Lakes Area

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in Willmar!

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Lakes Area  
Kandiyohi County



Willmar Lakes Area CVB | 2104 Highway 12 East | Willmar, MN 56201 | 800-845-8747 ext 603 | [www.willmar.com](http://www.willmar.com)

### Visit the Willmar Lakes Area – stay for a night or the whole week.

The Area boasts something for everyone – from theatre and the arts to golf, go-karts and everything in between. Whether your ideal getaway is filled with activity from dawn until dusk, or if you prefer to sit back and be entertained. We're sure to have just what you're looking for.

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# Minnesota River Valley's History, Wine and Brews



John Lind House



Historic R.D. Hubbard House



Blue Earth City Heritage Center



Schell Peacock



Morgan Creek Vineyards

This sample itinerary is best on summer weekends. You'll find it at coordinates G-17 & H-18 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of *Itineraries Minnesota Magazine*.

## DAY ONE

### 10 – 11:30 am

Arrive in the town of **Lucan** for a unique beer experience. **Brau Brothers Brewing Company** is dedicated to brewing quality all-malt craft beers exclusively for the regional market of southwest Minnesota. Enjoy lagers and ales as part of a comprehensive tour and taste why location makes a difference.

### 11:30 am – 2:00 pm

Head east thirty miles to **Fieldstone Vineyards** where a 1930's renovated barn adds to the charm of this Century Farm site. Tour the vineyard and winery before relaxing with a boxed lunch in this beautiful setting.

### 2 – 4:00 pm

One of only three former governor's homes, (built by MN Governors) and open to the public, is the elegant **John Lind House**. Arrange for afternoon tea served among gorgeous artwork and furnishings from the late 1800's. The 150-year old square Victorian style grand piano is a marvel to see, and piano players in the group are invited to tickle the ivories!

### 4 – 5:30 pm

Experience Old World Charm with New World conveniences when you check into the **Holiday Inn** in **New Ulm**. Take time to freshen up before dinner.

### 5:30 – 7:00 pm

Dine at **New Ulm's** oldest and most venerable dining establishment, **Kaiserhoff**. Famous for their ribs and Rays salad, you might also like to check out the fine selection of German beers and wines.

## DAY TWO

### 8 – 9:00 am

Kick-start your morning with breakfast at **Otto's**, fea-

turing German and American cuisine conveniently adjoining your hotel.

### 9 – 11:00 am

Board your coach and head to **Mankato**. Spend the morning at **The Blue Earth County Heritage Center**. The gallery of ever-changing exhibits highlights the history and tradition of southern Minnesota.

### 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

A few blocks away is **The Historic R.D. Hubbard House**. See Victorian architecture, manicured gardens and gorgeous original furnishings that embody a time of affluence.

### 12:30 – 2:00 pm

Time for lunch at one of Mankato's many group friendly options.

### 2 – 4:00 pm

Head back to **New Ulm** for a tour of **August Schell Brewing Company**. Allow time for the new **Museum of Brewing**, strolling the gardens and tasting in the new **Tap-Room**. Don't forget to pick up a souvenir in the expanded gift shop.

Continue on next page >>



**4 – 7:00 pm**

Travel to **Morgan Creek Vineyards** for a special tour of Minnesota's only underground wine cellar. Live music (Fridays) adds to the distinctive wine experience. A scrumptious pizza buffet is offered during the tour.

**7:00 pm**

Return to the **Holiday Inn New Ulm** for a relaxing evening.

**DAY THREE**

**8:30 – 10:00 am**

Enjoy breakfast before checking out and boarding the motorcoach.

**10 – 11:30 pm**

A city step on guide will join you at the Chamber for a lively and interesting tour of **New Ulm**. You'll learn what makes **New Ulm** so German.

**11:30 – 2:00 pm**

Head northeast on MN-169 to one of the finest family owned vineyards, **Crofut Family Winery and Vineyards**. The combination of rich family history and modern grape varieties create quality fruit forward wines. Tours include a walk through the wine-making facility, bottling area, and of course wine tasting.

For more information on this sample itinerary please contact your tour operator or New Ulm CVB, 507-233-4300.

**August Schell BREWING CO.**

Founded in 1860, August Schell Brewing Company is the country's second-oldest, family owned brewery. Visit the beautiful gardens and museum of brewing. Guided tours conclude in the Rathskeller Tap Room with tastings.

August Schell Brewing Company  
1860 Schell Road  
New Ulm, Minnesota  
Ph: 507-354-5528 Fax: 507-359-9119  
www.schellsbrewery.com

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**Sips of History**

[www.mnriverwinebeerhistorytrail.com](http://www.mnriverwinebeerhistorytrail.com)

- 1 BRAU BROTHERS BREWING COMPANY - Lacan**  
507-747-BEER • BrauBrothersBrewing.com  
Call to schedule a tour time.
- 2 FIELDSTONE VINEYARDS - Morgan**  
507-249-WINE • fieldstonevineyards.com  
Sat 11-6 pm; Sun 12-5 pm
- 3 THE JOHN LIND HOUSE - New Ulm**  
507-354-8802 • lindhouse.org  
Jun-Aug: Daily 1-4 pm  
Apr-May & Sep-Oct: Fri-Sun 1-4 pm  
Nov-Mar by Appt. Closed Holidays.  
Thanksgiving-Christmas: Thu-Sun 1-4 pm
- 4 AUGUST SCHELL BREWING COMPANY - New Ulm**  
800-770-5020 • schellsbrewery.com  
Jan-May: Fri 3 pm, Sat 1, 2, 3 & 4 pm,  
Sun 1 pm & 2:30 pm  
Memorial Day-Labor Day: M-F 2:30 pm & 4 pm; Weekends: 1, 2, 3 & 4 pm  
Sep-Dec: Fri 3 pm, Sat & Sun 1, 2, 3 & 4 pm
- 5 MORGAN CREEK VINEYARDS - New Ulm**  
507-947-3547 • morgancreekvineyards.com  
May-Oct: Fri & Sat 11-9 pm; Sun 12-5 pm  
Nov-Dec: Fri & Sat 11-6 pm; Sun 12-5 pm
- 6 HISTORIC R.D. HUBBARD HOUSE - Mankato**  
507-345-5566 • rootsweb.com  
Summer-Christmas: Sat & Sun 1-4 pm,  
or can be arranged at any time of the year.
- 7 THE BLUE EARTH COUNTY HERITAGE CENTER - Mankato**  
507-345-5566 • rootsweb.com  
Tue 10-12 pm, 1-4 pm & 5-8 pm;  
Wed-Sat 10-12 pm, 1-4 pm
- 8 CROFUT FAMILY WINERY & VINEYARDS - Jordan**  
952-492-3227 • crofutwinery.com  
Sat 10-6 pm; Sun 12-6 pm



**SIPS OF HISTORY MINNESOTA RIVER WINE, BEER AND HISTORY TRAIL**

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| sandyc@jackpotjunction.com | angelad@jackpotjunction.com |

MORTON, MN  
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### Step Back in Time in Fairmont

This sample itinerary is best during late summer through fall. You'll find it at coordinates G-19 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

#### DAY ONE 11 – 11:30 am

Arrive in **Fairmont**, located in the "Heart of the Midwest." Check into one of their welcoming hotels.

#### 11:30 – 1:00 pm

Dine alfresco (outside!) at one of Fairmont's fine restaurants.

#### 1–2:00 pm

Visit the **Martin County Historical Society & Pioneer Museum** to see authentic Fairmont area history, including a large collection of Indian relics, exhibits of pioneer life and a country school.

#### 2 – 3:00 pm

Continue back in time at the **Red Rock Center for the Arts**. Witness the works of Minnesota architect **Harry W. Jones** who designed the building back in the late 1800's.

#### 3 – 4:30 pm

Stroll through **Fairmont's Downtown Plaza**, but slow down for the area's farmers market to purchase some of their fresh wares.

#### 4:30 – 5:00 pm

Return to your hotel to freshen up for dinner.

#### 5 – 6:30 pm

Meet at the **Green Mill**, located in the **Holiday Inn** for your choice of fine dining favorites.

#### 6:30 – 9:00 pm

Take in a performance at the historic **Fairmont Opera House**.

#### DAY TWO

#### 7 – 8:00 am

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

#### 8 – 9:00 am

All aboard! Next it's the **Sisseton Sioux Transportation Model Railroad** to see their 2,500 feet of track and 300 turnouts, every one of them remote-controlled.

#### 9 – 10:00 am

Shhh, court is now in session. Take a walk through the historic **Martin County Courthouse** and see why it's on the list of Top 10 most beautiful courthouses in Minnesota.

#### 10 – 11:00 am

Tour **Heritage Acres**, an Agricultural Interpretative Center located on the west shore of **Lake Sisseton**. Experience the heritage of past Midwest farms.

For more information on this sample itinerary contact your tour operator or the Fairmont CVB, 800-657-3280.



EXPLORE Minnesota .COM

## Destination: Fun!

Swim, splash, golf, hike, bike, boat, fish and celebrate in Fairmont, Minnesota. For more information on things to see and do, call 1-800-657-3280 or visit [www.fairmontcvb.com](http://www.fairmontcvb.com).





# directory

## ACCOMMODATIONS

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| AmericInn Belle Plaine  | 952-873-6017 |
| AmericInn Lodge & Suites Blue Earth   | 507-526-4215 |
| AmericInn Motel & Suites Worthington  | 507-376-4500 |
| AmericInn of Hutchinson Hutchinson  | 320-587-5515 |
| AmericInn of Madelia Madelia  | 507-642-2004 |
| ▶ <b>Holiday Inn</b>  | 507-359-2941 |
| 2101 S Broadway - New Ulm, MN 56073 / sales@hinewulm.com / www.holidayinn.com/newulm<br>Our unique Holiday Inn hotel is located in the heart of the Minnesota River Valley in the city of New Ulm. Known for its German heritage and traditions. Featuring a full service on-site restaurant and bar. |              |
| Holiday Inn & Willmar Conference Center Willmar   | 877-405-4466 |
| Microtel Inn & Suites Springfield   | 507-723-8200 |

## ATTRACTIONS

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| ▶ <b>August Schell Brewing Company</b>   | 507-354-5528 |
| 1860 Schell Road - New Ulm, Minnesota / www.shellsbrewery.com<br>Founded in 1860, August Schell Brewing Company is the country's second-oldest, family owned brewery. Visit the beautiful Gardens and Museum of Brewing. Guided tours conclude in the Rathskeller Tap Room with tastings.                              |              |
| ▶ <b>Big Honza's Museum of Unnatural History</b>   | 612-756-1075 |
| 201 First Street South - Montgomery, MN 56069 / info@BigHonza.com / www.BigHonza.com<br>Have lunch at historic hilltop hall, while enjoying a live musical presentation of Czech country history. Then marvel at the unique artifacts of Big Honza's Museum of Unnatural History guided by the legendary Monty Gomery. |              |
| Blue Earth County Heritage Center Mankato  | 507-345-5566 |
| Birch Coulee Battlefield Morton  | 507-697-6321 |
| Brau Brothers Brewing Company Lucan  | 507-747-BEER |
| Brown Country Museum Battlefield   | 888-463-9856 |
| Crofut Family Winery & Vineyards Jordan  | 952-492-3227 |
| Fieldstone Vineyards Morgan  | 507-249-WINE |
| Fort Ridgely Historic Site Fairfax   | 507-426-7888 |
| Harkin Store Historic Site New Ulm   | 507-354-8666 |
| Historic R.D. Hubbard House Mankato  | 507-345-5566 |
| J & L Bison Willmar  | 320-235-8465 |
| The John Lind House New Ulm  | 507-354-8802 |

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| ▶ <b>Jackpot Junction Casino Hotel</b>  | 507-644-7814 |
| PO Box 420 - Morton, MN 56270<br>wincash@jackpotjunction.com / www.jackpotjunction.com<br>99 miles southwest of Minneapolis. 325,000 square feet of action: video slot machines, table games, bingo, pull tabs, restaurants, full service bars, 276-room on-site hotel, swimming pool, fitness center, live entertainment, RV Park Dacotah Ridge Golf Club. |              |

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| Jeffers Petroglyphs Historic Site Comfrey | 507-628-5591 |
| Lac qui Parle Mission Montevideo          | 320-269-7636 |
| Little Crow Ski Team New London           | 320-354-5684 |
| The Mikkelson Boat Collection Willmar     | 320-231-0384 |
| Morgan Creek Vineyards New Ulm            | 507-947-3547 |
| Olaf Swensson Farm Museum Montevideo      | 320-269-5527 |
| Schwanke Museum Willmar                   | 320-231-0564 |

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| ▶ <b>The Schwan Historical Museum</b>   | 507-537-8909 |
| 600 Michigan Road - Marshall, MN 56258 / www.redbaron.com<br>How can a 1946 Dodge panel van take a company global? The Schwan Food Company, founded in 1952, has grown from a one-man, one-truck operation to a global enterprise. See how at the Schwan Historical Museum. |              |

## CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAUS AND CHAMBERS

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| ▶ <b>Albert Lea Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau</b>  | 507-373-2316 |
| 2566 Bridge Avenue - Albert Lea, MN 56007<br>cvsdirector@albertlea.org / www.albertleatourism.org<br>Located 90 minutes from Mpls, where I-90 & I-35 intersect, featuring small town hospitality with big city amenities. Plus additional lakes & 38 city parks hosting various outdoor activities. |              |

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| ▶ <b>Fairmont Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau</b>   | 507-235-8585 |
| PO Box 976 - Fairmont, MN 56031<br>director@fairmontcvb.com / www.fairmontcvb.com<br>The "City of Lakes" welcome's you. Located at the intersection of Hwy 15 and I-90 we're easy to find. Halfway between Chicago and the Black Hills Fairmont has a little something for everyone. |              |

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| ▶ <b>Hutchinson Area Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau</b>   | 800-572-6689 |
| 2 Main Street South - Hutchinson, MN 55305 / www.explorehutchinson.com<br>Hutchinson, Minnesota's Hometown™, is rich in history, offers family events & festivals, and the most unique shopping you can ask for! Hutchinson, We're Minnesota's Hometown™! |              |

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| ▶ <b>Luverne Area Chamber of Commerce/CVB</b>   | 507-283-4061 |
| 211 E Main - Luverne, MN 56156<br>luvernechamber@iw.net / www.luvernechamber.org<br>Visit Minnesota's Prairie Playground including Blue Mounds State Park, Touch the Sky Prairie, Brandenburg Gallery, Prairie Heights Bison and a variety of prairie related points of interest. |              |

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| ▶ <b>Morton Chamber of Commerce</b>  | 507-697-6912 |
| PO Box 127 - Morton, MN 56270 / mortoncityhall@mchsi.com<br>Visit Morton, located in the scenic river valley for a celebration each season, featuring unique activities for each event; Spring Garden Party, Independence Day, Scarecrow Festival, Beneath the Village Wreath and Mistletoe Madness. |              |

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| ▶ <b>Pipestone Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau</b>  | 507-825-3316 |
| 117 8th Ave SE - Pipestone, MN 55614<br>pipecham@pipestoneminnesota.com / www.pipestoneminnesota.com<br>Song of Hiawatha Pageant held at a small quarry lake on a natural amphitheater. Reserved seating for 1,200...late July/early August. Red Hat Extravaganza and Keepers Traditional PowWow on July 28, 2007. |              |

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| ▶ <b>Redwood Falls Area Chamber and Tourism</b>  | 507-637-2828 |
| 200 South Mill Street, PO Box 21 - Redwood Falls, MN 56283<br>chamber@redwoodfalls.org / www.redwoodfalls.org<br>Along the Minnesota River, this area has much to offer its visitors. Alexandria Ramsey Park/Falls/Zoo - 217 wooded acres, 18 hole championship golf course, gaming, many historic attractions, great specialty shopping, convention & lodging facilities. |              |

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| ▶ <b>Willmar Lakes Area Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau</b>  | 800-845-8747 |
| 2104 Highway 12 East - Willmar, MN 56201 / www.willmar.com ext. 603<br>Visit the Willmar Lakes Area. Only 2 hours west of Mpls/St. Paul. 360 lakes, 36 parks, 81 holes of golf - and that's just on the drive in! Let our staff help put together a getaway for your group. |              |

|   |              |
|---|--------------|
| ▶ <b>Worthington Area Convention &amp; Visitors Bureau</b>  | 507-372-2919 |
| 1121 Third Avenue - Worthington, MN 56187<br>wcofc@frontiernet.net / www.worthingtonmncchamber.com<br>We welcome you to the Windsurfing Regatta, International Festival, Whiskey Ditch Motorcycle Rally, and King Turkey Day. Let us assist you in finding places to visit, sleep, eat, and shop. |              |

## ENTERTAINMENT & THEATER

|                          |              |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| The Barn Theatre Willmar | 320-235-9500 |
| The Classics Willmar     | 320-290-8400 |

## RESTAURANTS

|                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Green Mill Willmar | 320-231-2301 |
|--------------------|--------------|

|  |              |
|--|--------------|
| ▶ <b>The Pizza Ranch</b> www.pizzaranch.com  |              |
| At any of these Central & Southern Minnesota locations: Delano, Luverne, Olivia, Tyler, Edgerton, Montevideo, Owatonna, Waconia, Glencoe, New Prague, Redwood Falls, Waseca, Le Sueur, Norway - Young America, Slayton, Worthington, Litchfield. Visit our website for specials and phone numbers. |              |
| The Pizza Ranch Edgerton   | 507-442-3811 |
| The Pizza Ranch Glencoe  | 320-864-5321 |
| The Pizza Ranch Le Sueur   | 507-665-2222 |
| The Pizza Ranch Litchfield   | 320-693-9393 |
| The Pizza Ranch Luverne  | 507-283-2379 |
| The Pizza Ranch Montevideo   | 320-269-6738 |
| The Pizza Ranch New Prague   | 952-759-9440 |
| The Pizza Ranch Olivia   | 320-523-2270 |
| The Pizza Ranch Redwood Falls  | 507-644-5936 |
| The Pizza Ranch Slayton  | 507-836-8856 |
| The Pizza Ranch Tyler  | 507-247-5999 |
| The Pizza Ranch Waseca   | 507-833-9080 |
| The Pizza Ranch Worthington  | 507-376-3711 |



## nw mn cities

ALEXANDRIA, BATTLE LAKE, BEMIDJI, BRAINERD, CROSBY, DETROIT LAKES, EAST GRAND FORKS/GRAND FORKS, FARGO/MOORHEAD, FERGUS FALLS, FRAZEE, HENNING, LITTLE FALLS, LONG PRAIRIE, NEW YORK MILLS, NISSWA, OTTERTAIL, PARK RAPIDS, PELICAN RAPIDS, PEQUOT LAKES, PERHAM, RED LAKE FALLS, ROSEAU, SAUK CENTRE, ST. CLOUD, THIEF RIVER FALLS, VERGAS, WALKER

## calendar of events

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

### september

- 7-8 **15th Annual Ethnic Festival**, Walker 218-547-1313
- 7-9 **Minnesota Food and Wine Festival**, Alexandria 320-846-5443
- 15 **Fall Color Tour by Covered Wagon**, Bemidji 218-759-0164
- 15 **Fall Festival and Smokin' Hot BBQ**, Nisswa 218-963-2620
- 20-23, "Love and War," St. Cloud 320-203-0331
- 21-23 **18th Annual Oktoberfest**, Baudette 218-634-1544
- 29 **Fergus Falls Area Art Crawl**, Fergus Falls 218-998-2787
- 29 **National Public Lands Day**, Fergus Falls 218-736-0938

### october

- 5-7 **North Star Fall Walleye Classic**, Baudette 218-634-9457
- 13 **54th Annual Williams Potato Day**, Williams 800-382-3474
- 18-20 **Christmas Tour of Homes**, Nisswa 219-963-2620
- 19-20, **Haunted Forest**, Pine River 218-587-4000
- 26-27
- 19-21 **Oktoberfest at Ruttger's**, Deerwood 218-678-2885

### november

- 10 **Lake of The Woods Arts and Crafts Festival**, Baudette 218-634-1242
- 23 **The "Night We Light" Celebration**, Bemidji 800-458-2223 ext. 100
- 25; Dec 2 **Christmas at the Lindbergh House**, Little Falls 320-616-5423
- 26 **Santa's Parade of Lights**, Detroit Lakes 218-847-9202
- 29-Dec 1 **"Martini and Olive Takin' Care of Christmas,"** St. Cloud 320-233-1233

[escortnotes.com](http://escortnotes.com)

# Viking Woods & Lakes northwestern minnesota



Forestedge Winery - Laporte, MN

## Forestedge Winery Laporte, Minnesota

Visit the winery in the Northwoods for light and dry fruit wines made from the bounty of berries and fruits that survive in Northern Minnesota. Their most famous being their award winning Rhubarb wine, voted best fruit wine in Minnesota, not only the grapes that can make a fine wine. Set in the peaceful forest scenery, groups will have the gardens and see where the fruits are grown and harvested. In the winery and tasting room partake and purchase 13 different varieties of wine, or visit with the wine makers themselves and tour the drink production area.



## other wineries & breweries in northwest minnesota



### Gluek Brewing Company Cold Spring

Not just great beer, but this fastest growing brewery in the state is also the number one producer of energy drinks in the United States.



Gluek Brewery



Carlos Creek wine cave

### Carlos Creek Winery Alexandria

Home to Minnesota's largest grape vineyard, wine cave, Siberian Elm Maze, and 8,000 apple trees. All of these ingredients are used to make their red, white, blush and fruit wines.

### Two Fools Vineyard Plummer

Red & White Grape Wines & a Variety of Fruit Wines  
Minnesota's most northern vineyard invites groups to their vineyard and winery to see just how these fine red, white, and fruit wines come in fruition. Tastings are in air-conditioned comfort or a nearby gazebo.



## Wine all you want in Minnesota

This itinerary is best poured in Spring through Fall. You'll find it at coordinates E-12, F-9, F-7 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

### DAY ONE

12:30 – 2:00 pm

Start in **Alexandria, MN** and tour **Carlos Creek Winery**, home to Minnesota's largest vineyard, not to mention one of the largest apple orchards. Sample the fine wines at the winery, freely walk around the grounds and even tour Minnesota's largest **Siberian Elm Maze** and **Wine Cave**.

2 – 4:30 pm

Depart **Alexandria** via MN St Hwy 29 N to US Hwy 71.

4:30 – 6:00 pm

Arrive at **Itasca State Park's Jacob Brower Visitors Center** and meet your step-on Naturalist. Tour the park and stop for a glimpse at the **Headwaters of the Mississippi River**.

6 – 7:00 pm

Dine at historic **Douglas Lodge**. Head in early for a good night's rest.

### DAY TWO

9 – 10:00 am

Enjoy a hot and hearty breakfast at the lodge.

10 – 11:30 am

Depart for **Forestedge Winery**. Take a tour and taste wines fermented from indigenous fruits of northern Minnesota.

11:30 – 12:45 pm

Depart **Itasca** for **Bemidji** via the **Great River Road National Scenic Byway**.

12:45 – 2:00 pm

Tour **Bemidji Woolen Mills Factory** and witness antique wool carding machines in action at their Factory Outlet.

2 – 3:30 pm

Depart for **Buena Vista Logging Village** for a horse-drawn covered wagon ride to the top of the Continental Divide. Take in breathtaking views of the lakes and forest. Refreshments are served in the rustic **Logging Museum**.

3:30 pm Depart for home.

For more information or to customize this tour for your group contact your tour operator or Carlos Creek Winery, 320-846-5443; Itasca State Park 218-266-2124; VisitBemidji 800-458-2223-x 106; or Forestedge Winery 218-224-3535.

## Something cool is brewing in Cold Spring

This itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. You'll find it at coordinates H-13 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

**Gluek Brewery** in **Cold Spring** is on the original **Red River Trail**. The pioneering trailblazers, trappers and settlers who used the trail would replenish their water supplies from the pure cold spring, which is how the town got its name. The spring is one of the purest sources of water in North America. The brewery has been modernized and rebuilt over the past several years, and is now a state-of-the-art brewery, and beverage product development and production facility. They are also the number one producer of sport energy drinks.

9 – 10:30 am

Start with coffee and a tour of **Cold Spring Bakery** in **Cold Spring**. This irresistible 54-year-old family bakery has won national awards for their famous cakes. Tours available on a limited basis.

10:30 – 12:00 pm

Tour Minnesota's fastest growing brewery, **Gluek Brewing Company**. See first-hand how world-class beers are brewed from the finest ingredients, preserved & packaged.

12 – 1:00 pm

Lunch it at **The Great Blue Heron**, Cold Spring. A casual dining experience recognized for their Prime Rib & Walleye.

1 – 2:00 pm

Witness the **Grasshopper Chapel** firsthand — built from Cold Spring granite.

2 – 2:30 pm

Travel east on MN-23 to **St. Cloud**. Sing "99 Bottles of Beer on the Wall."

2:30 pm

At 68 Bottles of Beer, arrive to see **Munsinger/Clemens Gardens** where "every summer is special at the Gardens." Each season brings new colors of annual flowers to compliment the perennials that welcome visitors each year.

For more information or to customize this tour for your group call your tour operator or Jean Robbins, St. Cloud CVB, 800-264-2940 x129 or jean@granitecountry.com.



## Fabulous Fergus Falls...for Fun

This itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. You'll find it at coordinates C-11 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map, distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of *Itineraries Minnesota Magazine*.

### DAY ONE

11 – 12:00 pm

Arrive at hotel, check in and enjoy a simmering cup of coffee during orientation.

12 – 1:30 pm

Lunch at the hip **Jazzy Fox Bistro**. Enjoy fabulous regional cuisine in a relaxed and smoke-free environment.

1:30 – 3:00 pm

Visit the **Otter Tail County Historical Society Museum**, recognized as one of the best local history museums in Minnesota. Stroll past the authentically recreated dioramas and period rooms then lose yourself in the creative hands-on activities. The museum is a unique cultural and educational resource.

3 – 5:00 pm

Explore birding & wildlife on over 325 acres of native and

restored tall grass prairie and 28 wetlands found at the **Prairie Wetlands Learning Center**.

5 – 7:00 pm

Retreat for a little cheer at **The Mabel's Pub** located at **Mabel Murphy's**. If the weather permits, relax and take in some sun on the scenic outdoor deck. Choose from a variety of fabulous food to satisfy your appetite!

7 – 9:00 pm

Delight in "**Songs from the Tall Grass**" performed at **A Center for the Arts**, just one example of many fabulous touring performances.

9:00 pm

Return to hotel.

### DAY TWO

8 – 9:00 am

Breakfast at any of several restaurants to be arranged.

9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Travel to **Ottertail Lake** and tour breathtaking **Lake Country Gardens** on the west end of **Ottertail Lake**. Tea and cookie break included.

12 – 5:00 pm

Spend the afternoon on beautiful Lake Ottertail. Enjoy lunch and an afternoon of scenic beauty aboard the **Ottertail Cruises** touring boat.

5 – 7:00 pm

Next, enjoy dinner at **The Peak Supper Club** near **Urbank**. Enjoy one of their specialty dishes, which include turtle, great ribs and buffets. View **Inspiration Peak**, the second highest elevation in Minnesota.

7:00 pm

Your tummy is full and your journey is complete as you head for home.

For more information or to customize this tour for your group, contact your tour operator or Jean Bowman, Fergus Falls CVB, 800-726-8859.



## Captivating Complexions up North

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. You'll find it at coordinates G-13 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map, distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of *Itineraries Minnesota Magazine*.

### DAY ONE

10 – 12:00 pm

Enjoy a morning tour along the shores of the **Rainy River** in **Lake of the Woods**, Minnesota's true north. Entrenched in rich history, the Rainy River was once home to the **Laurels**, an ancient people that inhabited the area several thousand years ago. See the mesmerizing **Manitou Rapids** and **Clementson Rapids**, offering great photo opportunities.

12 – 12:30 pm

Stop by **Baudette's** mascot, **Willie the Walleye**, in **Bayfront Park**. What better way to commemorate your stay in the Walleye capital of the world than to have your picture taken in front of this gigantic 40-foot walleye? Be sure to keep an eye out for our state flower, the Lady Slipper, which flourishes near Baudette (May-June).

12:30 – 2:00 pm

Roll into the **Ranch House Restaurant** where you can enjoy a full menu, including the celebrated walleye.

2 – 4:00 pm

Dive back into nature with an educational tour of **Norris Camp**. Your group will learn how the Norris Camp was made into the well-formed wildlife management area

it is today.

4 – 5:00 pm

Continue your journey to the famous **Sportsman's Lodge**, located on beautiful **Lake of the Woods**. Check into your room where you'll find all the comforts of home.

5 – 10:00 pm

Enjoy your evening with dinner in one of their two restaurants, before relaxing in the lounge with the evening's entertainment, which can range from card games, to musical acts!

For more information on this sample itinerary contact your tour operator or the Lake of the Woods Tourism, 800-382-3474.

*Songs from the Tall Grass*  
August 24-26 and September 28-30

Otter Trail Scenic Byway • Dinner Cruises • Historical Museum

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MINNESOTA Lake of the Woods



# directory

## ACCOMMODATIONS

- AmericInn Alexandria..... **320-763-6808**
- AmericInn of Baudette Baudette..... **218-634-3200**
- AmericInn of Bemidji Bemidji..... **218-751-3000**

▶ **Best Western Americanna Inn..... 320-252-8700**  
 520 South Hwy 10 – St. Cloud, MN 56304..... **800-950-8701**  
 Newly renovated, this hotel offers amenities that every traveler will enjoy. Restaurant/Lounge on Site, Complimentary Continental Breakfast, Wireless HI-Speed Internet, Pool, Sauna, Fitness Room, Meeting Rooms, Catering, & the Friendliest Staff in Town!

## ATTRACTIONS

- Bemidji Woolen Mills Bemidji..... **218-751-5166**
- Covered Wagon Rides Bemidji..... **218-243-2231**

▶ **Forestedge Winery & Farm..... 218-224-3535**  
 35295 State Highway 64 – LaPorte, MN 56461  
 paul@forestedgewinery.com / www.forestedgewinery.com  
 Award winning Specialty wines made from fruits and berries with rhubarb being the signature wine. Groups enjoy nature trails, local art displayed in the gallery, a gift shop, plus tasting. Bring some home to friends.

▶ **ITOW In Their Own Words...A Veterans Museum..... 218-346-7678**  
 805 West Main – Perham, MN 56573 – info@itowmuseum.org / www.ITOWmuseum.org  
 Located in the heart of beautiful lake country, Perham's newest museum features unique state-of-the-art exhibits based on the recorded histories of veterans. Lunch in the mess hall is an option for tours.

## CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAUS AND CHAMBERS

▶ **Detroit Lakes Chamber of Commerce..... 218-847-9202**  
 PO Box 348, 700 Summit Avenue - Detroit Lakes, MN 56502..... **800-542-3992**  
 dlchamber@visitdetroitlakes.com / www.visitdetroitlakes.com  
 Live theatre, state's first Birding Trail, Scenic Byway, National Wildlife Refuges, Farm Tours...at Detroit Lakes! East of Fargo, North Dakota 45 miles, or 3 hours northwest of Twin Cities on Highway 10. Dining, shopping, and accommodations.

▶ **Fergus Falls Convention & Visitors Bureau..... 218-739-0125**  
 112 West Washington Avenue - Fergus Falls, MN 56537..... **800-726-8959**  
 groups@visitfergusfalls.com / www.visitfergusfalls.com  
 Arts, nature and history are sure to please. On I-94, 2 hours NW of Mpls, Fergus Falls is an easy stop to/from Winnipeg. Hotels & restaurants eager to host. Call CVB for personalized itineraries.

▶ **The Lake of the Woods Tourism..... 218-634-1174**  
 PO Box 518 - Baudette, MN 56623..... **800-382-3474**  
 www.lakeofthewoodsmn.com  
 No matter what the season, your group will treasure the memories of a true, "Up North" Vacation. This year you could experience legendary Lake of the Woods.

▶ **New York Mills Civic & Commerce Association..... 218-385-3339**  
 Box 133 - New York Mills, MN 56567  
 info@explorenewyorkmills.com / www.explorenewyorkmills.com  
 New York Mills, gateway to the Finnish Triangle, is home to the Great American Think-Off and Lund Boats. Nearby are 1200 lakes, three state parks, and the best specialty & antique shopping in Central MN.



▶ **St. Cloud Area Convention & Visitors Bureau..... 320-251-4170**  
 525 Hwy 10, Suite 1 – St. Cloud, MN 56304..... **800-264-2940**  
 jean@granitecountry.com / www.granitecountry.com  
 World-class gardens, history that abounds, unique and famous places to visit. Creativity is key to the success of your group tour. The St. Cloud CVB takes pride in helping you plan the perfect St. Cloud getaway.

▶ **Visit Bemidji..... 218-759-0164**  
 PO Box 66 – Bemidji, MN 56619..... **800-458-2223**  
 gayle@visitbemidji.com / www.visitbemidji.com  
 Bemidji is the "First City on the Mississippi". Paul Bunyan and Babe his Blue Ox await your arrival on the shore of Lake Bemidji. Recreational and cultural experiences are available year round.



## Something you may not expect...



**B**ecker Furniture World, Minnesota's most shopped furniture destination just got even more spectacular. If you haven't been there in the past six months, you haven't really been there. Now a "must stop" when traveling Central Minnesota, Becker Furniture, with its new Idea House is attracting attention...and groups. A fully functional 4,300 square foot home, with pool, was built *inside* Minnesota's largest furniture store. In a brilliant stroke of marketing, the store has invited groups to come, stroll, view, and enjoy this perfect collection of home remodeling and decorating ideas. Experiencing the Idea house and all that's new and fashionable in home décor is not the only fun your group will have.

You'll want to reserve time to browse the showroom galleries, each with thousands of furniture items on display. Some special attractions include the **Wall of Flame** with its beautiful display of fireplaces, the leather gallery, larger than most furniture stores, and the **Kidz Treehouse Play area**. Grab a cup of coffee at **Café Pawz** before continuing your expedition. And with the addition of the actual one of a kind house, there also comes Partner Stores offering best in class appliances, spas and everything in between.

Owners Doug and Julie Huseby built Becker Furniture from a 500 square foot showroom into the retail destination you see today with their innovative retailing and passion for making your experience memorable. They invite you to come. Spend an hour or the day.

For more information call 800-261-4188 or [www.beckerfurnitureworld.com](http://www.beckerfurnitureworld.com).



## ne mn cities

BEAVER BAY, CARLTON, CHISHOLM, CLOQUET, CRANE LAKE, DULUTH, ELY, EVELETH, GARRISON, GRAND MARAIS, GRAND PORTAGE, GRAND RAPIDS, HIBBING, HINCKLEY, INTERNATIONAL FALLS, LUTSEN, MCGREGOR, OAK ISLAND, ONAMIA, PRINCETON, TAYLORS FALLS, TOFTE, TWO HARBORS, VIRGINIA

## calendar of events

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

### september

- 31- Sep 2 **Wild Rice Days**, McGregor 218-768-3692
- 1-3 **15th Annual Bayou Boogie**, Grand Portage 800-543-1384
- 7-9 **14th Annual Fall Harvest Moon Festival**, Ely 218-365-6123
- 8 **Chisholm Fire Days Celebration**, Chisholm 218-254-7930
- 15 **Northshore Inline Skating Marathon**, Duluth 218-723-1503
- 15-16 **Fall Gathering**, Pine City 320-629-6356

### october

- 13 **Pumpkin Fest**, Aurora 218-229-2245
- 19-20 **Chisholm Field of Screams**, Chisholm 800-422-0806
- 19-21 **Moose Madness**, Grand Marais 218-387-2524
- 26-28 **Autumn Migration Birding Festival**, Grand Marais 218-387-9762
- 27 **Mystery at the Fur Post**, Pine City 320-629-6356

### november

- 2 **Memories of Elvis**, Cambridge 763-689-6189
- 3 **Hinckley Annual Craft Fair**, Hinckley 800-952-4282
- 9-11 **17th Annual Bluegrass Music Weekend**, Lutsen 218-663-7212
- 22-Dec 30 **Bentleyville Tour of Lights**, Cloquet 218-390-9790
- 23-25 **16th Annual AMSOIL Duluth National Snocross**, Duluth 218-722-4011
- 24 **Old Fashioned Christmas Celebration**, Cloquet 218-879-1551

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# Arrowhead Shores northeastern minnesota



Minnestalgia - McGregor, MN

## Minnestalgia Winery and Gift Shop McGregor, Minnesota

Located in the magnificent north woods lies Minnestalgia Winery and Gift shop. This distinctive establishment specializes in bringing patrons everything of great taste from berry syrups, jams, jellies, soup mixes, fudge and of course their exceptional wines made right on site. Visitors can tour their production room as well as taste their goodies and locally roasted coffees. Minnestalgia is unique in their large selection of mead, a honey wine enjoyed by Celtic Nations for decades. They specialize in making honey wines with a special berry blend for an unmatched flavor experience. Minnestalgia visitors may even pick their favorite hand-made products and have them prepared in a gift basket for that special someone.



## other wineries & breweries in northeast minnesota



### Lake Superior Brewing Company Duluth

Fine brewers of ten different local beers and root beer for the kids and kids at heart. All their beer is made in Duluth, from mostly local ingredients and sparkling clear Lake Superior water.

### Winehaven Winery Chisago City

White, Red, Dessert, Fruit and Honey  
One of the top award-winning wineries in the Midwest, Winehaven offers tours and tastings of their honor-bearing white, red, fruit, dessert and honey wines. They also make four distinct varieties of honey, which is used to make their world-popular mead.





## Mining History and More in Chisholm

This itinerary is best on weekends in the summer. You'll find it at coordinates J-7 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map, distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

### 12 – 3:00 pm

Step back into the past aboard **Ironworld's** authentic trolley, and journey through time. The picturesque



2.4-mile railway winds around the **Pillsbury mine pit** and deposits you at the **Glen location**, a re-creation of an early iron mining community. Disembark at **Wilpen Depot** to experience what life was like for our early miners and their families. Savor the aroma of a home cooked meal at a restored authentic 1908 house, and imagine sharing your 'space' with others at the renovated **1905 Hill's Finn Boarding House**, as you enjoy the miner's lunch known as "pasty in a pail."

### 3 – 4:00 pm

Meander around the rest of the **Ironworld Discovery Center** and have a look at their newest exhibit, "**Monsters of the Deep**". A collection of skeletons and fleshed out models from the past 65 million years will leave everyone

in awe of the sheer size of these mighty teeth. Or if primitive sea beasts aren't your thing, you could always make your way over to the **Iron Range Research and Genealogy Center** and look up a piece of your past.

### 4 – 4:30 pm

Walk across the street and have your picture taken with the **Chisholm Iron Man**. An 85- foot statue of a miner perched atop a steel sphere. Being the city with the largest deposit of Iron Ore in the world, it's no wonder he stands here portraying "The Emergence of Man Through Steel".

### 4:30 – 5:00 pm

Board the bus for a short ride to **Hibbing**, SW on Hwy 169.

### 5 – 6:30 pm

Dine in one of the many group friendly destinations Hibbing has to offer, from casual dining clubs, to small town saloons.

### 6:30 – 8:30 pm

See an in depth portrait of the daily biological processes that go on without our control and often without our even noticing in the inner workings of our bodies. Watch "**Human Body,**" on a 40 foot diameter dome screen at the **Paulucci Space Theatre**.

For more information or to customize this tour for your group, please contact your tour operator or the Ironworld Discovery Center at 800-372-6437.

## Looking for HAWTHORN SUITES in Duluth?



They're still right where they've always been in Duluth's Canal Park, they're just sporting the brand new name of: The Suites at Waterfront Plaza. The new name reflects the fact that they are the only all suites hotel in Minnesota. They still have the same great service and hospitality you've always known, but now with a new name and consistently superior accommodations.

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of the  
DEEP**

Ironworld  
Chisholm, MN  
Aug 11 – Oct 31, 2007

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This world-class exhibit transports the visitor into the aquatic creatures' natural habitat. With their incredible teeth and gaping jaws, and long snake-like necks, the bizarre monsters of the ancient seas were unlike anything known today.

For more information call **Ironworld** at 1-800-372-6437 or 218-254-7959.





# HISTORY

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 **A Great Way to Getaway**  
**ironrange.org**  
Iron Range Tourism Bureau




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320-384-7338 800-952-4282  
www.hinckleymn.com



### *The times, they are a changin'*

This itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. You'll find it at coordinates K-7 & J-7 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

#### **9 – 9:30 am**

Wake up to the unforgettable aroma and delicious taste of home-baked pastries at **Sunrise Bakery** in **Hibbing**. Be sure to try an **Iron Range** favorite — potica (pronounced: po teet sa).

#### **9:30 – 9:50 am**

Drive by Minnesota music legend **Bob Dylan's Childhood Home** in Hibbing.

#### **9:50 – 11:30 am**

Travel across time aboard the **Greyhound Bus Museum** and enjoy a fascinating journey of artifacts and memorabilia at the birthplace of the United States' bus industry.

#### **11:30 am – 12:15 pm**

Next, view the largest operating open pit iron ore mine in the world -- the **Hull Rust Mahoning Mine**. This mine spans more than three miles in length, two miles in width and dips down more than 535-feet deep.

#### **12:15 – 2:30 pm**

Rough it (not really) with a trip to Northeastern Minnesota's

**Ironworld Discovery Center** in **Chisholm**. The Iron Range's rich cultural, ethnic and mining history comes alive as costumed interpreters portray life of pioneers and immigrants. An electric trolley ride will take you along the edge of the **Glen Mine** pit lake to the Glen Location where you'll enjoy "Pasties in a Pail," just like the miners used to.

#### **2:30 – 2:45 pm**

Heavy metal lives on as you view the world's third largest freestanding statue in the United States, Chisholm's **Iron Miner Statue**. Standing 81-feet tall, this bronze and steel statue pays tribute to all those who worked in the early ore mines.

#### **2:45 – 4:00 pm**

The **Minnesota Museum of Mining** gives visitors an opportunity to actually climb aboard equipment used to mine the Mesabi Range's rich iron ore. Take the wheel of mining trucks and see a 1907 steam locomotive or tour replicas of an underground mine and mining town.

#### **4:00 pm**

Depart for home.

For more information or to customize this itinerary for your group contact your tour operator or the Iron Range Tourism Bureau, 800-777-8497.

### *Here in Hinckley...*

This itinerary is best in summer. You'll find it at coordinates J-13 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of ITMN Magazine.

#### **8 – 11:30 am**

Wake up to the beauty of Northeast Minnesota. Today your group will rent canoes from **Pardun's Canoe Rental**, and paddle peacefully down the scenic **St. Croix River**, located within the **St Croix State Park** in **Hinckley**. A relaxing and unique way to see wildlife in its natural habitat.

#### **11:30 am – 1:00 pm**

Stop at **Tobie's Restaurant and Bakery** for lunch and unbelievable desserts. Their bakery is stocked with fresh donuts, pies, rolls and their world famous cinnamon rolls.

#### **1 – 3:00 pm**

You are sure to find a treasure from yesteryear at the **Antique's America Mall**. Visitors can admire wares and walk around this enormous establishment featuring

antiques from over 70 different dealers.

#### **3 – 4:30 pm**

Visit the **Hinckley Fire Museum** and see the devastation the 1894 fire had on this community. The combination of the hot, dry summer and the numerous area logging towns of the 1800's set the stage for this disaster.

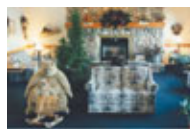
#### **4:30 – 6:00 pm**

Have a sit down dinner at the **Wildfire Café** in downtown **Hinckley**. They offer a full menu of soups, salads, burgers, and appetizers.

#### **6:00 pm**

Check into your hotel room at **Grand Casino Hinckley** and enjoy the rest of your night in the Casino. With over 2,100 slots, 28 blackjack tables and a mighty BINGO hall you're sure to win some cash, or at least have fun trying.

For more information or to customize this itinerary for your group contact your tour operator or the Hinckley CVB, 800-996-4566.



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## ACCOMMODATIONS

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**AmericInn Lodge & Suites Virginia** ..... **218-741-7839**

▶ **Grand Portage Lodge & Casino** ..... **218-475-2401**

70 Casino Drive, PO Box 233 – Grand Portage, MN 55605 ..... **800-543-1384**

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▶ **Rodeway Inn** ..... **701-239-8022**

2202 South University Drive – Fargo, ND 58103 ..... **866-239-8022**

Groups love our large comfortable rooms and many amenities; First floor rooms, free continental breakfast, internet, swimming and whirlpool. One complimentary room for coach driver, bus parking, and all conveniently located at I-94 and 81.

▶ **Sawmill Inn of Grand Rapids** ..... **218-326-8501**

2301 South Highway 169 – Grand Rapids, MN 55744 ..... **800-235-6455**

sawmill@uslink.net / www.sawmill.com

The area's largest full-service hotel. 124 rooms including six suites, indoor swimming pool, whirlpool and sauna. Cedars Dining Room and Lounge. Banquet and meeting facilities up to 400. Golf Packages and snowmobile rates available.

▶ **The Suites in Canal Park** ..... **218-727-4663**

325 Lake Avenue South – Duluth, MN 55802

wendy@thesuitesduluth.com / www.thesuitesduluth.com/bus

Complimentary: full hot breakfast buffet, escort room, spacious motorcoach parking, welcome reception and personal greeting with gifts. Located in historic Canal Park. "All-Oversized-Suites" to pamper our guests. Indoor pool, whirlpool, and sauna. We add to your "tourific" group adventure!

## ATTRACTIONS

▶ **Hinckley Fire Museum** ..... **320-348-7338**

106 Old Highway 61 South - Hinckley, MN 55037

An old depot now serves as the museum, which pays homage to the Great Hinckley Fire of 1894. Visit the museum to learn this unforgettable story of the firestorm that raged through the area destroying this prospering town and neighboring communities.

▶ **Ironworld Discovery Center** ..... **218-254-7959**

801 SW Highway 169 - Chisholm, MN 55719 ..... **800-372-6437**

Brian.Kolner@ironworld.com / www.ironworld.com

Groups welcome for trolley rides, museum tours, genealogy programs, special events, entertainment, living history exhibits, meals and more! Active mine tours depart from Ironworld. Arrangements must be made in advance. Discounts available; special needs accommodated.

**Mille Lacs Indian Museum Onamia** ..... **320-532-3632**

▶ **Minnestalgia Winery & Gift Shop** ..... **218-768-2533**

41640 State Hwy 65 - PO Box 86 - McGregor, MN 55760 ..... **866-768-2533**

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Sample our 14 wines from dry to semi-sweet and tour the production room. Samples of our Jellies, Jams, Honeys, Fudge & locally roasted coffees are available. Many unique Minnesota made gourmet foods, crafts, books & gifts.

## CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAUS AND CHAMBERS

▶ **Hinckley CVB** ..... **320-384-0126**

109 Tobies Mill - Hinckley, MN 55037 ..... **800-952-4282**

hinckleycvb@scicable.com / www.hinckleymn.com

Halfway between the Twin Cities & Duluth on I-35, experience small town hospitality & big city entertainment! The Hinckley Fire Museum, Grand Casino, 6 hotels, 16 restaurants, antiques & collectibles shopping, birding & wildlife.

▶ **Iron Range Tourism Bureau** ..... **218-749-8161**

403 North First Street - Virginia, MN 55792 ..... **800-777-8497**

info@ironrange.org / www.ironrange.org

Visit northeastern Minnesota's Iron Range for fascinating tours that are big on heritage and even bigger on fun! Historic sites, famous people, mine tours, ethnic foods, exceptional lodging, unmatched recreational opportunities and so much more.

## The Great RENDEZVOUS PLACE



**J**ourney along legendary Highway 61 and appreciate the spectacular scenery of the north shore of Lake Superior, the largest freshwater lake in the world. Grand Portage is just two and a half hours north of Duluth.

### A Perfect Destination

Visit High Falls in Grand Portage State Park. Enjoy Isle Royale National Park, an International Biosphere Reserve with daily boat service. Discover the rich history of aboriginal culture and the fur trade at Grand Portage National Monument's reconstructed stockade.

Grand Portage Lodge & Casino welcomes visitors year round for relaxation or play. We have Jacuzzi suites, 95 room accommodations, an indoor pool, a sauna and other amenities to make your visit comfortable and enjoyable. The 15,000 square foot Casino rolls 24 hours a day and features a Bingo Hall and over 450 slot machines, including video slots. Stop by Grand Portage's Trading Post, our smoke-free facility with a gift shop, grocery store, UPS parcel pick-up and 43 slot machines.

### Spectacular Events

At Grand Portage Lodge & Casino there's something for every one of all ages. From August 10th to 12th, participate in the Grand Portage's Rendezvous Days, an annual celebration of Ojibwe culture. Bayou Boogie, from August 31st to September 2nd features Louisiana music, dancing, feasting, Mardi Gras parades, storytelling, and crafts. Free Admission!

For more information, call 1-800-543-1384 or visit www.GrandPortage.com.

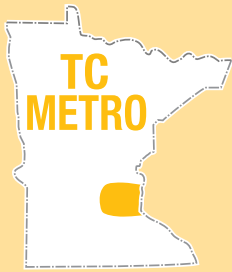
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# Skylines & Shorelines twin cities metro minnesota

## tc metro cities

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BURNSVILLE, CHANHASSEN, CHASKA,  
EAGAN, EXCELSIOR, LAKEVILLE,  
MINNEAPOLIS, ROSEVILLE, SHAKOPEE,  
SAINT PAUL, STILLWATER

## calendar of events

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

### september

- Aug 19 **Minnesota Renaissance Festival**,  
-Sep 30 Shakopee 952-445-7361
- Aug 23; 3 **Minnesota State Fair**,  
Saint Paul 651-288-4400
- 1-Dec 31 **We Gotta Bingo**,  
Saint Paul 651-227-2464
- 1-3 **Valleyfair Green Giant Corn Feast**,  
Shakopee 952-445-7600
- 8 **Fall Fever Day at Wine Haven**,  
Chisago City 651-257-1017
- 8-9 **James J Hill Days**,  
Wayzata 952-473-9595
- 8-Dec. 31 **Church Basement Ladies**,  
Plymouth 763-553-1600
- 9 **St. Paul Classic Bike Tour**,  
Saint Paul 952-882-3180
- 15-16 **Maple Grove Art Fair**,  
Maple Grove 763-494-5984
- 29-30 **Lone Oak Days at Holz Farm**,  
Eagan 651-675-5500

### october

- 6-7 **Apple Festival**,  
Hastings 651-436-8385
- 12-15, 18-22, 26-29, 31  
**Trail of Terror**, Shakopee 800-966-8215
- 19-20 & 25-27 **Shadows and Spirits of the State Capitol**,  
Saint Paul 651-296-2881
- 20-21 **Twin City Bead Bazaar**,  
Rosemount 952-492-2493

### november

- 3-4 **Harvest Jamboree**,  
Minneapolis 800-635-2479
- 3-4 **Twin Cities Chocolate Extravaganza**,  
Minneapolis 612-306-4026
- 8-11 **Autumn Festival**, An Arts & Crafts Affair,  
Shakopee 952-445-7223
- 30-Dec 16 **A Country Christmas Celebration**,  
Lakeville 952-898-7200

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Gluek's Restaurant & Bar signage - Minneapolis, MN

## Gluek's Restaurant and Bar Minneapolis, Minnesota

In the Minneapolis Warehouse District, there is an establishment that combines a special blend of history, culture, and contemporary spirit to emerge as one of the areas most comfortable and satisfying dining experiences. The large meeting room makes it a perfect choice for groups. The Gluek name can be traced to 1857, when the building was the original distribution center for the **Gluek Brewery**. This current building was built in 1902 and has won awards for its terra cotta facade. The bar gained in popularity after prohibition, and today the building has been restored to its original Bavarian beer hall design with detailed woodwork, stained glass, and arched ceilings. Gluek's welcomes groups with their old world charm, free wireless Internet, easy motorcoach parking and a great lunch and dinner menu. Don't forget the beer! Gluek's sold here.



## other wineries & breweries in the upper midwest



### Summit Brewing Saint Paul

The goal at Summit is to bring back the remarkable crafted beers of the Upper Midwest, and a free tour will show you just how it's done.

### Vine Park Brewing Company Saint Paul

The only brew-it-yourself-on-the-premises brewery in the Midwest also lets you make wine and features their special recipe River City Root Beer.

### Alexis Bailly Vineyards Hastings

All the grapes grown here had been had chosen by winery founder David Bailly not just for their hardiness, but for the flavor and excellence of the wine produced. To this day they continue to make award-winning red, white, blush and dessert wines on their 13 acres of land.

### Goose Lake Farm and Winery Elk River

As Anoka County's first winery, they produce a winning assortment of American table wines using cold climate grapes and fruits.

### Northern Vineyards Winery Stillwater

Take a seat on their great patio and watch the Saint Croix River flow by as you sample their white, red, blush and dessert wines.

### St. Croix Vineyards Stillwater

Come take a stroll in the vineyards of this fine winery, and register to be a part of the annual Grape Stomp in the fall.



## Architecture, Beer and Bingo!

This itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. You'll find it at coordinates K-8 & L-9 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of *Itineraries Minnesota Magazine*.

### 10 – 11:00 am

Start your day in **Saint Paul** with a tour of the home of **Great Northern Railway** empire builder **James J. Hill**. Completed in 1891, the 36,000 square-foot mansion features a sky lit art gallery, crystal chandeliers, pipe organ, and elaborate woodcarvings.

### 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Next up, learn how the **Great Waters Brewery** has created over 85 different beers. The brewery rests on the original site of the **St. Paul Cathedral**, and is blessed with a natural spring well. (It's the secret to their fabulous hand-crafted beer... holy water from the well!) Now that you've seen how it's done, enjoy a pint while enjoying their great food for lunch.

### 1 – 3:00 pm

Tour the **Summit Brewing Company**, the largest commercial brewery operating in the **Minneapolis/ Saint Paul** area. Learn about its humble beginning and finish up with a refreshing beer.

### 3 – 4:00 pm

See the **State Capitol Building**. This impressive building, made of white Georgia marble and **St. Cloud**

granite, has six marble statues above the main entrance to greet its visitors.

### 4 – 5:00 pm

The next stop is to **The Cathedral of Saint Paul**. Constructed from 1906 to 1915 as the mother church for the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis, the Cathedral has become a treasured landmark.

### 5 – 7:30 pm

Tour **Saint Paul gangsters** at the **Wabasha Street Caves**. Explore the sites of nightclubs, speakeasies, kidnappings, and gun battles associated with 1930's gangsters like

John Dillinger, Ma Barker and Babyface Nelson. The tour includes a stop at the site of the Hamm kidnapping.

### 7:30 pm

We Got a Bingo! Spend a crazy night at a church Bingo supper being held in a **German Beer Hall**. There's a delicious dinner, full bar, crazy Bingo prizes & live music.

For more information contact your tour operator or Michael Hernandez, Saint Paul RiverCentre Convention & Visitors Authority, 800-627-6101 ext 4906 or email [mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com](mailto:mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com).

# SaintPAUL

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For more information contact:  
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Tourism Group Sales**  
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1-800-627-6101  
(ext.4906)  
[mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com](mailto:mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com)  
[www.visitsaintpaul.com](http://www.visitsaintpaul.com)



## The NEW secret HOT SPOT in Roseville!



Love From Minnesota's main store has everything you need to create that north woods feeling for your home or cabin.



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Cty Rd BZ & Fairview across from Rosedale shopping center.  
Call **651-697-7007** or **800-247-3139**.

# White Lighting AND WINE



**S**aint Paul is where Prohibition actually began. Andrew J. Volstead, a congressman from Minnesota, sponsored the bill, which became the Volstead Act. In 1919, once the law was passed, the manufacture, transportation and sale of alcoholic beverages was prohibited, but drinking alcohol was not! Almost immediately, “booze” went underground. Average law-abiding citizens became criminals as they took to making moonshine in their basements or in stills hidden in the woods. One statistic from 1922 estimates that 75 percent of Saint Paul citizens were distilling moonshine or making wine! But bootlegging was big business too...for the gangsters. Prohibition created the wealth and power of organized crime, because the gangsters and mobsters provided what the people wanted: alcohol. But people also wanted a place to have a good time, and alcohol and speakeasies went hand in hand during Prohibition. At a speakeasy, people could “knock back a glass or two”, dance to some jazz or swing, maybe try their luck at blackjack or craps. It was exciting, it was a party, it was fun, and it was illegal (except for the music). But don't you wish you could still stop by for just one drink?

For more information about prohibition and bootleggers, gangsters and grain alcohol, call the Wabasha Street Caves, 651-292-1220.

# POMPEII... A City Suspended



**A** moment and a city, frozen in time by the sudden eruption of Mount Vesuvius, this is Pompeii an ancient city that used to flourish as a resort location for the Roman Empire back in 79 A.D. This is also the new exhibit coming to the Science Museum of Minnesota this summer. Pompeii and the surrounding villages were once a thriving fishing and agricultural community enhanced by foreign trade. There were about 20,000 people and their slaves inhabiting the region when the eruption took place. The society remained unseen, a stitch in time until it's discovery by 17th century scientists who slowly stumbled upon day-to-day artifacts. Through this they were able to piece together the lives of Pompeii citizens, which would eventually lead to the magnificent 10,000 square foot exhibit it is today. An experience you'll get to see perhaps once in a lifetime. A day in the life of a Pompeii citizen was filled with wall-sized frescos, ornate



marble and bronze statues of their gods/goddesses, coins and jewelry. The exhibit, A Day In Pompeii, at the Science Museum of Minnesota encompasses all these things in their over 30 artifacts to give you a glimpse of how life really was from waking up in the morning to being cremated at death, but by far the most haunting and memorable thing in the exhibit is

**Down In History TOURS**

**Speaking of SPEAKEASIES**

Have you been to the only remaining one in Saint Paul? Visit The Wabasha Street Caves. Learn about prohibition and bootleggers, gangsters and grain alcohol.

**WE LOVE GROUPS!**

[www.wabashastreetcaves.com](http://www.wabashastreetcaves.com) **651-292-1220**



the eight body casts of victims in the city, unmoving in their final moments on earth, their casts illustrate the bold reality of Pompeii that fateful day. Call 651-221-9444 or visit [www.smm.org](http://www.smm.org) for more information.

Opens June 27

# A DAY IN POMPEII

Presented by 

Experience Pompeii before and after the legendary eruption of Mount Vesuvius. *A Day in Pompeii* is a moving and awe-inspiring exhibit that tells the story of a city steeped in mystery. It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see some of ancient history's greatest treasures. For information or reservations call (651) 221-9444 or visit [smm.org](http://smm.org)

Free Acoustiguide audio tour in Spanish or English with admission.







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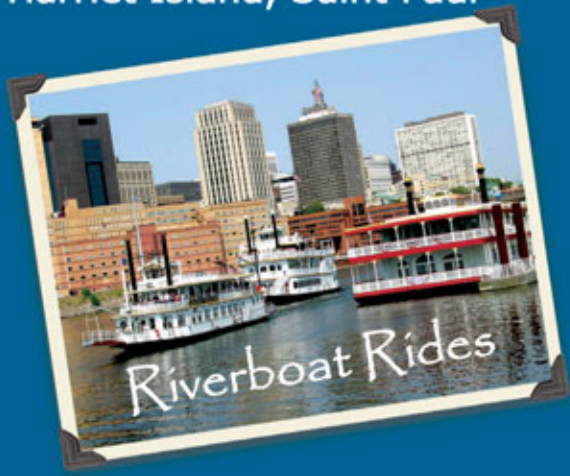
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- Public Cruises (Tuesday-Sunday):  
Noon and 2:00 PM: June - August
- Brunch, Picnic, Lunch & Lock and Dinner Cruises
- Private Charters for up to 710 People  
Weddings, Conferences, Parties, etc.

## Historic Brew



This itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. You'll find it at coordinates K-10 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of *Itineraries Minnesota Magazine*.

### DAY ONE

#### 9 – 9:30 am

The "FUN" will begin with a costumed guide sharing history, destinations, and humor while greeting and entertaining your group. The journey starts where Herman Strunk, a German immigrant, staked a claim in 1854 for a brewery. The **Strunk Nyssen Brewery** holds lots of history and waits for a new owner to revitalize it.

#### 9:30 – 11:00 am

Arrive at the home of Vernon & Jeanne Bjornberg who purchased the **Strunk Nyssen Home**. This home was completely restored to the late 1800's. View the lovely hand woven rugs that Mrs. Bjornberg made on her loom.

#### 11:00 am – 12:30 pm

The next stop will be at the **Rahr Malting Co.**, founded by entrepreneur **William Rahr** in 1847 as the **Eagle Brewery**, the single largest malt production site in the world producing more than 6.5 million bushels of malt a year.

#### 12:30 – 2:00 pm

Dine at **Wampach's** and learn the history of this family

restaurant, which was founded in 1954.

#### 2 – 2:30 pm

After lunch your guide will give you a tour of downtown **Shakopee** and share the history of the area with its fascinating prohibition stories.

#### 2:30 – 4:30 pm

Board the motorcoach and head to the **Crofut Family Vineyard**, which is proud to be Scott County's first commercial vineyard and winery. Hear the history of cross-pollinating grape vines starting over 100 years ago. Enjoy a tour, wine tasting and time in the gift shop.

#### 4:30 – 6:00 pm

Return to **Shakopee** and check into one of our fine group friendly hotels.

#### 6 – 8:00 pm

Enjoy dinner at **Dangerfield's**, known for their great Walleye & Prime Rib, plus excellent popovers, overlooking the **Minnesota River**.

#### 8:00 pm

The evening continues as you're entertained by the fun loving **Czech Area Concertina Band**. Hear songs like "Beautiful Brown Eyes", or "Down in the Valley" and learn the history of the Concertina.

### DAY TWO

#### 9 – 11:30 am

After breakfast you will head to **Jordan**; a little village nestled in the lovely **Minnesota River Valley**. Your guide "Elizabeth Burr" will greet you and begin a first person interpretation historic tour. See the Brewery Antiques housed in the historic **Schutz & Hilgers Brewery**, built in 1867. Hear its history and enjoy some antique shopping in the downtown stores.

#### 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Enjoy lunch at the **Feed Mill** followed by a tour of **Maureen Carlson's Center for Creative Arts**.

For more information or to customize this tour for your group, contact your tour operator or Carol Anderson at the Shakopee Chamber & Visitors Bureau at 800-574-2150.

## All Roads Lead to "FUN" in Shakopee

**W**hether it's learning about history or just having "FUN" we have it all right here for you in Shakopee, Minnesota. Just a sampling of the highlights in the area include the Historic Murphy's Landing, famous Valleyfair Amusement Park with their new ride the Renegade, Canterbury Park, Racetrack & Card Club, Chanhassen Dinner Theaters, Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, Raceway park and the Minnesota Renaissance Festival.

Enjoy a round of golf at one of our unique courses, check out the great shopping in the area, dine in one of our fantastic restaurants and stay in our amazing accommodations and you have found the perfect place for your vacation any season of the year. You are our guest so come and have "FUN" right here in Shakopee, Minnesota and take home memories that will last a lifetime.

## Shakopee, Minnesota

(shäk ö pē) the definition of Fun.

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1-800-574-2150 • [www.shakopee.org](http://www.shakopee.org)

## “Dogs Playing Poker” on display?

NOT QUITE.



**T**he Minneapolis Institute of Arts is one of the leading comprehensive fine art museums in the country. Located in a beautiful landmark building near downtown Minneapolis, the museum houses nearly 100,000 works of art representing more than 5,000 years of world art and culture. General admission, parking and public tours are all free of charge.

**Free Tours:** Guided tours are free Tuesday through Sunday at 1 pm; Thursday at 7 pm; and Saturday and Sunday at 2 pm. For groups of 15 or more, call (612) 870-3140. **Audio Tours:** Quick Stops audio tours allow visitors to connect with art at their own pace (\$4 rental for adults, \$3 for children). **Museum Shop:** Distinctive gifts, jewelry, and books are on display in the shop, open during museum hours. **Dining:** ArtsBreak and ArtsCafé by D’Amico & Sons offer delicious on-site dining options. **Museum Hours:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday 10 am–5 pm; Thursday 10 am–9 pm; Sunday 11 am–5 pm; closed Monday.

### Upcoming Exhibitions:

June 24, 2007 to September 2, 2007

**A Mirror of Nature: Nordic Landscape Painting 1840-1900**

October 7, 2007 to January 6, 2008

**Georgia O’Keeffe: Circling Around Abstractions**

For more information call 612-870-3000 or visit [www.artsmia.org](http://www.artsmia.org).



## GEORGIA O’KEEFFE

### Circling Around Abstraction

October 7 to January 6

Enter O’Keeffe’s uniquely beautiful world through this intimate look at one of the most original artists of the 20th century. Reserve a group tour and save 25%. Call (612) 870-3000.

This exhibition was organized by the Norton Museum of Art, West Palm Beach, Florida. National sponsorship provided by Mrs. Shelby Cullom Davis.

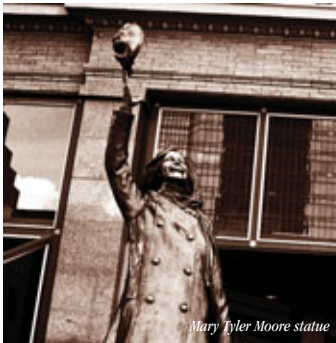
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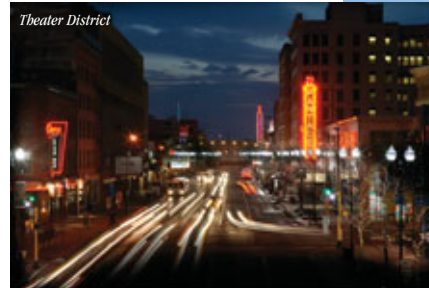
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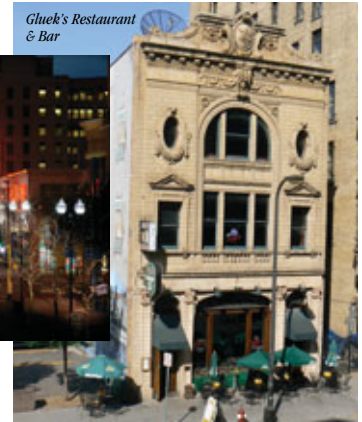
Mary Tyler Moore statue



Mill City Museum



Theater District



Gluek's Restaurant & Bar

*Eat, drink and see Mary!*

This sample itinerary works best February 22-24, 2008, during the Twin Cities Food & Wine Experience. You'll find it at coordinates G-17, I-6, on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

Uncork what is to be your group's tastiest weekend ever!

**DAY ONE** Thursday

1 – 2:30 pm

Start the tour off right with a stop in **New Ulm** for a tour of the **August Shell Brewery**, where nationally acclaimed **Grain Belt** beer is produced.

2:30 – 4:30 pm

Travel North on MN Hwy 169 to the **Twin Cities**.

4:30 – 6:00 pm

Check in to your hotel.

6:00 pm

Enjoy a **Le Cordon Bleu Culinary Program** gourmet dinner.

**DAY TWO** Friday

8 – 9:00 am

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel.

9 – 12:00 pm

A step-on-guide joins you for a tour of the **Minneapolis/Saint Paul** area. Hear the Twin Cities history, and keep an

eye out for the famous **1940's Grain Belt Beer bottle cap** overlooking the **Mississippi River**. Explore the unique shops along **Hennepin Avenue**, and witness the house that was filmed as Mary Tyler Moore's house on her classic TV show.

12 – 2:00 pm

Culinary students prepare a gourmet lunch for you at the **Art Institutes International Minnesota**. Then see the **Mary Tyler Moore statue** in front of **Macy's**. Bring along your tam to toss up in the air!

2 – 4:30 pm

Hear the story of the mighty **Mississippi**, a young thriving city and how flour fueled the growth of Minneapolis at **Mill City Museum** in the historic milling district.

4:30 – 7:00 pm

Sip on award-winning beers at **Rock Bottom Brewery** in downtown Minneapolis. This local hot spot produces more than 40,000 barrels of beer annually (oh, and the food rocks, too).

7 – 10:00 pm

Take in a theater performance at the **Historic State, Orpheum** or **Pantages Theater**, located in the theater district of downtown Minneapolis.

**DAY THREE** Saturday

11:00 am – 7:00 pm

Attend the **14th-annual Twin Cities Food & Wine Experience** at the **Minneapolis Convention Center**. Sample your share of more than 450 wines, meet celebrity chefs and visit more than 300 exhibitors to sample food from around the world.

7:00 pm

Enjoy live music and local brew at the oldest downtown bar and restaurant, **Gluek's Restaurant & Bar**.

**DAY THREE**

8:30 – 10:00 am

Before you head home, savor an award-winning, five-course Sunday brunch at **Nicollet Island Inn**, home to panoramic views of the **Mississippi River**.

For more information on this sample itinerary contact your tour operator or Lori Kearney, Meet Minneapolis, 800-445-7412 x.8114 or lorik@meetminneapolis.com.



Contact Lori Kearney:  
[lorik@meetminneapolis.com](mailto:lorik@meetminneapolis.com)  
 1.800.445.7412, ext. 8114  
[www.minneapolis.org/grouptravel](http://www.minneapolis.org/grouptravel)

Plan a trip to Minneapolis and take in a Viking exhibit or a Vikings game.  
 Only one city gives you both.

+ Discover our passion for the arts, our sports teams, and our serious take on shopping—the Mall of America.

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(877) 980-3002 > [www.visitroseville.com](http://www.visitroseville.com)

*Sip, savor and shop until you drop – in Bloomington!*

This sample itinerary is good September 7-9, 2007 during the Scrapfest or can be customized for any-time of the year. You'll find it at coordinates J-10 on your 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

**DAY ONE**

**3:30 – 9:00 pm**

Arrive at **Mall of America**, Minnesota's #1 attraction. Shop at more than 520 specialty stores which join four department stores; **Bloomingdale's**, **Macy's**, **Nordstrom** and **Sears** to create a world class shopping experience. Remember that there is no sales tax on clothing or shoes!

**DAY TWO**

**9 – 12:00 pm**

On **September 7 – 9**, you can scrap, stamp, craft and

design at **ScrapFest**, the ultimate scrapbooking event at Mall of America. If you can't make the event take a class at **Archiver's: The Photo Memory Store** in Mall of America. The shop helps you organize, preserve and display your photographs through creative ideas and techniques. Class schedules available at [www.archiversonline.com](http://www.archiversonline.com).

**12 – 2:00 pm**

While at the Mall, sample a variety of wines and enjoy outstanding cuisine at **Napa Valley Grille**. After lunch visit the **Old Vine Wine & Spirits** shop to select a favorite Minnesota or regional wine to bring home.

**2 – 4:00 pm**

Take a short drive to **Spa Bella Casa**, in **Edina**, where you can relax and unwind. They offer facial services, spa body therapies, message therapies and other rejuvenating services.



**4 – 5:00 pm**

Head back to the hotel to freshen up.

**5 – 9:00 pm**

Class is in session so don't be tardy! Taught by distinguished and talented chefs, **Cooks of Crocus Hill** offers a variety of gourmet cooking classes.

For more information or to customize this itinerary for your group, contact Julie Giorgio at the Bloomington Convention and Visitors Bureau, 866-435-7425.

*Gaming, Crafting and more*

This itinerary works best November 8-11, 2007 during the Arts & Crafts Festival at Canterbury Park, Shakopee, MN. It can be found on coordinates C-13, F-12 & G-12 on your 2007 Annual Group Travel Map, distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

**DAY ONE**

**10 – 12:30 pm**

Start with a guided tram tour at the **Minnesota Landscape Arboretum** in **Chanhassen**. This narrated 3-mile drive covers various tree and shrub collections as well as seasonal-interest gardens. Afterwards, enjoy a flowerpot lunch in a private room with garden views.

Plus you can take home the flowerpot and receive a 10% discount in the Gift Store with advance registration!

**12:30 – 12:45 pm**

Travel North to **Canterbury Park** in **Shakopee** and attend the **Midwest's largest Arts & Crafts Festival**.

**12:45 – 4:00 pm**

This annual arts and craft affair features over 500 artisans and crafters displaying everything from stained glass to American folk art pieces. Also find food and refreshments along this way. The craft show is one that die-hard shoppers and casual browsers alike never want to miss!

**4 – 4:15 pm**

Continue your travel north to **Mystic Lake and Casino Hotel** in **Prior Lake**. The Twin Cities' only casino hotel and one of the largest Midwest casinos, featuring the finest in Midwest gaming combined with all the amenities of a luxury hotel.

**4:15 – 5:00 pm**

Check into your luxurious accommodations and freshen up before dinner.

**5 – 6:00 pm**

An international culinary adventure awaits you at **The Buffet**, the largest casino buffet in the Midwest! Tempt your taste buds with your favorite dishes from around the globe including carved Prime Rib, Fresh Seafood, Hearth-Baked Pizzas, Chicken Kiev and Moo Goo Gai Pan. Indulge yourself at the dessert station



offering everything from tempting pastries to towering sundaes and gourmet coffees.

**6 – 10:00 pm**

When your bellies are full try your luck at the casino! Choose from nickel slot machines, high stakes Blackjack, Minnesota poker, or Bingo! With nearly 4,000 slot machines and 96 Blackjack game tables, you're sure to be entertained!

**DAY TWO**

**9 – 10:00 am**

For breakfast dine in an outdoor setting... indoors, in the lush **Minnehaha Café**. Perfect for the lighter fare to the hearty.

**10:00 am**

After breakfast try your luck once again at the casino before heading for home.

For more information on this sample itinerary contact your tour operator or Twin Cities Tourism Attractions Association, 952-858-8493.

**Fun in the Twin Cities**  
For brochure, call 952-858-8493 or visit [funminnesota.com](http://funminnesota.com)

# An Inspiring Change of Seasons AT THE ARBORETUM!



**S**avor the invigorating chill and breathtaking beauty of autumn ablaze at the **Minnesota Landscape Arboretum** in Chaska, the largest public garden in the Midwest. In addition to its 32 specialty gardens, extensive plant collections and natural areas, the Arboretum also offers fabulous tour packages to make your group's visit especially memorable.

For a garden adventure unlike any other, be sure not to miss the new and permanent **Maze Garden**, only at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. The Maze Garden's dead-ends and hidden nooks provide a fun challenge as your group makes their way through the intricate labyrinth of closely planted trees and shrubs. The final destination is **Lookout Tower**, an observation point where you can watch others in the group navigate their way through the maze.

Bring out the "kid" in every member of your group as you explore "Art to A-Maze." This juried exhibition of 15 inspiring sculptures and environmental art installations offers a variety of interactive experiences, making every step through the "Walk" truly memorable. "Art to A-Maze" is open now through September 30, 2007.

Experience the exhilarating beauty of autumn at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum. As summer turns to fall and fall to winter, discover the amazing secrets of plants and the creatures that rely on them as they prepare to survive the elements of winter. Explore these fabulous fall phenomena on your forays into the Arboretum's gardens and woods.



## ARBORETUM TOUR GROUP PACKAGES [Now–Oct 2007]

Wow! The Landscape Arboretum is doing it again! Hundreds of acres with dozens of gardens, plus the Arboretum's own Scenic Byway – a three-mile roadway on the motorized Trumpet Creeper Tram ready to guide your group through this stunning array of nature's delights. These packages can be guided walking tours or tram rides.

### Dahlia Garden Tour Package

For groups with limited time, enjoy the gardens, then add shopping with a 10% discount in the Gift Store.

### Ginkgo Flower Pot Luncheon & Garden Tour Package

After touring the gardens enjoy lunch served in a flowerpot your guests can take home. Guests receive a 10% discount in the Gift Store with advance registration.

### Azalea Deluxe Garden Tour Package

Tour our most popular display gardens located near the Oswald Visitor Center before an Arboretum-style picnic in your own private room. Enjoy beautiful views of the gardens, a hot buffet lunch, and homemade dessert. Complete your experience with a special gardening class and take-home gift for each guest. Shop in the Gift Store with a 10% discount.

Remember, the tour operator/escort and driver always receive complimentary admission.

The **Minnesota Landscape Arboretum** is the largest public garden in the Upper Midwest. For more details call 952-443-1411 or email [matso024@umn.edu](mailto:matso024@umn.edu).



Minnesota Landscape  
**ARBORETUM**

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For more information call 952-443-1411 or visit  
[www.arboretum.umn.edu](http://www.arboretum.umn.edu)

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

# THE MINNESOTA STATE FAIR: 12 days of fun by the numbers.



More than 50 entertainers on five free stages, over 100 scream-inducing carnival rides, 300 food vendors, 5,000 competitions and 11 nights of big-name Grandstand acts make the Great Minnesota Get-Together the best days of summer. The 2007 State Fair runs August 23 through Labor Day, September 3.

### Thrifty Thursday – Thursday, Aug 23

Take advantage of discounts on admission, food, merchandise and Mighty Midway and Kidway rides and games.

### Governor's Fire Prevention Day – Friday, Aug 24

The world's largest fire prevention education celebration takes place all day.

### 4-H & Motorcycle Safety Awareness Day – Sat., Aug 25

Don't miss the 4-H Purple Ribbon Auction.

### Amateur Talent Contest – Sunday, Aug 26

Head to the Bandshell for the evening's Amateur Talent Contest semi-finals.

### Seniors, Kids & MN State Patrol Day – Monday, Aug 27

Enjoy discounted admission for seniors and kids ages 5-12.

### \$8 At The Gate Day – Tuesday, Aug 28

Everyone gets in for the kids' price – just \$8 admission all day!

### Hop On Transit and Save Day – Wednesday, Aug 29

Save on transportation and admission by taking a State Fair Express Bus.

### Seniors Day – Thursday, Aug 30

Seniors save \$4 on admission.

### MPR Day – Friday, Aug 31

Listen to live broadcasts at dozens of local media booths on the fairgrounds.

### Grandstand Weekend – Saturday, Sept 1

See one of your favorite entertainers at the historic State Fair Grandstand.

### Foundation Day – Sunday, Sept 2

Pick up a "Deals, Drawings and Giveaways" guide at any information booth.

### Kids & Last Chance Day – Monday, Sept 3

Kids save \$3 on admission to keep some of the allowance in their pockets.

For more information including admission prices, special discount days, group hospitality and off-season events, visit us at [www.mnstatefair.org](http://www.mnstatefair.org), or call 651-288-4310.

**START PLANNING NOW!**  
Enjoy all the fair fun for groups!

Contact the group sales department for info on discount days, free bus parking, catered picnics and more! Call (651) 288-4310 or e-mail [groups@mnstatefair.org](mailto:groups@mnstatefair.org)

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## Rivers & Vines, Art & Wine

This itinerary is best Summer through Fall. You'll find it at coordinates K-10 on the 2007 Annual Group Travel Map distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

### DAY ONE

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

**Walker Art Center & Sculpture Garden** is where you will start your tour. It offers visitors an opportunity to enjoy important works of art by leading American and International artists in a setting of plazas, walkways, and plantings.

12 – 1:30 pm

Head towards **Saint Paul** and be amazed at the many historic mansions along **Summit Avenue** – including the



nationally renowned **James J. Hill Mansion**. See **St. Paul Cathedral** and the **Minnesota State Capitol** up close.

1:30 – 4:30 pm

Arrive at the **Marjorie McNeely Conservatory and Como Zoo**. Visit an authentic neo-tropical rainforest and explore the relationships between plants and animals. Enjoy lunch at **Zöbota Café**, featuring chef specials, unique grilled sandwiches and more.

4:30 – 6:00 pm

Next it's time for a little shopping. **Woodbury Lakes** is the East metro's newest outdoor lifestyle shopping center. Stroll amongst some of the Twin Cities' finest retailers and restaurants in a brand new shopping experience.

6 – 8:00 pm

Return to your hotel for a break and then it's out to one of **Eagan's** premiere dining spots – **Jensen's Supper Club**. Enjoy one of their signature martinis or a glass of wine while enjoying an excellent dinner.

### DAY TWO

9 – 10:00 am

Enjoy a hot, continental breakfast at your hotel before you check out.

10:00 am – 1:00 pm

The first stop today on your **Rivers & Vines, Art & Wine**

adventure will be **Stillwater**, Minnesota. Situated near the **St. Croix River**, you'll enjoy strolling the streets of this historic river town before you start your wine tour. **Northern Vineyards Winery** offers complimentary wine tasting and is one of six wineries that make up the **Minnesota Wine Trail**.

1 – 3:30 pm

The next stop will be the **St. Croix Vineyards & Winery** (lunch along the way). Located just west of **Stillwater**, this winery offers complimentary wine tasting in a restored century old barn. Feel free to stroll through their picturesque vineyard.

3:30 – 6:00 pm

On to **Cannon Falls** which is located in the scenic **Cannon Valley**, at the junction of the **Big** and **Little Cannon Rivers**. Here you'll make the third stop on the **Minnesota Wine Trail** at the **Cannon River Winery**. Enjoy wine tasting as well as a guided tour of the winery. Take a final stroll through historic downtown **Cannon Falls**.

6:00 pm

Head for home!

For more information or to customize this itinerary for your group contact your tour operator or the Eagan CVB, 866-EAGAN-20.



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**W**ithout a doubt, if you're planning a night out, consider the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre for mouth-watering food, and even better entertainment. This calendar of upcoming performances for Fall should help make your decision just a little easier.



\*Opening June 15, 2007 **Les Misérables:** This celebrated musical has been called "the theatrical event of a lifetime." Seen by 53 million people around the globe, the world's longest running musical will enjoy an original staging at Chanhassen. It's a powerfully moving tale of the human spirit that's not to be missed!

\*Opening August 10, 2007 **RESPECT: A Musical Journey of Women:** A harmonious musical portraying the history of women in the 19th century through 60 of the favorite top-40 hits of the times.

\*Opening September 7, 2007 **The Wonder Bread Years:** A hilarious one man show about the happier days of childhood, when candy was currency and the most dangerous kid in school carried a "switch-comb." A must see for anyone who was once a kid.

For information and show times please call 800-355-6273 or visit [www.chanhassendt.com](http://www.chanhassendt.com).

## Fall in Love with the AMERICAN SWEDISH INSTITUTE

**A**s the leaves begin to drop from the trees and the brisk air of fall pokes its head through the door, you'll find more and more people just want to be indoors, or better yet inside castle doors. A great idea for Fall tours this year is the comfortable American Swedish Institute. This year they have a great exhibit through October 7th called "Sacred Beauty," a showcase of older religious vestments and textiles from Swedish Cathedrals and Churches convey the strong religious heritage that the Swedish arrived with. But if you don't make it in before October you're still in for a treat, because there's nothing like the American Swedish Institute in the holiday season. It's a Nordic Christmas this time of year with food, crafts, and exquisitely decorated rooms, one to represent each Nordic country. Be sure not to overlook the gifts offered now, for they are sure to be a unique addition to your Holiday gift giving. For more information call 612-871-4907.



## Huzzah and Cheers for 37 years!

This Sample itinerary is designed for this year's Renaissance festivals Wine, Chocolate & Romance Weekend; September 22, 23. You'll find it on coordinates D-13 on your 2006 Annual Group Travel Map, distributed in the Fall 2006 issue of Itineraries Minnesota Magazine.

### 8:45 – 9:00 am

Welcome to the **Minnesota Renaissance Festival!** Celebrate 37 years at the opening gate show as **King Henry** and his friends welcome you to the celebration.

### 9 – 9:30 am

This weekend's theme is **Wine, Chocolate, and Romance**. Bring your sweetie and renew your vows while wearing your 16th Century best.

### 9:30 – 11:00 am

Begin your journey through the 16th century village filled with more than 275 nationally acclaimed artisans who work right in front of you, offering wonderfully handcrafted items you won't find in any retail store.

### 11 – 12:00 pm

Stop in at any of the 12 stages and enjoy a variety of theatrical, comedy, and magic shows. Be sure to get in on the chocolate festival with free chocolate samples!

### 12 – 2:00 pm

Enjoy fantastic food and drink fit for a king at any of the eight common areas. Be sure to try the favorite turkey legs. But then you won't want to miss the queen's apples, scotch eggs, or soup in a bread bowl either. And don't forget to get a gigantic dill pickle on a stick or any of the other 16th century delights.

### 2 – 2:30 pm

Find a shady spot to watch the afternoon **Grand March Parade**. This parade wraps around the festival grounds and includes appearances by the **Royal Court, Mayor's Entourage, Rat Catcher**, and the rest of the village. The Parade ends with a royal reception at the **Bakery Stage**, a perfect opportunity to catch the entire cast in action.

### 2:30 – 4:00 pm

Time for the **Grape Stomp!** You and your sweetie can stomp til' your hearts delight and follow up by joining the **Purple Foot Club!** All while imbibing...Wine, wine, and more wine! Then head down to the games area and test your skill by throwing tomatoes at the village idiot, he loves that!

### 4 - 5:30 pm

Time for a little competition of the truest kind! **The Best Bloomers and Men in Tights** contests! If you're too



shy to enter, you may observe while sampling some homemade wine or may I suggest chocolate?

### 5:30 – 6:30 pm

Find food! You couldn't possibly have hit all the fantastic food and drink booths yet!

### 6:30 – 7:00 pm


Unwind to the beat of the village drums as they beckon you towards the gate during the **Drum Jam on Bad Manor Green**.

### 7:00 pm

Bid farewell to the quaint village as the cannon signals the end to another great day at the **Minnesota Renaissance Festival!**

For more information or to customize this itinerary for your group, contact your tour operator or The Minnesota Renaissance Festival's Group Sales 1-800-966-8215.

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2007 Minnesota  
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AmericInn Airport/Bloomington ... 800-634-3444
AmericInn Lodge & Suites ... 763-566-7500
AmericInn of Annandale ... 320-274-3006
AmericInn of Chanhassen ... 952-934-3888
AmericInn of Hastings ... 651-437-8877
AmericInn of Long Lake ... 952-475-4422
AmericInn of Moundsview ... 763-476-2140
AmericInn of Stillwater ... 651-275-0980

- Doubletree Guest Suites ... 612-492-2203
Holiday Inn Express ... 651-636-5800
Mystic Lake Casino Hotel ... 952-496-6528

- Super 8 Minneapolis/Golden Valley ... 763-546-6277

- Alexis Bailly Winery & Winery ... 651-437-1413

- American Swedish Institute ... 612-871-4907
Bachman's Floral, Home & Garden Center ... 612-861-7692

ATTRACTIONS

- Gibbs Museum of Pioneer and Dakotah Life ... 651-646-8629

- Historic Murphy's Landing ... 952-445-6900

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- Minnesota Historical Society ... 888-727-8386
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- Minnesota Zoo ... 952-431-9200

- Padelford Packet Boat Company ... 651-227-1100

- Science Museum of Minnesota ... 651-221-9426

- Treasure Island Resort & Casino ... 800-222-7077 ext. 2786

- Walker Art Center & Minneapolis Sculpture Garden ... 612-375-7659

- Wabasha Street Caves ... 651-292-1220

- Bloomington Convention & Visitors Bureau ... 952-858-8500

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- Minnesota Zoo ... 952-431-9200

- Padelford Packet Boat Company ... 651-227-1100

- Science Museum of Minnesota ... 651-221-9426

- Treasure Island Resort & Casino ... 800-222-7077 ext. 2786



# directory

► **Burnsville Convention & Visitors Bureau** ..... **952-898-5646**  
 101 W. Burnsville Pkwy. Ste 150B - Burnsville, MN 55337 ..... **800-521-6055**

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► **Eagan Convention & Visitors Bureau** ..... **651-675-5546**  
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► **Twin Cities Tourism Attractions Association** ..... **952-858-8493**  
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 TWIN CITIES OF MINNESOTA ATTRACTIONS. So Much to Do! Four Seasons! We list the best entertainment and hotels. Our information guide helps you plan for your clients and group tours. Metro area CVBs are listed.

## ENTERTAINMENT & THEATER

► **Celebration Church** ..... **952-898-7200**  
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► **Plymouth Playhouse** ..... **763-553-1600**  
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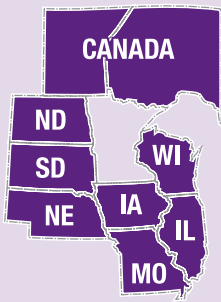
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## ITINERARIES *Midwest*

### upper midwest regions

CENTRAL CANADA, ILLINOIS, IOWA,  
MISSOURI, NEBRASKA, NORTH DAKOTA,  
SOUTH DAKOTA, WISCONSIN

### calendar of events

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

#### central canada

- Aug 5-18 **Folklorama**, Winnipeg 207-943-1970  
Sept 13-16 **Bay Street Film Festival**,  
Thunder Bay 800-667-8386

#### illinois

- Aug 30 **National Sweet Corn Festival**,  
-Sept 4 Hoopeston 800-383-4386  
Sept 15-16 **Celtic Fest**, Chicago 312-744-3370  
Oct 27 **Fall Eagle Fest**, Apple River 815-594-2306

#### iowa

- Aug 3-5 **Lowden Sesquicentennial Celebration**,  
Lowden 563-941-5800  
Oct 3-7 **The Ties that Bind: A Quilt Show**,  
Urbandale 515-178-5286  
Oct 13-14 **Covered Bridge Festival**,  
Winterset 800-298-6119

#### missouri

- Sept 1-3 **Annual Japanese Festival**,  
St Louis 614-577-5100  
Nov 1 **Branson Area Festival of Lights**,  
-Dec 31 Branson 800-214-3661

#### nebraska

- Aug 18 **12th Annual Blues Festival**,  
Pierce 402-329-6774  
Aug 9-12 **Nebraska Senior Games**,  
Kearney 308-237-4644  
Sept 9 **21st Annual Fremont Toy Show**,  
Fremont 402-567-2524

#### north dakota

- Sept 12-16 **Sunflower Festival**,  
Enderlin 701-820-0121  
Nov 30 **Dickens Village Festival**,  
-Dec 1 Garrison 800-799-4242

#### south dakota

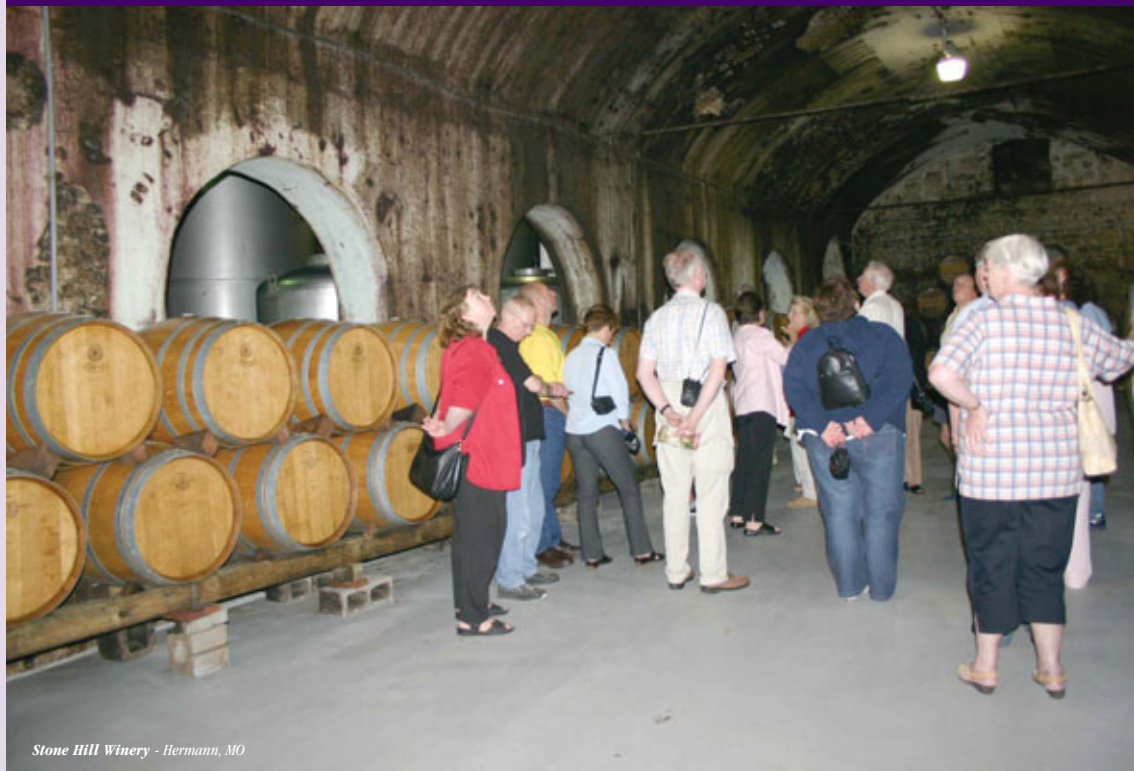
- Sept 22-23 **Wine Train into the West**,  
Hill City 605-574-2222  
Nov 9-10 **Huron Ringneck Festival**,  
Huron 800-487-6673

#### wisconsin

- Aug 24-26 **Mexican Fiesta**, Milwaukee 414-383-7066  
Sept 15 **Whooping Crane Festival**,  
Necedah 608-565-2101

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*Making the journey the destination*  
**upper midwest**



Stone Hill Winery - Hermann, MO

## *Stone Hill Winery*

Hermann, Missouri

Missouri's oldest and most awarded winery. Dating back to 1847, the winery was once world renowned, and the nation's second largest winery. Prohibition destroyed the wine industry in Missouri. Then in 1965 the Held family purchased the winery and began the long process of restoring its picturesque buildings. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, today **Stone Hill Winery** welcomes visitors with open arms. Tour guides usher visitors through the ancient arched cellars, the modern, state-of-the-art production facility and the beautiful wine-tasting room and spacious gift shop. Next to the winery is the restored carriage house and horse barn which houses the **Vintage Restaurant**, specializing in German cuisine. The Helds are proud of their mission to produce the finest wines that can be made and are succeeding at putting Hermann back on the map as a world-class wine-producing area. With such a rich winemaking heritage, Stone Hill Winery is truly an intriguing union of old world history and new world technology.



### other wineries & breweries in the upper midwest



#### **Anheuser-Busch Brewery** St. Louis, MO

Historic architecture awaits you at the largest of Anheuser's 12 breweries. Start off your tour with a trip to the stables, through the plant, and end in the hospitality room.

#### **Empyrean Brewery** Lincoln, NE

Nebraska's largest brewery started in 1990 and now brews over 88,000 gallons of beer yearly; they offer tours the first Monday of every month.

#### **Goose Island Beer Company** Chicago, IL

This business is famous not only for their award winning beers, but also their highly acclaimed sodas found all over the country.

#### **Labatt Brewing Company** London, Ontario, Canada

The famous brewing company tour will take visitors on an adventure to see how 720 million bottles of the best selling Canadian beer in the world are produced annually.

#### **Miller Brewing Company Visitor Center** Milwaukee WI

Make a "Good Call," and visit the Miller Center where you'll be taken through 150 years of the company's heritage & history.

#### **Vineyards and Winery** Nauvoo, IL

A quaint family owned winery that has French growing roots and is also the oldest in the state offers white, red, blush and fruit wines as well as non-alcoholic grape and sparkling juices.

#### **Creek Winery** Cedarburg, WI

A limestone building constructed in the late 1800's that is ideal for barrel aging they make red, blush and white wine varieties.

#### **Dakota Hills Winery** Knox, ND

There's more to do here than just sample the red, white, blush, and fruit wines. Visitors may also take a winery or farm tour, petting zoo, bird watching, and picnic areas all available.

#### **Park Farm Winery** Bankston, IA

Red, white, blush and fruit wines are all produced in this vineyard and winery located on the beauty of Iowa's northeast hills.

#### **Prairie Berry Winery** Hill City, SD

Tour this magnificent winery with a family that's been in the wine business for over 130 years; they specialize in South Dakota fruit wines, but also offer grape and dessert varieties.



*Because... Someone you love is always playing in Branson*

This itinerary is best anytime of the year.



**DAY ONE**

**3 – 4:00 pm**

Check into one of **Branson's** award-winning hotels. Choose from many great lodgings including the **Welk Resort, Myer Hotels & Radisson Hotel.**

**4 – 6:30 pm**

Enjoy a welcoming reception & dinner at one of several new restaurants at **Branson Landing** overlooking **Lake Taneycomo.**

**6:30 – 7:45 pm**

Shop at Branson Landing before the night's entertainment.

**7:45 – 10:00 pm**

See the evening show at **Dick Clark's American Bandstand Theater**, rockin' with a revolving line-up of legendary rock stars.

**10:00 pm**

Return to your hotel.

**DAY TWO**

**8 – 9:00 am**

Have breakfast at your hotel.

**9 – 11:00 am**

See **The World's Largest TITANIC Museum Attraction**, a

permanent two-story museum shaped like Titanic herself. Towering 100 feet and anchored in water to create the illusion of Titanic at sea.

**11 – 12:30 pm**

**"Ride the Ducks" Tour**, a perfect combination of fun and music makes this the best way to enjoy Branson.

**12:30 – 2:00 pm**

Choose from one of many Branson restaurants for a great lunch.

**2 – 3:00 pm**

Do a little browsing along the way as you head over to the afternoon show.

**3 – 5:30 pm**

See the **Pierce Arrow Show**. You'll laugh like never before... You'll love the smooth sounds... You'll be amazed by some of the best stage effects in town... You'll be stirred by the patriotic medleys.

**5:30 – 7:30 pm**

Dinner is at **Tony Z's Italian Ristorante**. Traditional Italian recipes and authentic dishes served in an elegant and romantic setting.

**7:30 – 10:00 pm**

The evening show is the **Liverpool Legends**, a Beatles tribute band that will make you feel like you're watching the real thing!



For more information or to customize this tour for your group, contact your tour operator or Branson/Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce/CVB, 417-334-4084.



*Missouri Wine Country*

This sample itinerary is best summer through fall.

Voted "**Missouri's Most Beautiful Town**" by readers of Rural Missouri Magazine, **Hermann** is an ideal getaway for Missourians and fellow Midwesterners alike. From knowledgeable, well-trained staff to a personal motor coach escort, our guests can expect nothing less than VIP treatment.

**DAY ONE**

**9:30 – 11:00 am**

Enjoy local musician **Marilyn Loehning's** German folk sounds from the comfort of your motorcoach on our **"Music on the Move"** musical step-on narrated tour of historic Hermann.

**11:00 am – 12:30 pm**

Visit **Stone Hill Winery**, Missouri's oldest and most awarded winery, where you'll tour the largest series of

vaulted cellars in North America. After the guided tour, stop by one of our historic tasting rooms for samples of award-winning wines or grape juice. Complete your visit by browsing through our spacious gift shop, well stocked with quality wine-related items.

**12:30 – 2:30 pm.**

Enjoy lunch on your own at one of the many eateries in historic downtown Hermann, then walk it off by shopping in specialty stores and antique shops within easy reach by foot.

**2:30 – 3:30 pm**

Step back in time with a visit to the **German School Museum**. Used as an elementary school until 1955, the museum contains memorabilia from Hermann's early days. View the school's clock tower mechanism, in operation since 1890.

**3:30 – 6:00 pm**

Check into one of Hermann's many bed and breakfast inns or hotels. Take a little time to relax and experience the hospitality of small-town America.

**6 – 8:00 pm**

Dine at **Vintage Restaurant** at Stone Hill Winery. Once the winery's original carriage room and horse barn, this modern dining facility maintains all of its Old-World charm as well as much of its original iron and woodwork. Enhance your evening meal with a musical performance by local singing sensation **Jack Cady**.

**DAY TWO**

**9 – 10:00 am**

Take a guided tour of **Deutschheim State Historic Site**, which captures the culture and heritage of the German people who migrated to Missouri in the mid-to-late 19th century.

**10 – 11:30 am**

Visit **Swiss Meat and Sausage Company** just 12 miles south of Hermann. In addition to tasting award-winning sausages, you will get a complimentary tour of the facilities. It's a good idea to bring coolers.

**11:30 am – 1:00 pm**

Enjoy a quick bite of lunch at Swiss Meats. Order deli sandwiches or one of their famous brats.

**1 – 2:30 pm**

Wrap up your visit to **Missouri Wine Country** with a tour of **Our Lady of Sorrows Shrine** in nearby **Rhineland**, Missouri just six miles from Hermann. Tucked into the surrounding countryside on 40 acres, this Shrine is a spiritual refuge for many visitors. **The Shrine Chapel, St. Martin's Church** and unique grottos are all part of this beautiful landscape.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group contact your tour operator or Lucinda Huskey, Stone Hill Winery, 573-486-2221.



Making the journey the destination

ITINERARIES  
Midwest



## One Region. SIX MUSEUMS.

**T**our six different museums in the spectacular Iowa Great Lakes region of Northwest Iowa. Three adjoining cities carry the history of the territory for all to enjoy. Spirit Lake has the Dickinson Museum of pioneer artifacts, illustrating the past of the smallest county in Iowa. Higgins Museum of Money in Okoboji showcases the largest collection of National Bank Notes on permanent display anywhere in the United States. Pearson Lakes Art Center, also in Okoboji, has everything art related from classes, to interactive exhibits, to performance art.

The final three museums all reside in Arnold's Park, IA, adjacent to the classic amusement park by the same name. The Iowa Great

Lakes Maritime Museum gives you a look at a rare collection of antique wooden boats, plus a boat pulled from the depths of West Okoboji. The Abbie Gardner State Historic Site was the first site of the "Spirit Lake Massacre" in 1857. Learn the dramatic story of 13-year old Abbie and the Dakota leader, Inkpaduta. And finally, The Iowa Rock N' Roll Music Museum exhibits every aspect of music in the state, and preserves the rich history of Iowa Music. As a bonus...get your 'passport' stamped at all six locations to enter in a drawing for the grand prize at the end of the season. For more information contact the Rock N' Roll Museum at 712-332-6540.



### Winning ways in Decorah & Winneshiek County



This sample itinerary can be customized for your group anytime of the year.

#### DAY ONE

**10 – 11:00 am**

Enjoy a "Taste of Agriculture" at the Dairy Center in Calmar. Explore the dairy industry with hands-on learning and interactive displays. Plus make your own homemade ice cream.

**11:00 am – 12:00 pm**

Relax at the Train Station in Calmar for lunch as you select from delicious menu options.

**12:15 – 12:30 pm**

Travel east to Spillville.

**12:30 – 1:30 pm**

Be greeted by gorgeous hand-carved clocks that stand over 9-feet tall as you tour Bily Clock Museum.

**1:30 – 2:30 pm**

Step inside historic St. Wenceslaus Church as you tour



the grounds and beautiful cathedral that includes the first pipe organ.

**2:30 – 3:30 pm**

Travel Northeast to Decorah.

**3:30 – 4:30 pm**

Arrive at Vesterheim Norwegian American Museum. America's most comprehensive museum devoted to a

single ethnic group.

**4:30 – 5:30 pm**

Step back in time at the Porter House Museum. This Italianate villa was built in 1867. Exotic butterflies, rocks, minerals, seashells, and a unique rock wall are only part of the treasures you'll find.

**4:30 – 7:00 pm**

Enjoy fine dining at Hotel Winneshiek in Decorah. Choose



from a variety of elegant dinner options as you sit back and enjoy the theatrical, 19th century atmosphere the Steyer Opera House presents.

**7:00 pm**

Rest up in one of Decorah's great hotels, motels, or B&B's or freshen up for some night life on Water Street (Decorah's main strip).

#### DAY TWO

**8 – 9:00 am**

Enjoy a hot breakfast before your day's activities.

**9 – 10:00 am**

Arrive at Seed Savers Heritage Farm north of Decorah. This 890-acre farm is a living museum of historic varieties. Your group will enjoy the organic preservation gardens, historic orchards and ancient white park cattle.

discover  
**Decorah**  
winneshiek county

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**A**fter just one year, Diamond Jo Casino is already expanding our amenities in Northwood, Iowa (just a few miles south of Albert Lea, MN). You'll find lots of free motorcoach parking, plus discounts and special packages for your groups.

In the spring of 2007 at Diamond Jo Casino, you'll discover 365 new slots, 11 additional table games, Big Wheel Bar expansion and a new Casino Bar area. There will also be a High Denomination slot room and a new 5,500 square foot entertainment complex. Groups will love to dine at Diamond Jo with the new buffet and banquet room.

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thrill of the hunt with fine waterfowling, upland hunting, and even sporting clays. Diamond Jo offers a private lodge stocked with top shelf amenities for relaxing in unmatched comfort.



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For additional information about bringing your group to game and play at Diamond Jo Casino, call Lori Bahl, 800-582-5956 ext 113.

### 10 – 11:00 am

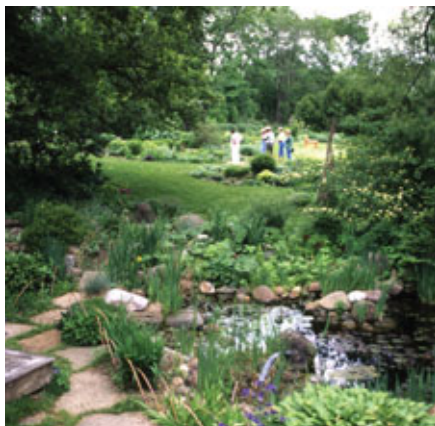
Spend a day in the country at **Winneshiek Wildberry Winery**. Spend time tasting wines, touring the winery, vineyard and gift shop. Special wine etiquette and other classes are available for groups.

### 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Cater in lunch and relax at the winery's indoor patio and rose garden.

### 12 – 1:00 pm

Explore **Willowglen Nursery**. Roam the exquisite



perennial gardens, which delight the eye time and time again. Willowglen is a must see for all garden lovers visiting the area.

### 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Tour **Luther College** and **Decorah's Prairie & Butterfly Garden**. Listen to college professor Kirk Larsen discuss the challenges he and his biology students faced in restoring tall-grass prairie along the beautiful Upper Iowa River.

### 3 – 6:00 pm

Enjoy **Decorah's downtown shopping experience**. Forget the big box stores. Unique boutiques and shops are always the order of the day in Decorah. Handmade jewelry, gifts, antiques, clothing, lingerie, wine, books...it's all here!

### 6 – 7:00 pm

Kick back for dinner at **La Rana Bistro, Café & Wine Bar**. They feature a Mediterranean style menu using fresh and local ingredients in an attractive, intimate setting.

### 7:00 pm

Grab a chair and head to the **Courthouse** lawn for **Lawn Chair Night** each Thursday evening throughout the

summer. Music and dance groups take the 'street stage' for free, live entertainment that is enjoyed by all.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group contact your tour operator or Winneshiek CVB, 800-463-4692 or visit [www.decoraharea.com](http://www.decoraharea.com).

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Making the journey the destination

ITINERARIES  
Midwest

## Welcome to Northern Ontario!



Sault Ste. Marie to Thunder Bay. This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year.

### DAY ONE Sault Ste. Marie

11:00 am – 4:00 pm

Welcome aboard one of the most popular train excursions in North America, the **Agawa Canyon Train Tour**. See spectacular views of towering trestles, granite rock formations, lakes and rivers, while you enjoy lunch. Just when you think you've seen it all, you'll coast 500 feet down to the floor of the **Agawa Canyon**!

4 – 5:30 pm

After your train tour, cruise through the **Sault Locks**, one of the world's busiest canal systems. Watch the massive vessels pass through the locks into the **Great Lakes**.

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm

Check into **Kewadin Casino** in **Sault Ste. Marie**. After freshening up head down to **Dreamcatchers**, the onsite restaurant, where you'll enjoy a land and seafood buffet.

7:00 pm

Take in the excitement of the casino or have a quiet night relaxing in your room.

### DAY TWO

Explore Superior's Shore

9 – 11:00 am

Rise and shine! Eat breakfast before you board the bus and head for Thunder Bay. Along the way stop at **Canadian Carver and Agawa Indian Crafts**, a treasure trove of Native arts and crafts.

11:00 am – 3:00 pm

Continue your journey up and around **Lake Superior** and take in the beautiful scenery before lunch in **Wawa, Ontario**. Next you'll enjoy a respite at impressive **Maggie Falls**, a 75-foot drop waterfall attracting visits by 20,000 people yearly.

3 – 6:00 pm

Stop to stretch your legs and have some supper at a local restaurant in **Marathon, ON**.

6 – 9:00 pm

Travel to **Shuniah, ON** and check into your hotel for a good night's rest.



### DAY THREE Thunder Bay

8 – 10:00 am

Devour some morning fuel for the day; you're going to need it! Located in **Shuniah** is the **Terry Fox Monument**, where you'll see commanding views of Lake Superior, and learn who Terry Fox was and why he is a hero to Canada.

10 – 12:00 pm

Arrive in Thunder Bay and eat lunch at **Hoito Restaurant**, unique to Thunder Bay, featuring Finnish food.

1 – 3:00 pm

After lunch meet engaging costumed characters of the Canadian fur trade from the early 1800's at **Fort William Historical Park**, the world's largest fur Trading Post Park.

For more information or to customize this itinerary call your tour operator or Ontario's North, 866-416-9232.

## The Wonders of Science



From Sudbury to Timmins to North Bay. This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year.

### DAY ONE Arrive Sudbury, ON

12 – 3:00 pm

Experience the wonders of science as you explore four floors of interactive exhibits and live demonstrations at **Science North**.

3 – 6:00 pm

Gain knowledge and insight of the importance earth sciences play in the world around us at **Dynamic Earth**, a sister attraction of **Science North**. Featuring interactive exhibits and groundbreaking multimedia shows highlighting the area's unique geology and rich mining heritage. Get your picture taken next to the famous Big Nickel!

6 – 7:30 pm

Dinner is at **Burning Supper Club**, featuring authentic Italian Cuisine. Magnifico!

7:30 – 10 pm

Enjoy a live performance at this modern 287-seat theatre, **Sudbury Theatre Centre**.

10:00 pm

Check into one of the great lodging locations **Sudbury** has to offer.

### DAY TWO Timmins

8 am – 12:00 pm

Depart Sudbury for **Timmins**.

12 – 3:00 pm

Visit the **Shania Twain Centre**, Timmins' newest and most exciting attraction, chronicling the life and works of their



famous hometown singer. Enjoy a catered lunch before going on the **Timmins Underground Gold Mine Tour**.

3 – 6:00 pm

Next, visit **Cedar Meadows Wilderness Park**, 175 acre enclosed forest area with wildlife viewing from a hay or sleigh ride. Or take the short drive up to **Cochrane** to check out the extraordinary **Polar Bear Habitat & Heritage Village!**

6:00 pm

Choose one of the group-friendly restaurants for dinner in Timmins, and the evening is yours to relax or explore.

### DAY THREE North Bay

8 am – 12:00 pm

Have breakfast and depart Timmins for **North Bay, ON**. On your way you'll take the scenic route along **Lake Temiskaming** between **Cobalt** and **Temiskaming Shores** (formerly New Liskeard), and experience the beautiful landscapes and diversity of **Temiskaming**. Grab a quick lunch and a bathroom break and continue on your way. (The entire route is approximately 10 miles, and well worth the time.)

12 – 3:00 pm

Arrive in North Bay for a scheduled dinner cruise on beautiful **Lake Nipissing** aboard **Chief Commanda II**.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary call your tour operator or Ontario's North, 866-416-9232.

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ONTARIO CANADA



*On the fence?  
Head for the border town of Thunder Bay!*



This itinerary is best from late spring to early autumn.

**DAY ONE**

**9:30 am – 1:30 pm**

Known for their fresh Dutch cheese, **Thunder Oak Cheese Farm** is the place to witness the entire cheese-making process. Afterwards, **Take a Walk Through the Past at Founders' Museum & Pioneer Village**, a re-created early 1900's heritage village with artifacts on display throughout the site. Inquire about a catered lunch.

**2 – 3:00 pm**

**Kakabeka Falls**, "Niagara of the North," is a spectacular waterfall that plunges 131 feet over sheer cliffs. Excellent viewing opportunities exist along the boardwalk and from observation pods on both sides of the river. Programs for tour groups available from June to early October.

**3:30 – 4:00 pm**

Check into one of the many group-friendly hotels.

**4 – 6:00 pm**

Take a guided tour at **Fort William Historical Park**. This living history brings you back in time with its native camp, great hall, fur stores and more. Experience Canada's fur trade adventure and meet costumed characters from the early 1800's including voyageurs, artisans and Ojibwa.

**6:15 pm**

Enjoy a **Voyageur's Feast** hosted by historic characters.

**DAY TWO**

**9 – 10:00 am**

Take in spectacular views from two of **Canada's longest suspension footbridges** at **Eagle Canyon Adventures** where one of the footbridges spans 600 feet across the canyon walls.

**10:30 - 12:30 pm**

Amethyst, glistening in its natural state, can be found at **Amethyst Mine Panorama**. Collect your own specimen at this open surface mine.

**1 - 2:30 pm**

Lunch at one of Thunder Bay's eclectic collection of restaurants.

**2:30 - 4:30 pm**

Check out the **Thunder Bay Art Gallery's** collection of "original" Aboriginal art that offers interactive offers Woodland Art workshops where guests can "make and take away" their woodland art creations.

**5 - 7:00 pm**

Thunder Bay offers a wide variety of dining experiences. Bon appétit!

Fort William Historical Park voyageur



**7:00 pm**

Ante up for exciting gaming action at **OLG Casino Thunder Bay**. Motorcoach and group packages available.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group, call your tour operator or Thunder Bay Tourism at 800-667-8386.

*Come Experience*  
**THUNDER BAY**  
ONTARIO CANADA

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## Wisconsin's Cranberries and Swiss Village



THIS PACKAGE IS  
FOR SALE



This itinerary is good October 3 - 5, 2007.

### DAY ONE

2 – 3:30 pm

Depart on a Fall day to **Warrens, WI** for a guided tour of the **Wisconsin Cranberry Discovery Center**. Learn how cranberries, native to Wisconsin, are such an intriguing little berry. In addition to the museum, the center also houses an old fashioned soda fountain where you can try some cranberry ice cream. Or maybe bring home a cranberry pie or other baked items from the **Taste-Test-Kitchen**. Save time for shopping in the “berry” unique gift shop. NEW for this season is **Cranberry Wine Tasting!** Sample a variety of Wisconsin-made cranberry wines.

3:30 – 5:00 pm

Load the motorcoach for a pretty country drive to a cranberry marsh where you will find learning to be entertaining as you discover much of the history of cranberry growing. Did you know Wisconsin is the nation's top producer of cranberries?

5 – 8:00 pm

Travel to the vibrant city of **Tomah** for your overnight accommodations, in 2-Room Suites, at the **Cranberry Country Lodge** perfect for groups! Freshen up before

dinner and musical entertainment at the lodge.

### DAY TWO

9 – 10:30 am

Enjoy a delicious breakfast at a local restaurant.

10:30 am – 12:30 pm

Next travel to America's “Little Switzerland”, **New Glarus, WI**.

12:30 – 2:00 pm

Stop at any of the local restaurants serving savory Swiss food for lunch.

2 – 3:30 pm

Visit **The Swiss Historical Village**. Tour 14 buildings, each one representing a facet of daily life in the 19th century pioneering Midwest.

3:30 – 4:30 pm

Tour the **Chalet of the Golden Fleece Museum**. Marvel at this collection of one-of-kind antiques and treasures. Edwin Barlow built the Chalet in 1937 and always returns with additions to his ever-expanding collection. So there is something new to see every visit.

4:30 – 5:30 pm

Stay at the **Chalet Landhaus**, a delightful Inn built in traditional Swiss style with a perfect blend of modern convenience.

5:30 – 7:00 pm

This evening dine on Swiss or American cuisine at the hotel's **Alpine restaurant**.

7 – 8:30 pm

After dinner enjoy entertainment from a Swiss Yodeler, while sipping on wine or some other cold beverage.

### DAY THREE

7 – 8:30 am

Start your day right with the **Chalet Landhaus Breakfast Buffet**.

8:30 – 10:00 am

Bid New Glarus a fond farewell and travel northward to **Baraboo, WI**.

10 – 12:00 pm

Here we visit the **International Crane Center** for a guided tour. See different species, including the endangered **Whooping Crane**, view chicks, and enjoy art exhibits and trails winding through tall grass prairie.

12:00 pm

Return home after your full experience of Wisconsin's Cranberries and Swiss Villages.

To book this itinerary package or others please call 1st Choice Tours, 952-835-5336.



*Rivers, Rails, and a Sneaky Pete (Beer & wine)*

This itinerary is best in the summer.



**DAY ONE**

**11 – 1:00 pm**

Begin in beautiful **Taylors Falls, Minnesota** with a combination boat tour and luncheon buffet on board an authentic paddlewheel riverboat. Relax for 2 hours and enjoy an outstanding luncheon as your riverboat pilot and tour guide point out the unique rock formations and history of the **St. Croix River Valley**. Keep an eye out for the huge stone cross and the **Old Man of the Dalles** – said to be the most outstanding rock face you'll ever see.

**1 – 1:30 pm**

Travel the short distance to sister city **St Croix Falls, WI** and the **Chateau St. Croix Winery and Vineyard**.

**1:30 – 3:30 pm**

Explore the old world charm of this winery with a tour and wine tasting. The Chamberlin's loved their European wine experience so much they were determined to duplicate it in the Midwest. They created a European-style winery, complete with carriage house and formal gardens, in the rolling hills of the St. Croix Valley. Now you can sit by the fireplace (indoor or out) and enjoy a glass of wine with a cheese and cracker platter, and enjoy your own dreams. Top it all off with a mouth-watering truffle.

**3:30 – 4:15 pm**

Take the short ride to the **Dalles House Motel** and check into your room and freshen up for the evening.

**4:15 – 4:45 pm**

Travel thirteen miles northwest on scenic roads leading to beautiful **Balsam Lake**.

**4:45 – 6:45 pm**

Your dinner destination is beautiful **Paradise Landing**, offering an interesting story of luck, bad luck, more luck and even better food! Enjoy the food and the story of it all!

**6:45 – 7:15 pm**

Hop back on the bus to **St. Croix Falls** for the evening's entertainment.

**7:15 – 10:00 pm**

Attend a performance at the **Festival Theatre**. You'll find enchantment in this ninety year-old vaudeville house. The theater is intimate, warm, and friendly. Hear the smooth waters of the St. Croix whisper by outside. The **Mezzanine Café** with outdoor patio offers locally produced award-winning wine, gourmet desserts and a relaxing atmosphere to take it all in. Exceptional performances. Exceptional experiences. Exceptional memories.

**DAY TWO**

**9 – 10:00 am**

Rise and shine and enjoy breakfast at a local diner.

**10 – 10:30 am**

Take a short ride over to the historic **Osceola, WI** depot for a ride on the rails.

**10:30 – 12:30 pm**

Take a trip back in time! See the St. Croix River Valley the way it used to be seen - by rail - on a fully operational REAL railroad line. Head west ten miles to **Marine on St. Croix, MN**. This trip follows the beautiful St. Croix valley, crossing into Minnesota on the large **Cedar Bend swing bridge**. The view is awesome and includes a state park on the Minnesota side.

**12:30 – 1:00 pm**

Upon your return to the depot you will board the bus once again and head west on WI Co Rd 8 back in to Minnesota.

**1 – 3:00 pm**

Your last hurrah will be lunch (and a beer?) in the private dining loft at **Eichtens Bistro**. If you like classic food paired with the finest beers in the world, then



this is the place to dine. Their chef is fabulous, the food is said to be incomparable to anything in the region, and the beer (specializing in Belgium beer) and wine is outrageously rare, delicious, and satisfying. You'll find unique cheeses and bison to be among the items on their menu. Enjoy...

For more information on this sample itinerary contact your tour operator or Taylors Falls Chamber of Commerce, 800-447-4985.

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**Sept 27-29: IOWA BROADWAY CRUISE**  
Travel to Iowa and dine at a local church, visit the Vesterheim Museum, stay at the formerly Jumer's Castle Inn, a Broadway Showtune Cruise, tour of the Isabel Bloom Concrete Factory, Laura Ingalls and more!

**Oct 1-3: WISCONSIN CRANBERRIES**  
Fall foliage in Wisconsin with visits to the Cranberry Museum, a driving tour of a Cranberry marsh, "Little Switzerland", live entertainment from a Swiss Yodeler and so much more!

**Nov 9-13: BRANSON CHRISTMAS/VETERANS**  
Enjoy in early Christmas with a tour to Branson, MO. See fabulous shows, which include Daniel O'Donnell, Shoji, Mel Tillis, Connie Smith, the Hughes Bros and Twelve Irish Tenors. Also see the big Veterans Day Parade.

**Dec 6-11: NASHVILLE CHRISTMAS**  
Christmas Tour to Nashville, TN, which includes entertainment from the fabulous Rockettes, an Ice Display, a Holidays Arts and Craft Show, the Country Hall of Fame and much more!

Call **952-835-5336** or email **skienh7499@aol.com** for individual flyers!



## A Devil of a Good Time...

ND

This sample itinerary is best between May 15th and September 15th, 2007.

### DAY ONE

8 – 9:00 am

Start your morning out with a fabulous breakfast at the **Old Main Street Café** in downtown **Devils Lake**. The menu salutes local cities with photos surrounding your perfect meal.

9 – 10:00 am

See the **Lake Region Heritage Center**, featuring special exhibits showcasing yesteryear, including a pioneer doctor's room, the original federal courtroom, and early law office, a barbershop, and a display of Native American beadwork.

10 – 11:00 am

Head over to the **Maritime Museum** appropriately located on the second floor of the **World War II Memorial Building**. See vintage war bond promotional posters, uniforms, ship photographs, and personal letters of crewmembers, a unique collection due to the rarity of many of its pieces.

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Take the **Historic Downtown Walking Tour** where

you'll see a number of architectural marvels. Among them are church's that are a testament to the faith and heritage of the pioneers. Be sure to stop for lunch at one of the charming cafés.

1 – 4:00 pm

Have a relaxing afternoon in **Graham Island's State Park**. Take a walk on one of the hiking trails where the wildlife viewing and birding is enjoyable year round.

4 – 5:30 pm

Check-in to your hotel and freshen up for dinner.

5:30 – 7:00 pm

After your day of adventure stop into **The Cove Restaurant** at **Woodland Resort** for dinner with a fabulous view of the lake.

### DAY TWO

9 – 10:00 am

Check out of your hotel and enjoy coffee and pastries at one of the best-kept secrets in town: **Kneadful Things Bakery and Restaurant**.

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Keep your walking shoes handy for **Sally's Hill National Game Preserve**, one of President Theodore Roosevelt's pristine nature reserve areas. You're likely to see bison,

elk, white-tailed deer, prairie dogs, fox, mink, beaver, or other small mammals.

12 – 4:00 pm

Enjoy a picnic lunch at **Fort Totten State Historic Site**



before exploring the military post and grounds of 1867. Faded murals reflect life of the school children. See the **Pioneer Daughters Museum**, with uniforms and artifacts from officers stationed at the fort.

For more information or to customize this tour for your group contact your tour operator or Devils Lake Chamber of Commerce, 800-233-8048.

## Bismarck-Mandan City Circle Tour

ND

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year.

On-A-Slant Mandan Indian Village



Lewis & Clark Riverboat



8:15 – 8:45 am

Arrive at the **Bismarck-Mandan Visitor Center** for your welcome. Then head to the **Steamboat Interpretive Center**.

8:45 – 9:15 am

Take a self-guided tour of **North Dakota Heritage Center** – the **State of North Dakota's History Museum**. The center houses one of the largest collections of Plains Indian artifacts in the nation.

9:15 – 10:15 am

Find a unique blend of the state's past, present and future during your tour of the **North Dakota State Capitol** building, also known as the "Skyscraper on the Prairie".

10:15 – 10:45 am

Visit the **Historic Governors' Mansion**, a Victorian style home built in the 1800's.

10:45 – 12:00 pm

Tour **Historic Camp Hancock**, which was built to house railroad workers while constructing a bridge connecting the East to the West.

12:00 – 1:00 pm

Swing into **Denny's** and grab a quick bite to eat.

1 – 1:30 pm

Relive the military history of the 1800's at **Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park**. Depart via the **Fort Lincoln Trolley**, a restored trolley car offering scenic rides to the Park.

1:30 – 2:15 pm

Arrive at **Fort Lincoln's Visitor Center and Museum**; see military and Indian artifacts plus a 17-minute video that

gives your group an historic overview of this area.

2:15 – 2:30 pm

Take a walking tour of **On-A-Slant Mandan Indian Village at the Park**. See replicas of rebuilt Mandan earth lodges on the site of an ancient village.

2:30 – 3:45 pm

Save time to tour **General George Custer's House, Commissary, Storehouse, and Cavalry Square**.

3:45 – 4:30 pm

To finish your tour, view the **Infantry Blockhouses** and a **Cemetery**.

4:30 – 5:00 pm

Depart **Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park** via the **Fort Lincoln Trolley**.

5 – 6:00 pm

On **Main Street** tour the **Five Nations Arts Depot**, a historic **Burlington Northern Railroad Depot** featuring arts and crafts from more than 200 North Dakota American Indian artists.

6 – 7:30 pm

Cruise the fabulous **Missouri River** aboard the **Lewis & Clark Riverboat**, an all-weather paddle wheeler.

7:30 pm

End the evening with dinner at **Meriwether's Landing** or another fine dining option.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group contact your tour operator or Bismarck-Mandan CVB, 800-767-3555.



Ponca Totem Pole



Ashfall Fossil Bad State Historical Park



Ponca State Park



Ponca Learning Center



Fort Hartsuff State Historical Park

*Nebraska State Parks & Hidden Treasures*



This sample itinerary is best spring through early fall.

**DAY ONE**

**9 – 11:00 am**

Start your tour at **Ponca State Park**. Situated on a picturesque **Missouri River Bluff** in northeast **Nebraska**, providing groups a rare glimpse of how the **Missouri River** looked prior to modern changes.

**11:00 am – 2:00 pm**

Journey towards the **Niobrara State Park**, and along the way, stop at the **Gavins Point Dam** for a beautiful view of **Lewis & Clark Lake** as well as the Missouri River.

**2 – 3:00 pm**

Arriving at **Niobrara State Park**, you'll be impressed with the incredible views of the confluence of the **Niobrara** and the **Missouri Rivers**.

**3 – 4:00 pm**

Moving on, a most unusual attraction awaits when you witness the incredible skill of the "**Carving Cowboy**" as he demonstrates his unique art of converting tree

trunks to works of art with his chainsaw.

**4 – 7:00 pm**

Next stop is **Ashfall Fossil Bad State Historical Park**. Witness on-going excavation of the fossils uncovered when a herd of rhinoceros were covered in volcanic ash and perished almost instantly. It's a fascinating visit into the prehistoric past of our state. Then meet some newfound friends at a welcome dinner, hosted by your tour director.

**7 – 7:30 pm**

Drive down to **O'Neil** and stay the night at the local **Holiday Inn Express**.

**DAY TWO**

**8 – 9:00 am**

Enjoy a free continental breakfast before leaving for a new day of adventure.

**9 – 10:00 am**

Board the motorcoach and travel west to **Long Pine, Nebraska**.

**10 – 11:00 am**

Get ready for a surprise when you visit Long Pine.

A unique and hidden treasure nestled in the **Sand Hills** has earned the title "**Beauty Spot of Nebraska**". A special visit to the **Hidden Paradise Resort** will make you feel like you're nestled in the heart of the **Rockies**.

**11 – 1:00 pm**

Travel north to **Burwell, NE**. Stop at any destination along the way for lunch.

**1 – 2:00 pm**

Visit the **Calamus Hatchery**, which produces Walleye, Northern Pike, Trout, Bluegill and other game fish that are stocked in lakes throughout the state. They produce some 20-30 million fish annually.

**2 – 3:30 pm**

Take a guided tour given by costumed, knowledgeable tour guides and experience what it must have been like to be stationed at a United States Fort in the late 19th century at **Fort Hartsuff State Historical Park**.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for you group contact Fun Tours, 402-466-1776.



StarView Vineyards deck



### The Shawnee Hills Wine Trail



This suggested itinerary is for a small group, no more than 20 - (call ahead to verify hours and wine selections) visit [www.shawneewinetrail.com](http://www.shawneewinetrail.com) for detailed directions, hours, and events.

The **Shawnee Hills Wine Trail** wineries are located in **Jackson** and **Union Counties** in southern **Illinois**. All nine award-winning wineries are just a few minutes apart. Rolling hills and picturesque vistas are the backdrop for the vineyards and wineries along the way. The **Shawnee National Forest** provides some of the most beautiful scenery in the Midwest.

#### 10 – 11:00 am

Our first winery stop is **Pomona Winery**, nestled in the hills of the **Shawnee Forest**. Taste exceptional fruit wines and savor the natural wooded surroundings from the covered deck or garden picnic area.

#### 11 – 12:00 pm

Continue on your journey to **Von Jakob Vineyard**. Take a walk through the vineyard or to the pond. The vineyard is a great place to have a glass of wine and a plate of cheese. Unique to this winery is the first Honey Blush wine and White Port produced in the state.

#### 12 – 1:30 pm

Stop at the oldest winery in southern Illinois, **Alto Vineyards and Winery** at **Alto Pass**. Taste the wine that has won over 300 medals since 1988, and wander through the 10-acre vineyard. Relax and enjoy the scenery with a glass of wine.

#### 1:30 – 3:00 pm

Head down the road for lunch at **Hedman's Vineyard** in the **Peach Barn Cafe'**, serving authentic Swedish cuisine. Then browse through the **Scandinavian Gift shop** while tasting prized wines grown from their estate.

#### 3 – 4:00 pm

Board the motorcoach and head to **StarView Vineyards**. Learn about the grape varieties that are grown here, visit the vineyard and stop at the brand new tasting room and gift shop that features a large fireplace, an expansive deck with a gorgeous view of the vineyard, ponds filled with Koi fish and breathtaking views.

#### 4 – 5:00 pm

**Owl Creek Vineyards**, known as the first winery in the region, produces a dry red wine. Open year round with a tasting room overlooking the **Shawnee National Forest**.

#### 5 – 6:00 pm

Complete your day by visiting Southern Illinois' largest winery **Blue Sky Vineyards**, housed in a Tuscan Villa. You'll enjoy wines by the glass or bottle in a large indoor seating area and two beautiful outdoor terraces that overlook the vineyard and the rolling countryside.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group contact your tour operator or go to [www.shawneewinetrail.com](http://www.shawneewinetrail.com) for contact information for each of the wineries.



Von Jakob Vineyard





## Great Aberdeen Mystery Geo-Tour

This sample itinerary is best summer or early fall.



This will be sure to delight the adventurers in any group. It revolves around 'Geocaching'. What does this entail? According to Bill Geist, of Zeitgeist Consulting, "Think of Geocaching as a scavenger hunt on steroids where the playing field is the entire planet! The sport revolves around the Global Positioning System (GPS). Special "Geocaches" filled with Aberdeen goodies will be placed at each attraction for your group to find. A handheld GPS unit will be provided by the CVB to your group's leader, along with special clues and GPS coordinates. Each stop finds your next clue on your mystery treasure map. Your group has the fun of visiting and exploring attractions while they hunt for their "Aberdeen treasure," a wonderful souvenir of their trip.

### DAY ONE

10 – 10:30 am

Drive through the **Historic District** on Main Street, com-

prised of 17 houses built between 1907 to 1969. Pick up your first clue for the Great Aberdeen Mystery Geo-Tour.

10:30 – 11:30 am

**Centennial Village**, located at **Brown County Fairgrounds**, this historical recreation of a pioneer town displays business enterprises as they looked during the 1880's to 1900. Get your next clue for the Great Aberdeen Mystery Geo-Tour.

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Stop for a picnic lunch at the **Birdhouse, Wylie Park**. Pick up your next clue.

1 – 3:00 pm

Dorothy, Toto, the Scarecrow, Tin Man and Cowardly Lion will greet you as you begin your journey down the Yellow Brick Road at **Storybook Land**. Enter a land of enchantment, including over 60 larger than life exhibits. Climb aboard Captain Hook's Ship; visit the animals at Old MacDonald's Farm and more. Just northwest of Storybook Land is Aberdeen's newest theme park - **Land of OZ**. This 10-acre park features a farmstead area with Dorothy's house, Munchkin Land, Wicked Witch Castle, Emerald City and much more of the Wizard of Oz. Don't forget your next

clue for the Great Aberdeen Mystery Geo-Tour.

3 – 5:00 pm

Travel to the charming **Hutterite Colonies** and discover a people whose ingenuity allows them to fashion their own clothing, handcraft their own furniture and live in a self-sustaining community. Pick up your next clue.

5 – 6:00 pm

Check into a local Hotel and rest before dinner.

6 – 7:30 pm

Choose from several restaurants to serve your needs. After dinner explore the town or head back to the hotel for a relaxing evening.

### DAY TWO

8 – 10:00 am

Breakfast at one of **Aberdeen's** great restaurants. Get your next clue.

10 – 11:30 am

First stop is a guided tour of **Dakota Prairie Museum**. Learn the story of this land and the people through a large selection of historical items. Get your next clue.

11:30 am – 2:30 pm

Have lunch at the **Granary Rural Cultural Heritage Center**. Save time for a tour. Pick up your next clue.

2:30 – 5:00 pm

A step-on guide takes you to **Sand Lake National Wildlife Refuge-Driving Tour**. See what are home to more than 266 species of birds, 40 mammals, and a variety of fish, reptiles and amphibians. A mosaic of wildlife and the wild places they need. Don't forget to find your last clue to the "Aberdeen treasure," a wonderful souvenir of the trip.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group, contact your tour operator or Nancy Krumm, Aberdeen Area Convention and Visitor's Bureau, 800-645-3851.

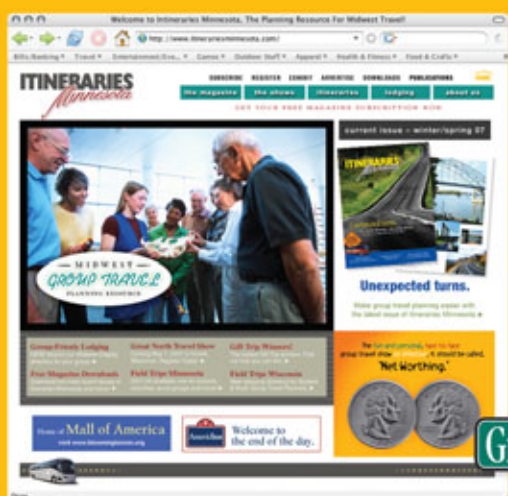
Storybook Land





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▶ **Diamond Jo Casino** ..... **877-323-5566**  
 777 Diamond Jo Lane - Northwood, IA 50459 / [www.diamondjo.com](http://www.diamondjo.com)  
 Located on the Iowa-Minnesota Border, The Diamond Jo Casino offers the newest slots and exciting table games, a new entertainment center, and a variety of dining options. Plan a trip for your group with customized itineraries, group packages, and coach parking. Call for details.

▶ **International Crane Foundation** ..... **608-356-9462**  
 E11376 Shady Lane Road - Baraboo, WI 53913 / [cranes@savingcranes.org](mailto:cranes@savingcranes.org) / [www.savingcranes.org](http://www.savingcranes.org)  
 Experience the beauty of the world's cranes amidst colorful tallgrass prairies. Discover how ICF and cranes inspire wetland conservation. Guided tours, paved trails, art gallery, gift shop, Whooping Crane wetland. Open April 15 – Oct 31.

## CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAUS AND CHAMBERS

▶ **Circle Wisconsin** ..... **715-833-1100**  
 2012 Esmond Rd - Eau Claire, WI 54701 ..... **800-223-0652**  
[info@circlewisconsin.com](mailto:info@circlewisconsin.com) / [www.circlewisconsin.com](http://www.circlewisconsin.com)  
 Circle Wisconsin is the statewide destination marketing organization that specifically promotes to the Motorcoach group travel industry. Our objective is to create a positive image of Wisconsin as a great place to do business, and Circle Wisconsin is an organization built on the high quality of its members and the level of service they are proud to provide.

▶ **Cranberry Country Lodge Convention Center and Waterpark** ..... **608-374-2801**  
 319 Wittig Road - Tomah, WI 54660  
[sales@cranberrycountrylodge.com](mailto:sales@cranberrycountrylodge.com) / [www.cranberrycountrylodge.com](http://www.cranberrycountrylodge.com)  
 The lodge has a country log motif, complete with log and stone exterior. Total of 93 spacious guest suites, full bar and catering services, convention and banquet space and features a 2 story indoor water park. Fitness Center, Rates include waterpark passes, Complimentary Continental Breakfast, Free Wireless Internet, Free Motor Coach parking.

▶ **Mason City Iowa Convention & Visitors Bureau** ..... **641-422-1663**  
 25 West State Street - Mason City, IA 50401 ..... **800-423-5724**  
[cvb@masoncityia.com](mailto:cvb@masoncityia.com) / [www.masoncitytourism.com](http://www.masoncitytourism.com)  
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[dkeller@nd.gov](mailto:dkeller@nd.gov) / [www.ndtourism.com](http://www.ndtourism.com)  
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▶ **Winneshiek County CVB** ..... **563-382-2023**  
 507 West Water Street, PO Box 11 - Decorah, IA 52101 / [wctc@alpinecom.net](mailto:wctc@alpinecom.net) / [www.decoraharea.com](http://www.decoraharea.com)  
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## FESTIVALS & EVENTS

▶ **Bonanzaville Museum & Historic Village Cass County Historical Society** ..... **701-282-2822**  
 1351 Main Avenue West - West Fargo, ND 58078  
 Cass County Historical Society's Bonanzaville USA, the Regions only Pioneer Village: 8 museums, 42 buildings on 12 acres, 400,000 artifacts, millions of memories – 2007 marks 40th Anniversary; Pioneer Days: August 18-19. Tours, Schools, EVERYONE WELCOME!

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- NORTH DAKOTA** ..... **1-800-HELLO ND (435-5663)**
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