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LETTER FROM the publishers

Dear Planner,

As a good planner, you'll appreciate that this issue highlights theaters big and small all across the Midwest. Discover a vast variety of theaters, from the ornate indoor theaters to the spacious outdoor theaters, small town venues to large cities and everything in between.

Prepare yourself for a world class touring experience that is truly superior, the *Circle Tour of Lake Superior*. Look for this feature each Spring to discover new and exciting things this Great Lake and its surrounding area has to offer your groups.

Thanks to suggestions from readers like you, we are able to expand the services we provide, including adding a new section for the *Upper Peninsula of Michigan*, check it out on page 60!

So for now, remember, all the Midwest is a stage... Enjoy the show!

Best Regards,

Heather J. Lahren and Mark W. Peterson
Co-Publishers, ITINERARIES MIDWEST Magazine

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on the cover

Crown Center in Kansas City, Missouri is often referred to as a city within a city! To 5 million fun-seekers each year, Crown Center is an entertainment attraction, with specialty shopping, restaurants, theaters and other entertainment venues.



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ITINERARIES Midwest

56 South 33rd Avenue, #234 | St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301
320-259-1082 | 877-832-7267 | Fax: 763-201-7945
info@itinerariesmidwest.com | www.itinerariesmidwest.com

Heather J. Lahren | CO-PUBLISHER
heather@itinerariesinc.com

Mark W. Peterson | CO-PUBLISHER
mark@itinerariesmidwest.com

Kelly Surla | OPERATIONS MANAGER
kelly@itinerariesinc.com

Lynn Gottwalt | TRAFFIC MANAGER
lynn@itinerariesinc.com

Tom Swatosh | ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
tom@itinerariesmidwest.com

Matt Lahren | ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
matt@itinerariesinc.com

Jill Ressemann | MARKETING SUPPORT
jill@itinerariesinc.com

Andrea Rieland | GRAPHICS/WEB PROGRAMMER
andrea@itinerariesinc.com

Carinna K. Hard Bullemer | ART DIRECTOR
HARD AT WORK Design, inc. | carinna@hardatworkdesign.com

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

Heather Lahren, Mark Peterson, Kathleen Somers, Lynn Gottwalt, Jill Ressemann, and Kelly Surla | ITINERARIES Inc.

Britt Aamodt

Donna Cordle-Gray | Visit Missouri

ADVISORY BOARD

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Hop aboard our next issue
Coming Summer 2010...

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Itineraries designed to fill your motorcoaches with eager travelers who like to explore our nations travel history and take a ride on the rails along the way.

welcome to MISSOURI

BY DONNA (CORDLE) GRAY



Missouri is proud to be at the forefront in providing exceptional and memorable group tours. Branson alone receives almost 8 million visitors a year. We are equally as proud of all the other treasures throughout our state. Missouri's diversity ensures that tourists can find virtually anything they want.

And there is nothing like Missouri's brand of hospitality! We love to see visitors traveling the highways of our state, staying in our hotels, motels and resorts, dining out at our fine restaurants and enjoying our attractions.

To more effectively assist our group tour partners, the Division of Tourism is updating the group tour page of VisitMO.com. The new section will include sample itineraries, day trip ideas, images, escort notes and information on Missouri's group tour friendly industry partners. Additional services available include DVDs, maps and guides.

The state is also a part of **Grand Central USA**, a partnership between Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma with the express purpose of creating fresh, unique regional itineraries, and promotions. Group tour planners can view a variety of multi-state itineraries at GrandCentralUSA.com.

Familiarization Tours & Educational Opportunities

The Missouri Division of Tourism supports and frequently partners with The Missouri Travel Council on various marketing efforts. The Missouri Travel Council (MTC) is the official private sector umbrella organization of the tourism industry in the State of Missouri.

April 2010 will bring MTC's 4th Annual Missouri Bank Travel Exchange,

held April 27-28 in St. Louis. The two-day event brings regional bank loyalty travel planners together with regional tourism suppliers for networking, one-on-one appointments and educational opportunities. The 2011 Missouri Bank Travel Exchange is scheduled for April 5-6 in Kansas City. Interested bank loyalty travel planners should visit www.MissouriTravel.com, call (816) 444-0991 or email MTCEXchange@msn.com.

Branson, Missouri, "Where someone you love is always playing," is hosting the 14th Annual Sales/Educational Conference, Destined for Branson 2010. Experience the best of Ozark hospitality during this informative four-day event, May 23 - May 28, 2010. For information call (800) 993-3244 or visit DestinedForBranson.com.

In August 2010, Missouri Travel Council will host their annual Missouri Showcase FAM Tour & Marketplace. The program is open to qualified tour planners and includes a six day familiarization tour that will begin in Kansas City, Missouri. The tour will focus on the central and southwestern parts of the state and include a marketplace held in Lake Ozark. The marketplace brings FAM participants together with Missouri tourism suppliers for two days of one-on-one meetings, networking and fun! For more information, tour planners should visit www.MissouriTravel.com, call (573) 636-2814 or email mshowcase@gmail.com. Tour dates are August 20-25, 2010.

Places To Visit

Kansas City: Known for its swinging jazz, mouthwatering barbecue, visual and performing arts scenes and more than 200 sparkling fountains. www.visitkc.com

St. Louis: The Gateway to the West, boasts a wealth of attractions, entertainment and dining options in a revitalized downtown. www.explorestlouis.com

Branson: Dubbed the "Live Entertainment Capital of the World," this natural Ozark Mountain town has more than 100 live performances per day, three pristine lakes, 12 championship golf courses, and an award-winning theme park. As they say, "Someone You Love is Always Playing



in Branson!" www.explorebranson.com

St. Joseph: Where the Pony Express began and Jesse James ended, St. Joseph recalls a time when the West was truly wild. www.stjomo.com

Hannibal: "America's Hometown" and home to one of Missouri's most famous sons, Mark Twain. Your Hannibal adventure may include the Mark Twain Boyhood Home and Museum, the Mark Twain Cave and a relaxing trip on the Mighty Mississippi aboard the Mark Twain Riverboat. www.visithannibal.com

Hidden Gems

Saint Charles: The first state capitol of Missouri, located on the Missouri River. This quaint town features Historic Main Street a 13-block stretch of downtown St. Charles that boasts a bevy of shops, restaurants and businesses. Come stroll the sidewalks that line real brick streets, have a glass of wine and shop a wide variety of stores for crafts and antiques. www.historicstcharles.com

Weston: Home to a historic district listed on the National Register of Historic Places. www.westonmo.com

Missouri Wine Region, Augusta to Hermann: Sample a wide assortment of sophisticated tastes at seven of Missouri's wineries along the Hermann Wine Trail, America's first official viticulture area located along banks of the Missouri River between Augusta and Hermann.

Marceline: The boyhood home of Walt Disney. See Main Street USA, the inspiration for Main Street in Disneyland and Disney World. "To tell the truth, more things of importance happened to me in Marceline than have happened since - or are likely to in the future", Walt Disney. www.marceline.org

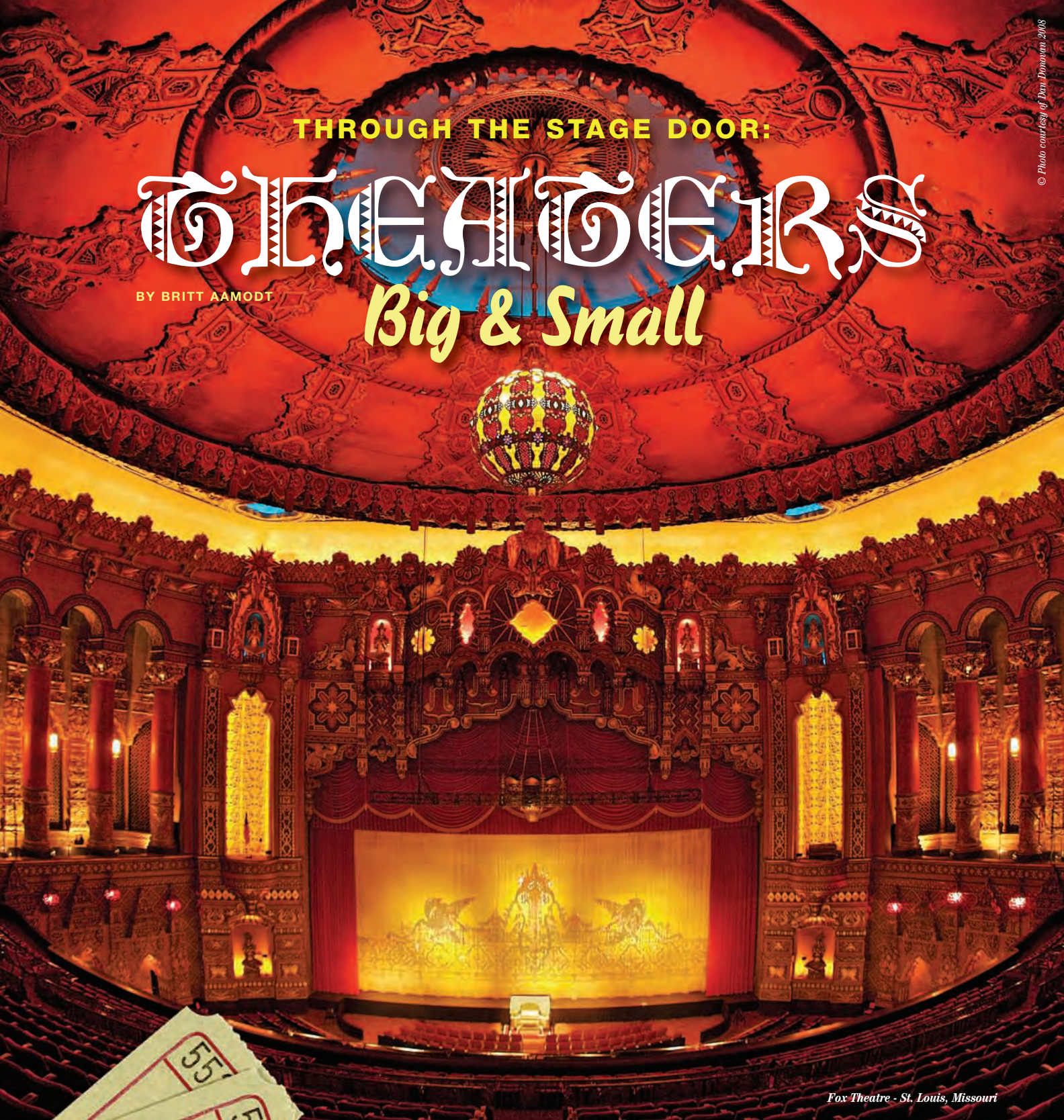
For additional Missouri information please log on to VisitMO.com, call Donna Cordle-Gray at (816) 444-0991 or email DonnaCordle@LegacyDimensions.com.

THROUGH THE STAGE DOOR:

THEATERS

Big & Small

BY BRITT AAMODT



Fox Theatre - St. Louis, Missouri



The Midwest is known for many things, but theater? Okay, so New York City is home to Broadway. But here's a fact you may not know: Minneapolis is home to more theaters per capita than any city outside New York; and any night of the week, you can catch a Broadway play on tour through the Midwest: *Cats*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Showboat*.

But that's not all. The Midwest is home to every style of theater available to today's audiences, and these plays don't come with the sticker shock of a plane ticket to New York. So, let's take a look some of the many ways the Midwest says "theater" to group tour operators looking to add a little drama (the good kind) to your group itinerary.

Location, Location

Do you know that theater as an art form has existed in some shape or other for thousands of years? The oldest known plays took place around 2600 B.C. in Ancient Egypt. But it took the Classical Greeks to thoroughly establish the play as a public spectacle. They produced dramas and comedies, and even held theatrical competitions, like today's Tony Awards, to recognize the year's best plays.

Much of what the Greeks discovered about theater and playmaking holds true today, and is in evidence in the Midwest. Plays are a group experience like no other. They incorporate performance, stage setting, costume and often music and dance in productions that can last anywhere from fifteen minutes, for one-acts, to four hours. Yes, four hours. (But there aren't many of those.)

Before the advent of television and moving pictures, people congregated at the local theatrical house for live entertainment like plays and variety shows. Many of these historic buildings have found new life in the 21st century as towns, eager to attract tourists, fix up their fading beauties for today's audiences.

Imagine seeing a period piece in a quaint old playhouse like the **Sheldon Theatre** in Red Wing, Minnesota. The **Capitol Theater** in Madison opened in 1928 to showcase vaudeville shows, and later was refurbished as part of the **Overture Center for the Arts**. It is now home to high-class theater, as well as visual arts shows and performances by the Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra. Built in 1877, the **Hoyt Sherman Place Theater** in Des Moines offers a touch of elegance—marble fireplaces, carved mahogany entryway and parquet floors—with its performances.

But who says you have to go to a theater to enjoy theater? Theater can take place anywhere: in church basements, soccer fields, outdoor amphitheaters, city parks and sanctuaries. The **Minnesota Centennial Showboat** features theater on a vintage paddleboat. Medora, North Dakota, is famous for its **Burning Hills Amphitheater**. Carved out of the Badlands, Burning Hills is an outdoor musical theater that, since 1965, has paid homage to the original Rough Rider, Teddy Roosevelt, with the "*Medora Musical*." You can find summer stock festivals throughout the Midwest, dedicated to every variety of theater, from Shakespeare to comedy and regional theater.

Regional Theater

And what about regional theater? Why not sample a homegrown production? For the price of admission, you not only get an hour or two of entertainment, but a window on regional culture and traditions. Where else would you find *Church Basement Ladies* (a comedy about—what else?—lime Jell-O, hot dish and Lutheran church ladies) and *Fishing Widows: The Reel Story* (a musical comedy that casts a humorous light on the "women left behind" during fishing season) except in the Midwest? Tourists pile into Northfield, Minnesota, every year for the *Jesse James bank robbery re-enactment*. Plus, like much "street" theater, the Jesse James shootout is free.

You may consider packaging a theatrical production with a trip to neighboring cultural centers, churches, landmarks, history or nature centers as a creative add-on to the theatrical experience. Follow up a play about pioneers, the Old West or flannel-wearing, big-talking lumberjacks with a museum exhibit. Or else seek out regional history theaters, which often showcase plays about local history by resident playwrights.

Theater for Group Tours

Theaters were created for groups, and many of the Midwest's playhouses, big and small, cater to group tours. They make your job easier with early booking discounts, free parking, personal greetings upon arrival, reserved seating areas and easy access to highways, hotels and other attractions. Some theaters even come equipped with gifts shops and fine dining. You and your group members can spend an entire afternoon or evening sharing a meal, browsing the gift shop and taking in a performance. If you're looking for

something special for your group, check out their menu of backstage tours.

Wisconsin's **Fireside Dinner Theatre** is a popular destination for group tours, with seven weekly performances to choose from, plus a Friday fish fry and cookies from the Fireside Bakery. The **Fox Theatre** in St. Louis, Missouri, offers a Grand Buffet, notable for all-you-can-eat prime rib, freshly baked rolls and dessert. And if you're an organ music fan, you'll love the Wurlitzer in the theater lobby. Also in St. Louis, the **Muny** (the Municipal

Theatre of St. Louis) lays claim to being the nation's oldest and largest outdoor theatre. Every year, the Muny hosts a spectacular array of musicals, including recent productions of *Footloose*, *Titanic: The Musical* and *Damn Yankees*.

Larger and more established theaters can provide a number of travel packages for your group, often in collaboration with local hotels and tourist attractions. Other smaller theaters may not offer group packages, but can easily play a starring role in any itinerary planned by the local CVB.

Just One More Reason

If you needed one more reason to consider a theater for your next group itinerary, consider that theaters offer the ultimate group experience. You don't need a PhD to appreciate a play. You don't have to walk a mile or climb a hill to reach the front row. All you have to do is take a seat, sit back and let the theater transport you and your group to a destination as near or far as your imagination. 🎭



BY KATHLEEN SOMERS

I used to love to get all dressed up, hire a babysitter, and venture out for a night at one of the area's top theaters. Season tickets insured a regular opportunity to put the ho-hum life of daily responsibilities behind, and enter the make believe world of live theater. Those were the days... but life evolves and things continue getting better. Nowadays, I don't have to worry about babysitters or scheduling conflicts, because I have the great pleasure of going to the theater with groups. Someone else does the work and all I have to do is show up in my prettiest outfit, ready for fun and entertainment.

As a planner, you don't always know if your groups appreciate all you do for them. Maybe it's because you do it so well and make it look so easy, they just are not aware. But when it comes to attending the theater with groups, there is much to promote, making sure everyone is getting far more with you than they would otherwise. It's likely you are very familiar with the many reasons to attend the theater as part of a group. It's just as likely you will appreciate having the reasons outlined for you so clearly. Read on. See if those creative juices start to flow and you come up with even more super duper reasons to take your groups to the show!

1 Not everyone has the option of a special someone waiting in the wings to enjoy the theater with. That's why we like attending with our groups. Theater is one of those places people just don't like to go alone. I don't mind eating in a restaurant alone, or even going on vacation alone. But the Theater by myself? Never. So it's a natural for groups and motorcoach travel. You can sell that. Maybe not as blatantly as just stated, but certainly by implication.

2 Often, you can offer more to your customer than they could get if they went separately with a friend; back stage tours, meeting the actors, hassle free parking. Imagine offering your group a backstage peek with experienced guides giving a behind the scenes look at how the production comes to life. Maybe you could arrange for costumed actors to board the bus or attend a hotel wine and cheese party to pass out programs.

3 Generally a better price is included in all those extras too. Substantial discounts are often the norm for groups of a certain size, and many theaters will toss in one free ticket as well. How can you refuse that?

4 As a planner you can build on the common experience of the show. Play games on the motorcoach built around the performance, expand on a theme for other activities or stops. A great add-on is to include a discussion after the performance, keeping the fun alive. The endless possibilities boggle the mind. One creative host offered plaid scarves on the bus as part of a Western Cowboy theme. Participants had to guess where they were going next or what was coming up. This might work well for a mystery theater tour. Props and theater outings "go together like love and marriage". A trip to the costume shop to see how it's done, ask questions, or learn about wigs is another memorable experience. What about show tunes? Keep the fun going after the show, or get people in the mood before, with music and songs from the performance.

5 As a group planner, the level of customer service offered to you goes way up. Sometimes you can reserve your block of seats before tickets go on sale to the general public and gain access to the best seats at the lowest price. I always love to get the best for the least, don't you? Plus, it makes you as a planner

look great! You can immediately start selling your group on the next theater trip just because they had such ideal seats at this one.

6 By booking and paying through one person you will begin to formulate important relationships with the theaters you choose. Such relationships will be important over time as you continue to offer your groups the ultimate theater experience. No doubt you will also receive special invitations to future special events. It really is a win-win-situation.

Now that I've got you thinking about live theater and how such outings work for your group, let me also add that there are dozens of theaters and even more performances to choose from. Each one of them has a distinct personality. Perhaps it goes without saying, but I will say it anyway. Be sure you know your group's needs and match that up with the theater you choose. After that, it's a pretty good bet your contact at the theater will walk you through the process and do their level best to make your outing one of standing ovation quality. Down the lights please. 🎭

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**TURN THE PAGE TO CONTINUE YOUR JOURNEY ON A CIRCLE TOUR OF LAKE SUPERIOR
AND FIND THE CORRESPONDING KEY TO THE MAP ABOVE.**



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it's okay to go a little wild!

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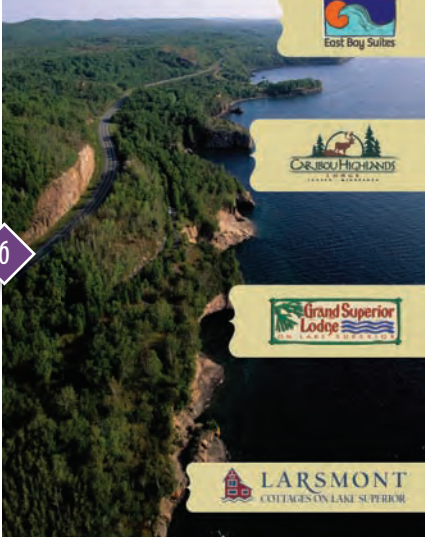
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7 SPLIT ROCK LIGHTHOUSE

Restored to its early-20th century splendor, it is one of America's best-preserved lighthouses. "For many who visit **Split Rock Lighthouse**, this is their first view of **Lake Superior**," says Lee Radzak, the historic site's manager and modern-day keeper.

Special activities and events will be offered throughout this year to celebrate its 100th birthday. Group tours include

a private guided tour, a 22-minute film and admission to the exhibit gallery. Call 218-226-6372 for more information.

Upper Peninsula

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The area is known as a "5-Star Wilderness" and is home to some of the

finest wilderness parks in the Midwest, including **Isle Royale** and the **Pictured Rocks National Lakeshore**.

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1 ASHLAND

Nestled on the south shore of Lake Superior's Chequamegon Bay. Ashland and the surrounding region is filled with nature's best experiences, many historic landmarks, and a wide variety of attractions sure to please your active adult and student/youth groups. We also offer first class hotels and restaurants that will

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2 MADELINE ISLAND FERRY LINE

Welcome Aboard! The **Ferry Line** operates between **Bayfield** and **Madeline Island** and each trip offers spectacular views of the Lake itself and several of the 22 **Apostle Islands**. Once you've landed, your group will be "hand-held" on a narrated tour of the Island's distinct points of interest, and will experience a taste of Island living. We are an unspoiled and undiscovered Wisconsin destination and very group friendly!

3 SUPERIOR DOUGLAS COUNTY

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Canada

1 THUNDER BAY

Found on the shore of **Lake Superior**, at the head of the Great Lakes, **Thunder Bay** has always been a natural meeting place.

The North West Company fur trading post **Fort William**, established in the early 1800s, marked the first permanent settlement in the area.

Come and relive the fur trade at **Fort William Historical Park**. There, costumed interpreters guide you through this exciting period in Canada's history. Arrange for a Voyageur Feast, hosted by historic characters, for your group.

Visit the **Thunder Bay Art Gallery's** world-renowned Permanent Collection of Aboriginal Art and experience a Woodland Art Workshop group package. View exhibitions, hear about spiritual totems, and create a painting in this unique artistic style.

Natural attractions abound! **Kakabeka Falls** plunges more than 131 feet over sheer cliffs. View the falls from jutting platforms or trails along the gorge.

Amethyst, glistening in its natural state, can be found at **Amethyst Mine Panorama**. Walking tours are offered to groups; afterwards "urban prospectors" can gather their own amethyst from this active working quarry.

Canada's longest foot suspension bridge and longest zipline waits at **Eagle Canyon Adventures**. The suspension bridge is 600' in length across the canyon from anchor to anchor and an amazing 150 feet off the canyon floor at its lowest point.

Bon appetite! Thunder Bay offers a wide variety of dining experiences from fine dining establishments to neighbourhood restaurants. Then relax in first-class accommodations. Many hotels are group-friendly and work well with group travelers. **1-800-667-8386** www.VisitThunderBay.com/GroupTravel

For more information please contact the advertisers directly. Log onto **Itineraries Midwest Online Itinerary Library**, www.ItinerariesMidwest.com for more details.

3

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illinois cities

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CHAMPAIGN, CHICAGO, DIXON,
EAST DUBUQUE, GALENA, HANOVER,
KEWANEE, LA SALLE, MARSHALL,
MOLINE, MONEE, MT CARROLL,
MT MORRIS, PEORIA, ROCHELLE,
ROCKFORD, SAVANNA, SPRINGFIELD,
ST. CHARLES, STOCKTON, THOMSON

calendar of events

april

- **Southern Illinois Irish Festival** April 23-25, Carbondale 618-549-3090
- **Art Chicago 2010** April 30-May 3, Chicago 312-527-3701
- **"Leaving Iowa"** April 30-May 8, Freeport 815-232-7023

may

- **All Things Chocolate Weekend** May 7-9, Galena 815-244-5602
- **World War II Reenactment** May 15-16, Savanna 563-451-7458
- **Fair Diddley on the Square** May 16, Woodstock 815-385-5745
- **"The 39 Steps"** May 19-30, Chicago 312-922-2110
- **"Madame Butterfly by Puccini"** May 28-30, Quincy 217-222-3209

june

- **Little City Used Book Sale** June 1-30, Skokie 847-673-6800
- **"Chicago" - Timber Lake Playhouse** June 3-13, Mt. Carroll 815-244-2035
- **Route 75 Garage Sale** June 4-5, Dakota 815-449-2019
- **Chicago Botanic Garden Wine Festival** June 4-6, Glencoe 847-853-5440
- **Historic Cemetery Walk** June 12-13, Galena 815-777-9129
- **Festival of Wheels** June 17-18, Savanna 563-451-7458
- **"Steel Magnolias" - Timber Lake Playhouse** June 17-26, Mt. Carroll 815-244-2035
- **9th Annual Great Galena Balloon Race** June 18-20, Galena 800-585-9100
- **Custer's Last Stand Festival of the Arts** June 19-20, Evanston 847-328-2204

july

- **"Oklahoma!" - Timber Lake Playhouse** July 1-11, Mt. Carroll 815-244-2035
- **16th Annual Independence Day Parade, Celebration & Fireworks** July 4, Galena 877-464-2536
- **"Love, Sex & The IRS" - Timber Lake Playhouse** July 15-24, Mt. Carroll 815-244-2035
- **Evanston Ethnic Arts Festival** July 17-18, Evanston 847-448-8058
- **RidgeFest 10** July 22-25, Chicago Ridge 708-425-7700
- **Annual North Shore Art Festival** July 24-25, Skokie 847-673-0240
- **Civil War History Days** July 24-25, Glenview 847-299-6096
- **"Curtains" - Timber Lake Playhouse** July 29-August 8, Mt. Carroll 815-244-2035

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

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TIMBER LAKE PLAYHOUSE - MT. CARROLL

Timber Lake Playhouse, located in Mount Carroll, Illinois, has been bringing professional, quality theatre to the community since 1961. The theatre building houses a 45 wide semi-thrust revolving stage and 375 fixed seats. The property is also home to 14 other buildings used for costumes, scenic and paint shops etc. The unique layout of facilities allows the Playhouse to present work on a much larger scale than many summer theatre companies. So come and experience live theatre at its best! The 2010 season at Timber Lake Playhouse includes *Chicago*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Oklahoma*, *Love, Sex and the IRS*, *Curtains* and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. More info at www.timberlakeplayhouse.org. (See location on map, page 15)



more theaters big & small in illinois

Chicago – The drama, comedy, and experimental theater presented by well-known and emerging companies have positioned Chicago as a driving force in American theater. In venues ranging from the contemporary, midsized, to the tiniest storefront theaters, productions consistently delight, challenge, and rivet groups of all ages! The curtain is up in Chicago!

Galena & Jo Daviess County – For great theater in a hometown setting, visit the **Plum River Playhouse** in Stockton. Whether you are seeking to tickle your funny bone or are in the mood for a serious drama, Plum River is sure to meet your expectations! Just down the road is **Trolley Depot Theater** in Galena. This theater seats 135 people in an attractive setting of an old-fashioned riverboat. They offer regular scheduled shows that are entertaining and fun for all ages!

Goodfield – Comedies and musicals are presented in an actual rural barn at **Conklin's Barn II Dinner Theatre**. Especially popular with theatergoers is the abundant meals of comfort foods served before the show. The hometown cast does double duty as actors, box office personnel and even wait staff!

Peoria – Watch shows under a tent at the **Corn Stock Theatre**. Located in Bradley Park, this 500 seat outdoor arena is fully protected from weather by a large tent. Or come to see a play at the longest continuously running theater in the state – and the 4th oldest in the nation, the **Peoria Players Theatre**, also located in town.

Rock Island – Groups are always given a warm welcome at **Circa '21 Dinner Playhouse**. They offer mesmerizing productions, tasty dinners, impeccable service and remarkable savings! Your visit begins with a superb meal served in their beautifully restored historic 1920's theatre. Then sit back and enjoy a Broadway style musical or comedy.

Utica – At the **Follies Theatre**, motorcoach groups always receive a personal greeting—and sendoff—by cast members...as well as plenty of photo ops! They present the very best of today's top talent in high-energy, fast-moving musical revues and comedies! See for yourself how they earned the title "The Little Showroom With The Big Shows"!

Savanna Army Depot & MILITARY MUSEUM

Located 7 miles North of Savanna, IL on Route 84, the Savanna Army Depot and Military Museum celebrates the civilian and military partnership that keeps America safe.

From 1918 until 2000, the Base was the economic hub of Northern Illinois. From the days of World War I through Desert Storm, munitions were produced and maintained by a well-trained local workforce. The Army also held Schools for Conventional, Chemical and Nuclear Warfare here.

Displays include shells, a diorama of the 13-mile long base, and The General Jimmy Doolittle display shows the importance of "30 Seconds Over Tokyo" and how the Savanna Army Depot & Military Museum played a big part in that raid.

Visit us Monday thru Wednesday between 9:00 am and 3:00 pm or Thursday thru Sunday between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. Admission is free and visitors are WELCOME!

For more information or details on group tours please call 563-541-7458 or visit www.sadmuseum.org.



Mt. Carroll

directory & map



attractions

Savanna Army Depot & Military Museum
Savanna 563-541-7458

convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

Illinois Bureau of Tourism
www.enjoyillinois.com 800-2CONNECT

entertainment & theater

Timber Lake Playhouse
Mt. Carroll 815-244-2035



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Savanna Army Depot & Military Museum

On IL Rt.84 between Savanna & Hanover, Illinois
3651 Crim Dr., Savanna, IL 61074
Mon - Wed. 9am - 3pm
Thurs - Sun. 10am - 4pm

World War II Reenactment
May 15-16, 2010

Festival of Wheels
June 17-18, 2010

Civil War Reenactment
Aug. 28-29, 2010



Iowa cities

AMANA, AMES, ANAMOSA,
BALLTOWN, BANKSTON, BELLEVUE,
BURLINGTON, CEDAR RAPIDS,
CLINTON, COUNCIL BLUFFS,
DECORAH, DAVENPORT, DES MOINES,
DUBUQUE, DYERSVILLE, GUTTENBERG,
INDEPENDENCE, IOWA CITY,
MAQUOKETA, MASON CITY, MCGREGOR,
SIOUX CITY, URBANDALE, WATERLOO

calendar of events

april

- **"Mary's Wedding"** – Riverside Theatre
April 1-18, Iowa City 319-338-7672
- **"Game Show"** – Ames Community Theater
April 9-25, Ames 515-292-2073
- **"Curtains"** April 9-May 2,
The Des Moines Playhouse 877-862-5621
- **Hawkeye Swing Festival**
April 9-11, Iowa City 515-490-1945
- **"World's Largest Tractor"** April 12-July 31,
Heartland Acres 319-332-0123
- **Spring Hatch** April 17-18, Heartland Acres
Agribition Center 319-332-0123
- **"Cabaret"** April 22, Ames 515-294-3347
- **Spring Wine, Brew & Food Festival**
April 24, Boone 515-432-1971
- **Professional Bull Riders** April 30,
Des Moines 800-451-2625

may

- **Maifest** May 1-2, Amana 800-579-2294
- **Pella Tulip Time Festival** May 6-8,
Pella 888-746-3882
- **"How I Became a Pirate"** May 7-23,
The Des Moines Playhouse 877-862-5621
- **Dubuquefest** May 14-16, Dubuque 800-798-8844
- **Spoken 4 Quartet Southern Gospel Concert**
May 22, Council Bluffs 712-323-7805
- **Iowa Renaissance Festival and Gathering O' Celts**
May 29-31, Amana 800-579-2294

june

- **Glen Miller Festival** June 10-13,
Clarinda 712-542-2461
- **Lewis and Clark Festival** June 11-13,
Onawa 712-423-2829
- **"Don't Dress for Dinner"** June 11-27,
The Des Moines Playhouse 877-862-5621
- **"Trouble at the Talent Show"** – Ames Community
Theater June 11-27, Ames 515-292-2073
- **Riverside Theatre Shakespeare Festival**
June 11-July 11, Iowa City 319-338-7672
- **Jammin' Below the Dam** June 18-September 3,
Bellevue 563-872-5830
- **Sturgis Falls Celebrations & The Cedar Basin Jazz
Festival** June 25-27, Cedar Falls 800-845-1955
- **Laura Ingalls Wilder Days** June 26-27,
Burr Oak 800-463-4692

july

- **Singin' in the Cedar Valley** July 12-17,
Cedar Falls 800-845-1955
- **Boone County Fair** July 13-18, Boone 800-266-6312
- **College Hill Arts Festival** July 16-17,
Cedar Falls 800-845-1955
- **Nordic Fest** July 22-25, Decorah 800-382-3378
- **Westfair** July 28-Aug 1, Council Bluffs 800-228-6878
- **Ogden Fun Days** July 30-31, Boone 800-266-6312

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

Life Changing ITINERARIES Iowa®



RIVERSIDE THEATRE SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL – IOWA CITY

Enjoy Shakespeare under the stars at the **Riverside Theatre Shakespeare Festival**! This year, the eleventh season of the Festival, Riverside presents a *"Summer of Love"* with *Love's Labour's Lost* and *Romeo and Juliet*. Performances take place in a 472-seat outdoor theatre, based on Shakespeare's original Globe Theatre, located in Iowa City's picturesque Lower City Park. To picnic on the grounds before a show, arrive within 90 minutes of the show start time and purchase sandwiches, chips, desserts and beverages (including beer and wine) at the box office. Then one hour before each main stage performance, gather at the Green Show Stage for the Festival Intern Company's fast-paced version of the night's play, designed to brush you up on the plot—and keep your group in stitches. (See ad page 17 and location on map, page 24)

more theaters big & small in iowa

Amana – There's nothing like the experience of live theatre! Laugh and enjoy the shows at **The Old Creamery Theatre Company**, the oldest professional theatre company in the state. Your group will absolutely love them!

Ames – The **Ames Community Theater (ACTORS, Inc.)** houses live theatrical presentations and educational opportunities for all ages and groups. Their 2010 season features "Game Show", "Trouble at the Talent Show" and a dinner theatre "Caught in the Net".

Cedar Falls – A hip, fun and happening place to be for a live performance is at the **Oster Regent Theatre**. This traditional theatre, with a main floor and balcony, was built in 1910 and restored in 1994. Fantastic plays are performed live on stage throughout the year. Some are musicals and many are great comedies. Also in town is the **Strayer-Wood Theatre & Bertha Martin Theatre** both at the University of Northern Iowa.

Clinton – Located on the beautiful riverfront is the **Clinton Area Showboat Theatre**. This restored old river paddle wheeler features professional summer repertory theatre from June through mid-August, with great musicals and uproarious comedies. Also in town, enjoy the big-city excitement of live symphonic music. The *Clinton Symphony* is a full, professional symphony orchestra that performs classical concerts throughout the season and an annual pops concert on the riverfront.

Council Bluffs – The performing arts are memorably

entertaining thousands in Council Bluffs. To name a few... **The Arts Center**, on the campus of Iowa Western Community College, features performances in theatre, dance, music and cultural events. **Chanticleer Community Theater** routinely features Broadway musicals, comedies and dramas. Whatever your taste in entertainment, you'll find it here!

Des Moines – A real hot spot when it comes to enjoying live theater experiences. With a variety of venues, your group can experience live theater in a small, intimate setting or large Broadway theater. The **Des Moines Playhouse** 2010 seasons features 2 new musicals hot off Broadway and not yet seen in Des Moines!

Dubuque – The **Bell Tower Theater** is a must see! Located in an historic church, they have been producing quality performances since 2003, including comedies and musicals. So sit back and let them entertain your group... Bell Tower style. Or if plays and ballets are more your style, the **Grand Opera House** is for you. Built in 1890 it is the oldest theater in town.

Waterloo – Enjoy a delightful, gourmet 3-course dinner at the new **ArtHouse Café** located inside the **Waterloo Center for the Arts**. A few steps down the hallway is the **Hope Martin Theatre** home of the **Waterloo Community Playhouse**, presenting the best in classics, modern comedies, drama, musicals, and mysteries. **The Black Hawk Children's Theatre** is also located here. Their production consists of popular books brought to life on stage.



THE MACHINE SHED

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In 1978 we opened the first Machine Shed Restaurant on the outskirts of Davenport, Iowa. We started with a powerful commitment, a five-word constitution: "Dedicated to the American Farmer". That dedication meant that we worked hard to have a restaurant that wasn't just "farm themed" but would be something that farmers could be proud of. We began by, and continue to use only the best beef, pork and poultry. We cook from scratch, using fresh ingredients and we still peel our potatoes ourselves.

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WINE, DINE, HISTORY + THEATER

This sample itinerary is best Spring-Fall.

11 – 12:30 pm

Welcome aboard! Cruise along the Des Moines River on the **Jon Anderson White Riverboat**, an elegant refurbished sternwheeler. Leisurely explore the natural beauty of the historic riverbanks and capture the spirit of a revitalized city. Enjoy the Bateau Mouche French Picnic Basket during their lunch cruise. **Note:** they also offer Morning & Afternoon Rides, Cocktail Cruises, Premium Wine & Cheese Tasting Cruises, Dinner Charters and more!

12:30 – 3:00 pm

Located just south of Des Moines on 12.5 acres of vineyard in northern Warren County is **Summerset Winery**. Producing over 155,000 bottles of wine a year, Summerset is the largest producing winery in Iowa. Visit the wine tasting room, gift shop, wine cellar, and grand banquet hall. Groups can enjoy many activities, from special events, Sunday Tunes (held outdoors & indoors), Fall Harvest - grape stomping celebration (a perfect way to submerge yourself in the wine-making experience) to traditional wine tastings and tours.

3 – 3:30 pm

Head 20 miles northwest, just west of Des Moines to the **Sleep Inn, Urbandale**. Groups enjoy their contemporary room styles. They are perfect for today's travelers and feature a variety of room types to fit individual needs.

3:30 – 5:00 pm

Within walking distance from the hotel is the **Living History Farm**. Take their Step Saver Tour. This tour is ideal for groups with time or mobility limitations. It includes the town of Walnut Hill, 1900 Farm & Wallace Exhibit Center.

5 – 7:30 pm

With 850 restaurants in Des Moines you are sure to find one that fits your groups needs!

7:30 – 10:00 pm

Conveniently located at the 42nd Street exit of I-235, **The Des Moines Playhouse** is the second largest community theatre in the US, and also one of the oldest. From today's most talked-about musicals to riveting classic plays, they provide high quality theatre at affordable prices. Upcoming productions include the hit musicals *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, and *The Wedding Singer*; the contemporary comedy *Duck Hunter Shoots Angel*; and the family musical, Rodgers & Hammerstein's *Cinderella*.

For more information on this sample itinerary please contact your tour operator or the advertisers found on this page.

LOOK WHAT'S COMING!
Sept. 2010: *The Drowsy Chaperone*
April 2011: *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*
June 2011: *The Wedding Singer*

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Romeo and Juliet

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Visit Cedar Falls, IA

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Plan your next trip to Cedar Falls, Iowa, one of the National Historic Trust's 2010 Dozen Distinctive Destinations, a two time Iowa Tourism Community of the Year, and the state's first Bicycle Friendly Community.

The staff at the Cedar Falls Tourism and Visitors Bureau stands ready to prepare an itinerary customized just for you. Here's a sampling of what you might consider...

Day 1

10am

Arrive at our **Visitor Center**, located near the intersection of Highway 58/218 and Highway 20 (exit 224), to stretch your legs, browse our gift shop and enjoy refreshments on our shaded patio overlooking the lakes and prairie landscaping peppered with the silhouettes of prairie animals.

10:30am

Head downtown to the newly restored **Ice House Museum**, the "coolest museum in Iowa." This unique and round brick structure is one of only a handful left in the country. Ravaged by the 2008 floods, the museum's been completely restored with exhibits depicting the role that the Cedar River played in the settlement of the area, ice-harvesting, early farming and homemaking and more.

Noon

Enjoy lunch in our **Distinctive Downtown**. Choose from a loose meat sandwich and pie picnic in the park, catered by the local **Maid Rite** shop, or a private dining experience in the elegantly appointed ballroom of the historic **Cedar Falls Woman's Club**. Other choices

include New Orleans-style dining at **Bourbon Street**, **Soho's** sandwich and sushi bar, **Los Cabos** Mexican restaurant and a number of sandwich shops.

1:30pm

Take a behind the scenes tour of the **Oster Regent Theatre** which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is celebrating its 100th Anniversary in 2010. Learn the fascinating history about the building as it started as a live performing arts theatre in 1910, adapted to the big screen when live performances struggled and was again renovated to serve as a live theatre.

2:30pm

Enjoy some free time in **downtown Cedar Falls** and discover why it's been named a **Distinctive Destination**. Savor wine and chocolate at **Indulgence** or coffee at **Cup of Joe**. Browse over 26 locally owned shops loaded with clothing, shoes, purses, antiques, hobby supplies, gifts and knickknacks, or stroll along the trail overlooking the Cedar River.

4:00pm

Check out your sleeping arrangements at the **AmericInn**, **Wingate by Wyndham**, or one of several other great Cedar Falls hotels. Take a break and freshen up for an exciting evening of dining and entertainment.

5:00pm

Dinner choices abound with unique offerings at local favorites like **myVerona**, **Ferraris**, **Montage** and the **Brown Bottle**.

6:30pm

Enjoy a performance at the **Gallagher-Bluedorn Performing Arts Center** on the **University of Northern Iowa** campus or the **Oster Regent Theatre** in downtown Cedar Falls. Offerings range from opera to Broadway productions to community theatre to free student and faculty performances.

Day 2

10am

Visit the **University of Northern Iowa's Tallgrass Prairie Center** where you'll learn about Iowa's native landscape and stroll through demonstration areas planted and maintained by area experts.

11:30am

Board the coach and take a quick five minute ride to the outskirts of town to **Barn Happy** where you'll enjoy lunch in a rustic and delightfully renovated barn. The gift shop is filled to the rafters with Iowa products and antiques.

1pm

Choose from a visit to the **University Museum**, **Hansen's Dairy Barn**, **Iowa Veteran's Museum**, **Phelps Youth Pavilion**, **Hearst Center for the Arts and Sculpture Garden**, **John Deere Tractor Tours**, **barn quilt tours**, **Heartland Acres Agribition Center** and more.

Visit www.CedarFallsTourism.org or call the Cedar Falls Visitor Center to request a Group Tour Guide or to customize an itinerary.

Cedar Falls Hotels include: AmericInn Lodge & Suites • Black Hawk Hotel • Black Hawk Motor Lodge • Comfort Suites Country Inn & Suites • Days Inn • Holiday Inn • JLL Extended Stay Inn • Midway Studios • Suburban Extended Stay Super 8 • University Inn • Wingate by Wyndham

Visit www.CedarFallsTourism.org for hotel details and contact information.

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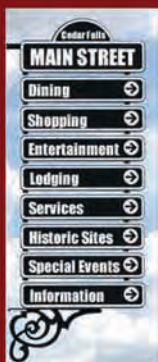
10

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2000-2010

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Built in 1910 and restored in 1994, this theatre building celebrates 100 years of movies and shows live on stage. Comedy, drama, concerts, dance and wonderful entertainment take place every year in this theatre listed in the National Registry of Historic Places. Experience

a great show and take a tour of this hip and happenin' place!

Check our web site for current listings or dial **319-APP-LAUD**.



The Music Man
June, 2010



Kitchen Witches
July, 2010



The Legend of Sleepy Hollow
Oct, 2010



Uh Oh, Here Comes Christmas
Dec, 2010





HOMEGROWN AND HANDMADE IN WESTERN IOWA

This sample itinerary is best from May-October.

10 – 11:30 am

Visit Neola artist **Russell Christensen** who is working on his **Eagles of Honor** project. Christensen has a vision of showing thankfulness and pride by creating a Veteran's Monument in every community, in stunning bronze with each eagle being unique to the community.



Each monument is a testament that Pottawattamie County is strong and united.

11:30 – 1:00 pm

Make a delicious stop at **Sweet Gatherings** in Neola. Visitors will enjoy wonderful homemade soups, sandwiches, pastries and pie in a beautiful environment at reasonable prices. It is also the home of **"Gosh Darn Goodies" Handmade Gourmet Candies**. They specialize in candies made with homemade caramel, such as gourmet apples; turtles, chocolate covered caramels and dreamsticks, and have many more candies to choose from. Gift baskets can be purchased for that special someone and even shipped if you wish.

1 – 3:00 pm

Enjoy the Loess Hills when visiting **Sawmill Hollow** in Missouri Valley. Sawmill Hollow is committed to delivering wholesome organic aronia berries and the finest Aronia Berry Products. They are also known for their Annual Aronia Festival, Log Cabin Lodge, Wine House for tastings, and wrap around lake.

3 – 4:30 pm

Now on to **Honey Creek Creamery**, and learn about the care and maintenance of dairy goats and see a working farmstead in the Loess Hills. You will get a first-hand view of a goat cheese processing facility, milk parlor and an active goat herd. They will demonstrate how to milk a goat and allow willing participants to try their hand at milking. Cheese

samples will be offered and a variety of fresh cheeses will also be available for purchase.

*Additional attractions are available for substitution or a multi-day tour - including **Thomsen's Corner** (wool farm), **Prairie Fired Pottery**, **Blooms Organic** and several others.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or Chrissy Caniglia at Council Bluffs CVB, 800-228-6878 Ext 109 or email ccaniglia@councilbluffsia.com.

GATEWAY TO A SIMPLER WAY OF LIFE!

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year!

1 – 2:00 pm

Arrive in Independence; nestled in Northeast Iowa, just in time for lunch at the **Homestead Restaurant**. Built on the banks of Swan Lake, with both a front and a back porch, complete with a screen door! Don't miss the gift shop – you're sure to find a precious keepsake to take home.

2 – 5:00 pm

Spend the first part of the afternoon at **Heartland Acres Agribition Center**; an exhibition of agriculture's past, present and future in the National Heritage Area of Northeast Iowa. Sitting on over eighty acres of land, this impressive location teaches visitors the importance of agriculture and the overall impact it has on all of us. Equipped with a theatre, various interactive displays and exhibits, including animals, a machine shed and a one room school house. Stop and browse their Gift Shoppe before you leave.

5 – 5:30 pm

Check into the cozy **Country Inn & Suites**. Featuring group rates, and their enhanced continental breakfast served daily, makes this a perfect place for any group!

5:30 – 9:30 pm

Take a short drive to enjoy a delicious, gourmet 3-course dinner at the new **ArtHouse Café** located inside the **Waterloo Center for the Arts**. Then a few steps down the hallway is the Hope Martin Theatre, home of the **Waterloo Community Playhouse**. They present the best in classics, modern comedies, drama, musicals and mysteries. Sit back, relax and enjoy the show!

See ad on next page for our Triple Crown Offer Details!

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or Heartland Acres Agribition Center, 319-332-0123.

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HISTORICAL ATTRACTIONS

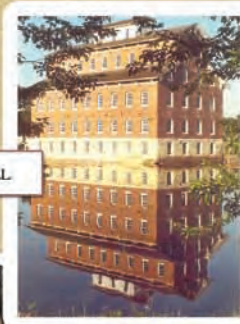
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BOONE IOWA

Trains, Trails and
Treasures...

DAY 1

11 am -12 pm ■ Visit the **Birthplace of Mamie Doud Eisenhower**, wife of Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th President of the United States and Five Star General during World War II. This completely restored Victorian home contains family heirlooms, as well as photos and mementos of Ike and Mamie's life. Displayed in the carriage house are a 1949 Chrysler Windsor sedan given to Mamie's aunt and uncle, the Carlsons by Ike and Mamie at Christmas in 1948 and the 1962 Plymouth Valiant once owned by Mamie. www.mamiesbirthplace.homestead.com

12 — 1 pm ■ **Lunch** at one of the great restaurants in Boone; whether it's delicious barbeque, a buffet, or a great sit down meal, you're sure to find a local restaurant with a touch of hometown ambiance.

1 — 3:30 pm ■ Tour the **Boone County Historical Society Museum** and explore downtown Boone. The *Boone County Historical Society's 20th Century Gallery* is a decade by decade look at Boone County history against a backdrop of national, international, and state events. View a model railroad diorama of the dramatic *Kate Shelley Story*, a local heroine who, at the age of 15, crawled across the Des Moines Railroad Bridge during a raging nighttime storm, to warn that an oncoming passenger train must be halted or it would crash through the trestle. Also see her gold medals and the lantern she carried on that stormy night. Group tours can arrange for the museum to play their 20-minute video on the Kate Shelley story. The museum's collection includes a military and gun collection from the frontier days to desert storm, and prehistoric and native items. The last weekend in September is their annual quilt show. www.boonecountyhistory.org



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County Historical Society**



• **Boone County
Historical Center**



• **Mamie Eisenhower
Birthplace**



• **Kate Shelley RR
Museum & Park**



• **Hickory Grove
School - Battin
Chapel Complex**

For More Information

515-432-1907

www.boonecountyhistory.org

Boone boasts several antique shops in the downtown, two of them within a block of the museum; Boone's tree lined downtown holds many quaint shops to explore as well as a favorite hangout for locals, **Van Hemert's Dutch Oven Bakery & Koffee Huis**.

3:30 — 5 pm ■ Check into one of the three fine hotels here in Boone; the **Baymont Inn & Suites**, a perfect, three stars like hotel, with smoke free environment, indoor pool & whirlpool, exercise room, 24 hour coffee, free high speed internet, meeting room, and complimentary deluxe continental breakfast. www.baymontboonehotel.com

Other hotels in Boone include **Super 8** and **Econo Lodge**.

5 — 8 pm ■ Board the **Boone and Scenic Valley Dinner Train** and enjoy a fabulous meal as you traverse their entire 11 mile route, giving you a two hour and thirty minute ride through the beautiful *Des Moines River Valley* and crossing the 156 foot tall *Bass Point Creek High Bridge*. While the regularly scheduled Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad dinner trains are Friday and Saturday night, arrangements can be made by groups for a private train the rest of the week. www.scenic-valleyrr.com

DAY 2

8 am — 9 am ■ If the free continental breakfast at your hotel isn't enough to satisfy your appetite, then bring your group for a hot breakfast at the **Tic Toc Restaurant** in downtown Boone.



9 am -12 pm ■ It's off to the Iowa Arboretum and **Madrid** today. As you head south out of Boone, enjoy the tree lined streets and historic mansions of Boone, swing through **McHose Park** and see the statue of **Teddy Roosevelt**, and then continue on for a scenic drive through **Ledges State Park**. One of Iowa's most popular state parks, Ledges is known for its sandstone cliffs, native plant communities and deep wooded river valley. Many of the park facilities were constructed of native timber and field stone by the *Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)* in the 1930's; these examples of fine craftsmanship include an arch stone bridge, stone shelters and trail steps. The winding road along *Pea's Creek* offers motorists breathtaking views of the "canyon" and the *Des Moines River Valley*.

www.iowadnr.gov/parks/state_park_list/ledges.html

A visit to the **Iowa Arboretum's** 378-acre facility in rural Boone County is an experience you won't want to miss. Its location was chosen for its ability to successfully grow plants that do well in zones 4 & 5. This site offers 40 acres developed as a "Library of



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www.iowaarboretum.org

12 — 1 pm ■ Having lunch, provided by one of the area's great caterers, at either the Iowa Arboretum, or Snus Hill Winery in a relaxing countryside atmosphere is sure to be a crowd pleaser.

1 — 3 pm ■ The quiet and peaceful countryside awaits you with a stop at **Snus Hill Winery**, Boone County's only native grown winery. Go behind the scenes to see the wine making process and sample some of their yet-to-be-released wines that are aging in the cellar. Tour their cellars, sample their locally grown wines and enjoy time viewing the countryside from their expansive deck. *Interested in a Harvest Party?* Come experience picking grapes and enjoy a light lunch.

www.snushillwine.com

3 — 4:30 pm ■ Just west of Boone is the Battin Chapel complex of the Boone County Historical Society. The complex houses not only the historic **Battin Chapel**, but also a restored railroad depot and the **Hickory Grove Country School Museum**. Constructed in 1889, this one room school served the residents of Yell Township in Boone until 1956. Moved to its current site in 2007, the museum houses desks, a pot bellied stove, organ, and text books

There are additional things to see and do that can either be substituted or added to the above itinerary. Contact the Chamber office for more suggestions.



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Photo by Bob Kelly

and other documents and photos of rural schools in Boone County.

4:30 — 5:30 pm ■ Take a break at your hotel to freshen up and get ready for a night on the town.

5:30 — 7 pm ■ Dinner at one of the great restaurants in Boone; whether it's delicious barbeque, a buffet, or casual dining, you are sure to find a local restaurant with a touch of hometown ambiance.

7 — 9 pm ■ Take in a production of the **Boone Community Theatre** in the historic Garfield elementary school. While typically weekend productions, large groups can arrange for a private Thursday night performance. The group has a very active season with a variety of productions from drama, comedy and murder mysteries to dinner and dessert theatres. www.boonecommunitytheatre.org

Plan your next escape!

**Boone Area Chamber of Commerce
AND Convention & Visitor's Bureau**

www.booneiowa.us • 1.800.266.6312

VISIT AMES IOWA

This sample itinerary is best Spring through Fall!

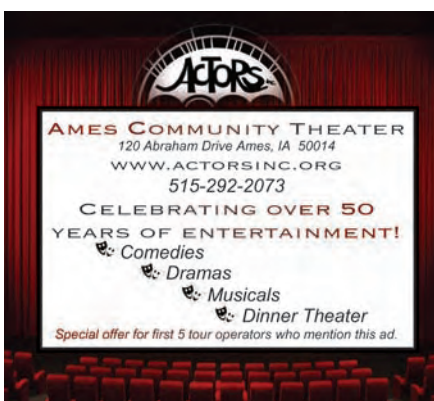
Located in the heartland, Ames is an ideal destination for your next group tour! Ames is a mix of small-town friendliness with all of the amenities of a larger city.

1:30 - 3:30 pm

Located 3 miles north of Ames is **Prairie Moon Winery & Vineyards**. Their organically grown grapes range from classic Pinot Noir to 10 varieties of French hybrid grapes. Offering a wide range of wines to fit all tastes. Take a tour, taste their fine wines in their elegant



Complimentary Wine Tasting Upon Arrival



tasting room, and/or join them Sundays from 3-6 pm for live, outdoor music June thru October.

3:30 - 4:30 pm

Check into the **Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriot**. Located off US Hwy 30 near I-35 in Ames. They offer spacious, comfortable rooms at superior value, with free high-speed Internet, enhanced continental breakfast, featuring the Jimmy Dean Breakfast Sandwich, comfortable beds, and much more!

4:30 - 6:30 pm

Enjoy dinner at **The Broiler**. You'll find Iowa's trade-

mark Steak DeBurgo, fresh local produce and much more to tempt you here!

6:30 - 9:00 pm

Celebrating over 50 years of entertainment is the **Ames Community Theater - ACTORS Inc.** Featuring classics, new releases, comedies, dramas, musicals and dinner theater. Sit down, relax and enjoy the show!

For more information on this sample itinerary please contact your tour operator or the advertisers on this page!

directory & map

accommodations

AmericInn Cedar Falls	319-277-6166
Baymont Inn & Suites Boone	515-432-8168
Country Inn & Suites Independence	319-334-6400
Fairfield Inn & Suites Ames	515-232-4000
Sleep Inn & Suites Urbandale	515-270-2424
Wingate by Wyndham Cedar Falls	319-277-2400

attractions

Barn Happy Cedar Falls	319-266-0888
Boone County Historical Society	515-432-1907
Boone & Scenic Valley Railroad & Museum Boone	800-626-0319
Heartland Acres Agribition Center Independence	319-332-0123
Jon Anderson White Riverboat Des Moines	515-883-2628
Prairie Moon Winery & Vineyards Ames	515-232-2747
Summerset Winery Indianola	515-961-3545
Snus Hill Winery Madrid	515-795-3535

convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

Boone Area Chamber of Commerce & CVB Boone	800-266-6312
Cedar Falls Tourism Cedar Falls	800-845-1955

Community Main Street

Cedar Falls	319-277-0213
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entertainment & theater

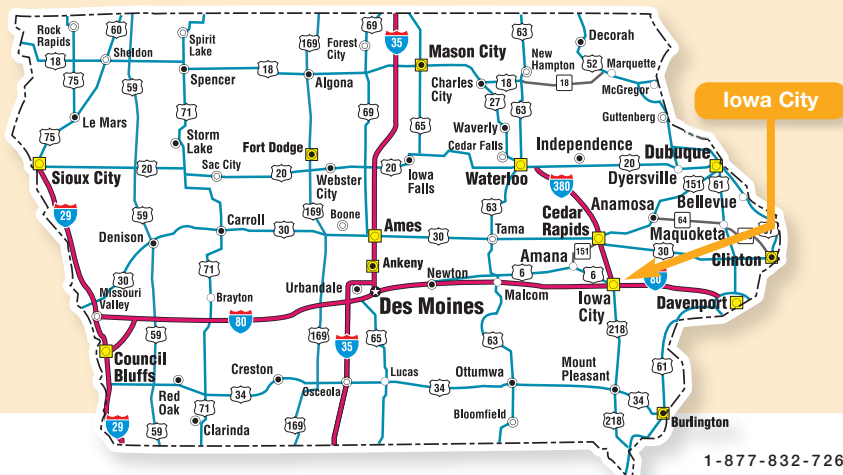
Ames Community Theater Ames	515-292-2073
Des Moines Playhouse Des Moines	877-862-5621 Ext 211
Gallagher Bluedon Performing Arts Center Cedar Falls	877-549-7469
Oster Regent Theatre Cedar Falls	319-APP-LAUD
Riverside Theatre Shakespeare Festival Iowa City	319-338-7672
Waterloo Community Playhouse & Black Hawk Children's Theatre Waterloo	319-235-0367

restaurants

Homestead Restaurant Independence	319-334-9055
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As Big As You Think ITINERARIES Kansas

© Photo courtesy of Music Theatre of Wichita



WICHITA

Wichita, the largest city in Kansas, boasts a massive number of entertainment venues. The variety ranges from numerous theater performances, opera, western music, dancing, dinner theaters and a dine-while-you-watch movie theater.

For a once in a lifetime experience, visit the **Wichita Grand Opera** for unforgettable ballet and opera, including five fully staged operas with stars from around the globe.

You can boo the villain and cheer the hero at Wichita's only audience participation dinner theater, **Mosley Street Melodrama**. They offer a full evening of fun, food, and extraordinary live entertainment that everyone will enjoy! Choose an evening of stupendous western entertainment with all-you-can-eat barbecue at either Diamond W Chuckwagon Supper or Prairie Rose Chuckwagon Supper. Another option is **Crown Uptown Professional Dinner Theatre**, one of the ten largest dinner theatres in the U.S., housed in a beautiful 1928 Boller Brothers atmospheric theatre, featuring professional Broadway shows preceded by classic American cuisine served buffet style. (See location on map below)

more theaters big & small in kansas

Concordia – Come experience the elegance of the past at the **Brown Grand Theatre**. Restored to its original 1907 splendor, this 650-seat theatre is as breathtakingly beautiful today as it was then. From the proscenium arch, white stucco with gold trim walls, and stunning Napoleon curtain, it's a beauty to behold.

Emporia – Music reviews, murder mysteries, and Shakespeare come alive through the work of **Emporia State University** and **Community Theatre** cast and crews.

Hutchinson – Located in the heart of downtown is **The Fox**, a spectacular center providing entertainment, art and education for all ages. It has been named the "State Movie Palace of Kansas" and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

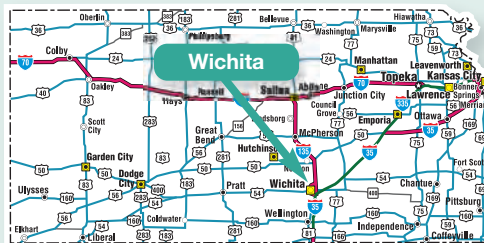
Kansas City – At **Crown Center**, Broadway-style shows including comedies, dramas and musicals captivate theater goers. You'll discover many entertainment options in the new downtown **Kansas City Power & Light District**. The **Kansas City Live** stage features free outdoor concerts throughout the year. Dance also has enjoyed a solid following here. The highly regarded company of the **Kansas City Ballet** performs at the **Lyric and Midland Theaters**, as well as at annual free concerts in the parks.

Lindsborg – Known as Little Sweden, USA! This city is rich in performing and visual arts. Such as the town's theater under the stars, **Broadway RFD**, an outdoor theater that presents a

wonderful stage performance every summer. Also enjoy a variety of musical events, from world-class chamber music, vocal, instrumental, local talents and special concerts including the annual **Messiah Festival of Music & Art**.

Olathe – What about theater in a church? The **Buddy Rogers & Family's Playhouse**, named after silent film star & Olathe native Buddy Rogers, is a historic church converted into a theater! They present 5 live theatrical productions a season, ranging from progressive, first-run fare to standard classics, including one musical.

Overland Park – This city offers groups a variety of ways to enjoy the Arts. The award-winning **New Theatre Restaurant** brings Broadway-style musicals and plays with New York and Hollywood performers to town. See why The Wall Street Journal rated it as "the best dinner theatre operation in the country".



kansas cities

ABILENE, BONNER SPRINGS, CHANUTE, COUNCIL GROVE, DODGE CITY, EMPORIA, FORT SCOTT, HAYS, HUTCHINSON, INDEPENDENCE, JUNCTION CITY, KANSAS CITY, LAWRENCE, LEAVENWORTH, LIBERAL, LINDSBORG, MANHATTAN, MCPHERSON, NEWTON, PITTSBURG, RUSSELL, SALINA, TOPEKA, WASHINGTON, WICHITA

calendar of events

april

- **All Nation's Native American Pow Wow** Apr 9-11, Arkansas City 620-442-0236
- **"Cat on a Hot Tin Roof"** April 9-24, Salina 785-827-3033
- **Tulip Time** April 10-26, Topeka 785-234-1030
- **"Don't Dress for Dinner"** April 16-May 1, Leavenworth 800-844-4114
- **Safari Days Film Festival** April 23-24, Chanute 877-431-3350
- **Kansas Birding Festival** April 23-25, Wakefield 785-238-4161

may

- **Kansas Sampler Festival** May 1-2, Leavenworth 800-844-4114
- **Millfest 2010** May 1-2, Lindsborg 888-227-2227
- **38th Annual Square Fair Crafts Festival** May 8, Garnett 785-448-6767
- **Art Tougeau Parade** May 21, Lawrence 785-865-4499

june

- **Good Ol' Days** June 3-6, Fort Scott 620-223-3566
- **Music Theatre of Wichita** June 9-August 10, Wichita 316-265-3253
- **Fredonia Flag Festival** June 11-12, Fredonia 620-378-3221
- **Wah-Shun-Gah Days 2010** June 18-19, Council Grove 800-732-9211
- **Midsummer's Day Festival** June 18-20, Lindsborg 888-227-2227

july

- **Wild West Festival** July 2-5, Hays 785-623-4476
- **Spirit of Kansas** July 3-4, Topeka 785-268-1156
- **Old Fashioned Fourth of July** July 4, Lindsborg 785-227-3706
- **77th Annual Fiesta Mexicana** July 13-17, Topeka 785-232-5088
- **Amelia Earnhart Festival** July 16-17, Atchison 800-234-1854
- **Broadway RFD-Theater under the stars!** July 16-17, 23-24, Lindsborg 888-227-2227
- **Dodge City Days** July 30-August 8, Dodge City 780-488-3378

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

directory & map

Lindsborg Convention & Visitors Bureau 888-227-2227
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Experience flavors of Sweden, enjoying a Swedish buffet by **Scott's Hometown Foods Catering**. Swedish meatballs with lingonberries, rågröd, and ostkaka are just a few of the mouth watering Swedish delicacies that await your palette.

Enter the **Hemslöjd**, and you will feel as if you are in Sweden. Visit with and watch a wood craftsman, painter and glass blower at work in the dala horse factory. Specializing in Swedish imports and Scandinavia gifts, there's no place like the Hemslöjd.

Savor the flavor of Swedish Mörkrost coffee while taking in the sights, sounds and smells of coffee roasting and brewing demonstration at the **Blacksmith Roastery**.

Specializing in ultra-premium coffees and brewing equipment, no tour is complete without sampling the fresh brewed coffee.

The Red Barn Studio Museum, is the working studio of the late artist and craftsman Lester Raymer. His work was influenced by the world's great artists, folk art from all cultures, the circus and religious symbolism. A must see attraction!

See through the eyes of world traveled National Geographic Photographer Jim Richardson at his **Small World Gallery**. In exhibits and a huge greeting card selection of his work, you'll witness his passion for photography that says more. Meet Jim if he's not traveling.

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SMALL WORLD gallery
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Join the Humde family and friends for a little **HOTDISH HALLELUJAH!** at the Lost Walleye Lodge. They will teach you the fine art of talkin' Minnesotan. Learn the positive power of the negative, accepting food on the third offer and the basic lessons – including "you bet," "whatever," and "that's different." OH FOR FUN! (See location on map, page 50)

more theaters big & small in minnesota

Akeley – Bringing music and comedy to the Northwoods, **The Woodtick Theater** personifies the spirit of music and comedy of the popular public radio show, *Prairie Home Companion*. The 2hr show features country, bluegrass, folk and gospel music, comedy skits, lighthearted instrumentals, harmonicas, fiddles and guitars and appeals to all ages.

Alexandria – **The Anderson Family Dinner Show at Andes Tower Hills** is a must see! Begin with a memorable chef prepared meal and then be entertained by The Anderson's. This multi-talented family provides a "Branson style" show with a variety of music styles and instruments, to appeal to a broad audience. May be combined with their beautiful Covered Wagon Ride and/or Paul Anderson's amazing Personal Museum Tour as well.

Chanhassen – **Chanhassen Dinner Theatre** is the nation's largest professional dinner theatre with four theatres under one roof. Founded in 1968, they boast excellent ticket value with choice of several different productions complete with lavish sets and costumes, friendly tableside service with choice of delicious entrees.

Grand Rapids – For almost three decades, the **Myles Reif Performing Arts Center** has provided Minnesota's northland with a truly diverse range of world-class performances: full orchestras; acrobats and drummers; traditional ballet and modern jazz dance; stand-up comedy; national and international tours of large- and small-scale theater productions; Christmas shows; and much more!

Minneapolis – Time Magazine calls **Guthrie** "a 21st century dream factory"; the new Guthrie boasts three stages, a full-service restaurant, numerous bars and some of the best views

of Minneapolis. **Historic Orpheum Theatre** opened its doors in 1921 as vaudeville and live presentation venue, with a capacity for 2,600 patrons. Through the years they have been hosts to Big Bands, movie premiers, dance troupes, and touring Broadway productions.

Park Rapids – **Long Lake Theater**, this former church has been renovated into a live, 100-seat theater, plus the recently added Landmark Theatre showcasing a wide range of talented actors, directors, and musicians. **Jaspers Jubilee Theater** "Now That's Entertainment!" Enjoy the best mix of music from every era.

Saint Paul – **History Theatre** seeks to inspire, entertain and provoke audiences through the creation of new plays that explore Minnesota's past and the diverse American experience. **Ordway Center for the Performing Arts**, located downtown, hosts a variety of performing arts, such as touring Broadway musicals, orchestra, opera, and cultural performers.

St. Cloud – **Paramount Theatre & Visual Arts Center** is Central Minnesota's Home for Arts & Entertainment! Featuring a restored historic Theatre, Art Gallery, and Visual Arts Studios. The Theatre features plays, concerts, dance programs and events. The Visual Arts Center offers exhibits, classes and workshops for adults and a retail gallery featuring artwork by regional artists.

Willmar – **The Barn Theatre** is one of the areas finest live performing venues with live theatre productions all year long. It is one of a few community theatres in the country that has its own building and full time director. PLUS its art gallery space displays various original works of regional artists during each production.



minnesota cities

ALBERT LEA, ALEXANDRIA, AUSTIN, BEMIDJI, BLOOMINGTON, CHANHASSEN, EAGAN, FARIBAUT, GRAND PORTAGE, HARMONY, MINNEAPOLIS, MORTON, PARK RAPIDS, PLYMOUTH, OWATONNA, ROSEVILLE, SAINT PAUL, ST. CLOUD, STILLWATER, WILLMAR

For a complete list of MN cities & events please visit www.itinerariesmidwest.com.

calendar of events

april

- **"As You Like It"** April 9-25, Lyric Arts Main Street Stage 763-433-2510
- **International Festival** April 11, Mankato 800-627-3529
- **Earth Day Celebration** April 24, Roseville 877-980-3002
- **"Queens of Burlesque"** Apr 24-May 23, History Theatre 651-292-4323
- **Discover History Days** April 27-29, Albert Lea 800-345-8414
- **Festival of Nations** April 29- May 2, Saint Paul 651-647-0191

may

- **"South Pacific"** May 4-16, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts 651-224-4222
- **Rivertown Art Festival** May 15-16, Stillwater 651-351-1717
- **Dylan Days** May 27-30, Hibbing 866-305-3849

june

- **Flint Hills International Festival** Jun 5-6, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, Saint Paul 651-282-3111
- **Minnesota Inventors Congress Invention & Idea Show** Jun 11-12, Redwood Falls 800-INV-ENT1
- **Festival of Lakes** June 11-13, Fairmont 507-235-6110
- **Summer Solstice EcoBlitz** June 12, Austin 800-444-5713
- **Scandinavian Festival** June 18-19, Roseau 800-815-1824
- **"Triumph of Love"** June 18-August 28, MN Centennial Showboat 651-227-1100
- **Burnsville International Festival** June 19, Burnsville 952-895-4400
- **Willmar Fests** Jun 21-27, Willmar 800-845-8747
- **JuneBug Festival of Music** June 23-26, Northfield 507-645-1665
- **Hambone Blues Jam** June 25-26, Austin 800-444-5713
- **Water Ski Days Festival** June 25-27, Lake City 651-345-4123

july

- **Taste of Minnesota** July 2-5, Saint Paul 651-772-9980
- **SPAM*TOWN USA "Freedom Fest"** July 3-4, Austin 800-444-5713
- **4th of July Parade** Jul 4, Richfield 612-861-9395
- **Traditional Independence Day Celebration** July 4, Warroad 218-386-3543
- **Wilder Pageant** July 9-10, 16-17, 23-24 Walnut Grove 888-859-3102
- **Steele County Historical Society 24th Annual Extravaganza** July 11, Owatonna 507-451-1420
- **Rice County Fair** Jul 20-25, Faribault 507-332-2470
- **Lumberjack Days Festival** July 22-25, Stillwater 651-430-2306

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

5 DAYS OF FUN! MORE THAN YOU'D EVER EXPECT!

Come to the Twin Cities for fun that's truly group-friendly. We're experienced at putting smiles on the faces of groups like yours.

DAY 1 – No matter how or when you arrive, the fun begins right away! Start your day at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum, named one of the Top 10 gardens in America by USA Today. Take a tram tour, explore on your own, or take a cooking class using herbs that have been grown on-site. Then enjoy a mouth-watering Arboretum lunch before you visit the Minnesota Zoo, home to thousands of animals, fish and waterfowl, including the famous Grizzly Bear exhibit. End the day with a relaxing dinner and show at the always-popular Chanhassen Dinner Theatres.

DAY 2 – No matter how many times your groups have been to the Mall of America, every visit promises new experiences around every corner! 520 eye-opening shops, along with many dining and entertainment choices, will always keep this visit fresh and unusual. Allow for at least a day of casual meandering as you wind your way through this incredible shopping Mecca. Underwater Adventures features more than 5,000 sea creatures that amaze all kids...no matter their age!

DAY 3 – Start the day at your hotel by the Mall of America... board the comfortable light rail train for your plunge into Downtown Minneapolis! Upon arrival, your coach will take you to the famed American Swedish Institute. Explore this one-of-a-kind museum of Swedish art, culture, and history housed in the 1904 Turnblad Castle. After a colorful Swedish lunch, see a Minnesota Twins baseball game at the brand new Target Field where they will announce your group's presence. Remember that you are near Target Center with their many special performance events,

Timberwolves, or Minnesota Lynx basketball games.

DAY 4 – Not done shopping? Two more exciting venues await you. Send your groups to The Shoppes at Arbor Lakes in Maple Grove and then on to the many outlet shops at the Albertville Premium Outlets. Reserve this evening for a world-class live theater performance at the renowned Guthrie Theater, located on the Mississippi River in downtown Minneapolis. The dynamic architecture of this theater will amaze you almost as much as the performance!

DAY 5 – Many opportunities yet await – the choice is yours! At Valleyfair, no matter the ages of the "kids" in your group, they can scream through 8 wicked roller coasters. Maybe your group would enjoy a bowling party at one of four Brunswick Zones located throughout the Twin Cities. Or are they interested in the sciences? The Science Museum of Minnesota in Saint Paul encourages participation with hands-on experiments, exciting movies, and Mississippi River learning opportunities. Finally, after a fun-filled day, enjoy an evening of horse racing at Canterbury Park, a perfect way to end your visit.

A SAMPLER OF EVENTS

APRIL

Minnesota Twins Opener at new Target Field – Minneapolis

JULY

Eagan's July 4th Funfest

Panorama of Progress – Lakeville

SEPTEMBER

AFLAC Iron Girl

Women's Duathlon–
Bloomington

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Museums



Animals



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For more information, contact your tour operator, contact Twin Cities Tourism Attractions Association directly at 952-858-8493, or go to www.funminnesota.com.

Thanks for coming, and remember, we're here to help your tour be the very best it can be!

NOVEMBER

Mistletoe & Memories
Holiday Event – Maple Grove

DECEMBER

Holiday on Mainstreet–
Inver Grove Heights

JANUARY 2011

Roseville Winter Jazz Blast

JANUARY –FEBRUARY 2011

Saint Paul Winter Carnival

ACE FOR...



Sporting Events



Theaters

Amusement Parks

GROUP SALES PHONE NUMBERS

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American Swedish Institute:
612-871-4907
Brunswick Zone: Blaine: 763-561-2230
Brooklyn Park: 763-503-2695
Eden Prairie: 952-941-0445
Lakeville: 952-435-2695
Canterbury Park: 952-496-6416
Chanhasen Dinner Theatres:
952-934-1547
Guthrie Theater: 612-225-6244
Mall of America: 952-883-8843
Nickelodeon Universe: 952-883-8809
Underwater Adventures: 952-853-0612
Minneapolis Institute of Arts:
612-870-3140
Minnesota Zoo: 952-431-9200
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum:
952-443-1411
Mystic Lake Casino Hotel: 952-496-7233
Science Museum of MN: 651-221-9444
Target Center/Timberwolves: 612-673-1311
The Shoppes at Arbor Lakes:
763-424-0504
Valleyfair: 952-445-6500



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Warden's House MUSEUM

Warden's House Museum was built in 1853 as the residence of the Minnesota Territorial Prison warden. Over time there were thirteen wardens

that lived in the house until 1914 when the prison moved to its present site in Bayport.

After 1914 a Deputy Warden or Superintendent of the prison used the old Warden's House. In 1941 the State of Minnesota sold the house to the Washington County Historical Society and it was opened as the second house museum in the state in June 1941.

The museum consists of 14 rooms decorated in the late 19th and early 20th century style. Many rooms are like that of a upper middle class household while other rooms depict certain historic themes of Washington County including a room dedicated to the lumbering industry and still another that shows off items that children would use more than one hundred years ago.

The Warden's House was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in December 1974. Since the Washington County Historical Society has opened the house as a museum, thousands of school children, adults and visitors have entered the museum and learned about the wonderful past and promising future of Washington County, Minnesota. For hours and admissions costs please call 651-439-5956 or visit on-line at www.wchsmn.org.



WORDS That Changed The World

The Science Museum of Minnesota will open the landmark exhibition: *The Dead Sea Scrolls: Words That Changed the World* on Friday, March 12, 2010, offering visitors an exclusive chance to explore the greatest archaeological discovery of the 20th century – one that has great historic and personal meaning to people all over the world. The exhibition will run through October 24, 2010.

The scrolls, most of which are more than 2,000 years old, include fragments of the earliest known texts of the Bible. After their initial discovery near the ancient settlement of Qumran, archaeologists have excavated and pieced together tens of thousands of scroll fragments, into more than 900 separate documents - from biblical manuscripts and commentary to religious legal writings. These ancient Hebrew writing fragments are now archived and conserved by the Israel Antiquities Authority and, on rare occasion, are put on public display at world-class museums.

Visitors to *The Dead Sea Scrolls: Words That Changed the World*, will explore galleries devoted to putting the Dead Sea Scrolls story into context. In addition to seeing the extraordinary, priceless scrolls, visitors will see ancient artifacts that will give them a glimpse into life in Israel during the famous Second Temple Period – from everyday items like measuring cups and cookware, to tools of the trade like inkwells and stamps.

Tickets are \$28 for adults and \$22 for kids and seniors. For specific directions, parking information, hours, show times and ticket information, call (651) 221-9444 or visit www.smm.org.



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The Dead Sea Scrolls were created by the Israel Antiquities Authority from the collections of the National Treasures in collaboration with the Science Museum of Minnesota.



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MINNESOTA State Fair

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Morning is the best time to...

- schedule a breakfast and welcome session for your group at the Blue Ribbon Picnic Area.
- learn about renewable energy and sustainability at the award-winning Eco Experience.
- experience the Miracle of Birth Center

where lambs, calves and piglets are born.

Mid-day is the best time to...

- catch one of more than 75 acts on seven free entertainment stages.
- check out nearly 70 rides from around the globe at Mighty Midway and Kidway.
- browse through the shops at Heritage Square or the International Bazaar.

Afternoon is the best time to...

- meet Princess Kay and see the famous butterhead sculptures.

- choose a snack from the menu of 350 foods, including more than 50 foods on-a-stick.
- stroll through Minnesota's largest juried art show in the Fine Arts Center.

Evening is the best time to...

- go to extremes on Adventure Park's rides.
- see big-name entertainers at the newly-restored 1909 Grandstand.
- watch the nightly fireworks spectacular.

For more information call 651-632-2689 or email groups@mnstatefair.org.



MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

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Contact the group hospitality department for information on discount days, free bus parking, catered picnics and more!

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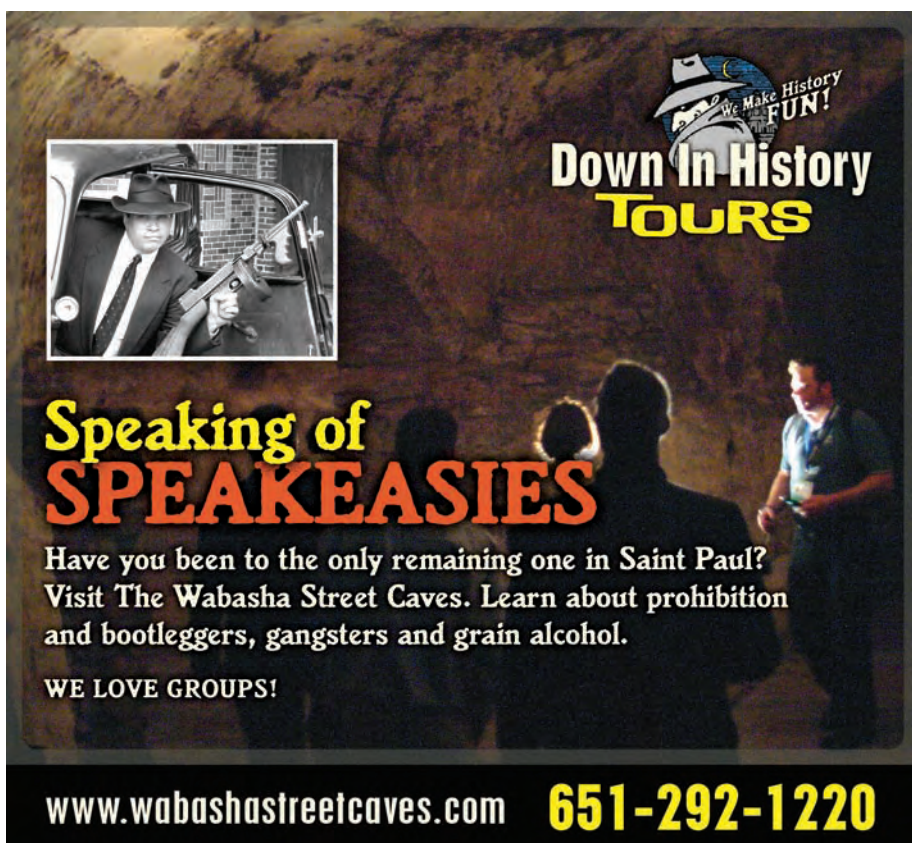


Down In History TOURS

As seen on the History Channel, Down In History Tours offers a unique alternative to the typical day out. Here knowledgeable and talented guides make history fascinating and thrilling with narrated, themed tours. Their historically dressed character guides converse and interact with group members during a variety of tours that suit any theme. Whether you are planning a visit for the Nordic Summer and want to include the Uf Dah Tour in your plans, or have a family reunion planned for the Ryans and want to fill time with the No Blarney Tour, they can give you a show on wheels to make the experience unforgettable!

The Saint Paul Gangster Tour is the most well known tour, but they also offer the Mill City Mobs-Tour, Saint Paul Victorian Tour, Rivers & Roots Tour, Grand to Great Tour, Politically Correct Tour, Ghosts, Graves & Caves Tour, Winter Lights Tour and the ever-funny Twin Town Tacky Tour, and they will take you to sites that no other tour of the Twin Cities would dare to venture! Want to add a walking tour? No problem, since Down In History also does the historic Wabasha Street Cave Tour. Choose Down In History Tours and enjoy their unusual, fun-filled blast from the past tours!

For more details call 651-292-1220 or visit www.wabashastreetcaves.com.



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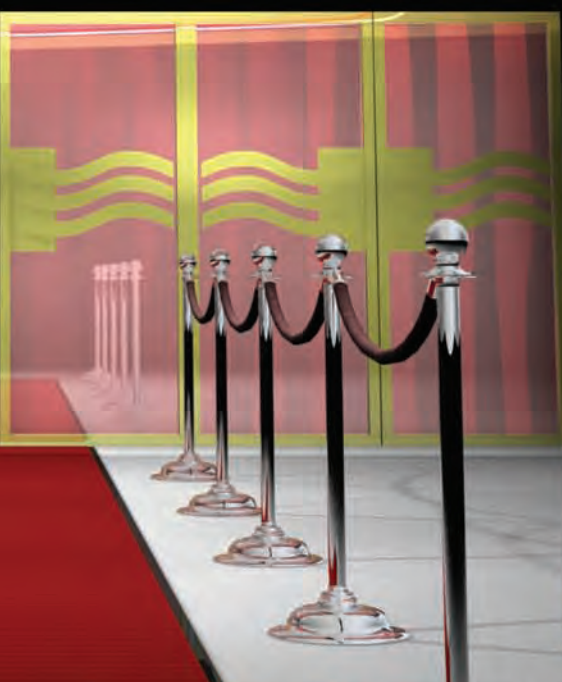
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THEATER LIGHTS + UNIQUE SIGHTS

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year!

day one

3 – 5:30 pm

Arrive in **Burnsville** and check into your hotel. Then it's off to **Abdallah Candies & Gifts**, to see the hand dipping and hand-molding process of candy making. Sample chocolates and browse through the gift shop. Each tour member receives a four-piece sampler upon departure. After, stop by **Touch of Home Furnishings**, where you can browse through handcrafted items, antiques, wreaths, candles & more.

5:30 – 9:00 pm

This evening dine in one of Burnsville's restaurants, before a big night at the **Plymouth Playhouse** for a humorous fun-filled play.

day two

9 – 11:00 am

This morning visit **Grace Church** in Eden Prairie for a guided tour of this "mega church". View the

worship center with seating for 4,500 people. Then move on to experience a Byzantine style chapel and marvel at the mosaic work, considered among the finest examples of mosaic work in the nation, at **Lakewood Cemetery & Chapel**. Your step-on guide will take you through this upscale cemetery to the gravesites of Hubert H. Humphrey, Franklin Mars, Tiny Tim and others. This tour has been called one of the "Top Ten Tours" in the Twin Cities.

11 – 3:00 pm

Return to Burnsville and have a light lunch in one of the Heart of the City restaurants. Tour the new **Burnsville Performing Arts Center** in Nicollet Commons Park and be sure to make a stop to browse at **Ficus & Fig** gift store.

3 – 5:00 pm

Return to your hotel and freshen up for an evening of dining and theater at the **Old Log Theater**.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or the Burnsville CVB, 800-521-6055 or visit www.burnsvillemn.com.

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For a truly unique outdoor theater experience – don't miss **Theater in the Woods** at the **Caponi Art Park** located in Eagan. This large outdoor amphitheater, nestled in the park's hilly landscape under a canopy of trees, is a unique setting, with a large brick open-air stage, near perfect acoustics, plentiful seating and the feeling of the north woods right in the middle of Eagan. See the Summer Performance Series, Shakespeare Festival and more! (www.caponiartpark.org)

Be sure to check out the **Burnsville Performing Arts Center (BPAC)**. Located just minutes from Eagan, this new complex opened in June 2009. The center has two theaters, a 1000 seat Proscenium Stage and



BPAC



an intimate 150 seat Black Box. Presentations at the center range from classical music to comedy, from jazz to Christian rock, from country to rock and roll, dramas and national touring artists. There's something for everyone at the BPAC. (www.burnsvillepac.com)

No tour would be complete without attending a performance at the **Chanhassen Dinner Theatres**. Chanhassen is the nation's largest professional dinner theatre, and the largest privately owned restaurant in the state of Minnesota. Large-scale musicals are standard fare in the Main Dinner Theatre where productions run anywhere from six to twelve months. The second largest theatre is the Fireside Theatre which is home to many well-known comedies, classic plays and small musicals. (www.chanhassentheatres.com)

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GIRLFRIENDS WEEKEND GETAWAY

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year!

day one

1 – 4:00 pm

Arrive in **Williams Sonoma at the Plaza in Rosedale Center** for an hour-long cooking demonstration by local chefs. After the demonstration, enjoy shopping at the newly completed \$55 million Center's expansion, including **the Plaza at Rosedale Center**.

4 – 5:00 pm

Check into your Roseville Hotel.

5:00 pm

Tonight, come aboard the **Padelford Riverboats** for an evening dinner cruise. Take in the beautiful scenery as you cruise the mighty Mississippi River on a paddleboat.

day two

8 – 9:00 am

Wake up and enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

9 – 12:00 pm

Travel to Minneapolis and treat yourself to a "spa treatment" and be pampered at **The Aveda Institute in Minneapolis**.

12 – 1:30 pm

Enjoy lunch at **Old Spaghetti Factory** in downtown Minneapolis. They offer delicious food, unique surroundings & unbeatable prices!

1:30 – 3:30 pm

After lunch head to the **Minnesota Center for Book**

Arts. Tour this unique facility and learn more about literary arts. Note: various classes are available for groups, e.g., papermaking and bookbinding.

3:30 – 5:00 pm

Head back to your Roseville Hotel. Relax and freshen up for this evening's activities.

5 – 10:00 pm

Dinner is at **Forepaugh's**, an historic three story Victorian mansion, followed by a theater performance at the **Ordway** in **Saint Paul**. Home to a wide variety of performances that encompass the finest in American musical theater, world music, dance, jazz, and vocal artists on its Main Hall & McKnight Theatre stages.

day three

9 – 10:00 am

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel and checkout. Prior to departure, you'll receive a **special send off from the Roseville Visitors Association, with a complimentary rose for every guest!**

10 – 3:00 pm

Today, you'll discover the birthplace of Minnesota, with a tour of **Stillwater**. Then enjoy lunch at the historic **Lowell Inn** in Stillwater, plus a wine tour and tasting at **Northern Vineyards Winery** before you make your way home.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group, please contact your tour operator or the Roseville Visitors Association, 877-980-3002 or www.visitroseville.com.



SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP

Welcome to one of the most visited tourism destinations in the world, the infamous **Mall of America®** in **Bloomington, MN** (15 minutes from downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul). This sample itinerary can be customized for any time of the year!

day

After checking into one of the 36 hotels in **Bloomington**, freshen up and get ready to shop 'til you drop at **Mall of America!** Upon arrival, a Mall tourism representative will greet your group. You will get an introduction, plus events and sales for the day. Each member will receive a Mall of America Shopping bag, Super Savings Coupon Book, a map and directory. Spend the day shopping and experiencing the 50 new stores that have opened at the Mall in the last two years. No matter what your interests are, Mall of America has something for everyone!

Spend an hour in **Nickelodeon Universe®**, the nation's first all Nick theme park, and enjoy 24 great rides. There are other attractions for everyone in the group, including **Silicon Motor Speedway**, **Underwater Adventures® Aquarium**, **A.C.E.S. Flight Simulation** and the new and exciting **Flying Dutchman Ghostly Gangplank**; the tallest Sky Trail® ropes course in the world.

evening

Enjoy dinner at **Crave** restaurant with one of its interactive group activities like Mixology Education. Learn the steps in making signature martinis and "muddled" creations. Or experience the Sushi Challenge and Dessert Lessons.

Ready for some laughs? Experience **Rick Bronson's House of Comedy**, a new comedy club featuring the best comics in stand-up comedy. Or catch a movie at the **Theatres at Mall of America™ VIP Theatre**. This offers a unique movie-going experience for guests 21 years and older with plush, high-back rocker seats and full service concessions, including alcoholic beverages.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or Millie Philipp at the Mall of America Tourism, 952-883-8843 or mphilipp@mallofamerica.com.



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DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF BLUFF COUNTRY!

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. See route on page 50.

day one

Arrive in **Harmony, Minnesota** where a number of delightful discoveries await your group.

9:30 – 12:00 pm

Tour the **Old Order Amish Community** with knowledgeable guides from **Amish Tours of Harmony**. A variety of handcrafted goods are available for purchase including fresh baked bread and pies, hand-sewn quilts, knitted items, jams and jellies, and hand reed baskets.

12 – 1:00 pm

Enjoy a satisfying home cooked meal at one of the local restaurants.

1 – 5:00 pm

Shop the unique stores in Harmony including **Liv Blooma Scandinavian Store**, **Clover Art Gallery**, **Generations of Harmony Antique Mall**, **Meadow Lane Art Gallery**, **R&L Wood Goods**, and **Austin's Angora Goats & Mohair Gifts**. Or catch a \$4 movie at **Jem Movie Theatre**, every Friday, Saturday & Sunday. Fresh popcorn with REAL butter or bring your own bucket for popcorn and save!

5 – 6:00 pm

Check into the **Historic Mabel House Hotel** in Mabel.

Enjoy charming 1 or 2 bedroom suites or the Jacuzzi suite. Relax on the old-fashioned front porch.

6 – 7:30 pm

Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. There is plenty to choose from in this quaint town.

7:30 pm

Take in a movie at the **New Spring Grove Movie Theatre**.

day two

9 – 10:00 am

Enjoy a complimentary continental breakfast and check out before the day's activities.

10 – 10:15 am

Take in the scenery along Highway 44 to **Spring Grove**.

10:15 – 12:00 pm

Shop local stores including the **Bluff Country Art Gallery**, **Ballard House Antiques**, and **HIS Business**. Or take your group for a swim at the **Aquatic Center**. Enjoy flumes, slides, umbrellas, and a zero depth pool.

12 – 1:30 pm

Enjoy lunch, some memorabilia and a treat at the unique **Doc's Blue Moose**.

1:30 – 5:00 pm

Continue along scenic Highway 44 to **Caledonia**. Drive the **Barn Quilt Tour**. Caledonia area barns are



Austin's Angora Goats & Mohair Gifts

sporting 8X8 foot squares of plywood painted with lively colors in a variety of quilt patterns. Experience over 30 hand crafted and individually designed barn quilts displayed on area family farms.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or Kris Nolte at Historic Bluff Country CVB, 800-428-2030.

Discover the Magic!



Winding but well-maintained roads invite travelers to enjoy beautiful Historic Bluff Country, which includes the southeastern Minnesota Communities of Brownsville, Caledonia, Canton, Chatfield, Dexter, Eitzen, Fountain, Grand Meadow, Harmony, Hokah, Houston, La Crescent, Lanesboro, Mabel, Peterson, Preston, Rushford, Spring Grove, Spring Valley, Whalan, & Wykoff.

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IRON RANGE 2

With so many attractions, events, comfortable accommodations, unique dining and entertainment, northeastern Minnesota's Iron Range is the perfect destination for your next group tour. Their professional staff will provide first class customer service and guide you in planning your next trip to the Iron Range! They will personally customize your group's next adventure itinerary. **800-777-8497 / www.ironrange.org**

LAKE OF THE WOODS 3

The stunning international waters of Lake of the Woods provide some of the best fishing in the world. Anglers brave weather of all sorts in search of that elusive record catch. With epic volume as well as a large variety of fish, no angler will leave the area disappointed. During the winter months, anglers have the opportunity to fish to their hearts content with guided daytime fishing or renting a unique sleeper house. **800-382-FISH / www.lakeofthewoodsmn.com**

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ROSEAU

4

Roseau, "the friendliest place in America" invites you to experience a community steeped in history and natural beauty. The birthplace of snowmobiling and Polaris Industries, visit Polaris' "Experience Center" and production assembly plant. Roseau is also home to the finest Historical Museum and Pioneer Village in Northern Minnesota. Passive and active outdoor recreational opportunities abound in and around Roseau's varied landscapes, from plains to woodlands. 800-815-1824 / www.city.roseau.mn.us

THIEF RIVER FALLS

5

Take a walk back in time at the Peder Engelstad Pioneer Village before taking in two of the most fascinating tours in the region; world-class snowmobile & ATV manufacturer, Arctic Cat, Inc., & worldwide leader in electronic component distribution, Digi-Key Corporation. End your day with relaxing trip to 2 Fools Vineyard, Minnesota's northernmost vineyard, just minutes south of Thief River Falls. 218-686-9785 / www.visitttrf.com

WARROAD

6

Fishing, camping, snowmobiling, and boating, are just a few of the ways to have fun in Warroad, on Lake of the Woods, Minnesota. The wilderness surrounding Warroad offers excellent opportunities for outdoor sports enthusiasts and nature lovers alike. Warroad rests on the shores of the 100th largest lake in the world. It is home to trophy fishing, excellent hunting, and year round recreational opportunities. 800-328-4455 / www.warroad.org

**For more information please
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advertiser directly.**

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Andes Tower HILLS

Welcome to Andes Tower Hills in beautiful Alexandria, MN. Your group is in for a treat, with three great attractions in one stop, hosted by the Anderson family!

Begin by taking a trip back in time with a tour of **Paul Anderson's Personal Museum**, a collection of restored cars, tractors and memorabilia! He has over 100 restored collector cars and tractors, plus a gas station from 1932 that has been relocated adjacent to these car and tractor sheds. As a bonus for the ladies in the group, you'll get to take a trip through the Anderson

house living room which houses over 100 collector dolls, antiques and numerous miniature toys and displays!

Now, how about a little fresh central Minnesota air? Step aboard Anderson's (custom designed) **Covered Wagon Ride!** Yes – that's right – a covered wagon! Not something you see everyday anymore, this one is pulled by a tractor through a portion of over 1,000 acres of uninhabited natural beauty. Over the hills and through the woods, among the trees and overlooking the lakes to Grandmother's house we go! Ok actually – you are really going to the

Anderson's Dinner Show – which is more entertainment than you can imagine!

A full course dinner is prepared by their chef and followed by their Branson style show. The Anderson's are a multi-faceted family of musicians that mix styles and instruments that will have your toes tapping and hands clapping! They have entertained a wide range of venues for many appreciative audiences and look forward to entertaining your group!

For more information and/or to schedule your group call 877-542-6337!

WILLMAR LAKES AREA

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year!

day one

12 – 1:30 pm

Roll into **Willmar** and enjoy lunch at a quaint cafe or fine dining; there's something for everyone's taste.

1:30 – 4:00 pm

Step back in time at the **Mikkelson Classic Boat Museum** - the world's premier collection of Falls Flyer Boats; the Jaguar of boats. Housed in a private museum operated by Paul Mikkelson. Classic outboard motors, toy boats and motors, antique decoys and electric trains are also featured.

4 – 5:00 pm

Check into the **Country Inn & Suites** - a full service hotel. Featuring high-speed Internet, an indoor heated pool, hot tub, and a Fitness Center to help guests feel right at home.

5 – 7:00 pm

Enjoy dinner at the **Green Mill Restaurant and Bar**. Try their award winning pizza or perhaps classic American cuisine, it's all on their menu. Now it's time to head out to the show!

7 – 10:00 pm

The show changes throughout the year, but no

matter what the production, you're in for a treat. **The Barn Theatre** is a community theatre group with a pool of talented and committed volunteers that rival most professional companies.

OR

Head to **New London** to the **New London Little Theater**. Their venue includes theatrical productions, musical variety shows, concerts and an informal entertainment night designed to nurture local budding musicians. Sit back and enjoy the show!

day two

8 – 9:00 am

A steaming cup of coffee, a warm muffin, and a friendly atmosphere is what you will find at **Jazz n' Java**. They have some of the best coffee around!

9 – 12:00 pm

You're 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.

12 – 2:00 pm

Lunch is at **Melvin's on the Lake** in picturesque Spicer. With beautiful views and lunch next to the



The Barn Theatre

beach or on their 55-passenger houseboat, nothing will beat the taste or the view.

2 – 5:00 pm

Take a ride to **Glacial Ridge Winery** where you'll tour the vineyard, learn the grape growing process, wine making, and finally tasting the finished product. Before you go, search the gift shop for a bottle of wine or a specialty gift to take along home.

For more information on this sample itinerary please contact your tour operator or Willmar Convention & Visitors Bureau, 800-845-8747 Ext. 79 or visit www.willmarlakesarea.com.



Invention & Idea Show 2010

In June, the Minnesota Inventors Congress hosts the annual **Invention & Idea Show** at the Redwood Area Community Center. It attracts inventors, inventions, and spectators from around the world! If you are interested in new products and ideas this is the place for you!



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RED WING - FALL COLORS AND LOCAL FLAIR

This itinerary works best in the Fall.

Red Wing is nestled along the **Mississippi River Valley**, one hour south of Mpls./St. Paul on scenic Hwy 61.

9 - 10:45 am

Arrive at Red Wing's historic depot, now the newly remodeled visitor's center. The local guide from **Roaming Red Wing** will join you here. Take their city tour. This remarkable tour takes you past an array of buildings that are on the National Register of Historic Places and will include a stop on top of Sorin's Bluff. This spectacular scenic overlook of the city and Mississippi River Valley ablaze with autumn's colors will leave you with lasting memories.

10:45 - 11:45 am

Watch pottery being made at the **Red Wing Stoneware Company**. Admire local potters creating beautiful stoneware in the tradition of Red Wing's famous Union Stoneware Company. You can purchase the handcrafted stoneware as well as hats, clothes,

candles, soup mixes and bread & pancake mixes.

11:45 - 1:30 pm

Lunch at the **Veranda Restaurant** located on the first floor of the **St. James Hotel**. The menu includes Sturdiwheat pancakes. Sturdiwheat is a locally owned and operated line of pancake, bread and cereal mixes.

1:30 - 3:30 pm

Take some time to explore downtown and their unique shopping opportunities.

3:30 - 5:00 pm

Enjoy dinner at one of many local restaurants. Afterwards, head to the **Sheldon Theatre**, built in 1904, this was America's first municipally owned performing arts theatre. A tour of this local treasure will also consist of a multimedia presentation on the history of Red Wing.

For more information or to customize this itinerary for your group please call your tour operator or contact the Red Wing VCB, 800-498-3444.

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EXPERIENCE FARIBAULT, MINNESOTA!

This sample itinerary is best anytime of the year!

Faribault is a city full of great experiences. Visitors are often surprised at the choices available to them in

here. Faribault is set among the beautiful lakes of southern Minnesota, and serves as a perfect backdrop for a refreshing vacation or group visit. The balance of historic buildings, new retail shops and world-renowned businesses draw many people to this area. With so many things to see and do in Faribault; we know the experience that awaits you will be a memorable one.

9 - 10:00 am

Tour the **Cathedral of our Merciful Saviour**, the first Cathedral in the USA.

10 - 11:00 am

Take a tour of the **Paradise Center for the Arts** (Historic Theater and Art Gallery).

11 - 12:00 pm

A unique stop at "**The Cheese Cave**" where you will learn about and sample blue cheese that is manufactured in the caves of **Faribault Dairy**.

12 - 1:15 pm

Break for lunch at the **Depot Grill**. A renovated historic train depot that offers some of the best food in southern Minnesota!

1:15 - 2:45 pm

Tour the campuses of **Shattuck St. Mary's School** and the **State Academy for the Deaf**, both historic 150-year-old campuses.

2:45 pm

Let's have some fun at **Sellner Manufacturing**, home of the **Tilt-A-Whirl** and makers of other spin rides, including the Dragons, Puppy Dog and Bee rides.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or the Faribault Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism, 800-658-2354 or visit www.visitfaribault.com.

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SPAM® TOWN USA

Enjoy this itinerary from **July 20th-24th, 2010.**

day one

11 – 12:00 pm

Pick up your step-on guide for a **guided city tour** and get acquainted with **SPAM® Town USA**. Everyone will receive a **Welcome Bag** and a **SPAM® Cookbook**.

12 – 1:30 pm

Lunch will be at one of Austin's family-owned restaurants.

1:30 – 3:00 pm

The **SPAM® Museum** will show you everything you want to know about this famous meat, plus learn about the extraordinary family and company that have been in our homes for over 110 years.

3 – 5:30 pm

Check into a group friendly hotel. The staff will deliver luggage to your room as you prepare for the evening.

5:30 – 7:00 pm

Enjoy the **Old Mill Restaurant**, built in the late 1850s. Savor first-class dining while overlooking the Ramsey Dam and the Cedar River.

7 – 9:00 pm

See this feel good, humorous musical, **The Hormel Girls**. This story is of the original Hormel Girls, a group of young women, many just home from the war, who form a big band while spouting the attributes of SPAM.

9:00 pm

Return to your hotel and stop into the hospitality room for a nightcap and a little treat. Sleep tight!



MANKATO: HERITAGE-HISTORY-HOMEMADE PIE!

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year!

day one

10 – 10:30 am

Learn about the 1862 Dakota Conflict at **Reconciliation Park**, site of the largest mass Indian execution in U.S. history.

10:30 – 11:30 am

Visit the **Historic Hubbard House**, built in 1871, one of the finest homes of its time.

11:30 – 1:30 pm

Enjoy a leisurely lunch & wine tasting at **The Wine Café**.

1:30 – 5:00 pm

Shop along **Riverfront Drive** in their unique boutiques. Visit **Riverfront Park**, on the **Minnesota River**.

5:00 – 7:00 pm

Check into one of Mankato's superb group-friendly hotels!

7:00 – 9:00 pm

Local Merely Players Theater Group performs 'killer' entertainment! **Murder Mystery Dinner Theater** at **Redsky Lounge**.

day two

9 – 11:00 am

Re-read the **Betsy -Tacy** books on the drive so the stories are fresh as you tour the home of the author, Maud Lovelace.

day two

9 – 10:00 am

Visit **The Hormel Institute**, one of the leading cancer research facilities in the country.

10 – 11:30 am

Tour the **Gerard Mansion**, a 97 room French-style chateau, built by Jay C. Hormel, the only son of George and Lillian Hormel, and the man who took the family business to new heights.

11:30 – 2:00 pm

Your lunch has been customized and catered especially for you in the **Hormel Historic Home** and will be served in the brand new Banquet Center. After lunch enjoy a guided tour.

2 – 3:00 pm

The **Historic Paramount Theatre** is one of four atmospheric theatres in Minnesota. Relax under the stars of this Spanish-Revival style theatre.

3 – 4:00 pm

Jay C. Hormel Nature Center staff is not only informative but also entertaining in their nature presentations - guaranteed to educate and amuse.

NOTE: This itinerary can be used year round with different theatre performances.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or the Austin CVB, 800-444-5713 or visitor@austinnm.com.

11 – 1:00 pm

Lunch at **The Butler House B & B**, an English-Style Mansion.

1:00 – 3:00 pm

Visit the **Rapidan Dam Park** and cap off the tour with a piece of the "best dam pie" at the unique **Dam Store** (bait shop/café featured in Food & Wine Magazine).

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or the Greater Mankato CVB 507-385-6661 or jrath@greatermankato.com

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Minnesota



June 12: Summer Solstice EcoBlitz -- a fun family day of nature-related outdoor activities to celebrate the summer at the Jay C. Hormel Nature Center.

July 3-4: SPAM® Town USA Freedom Fest will include music and games at Bandshell Community Park, parade and fireworks, too! There will also be a 5-mile Hog Jog, 25-mile Bike Race and fishing contests.

July 11: The Teddy Bear Picnic will be held at the Mower County Historical Society at the Mower County Fairgrounds. Every child that comes will receive a teddy bear to take home!

August 10-15: The 126th Mower County Fair will be held, complete with rides, food vendors, grandstand shows, great exhibits and displays. Held Tuesday through Sunday.

September 12-15: The 64th Annual National Barrow Show will be held at the local fairgrounds. Exhibitors will come from across the state for the "world series of swine shows!"

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SPAM® Town USA is perfect for families OR groups as a destination, with something for everyone!





THEATRE, ARTS + HISTORY

Theatre, arts and history come together in this two-day itinerary for **July 10 & 11, 2010** in Owatonna!

day one

10 – 11:00 am

Make your way to Owatonna in time to shop the **Farmers' Market** in Central Park. Vendors line the 'town square' displaying beautiful hand-made items, homemade foods & fresh produce.

11 – 12:30 pm

Cross the street and discover historic downtown at the **National Farmer's Bank**, designed by world-renowned architect Louis Sullivan. The bank building is famous for its Prairie School architecture. Take a closer look at the rest of our historic downtown, homes, churches and schools with a self-guided **walking tour**. Pick-up your guide at the Bank.

12:30 – 2:30 pm

Relax and enjoy the historic buildings, coffee shops, boutiques and restaurants downtown. For treats of the chocolate sort, stop by **Costa's Café & Chocolate Shop** featuring delicious hand-made/hand-dipped candies. Choose from a variety of perfect lunch spots.

2:30 – 5:00 pm

Tour the **State School Orphanage Museum** and learn the story of Minnesota's orphans. Between 1886-1945 – 10,635 orphans passed through the only State

School Orphanage in the country. Take a guided tour, watch videos and hear stories as told by those who lived at the orphanage.

5 – 8:00 pm

Enjoy an evening of cowboy fare and entertainment during the **Chuckwagon Supper** at the **Village of Yesteryear**, the kickoff to their annual historic **Extravaganza!**

8:00 pm

Relax and enjoy the rest of the evening with coffee and pie at **Owatonna's Family Restaurant** or a specialty martini at **Torey's restaurant**. Hospitality and a good nights sleep await you back at your hotel.

day two

9 – 11:00 am

Rise and shine and discover Owatonna's Parks and Trails for a brisk walk through **Kaplan's Wood's** or enjoy the sights and sounds of **Lake Kohlmeier**.

11 – 1:00 pm

Music, food, historic demonstrations, blacksmithing, soap making, handwork demonstrations, horse-drawn rides, and more at the **Village of Yesteryear Extravaganza**. The Old West Society of Minnesota will be on hand to entertain you and take you back to the "old west". All Village buildings are open to enjoy. FREE admission, donations are appreciated.

1:00 pm

Take in a Sunday matinee at the **Little Theatre of Owatonna**. Enjoy local performers in the featured play 'Gypsy,' a fun story of Vaudeville Theater turned Burlesque!

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or the Owatonna Tourism Department, 800-423-6466 or www.visitowatonna.org.



SHOP ALBERT LEA!

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

9 – 11:00 am

Begin your day in historic downtown at **Adam's Originals**, a one-of-kind store and largest vintage and doll shop in Minnesota. Featuring a Raggedy Ann selection, various collectibles and pottery. Save time to visit other area stores.

11 – 12:00 pm

Do you love to quilt or sew? **Calico Hutch Quilt Shop** is a unique quilt shop experience that will keep you busy with their numerous rooms and displays filled with supplies and material. Classes available!

12 – 1:30 pm

Stop for lunch at one of a variety of restaurants in **Albert Lea**.

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Next stop is in an 1887 historic church. **Something Special In The Nest** offers a charming gift gallery featuring decorating accessories and unique gifts!

2:30 – 4:30 pm

Try your hand at making your own natural soy wax candles at the **Minne-Soy-ta Nice**. This warm and light tour includes a brief discussion of soy wax candle making. While your group is waiting for their candle to cool, take a short tour of the factory.

4:30 – 7:00 pm

Check into one of Albert Lea's lodging choices. Take this time to rest your feet or explore more of Albert Lea's hot shopping spots on your own!

7 – 9:30 pm

Board the **Pelican Breeze Cruise Boat** for a Pirate Dinner Cruise. Meet Jack Sparrow and dine on delicious Caribbean Jerk Chicken or Sweet & Sour Pork, Salsa with chips, Tropical Fruit Salad and Rum Cake, all while you cruise the picturesque Albert Lea Lake.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or the Albert Lea Convention & Visitors Bureau 800-345-8414.

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THAT'S THE TICKET!

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year!

Jackpot Junction Casino Hotel has your winning ticket! Offering complete day and one or two night motorcoach packages, some are all inclusive!

12 – 1:30 pm

Begin with lunch at the **Seasons Buffet**. Enjoy chef carving stations, a salad bar, pizza stations, warm fresh desserts plus a separate dining area for large groups, accommodating up to 100 people.

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Take some free time to wander through the casino. Jackpot offers many of the latest machines, where your group is sure to find their game of choice. Machines range in denominations from 1 cent to twenty-five dollars, with new machines arriving frequently.

2:30 – 5:30 pm

See some of the area's Historical sites. The **Renville County Historical Society** was organized in 1940, collecting, preserving, and sharing the history of Renville County and its people. Other community reminders of our experience include the **Birch Coulee School House** and **St. Cornelia's Church**, both on the National Register of Historic Places. The **Lower Sioux Agency** has a history center exhibit that explores the

Dakota story before, during and after the war. Be sure to check on available times when you are planning.

5:30 – 9 pm

An evening of entertainment at the Casino may include dinner and a show at the **Dacotah Exposition Center**, a cocktail in one of our four bars, or the **Classic Lounge**, located near the Classic Casino offers live entertainment Thursday through Saturday. Whatever your group chooses, all at Jackpot will have a good time!

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or Angela Dolezal at Jackpot Junction



Casino Hotel, 800-946-0077 ext. 8036 or angela.dolezal@jackpotjunction.com.

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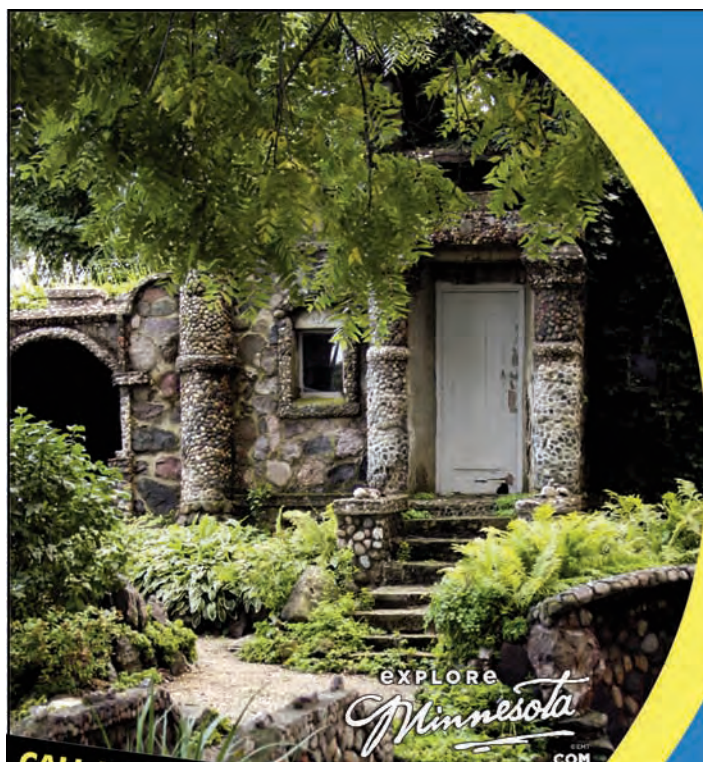
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PEARL OF THE LAKE

This sample itinerary is best spring through fall.

11 – 1:00 pm

Begin the day with a visit to the **Frontenac State Park** along the Mississippi River. Walk, hike & watch birds at one of the best spots in the country to view birds migrating in the spring and fall. Enjoy the spectacular views of this beautifully wooded river valley.

1 – 2:30 pm

Now it's time to witness the views from the water. Enjoy a ride on the **Pearl of the Lake**, a modern day replica of the grand riverboats that traveled on the Mississippi River in the 1800's. The name of the riverboat depicts the significance of Lake Pepin with its history of the fresh water pearl button

industry that once thrived in the area.

2:30 – 4:30 pm

Local history and architecture is featured in **Lake City's Residential Walking Tour**. One of the homes on the tour is the home of Ralph Samuelson, Lake City's famous inventor of water skiing.

Lake City offers more options for groups such as Apple Orchards, Driving Tours, Birding and more... the options are endless!

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or Pearl of the Lake Paddleboat, 651-345-5188 & Lake City Chamber, 800-369-4123.



FAIRMONT

CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Include Fairmont on your tour itinerary this year. Besides beautiful lakes and parks, we have many historical sites, such as the Chubb House, the Historical Museum, the Ag Interpretive Center, the Fairmont Opera House and the Red Rock Center for the Arts.

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FAIRMONT, MN

Fairmont, known as the “**City of Lakes**”, is located in southern Minnesota off Hwy 90. With five lakes offering your group boating, fishing, small town hospitality, and all with spectacular views! With comfortable group friendly hotels, Fairmont is a great place for groups to stay and dine, Fairmont is a must stop.

day one

3 – 4:45 pm

Begin with a drive through the city with your step on guide, and make a stop at the **Martin County Court House**, originally a stockade to provide safety to the locals against Indian uprisings and was called Fort Fairmont. The present Court House was built in 1906. It is considered one of the Top 10 most beautiful courthouses in Minnesota. Especially noteworthy are the upper level murals and artistic construction.

4:45 – 6:45 pm

Built in 1867 on a hill overlooking **Lake Sisseton**, **The Chubb House** is the oldest surviving house in Fairmont. The house is of Greek Revival architecture where square nails can be seen in places throughout the house. Your group will enjoy dinner relaxing around the warm and friendly fireplace, or the backyard is suitable for picnics overlooking Lake Sisseton. Food service will be arranged.

6:45 – 10:00 pm

An evening performance at the **Fairmont Opera House** awaits you, a unique building, which has enriched the architectural, cultural and commercial life of the region for over 100 years. The atmosphere, ghosts, memories of great actors, entertainers and shows are all here.

day two

9 – 11:00 am

Heritage Acres is an Agricultural Interpretive Center with community events and festivals celebrated throughout the year. Enjoy taking a stroll through yesterday on “**Old Main Street**” with its one room schoolhouse and country church. Tours by appointment are conducted through yesteryear's **Pioneer Village**.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or Fairmont CVB 800-657-3280.



directory & map

accommodations

metro

AmericInn of Shakopee 952-445-6775
4100 12th Avenue East – Shakopee, MN 55379
The perfect location to accommodate any group. Blocks of rooms can be reserved and special discounts may apply. A complimentary room for a Group Tour Operator is available with 20 paid rooms. Welcome receptions are available.

Canterbury Inn 952-445-3644
1244 Canterbury Rd – Shakopee, MN 55379 877-291-0622
Gordon@canterburyinnshakopee.com
www.canterburyinnshakopee.com
Canterbury Inn is Shakopee's only full service hotel. A quality 175 room hotel conveniently located minutes from Valleyfair, Renaissance Festival, Canterbury Park, Mystic Lake and more. Large ballroom, spacious guest rooms with amenities and on site Arizonas Restaurant and Lounge.

northern

AmericInn Silver Bay 877-254-1827

Grand Portage Lodge & Casino 218-475-2401
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North Shore Resorts by Odyssey Duluth 218-728-8060 Ext 114

attractions

metro

American Swedish Institute Mpls. 612-870-3344

Minnesota Centennial Showboat
Minneapolis 651-227-1100

Minnesota Historical Society ... 651-259-3444
345 W. Kellogg Blvd – Saint Paul, MN 55102 / www.mnhs.org
Chief caretaker of Minnesota's story and the History Center is home to the Society's vast collections. Within our archives reside artifacts ranging from American Indian moccasins and artwork to furniture and photographs, Civil War-era flags and a wealth of genealogical information.

Science Museum of Minnesota 651-221-9444
120 West Kellogg Blvd – Saint Paul, MN 55102
groupsales@smm.org / www.smm.org
At the Science Museum of Minnesota, the science that shapes our daily lives comes to life through hands-on exhibits and larger-than-life Omnitheater films, and a world-class collection of fossils and artifacts. More info at (651) 221-9444.

Target Center Minneapolis 612-673-1311

Treasure Island Resort & Casino 800-222-7077
5734 Sturgeon Lake Road – Welch, MN 55089
www.treasureislandcasino.com
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Wabasha Street Caves 651-292-1220
215 Wabasha Street South – Saint Paul, MN 55107
www.wabashastreetcaves.com
Down In History has exciting historic tours done-by costumed characters. Historic Walking Cave Tours in Saint Paul and Stillwater. Motorcoach Gangster Tours, Irish Tours, Tacky Tours, Ghost & Graves Tours, & More! We make history fun!

northern

Coborn's Lake Itasca Tours Inc
Osage 218-266-3660

Black Bear Casino Resort Carlton ... 888-771-0777

Grand Portage Isle Royale Transportation Line Grand Portage ... 888-746-2305

Lutsen Mountains Lutsen 218-406-1319

southern

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Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum ... 800-528-7280
330 Eighth Street – Walnut Grove, MN 56180
www.walnutgrove.org / lauramuseum@walnutgrove.org
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convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

metro

Bloomington CVB Bloomington 866-435-7425

Burnsville CVB 800-521-6055
101 West Burnsville Parkway #150B – Burnsville, MN 55337
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Eagan Convention and Visitors Bureau 651-675-5546
1501 Central Parkway – Eagan, MN 55121
denise@eaganmn.com / www.eaganmn.com
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Roseville Visitors Association ... 651-633-3002
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Roseville, MN 55113
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Saint Paul Convention & Visitors Authority 651-265-4906
175 West Kellogg Blvd, Suite 502 – Saint Paul, MN 55102
mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com / www.saintpaulgroups.com
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northern

Iron Range Tourism Bureau
Virginia 800-777-8497

Lake of the Woods Tourism
Baudette 800-382-FISH

Roseau CVB Roseau 800-815-1824

Thief River Falls CVB
Thief River Falls 218-686-9785

Warroad Area Chamber of Commerce
Warroad 800-328-4455

southern

Albert Lea Convention & Visitors Bureau ... 507-373-2316
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cvsdirector@albertlea.org / www.albertleatourism.org
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Continued on next page



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www.exploresouthernminnesota.com

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Fairmont Convention

& Visitors Bureau 800-657-3280

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www.visitfairmontmn.com

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Faribault Chamber of Commerce

& Tourism Bureau 800-658-2354

530 Wilson Avenue – Faribault, MN 55021

www.visitfaribault.com

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& Visitors Bureau 507-385-6661

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Mankato, MN 56001

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Owatonna Area

Chamber of Commerce 507-451-7970

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www.owatonna.org

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& Visitors Bureau 800-845-8747 ext. 79

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www.willmarlakesarea.com

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entertainment & theater

metro

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History Theatre Saint Paul. 651-292-4320

Jungle Theater Minneapolis. 612-278-0141

Lyrics Arts Company of Anoka 763-422-1838

Old Log Theater Excelsior 866-OLD-LOG1

Ordway Center

for the Performing Arts 651-282-3111

345 Washington Street – Saint Paul, MN 55102

www.Ordway.org

Overlooking Rice Park in historic Saint Paul, the Ordway hosts the annual Flint Hills International Children's Festival, the best in Broadway musical theater, the finest in world music & dance - all at exceptional group prices. Behind-the-Scenes tours available.

Plymouth Playhouse 763-553-1600

2705 Annapolis Lane – Plymouth, MN 55119

groupst@plymouthplayhouse.com

www.plymouthplayhouse.com

Celebrating 31 years of hits, Plymouth Playhouse is best known for producing comedies. This intimate 211-seat theater is located in the Best Western Kelly Inn on the lower level. Church Basement Ladies now playing to sold out audiences.

Triple Espresso-Music Box Theatre

Minneapolis. 612-874-9000

festivals & events

metro

Minnesota

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Shakopee, MN 55379

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shopping

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ITINERARIES

Missouri



ST. LOUIS

Your group may be surprised at the assortment of entertainment options available here. From Shakespeare and Broadway to dance troupes & American musicals under the stars, St. Louis can definitely entertain your group.

One great venue is the **Fabulous Fox Theatre** (pictured above). This 1929 movie palace, one of the first theatres built for "talkies" by movie mogul William Fox, was designed in a style described as Siamese-Byzantine. Its showy interior -- a lobby guarded by two sculptures of majestic lions with twinkling yellow eyes -- is often more elaborate than the sets from the touring Broadway shows and entertainment events that now grace the theatre's stage. Your group is welcome to take a behind the scenes tour.

We also have to mention the **The Muny** in St. Louis, one of America's oldest and largest outdoor musical theatres. Offering seven professionally mounted Broadway musicals each season, presented in a breathtaking setting framed by the majestic oaks of Forest Park. Discounts for groups of 20 or more, with backstage tours and on-site dining options. (See location on map, page 53)

more theaters big & small in missouri

Arrow Rock – The **Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre** is a non-profit professional theatre located in the unique village of Arrow Rock, a 19th century National Historic Landmark. The Lyceum has been entertaining audiences in the heart of Missouri for 49 years producing a variety of musicals, dramas and comedies. Each year, this 408-seat theatre attracts professional talent from across the country to produce an eight-show season (June-November). Performers, designers, directors, and technicians take residence in Arrow Rock for five months to bring its patrons Broadway caliber productions throughout the summer.

Branson – You can't think of theatre and Missouri and not have Branson pop into your head! For 50 years live shows have been the staple of a trip to Missouri. With over 50 theaters and more than 100 shows, Branson is truly the live music show capital of the world! From Country to Rock n' Roll, magic and comedy to musical theatre, Gospel, small intimate shows and major world-class productions, Branson offers a variety of entertainment options for all.

Hannibal – The **Star Theatre** is a historic theatre built in 1906 and today has been fully restored to its original beauty. It is open as a Dinner and Movie Theatre complete with a singing and dancing wait staff! Enjoy comedy shows by two nationally touring comedians the 2nd Friday of every month, and other special events throughout the year.

Kansas City – The historic **Folly Theater**, Kansas City's oldest theater, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the "Grand Lady of 12th Street" presents and hosts a wide range of quality events for the community. Live theater, world-class jazz series, national touring shows for children and a variety of programming.

Rolla – The **Leach Theatre** is located on the campus of the Missouri University of Science and Technology. The theatre's season runs from August to May hosting an average of 100 events per academic year.

St Joseph – The **Missouri Theater** is considered one of the finest theaters in the U.S., this Morrish style building is a classic example of a 1920's Palace theater with features including a huge Bedouin tent ceiling and many sculptures including winged bulls, gods, and archers in combat. Tours available by appointment.

Springfield – Come experience the arts in the 1926 historic **Gillioz Theatre & Jim D. Morris Arts Center**! Through an exquisite and formal lobby to a golden sky of ornate paintings and detailed architecture, you will enjoy live theatre, movies, conventions, concerts, film festivals and much more!



missouri cities

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calendar of events

april

- **Pony Express Sesquicentennial Events**
April 1-3, St. Joseph 816-279-5059
- **Silver Dollar City's WorldFest**
April 8-May 9, Branson 800-831-4386
- **Cape Storytelling Festival**
April 9-11, Cape Girardeau 800-777-0068
- **Dogwood-Azalea Festival**
April 15-18, Charleston 573-683-6509
- **Heritage Day at Twin Pines**
April 17, Winona 573-325-1381
- **Civil War Days**
April 23-24, Doniphan 573-996-5298
- **World War II Weekend**
April 23-25, St. Louis 314-960-1611

may

- **Sound of Speed Air Show**
May 1-2, St. Joseph 800-785-0360
- **Silver Dollar City's Bluegrass and Barbeque Festival** May 13-31, Branson 800-831-4386
- **Fiesta Kansas City** May 14-16, Crown Center Square 816-472-6767
- **Chinese Culture Days**
May 15-16, St. Louis 341-577-9400
- **Oma and Noma Days Festival**
May 15-16, Lake Ozark 573-365-7132

june

- **National Tom Sawyer Days**
June 1-4, Hannibal 866-263-4825
- **Downtown Days...Streets Alive**
June 4-6, Lee's Summit 816-246-6598
- **9th Annual Art in the Park**
June 11-13, St. Joseph 800-785-0360
- **Crown Center Antique Festival**
June 12-13, Crown Center Square 816-274-8444
- **Kansas Chalk and Walk Festival**
June 18-19, Crown Center Square 816-274-8444

july

- **KCRiverFest**
July 2-4 Kansas City 816-960-3400
- **Bingham-Waggoner Antiques and Crafts Fair**
July 10, Independence 816-461-3491
- **Living Plant Museum**
July 10, La Plata 660-332-7777
- **Boone County Fair**
July 21-31, Columbia 573-474-9435

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)



Crown Center KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Crown Center, often referred to as a city within a city, is many things to many people. To 5 million fun-seekers each year, Crown Center is an entertainment attraction, with specialty shopping, restaurants, theaters and other entertainment venues. To thousands of out-of-town travelers, Crown Center is a comfortable place to spend the night at the world-class Westin and Hyatt Regency hotels. To tour groups, Crown Center is one location to experience many activities, all within steps of your hotel room.

The **Crown Center Shops** offer more than 60 shops and restaurants on three different levels. Locally owned unique stores mix with national chains to offer something for everyone. Dining options range from fast food to the **Mobil 4-star American Restaurant**.

And, where else can you find three live theatres all in one location? Take in Broadway-style productions ranging from exciting musicals to mystery thrillers at **The American Heartland Theatre**, level 3. On level 1 is **The**

Coterie Theatre, named one of the country's top five theatres for young audiences by Time magazine. **Off Center Theatre**, Crown Center's newest theatre, features edgy, innovative shows by a variety of local troupes.

Take a break from shopping to enjoy one of the many annual events inside the **Crown Center Shops Atrium**. Or, head outside across the street to **Crown Center Square**. A local landmark, **Crown Center Square Fountain** boasts 49 water jets that run year-round. Summer festivals include the very popular *Kansas City Irish Fest* (Labor Day weekend), *Crown Center Antique Festival*, *Free Friday Night Flicks* – an outdoor free movie series – and more.

Crown Center is home to **Hallmark Cards**, celebrating 100 years of helping people say it all. Spend time at the **Hallmark Visitors Center**, where you'll see a huge collection of Keepsake Ornaments, watch famous Hallmark commercials, even make a gift bow!

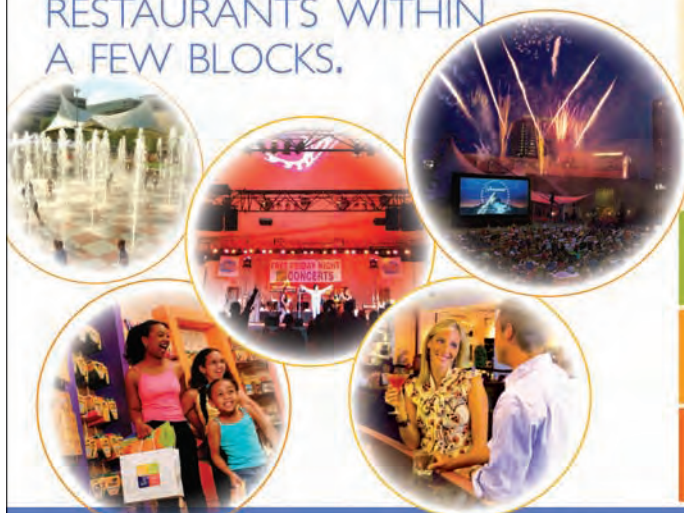
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It's all here - in historic Independence, Missouri! For more information please call 816-268-8200 or visit www.trumanlibrary.org or www.visitindependence.com.

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WHERE THE WEST OFFICIALLY BEGAN TO GET "WILD" ST. JOSEPH, MISSOURI

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

9 – 10:00 am

Mount up and head for the **Pony Express Museum**. The famous mail delivery service started within these walls on April 3, 1860. Your guide will give a personalized tour of exhibits covering the creation, running and demise of this famous mail delivery service.

10 – 12:00 pm

The **Patee House** was the headquarters for the Pony Express in 1860 and the finest hotel west of the Mississippi. Today, it offers a "hands on" look at St. Joe's colorful history. Stroll down Old Main Street, climb aboard a steam engine and visit the **Jesse James Home** where Jesse was shot and killed. Enjoy the "Wild Thing Carousel" which is fun for all ages.

12 – 1:15 pm

Lunch at your choice of various unique venues in the city.

1:15 – 2:30 pm

The **St. Joseph Museum** features extensive Indian exhibits from ten cultural regions. This location also features the **Glore Psychiatric Museum**, which chronicles the 130-year history of what was once

known as the "State Lunatic Asylum No. 2," and the **Black Archives Museum**, with displays on the St. Joseph African American experience.

2:30 – 3:45 pm

The **Missouri Valley Trust Bank** was built in the 1850's and conducted business with Pony Express riders, fur traders and settlers heading west to seek their fortunes. The building boasts of retaining its original fixtures including teller cages, stained glass windows and a unique vault reinforced with iron railroad rails. Although the bank was never held-up, beware, outlaws have been known to lurk here.

3:45 – 5:00 pm

Experience the **Remington Nature Center** where history and nature collide! Your journey begins when you're greeted by a 10,000 year old woolly mammoth. Follow the indoor "river" past a 7000 gallon aquarium teaming with native Missouri river fish. Wild animals abound as you pass a howling wolf. A beaver lodge blocks a creek and forms a habitat for many animals. Learn about Missouri animals as you watch their tracks appear before you

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or the St. Joseph CVB, 800-785-0360.

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THAN LIFE**



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FOR GROUP INFO

www.StJoMo.com/StJoGroupTours.aspx

directory & map

attractions

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www.crowncenter.com

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convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

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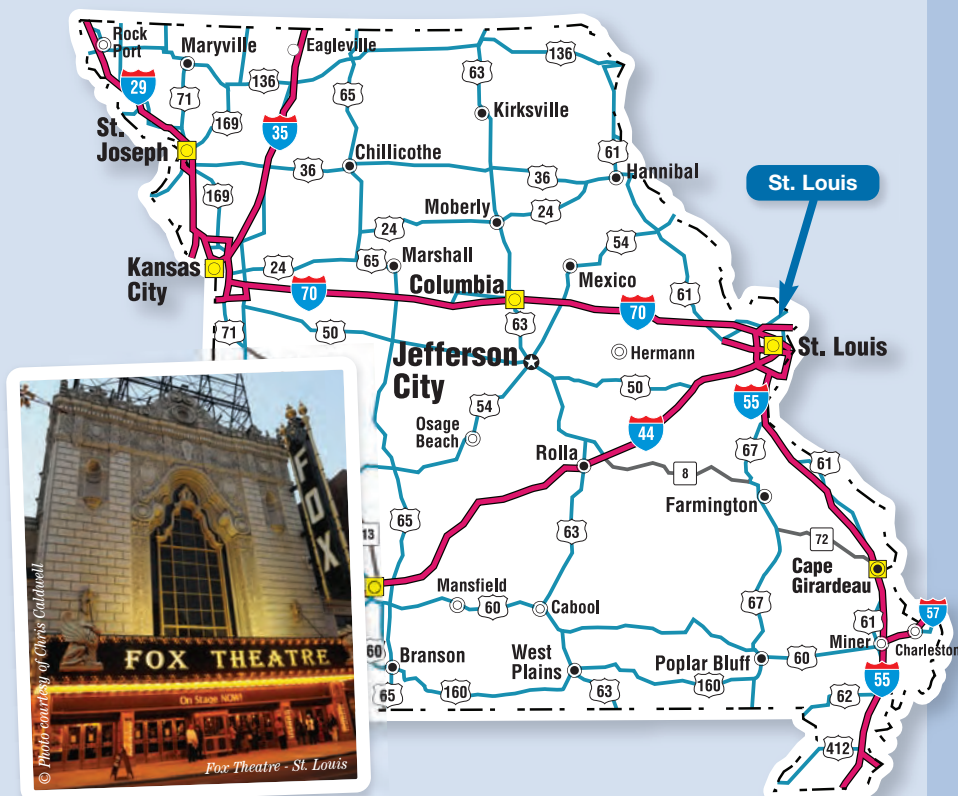
An All-American city born of the fur trade and brimming with a spirit of adventure. Recently named America's "Top Ten Western City" by the True West Magazine, we are a city abounding in 19th Century charm and timeless beauty.

Missouri Division of Tourism

Jefferson City 800-519-2100

St Louis Convention & Visitors Commission

St Louis 800-916-8938





nebraska cities

CHADRON, COLUMBUS,
GRAND ISLAND, HASTINGS,
KEARNEY, KIMBALL,
LINCOLN, MCCOOK,
NEBRASKA CITY, NORFOLK,
NORTH PLATTE, OMAHA,
SCOTTSBLUFF, VALENTINE

calendar of events

april

- **Spring Festival, An Arts and Crafts Affair**
April 9-11, Omaha 402-331-2889
- **"The Wizard of Oz"** April 10-11,
Lincoln 402-472-4700
- **"You Can't Take It With You"**
April 16-25, Grand Island 308-381-6535
- **Wine, Writers and Song Festival**
April 23-25, Brownville 402-475-8663
- **Arbor Day Celebration**
April 30-May 2, Nebraska City 800-514-9113

may

- **Omaha Symphonic Chorus: World Music Celebration** May 2, Omaha 402-496-0602
- **Nebraska Wine & Jazz Festival**
May 7-8, Kearney 308-237-3114
- **Lincoln Quiltfest 2010 - Inspired by Nature**
May 21-23, Lincoln 402-483-6533
- **Victorian Festival**
May 28-30, Superior 402-879-3419
- **Memorial Day Celebration**
May 31, Grand Island 308-385-5316

june

- **14th Annual Christian Music Festival**
June 4-5, Henderson 402-723-4228
- **Nebraska State Chili Cook-off**
June 4-6, Omaha 402-572-1479
- **Polish Days**
June 4-6, Loup City 308-745-0430
- **23rd Annual Grundloftfest (Danish Days)**
June 5, Dannebrog 308-226-2237
- **Pioneer Village Days**
June 5-6, Minden 308-832-1181
- **Taste of Omaha**
June 11-13, Omaha 402-346-8003
- **NEBRASKAland Days**
June 12-20 & 24-26, North Platte 888-313-5606
- **18th Annual Ash Hollow Historical Pageant**
June 18-19, Lewellen 308-778-5548

july

- **Lunatics Boat Race**
July 3, Alliance 308-762-1800
- **Q125 Celebration and Fur Trade Days**
July 6-11 Chadron 308-432-4957
- **The O Fest**
July 9-11, Omaha 402-346-8003
- **39th Annual Art in the Park**
July 11, Kearney 308-234-2662
- **21st Annual Kits & Castles**
July 31, Ogallala 308-284-0920

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

Possibilities...endless ITINERARIES *Nebraska*



ORPHEUM THEATER - OMAHA

Experience the grandeur of the Orpheum, known as Omaha's "golden palace". Omaha's celebrated **Orpheum Theater** is home to the finest in local and national performing arts. Located in downtown Omaha, the Orpheum underwent a major \$10 million renovation in 2002, was enhanced to better serve patrons and artists. The ornate splendor of this magnificent theater makes every performance a little more special, whether you're here for your favorite band or an exquisite ballet.

The 2,600-seat proscenium theater was originally built in 1927 as a vaudeville house. Today, the Orpheum hosts programs best served by a more theatrical setting, including the *Broadway In Omaha* series, *Opera Omaha*, plus comedy and dance events. (See location on map below)

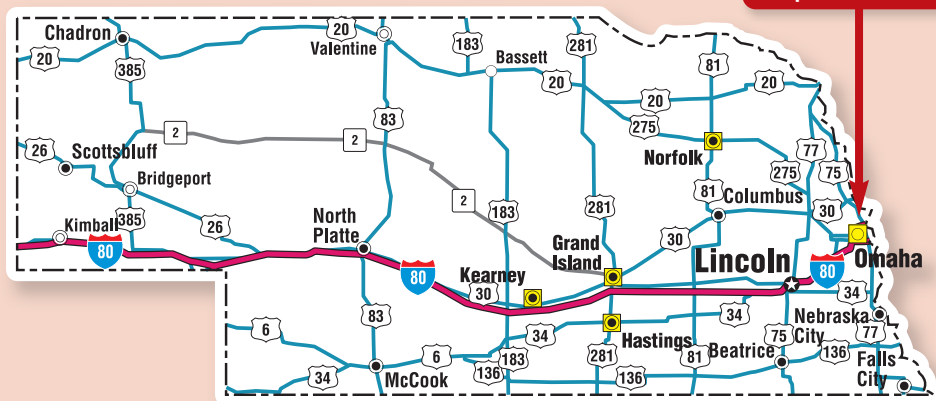
more theaters big & small in nebraska

Fremont – Enjoy fine dining and a show on the **Fremont Dinner Train**, as the train winds through 18 miles of the scenic Elkhorn River Valley. Murder Mysteries, USO shows, dinner theater, wine tasting and seasonal shows. Train includes a dance car and a lounge car.

their current location at 83 Plaza Boulevard in Kearney, KCT has been a staple of live performance in the Central Nebraska region. Please visit the website or call for a listing of performances.

Kearney – Since 1977, **Kearney Community Theatre** has entertained south central Nebraska with the best in live theatrical entertainment. Since their early beginnings in the basement of Kearney State College and finally now to

Lincoln – Come experience the magic of live theater at **Lincoln Community Playhouse**. Celebrating 64 Seasons with shows designed to entertain, educate, amuse and inspire all ages.



Legendary ITINERARIES North Dakota®



FROST FIRE THEATRE - WALHALLA

During the summer in Walhalla, near the Canadian border, many visitors spend the day shopping the area, taking in the sites or trekking through the hills, but for the evening they are heading to the **Frost Fire Theatre** for a performance in a covered amphitheater overlooking the Pembina Gorge. Featuring Broadway-style musical performances that run on Saturday & Sunday, usually beginning the last weekend in June through the first weekend in August. Frost Fire has offered such classics as "Civil Water", "Annie Get Your Gun", "I Do I Do", "Paint Your Wagon", "Fiddler on the Roof", "The Music Man", "Big River", "Me and My Girl", "Forever Plaid", "Plump Boys and Dinettes", and many others! They also offer special group savings plus a Group Dinner. (See location on map, page 56)

more theaters big & small in north dakota

Garrison – As for the official Christmas Capital of North Dakota, Garrison and its **Dickens Village Festival** are a must see for any group who wants to turn the holiday season into a special experience year after year. The *Dickens Village Festival*, held Dec. 10-11, 2010, turns a community of 1500 into a quaint Victorian town from the era of Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol". A full musical production, decorated house tours, old-fashioned English meals, parade, and street carolers are some of the highlights.

Fargo-Moorhead – Their diverse entertainment opportunities allow you to play like a child, experience sophisticated drama, or enjoy a concert with world famous signers. A must see is the **Fargo Theatre**, it's the area's only remaining vintage movie palace with a vaudeville stage. The theatre is a multi-purpose facility with capacity for film showings, live productions and meetings, also a registered historic landmark. Guided tours available.

LaMoure – Located in LaMoure County Memorial Park is **LaMoure County Summer Musical Theatre**. They present three musicals and plays, June through August in a historic World War I-era auditorium. Their 2010 season features "The Diary of Anne Frank", "Beauty & the Beast", and "King Arthur's Quest".

Mandan – The **Mysteria Dinner Theater** is a breathtaking theater designed by Sandi McFall. She redesigned the historical building to give the customers a 1920's-1940's Las Vegas feel. This is the place you can imagine seeing Frank

Sinatra or Fred Astaire perform on stage, the notorious days of the classic zoot suit and fedora era!

Medora – Some of the greatest shows in the west! A must-see when you visit North Dakota is the **Medora Musical**. A high-energy, western musical in an outdoor splendor of the North Dakota Badlands, in a 2,852 seat **Burning Hills Amphitheatre**. Plus enhance your groups experience with a "Behind the Scenes" Tour. Another theater to check out is the **Old Town Hall Theater**, which features "Bully the Play", "Comedy Corner", & others.

Minot – Home to a thriving arts community that is composed of a symphony orchestra, an opera company, an art museum, a ballet theater company, contemporary dance companies, community theater companies, and many more, totaling nearly 40 organizations! The mixture and energy of the arts of the Minot area will surprise your group!



north dakota cities

BISMARCK-MANDAN, BOTTINEAU, BOWMAN, CROSBY, DEVILS LAKE, DICKINSON, FARGO/MOORHEAD, GARRISON, GRAFTON, GRAND FORKS, JAMESTOWN, LANGDON, MEDORA, MINOT, RUGBY, VALLEY CITY, WAHPETON, WEST FARGO, WILLISTON

calendar of events

april

- **The Big One Art and Craft Fair**
April 9-10, Minot 701-837-6059
- **"Verdi's La Traviata"**
April 9-11, Fargo-Moorhead Opera 701-239-4558
- **"Steel Magnolias"** April 16-18, 22-25, Fargo-Moorhead Community Theatre 701-235-1901
- **Natural World of the Confluence**
April 24, Williston 701-572-9034

may

- **Birding Weekend** May 1-2, Center 701-794-3731
- **78th Annual Band Day**
May 8, Williston 800-615-9041
- **"An Evening of Dance"**
May 8, Hansen Theatre 800-593-7246
- **"Peter Pan"** May 21-22, Bismarck 701-530-0986
- **Turtle Mountain Birding Festival**
May 21-23, Bottineau 888-918-5623
- **Thunder Up North 2010 Air Show**
May 22, Grand Forks 701-747-3238
- **Dakota Cowboy Poetry Gathering**
May 29-30, Medora 800-633-6721

june

- **Pitchfork Steak Fondue**
June 2-July 30, Medora 800-633-6721
- **Medora Musical**
June 2-Sept 5, Medora 800-633-6721
- **Fur Traders Rendezvous**
June 4-6, Washburn 877-462-8535
- **Rib Fest & More!**
June 9-13, Fargo 701-241-9100
- **Kite Fest** June 12-13,
Jamestown 701-252-3982
- **Peace Festival**
June 25-27, Dunseith 888-432-6733
- **Scandinavian Hjemkomst Festival**
June 25-27, Fargo 218-299-5452

july

- **DPRCA Summer Theater**
July 1-August 15, New Rockford 701-947-2174
- **2010 Pierce County Fair**
July 2-3, Rugby 701-776-5846
- **Metis Festival**
July 8-11, Jamestown 701-320-2725
- **"Anything Goes!"** July 14-17, 21-25, 28-Aug 1,
Trollwood Performing Arts School 218-477-6778
- **Fargo's Downtown Street Fair**
July 15-17, Fargo 701-241-1570
- **Praise on the Prairie Gospel Festival**
July 16-17, Fargo 888-464-2936
- **2010 North Dakota Ukrainian Festival**
July 23-25, Dickinson 701-483-1486
- **North Dakota State Fair**
July 23-31, Minot 701-857-7620

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)



SWEETS + SWEDES

This sample itinerary can be customized for any time of the year!

day one

10 – 11:00 am

Start your adventure by soaring into the **Fargo Air Museum**, where you can enjoy a special display of WWII planes. This museum also features aviation history and memorabilia from North Dakota and the surrounding area.

11 – 12:00 pm

Continue on to the 1927 **Historic Fargo Theatre**. Here you can enjoy a classic, silent or first-run film in this art-deco style theatre, accompanied by the Mighty Wurlitzer pipe organ.

12 – 2:00 pm

Pull in to see the **Celebrity Walk of Fame** at the Fargo-Moorhead Convention & Visitors Bureau. The walk features over 100 celebrity signatures, hand and foot prints, permanently set in cement. See the footprints or handprints from George W. Bush to Barney, the purple dinosaur. Who's shoes do you want to step into? Make sure to stop for lunch.

2 – 4:00 pm

To complete your day, explore the **MSUM Planetarium**. Enjoy the view as the planetarium

simulates the night sky. It can show the sky from any location on the Earth, now, or thousands of years in the past or future.

4:00 pm

Check into a local hotel, they have plenty to choose from and most are group friendly. The evening is on your own!

day two

9 – 12:00 pm

Start your days adventure at the **Historical and Cultural Society of Clay County**, by reliving the journey of the Viking Ship "Hjemkomst" (Yem-komst), as it sailed from Minnesota to Norway. Learn about the voyage, including the storm 500 miles from New York that caused a crack in the hull nearly 14 feet long and almost led the crew to retreat back to North America. See how the crew lived during the 72-day voyage. While you're there, walk through the Norwegian Stave Church, a replica of the Hopperstad Stave Church in Vik, Norway.

12 – 1:00 pm

Next stop, **Carol Widman's Candy Store**. Savor the many delicious homemade sweets, such as the local favorite — chocolate-covered potato chips called "chippers," caramels, fudge, and much more. The

original Widman tradition of handmade quality candy spans four generations, originating in 1885 in Dubuque, IA, with William Widman I. Four generations have allowed the Widman family to develop a special quality of product and unique use of ingredients, including their "Chippers."

1 – 2:00 pm

Finally, you can't leave without stopping in Hawley, MN for that favorite Norwegian potato treat. **Carl's Lefse Place** will tantalize your taste "spuds" with its homemade lefse.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group, please contact your tour operator or the Fargo Moorhead CVB, 800-235-7654 or visit www.fargomoorhead.org.



directory & map

accommodations

AmericInn Lodge & Suites & Event Center of Moorhead ... 218-287-7100
600 30th Ave S – Moorhead, MN 56560 877-287-7100
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Get ready for a great time with Fargo-Moorhead's super shopping, cultural events, museums, festivals, professional and amateur sports, entertainment and nightlife, all pleasantly seasoned with the hospitality of friendly people who treat visitors like neighbors.

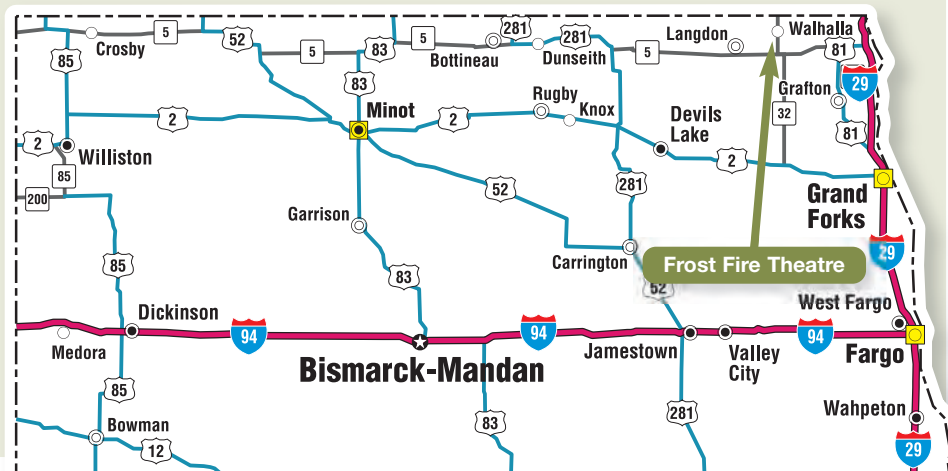
North Dakota Tourism Division

Bismarck 800-435-5663

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ITINERARIES

South Dakota



THE WASHINGTON PAVILION OF ARTS AND SCIENCE – SIOUX FALLS

The **Washington Pavilion of Arts and Science** in Sioux Falls, is southeast South Dakota's premier entertainment facility.

This attractive, state-of-the-art performing arts complex presents its own performance series and is the home venue for the **South Dakota Symphony Orchestra** and the **Sioux Falls Concerts Association**. The Great Hall seats 1900 patrons, and has continental seating, which aids in sound quality. The walls are lined with quartzite taken from a demolished college in Springfield, S.D. This quartzite helps bounce sounds and ties in the nostalgic feeling of the building.

The **Wells Fargo CineDome Theater** has 172 seats on 10 steeply rising tiers. The domed screen displays large format, Super 70mm films, giving viewers a startling realistic "in the movie" experience. The CineDome films change every few months.

For information about group ticket sales, call (toll free) at **1-877-Wash Pav**, or visit www.washingtonpavilion.org. For more theaters in Southeast South Dakota visit www.southeastsouthdakota.com or call **1-888-353-7382**. (See location on map, page 59)

more theaters big & small in south dakota

De Smet – Capture the pioneering spirit of the Little House books in this year's *Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant*, "The Long Winter". The setting sun and the Dakota Prairie provide a wonderful backdrop for the outdoor pageant. Before the pageant, shop for a souvenir, sample tasty treats, enjoy a wagon ride, take a memorable group photo and/or enjoy the pre-show music.

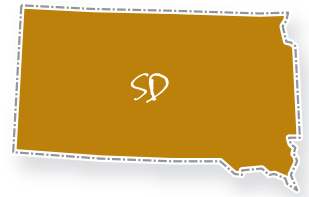
Lead – Lead is home to **The Black Hills Ft. Pierre Railroad Roundhouse**. Inside this gorgeous building, groups can dine in an authentic 1900's dining car and visit the Living Map Theater, which plays a live multimedia presentation about the Black Hills Gold Rush each hour. Be sure to stop by one of their two gift shops on the way out and pick up something to remember your stay.

Rapid City – The **Flying T Chuckwagon** has been serving up some serious cowboy grub for over 30 years. Following dinner, professional musicians entertain the audience with old time music including cowboy ballads, country swing, and bluegrass favorites. Groups Always Welcome!

Spearfish – Tour the century old **Mathews Opera House** and stay for a concert, play or artistic event that takes place year-round at this historic theater. **The Black Hills Amphitheater** is an outdoor performance stage set against the backdrop of spruce, ponderosa pine and the awe-inspiring Black Hills. They host various outdoor performances in the summer.

Worthing – Located only 20 minutes south of Sioux Falls! Enrich your evening with an elegant dinner and grand show at the **Olde Town Dinner Theatre**.

Yankton – Spend an evening or afternoon enjoying a production by the Lewis & Clark Theatre Company in the **Dakota Theatre**, a beautiful art deco building. Or catch a concert in the park, held every Tuesday in the summer, at the **Riverside Park Amphitheatre**.



south dakota cities

ABERDEEN, BELLE FOURCHE,
BERESFORD, BRIDGER,
BROOKINGS, CHAMBERLAIN,
CRAZY HORSE, DEADWOOD,
DE SMET, FLANDREAU, GARRETSON,
KEYSTONE, LAKE CITY, MITCHELL,
MOBRIDGE, PLATTE, PIERRE,
RAPID CITY, ROSLYN, SELBY,
SIOUX FALLS, STURGIS,
WATERTOWN, WEBSTER, YANKTON

calendar of events

april

- **Historical Film Festival** April 14-17,
SD State Historical Society 605-773-3458
- **Annual Mobridge Area Art Show**
April 16-18, Mobridge 605-845-2387
- **Keeping Warm in South Dakota VII**
April 17-18, Brookings 605-692-6125
- **Play: "Fat Pig"**
April 21-25, Vermillion 605-677-5400
- **BANFF Mountain Culture Film Festival**
April 25-26, Rapid City 605-394-4101
- **South Dakota Chocolate Festival**
April 30-May 2, Spearfish 605-642-2989

may

- **Black Hills Film Festival**
May 13-15, Rapid City 605-574-4671
- **Historic Window Workshop** May 14-16,
SD State Historical Society 605-773-3458
- **Murdo in May**
May 21-23, Murdo 605-669-2691
- **Buena Vista Wagon Trail Ride**
May 29, Edgemont 605-662-5900

june

- **Fort Sisseton Historical Festival**
June 4-6, Lake City 605-448-5474
- **Siouxland Renaissance Festival**
June 5-6, Sioux Falls 866-489-9241
- **Ipswich Trail Days**
June 11-13, Ipswich 605-426-6756
- **Great Plains Balloon Race**
June 12-13, Sioux Falls 800-333-2072
- **Tabor Czech Days**
June 17-19, Tabor 888-353-7382
- **Wild Bill Days**
June 18-19, Deadwood 800-999-1876
- **Evening of Opera: A Two Night Music Festival**
June 25-26, Spearfish 800-626-8013

july

- **Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate Contest Wacipi**
July 1-4, Sisseton 605-698-4972
- **Mount Rushmore Independence Day Celebration** July 3-4, Keystone 605-574-3171
- **Great Aberdeen Pig Out**
July 9-10, Aberdeen 605-226-3441
- **Laura Ingalls Wilder Pageant**
July 9-25, De Smet 800-880-3383
- **Brookings Summer Arts Festival**
July 10-11, Brookings 605-692-2787
- **Corn Palace Stampede Rodeo**
July 15-18, Mitchell 605-996-3662
- **Jazzfest**
July 16-17, Sioux Falls 605-335-6101

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)



DISCOVER SOUTHEAST SOUTH DAKOTA



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

day one

7 – 10:00 am

Rise early for a lively day of regional culture and arts in South Dakota's largest city, **Sioux Falls**. Take the old-fashioned trolley downtown to the **Washington Pavilion**, **Siouxland Heritage Museum**, and to an array of unique shops.

10 – 12:00 pm

Hop back on the trolley for a stop at **Falls Park**. See

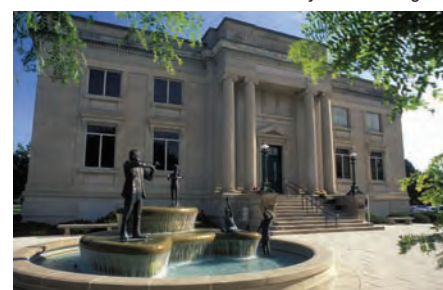
the beautiful falls of the Big Sioux River, which gave Sioux Falls its name. See local artists at work in the **Horse Barn Arts Center** and take a walk over the bridge for lunch at the **Overlook Café**.

12 – 4:00 pm

Afternoon will be an adventure at the **Great Plains Zoo** and **Delbridge Museum**, **Outdoor Campus** and **Sertoma Butterfly House**.

4 – 6:00 pm

Head south just one hour to **Vermillion** for a tour of the **National Music Museum** followed by wine tasting at



Valiant Vineyards. Choose either the **Comfort Inn** or **Holiday Inn Express** to rest your heads.

day two

9 – 11:00 am

After breakfast head west 30-minutes to Yankton, the first Dakota Territorial Capital of South Dakota. This historic city offers Dakota history at the **Dakota Territorial Museum** and the **Dakota Territorial Capitol** replica, plus stroll through historic homes and imagine days gone by in a bustling riverboat town.

11 – 1:00 pm

Just next-door is the beautiful **Lewis & Clark Lake**



(30-mile long reservoir) and **Gavin's Point Dam**. Spend some time relaxing watching the Missouri River gently flowing by. Designated the Missouri National Recreational River by the National Park Service for its natural beauty, just as Lewis & Clark saw it over 200 years ago. Great spot for a picnic lunch!

1 – 6:00 pm

Travel northwest just an hour to **Mitchell**, to see the **World's Only Corn Palace**. The community holds a wealth of Native American history and culture. See history come alive at **Dakota Discovery Museum** and **Prehistoric Indian Village**. Wonderful restaurants and shopping opportunities await your group as well.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or the Southeast South Dakota Tourism, 888-353-7382 or www.southeastsouthdakota.com.



Photos by South Dakota Tourism

Take an unforgettable journey across Southeast South Dakota to discover beauty, adventure, history and events that take you back in time.

Just a few of our 2010 Festivals & Events:

Schmeckfest - German Tasting Festival - Freeman, Mar. 19-20, 26-27
Tabor Czech Days - Tabor, June 17-19
Corn Palace Stampede Rodeo - Mitchell, July 15-18
Jazzfest - Sioux Falls, July 16-17
Riverboat Days & Summers Arts Festival - Yankton, Aug. 20-22
Steam Threshing Jamboree - Prairie Village, Madison, Aug. 27-29
LifeLight Outdoor Christian Music Festival - September 3-5
Spirit of the West Festival - Sioux Falls, September 17-19
Rockin' Ribfest - Downtown Yankton, September 18
Pheasant Hunting Opening Day - October 16



Southeast South Dakota Tourism

Request a free travel packet today!
 Call 1-888-353-7382 or visit us online:
www.southeastsouthdakota.com

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We're just down the road.



Lewis & Clark Recreation Area
Missouri National Recreational River

South Dakota history comes alive at CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER

Tucked into a hillside about 3/4 of a mile northeast of the State Capitol in Pierre (pronounced Peer), is the South Dakota Cultural Heritage Center.

The unique, earth-mounded building is 63,000 square feet, or the size of two football fields. The Cultural Heritage Center is the headquarters of the South Dakota State Historical Society, which works to promote, nurture and sustain the historical and cultural heritage of South Dakota.

The Heritage Center is best known for its world-class museum, featuring South Dakota culture and history from the life of American Indians, before the arrival of Europeans in 1743 through the 20th century.

Additional galleries include the Observation Gallery and the Hogen Gallery, a changing exhibit space for temporary and traveling exhibitions. The Observation Gallery offers a spectacular view of the State Capitol and the Missouri River. The Hogen Gallery now

houses "The People's House: Celebrating the Century," commemorating this year's 100th anniversary of the State Capitol.

Another public draw to the Cultural Heritage Center is the State Archives. Everyone from historians to students may use documents in the archives for researching their family history, town or important events, people or periods of South Dakota history.

The center also has a gift shop featuring South Dakota-made products.

The museum at the Cultural Heritage Center is open 9am-4:30pm Monday-Saturday until Memorial Day, when it is open 9am-6:30pm Monday-Saturday through Labor Day. Sundays and holidays from 1-4:30pm year-round. The center is closed Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

There is a small admission fee for the museum gallery. Tour Groups are discounted. For more information call (605) 773-3458 or visit www.history.sd.gov.



hot STOP

South Dakota
CULTURAL HERITAGE CENTER
State Museum and Archives
900 Governors Drive
Pierre, South Dakota
605-773-3458 • history.sd.gov
Group rates available

directory & map

accommodations

Holiday Inn Sioux Falls – City Centre 605-339-2000

100 W 8th St – Sioux Falls, SD 57104

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www.holidayinn.com/fsd.cityctr

Guests love our excellent location, just blocks from the city's safe and accessible walking trails, restaurants, shopping and the city's namesake, Falls Park. Group tour planners love our group-friendly amenities such as free, reserved motorcoach parking, the complimentary guestroom policy and our flexible advance deposit procedures. With almost 300 guestrooms we can easily accommodate groups of all sizes, no matter the season!

attractions

South Dakota State Historical Society 605-773-3458

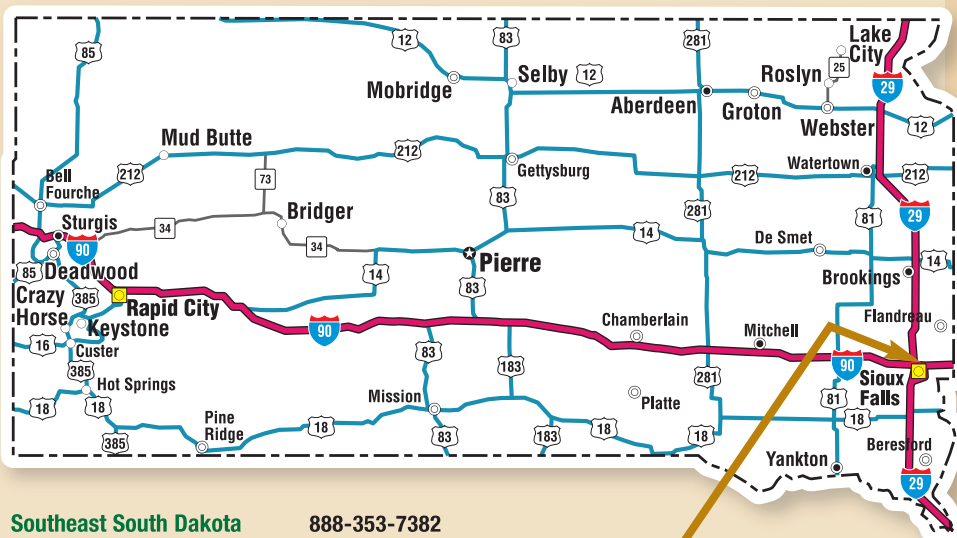
900 Governors Drive – Pierre, SD 57501

www.history.sd.gov

Explore South Dakota's history—list your home on the National Register of Historic Places, read our publications, study in our research room, and visit our museum. Guided group tours are available.

convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

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upper peninsula cities

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IRON RIVER, IRONWOOD, GLADSTONE,
GRAND MARAIS, HOUGHTON,
MARQUETTE, MENOMINEE,
MUNISING, NEWBERRY, ONTONAGON,
ST. IGNACE, SAULT ST MARIE,
WAKEFIELD, WATERSMEET

Brockway Mountain Drive view of
Copper Harbor



Lake of the Clouds in
Porcupine Mountains Wilderness State Park



© Photo courtesy of Corinna K.H. Bulmer 2009

Big Traverse Bay - Lake Superior



© Photo courtesy of Corinna K.H. Bulmer 2009

LOOK WHAT'S NEW!

As ITINERARIES Midwest expands its borders, we are proud to introduce you to the Upper Peninsula of Michigan!

Awake to the calls of birdsongs at dawn, beautiful surroundings by day, and the haunting cry of the loon at nightfall, welcome to Michigan's Upper Peninsula!

Michigan's Upper Peninsula offers motorcoach groups more than you can imagine! Fondly known as the U.P., you're invited to explore the peninsula that reaches over 300 miles, forming a shield above Wisconsin and Michigan, and highlighted by 1,700-miles of shoreline of three Great Lakes: Superior, Michigan, and Huron.

The U.P. presents group-friendly attractions unmatched anywhere. You can see great ore ships on the lakes, explore the depths of a mine, a shipwreck, climb to the top of a lighthouse, explore a colonial fort, and hear the roar of over 150 mighty waterfalls. And that's just for starters.

Discover art galleries, quaint shops, boutiques, historic fort reenactments, Native American Powwows, colorful festivals, and museums displaying unique historical memorabilia of yesteryear.

Easily accessible by motorcoach, enjoy main highway arteries, airline services to major hubs and safe harbor marinas. The U.P.'s hospitality professionals welcome your arrival.

Watch for more on the U.P. in upcoming issues of ITINERARIES Midwest.

calendar of events

may

- **5th Annual Parade of Thanks**
May 15 Hancock 906-482-2720
- **Keweenaw International Migratory Bird Day Festival** May 15-16,
Copper Harbor 906-289-4813

june

- **Spring Art & Music Festival**
June 12, Houghton 906-482-2333
- **Pine Mountain Music Festival**
June 16-Jul. 18, Hancock 888-309-7861
- **11th Annual Splash-In on the Bay**
June 18-20, Grand Marais 906-494-2447
- **5th Annual Great Lakes Rodeo**
June 19-20, Marquette 906-361-4572
- **Munising Bay Arts Festival**
June 26, Munising

july

- **"Sails on the Bay" Maritime Festival**
July 10-11 Munising 906-387-5710
- **Festival Ironwood**
July 14-17, Ironwood 906-932-1122
- **Rum Rebellion Days**
July 15-18, Iron River 888-879-4766
- **32nd Annual Hiawatha Traditional Music Festival** July 16-18,
Marquette 800-544-4321
- **Battery D Civil War Encampment**
July 30-Aug 1, Copper Harbor 906-289-4215
- **52nd Art on the Rocks**
July 31-August 1, Marquette 800-544-4321

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

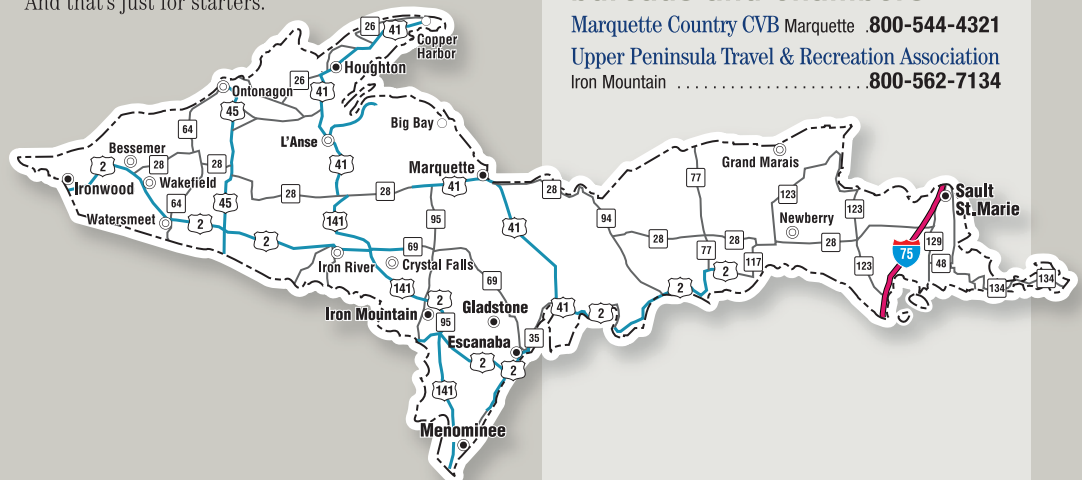
directory & map

attractions

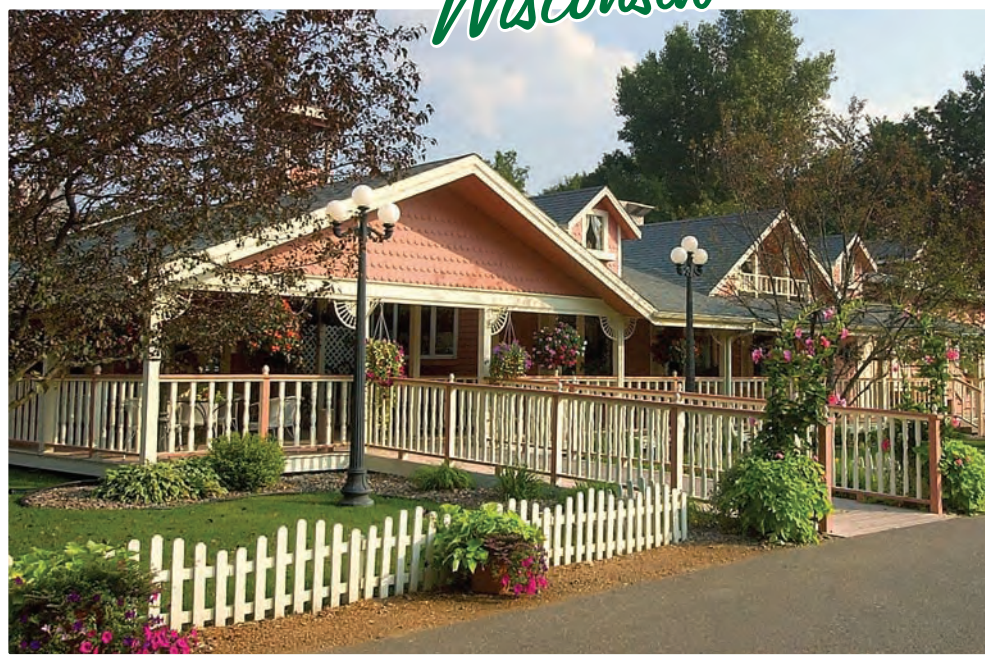
Copper Peak Adventure Ride
Ironwood **906-224-1349**

convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

Marquette Country CVB Marquette **800-544-4321**
Upper Peninsula Travel & Recreation Association
Iron Mountain **800-562-7134**



Travel Wisconsin ITINERARIES Wisconsin®



FANNY HILL DINNER THEATRE - EAU CLAIRE

Eat – Laugh – Enjoy. Overlooking the river, this Eau Claire landmark presents one of the most stunning views in the Valley. The **Fanny Hill Dinner Theatre** has been delighting audiences of all ages with musical and hilarious live productions. We are proud to bring the fun and magic of live theatre to the upper midwest. The Fanny Hill Dinner Theatre is the perfect outing for a group of any size. After the delicious Fanny Hill cuisine, the lights will dim and you will be treated to the best in live entertainment. With our unique combination of scenic beauty, award-winning dining and fantastic seasonal decorations, you will see why Fanny Hill has become western Wisconsin's #1 tour destination. The dinner shows are always fast-paced, professionally produced and are guaranteed to bring a smile to everyone's face. A visit to the Chippewa Valley isn't complete without a visit to Fanny Hill. (See location on map, page 65)



more theaters big & small in wisconsin

Chippewa Falls – The Heyde Center for the Arts is a beautifully restored 1907 building that overlooks downtown. The Center offers a variety of high-quality events from theater, to music, to dance.

Fort Atkinson – The **Fireside Dinner Theatre** is Wisconsin's #1 year-round motorcoach attraction. Enjoy award winning cuisine, and then top off the evening in their 700 seat theatre-in-the round for a professional theater experience. A group trip to The Fireside will be so popular with your travelers that you'll receive the applause right along with their talented performers. Browse the unique gift shops offering the region's most complete selection of gifts and collectibles.

Green Bay – With 1,000 seats, the historic **Meyer Theatre** in downtown Green Bay presents professional live performances, including musicals, comedians, unique touring shows and its house troupe-Let Me Be Frank Productions, which produces original musical comedies.

Lake Geneva – The **Dancing Horses Theatre**. This dazzling spectacle features an array of horse breeds that perform

alongside their trainers in this fantastic cavalcade of equestrian artistry. Visually stunning, and performed in a state-of-the-art, yet intimate, 300-seat theatre, this live show is truly a must-see for any horse lover.

Manitowoc – **Capitol Civic Center**. See a show and take a tour of this vintage 1921 restored vaudeville house, which features professional touring artists, Broadway shows, music, theatre and dance. Group rates available on most performances.

Spring Green – **American Players Theatre**. World-class theater in the Wisconsin woods, APT is one of the most popular outdoor, classical theaters in the nation. Enjoy a picnic; relax under the stars and experience the best of the classics, with five productions that run from June through October.

Washburn – **Lake Superior Big Top Chautauqua**. A "must see" for any group. A 70 + night – summer season of concerts, plays, lectures and Chautauqua Original Musicals, in a 900 seat state of the art tent/theatre. Yes – it's a tent! It is one of the only all canvas tents still raised in the nation!



wisconsin cities

APPLETON, ASHLAND, BARABOO, BAYFIELD, BELOIT, BROOKFIELD, CHIPPEWA FALLS, COLUMBUS, EAU CLAIRE, ELKHORN, FORT ATKINSON, FOND DU LAC, GREEN BAY, HUDSON, LA CROSSE, LAKE GENEVA, MADISON, MANITOWOC, MILWAUKEE, MINOCQUA, MISHICOT, MENOMONIE, MOUNT HOREB, OSHKOSH, PLATTEVILLE, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, SPARTA, ST. CROIX FALLS, STEVENS POINT, STOUGHTON, STURGEON BAY, STURTEVANT, SUPERIOR, TOMAH, TWO RIVERS, WATERTOWN, WAUKESHA, WAUSAU, WOODRUFF, WISCONSIN DELLS

calendar of events

april

- "Don't Hug Me: County Fair" April 9-Jun. 20, Fanny Hill Dinner Theatre, 800-292-8026
- **Wisconsin Film Festival** April 15-18, Madison 877-963-3456
- **Winefeast** April 17, Oshkosh 920-233-1414
- **JMKAC Family Festival – Caribbean** April 24, Sheboygan 920-458-6144

may

- **Bloody Lake Rendezvous** May 1-2, Woodford 608-325-9890
- **Airo Powwow** May 8, Stevens Point 800-838-3378
- **Cinco de Mayo Celebration** May 15, Darlington 608-776-3067
- **Chocolate Festival** May 28-31, Burlington 414-254-4813
- **World's Largest Brat Fest** May 28-31, Madison 608-276-9797
- **Fort Koshkonong Rendezvous** May 29-30, Fort Atkinson 888-733-3678
- **London Diary Alpaca Odyssey Farm Festival** May 30, Manitowoc 920-793-4165
- **Old Fashioned Pie & Ice Cream Social** May 31, Manitowoc 920-684-4445

june

- **Riversplash** Jun 5-6, Milwaukee 414-297-9855
- **Thunder On The Lakeshore** June 5-6, Manitowoc 920-482-1650
- **Bead and Button Show** June 11-13, Milwaukee 800-554-1448
- **Metro Jam** Jun 18-19, Manitowoc 800-627-4896
- **Ripon Hays Days** June 18-20, Ripon 920-748-6764
- **"Always...Patsy Cline"** June 25-August 22, Fanny Hill Dinner Theatre, 800-292-8026

july

- **8 Miles of "Ag-tiques"** July 2-4, Monroe 815-789-4570
- **Great Midwest Dragon Boat Festival** July 9-10, Racine 262-632-0530
- **Bastille Days** July 8-11, Milwaukee 414-271-1416
- **Acoustic Fest** Jul 17, Manitowoc 800-627-4896
- **Pulaski Polka Days** July 22-25, Pulaski 920-822-3869
- **Prairie Dog Blues Festival** July 30-31, Prairie du Chien 888-567-1567
- **Barefoot Charlie Festival and Barefoot Brew-Ha** July 31, Land O' Lakes 800-236-3432

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)



Welcome to Wisconsin's Maritime Capitol™
Follow our Maritime Treasure Trails through the
Port Cities of Manitowoc & Two Rivers



-Kathleen Galas, President

This sample itinerary can be customized for any time of the year!

(GTA indicates "Guided Tour Available")

Day One

A Day in Manitowoc

9 – 11:00 am ~ GTA

Tour a fully restored **World War II submarine** at the largest maritime museum on the Great Lakes, **Wisconsin Maritime Museum**.

11 – 12:00 pm ~ GTA

Stroll through **West of the Lake Gardens** along the shores of Lake Michigan. Fabulous photo opportunities!

12 – 1:00 pm

Enjoy a sandwich special at the **Harborside Restaurant** in downtown Manitowoc.

1 – 2:00 pm ~ GTA

Visit an 1891 Victorian Mansion where art and architecture collide! The **Rahr West Art Museum** features 19th and 20th century American and decorative arts, and is the landing site of a large chunk of the Russian satellite Sputnik IV in 1962!

2 – 3:00 pm

Head to **Historic Downtown Manitowoc** for afternoon shopping at **Timeless Treasures**, featuring vintage clothing and jewelry, or stop by the **Manitowoc Company Store** for your souvenir shopping.

3 – 5:00 pm ~ GTA

Costumed guides interpret farm and village life as you walk through 28 historic buildings at **Pinecrest Historical Village**.

5:30 – 6:30 pm

Take your group "to court" at the **Courthouse Pub** to experience a delicious themed dinner in the Judges Chambers.

Overnight at the **Holiday Inn - Manitowoc**. Step-on Host and Welcome Reception offered.

Check our website calendar of events for evening entertainment options www.manitowoc.info

Day Two

Visit Two Rivers, Birthplace of the Ice Cream Sundae

9 – 10:00 am

Visitors of all ages will enjoy exploring the ENERGY EXPERIENCE at the **Point Beach Energy Center**. Exciting displays teach the history of electricity and electrical power generation through the use of nuclear energy, fossil fuels and renewable sources.

10 – 11:00 am

Get up close and personal with exotic alpacas at **London Dairy Alpaca Ranch**. Shop the Fiber Studio Gift Store filled with unique gift items.

11 – 12:00 pm

Journey back in time at **Rogers Street Historic Fishing Village**. Discover tales of courageous seafarers and ill-fated schooners through old mariners' tales of seafaring and survival. Learn about their French-Canadian history and heritage.

12 – 1:00 pm

Have lunch along scenic views of the historic Two Rivers harbor at **M & M Lunch**, the **Lighthouse Inn** along the shores of Lake Michigan, or enjoy **Kurtz's**, a historic German pub and deli specializing in world famous beers.

1 – 2:00 pm

Stop by the **Historic Farm Museum**. Wisconsin dairy farmers' way of life is preserved through a display of farming equipment fifty years and older.

2 – 3:00 pm ~ GTA

Visit the **Washington House**, a warm 1850 hotel, historic saloon (nonalcoholic) and museum with rare murals on display. **Berner's Ice Cream Parlor** will serve up delicious treats while commemorating the invention of the ice cream sundae right here in Two Rivers.

3 – 4:00 pm ~ GTA

Across the street from Washington House, visit the **Hamilton Wood Type and Printing Museum**, home to over 100 years of American printing history. See the first clothes dryer produced by Hamilton Industries in 1938.

4 – 5:00 pm

Learn about Two Rivers' heritage through ethnic, social, civic and religious history displays at the **Two Rivers History Museum** housed in a dignified 1900 convent.

OR

Enjoy shopping in downtown **Two Rivers** at **Schroeder's**, one of the nation's oldest department stores; **Unique Flying Objects**, colorful kites and flags of all shapes and sizes; or **Inman Jewelers** for exclusive Two Rivers souvenirs. On your way to or from Two Rivers, stop by the **Honey Pot**, a delightful themed gift shop located on the shores of Lake Michigan.

Check our website calendar of events for evening entertainment options www.manitowoc.info

Manitowoc Area
Visitor & Convention Bureau
 800-627-4896

www.manitowoc.info

Surf our website for more sample itineraries.

Order a **FREE Packaged Travel Planner Kit**



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TWO RIVERS**

We Love Buses



Visit Four Museums in Two Rivers, WI

Historic Washington House & Museum



Enjoy an Ice Cream
Sundae
in its Home Town

Old Time
Ice Cream Parlor

1622 Jefferson Street 920-793-2490
Summertime, 9am - 9 pm
Winter, 10am - 4pm

Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum



1619 Jefferson Street 920-794-6272
Open Daily, 9 am - 5 pm



Historic Farm Museum

1701 12th Street 920-553-4001

Open 10am 4 pm
Winter - Closed

Two Rivers History Museum

1810 Jefferson Street 920-793-1103

Open
10 am - 4 pm
Closed Winter




www.rogersstreet.com

*Stroll back through time
into traditions of
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2010 Rogers Street
Two Rivers, WI 54241
920-793-5905
info@rogersstreet.com



Rahr-West Art Museum



610 N. 8th St. Manitowoc, WI 920-683-4501
www.rahrwestartmuseum.org



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- ☛ Generate your own electricity - it's not easy!
- ☛ Step inside a model nuclear containment unit; Learn about fission and how a nuclear reactor works.
- ☛ Learn about renewable energy resources.
- ☛ Play computer games and enjoy hands-on activities.

Located 10 miles north of Two Rivers

Call 800.880.8463 for directions

Explore the ENERGY EXPERIENCE at the Point Beach ENERGY CENTER



6400 Nuclear Road ☛ Two Rivers, WI 54241



Come for the Value – STAY FOR THE FUN!

The Village of Mishicot is set in the scenic, rolling countryside of Northeast Wisconsin in Manitowoc County. They offer visitors a friendly, small-town atmosphere for which Midwestern communities are famous, and take pride in creating an environment that is relaxing and welcoming!

Located within the Village of Mishicot is one of Wisconsin's largest vacation hot spots, Fox Hills Resort. The Resort features 45 holes of golf, including The National, an eighteen-hole links-style course. But Fox Hills Resort is so much more than golf - it is Manitowoc County's hub for year-round fun & entertainment.

Fox Hills Resort offers its visitors clean, comfortable lodging, swimming pools, fitness center, sauna and spa. You'll want to dine in one of the Resort's eateries; The Willowview Restaurant is a value priced restaurant with floor to ceiling windows. Benchwarmers Sports Bar serves up "ginormous" sandwiches and appetizers, daily food

and beverage specials and weekend entertainment. And the 19th Hole Bar and Grill provides refreshments and sandwiches for a quick grab 'n go option.

Fox Hills Resort is eager to be your destination when planning your group tour of Northeast Wisconsin! Let us be the "Hub" on your tour of the area. With Green Bay to our North, Sheboygan to our South, Door County to our East and the Fox Cities to our West, we are centrally located with convenient access to major highways!

Fox Hills Resort welcomes Motorcoach travelers with a special room rate; complimentary lodging for the Escort and the Driver (with 20 room minimum), step-on hostess to welcome your guests, and luggage handling is also available. Plus, the Resort has over 15,000 square feet of banquet and meeting space for group functions.

For more information, see our website www.foxhillsresort.com or call 800-950-7615 Ext 3621.

EAT - LAUGH - ENJOY!

This sample itinerary can be customized for any time of the year.

9 - 11:00 am

Begin your day in Augusta, Wisconsin with a visit to **The Wood Shed**, an Amish furniture store with high quality gifts, furniture and decorations for your home. Arrangements can be made for Amish Tours as well at certain times of the year.

11 - 12:30 pm

Swing into **Eau Claire** and have lunch at one of their many restaurants.

12:30 - 2:30 pm

Learn a little (or a lot) at the **Chippewa Valley Museum**. Its exhibits and historic buildings tell stories, surprising, entertaining, enriching, personal, and authentic stories that illuminate the Chippewa Valley for those near and far, but also helps tell the larger story of America.

2:30 - 4:00 pm

Motorcoaches are welcome at the **Autumn Harvest Winery** in **Chippewa Falls**. Everything from start to finish is done by hand at this Winery.

Sample wine, gourmet foods, cheese, breads, or peruse the gift shop with fresh baked goods on the weekends. Enjoy harvest items and events during the fall season.

4 - 5:30 pm

It's time to head over to **Fanny Hill's Dinner Theatre**, perched atop a bluff overlooking the city of Eau Claire. Depending upon the size of your group - you can stay at **Fanny Hills' B&B** or at a local group-friendly hotel of your choice.

5:30 - 10:00 pm

Time to enjoy great food, great shows, great service, great scenic beauty and just to keep them apart from the rest, great seasonal decorations. (Matinees and evening performances are available and provide your group with many scheduling options.)

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group tour please contact your tour operator or the Fanny Hill Dinner Theatre, 800-292-8026.

Come for the value - Stay for the fun!

With so many sites and attractions to choose from in Northeast Wisconsin, your biggest challenge shouldn't be selecting a hotel for your VIP's to stay at. Your agenda will be packed full of fun and exciting things to do and see, so we offer your travelers comfy and restful overnight accommodations and guarantee your satisfaction!

Fox Hills Resort has designed an exclusive motorcoach program that includes:

- Discounted lodging rates
- Step-on hostess
- Pre-registration and key assignment
- First floor room assignments for convenience
- Complimentary lodging for tour escort and driver (with 20+ rooms)
- Free wireless internet access

Our expertise in hosting group events with overnight accommodations will reassure your travelers that you have made an exceptional choice on their behalf. We can also provide additional services including group meals and luggage handling.

Call today for more information or to check availability, 800-950-7615 ask for Liz at extension 3621.

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See our website for more information and specials, discounts, entertainment & more!

directory & map

accommodations

Fox Hills Resort 800-950-7615 Ext 3621

250 W Church St – Mishicot, WI 54228
www.foxhillsresort.com

Fox Hills Resort in Mishicot, Wisconsin features year round lodging, activities, meeting/banquet space, swimming pools, onsite Restaurant and Sports Bar with weekend entertainment, spa services and 45 holes of golf. Minutes from Green Bay.

Holiday Inn Manitowoc 920-682-6000

attractions

Hamilton Wood Type & Printing Museum

Two Rivers 920-794-6272

Historic Farm Museum Two Rivers ..920-553-4001

Historic Rogers Street

Fishing Village Two Rivers 920-793-5905

Historic Washington House

& Museum Two Rivers 920-793-2490

London Dairy Alpacas

& Fiber Studio Two Rivers 920-793-4165

Madeline Island Ferry Line

La Pointe 715-747-2051

Point Beach Energy Center

Two Rivers 800-880-8463

Rahr-West Art Museum Manitowoc ..920-683-4501

Two Rivers History Museum

Two Rivers 920-793-1103

convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

Ashland Chamber of Commerce

Ashland 800-284-9484

Manitowoc Area

Visitor & Convention Bureau ...920-683-4388

P.O. Box 966 – Manitowoc, WI 54221 800-627-4896

kgalas@manitowoc.info / www.manitowoc.info

Discover Maritime Treasure Trails in the Port Cities of Manitowoc-Two Rivers. Explore USS Cobia WWII Submarine, catch a big one at the Wisconsin Maritime Museum, tour Rogers St. Fishing Village, or visit the Birthplace of the Ice Cream Sundae. We Love Company!

Superior-Douglas County CVB

Superior 800-942-5313

Wisconsin Department

of Tourism Madison 800-432-8747

entertainment & theater

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www.fannyhill.com



CENTRAL CANADA

central canada cities

manitoba

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ontario

ATIKOKAN, DRYDEN, FLANDERS, FORT FRANCES, KENORA, LONGLAC, SAULT STE. MARIE, SIOUX LOOKOUT, THUNDER BAY, VERMILION BAY

calendar of events

april

- "Glorious"
April 7-25, Winnipeg 204-942-5483
- The 2010 Winnipeg Comedy Festival
April 8-11, Winnipeg 204-284-9477
- "A Cinderella Story"
April 28-May 2, Winnipeg 204-956-2792

may

- 37th Annual Folklore Festival
May 1-2, Thunder Bay 866-831-1144
- International Migratory Bird Day
May 8, Oak Hammock Marsh 888-506-2774
- Kite Festival
May 30, Thunder Bay 807-625-2110

june

- Manitoba Highland Gathering
June 19, Selkirk 800-894-2621
- Peace Festival June 25-27,
International Peace Gardens 888-432-6733
- Jazz Winnipeg Festival
June 25-July 4, Winnipeg 204-989-4656

july

- Canada Day Celebration
July 1, Thunder Bay 807-625-2110
- Manitoba Holiday Festival of the Arts
July 3-9, Neepawa 888-476-2926
- Thunder Bay Blues Festival
July 9-11, Thunder Bay 807-625-2110
- The Great Canadian Rendezvous
July 9-18, Thunder Bay 807-577-3315
- Winnipeg Folk Festival
July 7-11, Winnipeg 204-231-0096
- Thunderfest Super Weekend
July 9-11, Thunder Bay 807-625-2110
- Winnipeg Fringe Theatre Festival
July 14-25, Winnipeg 204-934-0302
- Thunder Bay Dragon Boat Festival
July 16-17, Thunder Bay 807-625-2110
- Dauphin Christian Music Festival
July 16-18, Dauphin 888-995-5566

august

- Folklorama
August 1-14, Winnipeg 204-982-6226

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

directory & map

Tourism Thunder Bay

Thunder Bay, Ontario. 888-227-2227!

Keep Exploring ITINERARIES Central Canada®



SUMMER IN THE PARKS - THUNDER BAY, ONTARIO

Since 1904, **Summer in the Parks** has been an important part of the City's heritage. With the incomparable Marina Park on Lake Superior as the setting, concerts showcase performers presenting a wide variety of musical styles. Including the Tijuana Brass, Jazz, Big Band, Folk, Bluegrass, Variety, Dixieland, R & B, Delta Blues, Flamenco and Celtic just to name a few – there is something for everyone! In addition to great music, Summer In The Parks evenings feature free draws and a variety of on-site concessions. The 2010 line-up will be announced in June. You are encouraged to bring a lawn chair and blanket, sit back and enjoy the show. (See location on map below)

more theaters big & small in central canada

Brandon, Manitoba – The **Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium** showcases a variety of cultural activities and is home to ballet, classical concerts, festivals, music recitals, theatrical performances and much more!

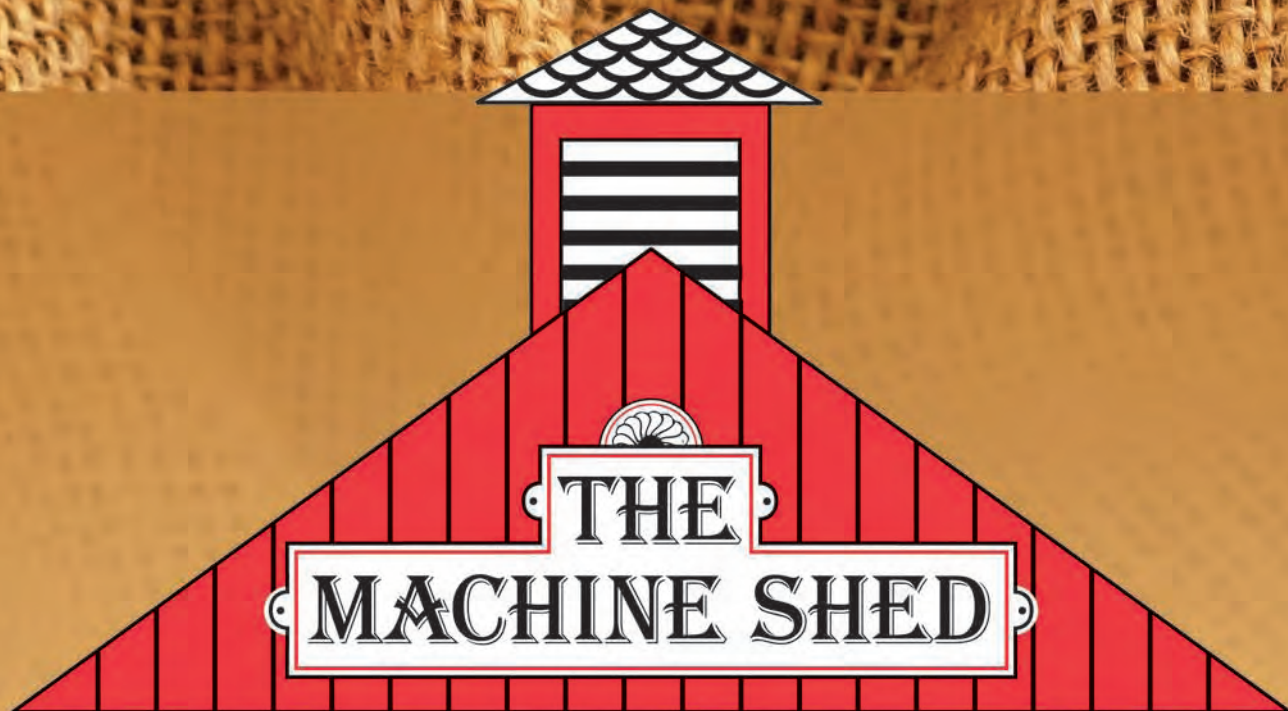
Wasagamung, Manitoba – Located in the Riding Mountain National Park of Canada is the town of Wasagamung. Come and watch the latest movies all summer long at the historic **Park Theatre**. This beautiful heritage building is the "Largest Log Cabin Theatre on the North American Continent". Holding over 500 people, this theatre has been a mainstay of entertainment for the Park for over 50 years.

Winnipeg, Manitoba – Known as a cultural hub throughout Canada, Winnipeg is a city where arts and culture thrive! The **Manitoba Theatre Center** is a regional community theatre that presents over 250 performances each year. Annually they host a Master Playwright Festival and the Winnipeg Fringe Festival, the 2nd largest of it's kind in North America. Another theater to check out is the **Le Cercle Molière**, this traditional French theater has evolved to perform modern as well as traditional French theater. They have been performing to sold out audiences for over 80 years.



Summer in the Parks

Sault Ste. Marie



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Cattleman's Choice
Top Sirloin



Classic Fried Chicken



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Cinnamon Roll

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Rockford
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815-229-3276

Pewaukee
I-94 & Wisc 164
262-523-1322

Appleton
Hwy 41 & College
920-830-2326

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