

UNEXPECTED AND UNUSUAL TRAVEL IDEAS FROM ALL OVER THE UPPER MIDWEST!

MIDWEST'S GROUP TRAVEL MAGAZINE

# ITINERARIES

summer 2009

## *Midwest*<sup>®</sup>

## Mayberry's of the Midwest

Small town charm and mainstreets  
to take you there.

Plus, over 25 sample  
itineraries & hot stops

\$5.95 US \$7.95 CAN



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

KANSAS  
As Big As You Think

Group Travel Show & FAM  
in September

Buzzing About  
BELOIT



Ready for a **WARM** Canadian welcome?  
Start planning now.

September  
17-20, 2009



Itineraries Midwest, Winnipeg Tour Connection, Travel Manitoba & Destination Winnipeg present...  
**the 2009 ITINERARIES MIDWEST Group Travel Show and FAM**

*C 'mon up with us, it's borderline fun!*

- All attendees are registered to win a FREE Garmin GPS!
- Ride the Heartland/Richfield Motorcoach to Winnipeg with the Itineraries Midwest team, courtesy of Winnipeg Tour Connection and Destination Winnipeg. [Can't join the fun on the bus? Travel vouchers are available.]
- FAM Tour of Winnipeg and Fargo.
- Inquire about our Twin Cities Pre-FAM on September 15-16th. Space is very limited.
- Prices starting at \$95 includes: Show, FAM, transportation, and accommodations.

*\*Restrictions apply, call for details.*

**Register Today.**

**Call 877-832-7267 or visit [www.itinerariesmidwest.com](http://www.itinerariesmidwest.com).**



GROUP TRAVEL SHOW

**ITINERARIES**  
*Midwest*



## TOP TEN REASONS TO CHOOSE A CSM HOTEL FOR MIDWEST MOTOR COACH OVERNIGHTS

CSM properties are located in all areas of the Midwest near major attractions, venues and highways. Most importantly we understand group travel.

- Convenient locations near major highways
- Personalized reservation process
- Breakfast options at all locations
- Versatile accommodation options
- Group package pricing & affordable rates
- Complimentary on-site bus parking
- One complimentary room per 10 consumed
- Baggage handling
- Receptions/venue packages
- Dedicated groups sales representative

Call us today for great savings on your next trip to Minneapolis, Milwaukee or Des Moines!



For more information and group package rates, call each hotel directly at the number listed and ask for the group sales department.

### IOWA

Country Inn & Suites West Des Moines, IA  
(515) 223-9254 [countryinns.com/cliveia](http://countryinns.com/cliveia)

### TWIN CITIES

Country Inn St. Paul East, MN  
(651) 739-7300 [countryinns.com/woodburymn](http://countryinns.com/woodburymn)

Courtyard Mpls/Bloomington, MN  
(952) 876-0100 [Marriott.com/MSPCY](http://Marriott.com/MSPCY)

Courtyard Roseville, MN  
(651) 746-8000 [Marriott.com/MSPRL](http://Marriott.com/MSPRL)

Marriott Minneapolis West, MN  
(952) 544-4400 [Marriott.com/MSPSP](http://Marriott.com/MSPSP)

The Depot Minneapolis, A Renaissance Hotel  
(612) 375-1700 [Marriott.com/MSPDT](http://Marriott.com/MSPDT)

SpringHill Suites Eden Prairie, MN  
(952) 944-7700 [Marriott.com/MSPEN](http://Marriott.com/MSPEN)

SpringHill Suites St. Louis Park, MN  
(952) 738-7300 [Marriott.com/MSPSL](http://Marriott.com/MSPSL)

SpringHill Suites Eagan, MN  
(651) 686-0600 [Marriott.com/MSPSH](http://Marriott.com/MSPSH)

### MILWAUKEE

Country Inn & Suites Milwaukee West  
(262) 782-1400 [countryinns.com/brookfieldwi](http://countryinns.com/brookfieldwi)

Marriott Milwaukee West  
(262) 574-0888 [Marriott.com/MKEMW](http://Marriott.com/MKEMW)



## LETTER FROM the publishers

Dear Planner,

*In this issue you'll find that a Mayberry is real Americana...the heart of the American experience! It's what our parents experienced everyday. Discover communities (like Council Grove, KS, whose Main Street graces our cover) filled with storied buildings and events where citizens celebrate their history and heritage. Where you can still enjoy refreshments at the local soda fountain, a band concert in the park, shop in a Ben Franklin with its creaky floors, and banter with the "dignitaries" riding by in the town's annual parade. Best of all, the people still dish out hospitality as generously as they load up the dinner plates at Stella's Restaurant. Where coffee refills are poured freely by a waitress who knows everyone in the joint, and tells stories as well as any of her "regulars" drinking the coffee!*

*The Midwest is filled with wonderful Mayberry's complete with scads of memorable reasons to include them in your itineraries. Hey, maybe Andy and Aunt Bea will do your coach's Meet & Greet!*

**ALMOST TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL GROUP TRAVEL SHOW IN WINNIPEG!**  
*Are you joining us in Winnipeg this September? Itineraries Midwest has teamed up with Travel Manitoba and Destination Winnipeg to create a unique "2-Nation Group Travel Show". Here group travel planners - like you - are able to sit down and talk with destination representatives from both Canada and the United States (we call this part of the show "speed touring"). Plus, enjoy at least 3 FAMs during this event (the Pre-FAM in the Twin Cities (sponsored by Saint Paul CVA), the Winnipeg FAM, and the "On-The-Way" FAM. Plan to take home lots of travel ideas from all that's in store for you in September 2009! Find more at [www.itinerariesmidwest.com/travelshow](http://www.itinerariesmidwest.com/travelshow), and sign up today!*

**A HOT TIP FOR EASIER PLANNING...USE OUR ONLINE MAGAZINE!** *All of the ads in this issue are hotlinked to their websites in ITINERARIES MIDWEST Online...so you can access itinerary stops quickly and conveniently! Simply go to our website - [www.itinerariesmidwest.com](http://www.itinerariesmidwest.com) - and click the online magazine.*

*Until next time, bappy group travels!*

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



Coming Fall 2009!

## Let's Go Shopping!

A candy outlet store with goodies and prices that are both sweet. An import store with goods you've never seen the likes of before. A cheese factory that gives tours...and tastes! One-of-a-kind items hand-crafted by local artisans. The list goes on and on. Shopping needs one important thing to make it a great experience..."I couldn't get this at home!" Next issue we'll give you many more reasons why shopping is at its best on a motorcoach tour!



# ITINERARIES Midwest

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

**Heather J. Lahren** | CO-PUBLISHER  
[heather@itinerariesinc.com](mailto:heather@itinerariesinc.com)

**Mark W. Peterson** | CO-PUBLISHER  
[mark@itinerariesmidwest.com](mailto:mark@itinerariesmidwest.com)

**Kathleen Somers** | DIR OF SALES & OPERATIONS  
[kathleen@itinerariesinc.com](mailto:kathleen@itinerariesinc.com)

**Kelly Surla** | OPERATIONS MANAGER  
[kelly@itinerariesinc.com](mailto:kelly@itinerariesinc.com)

**Lynn Gottwalt** | TRAFFIC MANAGER  
[lynn@itinerariesinc.com](mailto:lynn@itinerariesinc.com)

**Tom Swatosh** | ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE  
[tom@itinerariesmidwest.com](mailto:tom@itinerariesmidwest.com)

**Jill Ressemann** | MARKETING SUPPORT  
[jill@itinerariesinc.com](mailto:jill@itinerariesinc.com)

**Carinna K. Hard Bullemer** | ART DIRECTOR  
HARD AT WORK Design, inc. | [carinna@hardatworkdesign.com](mailto:carinna@hardatworkdesign.com)

### CONTRIBUTING WRITERS

**Heather Lahren, Mark Peterson,  
Kathleen Somers, Lynn Gottwalt, Jill Ressemann,  
and Kelly Surla** | ITINERARIES Inc.  
**Jan Hiebert** | Wichita CVB  
**Britt Aamodt**

### ADVISORY BOARD

ILLINOIS: **Susan Yarolem** | Celebration River Cruises

IOWA: **Sharon Dixon** | Inbound Iowa  
**Bob Oliver** | Legacy Tour & Travel

MINNESOTA: **Dawn Krosnowski** | Sunshine Travel  
**Sherri Mullery** | Bloomington CVB

MISSOURI: **Stacy Crabtree** | Metcalf Bank

NEBRASKA: **Tricia Beem** | Grand Island, Hall County CVB  
**Marilyn Whitehead** | Allied Tour & Travel

NORTH DAKOTA: **Deanne Felchle** | North Dakota Tourism  
**Carrol Juven** | Juven Tours & Travel

SOUTH DAKOTA: **Shabby Lee** | Shabby Lee Tours  
**Karen Witt** | Watertown CVB

WISCONSIN: **Peggy Bitzer** | Circle Wisconsin  
**Joyce Ohrmundt** | Nationwide Travelers

CENTRAL CANADA: **Jill Lusty** | Destination Winnipeg  
**Rose Ann Kupaik** | Embassy Tours, Ltd

We make every effort to be as accurate as possible, but assume no responsibility for errors or omissions found in this magazine or any other corporate publications produced by ITINERARIES Inc.

**Proud Members of:**  
Tour Minnesota Association (TMA) & American Bus Association (ABA)

**POSTMASTER:**  
Send address changes to ITINERARIES Inc.  
56 South 33rd Avenue #234, St. Cloud, MN 56301

### MAKING THIS MAGAZINE WORK FOR YOU:

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

# table of contents

summer 2009

## featuring

10 Mayberry's of the Midwest

12 feature itinerary  
Kansas Yesterday & Today



12 *Manhattan, Kansas*



6 *Chase County Courthouse - Kansas*



14 *Quality Hill Mansions - Galena, Illinois*



## columns

- 6 destination highlight Kansas
- 7 explore our festivals & events now!  
South Dakota & Kansas
- 8 profile Beloit, Wisconsin



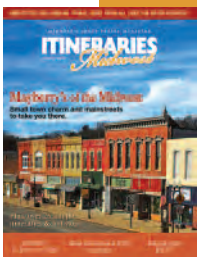
- illinois ----- 14
- iowa ----- 20
- kansas ----- 26
- minnesota ----- 34
- missouri ----- 58
- nebraska ----- 60
- north dakota ----- 63
- south dakota ----- 65
- wisconsin ----- 67
- central canada ----- 73

## photo credits

**Cover images:** Harold Gaston from Kandscape Photography LLC, 620-767-2836, of the town Council Grove Kansas.  
**Other images:** Jim Richardson, Albert Lea CVB, American Swedish Institute, Arbor Day Farm, Austin CVB, Bear Country USA, Beloit CVB, Bemidji VCB, Bismark-Mandan North Dakota, Bloomington CVB, Buena Vista Logging Village, Carlos Creek Winery, Chamberlain-Oacoma Chamber, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, Charleston Missouri, Churchill Canada, Columbia CVB, Council Grove Chamber, Faribault Chamber, Galena/Jo Daviess County CVB, Geary County, Grand Island CVB, Grand Portage Lodge & Casino, Guttenberg Iowa, Independence Iowa, International Peace Gardens, Itasca State Park, J&L Bison Ranch, Kearney Visitors Bureau, Lindsborg CVB, Mall of America, The Mammoth Site, Manhattan CVB, Minnesota Historical Society, Minnesota History Center, Minnesota State Fair, Nebraska City Nebraska, Newton Chamber, North Dakota Tourism, Padelford Riverboat, Park Farm Winery, Park Rapids Chamber, Potawatomi Bingo Casino, Russell County, Spirit of the West Festival, South Dakota Tourism, Southeast Historic Bluff Country, Visit Topeka, Villa Louis, Washington County, Waterloo CVB, Willmar CVB, Wichita CVB

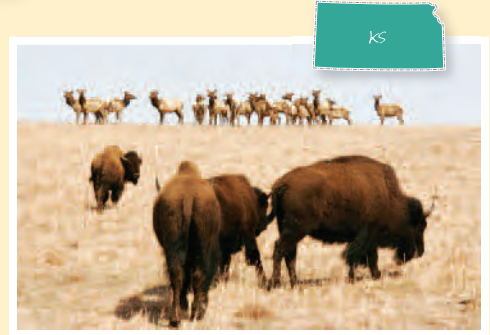
## on the cover

**Downtown Council Grove, KS:**  
 Since this issue's focus state is Kansas, Council Grove's (KS) Main Street graces the cover of this issue as the perfect example of a Mayberry of the Midwest. Think back on earlier days, and about your hometown. Look familiar?



# KANSAS

## as big as you think



If you're looking for new and exciting group destinations, then **Kansas** is the place to go. History buffs can explore the state's legendary cowboy towns or visit Kansas' countless museums, celebrating the state's pioneer, aviation, farming and Native American legacies. Outdoor enthusiasts will be happy to know that Kansas is still home on the range to the American bison, which can be viewed up close at two of the state's wildlife refuges and along the highways in Western Kansas and the **Flint Hills**. And for nature lovers, Kansas is home to the largest remaining stand of tallgrass prairie in North America, providing a glimpse of what the continent looked like 200 years ago.

### FREEDOM'S FRONTIER – The Civil War Started Here

Some of America's most significant movements and events swept across Kansas. **Freedom's Frontier National Heritage Area** preserves historic sites where life-and-death conflicts unfolded, and where these great Kansas legacies come to life. In 29 eastern counties, museums, historic sites, towns and battlefields offer chances to connect with the history of "Bleeding Kansas". **Lawrence** was the site of *Quantrill's Raid*, the most deadly expression of violence between pro-slavery proponents and "Free Staters". In **Lecompton**, 589 residents host re-enactments of its' time as the territorial capital where the state's constitution was formulated.

### THE FLINT HILLS – Last of the Tallgrass Prairie

Kansas is cowboy country. The world's largest tallgrass prairie sweeps across east-central Kansas' **Flint Hills**. Ranchers and cattle still rule this unique landscape, as they have since cowboys drove longhorns on the **Chisholm Trail**. These days, they are as committed to sharing this country and its heritage as they are to the land itself. **The Flying W Ranch**, **Clover Cliff Ranch** and **Doyle Creek Ranch**, are among the ranches opening their gates to

visitors. At **Jantzen's Grandview Ranch**, visitors help with the annual **Flint Hills burning** of the prairie. Ranchers set fire to nearly a third of the grasslands as in days gone by – used to keep land free from weeds and trees. The 48-mile **Flint Hills National Scenic Byway** winds through the region's center, with beautiful rocky highlands and lush cottonwood bottomlands. At the north end, **Council Grove** started as a key stop on the **Santa Fe Trail**. Today, a self-guided tour leads to 24 historic sites of the area.

### CATTLE TRAILS to VAPOR TRAILS

This diverse region is home to **Wichita**, the state's largest city, as well as the rugged **Gypsum Hills** and wetlands around **Great Bend** that provide some of the best bird-watching anywhere. From cattle trails to vapor trail, **Wichita** has evolved into a modern city with the charm of a smaller city, and has established itself as the "*Air Capital of the World*". The **Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure**, just outside **Salina**, is a must-see. In **Hutchinson**, the **Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center** and the **Kansas Underground Salt Museum** are world-class attractions. Dinosaurs are the big story at the **Sternberg Museum of Natural History**. **Lindsborg**, about an hour north of **Wichita**, highlights their Swedish heritage in a museum, shops and galleries. The northern area of the central prairie is **Post Rock Country**. Early pioneers, finding no trees to use for homes and other buildings, utilized what they had – native limestone. Homes, schools and even fence posts were built using the stone which lies just below the earth's surface in this region. In **Abilene**, discover why "Ike" will always be remembered at the **Eisenhower Presidential Museum, Library** and boyhood home or ride an antique carousel.

### THE ROWDY OLD WEST

Wide-open spaces, big skies and impressive

views characterize this region. Experience some of the Old West at **Dodge City**, and step into pioneer days at museums in **Goodland** and **Colby**. **Boot Hill Museum** in **Dodge City** provides a glimpse of Dodge's wild, cowboy past. **Wyatt Earp** was among the famed lawmen who kept the peace in **Dodge City**. Stop by the saloon for a show and some refreshments. Walk through historic **Nicodemus**, the oldest surviving African-American town west of the **Mississippi River**. Gather for **Emancipation Day** in July. Visit a replica of **Dorothy and Toto's home** in **Liberal**, or fill up on flapjacks, as skillet-toting women race to best their English competition in the **International Pancake Day Races**. **WaKeeney**, the self-proclaimed "*Christmas City*," dazzles during the holidays with lights, and a 35-foot tall Christmas tree handmade from pine boughs.

### CUISINE

There's a kick to the cuisine in Kansas. Sassy sauces, slow-cooked meats and a history of doing it right make barbeque an experience, not just a meal. Chances are you'll find a barbecue restaurant, festival or cook-off within range. Add to that the variety of ethnic foods across the state – Swedish, Mennonite, Volga German, Czech, Mexican, and much more. The eatin' good in Kansas.

### GROUP INFORMATION

The cities and towns of Kansas invite you to experience what we have to offer. Most offer assistance with itinerary planning. Many offer familiarization tours. Let us show you that Kansas is as big as you think! 📍

For more information contact **Jan Hiebert** (CTC Senior Manager, Tourism Sales & Service for Go Wichita Convention and Visitors Bureau and current President of TourKANSAS) at 800-288-9424 or email [jhiebert@gowichita.com](mailto:jhiebert@gowichita.com).

## Festivals & events throughout the entire upper Midwest

are increasing in popularity for all kinds of motorcoach groups. The American Bus Association even compiles festivals and events that are very "group-friendly". If you want more information about an event for your package, itinerary, or even daytrip, contact the local Convention & Visitors Bureau (CVB), tourism office, or Chamber of Commerce for assistance (usually in that order). Always check the directory first in every issue of this magazine to see if their contact information is listed.



### Spirit of the West Festival

September 18-20, 2009 – Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Come experience a festival rated the *Best Heritage Event* and *top 3 in Best Family Event, Best Gathering, and Best Overall Event* by American Cowboy Readers. The Spirit of the West Festival September 18 -20, 2009 in Sioux Falls, SD has a wild west show, Chuckwagon & Dutch oven cooking competitions, kids area, old west shootouts, western television/movie celebrities, cowboy fast draw/mounted shooting competitions, gun spinning, whip cracking, rope twirling, vendors, live entertainment and much more. For more information call Jeanne Pattison 605-334-9202, go to [www.spiritofthewestfestival.com](http://www.spiritofthewestfestival.com) or email [sotw@spiritofthewestfestival.com](mailto:sotw@spiritofthewestfestival.com).

### "Dala Daze and Viking Knights"

June 18-20, 2010 – Lindsborg, Kansas

Lindsborg, Kansas is host to Svensk Hyllningsfest, a celebration of Swedish Heritage. Wake to the sounds of old world fiddle tunes and feast your eyes on the color box of ethnic folk dress worn by both local school children and visiting Swedes who dance traditional dances taught by their ancestors. Walk the hand laid brick streets and feel the vibrations of the parade that showcases the best of the Smoky Valley. Feast on an authentic Smörgåsbord and help us close down this year's festivities by joining the Saturday evening street dance in historic downtown Lindsborg. For more information call Gary Shogren from City of Lindsborg Convention & Visitors Bureau 785-227-3706, or go to [www.visitlindsborg.com](http://www.visitlindsborg.com).



# Renaissance Festival

Weekends from August through October!

- \* Savings on Groups of 15 or more
- \* Unique Setting
- \* Live Entertainment
- \* On-site Catering
- \* Complimentary Tickets for Drivers & Coordinators

Our Festivals . . .

**Minnesota Renaissance Festival**  
August 22nd - October 4th

**Michigan Renaissance Festival**  
August 15th - October 4th

**Kansas City Renaissance Festival**  
September 5th - October 18th



For Festival Information, visit [www.renaissancefest.com](http://www.renaissancefest.com)!

## Buzzing about Beloit



John Dillinger car



Kennedy secret service car



Johnny Cash car

BY KATHLEEN SOMERS

As you sit on the back porch whittling away at thoughts of bringing your group to a small town, or as we at *Itineraries* like to say, “Mayberries of the Midwest”, don’t you just wish you could find a real place like the one Andy Griffin patrolled? Lean in. Not only am I about to tell you where to find such a place, but they also have the actual car! Yes! The 1964 Ford Galaxy squad car used on the Andy Griffin show, and signed by all the cast members. And that’s just the beginning.



Andy Griffin squad car

In a pretty little town just inside the south central border of Wisconsin, nestles Beloit. “*The best kept secret in the Midwest*” according to *America in Bloom*. We at *Itineraries Midwest* know there’s a buzz about Beloit, and we want to help get the secret out.

You can experience “Mayberry” when you visit the *Historic Auto Attractions Museum*. The story itself is a Mayberry-type success story. The experience offers cars with historic value and celebrity popularity, artistically displayed with graphic illustrations to enhance the historical information. There’s a John Dillinger car, the Secret service car that followed behind JFK when he was shot, and even the Johnny Cash “One Piece at a Time” car. Since 2001, owner Wayne Lensing has proudly offered his collection of more than 70 special interest autos in this magnificent building. You will also find a wide array of movie memorabilia, including Marilyn Monroe’s nightgown, a sweater worn by Hollywood legend James Dean, and an outfit worn by Elvis Presley. Organized by themes, you will find waxed figures, famous cars, and incredible mementos creatively displayed in

areas such as Movieland, World Leaders, Famous Stars and Cars, White House Room, Legends of Racing, and many more. It may not be Mayberry RFD, but it’s better! It comes with a “won’t be disappointed” guarantee.

Next stop, walk among the angels at the *Beloit Angel Museum*, the largest privately



held angel collection in the world! Listed in the *Guinness Book of World Records*, and attracting visitors globally, the Angel Museum displays several thousand of the more than 12,000 Angels from the Berg Collection, and over 900 black angels donated by TV host Oprah Winfrey. Be assured, displays rotate several times a year, and soul-rejuvenating experiences are reported regularly. The *Heavenly Treasures Gift Shop* and a stroll through the heavenly gardens are not to be missed. Groups may enjoy lunch or dessert in *A Taste of Heaven Café* by special arrangement.

Continue to nurture your soul as you walk the seven-circle *Beloit Labyrinth*. There are many reasons to walk a labyrinth. Some just enjoy being outside, while others appreciate the way it helps when wrestling

with a difficult problem. Labyrinth walking is said to integrate the left and right sides of the brain, accessing one’s creativity more easily. “*You are walking it for the process rather than the destination*,” says Karen Dodson, a licensed acupuncturist who hosts the *Beloit Labyrinth* at her business. Whatever the reason, your group will find it a super way to offer a change of pace. The paths of the labyrinth are wide enough for a walker and there are no stairs. The field is flat, but the grass may be uneven.

In keeping with our rather nostalgic theme, relax with a glass of lemonade at the *Beckmen Mill*. Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, it is one of Wisconsin’s only restored, working gristmills. The Creamery serves as the visitor center & gift shop on a 50-acre park, which includes a picnic area. Plenty to see and do, including a little fishing in the mill pond.

From minor league baseball to theater extravaganzas, and geocaching along the way, your group can keep busy and entertained for days or just an afternoon. Plus Beloit is a perfect destination for a *Hub-N-Spoke*. In any direction from the comfort of Beloit, it is only a short ride to Madison, Milwaukee, or Chicago.

Beloit is bustling with activities year round, all of them wrapped in a hometown atmosphere. Why not bring your group and join in the good times? 📍

For more information contact *Beloit CVB* at 800-423-5648 or visit [www.visitbeloit.com](http://www.visitbeloit.com).

Visit Seven Major Sites of.....

# Laura Ingalls Wilder's Life

Author of the beloved "Little House on the Prairie" series



## 1. Wilder Homes & Pageant

De Smet, South Dakota  
800-880-3383

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

Take the Laura Ingalls Wilder adventure! Step into the original Surveyors' House from Laura's book "By the Shores of Silver Lake," or see Pa's craftsmanship firsthand in the house he built on Third Street, The Ingalls Home plus more. Open year round with guided tours available.

## 2. Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum

Walnut Grove, Minnesota  
866-305-2872

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

Childhood home of Laura Ingalls Wilder. Visit the gift store and museum consisting of seven buildings telling the history of Laura and early Walnut Grove pioneers. The Wilder Pageant is held in an amphitheater on Plum Creek the 2nd, 3rd, & 4th weekends in July. Information

888-528-7268

Pageant Tickets 888-859-3102.

## 3. Wilder Museum

Spring Valley, Minnesota  
507-346-7659

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

Visit the church built in 1876 when the James Wilder family were members.

Almanzo and Laura (Ingalls) Wilder attended while living with the Wilders in 1890 and 1891. The Church Museum exhibits include the Wilders Religious Artifacts, Richard Sears, Conley Cameras, and much more. Open daily June -August from 10-4. Weekends in Sept & Oct.

## 4. Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum

Pepin, Wisconsin  
715-442-2142

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

In 1996, Pepin became the official starting point of the Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Highway, which links Wilder sites across the upper Midwest. View items relating to Laura and the era in which she lived. Complete with gift shop. Laura's birthplace is seven miles north of Pepin. The log cabin is a recreation of the home on the very land owned by Ma & Pa.



## 5. Little House on the Prairie

Independence, Kansas  
620-289-4238

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

The site includes a replica one-room cabin, Sunny Side School, one room schoolhouse, an original turn-of-the-century Post Office, and Walnut Creek - a landmark often mentioned in Laura's books. They work with groups for special activities such as narrated wagon rides over the LHOP prairie and other prairie experiences.



## 6. Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home & Museum

Mansfield, Missouri

877-924-7126

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

Visit Rocky Ridge Farm where Laura Ingalls Wilder wrote her famous "Little House" books. Visitors will see Pa's fiddle, handwritten manuscripts, and other items mentioned in the books.

Open March 1- November 15.



## 7. Wilder Homestead, Boyhood Home Of Almanzo Wilder

Burke, NY

866-438-FARM

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

This fully restored farmhouse is the only original childhood house still on its original site, of all those written about in the Little House series, and the only one dedicated to Almanzo Wilder. Offering guided tours, workshops, museum, demonstrations, nature walks, archive, and special events for visitors to experience the period lifestyle of Almanzo, who was born and raised here, 1857-1875.

Go To Itineraries Midwest Online Where Each Ad Is Linked To The Advertiser's Own Website.

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



# Mayberry's of the Midwest

Small town charm  
and mainstreets to  
take you there.

**D**o you remember Mayberry? Andy Griffith toggled in his sheriff's uniform and dispensing level-headed advice to the characters tumbling in and out of his town and his county jail every week. Good-hearted and nosy-bodied Aunt Bee. Opie with his mop of red hair. Deputy sheriff Barney Fife, who liked the food at Bluebird Diner but loved, secretly, the waitress Juanita.

Mayberry, the imaginary locale of *The Andy Griffith Show*, which aired on CBS throughout the 1960s, represented small-town America at its best. It was the kind of place where you could walk in the door of the local café, find your coffee already steaming on the counter, and sit down to a chat with people you'd known your whole life. Ice cream socials, country drives, front porch gossip, soda shops and barber poles all figured in this slow-paced vision of life.

Far from being a thing of the past or a figment of the imagination, Mayberries cluster the upper Midwest like berries in a blueberry patch, and they're ripe for the picking. You just have to know where to look. The trick to finding a Mayberry is to head your motorcoach off the beaten path and take a right at the fishing hole.

*But why would you want to take your travel group to a Mayberry?  
And, what do you do once you get there?*

*Last but not least, are these small towns equipped  
to accommodate large groups and larger motorcoach buses?*

## The Mayberry To-Do List

Think about your childhood hometown. I bet if you're old enough, that hometown has changed a bit since your early days. Housing developments have crept in. Office blocks and chain stores have gone up. Schools have closed and reopened as community centers, or given way to road construction. Progress means change, and change comes fast.

The attraction of a Mayberry is that it's a town that progress has not so much bypassed, as left unspoiled. These are the destinations that bask in the glow of community togetherness and long-standing tradition, of small pleasures and the interconnectedness of city and rural life. A place where whole towns turn out for concerts in the park, and locals gather at hardware stores and post offices to chew the fat. A Mayberry is like an afternoon on the front porch. Only armed with an itinerary, you'll be able to get your group off the swing and into the swing of things.

Wherever you go in the Upper Midwest, whether south to Kansas and Iowa, west to the Dakotas, east to Wisconsin or north to Minnesota, you'll find Mayberries that are rolling out the red carpet for group travel. Unlike big cities, which are natural tourist magnets, Mayberries cater to smaller crowds and do it well. They work hard to create an experience that is unique to their town, people and history, something you can't get anywhere else, except right there in the place they call home.

Mayberries are rich in boutiques, restaurants and hotels that are as individual as their owners. More than likely, the person behind the counter is the owner. Because the pace is slower in Mayberries, your group travelers will enjoy the opportunity to visit with shop owners and hotel managers, who know their town as well as anyone and are glad to give recommendations for the best bowl of soup or snack stop on main street.

If your group is looking for a fresh take on the specialty museum, you won't be disappointed. Mayberries abound in museums that collect everything from farm toys to chainsaw sculpture, and commemorate the lives of hometown celebrities, such as Judy Garland and Donna Reed. Because small towns tend to locate in the country or on scenic drives, you'll also have your pick of festivals, celebrations, craft fairs and farmer's markets tied to the change of seasons. Sit your group down for a lumberjack flapjack breakfast or raspberry pie à la mode at the annual Raspberry Festival. Enjoy local modes of transportation. Take a horse-drawn carriage on a tour of historic sites. Float down the river on a paddleboat. Bundle up for a sleigh ride.

Of course, the best mode of transportation in a Mayberry is your own two feet. Mayberries are small enough that you can tour them by foot. But they're also rich in points of interest located outside the city limits. You can spice up your itinerary with self-paced town visits and group excursions to the outskirts to check out buffalo ranches, baseball diamonds on the edge of cornfields, living history farms, family restaurants with tempting lunch menus, fisheries and sites on the National Register of Historic Places.

Maybe a diversion into nature is the order of the day. Check out the surrounding countryside for parks and recreational activities. Take a guided mushrooming tour. Search out eagle's nests on the river bluffs. Learn about local flora and fauna. Bring home a jar of wildflower honey, pumpkin butter or choke cherry preserves.



## Mayberry Accommodations

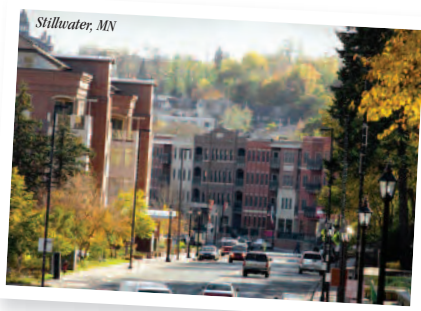
Mayberries are hometowns in the truest sense. When you take your group to a Mayberry, you're taking them to a place where people live, work and play; and for the time you're there, you become part of the extended family. But like the guests in any home, you want to know where you're going to stay and if there's enough room for your car.

Mayberries may be quiet and out-of-the-way, but they're up-to-date when it comes to catering to the group travel market. Tourism is often a large part of their economy, and they make every effort to see to the entertainment and lodging of guests, as well as the parking of their vehicles.

You can probably find franchise hotels near Mayberries, but you'll also find historic inns, bed and breakfasts and lodges perfect for retreats, which take pains to provide guests with activity ideas—day hikes, canoeing, snow shoeing, craft sessions and musical entertainment—and good eats. What better way to wake up than to tumble out of bed and downstairs to a fresh-brewed cup of coffee and a muffin straight from the oven? Look for rates and seasonal activities geared to groups.

How about parking your motorcoach? When a lot of these Mayberries were founded, the largest vehicle was the horse-drawn wagon or the yellow school bus. But never fear. Your friendly Mayberry has been welcoming groups for a while now. They've mapped out curbs and lots designated for group buses, arranged for shuttles and often done both.

Mayberries are a little piece of home away from home. As the hosts, they want to see to your needs; and, small as they are, they're only a phone call or email away when you have a question, concern or suggestion for your next group visit to their town. 📍



Stillwater, MN



Topeka, KS



Lyon's Mansion - Fort Scott, KS

# Kansas Yesterday & Today

## A 5-Day Sample Itinerary

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of year!



### Calling ahead...

- 1 - Go Wichita**  
www.gowichita.com ..... 800-288-9424
- 2 - Newton Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau**  
www.infoNewtonKS.org ..... 800-899-0455
- 3 - McPherson Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
www.visitmcperson.com ..... 800-324-8022
- 4 - Lindsborg Chamber of Commerce**  
www.lindsborg.org ..... 888-227-2227
- 5 - Visit Salina**  
www.VisitSalina.org ..... 877-725-4625
- 6 - Abilene Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
www.AbileneKansas.org ..... 800-569-5915
- 7 - Geary County Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
www.junctioncity.org ..... 800-528-2489
- 8 - Manhattan Convention & Visitors Bureau**  
www.manhattancvb.org ..... 800-759-0134
- 9 - Council Grove Chamber**  
www.councilgrove.com ..... 800-732-9211

### day 1

#### 1 - 2:00 pm

Arrive in **Wichita** and check into your hotel. Wichita is the largest city in Kansas, offering a multitude of choices for play- Wichita has something for everyone. The birds fly, the buffalo roam, and now it's your turn to find the adventure that's right for your group!

#### 2 - 4:00 pm

Visit the art galleries around town, with a wide variety to please all tastes. For instance, a visit to **Karg Art Glass** is one you won't soon forget. This Midwest treasure features some of the most exquisite works of art. See hand-blown art glass in a picturesque cedar & stone building. Browse through the gift gallery and

find unique wonderful gifts in all mediums. Watch glassblowers do their magic.

#### 4 - 5:30 pm

From art to the old west, arriving at the **Old Cowtown Museum**, celebrating life in 1865-1880 Wichita, and the Southern Plains. The museum provides an interactive experience with costumed interpreters. Highlights include home tours, working blacksmith, carpentry, and newspaper shop, marshal's office, saloon, and cowboy camp.

#### 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Follow up with a delicious Bar-B-Que meal and the very best in cowboy stage shows. **The Diamond W Chuckwagon Supper** offers all you can eat with the world famous **Diamond W Wranglers** providing the western musical entertainment, performing classic Western Music of the silver-screen cowboy era.

**OR...**choose the option of a performance of the **Mosley Street Melodrama**; smack dab in the heart of Wichita's historic Old Town. Reviving the 40-year-old tradition of Melodrama and taking you back to the Old West where the villains abound and heroes save the day. And YOU get to be part of the action! Then sit back and enjoy "**olio**" -- a musical comedy revue full of singing, dancing and laughs brought to you by some of the best talent Wichita has to offer. Buffet is served prior to the performance.

### day 2

#### 8 - 9:00 am

Have breakfast at the hotel and board the coach.

#### 9 - 10:30 am

Spend a little time at Botanica, **The Wichita Gardens**, known as one of the most beautiful attractions in Wichita. Take a guided tour through the lovely gardens, including nearly 10 acres and 24 themed gardens.

#### 10:30 - 12:30 pm

A hot stop in Wichita is the **Kansas Aviation Museum**. It chronicles Wichita's evolution into the "Air Capital of

the World." Aviation is the area's largest industry; with 42 percent of the general aviation aircraft worldwide manufactured here. The museum displays a growing collection of aircraft and aviation related artifacts.

**Note:** For those who'd prefer the option of shopping, choices available will please the sophisticated as well as the antique hunter. Featuring major retailers and eclectic shops holding hidden treasures in off-the-beaten-path locations.

#### 12:30 - 2:00 pm

Have lunch at Wichita's premier steak house, make reservations for your group at "**Scotch and Sirloin**" in their banquet room. Order a steak that was raised right here in the heart of cattle country -- just imagine how delicious that will taste! There are many options for the lighter appetite as well.

#### 2 - 2:30 pm

Board the coach for the ride north to **Newton** along I-135. Newton is where the trails turned to rails. Come and see how bonnets, beards and buggies have been forsaken for a more modern lifestyle.

#### 2:30 - 3:30 pm

Start off at the **Harvey County Historical Museum**, an original Carnegie Library housing local and railroad history.

#### 3:30 - 4:30 pm

Next up is the **Kauffman Museum**, a first class museum depicting the cultural and natural history of the Central Plains and the immigration of Mennonites in 1870's.

#### 4:30 - 5:30 pm

End the afternoon with a historical driving tour of Newton, viewing historic buildings and landmarks.

#### 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Enjoy a bite at the **Breadbasket**, home of the best tasting soups, sandwiches and scrumptious pie!

#### 5:30 - 6:15 pm

Board the coach and continue your travels north to the town of **McPherson**.

#### 4 - 5:00 pm

Enjoy a coffee break at **Neighbors Cafe**, serving modest "just like mom used to make" specialties. Enjoy a seat at the counter like the old days.

#### 5 - 5:30 pm

Check into your hotel and relax a while before dinner. The evening is on your own. Take a walk, talk to the neighbors, smell the fresh air...

### day 3

#### 8 - 9:30 am

After breakfast, a step on guide will join you for the **McPherson Trolley Tour**. See the beautiful, historied downtown, enjoy the ride and hear the history and stories of the town. See the historic **McPherson Opera House**, the **Vaniman Mansion**, **Brethren Church**, travel by historic homes of prominent citizens of days gone by, plus **McPherson College**, which is

home to the nationally recognized Auto Restoration Program, just to name a few highlights on the ride.

**9:30 – 10:00 am**

Take a little jaunt north to **Lindsborg** where you can enjoy coffee and pastries at the **Courtyard Bakery & Café**. You may arrange for a docent to greet your group.

**10 – 11:30 am**

This town is a “must-visit” for anyone interested in Midwest art. There is a variety of galleries to choose from, including the **Courtyard Gallery** in downtown. This Gallery is your exclusive source for a wide variety of fine art, specializing in Kansas’s artists. In their warm inviting atmosphere, you can easily imagine the environment of your home or office enhanced by a work of art. Or choose an original accessory item to compliment your personal appearance.

**11:30 – 1:00 pm**

Spend some time visiting the historic buildings, such as the restored **1898 Flour Mill** and the **1904 World’s Fair Swedish Pavilion** before lunch.

**1 – 2:00 pm**

Grab some lunch at a local restaurant.

**2 – 3:00 pm**

Arrive in beautiful **Salina**, halfway between LA and New York! Check into one of many group-friendly hotels.

**3 – 6:00 pm**

Take some time to do some shopping and view the architecturally stunning downtown **Lee District**. Then freshen up before your night on the town.

**6 – 11:00 pm**

Have a tasty steak dinner at one of Salina’s fine restaurants and follow it up with a performance at **The Stiefel Theatre For The Performing Arts**. See its luscious gold leaf decor, grand staircase and gleaming chandeliers in this restored 1931 beauty located in the heart of downtown Salina. This intimate concert venue with 1286 seats offers world-class shows you’ll never forget.

## day4

**8 – 9:00 am**

Head out and enjoy your beautiful surroundings!

**9 – 11:00 am**

Explore a world-class zoo and the new wildlife museum at the **Rolling Hills Wildlife Adventure**. You won’t believe what you see! This is a one-of-a-kind experience. Whether you have an hour or two days, this is a place you must see to appreciate. It is a wildlife encounter that truly has extraordinary surprises around every corner.

**11 – 1:30 pm**

Spend the remainder of your time in Salina sampling wine selections and tour the barrel cave at the **Smoky Hill Vineyards and Winery** or enjoy one of their phenomenal **Winemaker’s Dinners**. Roam with the buffalo at **Smoky Hill Bison Company** or get back to nature in one of their beautiful parks

**1:30 – 2:00 pm**

Head on over to **Abilene**, a town with a colorful history, just a short ride on I-70. Also known as one of the “biggest little cities” in the Midwest.

**2 – 3:30 pm**

Take a ride on the excursion train, pulled by a restored steam engine.

**3:30 – 4:30 pm**

Afterwards, visit the **Dwight D. Eisenhower Presidential Library and Museum**. Home to him from 1892 when he attended elementary school through high school. It is now the burial site of

President Eisenhower, his wife, Mamie, and their first-born son.

**4:30 – 5 pm**

Make plans to come back to Abilene to experience all the other treasures here! But for now you are off to Junction City.

**5 – 6:00 pm**

Arrive in **Junction City**, located in the heart of Kansas’ Scenic Flint Hills of **Geary County**. You’ll bunk here tonight in one of their many group friendly hotels.

**6 – 8:00 pm**

Spend some time exploring and learning at the **Geary County Historical Museum**, and then you’ll be treated to the “**Undercover Show**” – a live show featuring the undergarment fashions of the 1800’s to the early 1900’s. This show will bring about many laughs and smiles. Follow it up with a buffet dinner.

## day5

**8 – 9:00 am**

Have a down-home breakfast and begin your day.

**9 – 11:00 am**

Junction City is full of history. Take a tour of **Custer House on Fort Riley**, plus a tour of the **U.S. Cavalry Museum** and the **1st Infantry Division Museum**. See the **Buffalo Soldier Memorial**, and visit a one-room schoolhouse, cabin and historic church at the **Spring Valley Historic Site**.

**11 – 12:15 pm**

Grab a bite to eat and it’s time to head on over to **Manhattan**.

**12:15 – 3:00 pm**

Welcome to the “The Little Apple”, Home of Kansas State University and so much more. Enjoy an old-fashioned ice cream at **Call Hall Dairy Bar**. Located on campus; it has housed the KSU Dairy Processing Plant since 1964. (Check into touring the plant as well).

Afterwards enjoy a **Historic Walking Tour of Aggieville**. It will be like stepping back in time as a volunteer leads you back to the 50’s era with a tour of the oldest historic shopping district in Kansas. A trip back to enjoy Manhattan and its theatre and nightlife is a must.

**3 – 4:00 pm**

Board the coach for the last leg of your tour in **Council Grove**.

**4:00 pm**

Another treasure nestled in the scenic Flint Hills prairie in east-central Kansas; this backcountry looks much like it did a century ago. Back when Kaw Indians made this beautiful prairie their home, and wagon trains rolled through, west bound on the **Santa Fe Trail**. Some of those ruts remain as romantic relics of the trail years.

A tour takes you to over a dozen registered historic sites in your time spent here. History buffs enjoy the numerous area sites and information about early Council Grove residents. Among them are the Kaw Mission, Seth Hays, and Wah-shun-gah, the last Kaw Chief born on the local reservation. Enjoy dinner at the **Hays House**, the oldest continuously operated restaurant west of the Mississippi River, and the food is delicious!

For more information on this sample itinerary please contact your tour operator or any of the advertisers found on pages 27-33. Please see pages ? for additional Kansas itineraries.



Old Cowtown Museum - Wichita



Harvey County Historical Museum - Newton



Lindsborg



Bug Zoo - Manhattan



Geary County



## illinois cities

BELLEVILLE, BLOOMINGTON, 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

### august

- **Alton Hauntings Ghost Bus Tour** Aug 1 & 29, Alton 888-446-7859
- **WingFest V** Aug 8, East Dubuque 815-747-2514
- **Willow Folk Festival** Aug 8-9, Stockton 815-947-3789
- **Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story** Aug 13-16; 18-23, Timber Lake Playhouse 815-244-2035
- **Reagan Trail Days** Aug 14-16, Dixon 815-288-2308
- **Illinois State Fair** Aug 14-23, Springfield 217-782-6661
- **8th Annual Perry Farm Kite Festival** Aug 15-16, Bourbonnais 815-933-9905
- **Forever Plaid** Aug 19-20, 26-27; Sept 2-3, 9-10, White Pines Inn Theater 815-946-3817
- **Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival** Aug 21-23, Rochelle 815-561-7044
- **20th Annual Balloon Fest** Aug 21-23, Centralia 618-523-6789

### september

- **56th Annual Hog Capital of the World Festival** Sept 4-7, Kewanee 309-852-4644
- **Thomson Melon Days** Sept 5-6, Thomson 815-259-2455
- **Jersey County Victorian Festival** Sept 5-7, Jerseyville 618-498-5590
- **Without A Clue** Sept 16-17, 23-24, 30; Oct 1, Oct 7-8, White Pines Inn Theater 815-946-3817
- **39th Abraham Lincoln Nat'l Railsplitting Contest and Crafts Festival** Sept 18-20, Lincoln 217-732-4795
- **Mallardfest** Sept 19, Hanover 815-591-3512
- **International Route 66 Mother Road Festival** Sept 25-27, Springfield 317-236-6515

### october

- **The Galena Oktoberfest** Oct 3, Galena 815-331-0180
- **Galena Country Fair** Oct 10-11, Galena 815-777-0817
- **LeClaire Parkfest** Oct 18, Edwardsville 618-656-1294
- **Driving Miss Daisy** Oct 28-29; Nov 3-5, 10-12, White Pines Inn Theater 815-946-3817
- **31st Annual Halloween Parade & Balloon Glow** Oct 31, Galena 818-777-9050

### november

- **Harvest Gathering of 1858** Nov 1, Ringwood 815-338-6223
- **Symphony in Lights** Nov 14-Dec 31, Bolingbrook 630-296-8340
- **25th Annual Nouveau Wine Festival** Nov 20-22, Galena 815-777-3330
- **Westmont Holly Days Winter Festival** Nov 27-Dec 31, Westmont 630-963-5252

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

# Mile after Magnificent Mile. ITINERARIES Illinois®



## GALENA + JO DAVIESS COUNTY

Galena and Jo Daviess County has established itself as one of the Midwest's premier motorcoach destinations. Located in the corner of Northwest Illinois, Jo Daviess County is outlined to the west by the Mississippi River and Iowa while it shares its northern border with Wisconsin. With its tranquil river valleys and rolling landscapes, Galena and Jo Daviess County gives inspiration to any trip. The enriched topography highlights the destination's 1,600 sleeping rooms, 189 holes of golf, carriage tours, hot-air balloon rides, ghost tours, trolley rides, river cruises, antiques, art, spas, gardens and wineries. Whichever you're looking for, Galena and Jo Daviess County boasts the unexpected. Even the drive to the area is a scenic experience by any means, but especially by motorcoach. The easy drive to Galena and Jo Daviess County is just 2 1/2 hours from Chicago and 1 1/2 hours from Madison, Wisconsin. (See location on map, page 15)

## other mayberry's of illinois

**Arcola** – Enjoy the slower pace of this quaint family-oriented town. Visit the historic downtown area with old brick streets, beautiful unique shops, antiques, hand crafted Amish furniture and museums. See the diverse farming styles and techniques for planting and harvesting and the new Rockome Gardens. Tour The Johnny Gruelle Raggedy Ann & Andy Museum. This truly is an amazing little town!

**Dixon** – This charming town is located 100 miles west of Chicago on Rock River. You'll find Dixon to be a great escape, getaway or stop along your way with the first home of Ronald Reagan, 25 parks, numerous historical places, drive-in theater, arts and more.

**Mount Carroll** – Travel brick streets and enjoy the architecture of the heritage homes and buildings in the historic district. Get a sense of the town's friendly attitude when you visit the downtown shopping area. Also home to the oldest, continuously operating professional summer stock theater in Illinois, the Timber Lake Playhouse.

**Mount Morris** – Home of the official State Freedom Bell. The beautiful bell, located on the historic College Campus Village Square, is rung with great pride every July 4th at 1 pm to celebrate our beloved heritage of freedom. Enjoy the annual Let Freedom Ring celebration, take a walk in the park, and enjoy the beauty of the old college buildings.

**Nauvoo** – Has been dubbed "The Williamsburg of the Midwest" and was nominated to compete as one of the 7 Wonders of

Illinois. Today, it is home to more than 60 restored historic sites, cultural museums, gardens, shopping, and Illinois' Oldest Winery, all making them a premier group friendly historical destination.

**Rochelle** – Enjoy the many parks, theaters, unique gift shops, and array of annual events. More specific things to see are the Roberts Armory WWII Historical Museum - a new attraction; 1918 Standard Oil Filling Station – which serves as their visitors center and tourism office; and the Railroad Park – hot spot for train watching, drawing visitors nationwide!

**Savanna** – Located along the Mississippi River at the mouth of the Plum River. Ride across the automobile bridge, just north of Savanna, as it connects Iowa and Illinois and is part of the U.S. Highway 52 route. Also a sportsman's paradise with an abundance of outdoor activities as well as gift and antique shopping for those looking for a treasure to take home.

**Stockton** – The birthplace of Kraft Corporation. J.L. Kraft opened his first cheese plant here in 1914. Today Stockton Cheese continues the dairy tradition by producing fine Swiss cheese. Their historic downtown shopping district features great architecture and hospitality that is a must see.

**Thomson** – Thomson is at the intersection of Illinois Route 84 and Argo Fay Road nestled along the mighty Mississippi River. Known for the finest watermelons and produce in the country, thus nick-named: "The Melon Capital Of The World".

directory & map



accommodations

- Comfort Inn & Suites Rochelle ..... 815-562-5551
- Country Inn & Suites Galena ..... 815-777-2400
- Country Inn & Suites Stockton ..... 815-947-6060
- Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa Galena ... 815-777-5000
- La Quinta Inns & Suites Chicago ... 312-558-1020
- Ryan Mansion Bed & Breakfast  
Galena ..... 815-777-2750
- Stillman Inn Galena ..... 866-777-0557
- Super 8 Motel** ..... 815-284-1800  
 1800 South Galena Avenue – Dixon, IL 61021  
 Conveniently located off I-88, Exit 54 and features Free High Speed Wireless, Large Bus Parking and Superstart Breakfast.
- Super 8 Motel Savanna ..... 815-273-4511
- Timmerman's Hotel & Resort  
East Dubuque ..... 815-747-3181
- White Pines Inn Oregon ..... 815-946-3817

attractions

- Buck's Barn Golf Resort Thomson ... 815-259-8278
- Galena Cellars Vineyards & Winery  
Galena ..... 800-397-WINE
- Massbach Ridge Winery Elizabeth ... 815-291-6700
- Rocky Waters Vineyard/Winery Inc  
Hanover ..... 815-591-9706
- Savanna Army Depot & Military Museum  
Savanna ..... 815-273-1221

convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

**Galena Jo Daviess County Convention & Visitors Bureau** 888-4-GALENA  
 101 Bouthillier Street – Galena, IL 61036  
[sales@galena.org](mailto:sales@galena.org) / [www.galena.org/motorcoach](http://www.galena.org/motorcoach)  
 The destination boasts a wide range of lodging options to match any budget, along with plenty of low cost attractions and tours. Take a self-guided walking tour, shop farmers' markets, stroll colorful display gardens, visit historic sites. Shop for keepsakes, browse a gallery, have a picnic, tour a vineyard!

entertainment & theater

- Plum River Playhouse Stockton . . . . 815-947-3701
- Timber Lake Playhouse Mt. Carroll . . 815-244-2035



**NEW LA QUINTA CHICAGO DOWNTOWN!**

With a bright, fresh contemporary look, rates start at \$129 per night and like all La Quinta hotels, Bright Side Breakfast™ and high speed Internet access are always free. The La Quinta Inn & Suites – Chicago Downtown has three meeting rooms, a business center, an indoor heated swimming pool with spa and a fitness center. In addition, the hotel features four different room choices with all king rooms and suites including a refrigerator and microwave. Other popular amenities include a 32" flat panel television, in-room coffee maker, hair dryer and iron with ironing board.

Doing its part to help reduce the carbon footprint, this hotel is creating a more energy-efficient distribution network by employing "district cooling," eliminating the need for boilers and a central plant located on the property. The hotel also participates in Chicago's Green Roof Program, helping conserve energy by lowering air temperatures and reducing "urban heat island effect." Green roofs help clean and retain rainwater, improve air quality and create conditions for longer-lasting roof systems.

La Quinta Chicago Downtown welcomes your business, where we would love to help you wake up on the Bright Side! 312-558-1020 or LQ.com



**NOW OPEN!!**  
**CHICAGO - DOWNTOWN**  
 312.558.1020 | LQ.com

# Galena & Jo

## Eastern Jo Daviess County

### Day One

Arrive at the Apple River Fort State Historic Site in historic Elizabeth, IL, the site of an important battle during the 1832 Black Hawk War. At the reconstructed fort, visitors can learn about life in Jo Daviess County during the early 1800s.

Indulge yourself in the local history of Elizabeth and Jo Daviess County at the Elizabeth History Museum, including lead mining and the history on the Apple River Fort. Stroll around the corner to the Chicago Great Western Railway Museum and discover many artifacts of northwestern Illinois railroads.



Spend your first night in Jo Daviess County at the Country Inn & Suites in Stockton. This award-winning property provides the amenities of home, along with the idyllic setting of the rural landscape of Jo Daviess County.

### Day Two

Begin your day by heading south to Massbach Ridge Winery and tempt your taste buds with award-winning wine while enjoying the breathtaking views. Visit their tasting room and vineyard and explore the winery with a grand tour.

After a day of exploring, cap the evening off with a performance at Stockton's Plum River Playhouse. With a wide variety of casts members from towns and cities near and far, this playhouse has churned out some incredible performances over the past several years. 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.

## Southern Jo Daviess County

The day begins with an exploration that even Jacques Cousteau would envy. At Chestnut Mountain Resort, jump aboard Mississippi Explorer's 1.5-hour cruise. You will experience the splendor of the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife & Fish Refuge.

When the cruise ends, you will be transported to the top of Chestnut Mountain Resort for lunch

at the Alpine Restaurant. Sitting high atop a wooded palisade overlooking the Mississippi River, you'll enjoy a wide variety of American cuisine.

Spend your afternoon at Rocky Waters Vineyard/Winery in Hanover, where you'll experience a spectacular view and taste wines from locally grown grapes. This vineyard has helped expand the grape-growing ventures in this county and has produced great wine for several years.



Your day ends at the Bernadine's Stillman Inn, an historic bed & breakfast mansion in Galena. Check in and enjoy a themed dinner. Choose from a dinner theater or historical interactive dinner with the original owners of the Stillman Inn. They also do themed lunches such as an afternoon tea with music or dining with a strolling minstrel.

## Galena

### Day One

For first-time visitors or even repeat guests, the crown jewel of Jo Daviess County – Galena - with a trolley tour is an absolute must. Travel through



the historic town while viewing panoramas from the bluffs that rise high above the city.

Galena is rich in history, and especially when it comes to President Ulysses S. Grant. Discover the Ulysses S. Grant Home State Historic Site on the east bank of the Galena River. Before heading to historic Main Street, stop by The Belvedere, Galena's largest mansion, or check out the Dowling House, Galena's oldest house.

After taking in the incredibly gorgeous sights of Galena, it is time to now see the history by foot. Spend the rest of your day browsing Galena's historic Main Street. The city's 19th-century

storefronts house more than 90 shops, offering a wide array of products to suit every interest.

The day comes to an end when you arrive at Eagle Ridge Resort & Spa just outside of Galena. This resort will meet all of your needs and definitely provides that "home away from home" experience. Enjoy the scenery of picturesque northwest Illinois at this top notch resort.

### Day Two

History and architecture may still be on your minds, but there is more to Galena than what you first see. Head to Linmar Gardens and enjoy a guided tour of the breathtaking 3.5-acre gardens. From there, head to the west side of Galena to the Ryan Mansion. There you can travel through time to 1882 and join the servants in their entertaining tours of Victorian Life. You will go even further



in time when you join Annie Wiggins for tales of ghosts and folklore.

With the trip coming to the end seat yourself for a performance of "Mark Twain and the Laughing River" as Jim Post takes you back to the heyday of the Mississippi River. Through song and music, Mark Twain's childhood comes back to life right in front of your eyes.

If you decide to stay one more night, try Timmerman's Hotel & Resort. Located just 12 miles west of Galena in East Dubuque, they offer all the little comforts that make you feel at home.

No matter what your group's interests, we are sure to find the right attractions, lodging or dining options to best suit your tour. Galena and Jo Daviess County provide bountiful options to make your next tour a success. For further assistance in planning your next tour, contact Celestino Ruffini, director of sales, at 888 4-Galena or [sales@galena.org](mailto:sales@galena.org).



# Daviess County

Comfortable & Convenient Hotel  
Come enjoy the comforts of a warm smile and friendly hello!



**COUNTRY INN & SUITES**  
BY CARLSON

Country Inn & Suites by Carlson  
200 Dillon Avenue – Stockton  
815-947-6060

Located in the beautiful hills of Jo Daviess County, IL



**Massbach Ridge Winery**

Taste our estate grown wine... tour our facility... or just sit and savor a glass of wine as you view the valleys and vineyard.  
Open Year round. Tours \$5 per tray and Country Beer for person.  
Hunting accessible and lodges available.  
8637 South Massbach Road | Elizabeth, IL 61028 | 815.291.6700  
www.massbachridge.com

Great theatre in a hometown setting!




Please Call  
(815) 947-3701  
For Show & Ticket Information.  
Jo Daviess County  
Stockton, IL



*The Perfect Getaway*

**Eagle Ridge RESORT & SPA**  
1-800-777-5000 www.eagleridge.com

Rise to new heights.

For planning assistance:  
888 4-Galena  
sales@galena.org  
galena.org/motorcoach




Large Meeting rooms for Tour buses.  
Excellent Dine in Restaurant in the same parking lot.  
Special Welcome Package for Bus Tours. Totally Renovated hotel.  
Large Swimming pool.  
Whirlpool and Dry Sauna.  
Complementary Breakfast.

7787 Timmerman Drive  
East Dubuque, IL 61025  
www.timmermans.com

**HISTORIC STILLMAN INN** SINCE 1858

Themed Lunches  
Afternoon Tea  
Themed Dinners  
Murder Mystery  
Live Entertainment



WWW.STILMANINN.COM  
(866) 777-0557  
GALENA, IL

*Galena Cellars Vineyard & Winery*


Tours, Tastings & Events  
More than 40 varieties



Celebrating 25 years in Galena

galenacellars.com • 800.397.WINE

**RYAN MANSION**  
Bed and Breakfast  
www.RyanMansionTours.com  
815-777-2150



Entertaining TOURS  
*of Victorian Life*



**GALENA**  
Jo DAVIESS COUNTY  
Convention & Visitors Bureau

888-442-5362 galena.org

Go To Itineraries Midwest Online Where Each Ad Is Linked To The Advertiser's Own Website. www.itinerariesmidwest.com

# THEATRE LOVER

## White Pines Dinner Theatre/Mt Morris

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

### Theatre Lover Destination

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

#### Day One

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Travel the rolling countryside in Jo Daviess County, near Hanover, IL to the *Rocky Waters Vineyard & Winery*. A family-owned winery located on a beautiful 25-acre vineyard. Visit the winery, gift shop, tasting room and vineyard, all while enjoying the gorgeous views of the bluff overlooking the vineyard.

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Take a short drive south to the *Savanna Army Depot & Military Museum*. The Museum houses large geographic topographical maps of the entire property plus artifacts and memorabilia from this large

installation, which operated from 1917 through 1990. Used for testing field artillery, once the largest munitions depot in the country.

12:00 pm – 1:30 pm

Kick back with a casual lunch at *Buck's Barn Golf Resort* in Thomson. The antique farm implements that decorate the walls provide a lesson in history, as well as interesting topics for conversation.

1:30 pm – 4:00 pm

A fabulous performance awaits you at *Timber Lake Playhouse*, located in a wooded setting of Mount Carroll. This quality, live theater has been around for more than 40 years. Their staff is eager to make your visit entertaining, hassle-free, and fun. And their discounts make it so affordable. Their 2009 season is packed with laughs, tears, surprises and excitement. Visit

[www.timberlakeplayhouse.org](http://www.timberlakeplayhouse.org) for

performance schedule and more information.

4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Check into the lodging of your choice for comfortable group accommodations at:

*Super 8 Savanna*: conveniently located at the intersection of Hwy 64 & Hwy 84. Featuring a free continental breakfast and bus parking! or

*Comfort Inn Rochelle* is situated in the heart of the "Hub City" at the intersection of State Route 38 (Lincoln Highway) and US Highway 251. Featuring a Belgian waffle bar with their deluxe continental breakfast. (Note: ask the hotel if they feature a theatre package). No matter your choice, all will surely satisfy any group.

6:00 pm

Enjoy dinner at one of many area restaurants and relax for the evening.

### Rocky Waters Vineyard & Winery



Open Daily

Mon - Sat 10 AM - 6 PM and Sunday 12 Noon - 4 PM.

Open all year except Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter

Visit our winery, gift shop, tasting room and vineyard all while enjoy the majestic views of the bluff overlooking the vineyard.

2003 West Hanover Rd. Hanover IL

815-591-9706, [rockywatersvineyard@gmail.com](mailto:rockywatersvineyard@gmail.com), [www.rockywatersvineyard.net](http://www.rockywatersvineyard.net)

### Charming & Affordable Accommodations in Galena, Illinois

- Complimentary continental plus breakfast
- Adult pool with 72 foot water slide
- Children's pool and slide
- 12 person whirlpool
- Game and fitness rooms
- Specialty and family suites
- Meeting space
- Bus parking

815.777.2400

[www.countryinns.com/galenail](http://www.countryinns.com/galenail)



I love this Country.™

A Swift Hospitality Group Managed Property



# DESTINATIONS

## Timber Lake Playhouse/Mt Carroll

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

### Day Two

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Check out of your hotel and enjoy the scenery along the way to *White Pines Inn and Dinner Theatre* and see the day's matinee. A live stage show with talented singers, actors, and comedians, a delicious buffet and a warm welcome are awaiting your group near Mount Morris, IL. Groups love the nostalgic musicals and charming entertainers who perform in the Inn's intimate 125-seat open-beamed log lodge. Also browse their delightful country gift shop. Visit [www.whitepinesinn.com](http://www.whitepinesinn.com) for 2009-show schedule.

3:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Make your way back towards Galena, IL, and enjoy the many options they have for groups to enjoy. Lodging arrangements can be made at the *Country Inn & Suites* of Galena.

Featuring the TourStop® program, which offers a 50% discount for driver, pre-registration with keys, welcome reception, souvenir/gift upon departure and one complimentary room for every 20 rooms occupied. You may never want to leave!

For more information please contact the advertisers listed below.

**Timber Lake Playhouse**  
Mt. Carroll, IL • Tickets: 815.244.2035

Timber Lake Playhouse is the oldest continuously operating professional summer stock theater in the Illinois. Our season of musicals and theatre runs June through August.

**GREASE**  
Grease  
June 4 - June 14

**Land Me A Tenor**  
Land Me A Tenor  
June 18 - June 27

**The Wedding Singer**  
The Wedding Singer  
July 2 - July 12

**Wait Until Dark**  
Wait Until Dark  
July 15 - July 25

**Dirty Rotten Scoundrels**  
Dirty Rotten Scoundrels  
July 30 - August 9

**Buddy**  
The Buddy Holly Story  
August 13 - August 23

*Celebrating Our 48th Season*

FREE DELUXE CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST & FREE WIFI



BY CHOICE HOTELS

Comfort Inn & Suites  
ROCHELLE, IL

Located at the intersection of State  
Route 38 & US Hwy 251  
815-562-5551

A Northwestern Illinois icon since 1976!



Full Service Restaurant featuring  
Certified Angus Beef Steaks, Prime Rib  
and our famous buffets.

55-Room Lodge  
18 Hole Golf Course

Home of the Best \$199 Golf Package in the World!

5020 Illinois Route 84,  
Thomson, IL  
815-259-8278  
[www.bucksbarnresort.com](http://www.bucksbarnresort.com)

# Nostalgia

at it's best!



Make White Pines Inn a destination for your next road trip. Travelers enjoy matinee dinner theatre shows with great homestyle cooking in an authentic, historic log lodge. Plan on spending the night in cozy cabins with s'mores at a cracklin' campfire, a charming gift shop, hiking, Paul Bunyan breakfasts and more. Guaranteed to bring back some memories and create great new ones. [www.whitepinesinn.com](http://www.whitepinesinn.com)



3651 Crim Drive, Ste. 2, Savanna, IL  
815-273-1221

## Savanna Army Depot & Military Museum

Hours 10am to 4pm  
Daily Civil War Re-Enactment  
October 10-11, 2009

Large Bus Parking  
Superstart Breakfast



Savanna Illinois  
Intersection of  
Hwy 64/52/84  
815-273-2288



# Life Changing ITINERARIES Iowa®

## Iowa cities

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

## calendar of events

### august

- **Iowa Irish Festival** Jul 31-Aug 2, Waterloo 319-233-8350
- **Bull Blast on the Mississippi** Aug 7-8, Fort Madison 319-372-5472
- **Amana Festival of the Arts** Aug 8, Middle Amana 319-622-3678
- **River Roots Live Music Festival** Aug 21-22, Davenport 563-322-1706

### september

- **Artsplash** Sept 4-6, Sioux City 712-279-6272
- **Amana Artisans Studio Tour** Sept 18-20, Amana 800-579-2294
- **Coca-Cola Days** Sept 25-26, Atlantic 877-283-2124
- **Guttenberg German Fest** Sept 26, Guttenberg 563-252-2323

### october

- **34th Annual Fall Arts & Crafts Festival** Oct 3-4, McGregor 800-896-0910
- **Annual HawkWatch Weekend** Oct 3-4, Harpers Ferry 563-873-3491
- **World Food Festival** Oct 8-11, Des Moines 515-286-4950
- **18th Annual Leaf Arts & Crafts Festival** Oct 10-11, McGregor 800-896-0910
- **Madison County Covered Bridge Festival** Oct 10-11, Winterset 515-462-1185
- **Strolling with the Spirits** Oct 17, Waterloo 319-234-6357
- **Oktoberfest** Oct 17-18, Eagles Landing Winery, Marquette 563-873-2509
- **Hole in the Sock Gang 1880 Street Theater** Oct 31, McGregor 800-896-0910
- **Toast and Jam Summer Concert Series** May 31-Oct 25, Bankston 563-557-3727

### november

- **8th Annual River and Bluffs Fall Birding Festival** Nov 13-15, Lansing 563-538-4991
- **The Iowa Wine Trails Fall Holiday Wine & Food Event** Nov 7-8, Eagles Landing Winery Marquette 563-873-2509
- **City of Christmas - Display of Lights** Nov 26-Dec 25, Keokuk 800-638-2286
- **Julefest** Nov 27-29, Elk Horn 712-764-7472

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)



## WATERLOO

Waterloo's "Homegrown Hospitality." Travelers tell them they are one of those best kept secrets, with all of the special events & cultural feasts they have throughout the year. Celebrating their heritage is what they do best - from the Iowa Irish Fest, My Waterloo Days Festival, BBQ'Lo & Blues Too!, Jazz on the Cedar, Arti Gras, and the Waterloo Fireworks Festival. Great food, fun, live music, and friendship make each one of these annual events memorable and keep people coming back year after year. All of these events take place in the heart of the city, which was established in 1854. They have the small city charm with large city amenities of live theatre, symphony, art galleries, and delightful eating establishments, all affordably priced. Custom group itineraries can be geared to your groups' interest whether they are into agriculture, architecture, soft adventure, culinary, or hands-on-art. They have it all for you in Waterloo! (See location on map, page 26)

## other mayberry's of iowa

**Adel** – Streets of brick, an historic courthouse, turn-of-the-century architecture and distinctive shops. Festivals not to be missed are the Book Festival in the spring, and the Sweet Corn Festival in August!

**Amana Colonies** – Consisting of seven old world villages, nestled on 26,000 acres in the scenic Iowa River Valley. A group favorite for their working artisans, specialty shops, museums, bakeries, chocolate shops, Iowa's only working woolen mill, live professional theatre, legendary restaurants, wineries and Iowa's oldest microbrewery, just to name a few highlights.

**Decorah** – Positioned in the center of towering bluffs and stunning scenery is a town that is truly charming. Thriving shops fill the downtown area, restaurants tempt the appetite, cultural and historic venues educate, and recreational opportunities flourish.

**Dyersville** – Home of the Field of Dreams movie site! See the baseball diamond surrounded by fields of corn just like in the movie. The town is also known as the "Farm Toy Capital of the World" for its 3 toy companies. Dyersville has a lot to offer for the young and young at heart.

**Independence** – Resides in a National Heritage Area and has many local attractions listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. One such site is the Wapsipinicon Mill, one of the largest in the state, showcases a museum with guided tours.

**Iowa City/Coralville** – Perfect for something upbeat or low key, the opportunities are endless. Numerous museums and festivals are free to the public. Experience anything from history to jazz to art. Regardless of the activity, it's guaranteed to be fun and entertaining.

**Keokuk** – Discover the charm of Mark Twain's Mississippi at the George M. Verity Museum, in Victory Park, a fascinating insight into river history for everyone. Watch for bald eagles and other wildlife on the Observation Deck with views of the Mississippi River and Lock & Dam #19.

**Lansing** – A picturesque river town filled with friendly residents and merchants always extending a smile and a hardy welcome to visitors. Filled with charming and unique shops, stunning bed & breakfast accommodations, river cruises and a variety of restaurants, Lansing is a river lover's ultimate getaway.

**McGregor/Marquette** – Your possibilities are endless here with one-of-a-kind antique and specialty shops, charming lodging, birding, spas, winery, brewery, casino and numerous annual events. A great mix of historic small town charm with a touch of big city flair!

**Pella** – Your group will get a sensory experience of all things Dutch - food, architecture, history and hospitality during their visit. Plan your trip in May for their Tulip Time Festival. This well known festival features a gingerbread-trimmed downtown, pastries, a village re-created and 80,000 tulips.



## TRAVEL WATERLOO

### day one

9:45 – 11:30 am

Arrive at the **John Deere Tractor Assembly** and see how the large green tractors are manufactured. It's the only John Deere manufacturer in North America!

11:30 – 1:30 pm

Travel a short distance to the world famous **Galleria De Paco**, "Sistine Chapel Ceiling". The artist Paco Rosic created this breathtaking masterpiece using 5,200 cans of Krylon spray paint as he lay on scaffolding for 4 months. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant.

1:30 – 5:00 pm

A few blocks away is the **Grout Museum District** where you can "Touch, See, and Feel" the history of the area. As well as the brand new 30,000 square foot **Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum**, honoring all veterans from Civil War to present day with its mix of oral veteran histories, vintage military films, and interactive exhibits.

5 – 6:00 pm

Check-in to one of Iowa's newest hotels; the **Isle Casino Hotel Waterloo**. This beautiful full-service hotel has four restaurants including the isle buffet, two lounges, and all the latest & greatest slot machines and favorite table games.

6:00 pm

Take a short drive to enjoy a delicious, gourmet 3-course dinner by award winning Chef Lidija Golub 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**. Or take in one of our **annual festivals** for an evening of fun and live entertainment.

### day two

7:30 – 9:00 am

Rise and shine after a great night's sleep and enjoy a scrumptious breakfast at the **Isle Buffet**.

9 – 10:15 am

Take a behind the scenes tour of **Petersen & Tietz Florists and Greenhouses**. Since 1934, this third generation business has specialized in mums, poinsettias and orchids that are wholesaled all over the U.S.

10:15 – 11:45 am

Enter a world of discovery at the **Dan Gable International Wrestling Institute & Museum**. This 21,000 square foot facility chronicles the sport of wrestling back some 5,000 years.

11:45 – 1:00 pm

Have a delightful catered luncheon at the historic **Snowden House** built in 1881. Its charming Victorian Italianate exterior, earned it a place on the National Register of Historic Places.

1 – 3:00 pm

Just two blocks away, tour up to seven 100-year old churches, all located within a two-block area in **Historic Church Row Neighborhood**. Take a behind the scenes tour of these prominent Waterloo churches

and see how, with faith, they have survived through the years. Each church has their own prominence in architecture, from million-dollar stained glass windows to the largest pipe organ this side of the Mississippi when it was installed.

3 – 4:30 pm

Let's make butter at **Hansen's Dairy Farm**, where you can enjoy a hands-on experience while visiting this 240-acre, 170 head dairy farm. A guided tour takes you through the process of getting milk to your table: a milking parlor, feeding facility, cow barns, feed shed, creamery, and farm equipment. Feed a baby calf or hand milk a cow.

4:30 pm

Whoa! Take a horse drawn wagon ride (or sleigh ride during the winter months) out along the banks of Black Hawk Creek, past a rustic cabin in the woods, to a 100-year old barn where you'll have a great home-cooked meal at **Heritage Farm**. Afterwards, have a sing-a-long with Ruthie on the upright piano. There are several buildings full of farm implements and old wagons you can view, along with the farm animals grazing around the grounds.

Besides these fun attractions, they have many more, whether your group is into agriculture, history, arts or culture. Please contact Lonnie Elmore at 800-728-8431 or [Lonnie@TravelWaterloo.com](mailto:Lonnie@TravelWaterloo.com) to customize a tour especially for your group.

**SULLIVAN BROTHERS  
IOWA VETERANS  
MUSEUM  
WATERLOO, IOWA**

**GROUT  
MUSEUM  
DISTRICT**  
Touch it. See it. Feel it.

**BECOME A VETERAN  
NO BOOTCAMP REQUIRED**

March back in time to experience the life of a veteran in combat or a citizen on the home front. Visit the **Iowa Veterans Museum** to be issued *your* dog tags.

319-234-6357 • [www.GROUTMUSEUMDISTRICT.ORG](http://www.GROUTMUSEUMDISTRICT.ORG)

## A GREAT PLACE TO MIX BUSINESS WITH PLEASURE...



### BALLROOM

- Space that can accommodate up to 400 people
- Inviting pre-function area
- Experienced chefs offering personalized catering
- Professional event-planning staff

### GAMING

- Enjoy 24-hour gaming action on the hottest slots & table games

### DINING

- Three dining destinations to choose from

777 Isle of Capri Boulevard • Waterloo, IA 50701  
1-800-THE-ISLE • [www.theislewaterloo.com](http://www.theislewaterloo.com)

© 2009 Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. Gambling a problem? There is help. And hope. Call 1-800-BETS-OFF.





## HISTORIC RIVER TOWN + FAMILY WINERY

This sample itinerary can be customized anytime of the year.

### day one

12 – 1:00 pm

Arrive in Guttenberg! You'll be greeted by fantastic views of the Mississippi River overlooked by tree filled bluffs. To get the best views of the river, Lock & Dam #10, bald eagles, and all highlights in Guttenberg, go to the **Riverview Café**. Plus it's a great place to eat, choose from burgers, sandwiches, salads or their specials of cod, catfish & prime rib for lunch.

1 – 2:00 pm

Come and hunt treasures from around the world at **Kann Imports**, showcasing numerous collections of a variety of different belongings.

2 – 3:00 pm

Stop in **Village Green Café** for a treat! Try a smoothie, cappuccino, flavored coffees, pies plus homemade soups and sandwiches. Browse the store and view gorgeous flowers and gifts.

3 – 4:00 pm

Check into **The Landing**, a graceful riverfront inn on the banks of the Mississippi River. You'll feel right at home when you sink into their soft sheets



and comfortable beds. They are small, but group ready with 19 rooms in this renovated warehouse.

4 – 5:30 pm

Board the motorcoach and travel southeast to Balltown. Real food aromas at **Breitbach's Country Dining** will greet you. Iowa's oldest established bar & restaurant is rebuilt and back from the ashes. After dinner head back to The Landing and the evening is yours to explore!



### day two

9 – 10:00 am

Wake up to the gorgeous view of the Mississippi; enjoy breakfast before you head to Bankston to

experience the craft of making award-winning wines at the **Park Farm Winery**.

10:00 am

Welcome to Park Farm Winery. Enjoy the fruits of their labor in a world-class facility designed to take you far away from the daily grind. Complementing their wines with the old world feel of their tasting room, and a million dollar view of Iowa that most don't know exists. In their tasting room you'll likely meet a member of the family or the winemaker behind the bar and get the chance to discuss winemaking, grape growing, wine tasting, food pairing or anything else you can think of. Before you head for home enjoy a picnic lunch, with of course, a glass of wine on their large, and open deck facing the magnificent view of a valley lined with timber & terraced fields.

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

Tucked between the Mississippi River and the Limestone Bluffs that edged the frontier...



### The Landing

A Graceful River Front Inn On The Banks Of The Mississippi Small group ready with 19 rooms

www.thelanding615.com  
563-252-1615



**Kann Imports**  
www.kannimports.com  
800-252-2072

**Village Green**  
Florals, Greenhouse Gifts, Bakery & Café  
www.villagegreenflorals.com  
563-252-3050

**Riverview Café**  
563-252-4405  
Open 7 Days a Week

**PARK FARM WINERY**  
BANKSTON, IOWA

*Experience the craft of making award winning wines.*

Book your tour today. (563) 557-3727

*Relax in a Chateau-like setting.*

WWW.PARKFARMWINERY.COM

**Iowa's Oldest Established Bar & Restaurant is back!**

**BREITBACH'S**  
Country Dining  
EST. 1902

**A seating capacity of 240, we're spacious, inviting and homey and ready to accommodate any group!**

Balltown, Iowa 563-552-2220  
Open 7 days a week, April 1st – November 1st

# GATEWAY TO A SIMPLER WAY OF LIFE.

## Independence, Iowa

OLD ORDER AMISH COMMUNITY & STORES

DISTINCT SHOPPING

UNSURPASSED HOSPITALITY

HISTORICAL ATTRACTIONS

BARN QUILTS

GREAT DINING



WAPSIPICON MILL



HEARTLAND ACRES



FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT- CEDAR ROCK HOUSE



WHETHER IT'S FOR A FEW HOURS OR A FEW DAYS, LET US ASSIST IN CREATING AN ITINERARY FOR YOUR VISIT TO INDEPENDENCE.

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CALL 319.332.0123



*Welcome Home*

- RELAX IN THE CASUAL ATMOSPHERE OF AN OLD IOWA FARMHOUSE THAT OVERLOOKS SWAN LAKE
- SEVERAL GROUP MENU OPTIONS
- LOCATED RIGHT ON HIGHWAY 20 AND CLOSE TO ALL AREA ATTRACTIONS
- FAMILY STYLE DINING
- TWO SEPERATE ROOMS TO ACCOMODATE BUS GROUPS

WWW.HOMESTEAD-RESTAURANT.COM



Iowa Agriculture Touches Everyone  
*...even you.*

- LIVE FARM ANIMALS
- INTERACTIVE EXHIBITS
- ONE-ROOM SCHOOLHOUSE
- ANTIQUE FARM IMPLEMENTS
- ANTIQUE TRACTORS
- CLASSIC CAR MUSEUM

WWW.HEARTLANDACRESUSA.COM



*Be Our Guest.*

- CLEAN & COMFORTABLE ROOMS
- ENHANCED CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST SERVED DAILY
- INDOOR POOL & HOT TUB
- FITNESS ROOM
- GROUP RATES
- INTERNET ACCESS & BUSINESS CENTER

WWW.COUNTRYINNS.COM

# McGregor-Marquette/Prairie du Chien

## DAY ONE

### MORNING

#### Effigy Mounds National Monument

Hike through sacred lands where Native American ancestors once lived. Experience unparalleled views of the Mississippi River. Keep your eyes peeled for a Bald Eagle and other beautiful and rare birds as you arrive at Effigy Mounds National Monument  
<http://www.nps.gov/efmo>

### NOON

#### McGregor Beer & Brat Garden & Marina

Have lunch on the deck overlooking the river at the McGregor beer & brat garden.

### AFTERNOON

#### Eagles Landing Winery

Choose your favorite award-winning wine & tour the family-owned and operated Eagles Landing Winery.

#### Spook Cave Tour

Sail away on a guided, underground boat trip through Spook Cave. [www.spookcave.com](http://www.spookcave.com)

#### Green Room Spa on historic Main Street,

McGregor. Indulge in a massage, scrub or quick, refreshing treatment at the Green Room Spa. Afterwards, browse stores that offer a mix of both historical renaissance and big-city vogue.

Join your guide for the McGregor Historical Walking Tour and visit the McGregor Historical Museum and the new McGregor-Marquette Arts Center.

### EVENING

#### Lady Luck Casino

Enjoy dinner at The Buffet, a live show at the Lone Wolf, and try your luck aboard the riverboat casino.

### OVERNIGHT

Country Inn & Suites & Bear Foot Bay Waterpark  
Spend the night in Prairie du Chien, WI.

## DAY TWO

### MORNING

#### Pikes Peak State Park

Take a scenic drive on the famed Great River Road to Pikes Peak State Park. Enjoy the sunrise and views atop 500 foot bluffs towering above the Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers. Walk the

trails and take in the scenery, native vegetation, and wildlife.

### NOON

#### Mississippi Explorer Cruises

Have a picnic lunch on the river and prepare to be amazed aboard the Mississippi Explorer. Learn all about the Mississippi River ecosystems and history while you take in the beauty of the Upper Mississippi National Wildlife & Fish Refuge. Renew your land legs and stroll through St. Feriole Island, touring the Mississippi River Sculpture Park & Memorial Gardens.

### AFTERNOON

#### Villa Louis

Enter the world of Victorian America as you tour the restored country estate of the Dousman family at Villa Louis, Wisconsin's first state historic site. This walking tour can also include a visit to the National Landmark Fur Trade Museum

#### Downtown Prairie du Chien

Afterwards, don't miss Prairie du Chien's newly restored downtown and numerous shops.

#### Shihata's Orchard

Whether it's blossom or harvest season, the beautiful rolling hills and juicy, sweet apples of Shihata's Orchard will delight your entire group.

### EVENING

The Barn Restaurant or The Winneshiek Restaurant in Prairie du Chien

Enjoy fine dining in a relaxed, rustic atmosphere at The Barn Restaurant. As you feast, enjoy the antiques and collectibles inside and the spectacular scenery outside.

or

Enjoy dinner while overlooking the beautiful backwaters view of the Prairie du Chien at the Winneshiek Restaurant located at the Marina.

### OVERNIGHT

Country Inn & Suites & Bear Foot Bay Waterpark  
Spend the night in Prairie du Chien, WI.

## LODGING

Create a unique overnight experience for your tour guest in McGregor & Marquette, they have more than 90 rooms available in quaint bed & breakfasts, historic inns and locally owned hotels & motels.

## AREA MUSEUMS & DISPLAYS

Effigy Mounds National Monument- Interpretive & Visitor Center

Fort Crawford Medical Museum- More than 50 exhibits emphasizing Fort Crawford

Marquette Depot Museum- Marquette Railroad history

McGregor Historical Museum- Andrew Clemens Sand Artist & McGregor history

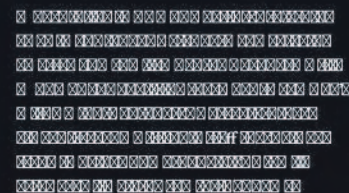
Froelich Tractor Museum- The first gasoline powered tractor

Monona Historical Museum- The world's longest hand-made wooden chain

Villa Louis- Wisconsin Historic Site

## ANNUAL EVENTS

Prairie du Chien, Marquette and McGregor are host to a long list of unique and fun events, which can add to your trip.



*Be Our Guest.*  
800-456-4000



Country Inn & Suites By Carlson  
1801 Cabela's Lane, Prairie du Chien, WI 53821  
[www.countryinns.com/prairieduchienwi](http://www.countryinns.com/prairieduchienwi) | 608-326-5700

Go To Itineraries Midwest Online Where Each Ad Is Linked To The Advertiser's Own Website.  
[www.itinerariesmidwest.com](http://www.itinerariesmidwest.com)

Let us create an itinerary perfect for your group.  
 Please contact the advertisers below or the  
 McGregor-Marquette Chamber of Commerce  
[www.mcgregor-marq.org](http://www.mcgregor-marq.org) #800-896-0910

# Enjoy endless possibilities!

**Enter the World of  
Victorian America**

Visit the authentically restored Villa Louis mansion complex, fur trade museum & lush gardens on the banks of the Mississippi River in Prairie du Chien.



**VILLA LOUIS**

The War of 1812 Battle of Prairie du Chien July 11-12  
 28th Annual Villa Louis Carriage Classic September 12-13

608-326-2721 [www.villalouis.org](http://www.villalouis.org)

*The Green Room Spa*

The full service Massage  
Therapy & Day Spa.

Contact us today to schedule your group relaxation treatment!

563-873-2639  
[www.greenroomspaonline.com](http://www.greenroomspaonline.com)  
 219 Main Street · McGregor

**THE BARN**  
 Prairie du Chien, WI  
 Fine & Casual Dining in a relaxed atmosphere



608-326-4941 **RESTAURANT**

Nightly Specials. Now serving homemade pizza.  
 Seasonally open 7 nights a week

Bar @ 4 p.m. Dining @ 5 p.m.

Also open for special reservation request.  
 Call 608-326-4941

The Barn Restaurant | Prairie du Chien, WI

**WE'VE GOT  
THE ACTION**



Lady Luck  
CASINO

HWY 18W · MARQUETTE, IA 52158  
 1-888-LADY-LUCK · 1-800-4-YOU-BET  
[www.ladyluckmarquette.com](http://www.ladyluckmarquette.com)

© 2009 Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc. Gambling a problem?  
 There is help. And hope. Call 1-800-BETS-OFF.

**Explore More. See More.**

Wildlife Eco-Tours  
into the backwaters  
of the  
Mississippi River!



MISSISSIPPI  
EXPLORER  
Cruises

One of "25 Memorable Summer  
Vacations!" - Woman's Day  
Magazine

(877) 647-7397  
[MississippiExplorer.com](http://MississippiExplorer.com)

**MCGREGOR  
BEER & BRAT GARDEN**

RIVERFRONT MCGREGOR  
 563-873-9613

**BEST BRAT  
ON THE RIVER!**

ABUNDANT INDOOR & OUTDOOR DECK SEATING  
 WITH A GORGEOUS VIEW RIGHT ON THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER!

**EAGLES LANDING  
Bed & Breakfast...**  
 On the Mississippi River  
 82 North St. · Marquette, IA



- 4-course gourmet breakfast
- Complimentary wine in your room

563-873-2509

**...and Winery**  
 127 North St. · Marquette, IA  
 Free Wine Tasting Daily 10-5 pm



- Custom Gifts, Wine/Beer Kits & Supplies
- Featuring Our Own Marquette Maid Wine

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



*the  
Great  
Spirit of  
Iowa*

**MARQUETTE-MCGREGOR**  
 An Iowa Great Place

- Operating Orchard
- Apple Goodies · Scenic Wagon Rides
- Informational Tours · Retail Shop



Shihata's  
Orchard  
LLC

Call to customize  
your visit  
608-326-2785  
or email us at  
[shihata@mhctc.net](mailto:shihata@mhctc.net)

61543 Limery Road  
Prairie du Chien, WI

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





## INDEPENDENCE "AMERICA'S FAME IS IN OUR NAME"

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

### 12 – 2:00 pm

Arrive in Independence, a town nestled in Northeast Iowa. 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 premiere location teaches visitors the importance of agriculture and the overall impact it has on everyone. Equipped with a theatre and various interactive displays and exhibits, including animals, a machine shed and a one room school house.

### 2 – 4:00 pm

Step back to an earlier, slower pace of life as you tour

the Amish countryside. This is one of the largest Old Order Amish communities in the country. Visit some of the nearly 40 shops in the community if you are interested in quilts, handmade furniture or need harness supplies. Baked goods are available at the many bakeries on Fridays and Saturdays.

### 4 – 5:00 pm

Just over the bridge from their historic downtown is the **Wapsipinicon Mill**. Surrounded by several eateries, the Wapsipinicon Mill serves as a substantial tourist attraction and is listed on the National Registry of Historic Places. It still resides in its original location but has since received several cosmetic reconstructions. The five-story structure is 122 feet long by 62 feet wide and was used at first as a flouring mill. As wheat production slowed down, it became more economical to produce "Wapsi" brand poultry and stock feed.

### 5:00 pm

Dinner tonight is at the **Homestead Restaurant**, built on the banks of Swan Lake, with both a front and a back porch, complete with a screen door! Enjoy a drink in the Cider House Lounge before indulging in a delicious dinner. Don't miss the gift shop either – you're sure to find a precious keepsake to take home.

If you want to further your adventure in Northeastern Iowa check into the cozy **Country Inn & Suites**. Featuring group rates, and enhanced continental breakfast served daily makes this a perfect place for any group!

For more information on this sample itinerary contact your tour operator or Heartland Acres Agribition Center, 319-332-0123.

## directory & map

### accommodations

**Country Inn & Suites** Independence... 319-334-6400

**Country Inn – West Des Moines**... 515-223-9254

1350 NW 118th Street – Clive, IA 50325  
country\_inn\_clive@csmcorp.net

At the Country Inn & Suites West Des Moines, our staff will welcome you and go out of their way to make sure your visit to the "Country" is a memorable one.

**The Landing** Guttenberg... 563-252-1615

### attractions

**Eagles Landing Bed & Breakfast & Winery** Marquette... 563-873-2509

**Heartland Acres Agribition Center** Independence... 319-332-0123

**Isle of Capri Casinos, Inc** Waterloo... 800-THE-ISLE

**Iowa Veterans Museum** Waterloo... 319-234-6357

**Lady Luck Casino** Marquette... 888-LADY-LUCK

**Mississippi Explorer Cruises** Lansing 877-647-7397

**Park Farm Winery** Bankston... 563-557-3727

**The Green Room Spa** McGregor... 563-873-2639

### convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

**Waterloo Convention Visitors Bureau**... 800-728-8431

313 E 5th Street – Waterloo, IA  
Lonnie@travelwaterloo.com / www.travelwaterloo.com  
Free trolley tours of John Deere Tractor Assembly, Isle Casino Hotel Waterloo, Sullivan Brothers Iowa Veterans Museum, Galleria de Paco "Sistine Chapel", AG Tours, live theatre, creative itinerary planning, free step-on guide with overnight.

### restaurants

**Breitbach Country Dining** Balltown... 563-552-2220

**Homestead Restaurant** Independence... 319-334-9055

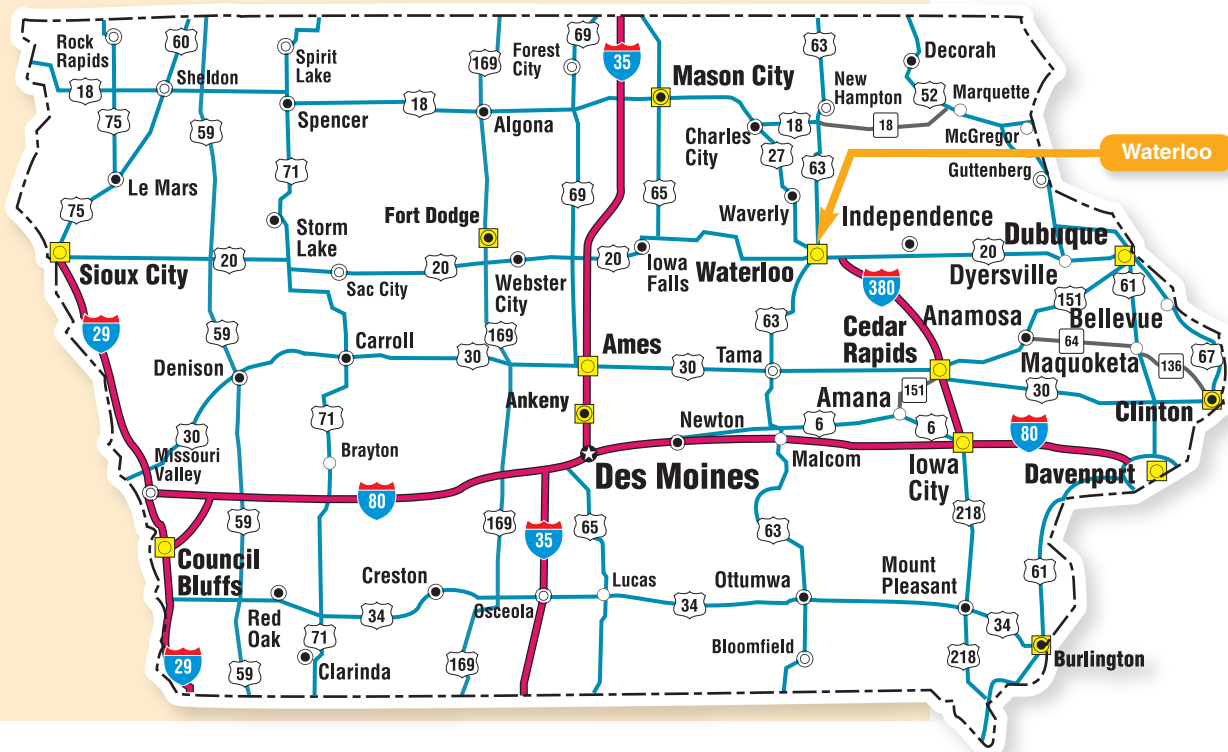
**McGregor Beer & Brat Garden** McGregor... 563-873-9613

**Riverview Cafe** Guttenberg... 563-252-4405

### shopping

**Kann Imports** Guttenberg... 800-252-2072

**Village Green Florals** Guttenberg... 563-252-3050



# As Big As You Think ITINERARIES Kansas



## TOPEKA

There's something for everyone in the capital city of Topeka. This Midwestern city is filled with unique attractions and activities and will fill your day with fun. Explore first-class historical attractions, including the Brown v. Board National Historic Site & Museum, (the case that ended legal segregation in public schools), Old Prairie Town, the Kansas Museum of History and the Kansas State Capitol. See a performance at the Topeka Civic Theatre, visit their many art galleries and enjoy the local shopping and delectable dining.

Topeka is home to many annual events, including Kansas Lavender, Fiesta Mexicana, Inter-tribal Pow Wow and the Huff 'n Puff Balloon Rally. The picture above is from the Tulip Time Festival. The festival features nearly 100,000 tulips and daffodils and is held every April. Plan your tour during one of these events to create a truly one-of-a-kind experience.

Topeka is a fantastic group destination regardless of the size of your group or reason for your trip. Come and see for yourself! (See location on map, page 32)

## other mayberry's of kansas

**Abilene** – Where the old west starts. Hear the story of Abilene, how it has changed from its Wild West days gone by. Visit the restored Union Pacific Depot; enjoy a sugar cookie made from Mamie Eisenhower's recipe. Also see the home where President Eisenhower was raised.

**Atchison** – For a small town, Atchison offers a surprising amount of entertainment – from community theatre to concerts and art functions. The city's small-town charm, rich historical legacy and its unique downtown-shopping district are increasingly drawing travelers from across the country and around the world. Also the hometown of Amelia Earhart.

**Cottonwood Falls** – Situated in the heart of the Flint Hills, Cottonwood Falls serves as a great jumping off point for a visit to Chase County and the Flint Hills. The Chase County Courthouse forms the center of the town, at the end of Broadway, the town's main street, a brick street, Broadway boasts dozens of places to go, including shops, galleries, restaurants, and a hotel.

**Council Grove** – With more than 24 historical sites, other intriguing sites, and a carefully preserved past, Council Grove remains a treasure trove of history. Once a bustling rendezvous point on the Santa Fe Trail, today it attracts tourists and history buffs eager to relive the trail days' spirit.

**Fort Scott** – A community built around a frontier military fort well over 160 years ago is rich in historic heritage, unique shopping opportunities, industry, culture, education

and outdoor recreation. Nationally known for its Fort Scott National Historic Site and its National Cemetery.

**Goodland** – This one is a can't-miss attraction - literally. The sheer size of this 24- by 32-foot rendition of Vincent van Gogh's masterpiece, set upon an eight-story easel, has drawn interested and bewildered travelers from around the world. The Van Gogh Project is a series of Big Easel paintings based on Vincent van Gogh's Sunflower Paintings.

**Leavenworth** – The historic, quaint city invites you to discover, explore, experience, shop, dine, enjoy, and relax! The "First City incorporated in the state of Kansas" and Fort Leavenworth is known as the "Post that opened the West" and is the oldest Fort west of the Mississippi River in continuous operation.

**Lindsborg** – Experience a special blend of history and culture in Lindsborg. Old World charm springs from rich Swedish heritage. Unique shops and restaurants, museums, art galleries and working studios, cultural and ethnic events, great places to stay, and lots of friendly people await you here.

**Wamego** – Who hasn't clicked their heels just like Dorothy in The Wizard of Oz movie? A visit to Wamego's Oz Museum is all that's needed to visit everything Oz. Beyond the Emerald City, see one of Wamego's best-known landmarks, the Schonhoff Dutch Mill. It's the state's only working stone windmill, and is still used to grind wheat to flour today.



## 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

### august

- **Five State Fair** Aug 1-9, Liberal 620-655-8637
- **High Noon Gunfight** Aug 1, Dodge City 620-227-8188
- **Leavenworth County Fair** Aug 11-15, Leavenworth 913-680-2403
- **Big Red One Jazz Band** Aug 14, Junction City 785-238-3103
- **"Leavenworth Live" Free Outdoor Summer Concert** Aug 22, Leavenworth 913-682-3924

### september

- **Kansas City Renaissance Festival** Sept 5-Oct 18 Wknds, Bonner Springs 913-441-0169
- **50 Plus Games of Greater Kansas City** Sept 10-13, Shawnee Mission 913-236-1269
- **Mexican Fiesta** Sept 11-12, Chanute 877-431-3350
- **Kansas State Fair** Sept 11-20, Hutchinson 620-669-3600
- **Haskell Indian Art Market** Sept 12-3, Lawrence 785-843-6830
- **Chalk Fest** Sept 12, Emporia 620-343-6473
- **Aggiefest '09** Sept 17-18, Manhattan 785-776-8050
- **Fall Fest** Sept 18, Washington 785-325-2116
- **Midwest Deutsche Oktoberfest** Sept 19-20, Hays 785-625-5394
- **Cider Days** Sept 26-27, Topeka 800-235-1030
- **McPherson Scottish Festival and Highland Games** Sep 26-27, McPherson 800-324-8022

### october

- **Taste of Newton** Oct 1, Newton 800-868-2560
- **Svensk Hyllningsfest** Oct 9-10, Lindsborg 888-227-2227
- **Bluegrass on the Prairie** (Little House on the Prairie) Oct 10, Independence 620-289-4238
- **OzFest** Oct 10-11, Liberal 620-624-7624
- **Oktoberfest** Oct 15, Abilene 800-569-5910
- **Believe it or not! Ghost Tours** Oct 15-31, Fort Scott 800-245-3678
- **Asian Festival** Oct 17, Wichita 316-689-872
- **Art Walk on Broadway** Oct 23, Pittsburg 800-879-1112
- **Neewollah** Oct 23-31, Independence 620-331-1890

### november

- **Gathering in the Grove Art Show & Sale** Nov 6-8, Council Grove 800-732-9211
- **Holiday Arts & Crafts Festival** Nov 7-8, Fort Leavenworth 913-651-9454
- **Art Garfunkel in Concert** Nov 8, Salina 800-653-8000
- **Olde World Christmas** Nov 21-Dec 27, Kansas City 913-371-3264
- **Lights on St. Paul** Nov 26-Dec 27, Wichita 316-943-1191
- **Christmas Parade** Nov 28, Russell 785-483-2897

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)



## DISCOVER KANSAS

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. See route on map, page 32.

### day one

5 – 6:00 pm

“How About Doin’ Some TIME in **Leavenworth**”? The “First City of Kansas”, makes a really fun and unusual mystery tour! Check into an area hotel. A welcome reception is provided and a convict-clad person with a souvenir button that says “I Did TIME in Leavenworth” will greet your group (the button is your passport to get OUT of Leavenworth) plus everyone will have their photo taken behind a Leavenworth jail front.

6 – 8:00 pm

A delicious dinner will be served at the **Blue Crab Bistro**. Pork Chop, baked sweet potato, vegetable and cheese-cake...YUMMY! The “**Possum Holler Four**” barber-shop quartet, dressed in convict outfits singing for your group is quite an entertaining addition to the evening!

### day two

8 – 9:00 am

Have breakfast at **Santa Fe Depot Diner**.

9 – 11:30 am

Take a guided tour of **Carroll Mansion**. Built in 1867, the mansion boasts beautiful stained glass windows and elaborately carved woodwork. Before you leave Leavenworth, make sure to ride the 1913 restored carousel at the **C.W. Parker Carousel Museum**.

11:30 – 12:15 pm

Travel southeast to **Kansas City & Wyandotte County** where the Kansas & Missouri Rivers meet.

12:15 – 1:30 pm

A prehistoric adventure awaits your group at the **T-REX Café**. Enjoy face-to-face encounters with life-size dinosaurs, hands-on educational activities, and scrumptious food.

1:30 – 2:30 pm

Be a part of the behind-the-scenes world of NASCAR, the IndyCar Series and Kansas Speedway during a group tour of **Kansas Speedway**. View the track from the President’s Suite or primary Grandstand Seats, learn the background and hear about the fastest finishes in racing.

2:30 – 3:00 pm

Load the motorcoach for a short drive west to **Bonner**

**Springs**, a city with small town atmosphere and big city attractions.

3 – 4:00 pm

Play an old-fashioned game of marbles at **Moon Marble Company Store**. The store showcases machine and handmade marbles, plus demonstrations and displays of antique marbles and timeless toys and games.

4 – 5:00 pm

Explore America’s most important industry – agriculture, at the **Agricultural Hall of Fame**. Find out why honeybees are the worlds smallest farmers, see a collection of antique farm equipment and a turn-of-the-century farm village, enjoy a hayride, ride a miniature train and much more!

5 – 7:30 pm

Journey continues southwest to **Lawrence**, a historic and culture-rich community. Check into an area hotel and freshen up for dinner. Choose a restaurant and check out the area shops and galleries.

7:30 – 10:00 pm

Enjoy an evening performance at the **Lied Center, Community Theatre** or **University Theatre**.

### day three

9 – 10:00 am

After breakfast in your hotel, head to Kansas University’s West Campus to the **Dole Institute of Politics**. With state-of-the-art exhibits, soaring stained-glass American flag — the world’s largest — stirring World Trade Center Memorial and Memory Wall honoring this state’s World War II veterans, this is a must see while in Lawrence.

10 – 11:00 am

Board your motorcoach and travel west to **Topeka**, the capital city of Kansas.

11 – 12:00 pm

Learn the fascinating story of John Steuart Curry’s murals, see the spectacular chambers of the Senate and House of Representatives, gaze upward and view the marble and glass panels of the Capitol dome, during your **Kansas State Capitol Tour**.

12 – 1:00 pm

Tour the **Old Prairie Town at Ward-Meade Historic Site**, located on the Oregon Trail, a pioneer village featuring a botanical garden, 1800’s replica log cabin, prairie mansion, Everest Church, Victor schoolhouse, medical offices, plus much more! Be sure to stop at a working soda fountain where cold treats are served.

1 – 2:00 pm

Before you leave town, experience a “**Taste of Topeka**” at one of the local favorites. From out-of-this world barbecue to authentic world cuisine, it’s all right here!

2 – 3:00 pm

Travel southwest to **Emporia**, the Front Porch to the Flint Hills, also the official founding city of Veterans Day! They celebrate their Veterans and history with a full week of events each November.

3 – 4:30 pm

Complete your tour with a Step-On Guide who is sure to wow your group during a driving tour of the city. View many War Memorials, botanical displays and historical sites.

4:30 – 6:00 pm

Travel on to **Chanute**. Check into an area hotel and the evening is on your own, shop, relax or discover Chanute’s nightly entertainment.

### day four

10 – 11:30 am

Star the day with a tour of the **Safari Museum®**, which tells the story of Martin and Osa Johnson who explored Africa, Borneo and the South Seas in the 1920s and 30s. Their photographs and films highlighted an area of the world largely unknown at that time. The museum offers regular showings of Johnson films, a gift store, additional exhibits featuring the culture & art of Africa.

11:30 – 12:00 pm

Take a step back in time with a stop in **Cardinal Drug Store**, home to one of the oldest original soda fountains in Kansas.

12 – 1:00 pm

Your journey is coming close to an end as you travel to **Fort Scott**, a town that knows its history.

1 – 2:30

The best way to see all the sites and learn the town’s history is on a narrated **Trolley Tour**. Step aboard “*Dolly the Trolley*” for a comfortable ride. The tour includes **Fort Scott National Historic Site** – imagine the sights & sounds of soldiers in daily frontier life, the **National Cemetery** – one of 14 original national cemeteries, historic homes and mansions, landmarks and more!

For more information on this sample itinerary please contact your tour operator or any of the advertisers found on pages 28-31.



## Pie Capital OF KANSAS

**W**ashington County welcomes you. Tour a Service Dog training facility. A family dairy farm allows visitors to get up close and personal in the milking barn. As Pie Capital, see over 700 pies made daily by hand. Experience shopping in a small village of 152, with antique and specialty shops. See the Pony Express Hollenberg Station, the only unaltered station at its original location, looking much like it did in 1857. Come for the annual events - music festival, Wild West Show, Lighted Horse Parade or Antique Tractor Show just to name a few. Or a buffalo ranch, museum, or church tours may be your choice. Whatever your group desires, our tourism office will gladly assist. For more information call 785-325-2166 or visit [www.washingtoncountyks.net](http://www.washingtoncountyks.net).





## TREASURES OFF THE BEATEN PATH

This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. See route on map, page 32.

### 9 – 9:30 am

**Hays**, the German Capital of Kansas, located in the middle of the US and positioned at the crossroads of Interstate 70 & Hwy 183. Arrange a welcome reception for your group where they can try kuchen, a delicious German pastry.

### 9:30 – 10:30 am

Continue the morning at **Historic Fort Hays Museum**. Located on the grounds of a former US Army Fort, active from 1867 until 1889. Four of the historic buildings remain on site, which you'll visit during your tour.

### 10:30 – 1:00 pm

Step back 70-80 million years ago at the **Sternberg Museum of Natural History** and see how Kansas might have looked when the mighty T-Rex roamed the land and western Kansas was an inland sea.

### 1 – 3:00 pm

Travel east to the city of **Gorham**, in **Russell County**, for a German buffet at **Betty's Café**. When your bellies are full head to **Dickinson Ranch** for a self-guided tour visiting the ranch animals. Follow one of the trails on horseback, relax on a hayrack ride through the river bottom. *Note: a chuck wagon style meal can be arranged at the ranch.*



### 3 – 4:00 pm

Continue your travels through Russell County to the town of Russell. Tour the community, noting the various uses of native "post rock" limestone in homes, downtown businesses and lawn ornaments. Additionally, the history of the community can be found in preservation at the **Fossil Station Museum, Oil Patch Museum, Gernon House** and **Heym-Oliver House**.

### 4:00 pm

Your journey can either come to an end or continue through Russell County to explore the hometown of **Bob Dole**, plus Lake Wilson & Garden of Eden.

For more information on this sample itinerary contact your tour operator or Hays CVB, 800-569-4505 or Russell County, 785-483-2828.



## LIBERAL is OZ-some!

**L**iberal, in southwest Kansas, offers two major attractions and a long-standing festival with international appeal. **Mid-America Air Museum**, the fifth largest general aviation museum in the United States, has over 105 aircraft and a host of aviation exhibits. **Dorothy's House** and the **Land of Oz** allow fans to skip down the **Yellow Brick Road** to relive their favorite scenes from the classic movie, "The Wizard of Oz." Every Shrove Tuesday for 60 years, **International Pancake Day** has been bringing Liberal and Olney, England together into friendly competition as women race for the best time carrying pancakes in skillets. The four day festival includes eating, flipping and cooking contests, high tea, talent show, pancake breakfast, races, shriving service, live web chat and a parade. Call 1-800-LIBERAL for more information.

Whatever your taste,  
it's in Hays, Kansas!

[www.haysusa.net](http://www.haysusa.net) • 1-800-569-4505

**RUSSELL COUNTY HAS IT...**  
 Hometown of Bob Dole, Beautiful Lake Wilson, Garden of Eden, & More!

Russell County CVB • 785-483-2828  
[www.visitrussellcoks.com](http://www.visitrussellcoks.com) • [rsocvb@ruraltel.net](mailto:rsocvb@ruraltel.net)

Come for a tour. Stay for the fun.

SHOPPING  
DINING  
ENTERTAINMENT  
LODGING

GROUP TOUR PLANNER

**KANSAS CITY KANSAS**  
 Wyandotte County

**WYANDOTTE COUNTY**  
 KANSAS CITY KANSAS  
**THE DOT'S GOT IT**

For group information contact: Kansas City Kansas  
 Wyandotte County Convention & Visitors Bureau  
 800-264-1563 | [www.visitthedot.com](http://www.visitthedot.com)

Bonner Springs • Kansas

**shoppin' on the edge**  
 of Metro KC

Bonner Springs has the unique shopping you've been looking for, just on the edge of Metro Kansas City.

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

**LIBERAL**

- Baker ARTS Center
- Historic Rock ISLAND Depot
- Pancake Day Hall of Fame
- Mid-America AIR Museum
- Coronado Museum
- Dorothy's House
- LAND of OZ

... O, my!

**1-800-LIBERAL**  
[www.cityofliberal.com](http://www.cityofliberal.com)



Visit [Topeka.org](http://Topeka.org)

**KANSAS BEGINS HERE...**

800.235.1030  
785.234.1030

**EMPORIA** KANSAS  
Front Porch to the Flint Hills

800-279-3730  
[www.emporiakschamber.org](http://www.emporiakschamber.org)

**Discover Chanute**

World-famous Martin and Osa Johnson Safari Museum housed in a restored Santa Fe Railroad Depot.

Shopping  
Art Gallery  
Historical Museum  
Old-Fashioned Soda Fountain  
Historic Homes

Information@chanutechamber.com  
[www.discoverchanute.com](http://www.discoverchanute.com)  
1-877-431-3350

Välkommen till

LINDSBORG

*Ja!*

Customized Group Tours

Lindsborg Convention & Visitors Bureau  
[www.lindsborgcity.org](http://www.lindsborgcity.org) 888.227.2227

*Little Sweden, U.S.A.*

**Cruise**  
Manhattan  
*The Little Apple*

You set the pace to experience it all in The Little Apple... the Flint Hills, golf, museums, art galleries, quaint shops and exciting events.

800-759-0134 • [cvb@manhattan.org](mailto:cvb@manhattan.org)  
[www.manhattancvb.org](http://www.manhattancvb.org)

**McPherson!**

Auto restoration  
Agriculture  
Historical tours  
Shopping  
Museums  
Unique dining  
425 hotel rooms!  
Free group travel planner

[visitmcperson.com](http://visitmcperson.com) 800-324-8022

ESCAPE TO A PLACE WHERE TIME IS FORGOTTEN    ESCAPE TO A PLACE WHERE

*How about doin' some*

**Leavenworth**  
*The Great Escape*

[www.visitleavenworthks.com](http://www.visitleavenworthks.com) • 800-844-4114

ESCAPE TO A PLACE THAT IS PROUD TO SHARE ITS HERITAGE  
ESCAPE TO A PLACE WHERE YOU CAN BECOME  
A KID AGAIN  
ESCAPE TO A PLACE WITH QUAINIT  
HOSPITALITY IS THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS  
ESCAPE TO A PLACE WITH QUAINIT  
& UNIQUE SHOPPING & DINING

LAWRENCE • KS  
THE ART OF A CITY

**Stay  
Get Play  
Away**

Group Itineraries & FREE Visitor Guide available online

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



Discover  
**NEWTON**  
 Mennonite & Railroad history along the Chisholm Trail

(800)899-0455 or [www.info.NewtonKS.org](http://www.info.NewtonKS.org)

**ABILENE**  
 KANSAS  
**Special Group Itineraries**

I Like Ike Tour  
 Victorian Tour  
 Spectacular Heritage Tour  
 Christmas Traditions Tour  
 Professional Theatre & Dinner Tour

[www.abilenekansas.org](http://www.abilenekansas.org)  
 1-800-569-5915

**Make Your Next Tour An Experience!**

Historic For Riley  
 US Cavalry Museum  
 Custer House  
 Spring Valley Heritage Site  
 Milford Nature Center  
 Geary County Historical Museum  
 C. L. Hoover Opera House  
 Milford Wetlands  
 Milford Lake  
 Kansas Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Customized Tour Packaging...  
 On-Site Services, Step-on guides,  
 Marketing Aids, Driver/operator comps

**Junction City** Kansas  
 Geary County Convention & Visitors Bureau  
 823 N. Washington, Junction City, KS

800.528.2489  
[www.junctioncity.org](http://www.junctioncity.org)

Wichita, Kansas:  
 The city you've been searching for.  
[gowichita.com](http://gowichita.com) 800.288.9424

STEP-ON GUIDES • ZOO • THEATRE • WINERY • ITINERARIES • MUSEUM

**WATSON STIEFEL THEATRE**

**VisitSalina**  
 877-725-4625 • [www.VisitSalina.org](http://www.VisitSalina.org)

discover  
 COUNCIL GROVE  
 & MORRIS COUNTY  
 YOU'LL WANT TO COME BACK  
 again  
 & again

**COUNCIL GROVE KANSAS**

800.732.9211  
[www.councilgrove.com](http://www.councilgrove.com)  
[chamber@councilgrove.com](mailto:chamber@councilgrove.com)

EXPLORE  
**Fort Scott**  
 KANSAS

Come to visit-come to stay  
 in Fort Scott, Kansas!  
 620-223-3566  
[www.fortscott.com](http://www.fortscott.com)  
 Victorian-era downtown,  
 Fort Scott National Historic Site,  
 one of the original National  
 Cemeteries and more!

**KANSAS I-70**

**America's MAIN STREET**

for suggested group itineraries... [visitkansas-i70.com](http://visitkansas-i70.com)



## Pittsburg and Crawford County, KANSAS

**T**our operators looking for an affordable destination combined with a plethora of unique dining options should consider **Pittsburg and Crawford County, Kansas**, nestled quietly in the corner of Southeast Kansas.

Of the 29 tourist attractions in **Crawford County**, 20 are free admission. These attractions include veteran's memorials, such as **Pittsburg State University's Veterans Memorial Amphitheater**, and historic places, such as **Big Brutus**, the **Carona Depot and Railroad Museum** and **Scotty's Classic Car Museum**. Crawford County also features 101 restaurants, 71 of which are locally owned and operated, and are headlined by six fried chicken restaurants, which recently earned designation as part of the *8 Wonders of Kansas Cuisine* – **Chicken Annie's**, **Chicken Mary's**, **Gephardt's Chicken Dinners**, **Barto's Idle Hour**, **Chicken Annie's Girard** and **Pichler's Chicken Annie's**.

*"When our bus group visited Crawford County, every place we visited was incredibly accommodating,"* said **Andi Andres** with **Kauffman Museum Bus Tours of North Newton, Kansas**.

*"With Craig at the CVB paving the way, we felt welcome everywhere we went. His excitement for the area, willingness to meet our needs, knowledge of the area, and ability to introduce us to out-of-the way*

*sites made all the difference on our trip to southeast Kansas."*

Their visit included a stop in **Girard** (Carnegie Library), **Fontenac** (Fontenac Bakery) and **Arma** (Scotty's Classic Car Museum) before an evening of entertainment in **Walnut** at **Chicken-N-Pickin'**.

*"Chicken-N-Pickin' is our No. 1 attraction for tour operators,"* said **Craig Hull**, director of the **Crawford County Convention and Visitors Bureau**. *"They cater specifically to groups of 50 people with an old fashioned country music and comedy show combined with a deep-dish fried chicken dinner with all the fixings. Many of the operators who include Crawford County on their itineraries are on their way to and from Branson."*

The **Crawford County CVB** offers step-on service, customized itineraries, a 24-hour on-call diesel service during your visit, prearranged dining options and assistance with special needs.

Tour operators interested in visiting **Pittsburg and Crawford County, Kansas** should contact **Craig Hull**, director, **Crawford County Convention and Visitors Bureau** at 1-800-879-1112 or by e-mail at [chull@pittsburgreachamber.com](mailto:chull@pittsburgreachamber.com).



### directory & map

#### convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

<b>Abilene CVB</b> Abilene	800-569-5915
<b>Bonner Springs Tourism</b>	
Bonner Springs	913-667-1715
<b>Chanute Chamber</b> Chanute	877-431-3350
<b>Council Grove Chamber</b>	
Council Grove	800-732-9211

#### **Crawford County CVB** 800-879-1112

117 West 4th Street, Box 1115 – Pittsburg, KS 66762

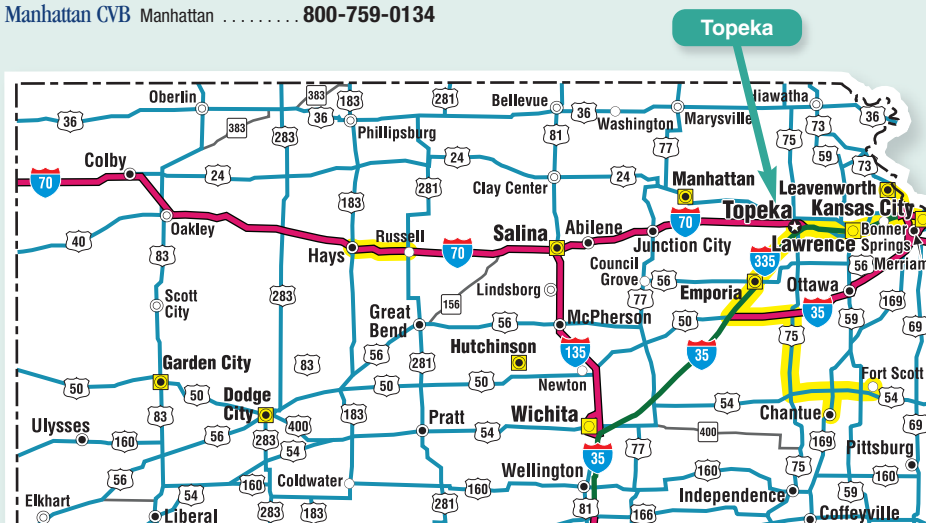
[www.visitcrawfordcounty.com](http://www.visitcrawfordcounty.com)

Our CVB is a full-service bureau offering a variety of professional services to organize and execute your group tours. Check our website for further details.



<b>Emporia Chamber</b> Emporia	800-279-3730
<b>Fort Scott Chamber of Commerce</b>	
Fort Scott	620-223-3566
<b>Geary County CVB</b> Junction City	800-528-2489
<b>Hays CVB</b> Hays	800-569-4505
<b>I-70 Association</b> Salina	785-827-9301
<b>Lawrence CVB</b> Lawrence	785-865-4499
<b>Leavenworth CVB</b> Leavenworth	800-844-4114
<b>Liberal CVB</b> Liberal	800-LIBERAL
<b>Lindsborg CVB</b> Lindsborg	888-227-2227
<b>Manhattan CVB</b> Manhattan	800-759-0134

<b>McPherson CVB</b> McPherson	800-324-8022
<b>Newton CVB</b> Newton	800-899-0455
<b>Russell County CVB</b> Russell	785-483-2828
<b>Salina Area Chamber of Commerce</b>	
Salina	877-725-4625
<b>Visit Topeka Inc.</b> Topeka	800-235-1030
<b>Washington County Tourism</b>	
Washington	785-325-2116
<b>Wichita CVB</b> Wichita	800-288-9424
<b>Wyandotte County CVB</b> Kansas City	800-264-1563



# LOOKING FOR AN AFFORDABLE DESTINATION?

CONSIDER THESE **FREE** CRAWFORD COUNTY ATTRACTIONS.



**SCOTT'S CLASSIC CAR MUSEUM**



**CRAWFORD CO. HISTORICAL MUSEUM**



**VETERAN'S MEMORIAL AMPHITHEATER**



**KANSAS VIETNAM VETERAN'S MEMORIAL**



**GREENBUSH/ST. ALOYSIUS**



**MINED LAND WILDLIFE AREA**



**CATO SCHOOL HOUSE**



**MINER'S MEMORIAL IN IMMIGRANT PARK**

**Crawford**  
COUNTY  
Convention Visitors Bureau

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL 1.800.879.1112  
WWW.VISITCRAWFORDCOUNTY.COM

# Explore Minnesota ITINERARIES

## Minnesota



### Skylines & Shorelines

#### metro cities

AFTON, ALBERTVILLE, APPLE VALLEY, ARDEN HILLS, BLOOMINGTON, BUFFALO, BURNSVILLE, CHANHASSEN, CHASKA, COON RAPIDS, EAGAN, EDEN PRAIRIE, ELK RIVER, EXCELSIOR, HASTINGS, JORDAN, LAKEVILLE, MAPLE GROVE, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNETONKA, PLYMOUTH, RICHFIELD, ROSEVILLE, SHAKOPEE, SAINT PAUL, STILLWATER, TAYLORS FALLS

#### calendar of events

- **Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition** NOW-Jan 3, 2010  
Science Museum of Minnesota 651-221-9444

#### august

- **Bloomington Jazz Festival** Aug 9,  
Bloomington 952-563-8878
- **Arts & Crafts Festival** Aug 15,  
Buffalo 763-682-4902
- **Minnesota Renaissance Festival** Aug 22-Oct 4,  
Shakopee 952-445-7361
- **Minnesota State Fair** Aug 27-Sept 7,  
Saint Paul 651-288-4400
- **ASI Crayfish Party (Kräftskiva)** Aug 29,  
American Swedish Institute 612-870-3344

#### september

- **2009 Grape Stomp Festival** Sept 12-13,  
Stillwater 651-430-3310
- **Scrapfest 2009** Sept 18-20,  
Mall of America 952-883-8800
- **8th Annual Minnesota Tile Festival** Sept 19,  
American Swedish Institute 612-870-3344
- **Wild Rice Festival** Sept 19, Roseville 651-792-7012
- **Medieval Fair at Caponi Art Park** Sept 27,  
Eagan 651-454-9412
- **Leaf Spectacular** Sept 27-Oct 12,  
Taylor Falls 651-465-6315

#### october

- **Oklahoma** Oct 2-Jan 23,  
Chanhassen Dinner Theatres 800-362-3515
- **St Croix Valley Apple Festival** Oct 3-4, 10-11,  
Hastings 651-436-8385
- **Art Crawl** Oct 9-11, Saint Paul 651-292-4373
- **Upper Midwest Glass & Pottery Show**  
Oct 31-Nov 1, Bloomington 651-770-1567

#### november

- **Away in the Basement:  
A Church Basement Ladies Christmas**  
Nov 5-Jan 24, Plymouth Playhouse 763-383-1073
- **Nunset Boulevard** Nov 6-TBD,  
Chanhassen Dinner Theatres 800-362-3515
- **Capitol Civil War Tour** Nov 14,  
Saint Paul 651-296-2881



### Northwoods & Lakes

#### northern cities

ALEXANDRIA, BEMIDJI, BRAINERD, CHISHOLM, DETROIT LAKES, DULUTH, ELY, EVELETH, EAST GRAND FORKS/GRAND FORKS, FARGO/MOORHEAD, FERGUS FALLS, GRAND MARAIS, GRAND PORTAGE, GRAND RAPIDS, HINCKLEY, LITTLE FALLS, LONG PRAIRIE, NEW YORK MILLS, PARK RAPIDS, PERHAM, ST. CLOUD, TWO HARBORS, VIRGINIA

#### calendar of events

#### august

- **Tall Timber Days** Aug 1-2,  
Grand Rapids 800-355-9740
- **Legends & Logging Days** Aug 7-8,  
Park Rapids 800-247-0054
- **Rendezvous Days** Aug 7-9,  
Grand Portage 218-475-2401
- **Itasca County Fair** Aug 19-23,  
Grand Rapids 800-355-9740
- **Heritage Days** Aug 21-22, Crosby 218-546-8131
- **Potato Days Festival** Aug 28-29,  
Barnesville 218-354-2888

#### september

- **Bayou Boogie** Sept 4-6,  
Grand Portage 218-475-2401
- **Kings of Trails Marketplace** Sept 12,  
Crookston 218-281-4320
- **Little Falls Arts & Crafts Fair** Sept 12-13,  
Little Falls 800-264-2940
- **Fall Color Tour by Covered Wagon** Sept 19,  
Bemidji 800-458-2223
- **Oktoberfest** Sept 25-27, Baudette 218-634-1544

#### october

- **Christmas Tour of Homes** Oct 15-17,  
Brainerd 800-450-2838
- **First City of Arts Studio Cruise** Oct 16-18,  
Bemidji 800-458-2223
- **Moose Madness** Oct 16-18,  
Grand Marais 218-387-2524
- **Oktoberfest at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge**  
Oct 17-19, Brainerd 800-450-2838
- **Hamlet** Oct 22-25, 29-30; Nov 5-8,  
St. Cloud 800-264-2940

#### november

- **Pangea-Cultivate Our Cultures** Nov 14,  
Moorhead 218-299-5511
- **Winterer's Gathering & Art Film Festival**  
Nov 19-22, Grand Marais 218-387-9762
- **Festival of Lights** Nov 27, Walker 218-547-1313
- **Night We Light Celebration** Nov 27,  
Bemidji 800-458-2223



### You'll be surprised...

#### southern cities

ALBERT LEA, AUSTIN, BROWNSVILLE, CALEDONIA, CANTON, CANNON FALLS, CHATFIELD, EITZEN, FAIRMONT, FARIBAULT, FOUNTAIN, HARMONY, HASTINGS, HOUSTON, HOKAH, LA CRESCENT, LAKE CITY, LANESBORO, MABEL, MORTON, NEW ULM, PIPESTONE, PRESTON, OWATONNA, REDWOOD FALLS, RUSHFORD, SPRING GROVE, SPRING VALLEY, WALNUT GROVE, WILLMAR, WYKOFF

#### calendar of events

#### august

- **Berne Swissfest** Aug 1-2,  
Berne 507-356-4340
- **Freeborn County Fair** Aug 4-9,  
Albert Lea 800-345-8414
- **Mower County Fair** Aug 11-16,  
Austin 800-444-5713
- **Steele County Free Fair** Aug 18-23,  
Owatonna 800-423-6466
- **Houston County Fair** Aug 19-23,  
Caledonia 800-428-2030
- **Big Island Barbeque** Aug 21-22,  
Albert Lea 800-345-8414

#### september

- **River Blast & Flotilla** Sept 4-6,  
New Ulm 507-359-2346
- **Bluff Country Loop Region Wide Garage Sales**  
Sept 4-6, Harmony 800-428-2030
- **Defeat of Jesse James Days** Sept 9-13,  
Northfield 507-645-5604
- **Apple Festival** Sept 17-20,  
La Crescent 800-926-9840
- **Airfest & Balloon Rally** Sept 18-19,  
Faribault 507-334-4381
- **Hermann's 2,000th Victory Celebration**  
Sept 18-20, New Ulm 507-233-4300

#### october

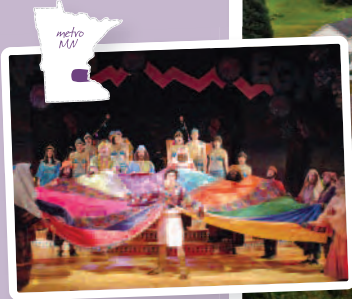
- **Kathy's Kountry Corner's 9th Annual Show**  
Oct 1-4, 8-11, Austin 800-444-5713
- **Fall Foliage Fest** Oct 2-4,  
Harmony 800-428-2030
- **Big Island Rendezvous & Festival** Oct 3-4,  
Albert Lea 800-658-2526
- **Johnny Applesed Days Festival** Oct 3-4,  
Lake City 651-345-4123

#### november

- **Pastimes** Nov 12-14, Owatonna 800-423-6466
- **Christmas Open House** Nov 20-23,  
Austin 800-444-5713
- **Home for the Holidays** Nov 27,  
Lake City 651-345-3373



Bemidji, MN



Chanhassen, MN

## SOUTHEASTERN MINNESOTA HISTORIC BLUFF COUNTRY

The scenery of Historic Bluff Country provides a beautiful backdrop for many activities. Towns on the river and inland are noted for their 19th-century architecture, antiques, unique shops, art galleries, artisans, theater, and food. The countryside provides excellent birding, horseback riding, and other outdoor activities. More than 60 miles of surfaced trails are open to bikers and hikers on the Root River and Harmony-Preston State Bicycle Trails. Cave tours provide unique possibilities for underground exploration. Tours of the Amish community showcase their skills, crafts, culture, and religious beliefs. Lodging facilities range from rustic to elegant, with motels, bed and breakfasts, and historic inns. Winding but well-maintained roads invite groups 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, and Wykoff. Discover the magic in each community! (See location on map, page 58)

### other mayberry's of minnesota

#### metro minnesota

**Chanhassen** (photo above) – Small town charm and quaint neighborhoods. Thousands of people visit each year for destinations such as the Chanhassen Dinner Theatre, the nation's largest professional dinner theatre with four (Equity) theatres under one roof, and the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum.

**Eagan** – Eagan has a lot to offer, including fantastic dining & shopping and beautiful parks and trails. Home to the Upper Midwest's largest outdoor municipal waterpark, outdoor sculpture garden and more!

**Hastings** – Browse antique and specialty stores, view more than 69 buildings on the National Register of Historic Places, tour a winery, take a self-guided historic walking tour, pick apples or berries in orchards or try your luck at the casino.

**Roseville** – Perfectly positioned, right between Minneapolis & Saint Paul. Just minutes from all the popular attractions. Enjoy the neighbors during the day and stay with them for the night; choose from one of nine nationally recognized hotels.

**Shakopee** – Something for any season! In the summer enjoy huge thrills at Valleyfair amusement park, live horse racing at Canterbury Park, or celebrate at the MN Renaissance Festival. In the fall enjoy apple orchards, corn mazes & hayrides. Winter/Spring offers winter lights & blooming gardens.

**Stillwater** – Explore the beautiful St. Croix Valley from charming Stillwater. Unique shops, galleries and fine restaurants dot their historic downtown. Visit wineries, take a balloon ride, or just relax with a treatment in a spa.

#### northern minnesota

**Bemidji** (photo above right) – The area is rich in beautiful scenery, abundant recreation, spirited people, inspiring arts and enchanting culture. Make sure to see the statues of Paul Bunyan & Babe the Blue Ox.

**Brainerd** – All year long, the Brainerd Lakes Area serves as a playground for groups of all ages with varying interests. Whether you're into outdoor recreational activities, live to shop 'til you drop or enjoy the arts and culture, there is something for any group.

**Grand Portage** – Visit the state's highest point, or the spectacular High Falls. After dark, watch a spectacular natural light show with the northern lights, or try your luck at the Grand Portage Lodge & Casino.

**Grand Rapids** – Serves as the southern gateway to the Chippewa National Forest and is the birthplace of the legendary Judy Garland. Come for the events or step back in time to experience life as a lumberjack or a fur trader.

**Park Rapids** – Internationally known as the Gateway to the Mississippi River Headwaters at Itasca State Park, home of the famous Heartland Trail and a Lake Country Scenic Byway. But do not forget their theaters, ranch/farm tours, arts, & winery.

**St Cloud** – Historic theaters, renowned Munsinger and Clemens Gardens, granite, paddleboats, great places to stay and eat, plus regional shopping are just a sample of what awaits you.

#### southern minnesota

**Albert Lea** – Albert Lea, known as "The Land Between the Lakes" is nestled between Fountain Lake and Albert Lea Lake providing year-round action including one of a kind shopping, rock gardens, scenic boat tour, doll & toy museum, working potato farm & a soy candle and soap factory.

**Austin** – Known as SPAMTOWN USA! Visit the world famous SPAM Museum. Tour the Hormel Historic Home, catch a show and see the amazing architecture at the Historic Paramount Theatre...Austin has what your group desires!

**Lake City** – A gorgeous historic river town. Enjoy the natural splendor of the surrounding bluffs, the lake, parks and vistas this city has to offer! Have your group take a scenic riverboat cruise aboard an 1800's Paddle Wheeler!

**New Ulm** – Famous for its authentic German heritage and numerous festivals, monuments, attractions, shopping and many cultural events; you've got to see for yourself why the Federal Census of 2000 called New Ulm the "Most German City in the USA"!

**Owatonna** – Enjoy great shopping opportunities with Cabela's World's Foremost Outfitters & Preferred Outlets of Medford. But don't forget to check out their historical sites & attractions!

**Willmar** – Willmar boasts something for everyone – from theatre and the arts to bison and everything in between. Also home to more than 100 sparkling lakes, providing numerous recreational activities for any season.



## A LITTLE "MAYBERRY" IN AND AROUND EAGAN



Minnesota History Center



Padelford Riverboat

This sample itinerary can be customized year-round.

### 9 – 11:00 am

Put on your walking shoes and take a 90-minute guided walk through **historic downtown Mendota**. View original landmarks in one of the oldest towns in the state, see historical photographs and hear how the town evolved from its beginning as an early 19th-century fur trading center. After the tour, light refreshments will be served at the home of Sibley's clerk, Hypolite Dupuis.

### 11 – 2:00 pm

Next you'll reminisce at the **Minnesota History Center** as you explore the fascinating exhibit – **Minnesota's Greatest Generation**. Members of Minnesota's Greatest Generation are people we know, they are our grandparents, our parents and our next-door neighbors. Yet, we may have never heard their stories. These remarkable people – who grew up during the Depression, came of age during World War II and participated in the post-war boom – created a lasting legacy that has shaped all of us who have come after. Enjoy lunch at the **Café Minnesota** – located in the Minnesota History Center.

### 2 – 4:00 pm

Discover an 1820's military outpost, once the focus of a small settlement but now at the center of Minnesota's Twin Cities metropolitan area. **Fort Snelling** was not

only at the confluence of the Mississippi and Minnesota Rivers, but it was also the confluence of peoples. The histories of the people of Minnesota intersect at the fort, and guests can explore these diverse stories within its walls.

Or, you could step back in time see what life was like for people who lived in the Minnesota River Valley 150 years ago. **The Landing – Minnesota River Heritage Park**, formerly Historic Murphy's Landing, was established in 1969. This 88-acre living history museum depicts life in the Lower Minnesota River Valley from the 1840s–1890s with authentic 19th-century buildings, demonstrations and a scenic river trail and overlook

### 4 – 7:00 pm

Head back to your Eagan hotel to rest before your evening begins. Don't forget - \$250 Cash Rebate with 20 or more rooms booked in Eagan!

### 7 – 9:00 pm

Cruise up the mighty **Mississippi River** on a **Padelford Riverboat** while taking in the beautiful scenery, gentle breeze and the sun setting across the Minnesota sky. Enjoy a fabulous dinner and share an evening everyone will remember. Come aboard!

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or Denise Olsen at the Eagan CVB, 651-675-5542 or [denise@eaganmn.com](mailto:denise@eaganmn.com).

# It's Easy to Enjoy Eagan Minnesota!



- ★ **\$250 REBATE** When Booking 20+ Rooms
- ★ **FREE** Welcome Bags and Reception
- ★ **FREE** Mall of America® Coupon Books
- ★ **FREE** Shuttle Service from Most Eagan Hotels



Contact Denise Olsen Today!



Eagan Convention & Visitors Bureau  
866-EAGAN-20 • [www.EaganMN.com](http://www.EaganMN.com)



## 'BENJAMIN FRANKLIN: IN SEARCH OF A BETTER WORLD' MINNESOTA HISTORY CENTER November 27

In many ways Benjamin Franklin is the founding father nobody knows – misunderstood because of the sheer breadth and diversity of his accomplishments. Discover the adventures of this extraordinary man and the many ways he has affected our world today when “Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World” comes to the Minnesota History Center in Saint Paul on November 27.

You know about Ben Franklin’s famous experiment with a kite, a key and some lightning, but did you also know about his rebellious youth? That he pioneered wind surfing and invented swim fins? That he helped found the nation’s first hospital, was an environmentalist and charted the Gulf Stream to assist in ocean travel?

“Ben Franklin: In Search of a Better World” immerses visitors in Franklin’s world, providing an introduction to previously unknown aspects of his life and career. Included are some of Franklin’s own possessions – many of which were handed down through his family and rarely seen in public. Visitors will experience more than 40 interactive opportunities, all inspired by Franklin’s charming blend of curiosity, wit and wisdom. You’ll meet Franklin as an ambitious teenager in Boston and then travel with him to Philadelphia, London and Paris. Along the way, learn about Franklin’s scientific experiments and civic initiatives and explore the world from his ever-curious point-of-view.

The latest in a series of prestigious traveling exhibits to visit the Minnesota History Center,



it is based on an exhibit developed in celebration of the 300th anniversary of Benjamin Franklin’s birth in 2006 that debuted at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia. It will be on view through July 4, 2010. For more information, visit [www.mnhs.org/benfranklin](http://www.mnhs.org/benfranklin).



### Meet the Real Benjamin Franklin.

**OPENS NOV. 27, 2009**

We know him as a founding father of our country, but Benjamin Franklin was also a scientist, diplomat, and entrepreneur. Introduce your group to his wide-ranging interests and influences through artifacts, activities and experiments in this traveling exhibit.

**Group Special - \$10/ticket  
(15+ people)  
651-259-3003**



Minnesota History Center, 345 Kellogg Boulevard West, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55102  
[www.mnhs.org/groups](http://www.mnhs.org/groups)

©2009 MHS

# SAINT PAUL

WHERE MINNESOTA ADVENTURE BEGINS

Hi, I'm  
Michael  
Hernandez.

Welcome to  
Saint Paul!



## Double the Fun – Saint Paul & Stillwater Itinerary

### Day 1

**12:00 pm** – Your groups' Saint Paul adventure begins at **Cooks of Crocus Hill** on Grand Avenue with a culinary tour they will never forget. Whether they get hands-on or sit back and watch, everyone will enjoy a delicious lunch created by the group.

**2:00 pm** – Grab your Tommy gun and head to the **Wabasha Street Caves** for the renowned Saint Paul Gangster Tour. See Saint Paul through Dillinger's eyes as you visit former gangster hideouts and crime scenes throughout the City.

**4:00 pm** – Check into **Hilton Garden Inn St. Paul City Center** in the heart of downtown where a motorcoach parking spot is reserved just for you. The group can take a moment to relax and freshen up before heading out for a night of theatre.

**6:00 pm** – Settle in at the **Lowry Theater** and enjoy Actors Theater of Minnesota's showing of "Hockey Mom, Hockey Dad" where comedy and drama collide. This box office smash is a romantic comedy about two

lonely, single parents who meet and fall in love while watching their kids play hockey.

### Day 2

**9:00 am** – Check out of the hotel and start your day in the heart of downtown Saint Paul. Located in the historic **Landmark Center**, the **American Woodturners Association** offers an often surprising and always engaging view of contemporary works created in wood. The gallery also features educational exhibits, a display of vintage lathes, and a gallery gift store offering turned items, books and DVDs.

**11:30 am** – All aboard the **Padelford Riverboats!** Step onto the **Jonathan Padelford**, an authentic sternwheeler, and enjoy great views of downtown Saint Paul from the Mississippi River as you embark on a lunch cruise.

**5:00 pm** – Check into the **Country Inn & Suites Saint Paul East**. The hotel offers convenient access from the interstate 94 and plenty of motorcoach parking as well as a central location between both Saint Paul and Stillwater.

**7:00 pm** – Treat your group to a sunset dinner with spectacular views of the St. Croix River at the **Historic Water Street Inn** in Stillwater, MN.

### Day 3

**8:00 am** – Rise and shine after a great night's sleep and head down to a continental breakfast sure to jump start your day!

**10:00 am** – Didn't get enough of Stillwater? We understand! Stillwater is a bustling river town that has much more to offer. **Valley Tours** can provide friendly, knowledgeable, and local guides to make sure you get the most out of your next Stillwater experience.

**3:00 pm** – It's time to head home with all your wonderful Saint Paul and Stillwater memories!

Contact Michael Hernandez at 651-265-4906 or [mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com](mailto:mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com) for more information.

For more information, Contact Michael Hernandez at 651.265.4906 or [mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com](mailto:mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com)

Photos courtesy of: Saint Paul CVA, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts, Science Museum of Minnesota, Cathedral of Saint Paul, Minnesota State Fair, Padelford Pocket Boat Company

**CULINARY TOURS**  
**COOKING CLASSES**  
**FOOD & WINE TASTINGS**  
**SHOPPING**

*life happens in the kitchen*



for booking information contact:  
 Susie Tucker, 651.292.0949x16

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

**Cruise into Nature in September & October**

**OKTOBERFEST LUNCH & LOCK CRUISE**  
 11AM-3 PM Saturdays  
**FALL COLOR CRUISE**  
 2-4 PM Sundays

Book online & SAVE at [www.riverrides.com](http://www.riverrides.com)

HARRIET ISLAND PARK  
 DOWNTOWN ST. PAUL  
 651-227-1100  
**PADELFORD RIVERBOATS** 40<sup>th</sup>

**AAW Gallery of Wood Art**



Traditional and Contemporary Art in Wood

Gift Shop with Regional Artists

Vintage Lathes

In Historic Landmark Center 651-484-9094  
[www.galleryofwoodart.org](http://www.galleryofwoodart.org)



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

*Country Inn St. Paul East*

Complimentary:

- Hot Breakfast Buffet
- Tour Bus Parking
- Bus Driver Room
- Group Leader Room
- Meal Meals for Bus Driver



**651-739-7300**  
 6003 Hudson Road Woodbury, MN 55125  
[www.countryinns.com/woodburymn](http://www.countryinns.com/woodburymn)

- Specializing in group tours since 1990.
- Day & overnight itineraries for groups of 20 or more.
- See Stillwater & St Croix Valley with friendly, knowledgeable, local guides.
- Explore more of Minnesota!



Valley Tours  
 Historic Courthouse  
 101 W. Pine Street  
 Stillwater, MN 55082  
 651-439-6110  
[www.valleytours.com](http://www.valleytours.com)



**Hilton Garden Inn**  
 St. Paul City Center

**THE BUS STOPS HERE**

FREE curbside motor-coach parking  
 FREE room for driver or guide  
 FREE welcome reception  
 FREE luggage handling  
 Pre-keyed rooms  
 Convenient downtown St. Paul Location  
 Easy freeway access

Call or email Jackie at 651.605.6972  
[jackie.fernandez@hilton.com](mailto:jackie.fernandez@hilton.com) to inquire about discounted tour rates and availability!

**STILLWATER**  
 Minnesota

*...wish you were here!*

Explore the beautiful St. Croix Valley from charming Stillwater, located minutes east of the Twin Cities. Our unique shops, galleries, fine dining and lodging can be enjoyed by all. Come for the day, spend a weekend or vacation with us. You'll be glad you did!

**651.439.4001**  
[www.discoverstillwater.com](http://www.discoverstillwater.com)

STILLWATER & OAK PARK HEIGHTS  
 CONVENTION AND VISITORS BUREAU

*Stillwater's Only Lodging on the St. Croix River!*

Elegant Guestrooms  
 Groups up to 300  
 Charlie's Irish Pub  
 The Grille- Fine & Casual Dining

101 Water Street South  
 Stillwater, MN 55082  
 651.439.6000  
[www.waterstreetinn.us](http://www.waterstreetinn.us)

**WATER STREET INN**

**HOCKEY MOM. HOCKEY DAD.**

Comedy and drama collide in this wildly popular box office smash-a romantic comedy about two lonely, single parents who fall in love at their kids' hockey match.

**COMING JANUARY 2010**  
**ACTORSMN.ORG**  
 For group reservations call Shira at 651-291-5289 or e-mail [Shira@ActorsMN.org](mailto:Shira@ActorsMN.org)



## CHRISTMAS: The Highlight of the Year at the American Swedish Institute

Join us during the holiday season and experience the warmth of "A Nordic Christmas"! This annual holiday event features the splendid 100-year-old Turnblad Mansion decorated for Christmas. Five rooms in the mansion are decorated in the style of each of the five Nordic countries, highlighting the traditions of Iceland, Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden with decorated trees and table settings.



Other events during the holiday season include:

- **Lucia Celebration**; December 13
- **Julbord** (Christmas Dinner); December 20
- **Julglädje**, a musical celebration of Christmas; December 26-27
- **Julgransplundring**, the "plundering" of the Christmas tree; January 9

There are also many events for children! Please visit

[www.AmericanSwedishInst.org](http://www.AmericanSwedishInst.org) and click on "Events" for a full listing of upcoming events.

The holiday season begins on **Saturday, November 7**. The ASI's annual **Christmas Fair** opens with the blowing of the näverlur, the traditional Swedish birchbark horn. Music and Swedish delicacies are the order of the day, and there might even be a visit from tomte, the Swedish Christmas elf!

For more information on bringing groups to the American Swedish Institute please call 612-870-3344.

# TITANIC

## THE ARTIFACT EXHIBITION



120 West Kellogg Blvd. St. Paul, MN 55102 [smm.org](http://smm.org) 651-221-9444 800-221-9444



Premier Partners



Media Partners



Produced by



## American Swedish Institute

*A Unique Destination*



A historic castle perfect for groups:

- Guided tours
- Meal packages
- Hands-on programs
- Gift shop

Please call 612-870-3344 for a free brochure.



2600 Park Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
[americanswedishinst.org](http://americanswedishinst.org)





## FALL COLORS + ENTERTAINMENT

This sample itinerary is best in the fall.

### 11:15 – 1:00 pm

Take in the gorgeous views of the fall colors on a Sightseeing Cruise of Lake Minnetonka aboard the **Paradise Charter Cruises**. Enjoy breathtaking views of the majestic Lake Minnetonka area as you pass century old lake cottages to luxurious mansions. Note: Lunch will be served aboard the boat.

### 1 – 1:30 pm

Travel to Saint Paul to the **Science Museum of Minnesota**.

### 1:30 – 5:00 pm

Stroll among dinosaurs, feel the pulse of the bloodstream superhighway, create a tornado from a rolling cloud, all in Minnesota's most popular museum. View their feature exhibit *Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition*. This 14,000 sq. ft. exhibit makes it the largest they've ever hosted. View photographs, over 200 genuine artifacts, personal items recovered after 80 years on the ocean floor and much more! (now thru January 2010)

### 5 – 5:30 pm

Load the motorcoach and travel west to Chanhassen for your evening entertainment.

### 5:30 – 9:30 pm

Experience the wonder & excitement of



**Chanhassen Dinner Theatres.** Enjoy a delicious dinner, served by a wait staff, as you watch the performance, *Oklahoma!* – A love story of a handsome cowboy and a winsome farm girl, played out after the turn of the century during the high-spirited rivalry between the local farmers and cowboys. (To see other performances visit [www.chanhassentheatres.com](http://www.chanhassentheatres.com).)

For more information on this sample itinerary contact your tour operator or Paradise Charter Cruises, 952-474-8058; Science Museum of Minnesota, 800-221-9444 or Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, 952-934-1547.

## Join the Ladies for the Holidays!

Nov. 5, 2009 – Jan. 24, 2010

# Away in the Basement

A Church Basement Ladies Christmas

Great for Groups!

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF 1979  
 PLYMOUTH PLAYHOUSE

3 HOT SPOTS UNDER 1 ROOF



Limited Run  
 How To Talk Minnesotan  
 The Musical  
 Opens Jan. 29, 2010

Box Office 763-553-1600 Groups 763-383-1073  
 Order Tickets Online [plymouthplayhouse.com](http://plymouthplayhouse.com)

**Group Tours...**  
 on the Mississippi River  
 and Lake Minnetonka

**MINNEAPOLIS QUEEN**

Paradise Charter Cruises  
 LAKE MINNETONKA • MISSISSIPPI RIVER

**952.474.8058**  
[www.TwinCitiesCruises.com](http://www.TwinCitiesCruises.com)

40 YEARS OF MAKING MEMORIES  
**Chanhassen DINNER THEATRES**

Experience the magic of the nation's largest professional dinner theatre presenting big Broadway musicals & comedies year 'round!

- Lavish productions • Free parking
- Choice of entrees • Tableside service

Playing in 2009–2010...

*Nuns on the Run* Boulevard  
 THE NUNSENSE HOLLYWOOD BOWL SHOW  
 FOOTLOOSE THE MUSICAL  
**OKLAHOMA!**

Minutes from the Mall of America  
 in Chanhassen, MN  
 952-934-1547 • [ChanhassenDT.com](http://ChanhassenDT.com)



## ALL ABOARD! NEXT STOP-BLOOMINGTON, MN EVERYTHING IS FIRST CLASS IN BLOOMINGTON!



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

### day one

Anchor at your choice of 36 hotels in Bloomington. With accommodations ideal for all visitors, your choice will be easy.

#### 10 – 5:00 pm

Ahoy – **Mall of America**! All hands on deck when you make your first stop to this shopping mecca of the world. Discover gold treasures around every corner, the finest fabrics at the anchor stores of Macy, Bloomingdale's, Nordstrom and Sears and stop down at Underwater Adventures® Aquarium to view sea life from deep below the waters.

#### Dinner Time

First mates gather for an evening bite to eat at Kokomo's Island Cafe in Mall of America.

### day two

#### 10 – 2:00 pm

Head due East to Saint Paul to enjoy the Early Bird Special breakfast at **Mickey's Diner**. Then visit the **Science Museum of Minnesota** and the new Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition. Begin the chronological journey through the life of the Titanic, from construction to artifact rescue. A 3,000-pound portion of the hull and gallery dedicated to the Minnesota connection shows to visitors how the sinking of the ship was felt locally.

#### 2 – 4:00 pm

Step on-board the **Padelford Riverboat** for a scenic tour down the Mississippi River. The narrated excursion begins at Harriet Island in Saint Paul and travels the river for passenger sightseeing through the bustling downtown harbor around the Mississippi National Great River Park.

#### 4 – 6:00 pm

Land lubbers will enjoy a walking tour of the historic mansions on Summit Avenue in Saint Paul. Take the 75-minute guided tour of the **James J. Hill House**.

#### 6 – 8:00 pm

Conclude your voyage to Saint Paul by dining at **The Strip Club: Meat and Fish**. Affordable dining



Mall of America



options include grass-fed beef and fresh local fish, small plates and sandwiches to delight the Captain and his crew on the tour.

### day three

#### 10 – 12:00 pm

Grab a bite to eat at your Bloomington hotel and steer your group towards the **Minnesota Valley Wildlife Refuge** in Bloomington. This 14,000-acre, 45 mile natural habitat for wildlife allows you to stroll along the winding paths, watch migrating birds or just relax on a bench and enjoy pristine wilderness in an urban setting.

#### 12 – 2:00 pm

Set anchor before departure at **Oak City Restaurant**. A locally owned restaurant and bar features an extensive menu of great food made from the freshest ingredients. Bon Voyage!

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group contact your tour operator or Bloomington CVB, 866-435-7425.



## MINNESOTA State Fair

From 6 a.m. to midnight, there's always something different to see all 12 days of the Great Minnesota Get-Together!



### 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...

- grab a spot on the curb and enjoy watching various floats during the Daily Mall Parade.
- 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](mailto:groups@mnstatefair.org)

**MINNESOTA STATE FAIR**

**Start planning now!**

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

Call (651) 632-2689 or e-mail [groups@mnstatefair.org](mailto:groups@mnstatefair.org)

**Aug. 27 through Labor Day, Sept. 7, 2009**

# MALL OF AMERICA

Bloomington, Minnesota  
mallofamerica.com

## The Place for fun™



### SHOP • PLAY • FUN

Mall of America® – over 520 shops, restaurants and attractions including Underwater Adventures® Aquarium, LEGO®, A.C.E.S. Flight Simulation, Moose Mountain Adventure Golf, Silicon Motor Speedway, Theatres at Mall of America™ and more!

Nickelodeon Universe® – the nation's largest indoor Nickelodeon® theme park. Experience 24 spine-tingling rides, meet your favorite characters and shop exclusive retail merchandise.

**New Stores & Attractions** – American Girl, Lacoste, Columbia Sportswear Co., Best Buy, Nike, American Apparel, True Religion, Lush, Gilly Hicks, Ruehl, Geox, Janie and Jack, Levi's and more.  
No sales tax on clothing and shoes!

For more information, contact Millie Philipp in Mall of America Tourism at 952.883.8843, [mphilipp@mallofamerica.com](mailto:mphilipp@mallofamerica.com) or visit [www.moainformation.com](http://www.moainformation.com).



# Let's Go... with the flow!

Touring the mighty Mississippi River in Minnesota, from the headwaters on...

## DAY ONE

11 - 2:00 PM

LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT PLACE TO RELAX ON A BEAUTIFUL SUMMER AFTERNOON? BOARD THE CHESTER CHARLES II, A HISTORIC CRUISE BOAT ON LAKE ITASCA, AND ENJOY THE RELAXING ATMOSPHERE AND THE BREATHTAKING SCENERY AS YOU TRAVEL THE SAME ROUTE AS SCHOOLCRAFT AND OZAWINDIB DID WHEN THEY DISCOVERED THE SOURCE OF THE GREAT MISSISSIPPI RIVER IN 1832.

**See Eagles Soar Above  
The Tops Of Ancient Pines**

as you tour the Mississippi at Itasca State Park or visit the historic statues of Paul & Babe. For details call 800-458-2223 or visit our website.

*Bemidji*  
First City On The Mississippi  
[www.visitbemidji.com](http://www.visitbemidji.com)

2 - 8:00 PM

TRAVEL NORTHEAST TO BEMIDJI, THE "FIRST CITY ON THE MISSISSIPPI". WALK A MILE INTO A UNIQUE BIG BOG, TAKE A HORSE-DRAWN COVERED WAGON RIDE TO THE TOP OF THE LAURENTIAN CONTINENTAL DIVIDE, TAKE A WOOLEN MILL FACTORY TOUR, OR ATTEND A RAPTOR PRESENTATION. THESE ARE JUST SOME OF THE ATTRACTIONS. CHOOSE ONE OF THEIR GROUP FRIENDLY ACCOMMODATIONS FOR YOUR OVERNIGHT.

## DAY TWO

6 - 2:00 PM

WAKE UP EARLY AND TRAVEL EAST TO GRAND RAPIDS. RELIVE THE HISTORY OF THE RIVER WITH THE MISSISSIPPI MELODIE SHOWBOAT. THEN VISIT THE LUMBERJACK CAMP AND COSTUMED INTERPRETERS AT MINNESOTA'S FOREST HISTORY CENTER, PLUS THE JUDY GARLAND MUSEUM & HER CHILDHOOD HOME. OLD CENTRAL SCHOOL AND MUSEUM BRING BACK MEMORIES AS YOU LEARN THE REAL STORY BEHIND THE FAMOUS PHOTOGRAPH OF THE PRAYING MAN; "GRACE".

**COBORN'S  
LAKE ITASCA TOURS**

Enjoy Daily Naturalist  
Narrated Tours Aboard the  
Historic 141 Passenger 1948  
"Chester Charles II"

Public Cruises · Brunch & Dinner Cruises  
Boat House 218-266-3660  
Coborn's Lake Itasca Tours, Inc 218-513-2216  
[www.lakeitascatours.com](http://www.lakeitascatours.com)

2 - 8:00 PM

CONTINUE THE REST OF THE DAY IN BRAINERD. THE BRAINERD LAKES AREA IS LOCATED IN CENTRAL MN ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, PLUS IT'S HOME TO 465 AREA LAKES, MUCH NATURAL BEAUTY, ENDLESS RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND NUMEROUS ENTERTAINMENT OPTIONS. NO MATTER THE SEASON, THIS AREA HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE TO ENJOY!

## DAY THREE

8 - 1:00 PM

FOLLOW THE RIVER TO GRANITE COUNTRY USA, ST. CLOUD. BRING YOUR CAMERA! ST. CLOUD'S BEST SUMMER ATTRACTION IS MUNSINGER/CLEMENS GARDENS, AND IS LOCATED ON THE LOWER EAST BANK OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER. YOU CAN RELIVE HISTORY, ATTEND A GREAT THEATRE PRODUCTION, VISIT QUARRY PARK,

OR DINE AT ONE OF THEIR MANY FINE RESTAURANTS.

1 - 3:00 PM

TRAVEL TO MINNEAPOLIS AND THE MILL CITY MUSEUM. "A UNIQUE CONCOCTION OF RAW POWER, DRAMATIC VIEWS AND HANDS-ON FUN PROPELS YOU THROUGH MILL CITY MUSEUM. THE STORY OF FLOUR MILLING COMES TO LIFE THROUGH THE EIGHT-STORY FLOUR TOWER RIDE, THE HANDS-ON BAKING AND WATER LABS AND A CINEMATIC TOUR OF "MINNEAPOLIS IN 19 MINUTES FLAT". PLUS, TAKE-IN ROOFTOP VIEWS OF THE MINNEAPOLIS RIVERFRONT AND VISIT THE GIFT SHOP AND CAFÉ."

3 - 9:00 PM

SPEND THE REMAINDER OF THE DAY IN SAINT PAUL. FOR PEOPLE SEEKING TRULY UNIQUE URBAN EXPERIENCES, SAINT PAUL IS MINNESOTA'S MUST-SEE CAPITAL. IT'S A MISSISSIPPI RIVER LANDMARK WHERE ADVENTURE AND INSPIRATION MEET UNPARALLELED INNOVATION, TRANSFORMING THE ORDINARY INTO THE EXTRAORDINARY. FOR A GOOD NIGHT'S REST CHOOSE ONE OF THEIR MANY GROUP-FRIENDLY HOTELS.

**SAINT PAUL**  
WHERE MINNESOTA ADVENTURE BEGINS  
Official Convention & Visitors Authority

651.265.4906 • 800.627.6101  
[www.saintpaulgroups.com](http://www.saintpaulgroups.com)  
[mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com](mailto:mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com)

## DAY FOUR

9 - 11:00 AM

AFTER BREAKFAST TAKE THE SHORT DRIVE TO HASTINGS. TAKE A STEP BACK IN TIME AT THE LEDUC HISTORIC ESTATE BUILT DURING THE CIVIL WAR. WITH ITS PROMINENT LOCATION ON



THE GREAT RIVER ROAD, A NATIONAL SCENIC BYWAY, THE HOUSE IS A MAJOR ATTRACTION.

11 - 5:00 PM  
TRAVEL SOUTH ALONG THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER TO LAKE CITY FOR A NARRATED CRUISE ONBOARD THE PEARL OF THE LAKE PADDLEWHEEL BOAT. IT PROVIDES A UNIQUE RIVER EXPERIENCE AS YOU CRUISE ON LAKE PEPIN, THE LARGEST AND MOST SCENIC LAKE ON THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE RIVER! OTHER FEATURES INCLUDE THE LARGEST MARINA AND THE ONLY WORKING LIGHTHOUSE ON THE ENTIRE RIVER! EAT ON BOARD OR AT ONE OF THE MANY FINE-DINING ESTABLISHMENTS.

5 - 6:00 PM  
CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THE RIVER SOUTH TO WINONA. REST UP FOR THE NIGHT IN A LOCAL HOTEL.

**DAY FIVE**  
9 - 11:00 AM  
WAKE UP AND EXPLORE THE MINNESOTA

MARINE ART MUSEUM. IT FEATURES FOUR GALLERIES OF WORLD-CLASS ART AND ARTIFACTS INCLUDING IMPRESSIONISM AND HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL MASTERPIECES, MARINE ART, FOLK ART SCULPTURES AND ROTATING EXHIBITS. LOCATED ON THE BANKS OF THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER, THE MUSEUM IS LOCATED IN A UNIQUE, TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY BUILDING AND LANDSCAPED WITH OVER 60,000 NATIVE PLANTS.

*Eat. Sleep. Meet. Play.*  
**EXPLORE**



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

We do tours in a BIG way.

GRANITE COUNTRY  
- LAKE -  
ST. CLOUD AREA  
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU  
**MINNESOTA**  
Call: 800-264-2940  
[www.granitecountry.com](http://www.granitecountry.com)

MINNESOTA  
MARINE ART  
MUSEUM

The Minnesota Marine Art Museum, located on the Mississippi River in Winona, features four galleries of world-class marine art and artifacts, Impressionism and Hudson River School artists, traveling exhibits and regional folk art.

Open Tuesday through Sunday  
[www.minnesotamarineart.org](http://www.minnesotamarineart.org)  
800 Riverview Drive, Winona, MN

**MILL CITY MUSEUM**  
Minnesota Historical Society  
612-341-7555  
[www.millcitymuseum.org](http://www.millcitymuseum.org)

Festivals, forests and folklore.

Grand Rapids offers:

- Forest History Center
- Judy Garland Museum
- Mine Tours
- Shopping
- Showboat & more!

800-355-9740  
[visitgrandrapids.com](http://visitgrandrapids.com)

WELCOME TO GRAND RAPIDS  
IT'S IN MINNESOTA'S NATURE!



*You'll need more than a day to discover Hastings...*



*Tour the LeDuc Historic Estate*

- Vermillion Falls
- LeDuc Historic Estate
- Alexis Bailly Vineyard
- Antique & Specialty Shops
- Carpenter St. Croix Valley Nature Center

**LAKE CITY MINNESOTA** **UNIQUE RIVER EXPERIENCE**

Pearl of the Lake  
[WWW.LAKECITYMN.ORG](http://WWW.LAKECITYMN.ORG)

**Hastings Tourism Bureau**  
651-437-6775 888-612-6122  
111 Third Street East, Hastings, Minnesota 55033  
e-mail: [info@hastingsmn.org](mailto:info@hastingsmn.org)  
[www.hastingsmn.org](http://www.hastingsmn.org)



## BACK ROAD GUESTS ARE BEST



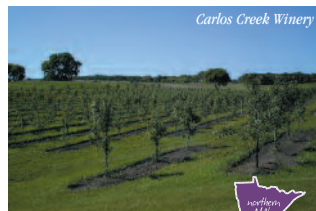
Buena Vista Logging Village



Itasca State Park



Bison Ranch



Carlos Creek Winery



This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. See route on page 58.

### day one

10:30 – 12:00 pm

Arrive in **Clearbrook** at the **Gourmet House**, Division of Riviana Foods and take a tour of the Wild Rice processing plant.

12 – 1:00 pm

Journey to **Buena Vista Logging Village**, approximately 15 miles found on County Road 15.

1 – 2:30 pm

Enjoy a chuckwagon style lunch and a narrated tour on an authentic covered wagon on the Continental Divide, accompanied by outriders on horseback who will point out where the waters flow south to the Gulf of Mexico and north to Hudson Bay.

2:30 – 3:00 pm

Depart for Bemidji on County Road 15.

3:00 – 5:00 pm

Tour the **Bemidji Woolen Mills Factory and Outlet Store**, family owned for four generations. View the construction of famous lumberjack plaid outerwear, blankets and sweaters, and take home a treasure from the retail portion of store.

5 – 6:00 pm

Check into an area hotel.

6 – 9:00 pm

Choose the **Bemidji Town & Country Club** – overlooking Lake Bemidji or **Cattails Bar & Grill** for dinner. If you're interested in live musical entertainment, check out **Alabaster Falls** –

'Folkgrass' music or perhaps a **Native American Flute** performance.

9:00 pm

Return to your motel for a good nights rest.

### day two

8 – 8:30 am

After breakfast stop for a photo with **Paul Bunyan & Babe the Blue Ox**. View Paul's memorabilia and the **Fireplace of States** in the Tourist Information Center.

8:30 – 9:15 am

Depart for **Itasca State Park**, Headwaters of Mississippi River, via the **Great River Road Scenic Byway**.

9:15 – 10:00 am

Arrive at Itasca State Park with a welcome by a Naturalist at the Visitor Center.

10:00 – 10:45 am

Stop for a refreshment break at historic **Douglas Lodge**, along Lake Itasca's shore. Built in 1905, Douglas Lodge is the oldest surviving building in the state park system and the first to be constructed in the Rustic Style.

10:45 – 12:30 pm

Board the "**Chester Charles**" for a relaxing boat cruise of Lake Itasca. Enjoy a 1 1/2 hr narrated history tour from the vantage point of early explorers. Be sure take the opportunity to walk across the Mississippi River where it begins.

12:30 – 1:30 pm

Head back to the Historic Douglas Lodge for lunch and browse through the Park's Gift Shop

before leaving.

1:30 – 2:15 pm

Board the coach to Nevis for a tour of the **Northland Bison Ranch**.

2:15 – 4:00 pm

Take the guided tour in the Buffalo Bus and learn the history of Bison and see them up close in their natural environment. Take pictures of bison with their young calves.

4 – 6:00 pm

Depart for **Carlos Creek Winery** in Alexandria. Visit their tasting room and tour their 160-acre grounds with North America's largest living maze. Afterwards, take your picture with the country's biggest Viking and see the world famous Kensington Runestone at the **Runestone Museum**.

6:00 pm

Check into an area hotel and enjoy an evening of summer theatre or nationally known musicians performing outstanding orchestral movements.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group please contact your tour operator or Cindy Habedank at the Bemidji VCB, 800-458-2223 X 106; Suzanne Thomas at Buena Vista Logging Village, 218-243-2250; Richard Bellefeuille, Itasca State Park Douglas Lodge Manager, 218-699-7219; Katie Magozzi at the Park Rapids Chamber of Commerce, 800-247-0054; Joni Karger Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, 800-245-2539.



## SOME ENCHANTED WEEKEND

This itinerary works best May of 2010.

### day one

10 – 3:00 pm

Begin your adventure at **Midtown Global Market**. Tour and shop the world all under one roof! "OVER 40 VENDORS offer the finest selection of produce, delicacies, prepared foods, grocery items and unique gifts from around the globe. At every turn, you will discover items for a new recipe, unearth a bargain, and meet the producers. There is no better place in town to satisfy your hunger- the Midtown Global Market contains the best international diversity South Minneapolis characterized for generations!"

3 – 4:00 pm

Next, depart for the **Ukrainian Gift Shop** where you can shop for jewelry, ornaments and their famous pysanky (Ukrainian Easter eggs).

4 – 6:00 pm

Take time to freshen up for dinner. Check into a Roseville Hotel and choose from a variety of restaurants available.

6 – 10:00 pm

After dinner, it's on to the **Ordway** to see **South Pacific**. Winner of seven 2008 Tony Awards including Best Musical Revival. Considered by many, the finest musical ever written, the "South Pacific" score includes such musical theater classics as "Some

Enchanted Evening," "Younger Than Springtime," "Bali Ha'i," "There is Nothin' Like A Dame" and "A Wonderful Guy."

### day two

8 – 1:00 pm

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and depart for **Albertville Premium Outlets**. With over 100 stores, you'll find impressive savings at Adidas, Ann Taylor Factory Store, Banana Republic, BCBG Max Azria, Calvin Klein, Coach, Gap Outlet, Gymboree, Kenneth Cole, Nike, Polo Ralph Lauren, Tommy Hilfiger and more!

1 – 3:00 pm

Next enjoy **Rosedale Center**, one of the premiere

Continued on Page 47



Continued from Page 46: *Some Enchanted Weekend*

shopping destinations in the Twin Cities, featuring over 150 stores, plus, the Plaza at Rosedale Center.

**3 – 5:00 pm**

Depart Rosedale Center for **Wine Time of Minnesota** where you will sample various wines made right in Minnesota. Take time to explore **Love from Minnesota**, the adjacent gift shop filled with Minnesota treasures. Head back to your Roseville Hotel to freshen up for the evening's activities.

**5 – 7:00 pm**

This evening, your group heads to the kitchen at **Cooks on Crocus Hill**, a store combining the tools for cooking and a fun environment for experimentation, demonstration, entertaining, and of course eating!

**7 – 9:00 pm**

Your day wouldn't be complete without "purse shopping" right at your hotel! Amy Englund will showcase **Beiji Purses**, which are the hot new fashion trend.

**day three**

**8 – 9:30 am**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and check out. Before leaving, you'll receive a special send off from the Roseville Visitors Association (**a free rose for every guest... Shhh... it's a surprise!!!**)

**9:30 – 10:30 am**

What's better after breakfast than chocolate? At **Custom Chocolates**, you are in for a treat! Enjoy

sampling various chocolates and take time to shop at this quaint chocolate shop.

**10:30 – 12:00 pm**

After Custom Chocolates, the **Guthrie Theater** is waiting to give you a backstage tour. "On the tour, you'll visit various production departments, including the shops where costumes, sets and props are expertly crafted by talented artisans."

**12 – 3:00 pm**

Board the coach for the **American Swedish Institute**. "Come catch a glimpse of life on glamorous Park Avenue - the "Golden Mile" of Minneapolis during the turn of the last century! Take a guided walk through the historic Turnblad mansion with its many unique architectural features, as well the permanent and special exhibits." After the tour, enjoy lunch; choose from a soup and sandwich lunch to a Swedish Smorgasbord!

**3 – 4:30 pm**

Finally, depart for **Bachman's**. "Bachman's is one of the largest floral and garden retailers in the country, with six full-service floral, home and garden centers, a garden and landscape center in Farmington called Cedar Acres and numerous other retail locations in the Minneapolis/Saint Paul area. Bachman's flagship store on Lyndale Avenue is located on the site of the original Bachman family farm."

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

An unforgettable tour

- Journey along the Great River Road Scenic Byway
- Tour the Mississippi River Headwaters
- View the Big Bog Rec Area's orchids and plants
- Visit the historic statues of Paul Bunyan and Babe
- Overlook the Continental Divide in a covered wagon
- Browse the artisan community
- Tour a north country winery

**Bemidji**  
www.visitbemidji.com  
First City on the Mississippi 800-458-2223



We'll find something even  
he'll enjoy doing.

When you work with the Roseville Visitors Association to plan your group tour, you can rest assured that our experienced staff will help build an itinerary to satisfy even the pickiest traveler. Roseville is conveniently located just minutes from everything in Minneapolis-Saint Paul, and our brand-name hotels offer free parking and lower lodging tax rates than most metro cities.

For more group tour information,  
contact the Roseville Visitors Association today.



(651) 633-3002 or (877) 980-3002  
[www.visitroseville.com](http://www.visitroseville.com)



## ARTS, EATS + TREATS

### Park Rapids Lakes Area: Where the Mississippi River Begins & Fun Never Ends!

(Remember to bring your camera)



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

#### day one

**8:15 – 9:15 am**

Arrive in **Historic Downtown Park Rapids** just in time for breakfast at **3rd Street Market** or **Beyond Juice**.

**9:15 – 9:30 am**

Leave Park Rapids and head north on Hwy 71 - the road to **Itasca State Park**.

**9:30 – 10:30 am**

Stop at the quaint and delightful **Summerhill Farm**. Tour and shop at each of eight hillside gift shops, each with its own special appeal and variety of gifts, decorative accessories, clothing & much more!

**10:30 – 11:15 am**

Continue your travel north to **Itasca State Park**, where the **Headwaters of the Mississippi River** flows from its source at Lake Itasca

**11:15 – 12:00 pm**

Tour the **Jacob V. Brower Visitor Center**. Pick up your park brochures and learn about the geographic, historic and cultural significance of Minnesota's first state park. A small gift shop is also located in the center.

**12 – 1:00 pm**

Dine at historically impressive **Douglas Lodge**, where the view of the tranquil settings is second to none. The restaurant serves many wonderful entrees with a "Minnesota" flavor such as walleye, wild rice and blueberry pancakes.

**1 – 3:00 pm**

Take a naturalist narrated tour aboard the Historic "**Chester Charles**" boat on Lake Itasca and follow the same route Ozawindib and Schoolcraft took in 1832 when they recorded the source of the Mississippi River.

**3 – 4:00 pm**

Head to the **Mary Gibbs Mississippi Headwaters Center** where more informative displays tell the story of this memorable place and access to the headwaters of the Mighty Mississippi is within easy walking distance.

**4 – 5:30 pm**

Leave Itasca State Park and stop at **Forestedge Winery** for a tour and tasting. This homegrown winery provides its visitors with a stroll along the nature trails, a pleasant wander through the

gardens...and a taste of the 11 varieties of wine. After wine tasting step next door to the **Gallery for Original Arts and Fine Crafts**. Their Art Fair is August 15 and 16.

**5:30 – 6:30 pm**

Leave **Forestedge Winery** and arrive for dinner at **Brauhaus German Restaurant & Lounge**. Enjoy an authentic German dining experience presented by servers in traditional German attire.

**6:30 – 7:15 pm**

Leave the Brauhaus and go east on Highway 34 to the **Chippewa National Forest** scenic overlook at Shingobee. Stretch your legs with a short walk on the trail or relax, enjoy the spectacular view and take more pictures.

**7:15 – 8:00 pm**

Return to **Akeley** for another photo opportunity. Paul Bunyan's outstretched hand provides the perfect setting.

**8 – 10:00 pm**

Live entertainment abounds here. Enjoy one or several performances at **Jaspers Jubilee Musical Theater** or **Long Lake Theater**. Enjoy the shows at the **Woodtick Musical Theatre** or **Northern Light Opera Company**. Add a matinee performance and see them all.

**10:00 pm**

Arrive at your lodging in Park Rapids. Advance arrangements for your late arrival can be made by contacting [www.parkrapidscla.com](http://www.parkrapidscla.com).

#### day two

**9 – 10:00 am**

Enjoy a family style breakfast at the **Logging Camp** on Potato Lake. Tour the grounds for a glimpse into the days when the bull cook called "It's daylight in the swamps" to rouse logging crews to the table.

**10 – 11:15 am**

Head back to Historic Downtown Park Rapids for a great shopping experience. Known for unique shops and its one of a kind items and where people still park down the center of Main Street. Visit more than 55 unique stores offering everything from gifts, jewelry, collectibles and items for the home or cabin, furniture, moccasins and more. See fudge being stirred in a copper kettle at **Aunt Belle's Confectionary** and try a hand-dipped ice cream cone, cherry Coke or a malt at our authentic 1930s

#### MinneSoda Fountain.

**11:15 – 11:45 am**

Visit the **All Veterans Memorial Park** next to the **Park Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce** south on Hwy 71. The Memorial honors all branches of the Armed Forces and all the wars in which they served.

**11:45 – 2:30 pm**

Now you're off to the **Northland Bison Ranch Tour** and a wonderful **Buffalo Burger** picnic lunch on their beautiful grounds. Bison have been called the most important wild animals in the development of North America. This tour will bring you up close and personal to these majestic creatures that once numbered in the millions and narrowly escaped extinction. Buses take you out in the field next to them for some great photos.

**2:30 – 5:00 pm**

Now head to historic downtown Hubbard for a matinee at **Long Lake Theater**. If you time your trip to be here Sept. 26-27, the theater is on the map as part of **Art Leap 2009**. This event takes visitors to artists' studios and other venues where original art, jewelry and other fine art is being created.

**5 – 7:00 pm**

Enjoy dinner at one of several area restaurants, including our newest - **The Good Life Cafe**, where seasonal food is on the menu or a Park Rapids tradition, the **Y Steak House**. On a Friday or Saturday, return to **Summerhill Farm** for a scrumptious slow-cooked Kansas City style barbecue or make arrangements for a Chuck Wagon Supper Show at **Smokey Hills Wilderness Retreat**. **Vacationaire Restaurant** is a delight on Island Lake too. Another favorite stop for dinner is **Dorset**, the *Restaurant Capital of the World*.

**7:00 pm**

Head back to **Red Bridge Park** where a paved trail and picnic tables provide a spot to appreciate the beauty of the river, see loons, ducks, geese or possibly a Bald Eagle. Choices for the rest of the evening are to buy an ice cream cone and re-visit Main Street, go to a movie or take in a local festival or other event, depending on when you are staying.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group contact your tour operator or Park Rapids Lakes Area Chamber of Commerce at 800-247-0054 or at [www.parkrapids.com](http://www.parkrapids.com).

park rapids co-op  
full page ad



## KANDIYOHI COUNTY

This sample itinerary is best April-October.

### day one

**10 – 1:00 pm**

Look across the fields and what is that you see? Yes it really is a 36 foot high wine bottle, - (3,000 pounds of steel & fiberglass). You've arrived at Lake Lillian's K-8 School – but school is no longer in session - **The Olde Country Winery** is now housed inside this old school. See the vineyard, take a tour and relax with a catered lunch over a glass of their fine wine. Now introducing brandies and cognac.

**1 – 3:00 pm**

Board the bus for a 30-minute ride to **Willmar. J & L Bison Ranch** – Seeing is believing, home to 300 bison



that roam over 200 beautiful acres. In addition to visiting the unique gift shop, you will board their bus

and be up close and personal with the bison. We're saving the rest of the details for the tour.

**3 – 5:00 pm**

Take a step back in time as you tour the **Mikkelson Collection**. Consisting of over \$2,000,000 of classic and antique boats, motors, and items from boating history. Several of the boats and motors are the last surviving examples known to exist, and ALL are rare.

**5 – 9:30 pm**

Take the short ride north to **Spicer to Melvin's on the Lake**, located on beautiful Green Lake. You have a choice of dining inside, outside on the patio, or aboard their Houseboat for a dinner cruise. All offer an incredible view of Green Lake. (The boat's view is slightly better of course!) Call ahead for cruise arrangements. Stick around for the evening's musical entertainment.

**9:30 pm**

Unpack and relax for the rest of the evening at the **Holiday Inn**, Willmar's full service hotel, offering comfortable rooms, lounge, pool and more.

### day two

**9 – 10:00 am**

Enjoy a continental breakfast at your hotel.

**10 – 12:00 pm**

Spend the rest of your morning browsing the specialty shops and antique shops Willmar has to offer. This community is rich in tucked away shops that



offer unique treasures.

**12 – 1:30 pm**

Enjoy lunch at the **Green Mill Restaurant**. Choose from their selection of signature Mill Street brews while sampling Minnesota's most awarded pizzas, their soups and salads to heartier fare; they have a choice to fit any taste.

For more information on this sample itinerary please contact your tour operator or Willmar CVB, 800-845-8747.



## The Great Rendezvous Place

**J**ourney along legendary Highway 61 and savor the spectacular scenery of the north shore of Lake Superior. Grand Portage is just two and a half hours north of Duluth.

### A Perfect Destination

Visit High Falls – Minnesota's highest waterfall - in Grand Portage State Park. Take a boat cruise to Isle Royale National Park. Discover the rich history of aboriginal culture and the fur trade at Grand Portage National Monument and the Heritage Center.

Grand Portage Lodge & Casino welcomes visitors year round. Offering Jacuzzi suites, 95 guest rooms, an indoor pool and other amenities to make your visit comfortable and enjoyable. The Casino rolls 24 hours a day and features a Bingo Hall and over 450 slot machines. Stop by Grand Portage's **Trading Post**, a smoke-free facility with a gift shop, grocery store, UPS parcel pick-up and 43 slot machines.

### Spectacular Events

At Grand Portage Lodge & Casino there's something for people of all ages. From August 7th - 9th, 2009, participate in Grand Portage's **Rendezvous Days**, an annual celebration of Ojibwe culture. From September 4th - 6th, 2009, it's **Bayou Boogie**; featuring Louisiana music, dancing, feasting, Mardi Gras parades, storytelling, and crafts. Free Admission!

For more information, call 1-800-543-1384 or visit [www.GrandPortage.com](http://www.GrandPortage.com).



## Discover the Perfect Destination

35 miles North of Grand Marais, MN

Surrounded by Minnesota's north woods and overlooking Lake Superior, Grand Portage welcomes visitors for relaxation or play.

1-800-543-1384

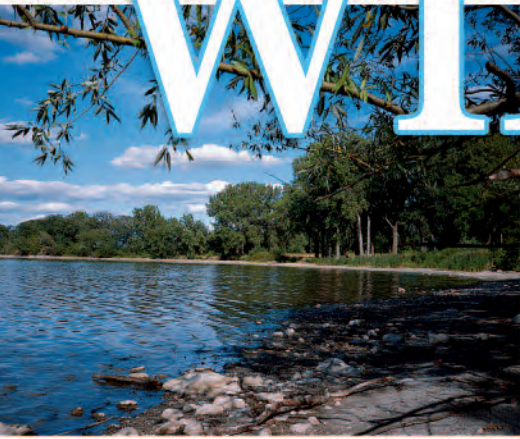
[www.GrandPortage.com](http://www.GrandPortage.com)



Experience Fun and Excitement!

# WILLMAR

## Lakes Area



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

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

## WILLMAR LAKES AREA

In beautiful Kandiyohi County where the lakes begin.

WILLMAR LAKES AREA CVB | 2104 HWY 12 EAST | WILLMAR, MN 56201 | 800-845-8747 EXT 79 | WWW.WILLMAR.COM

**Olde Country**  
Winery

Producing Minnesota's Newest  
Taste of Fine Wines

301 Olde Country School Yard E • Lake Lillian, MN  
320-664-WINE (9463)

*The*  
**MIKKELSON COLLECTION, INC.**

**CLASSIC & ANTIQUE BOAT  
MUSEUM & SHOP**

418 Benson Ave SE • Willmar, MN

Paul D. Mikkelson  
Shop 320-231-0384  
Cottage 320-235-0367  
paultmci@msn.com  
www.fallsflyer.com

**J & L BISON RANCH**

Gift Shop • Buffalo Meat  
Tours By Appointment  
Open Apr 1 - Nov 1

5650 NW 41ST AVE - WILLMAR, MN 56201  
320-235-8465 • www.jlbison.com

**Melvin's On the Lake**

HOUSEBOAT CRUISES  
Great for any occasion.

**Melvin's**  
On the Lake

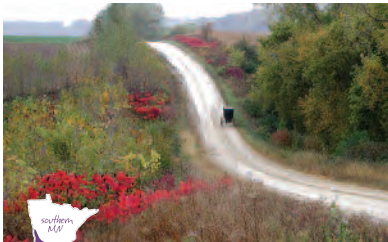
55 person capacity!

320-796-2195  
www.melvinsonthelake.com

2100 East Hwy 12 • Willmar, MN 56201  
320-235-6060 • www.torgersonproperties.com



## DISCOVER THE MAGIC OF BLUFF COUNTRY



This sample itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year. See route on page 58.

### 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!**

#### 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 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.

#### 5:00 pm

Enjoy a delicious dinner at a local restaurant before you head for home.

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.

### PLAN YOUR NEXT GETAWAY ALONG THE BACK ROADS OF SCENIC BLUFF COUNTRY

Root River & Harmony-Preston State Bicycle Trails · Explore a Cave · Amish Tours · Scenic Byways  
Arts & Theater · State Parks · Shopping/Antiquing · Bird Watching · 19th-Century Architecture  
Charming Lodging Facilities · Home Cooked Meals · Golf · Fish · Camp · And Much More!

Call Toll Free at 800-428-2030 or visit [www.bluffcountry.com](http://www.bluffcountry.com)



National Scenic Byway Minnesota Highway 16  
Partially Funded by the National Highway Department





## DUTCH DELIGHT TOUR



This itinerary can be customized for anytime of the year.

### 8 – 8:30 am

Meet your Albert Lea Step-on-Guide at Northbridge Mall off exit 157 on I-90. (Near the Shopko entrance to the mall).

### 8:30 – 10:30 am

Start your day off right with a **Historic City Tour of Albert Lea**. On this tour you'll see the beautiful historic buildings of downtown, our two spectacular lakes and much more.

### 10:30 – 11:00 am

Experience the taste of the "Dutch"

country in the quaint town of **Hollandale**. Tour the historic, "**Heritage Huis**" - a one-room museum featuring memorabilia of Hollandale and the history of Dutch immigrants. See the history come alive!

### 11 – 12:30 pm

Enjoy an authentic Dutch lunch served by the ladies of the "**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**" - Dutch meatballs, potatoes, coleslaw, dessert and a beverage. Very delicious!

### 12:30 – 2:00 pm


Enjoy a trip to a local working potato farm. At **R&R Farms** as you will learn about the entire potato farming process,

from planting and harvesting to storing, washing and bagging.


### 2 – 4:00 pm

Afternoon cookies and coffee at **New Denmark Park** in Albert Lea will complete your tour. Enjoy the beauty of the Fountains on Fountain Lake while taking in the sights of one of Albert Lea's most beautiful and peaceful city parks.

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



# Albert Lea... *The Land Between the Lakes!*



**Guided Group Tours • Customized Itineraries • Historical Museum • Antiques & Collectibles**  
Call today for your free visitors guide • 800-345-8414 • [www.albertleatourism.org](http://www.albertleatourism.org)

**EXPERIENCE OWATONNA'S HOMETOWN HOLIDAY WEEKEND**

This sample itinerary is best **December 3 & 4, 2009.**

**day one**

**5 – 6:00 pm**

Bundle up and line the sidewalks of downtown Owatonna for the **Hometown Holiday Lighted Parade** – Owatonna's hometown version of the popular Holiday Parade!

**6 – 7:00 pm**

Make your way to Central Park for a free cup of hot cider and some Christmas cookies. Catch a glimpse of **Santa in the Bandshell** as he welcomes in the holidays by flipping the switch for the synchronized twinkle lights and music show. Enjoy Christmas carols by the Owatonna High School Carolers, and if it's a little too chilly, take in the sights and sounds from your cozy bus seat by turning on the radio for the program in the Park!

**7:00 pm**

With lodging properties boasting nearly 700 guest rooms and price ranges and amenities to meet every need, you are sure to find one that fits your group's needs.

**day two**

**10 – 12:00 pm**

Grab a gourmet coffee from Central Park Coffee Shop in downtown before taking to the streets for "**Santa Specials**" in all the retail stores – there's sure to be something for everyone on your shopping list!

**12 – 1:00 pm**

Enjoy lunch and treat yourself to **Costa's Café & Chocolate Shop**. Everyone will enjoy the hand-made/hand-dipped candies in their stockings this year!

**1 – 3:00 pm**

Take in Owatonna's attractions dressed up for the holidays, including the **National Farmer's Bank** downtown, designed by world renowned architect **Louis Sullivan**, the only **Minnesota State School Orphanage Museum** and **Owatonna Arts Center's** history and holiday displays.

**3 – 5:00 pm**

Brave the elements and enjoy childhood fun again by renting ice skates at the **Morehouse Park Chalet** and skate your way along the **Straight River**.

**5 – 7:00 pm**

Step back in time for a Victorian Christmas at the **Village of Yesteryear!** Horse-drawn sleigh rides, pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, fancy cookie sale, Christmas carolers, stroll along the boardwalk lit by luminaries and more! Children can decorate cookies & wassail is served in the General Store. See the Dunnell House lavishly decorated for the holidays. FREE admission!

For more information on Owatonna's Holiday Itinerary contact your tour operator or Lisa Havelka, Owatonna Chamber of Commerce & Tourism 507-451-7970 or visit [www.visitowatonna.org](http://www.visitowatonna.org).

**CHRISTMAS TOURS**

This sample itinerary is best **November through December.**

**day one**

**10 – 11:30 am**

Arrive at the **Historic Hormel Home** and enjoy a



special Christmas treat. The entire home is decorated for the Christmas season. Many local merchants volunteer their time and supplies to make this magnificent home sparkle for the Christmas season.

**11:30 – 12:30 pm**

Break for lunch at the **Old Mill Restaurant**

[Continued on Page 55](#)

SCENIC BYWAYS, FESTIVALS, LAKES, RESORTS, CASINOS, PARKS, TRAILS, HISTORIC SITES, CAVES, BLUFFS, WATERFALLS & MORE!

**EXPLORE Southern MINNESOTA**

You'll be Surprised... at what you'll find!

GET YOUR FREE 2009 VISITORS GUIDE!

1-888-868-7476 ext 162 | [ExploreSouthernMinnesota.com](http://ExploreSouthernMinnesota.com)  
For an online interactive guide log onto [www.itinerariesmidwest.com](http://www.itinerariesmidwest.com).

**Owatonna**  
DISCOVER OUR FACES & PLACES

**National Historic Sites**  
Village of Yesteryear  
**Largest County Fair in MN**  
Extensive Trails and Parks  
**Cabela's, Preferred Outlet Mall & Specialty Shops**  
Small Town Ambiance

Contact us for a **FREE VISITORS GUIDE**

Owatonna Area Chamber of Commerce & Tourism  
320 Hoffman Drive  
Owatonna, MN 55060  
800.423.6466

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



Continued from Page 54: Christmas Tours

overlooking the Cedar River. Enjoy the special atmosphere of this historic flourmill, decked out for the Christmas season.

**12:30 – 2:00 pm**

Begin your tour of **Gerard of Minnesota**, the home of Jay Catherwood Hormel; son of George A. Hormel. This 97 room Chateau is also beautifully decorated for the Christmas Season.

**2 – 2:30 pm**

Visit Austin's **Historic Paramount Theatre**, and view a short film telling the history of the glory days of theatre, plus receive a tour of the facility. The Paramount Theatre opened its doors in 1929 and is one of the only atmospheric theatres left in Minnesota.

**2:30 – 3:00 pm**

Enjoy a little Christmas Entertainment- with sixteen high school students from Pacelli High School, who will entertain you with songs of the season!

**3 – 4:30 pm**

Even the **SPAM® Museum** is decorated for the Christmas season. Enjoy "era specific" decorations throughout the museum as well as numerous yellow and gold decorations and the huge SPAM® Christmas tree.

**4:30 pm**

Arrive at the **Holiday Inn Austin**, where "SPAMMY" the Spam® Man will greet your group dressed up for the Holiday season!

**6:00 pm**

Dine at **Torge's Live** or the **Harvest Buffet** both located inside the hotel. Or choose from one of the other fine dining locations around town.

**7:30 pm**

Enjoy a Christmas show by **Michael Veldman and Crew**. The quality of this show is outstanding. Or you can board the bus and take in a brilliant Christmas light display around Southern Minnesota.

## day two

**9 – 10:00 am**

Travel to the home of **Helen and Bill Holder** and see over 540 Nativity scenes. Hear about these precious pieces that have been collected from all over the world.

**10 – 11:00 am**

See the amazing **St. Augustine's Church** - built in 1894, while enjoying the beautiful Christmas decorations and some Holiday treats and coffee.

**11 – 12:00 pm**

Next up, tour the **United Methodist Church** and see the beautiful nativity scene while you hear about the history of this special church.

**12:00 pm**

Enjoy a Christmas catered lunch before you leave the great city of Austin. Happy Holidays!

For more information on this sample itinerary please contact your tour operator or the Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau 800-444-5713.

# Holiday Inn®



**You will be our #1 PRIORITY, we roll out the red carpet for you!**

Step on the bus greeting & welcome. **Spammy** will be waving & inviting your group into our wonderful **Austin Holiday Inn & Conference Center** for picture taking and pre-keyed guestroom service. All you have to do is begin to relax.

Join us for our Complimentary Welcome Reception, featuring our very popular SPAM ball.

Satisfy your appetites by indulging at the **Harvest Buffet** or **Torges' Live Sports Pub & Grill** - nightly entertainment.

Relax on the patio by our indoor pool & whirlpool. Participate in a game of ping-pong, billiards or putt-a-round on the putting green.

Let our **Austin Holiday Inn & Conference Center** be your choice for complete guest service & satisfaction. Call 1-507-433-1000 ext.350 or [sales@hiaustin.com](mailto:sales@hiaustin.com) or 1-800-985-8850!

# Austin MINNESOTA

*...for the FUN of it!*



When you visit Austin, whether with a group or with your family, you can expect full-service from our staff, whether you need a customized itinerary for a multiple-day stay or just some great ideas of places to visit while you are in town!

Austin is home to the Hormel Foods Corporation, the interactive and world-famous SPAM® Museum, and The Hormel Institute ~ where major cancer research is underway. Having just completed a \$20 million expansion, the Institute provides informative and fascinating tours by pre-arrangement through the Austin CVB. There is SO MUCH MORE to see and do...the Historic Paramount Theatre, the beautiful Jay C. Hormel Nature Center, the Hormel Historic Home, a real alpaca farm, a mini-history farm, all for your group's enjoyment!

*Let's plan your visit to SPAM® Town, USA today!*

## Austin Convention & Visitors Bureau

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

800-444-5713 • 507-437-4563

[www.austincvb.com](http://www.austincvb.com) • [visitor@austinnm.com](mailto:visitor@austinnm.com)

EXPLORE  
Minnesota  
.com





## directory & map

### accommodations

#### metro

##### AmericInn International, LLC

Chanhasen ..... **800-634-3444**

##### The Depot Minneapolis, A Renaissance Hotel

225 3rd Ave – Minneapolis, MN 55401 ... **612-375-1700**  
kkingsbury@thedepotminneapolis.com  
www.thedepotminneapolis.com

The Depot Minneapolis, A Renaissance Hotel, is located in downtown Minneapolis and is walking distance to restaurants, museums, Guthrie Theater, Stone Arch Bridge, attractions along the Mississippi Riverfront and features group tour packages.

##### Country Inn

##### Saint Paul East/Woodbury ..... **651-739-7300**

6003 Hudson Road – Woodbury, MN 55125  
bplotrowski@csmcorp.net

Just off of I-94, The Country Inn offers travelers rest, relaxation and comfortable accommodations. Guests will love our hotel's many amenities, unique design and convenient location near the Xcel Energy Center, St. Paul's Cathedral and Afton Alps.

##### Courtyard

##### Minneapolis/Bloomington ..... **952-876-0100**

7800 Bloomington Ave South – Bloomington, MN 55425  
courtyard\_moa@csmcorp.net

We are located just one mile from Mall of America™ and central to the Metrodome, Science Museum, and Chanhasen Dinner Theater. We offer tour groups complimentary shuttle to Mall of America™, motor coach parking and bus driver/escort guest room.

##### Courtyard by Marriott ..... **651-746-8000**

2905 Centre Pointe Drive – Roseville, MN 55113  
courtyard\_roseville@csmcorp.net

From the moment the coach arrives, guests will enjoy red carpet service! The Courtyard offers complete Group Tour Packages to assure a memorable experience. The central location and warm atmosphere make this hotel a perfect choice!

##### Hilton Garden Inn

##### Minneapolis/Eden Prairie ..... **952-995-9009**

6330 Point Chase – Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
www.minneapolisedenprairie.hgi.com

Every hotel can offer rooms...we offer an incredible stay! From our newly renovated rooms to our incredible service your group will feel pampered from the minute they step off the bus. Just minutes from your favorite attractions.

##### Hilton Garden Inn St. Paul City Center

Saint Paul ..... **651-605-6972**

##### Hilton Garden Inn

##### Saint Paul/Oakdale ..... **651-735-4100**

420 Inwood Avenue – Oakdale, MN 55128  
www.stpauloakdale.gardeninn.com

Guests will enjoy Garden Inn Sleep System Beds for a truly peaceful nights sleep and receive a complimentary all American breakfast buffet each morning. Our hotel features a pool, whirlpool & fitness center.

##### Holiday Inn

##### Bloomington Airport I-35W ..... **952-884-8211**

1201 West 94th Street – Bloomington, MN 55431  
www.holiday-inn.com/bloomingtonmn

Holiday Inn Bloomington I-35W is conveniently located in Bloomington, MN just 5 miles from the Mall of America. Easy access to I-494 and I-35W and major attractions; Mystic Lake Casino, Chanhasen Dinner Theatre and to downtown Minneapolis and Saint Paul.

##### Holiday Inn Express

##### Minnetonka ..... **952-912-9999**

10985 Red Circle Drive – Minnetonka, MN 55343  
www.hiexpress.com/minnetonka

Enjoy a cozy new look in a totally smoke free environment. Conveniently located less than one mile from Highways 494, 62, 212, & 169 gives more accessibility to any venue you may want to visit.

##### Holiday Inn Express Roseville ... **651-636-5800**

2715 Long Lake Rd – Roseville, MN 55113  
hiedos@hotmail.com / www.hiexpress.com/roseville

At 35W and Co Rd C, the Holiday Inn Express Roseville is close to the Rosedale Mall, Minnesota State Fairgrounds; and the dining entertainment and cultural advantages of downtown Minneapolis.

##### Holiday Inn

##### Minneapolis NW – Elk River ..... **763-656-4404**

9200 Quaday Ave NE – Elk River, MN 55330  
nfiksdal@hielkriver.com / www.hielkriver.com

All rooms are oversized and feature a pillow menu, refrigerator and microwave. Relax and Play in the Wild Woods Waterpark. Experience the Mississippi Valley Grill & Bar. Our hotel offers spacious group meeting space and a unique dining experience in the Mississippi Wooded Lounge.

##### Marriott Minneapolis West ..... **952-544-4400**

9960 Wayzata Blvd – St. Louis Park, MN 55426  
marriott\_minneapolis\_west@csmcorp.net

Enjoy the tranquility of a luxury hotel in Saint Louis Park. Featuring an Irish Pub and Caribou Coffee Shop in the lobby & a complimentary suite for the tour guide with loads of bus parking.

##### SpringHill Suites by Marriott ... **952-944-7700**

11552 Leona Rd – Eden Prairie, MN 55344  
skennedy@csmcorp.net

SpringHill Suites by Marriott-Eden Prairie is an all suite hotel and the perfect choice for your group accommodations. With many well-appointed amenities and a great location, we promise an enjoyable stay!

##### SpringHill Suites – Eagan ..... **651-686-0600**

3635 Crestridge Drive, Eagan, MN 55122  
mlawrence@csmcorp.net

SpringHill Suites by Marriott in Eagan is perfect for business or pleasure, located just minutes from the Mall of America, Minneapolis/Saint Paul Airport, Cascade Bay Water Park, the Minnesota Zoo and the Eagan Community Center.

##### SpringHill Suites

##### St Louis Park ..... **952-738-7300**

5901 Wayzata Blvd – St Louis Park, MN 55416  
springhill\_suites\_st\_louis\_park@csmcorp.net

Close to downtown Minneapolis. Offering all suite accommodations with plush bedding and pillow top mattresses. A free breakfast buffet with hot and cold items, a 24-hour Market, indoor pool and Jacuzzi, and updated fitness center.

##### Super 8 ..... **763-546-6277**

##### Minneapolis/Golden Valley ..... **800-800-8000**

6300 Wayzata Blvd – Golden Valley, MN 55416  
pogorser@cdthotel.com / www.super8mpls.com

Downtown Minneapolis & Target Center, 3 miles; Convention Center & Metrodome, 5 miles; Lake Minnetonka area, 7 miles; Mall of America, 15 miles; Mystic Lake Casino; Gold Courses; Airport, 15m; University of MN; Minnesota Zoo; Walker Art Center; Children's & Science Museum; Minnesota State Fair; Renaissance Festival

##### Water Street Inn Stillwater ..... **651-439-6000**

#### northern

##### AmericInn Lodge & Suites

Park Rapids ..... **800-634-3444**

##### AmericInn Lodge & Suites ..... **320-253-6337**

4385 Clearwater Rd – St. Cloud, MN 56301 **888-274-1999**  
stcloud.mn@americinn.com

www.americinn.com/hotels/MN/StCloud

Welcome to a warm smile, spacious rooms, an inviting pool, free hot breakfast and quiet nights. Conveniently located off of I-94 exit 171. AmericInn of St. Cloud welcomes you to the end of the day!

##### AmericInn Lodge & Suites

##### & Event Center of Moorhead ... **218-287-7100**

600 30th Ave S – Moorhead, MN 56560 **877-287-7100**  
dawn@americinnofmoorhead.com

www.americinnofmoorhead.com

Our two-story waterfall cascades into a tropical courtyard featuring an indoor 9-hole championship miniature golf course, swimming pool, children's pool, & whirlpool. We have a lounge, fitness center and free deluxe hot continental breakfast.

##### C'Mon Inn Motel & Suites

Park Rapids ..... **800-258-6891**

##### Grand Portage Lodge & Casino **218-475-2401**

70 Casino Drive, PO Box 233 **800-543-1384**

Grand Portage, MN 55605

gportage@tbaytel.net / www.GrandPortage.com

Recreation. Attractions. Relaxation. Excitement. Visit Grand Portage Lodge & Casino and experience 24-hour casino entertainment, hospitality and comfort. Hike, boat, fish and camp. Visit the north shore...and get very excited.

##### King's Cottages Resort Motel

Park Rapids ..... **218-732-4526**

##### Red Bridge Inn Park Rapids ..... **888-733-7241**

##### Riverside Point Resort Motel

Park Rapids ..... **800-733-9711**

##### Rustic Inn Park Rapids ..... **218-237-2828**

##### Super 8 Motel & Suites Park Rapids ... **877-274-3040**

www.GrandPortage.com.

#### southern

##### AmericInn Lodge & Suites ..... **507-642-2004**

##### of Madelia **800-634-3444**

620 Haynes Ave NW – Madelia, MN 56062

This MLA Property of the Year exceeds guest expectations with top notch service, rooms, and décor - all at a great value. Features: fireplace & whirlpool suites; a beautiful, indoor recreation area, hospitality room available for business or pool parties; high-speed/wireless internet; enhanced continental breakfast.

##### Holiday Inn Austin ..... **877-985-8850**

1701 4th Street NW – Austin, MN 55912 / www.hiaustin.com

Located fifteen miles east of the intersection of I-90 & I-35. We have 121 rooms & suites, including several poolside rooms for easy access to the Holiday Inn. Free wireless internet access. Come and enjoy a meal at the Harvest Buffet or take in some live entertainment in Torge's Live Sports Pub & Grill.

##### Holiday Inn & Willmar Conference Center

Willmar ..... **877-405-4466**



## attractions

### metro

**American Association of Woodturners**  
Saint Paul . . . . . **651-484-9094**

**American Swedish Institute** . . . . . **612-870-3344**  
2600 Park Avenue – Minneapolis, MN 55407  
info@americanswedishinstitute.org  
www.americanswedishinst.org

Bring your group to the most unique destination in the Twin Cities!  
Tour the 33-room Swan Turnblad mansion, indulge in one of our Swedish lunch or dessert packages, then enjoy the museum shop.

**Cooks of Crocus Hill** Saint Paul . . . . . **651-228-1333**

**Mill City Museum** Saint Paul . . . . . **612-341-7555**

**Minnesota History Center** Saint Paul . **651-259-3003**

### 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 geological information.

**Padelford Packet Boat Company**  
Saint Paul . . . . . **651-227-1100**

**Paradise Charter Cruises & Minneapolis Queen** . . . . . **952-474-8058**  
PO Box 563 – Excelsior, MN 55331 **888-559-8058**  
www.twincitiescruises.com

Offering sumptuous cuisine and cabin appointments, gracious service and event coordination. But we haven't mentioned the best part...a backdrop of water, harbor, skyline, and sunset that creates the perfect setting for any group. Please contact us for special pricing on cruise tickets for groups of 25 or more.

**Science Museum of Minnesota** . **651-221-9444**  
120 West Kellogg Blvd – Saint Paul, MN 55102  
groupsales@smm.org / www.smm.org

The Science Museum of Minnesota boasts a 100-year history of science fun and education, including cutting-edge technology, hands-on entertainment and interactive exhibits, perfect for all ages. Visit [www.smm.org](http://www.smm.org).

**Wabasha Street Caves** Saint Paul . . . . . **651-292-1220**

### northern

**Coborn's Lake Itasca Tours** Osage . . **218-266-3660**

### southern

**J&L Bison Ranch** Willmar . . . . . **320-235-8465**

**Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum**  
Walnut Grove . . . . . **800-528-7280**

**Melvin's On The Lake** Spicer . . . . . **320-796-2195**

**The Mikkelson Boat Collection**  
Willmar . . . . . **320-231-0384**

**Minnesota Marine Art Museum**  
Winona . . . . . **507-474-6626**

**Olde Country Winery** Lake Lillian . . . . **320-664-WINE**

**Wilder Museum** Spring Valley . . . . . **507-346-7659**

## convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

### metro

**Bloomington Convention & Visitors Bureau** . . . . . **952-858-8500**  
**800-346-4289**  
7900 International Drive, Suite 990 – Bloomington, MN 55425  
cvb@bloomingtonmn.org / www.bloomingtonmn.org  
Bloomington, MN - Home of Mall of America, offers 36 hotels, complimentary shuttle service and parking. FREE services include customized itineraries and welcome packets. Group travel discounts are available! Download our planning guide at [bloomingtonmn.org](http://bloomingtonmn.org).

**Eagan Convention and Visitors Bureau** . . . . . **651-675-5546**  
**866-324-2620**

1501 Central Parkway – Eagan, MN 55121  
denise@eaganmn.com / www.eaganmn.com  
Eagan makes planning your trip easy! Personal service includes custom and creative itineraries, FREE welcome bags and FREE Mall of America® coupon books. You'll also enjoy our low 3% lodging tax. Ask how to qualify for a \$250 cash rebate.

**Greater Stillwater Chamber of Commerce** Stillwater . . **651-439-4001**

**Hastings Tourism Bureau** Hastings . **651-437-6775**

**Roseville Visitors Association** . . **651-633-3002**  
**877-980-3002**  
2100 N Snelling Avenue, Suite 59  
Roseville, MN 55113  
cdonovan@visitroseville.com / www.visitroseville.com  
Roseville is perfectly positioned to everything the Twin Cities has to offer. Just 10 minutes from downtown Saint Paul and Minneapolis, our hotels offer lower hotel tax and free motorcoach parking. Complimentary planning service and FREE roses for group tours.

**Saint Paul Convention & Visitors Authority** . . . . . **651-265-4906**  
**800-627-6101 ext. 4906**  
175 West Kellogg Blvd, Suite 502 – Saint Paul, MN 55102  
mhernandez@visitsaintpaul.com  
www.saintpaulgroups.com

A classic group tour destination. In addition to offering a variety of group-friendly activities, we also provide unparalleled service for tour operators and group leaders. Take advantage of our group services such as itinerary planning and meet and greet program that make booking Saint Paul a must!

### northern

**Brainerd Lakes Chamber** Brainerd . **800-450-2838**

**Park Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce** . . . . . **800-247-0054**  
Hwy 71 South, PO Box 249 – Park Rapids, MN 56470  
www.parkrapids.com

Gateway to the Mississippi Headwaters, unique destinations, great dining, one-of-a-kind shopping, world-renowned golf, motels and spas, tours and activities. Call 1-800-247-0054 for skilled tour assistance.

**St Cloud CVB** St Cloud . . . . . **800-264-2940**

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

**Visit Grand Rapids** Grand Rapids. . . . . **800-355-9740**

### southern

**Albert Lea Convention & Visitors Bureau** . **507-373-2316**  
**800-345-8414**  
2566 Bridge Ave – Albert Lea, MN 56007  
cvbdirector@albertlea.org / www.albertleatourism.org  
Located 90 minutes from Mpls, where I-90 & I-35 intersect, featuring small town hospitality with big city amenities. Plus additional lakes & 38 city parks hosting various outdoor activities.

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

**Explore Southern Minnesota Tourism** . . . . . **888-868-7476 ext. 162**  
115 East Hickory #403 – Mankato, MN 56001  
www.exploresouthernminnesota.com  
You'll be surprised...at what you'll find in southern Minnesota! With many scenic byways, festivals, parks & trails, historic sites, caves, bluffs, waterfalls & so much more, it makes a perfect destination for any group.

**Historic Bluff Country** . . . . . **800-428-2030**  
PO Box 609 – Harmony, MN 55939  
hbc@harmonytel.net / www.bluffcountry.com  
Discover the magic of Bluff Country, where you can indulge in your favorite activities amid magnificent wooden terrain and picturesque communities. Call for a free guide.

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

**Lake City Chamber of Commerce**  
Lake City . . . . . **800-369-1423**

**Willmar Lakes Area Convention & Visitors Bureau** . . . . . **800-845-8747 ext. 79**  
2104 Highway 12 East – Willmar, MN 56201  
www.willmar.com  
Visit the Willmar Lakes Area. Only 2 hours west of Minneapolis/Saint Paul. 360 lakes, 36 parks, 81 holes of golf – and that's just on the drive in! Let our staff help put together a getaway for your group.

## entertainment & theater

### metro

**Actors Theater of Minnesota**  
Saint Paul . . . . . **651-291-5289**

**Chanhassen Dinner Theatres** . **952-934-1547**  
**800-355-6273**  
501 W 78th St – Chanhassen, MN 55317  
klarson@chanhassendtd.com / www.chanhassendtd.com  
Since 1968 Chanhassen Dinner Theatres have been recognized for quality theatre entertainment and fine dining. The nation's largest professional dinner theatre is AAA Magazine recommended. "Any Twin Cities visit should include an evening at Chanhassen!"



## metro (cont'd from pg 57)

### Ordway Center

**for the Performing Arts** ..... 651-282-3111

345 Washington St – Saint Paul, MN 55102 / [www.Ordway.org](http://www.Ordway.org)  
Overlooking Rice Park in downtown Saint Paul, Ordway Center for the Performing Arts best of Broadway and off-Broadway, as well as exceptional classical music, opera, & dance. Visit [www.Ordway.org](http://www.Ordway.org) for a full calendar.

**Plymouth Playhouse** ..... 763-553-1600

2705 Annapolis Lane – Plymouth, MN 55119  
[groupst@plymouthplayhouse.com](mailto:groupst@plymouthplayhouse.com)  
[www.plymouthplayhouse.com](http://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.

## festivals & events

### metro

### Minnesota Renaissance

**Festival** ..... 952-445-7361

1244 S Canterbury Road Ste 306 800-996-8215  
Shakopee, MN 55379  
[info@renaissancefest.com](mailto:info@renaissancefest.com) / [www.renaissancefest.com](http://www.renaissancefest.com)  
Queen Margaret welcomes you to our 38th anniversary. Enjoy the group discount program for 15 or more, plus complimentary tickets for driver and coordinators. Weekends and Labor Day in August & September 2009.

**Minnesota State Fair** ..... 651-632-2689

1265 Snelling Avenue N – Saint Paul, MN 55108  
[www.mnstatefair.org](http://www.mnstatefair.org)  
The great Minnesota Get-Together. Local, national and internationally-known entertainers, horse show and rodeo performances, Mighty Midway and Kidway rides, competitions, exhibits, attractions and concessions.

## restaurants

### southern

**Green Mill** Willmar ..... 320-235-9500

## shopping

### metro

**Mall of America** ..... 952-883-8843

60 E Broadway – Bloomington, MN 55425 800-879-3555  
[mphilipp@mallofamerica.com](mailto:mphilipp@mallofamerica.com) / [www.mallofamerica.com](http://www.mallofamerica.com)  
Mall of America is the largest shopping and entertainment complex in the nation, featuring 520 stores, 50 restaurants and attractions galore. Enjoy no sales tax on clothing and shoes. Valuable coupon books, Meet and Greet Service and other group travel services available.

## tour operators

### metro

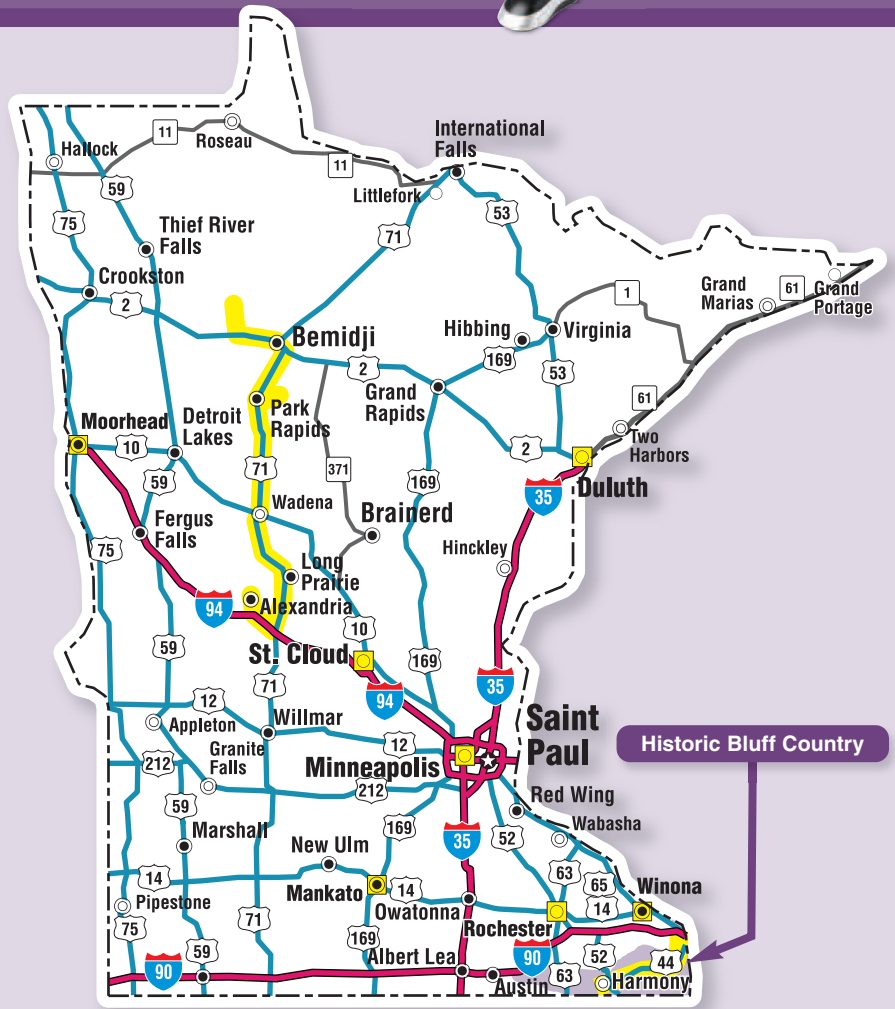
**Heartland Tours & Travel** ..... 800-368-4874

**Metro 651-777-7170; Rochester 507-288-1330**

1825 North Broadway – Rochester, MN 55906  
[info@heartlandtoursandtravel.net](mailto:info@heartlandtoursandtravel.net)  
[www.heartlandtoursandtravel.net](http://www.heartlandtoursandtravel.net)  
Our experienced staff can package a wide variety of 1-28 day tours to any destination. We can customize any tour to meet your needs. Call us today and let us plan "Escorted Tours You're Going to Love!"

**MetroConnections, Inc** Minneapolis... 800-747-8687

**Valley Tours, Inc.** Stillwater ..... 651-439-6110



GROUP TRAVEL SHOW

# ITINERARIES *Midwest*

Ready for a WARM Canadian welcome?  
Start planning now.

**Sept 17-20, 2009**  
877-832-7267  
[itinerariesmidwest.com](http://itinerariesmidwest.com)

(See show details pages 2 & 74.)

Close to home. Far from ordinary.

# ITINERARIES

## Missouri



### CHARLESTON

Charleston is nestled on a scenic natural prairie, just a ten-minute bus ride west of where the mighty Ohio and Mississippi Rivers meet. They are known for their beautiful Victorian homes as well as beautiful gardens that surround them. One home in particular is the Mississippi County Historical Society "Moore Home". It provides a permanent showcase for displays of period furnishings - some original to the house, Civil War memorabilia, artifacts of early area Mississippian Indian culture and more.

To celebrate the towns' floral wonderland of thousands of colorful dogwoods and azaleas the town hosts its annual Dogwood-Azalea Festival each April. Charleston also has one of the few remaining riverboat ferries in the United States, The Dorena-Hickman Ferry. It's the only operating ferry crossing the Mississippi River between Missouri and Kentucky.

Come and see why *Travel Holiday Magazine* rated this town one of the ten best small towns in America! (See location on map, page 60)

### other mayberry's of missouri

**Carthage** – Home to the world's only Precious Moments Chapel & Park. Also recognized for their Civil War and Route 66 sites, George Washington Carver's home, drive-in theater, arts, cultural activities, and historical attractions.

**Fulton** – Voted one of the "Top 10 Destinations for Midwest Charm" by USA Today. Your group can walk through a section of the Berlin Wall, stand where Churchill made his famous Iron Curtain speech, have lunch in a classic Post Office, sip a "brown cow" at an old fashioned soda shop, all this and much more!

**Hannibal** – Mark Twain transformed this quiet river town into an American icon nearly 140 years ago. Today, the town offers adventures in the spirit of those the author made famous. Explore caves, cruise on a riverboat, visit museums & galleries, and of course Twain sites.

**Hermann** – A picturesque German Community offering Old-World hospitality and the quiet charms of an earlier time. With stunning views, more than 150 historic buildings, world-class wineries, museums, shops and galleries, Hermann has it all!

**Kimmswick** – Be surrounded by a living town rejuvenated by its restoration efforts. Many of the town's shops and residents still occupy the original buildings from the period of the town's founding in 1859.

**Ozark** – Nestled between the hills of the Aux Arcs Mountains, visitors come each year to the County Fair, the annual Rodeo and Bull Ride, the Ozark Native Arts and Crafts Festival, and Ozarks Festival of Lights. Ozark has been named the antique

capital of the world due to the abundance of original craft pieces in their arts, crafts and collectibles shops.

**Rocheport** – Rocheport is a beacon of tranquility, drawing people to the world-class bed and breakfasts, quaint antique shops, superb dining, galleries and artisans, a museum, an award-winning winery, and the scenic Katy Trail. Come for a visit and see why *Forrester's Budget Travel Magazine* recently named Rocheport "One of America's 10 Coolest Small Towns"!

**St. Charles** – Conveniently located near St. Louis with an abundance of exciting things to do and see. View the grounds of the first capitol building in Missouri or stroll the sidewalks that line real brick streets. Have a glass of wine and shop a wide variety of stores for crafts and antiques. Come and see for yourself why this town has 1 million visitors each year.

**Sikeston & Miner** – Consider a trip to these neighboring communities where you can explore the Civil War era at historic battle sites, see the birthplace of the Stars & Stripes newspaper, visit beautiful historic churches and cemeteries dating back to the 1700's, drive along the Mississippi River or try your luck at a riverboat casino. There's much to do in these cities of southeast Missouri.

**Weston** – Recognized as a Preserve America community by the National Park Service. Your group can experience shopping in Pre-Civil War Buildings, wineries, brewery, and a variety of entertainment and places to stay in this historic town. Voted #1 Best Daytrip by *Ingram's Magazine*.



### missouri cities

BRANSON, CAPE GIRARDEAU, CHARLESTON, COLUMBIA, EAGLEVILLE, FARMINGTON, HANNIBAL, HERMANN, KANSAS CITY, JEFFERSON CITY, MANSFIELD, ROCK PORT, SPRINGFIELD, ST. LOUIS, ST. JOSEPH, WEST PLAINS

### calendar of events

#### august

- **Laura's Memories Outdoor Pageant**  
Aug 7-8, 14-15; Sep 11-12, 18-19,  
Mansfield 417-924-3383
- **Jour de Fete at Felix Valle House  
State Historic Site** Aug 8-9,  
Ste. Genevieve 573-883-7102
- **Missouri State Fair** Aug 13-23,  
Sedalia 800-422-3247
- **Trails West Festival** Aug 21-23,  
St. Joseph 816-233-0231

#### september

- **Wild West Days** Sept 12,  
Jefferson City 573-634-6482
- **National Harvest Festival at Silver Dollar City**  
Sept 12-Oct 31, Branson 800-475-9370
- **32nd Annual Heritage Festival & Craft Show**  
Sept 19-20, Columbia 877-596-4670
- **Faust Fall Fine Arts and Folk Festival 2009**  
Sept 19-20, Chesterfield 636-532-7298
- **32nd Annual Fair Grove Heritage Reunion**  
Sept 26-27, Fair Grove 417-759-2807
- **Fall Walking Tour of Jefferson Barracks**  
Sept 26-27, St. Louis 314-544-6224

#### october

- **The Oktoberfest** Wkends,  
Hermann 800-932-8687
- **34th Annual Missouri Town 1855 Festival**  
Oct 3-4, Lee's Summit 816-503-4860
- **Maple Leaf Festival 2009** Oct 10-17,  
Carthage 417-358-2373
- **Missouri Day Festival** Oct 17-18,  
Trenton 660-359-4324
- **History Hayrides at Faust Park** Oct 23-24,  
Chesterfield 636-532-7298

#### november

- **Ozark Mountain Christmas** Nov 1-Dec 31,  
Branson 417-538-2744
- **Girardeau Arts and Crafts Extravaganza**  
Nov 21-22, Cape Girardeau 573-334-9233
- **Holiday Fare Wine Trail** Nov 21-22,  
Hermann 800-932-8687
- **Nativity Festival** Nov 21-22,  
Marshall 660-837-3350
- **Christmas in the Sky** Nov 25,  
Kansas City 816-503-4860
- **Spirit of Christmas Past -  
Heritage Homes Tour** Nov 27-Dec 22,  
Independence 816-325-7111

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)



# "TASTE OF COLUMBIA" TOUR

This sample itinerary can be customized year-round!

## day one

9:45 – 10:00 am

Arrive at the **University of Missouri** in Columbia.

10 – 10:45 am

Begin a tour of **MU's Historic Francis Quadrangle**. Explore the history of the first University in the Louisiana Purchase Territory, visit Thomas Jefferson's original grave marker and learn about the landmark, MU Columns and more.

10:45 – 11:00 am

Enjoy a short walk to the **MU Alumni Center**.

11 – 1:00 pm

Enjoy "**Lunch with the Chef**." The University Club Chef will do a demonstration on healthy cooking. (Demonstrations on Working with Chocolate and Making Canapés are also available.) After the demonstration, the food will be served to the entire group. The Chef will be on hand to answer questions and share recipes.

1 – 2:00 pm

Time for restroom break then board coach for departure to **Walk-About Acres**.

2 – 4:45 pm

Enjoy the afternoon on an 11-acre farm, home to domestic and exotic animals, honeybees, gardens, a greenhouse, gift shop and full-service kitchen with

outdoor picnic seating.

Additional options for your group include: Potting a plant in the greenhouse to take home with them (add a 1/2-hour) **OR**, the group can make their own honeycomb candle to take home (add a 1/2-hour).

4:45 – 6:15 pm

Depart for hotel and get checked-in. Allow time to relax and refresh before dinner. Columbia has 32 lodging options to meet every budget and amenity request. The Columbia CVB is happy to assist groups with room reservations and special services.

6:15 pm

Choose a restaurant for dinner. Combine your dinner with a variety of entertainment options such as a hayride, a bonfire with s'mores and hot dogs, or attend a University Concert Series production.

## day two

7 – 8:00 am

Enjoy a scrumptious breakfast at the hotel, check out and board the motorcoach.



8:15 – 9:00 am

Arrive at the **Shelter Insurance Gardens**, an award-winning garden. Stroll the scenic garden, visit a replica one-room schoolhouse, photograph the rose garden, find solitude near the goldfish pond and waterfall, and cool off in the shady garden before you head for home.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group, contact your tour operator or Columbia CVB, 877-596-4670.

### directory & map

### attractions

Laura Ingalls Wilder Historic Home & Museum  
Mansfield .....417-924-3625

### convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

Charleston Chamber of Commerce  
Charleston .....573-683-6509

**Columbia CVB** .....800-652-0967  
300 S Providence Rd – Columbia, MO 65203  
bemead@gocolumbiamo.com / www.visitcolumbiamo.com  
Our distinctive blend of small town and big city offers an exciting destination for your entire group. Attractions and events include the University of Missouri, numerous galleries and museum, a variety of performing arts venues, and festivals throughout the year.

Missouri Division of Tourism  
Jefferson City .....800-519-2100



Charleston

Possibilities...endless  
**ITINERARIES**  
*Nebraska*



## NEBRASKA CITY

Nebraska City is home of Arbor Day and is a bustling tourist center. The city is widely recognized for its apple orchards, outlet shopping, and historic attractions. As well as rich in history, intriguing sights, and renowned festivals all wrapped up in the beauty of Mother Nature for your enjoyment.

Climb a 50-foot high Canopy Tree House at the Arbor Day Farm. Or relax on a cedar log-hewn bench under a giant red oak leaf canopy, as guides share stories while your group embark on a one-hour journey through woodland trails. Receive a close-up view of how tree seedlings are grown and your group can take home a free tree.

Catch a glimpse back in time with the 52-room Arbor Lodge mansion (pictured above), home of J. Sterling Morton (founder of Arbor Day). Located on 72 acres of wooded, rolling hills, Arbor Lodge State Historical Park & Mansion offers visitors plenty to explore—inside and out. The park grounds feature more than 200 varieties of lilacs and an Italian terraced garden.

The above is just a sample of the abundance of things to see and do in Nebraska City. To experience it all, plan your tour now! (See location on map, page 63)

### other mayberry's of nebraska

**Alliance** – If you prefer traditional art, Western History or unique sites this is the place for your group! Carhenge, a replica of Stonehenge, is undoubtedly the most famous attraction. Other attractions are its historic downtown, Sallows Military Museum and Knight Museum of High Plains Heritage.

**Arapahoe** – The community was founded in 1871 and is home to the Our Lady of Fatima Shrine & one of the few original functional soda fountains in Nebraska. Plus a Veteran's Memorial, numerous parks, and volunteer operated movie theater!

**Brownville** – Step back in time to when life was simpler and friendlier. Stroll the banks of the Missouri River, see a play, shop in charming boutiques, browse second hand bookstores, visit period houses, or sip wine on the terrace of a refurbished century-old barn overlooking a bubbling creek & waterfall.

**Cambridge** – This small town is full of nostalgia, culture, and a renaissance spirit. Authentic experiences include historical architecture, artists' studios, antiques, a museum, restaurants, quaint shops, and living history tours.

**Fairbury** – Possesses one of the largest historic districts in the Midwest with nearly 100 historic buildings in the downtown district. In these buildings you'll find art galleries, antique shopping, luxurious accommodations and fine dining,

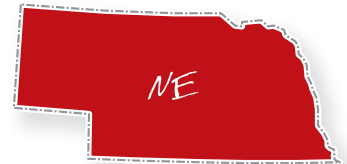
all in a 4-block area.

**Fremont** – Stroll through this historic downtown and visit antique shops or visit the gardens surrounding the Louis E. May Historical Museum. Afterwards, dine in 1940s elegance on the Fremont Dinner Train, take 17-mile trip from Fremont to Nickerson and back in a vintage 1920 railcar, or see the beauty of the Platte River on an airboat tour.

**Kimball** – In the far southwest corner of the county, near Kimball, raises the highest point in Nebraska – Panorama Point. Offering a view of the Rocky Mountains on a clear day. Stop by the chamber office to get a map with directions to the point as well as the three-state corner marker located nearby. It marks the spot where Nebraska, Colorado & Wyoming meet. Call ahead and order your group High Point T-shirts to wear!

**Minden** – Visit a museum, enjoy a picnic in the park, locate a geocache around the downtown Minden square, tour the Pioneer Village & Minden Opera House, or come for the celebrated Christmas pageant "A Light of the World".

**Wilber** – A unique, ethnic community located 36 miles southwest of Lincoln. The food, fun, traditions, and music of the Czech heritage provide a superb reason to make the trip to Wilber anytime. Plan your trip in August for the Wilber Czech Festival - attracting over 50,000 visitors each year!



### nebraska cities

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

### calendar of events

#### august

- **Wilber Czech Festival** Jul 31-Aug 2, Wilber 402-821-2749
- **Greek Festival** Aug 1, Omaha 402-345-7103
- **1890's Agricultural Fair** Aug 8-9, Grand Island 308-385-5316
- **Art in Bloom Festival** Aug 8-9, Omaha 402-346-4002
- **Kool-Aid Days** Aug 14-16, Hastings 800-967-2189
- **Oregon Trail Wagon Train Bluegrass Festival** Aug 21-23, Bayard 308-586-1850

#### september

- **Camp Clarke Raiders Fall Rendezvous** Sept 5-7, Bridgeport 308-262-1080
- **Rail Fest** Sept 18-20, North Platte 308-534-3648
- **3rd Annual Irish Festival** Sept 19, Greeley 308-428-5595
- **Grand Duke Alexis Rendezvous** Sept 25-27, Hayes Center 308-286-3463
- **Stuhr Museum's Harvest Festival** Sept 26, Grand Island 308-385-5316

#### october

- **Omaha North Hills Pottery Tour** Oct 3-4, Omaha 402-456-7669
- **Midlands Pirate Festival** Oct 10-11, Bellevue 641-357-5177
- **Hot Air Balloon Festival** Oct 16-18, Wakefield 402-297-2362
- **Oktober Eurofest** Oct 24, Stanton 402-439-5100

#### november

- **Annual O'Connor House Holiday Tour** Nov 7-8, Homer 402-494-1015
- **Holiday Splendor Craft Show and Nebraska Products** Nov 14, Kearney 308-440-0153
- **26th Annual Festival of Trees** Nov 21-Dec 31, Hastings 800-508-4629
- **"Light of the World" Pageant** Nov 26; Dec 6 & 13, Minden 308-832-1811
- **Christmas at Union Station** Nov 27-Dec 31, Omaha 402-444-5071

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

Arbor Day Farm





## Spirals, Stones & Spooks

**Spirals** – take an interesting and unique glimpse into the past...discover the beauty and architecture of three historic churches. Select a guided tour of St. Stephen's Episcopal Church (1889), German Lutheran Church (1896) or St. Mary's Cathedral (1928).

Add a Murder Mystery Dinner Theater...with a customized story line written specifically for your group.

*This 'spired' tour is perfect for a Halloween or fall timeline. Spooks, Spirals & Stones is entertaining, enlightening and just plain ole fun!*

For more information please contact Grand Island, NE CVB 800-658-3178.

**Stones** – tour the *Grand Island Cemetery* with an experienced headstone historian. Divine for unmarked graves and learn the significance of headstone decorations emblems, designs and placement.

**Spooks** – if you dare...end your tour with some *ghost hunting*, tales from a *paranormal investigator* and tours of *haunted sites* including the *Grand Theatre* (featured in the documentary "Haunted Nebraska").



Grand Theatre



St. Mary's Cathedral



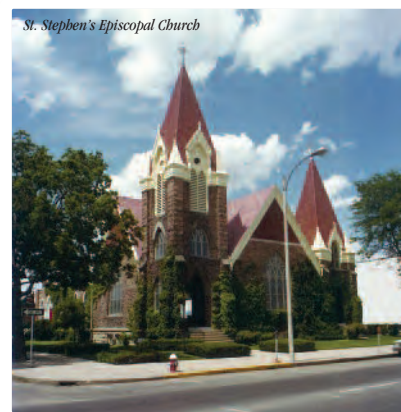
Grand Island Cemetery



Grand Island, Nebraska  
With over 100 tour possibilities,  
we custom design each itinerary  
to create lasting memories...

**Grand Island**  
NEBRASKA  
CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

800.658.3178 www.VisitGrandIsland.com tbeem@visitgrandisland.com



St. Stephen's Episcopal Church

Great Platte  
River Road  
Archway

**It Pays to Stay\*  
in Kearney, Nebraska!**

Call us at 1-800-652-9435  
or Check out our website  
@ [www.visitkearney.org](http://www.visitkearney.org)  
for current event & attraction information.

**KEARNEY**  
visitors bureau  
Stop. Play. Stay.\*

\*Inquire about our rebate program.



## KEARNEY, NEBRASKA



Museum of Nebraska Art



Frank House



Trails & Rails Museum

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

### 9 – 10:30 am

Begin the day with breakfast at a restaurant of your choice, before heading to the **Iain Nicholson Audubon Center & Lillian Annette Rowe Sanctuary** to view the Sandhill Cranes roosting on the Platte River.

### 10:30 – 11:30 am

The Cranes in the fields can be seen as you move on to **Fort Kearny Historical Park**, the first Fort built to protect travelers of military and civil government.

### 11:30 – 1:00 pm

From the Fort, travel to **The Great Platte River Road Archway**, spanning Interstate-80 where

visitors may tour on their own learning the rich history of the Oregon, Mormon and California trails.

### 1 – 2:00 pm

Come & Get It! BBQ lunch at **The Chuckwagon Restaurant** at the Archway.

### 2 – 3:30 pm

In the afternoon visit **Cabela's, World's Foremost Outfitter** and **Morris Press Cookbooks**, one of the nation's largest publishers of cookbooks and fundraising cookbooks, your group can choose either one, as these two are neighbors!

### 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Stop at the **Museum of Nebraska Art (MONA)**, home to the official visual art collection of the State of Nebraska.

### 5 – 6:30 pm

Passing by the **University of Nebraska** at Kearney,

the **Frank House** and **Yanney Heritage Park** takes you to the **Trails & Rails Museum**. This museum of transportation history has many out-buildings and a Pacific Steam Engine on display.

### 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Enjoy dinner at one of Kearney's fine restaurants.

### 7:30 pm

You've come full circle today. Take pleasure in the sunset viewing of the Sandhill Cranes at **Fort Kearny State Recreation Area**, from their restored railroad bridge, as the Cranes return to the Platte River for the night.

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary contact your tour operator or Kearney Visitors Bureau, 800-652-9435.

## directory & map

### convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

**Grand Island / Hall County CVB** ..... 308-382-4400  
 2424 South Locust St, Suite C 800-658-3178  
 Grand Island, NE 68801

tbeem@visitgrandisland.com / www.visitgrandisland.com  
 Grand Island is a natural for Midwest tours...literally half way to everywhere in the continental United States. Nebraska's largest community outside the eastern metropolitan area providing the best mix of big town opportunities with small town hospitality and affordability.

**Kearney Visitors Bureau** ..... 800-652-9435  
 1007 2nd Avenue, Box 607 308-237-3161  
 Kearney, NE 68848 / www.visitkearney.org

The Kearney Visitors Bureau is a full service destination marketing organization providing itinerary development, complementary step on guides, photo and video CD, and FAM tour opportunities. Visit us on line [www.visitkearney.org](http://www.visitkearney.org) or toll free 800-652-9435.

**Nebraska Department of Economic Development**  
 Lincoln ..... 877-NEBRASKA



Interpretive Center

50-foot Canopy Tree House - Arbor Day Farm



### Nebraska City





## 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

### august

- **Deuce of August Icelandic Celebration**  
Jul 31-Aug 2, Mountain 701-993-8268
- **Indian Arts Showcase** Aug 1-2,  
Williston 800-615-9041
- **FAME- Fun, Art, Music and Entertainment**  
Aug 2-8, Dunseith 888-432-6733
- **Becoming an Outdoors-Woman Workshop**  
Aug 7-9, Bottineau 701-328-6312
- **Pioneer Days, Bonanzaville** Aug 15-16,  
West Fargo 701-282-2822
- **2009 Fargo AirShow** Aug 22-23,  
Fargo 701-293-8043

### september

- **For Union Living History Weekend** Sept 5-7,  
Williston 701-572-9083
- **Stump Lake Village Labor Day Weekend**  
**Threshing Bee** Sept 6-7,  
Pekin 701-247-2374
- **United Tribes International Powwow**  
Sept 10-13, Bismarck 701-255-3285 x1293
- **Sheyenne Valley Art and Craft Fall Festival**  
Sept 26-27, Fort Ransom 701-973-4461
- **Norsk Høstfest** Sept 29-Oct 3,  
Minot 701-852-2368

### october

- **Studio Crawl** Oct 3-4, Fargo 701-298-3936
- **The Big One Christmas Art and Craft Fair**  
Oct 16-17, Fargo 701-837-6059
- **Fort Buford Cemetery Walk** Oct 24,  
Williston 701-572-9034

### november

- **Panorama VIII - Weekend in Paradise**  
Nov 7-8, Bismarck 701-258-0979
- **Xcel Energy's Holiday Lights Parade**  
Nov 24, Fargo 701-241-2570
- **Dickens Village Festival** Nov 27-29;  
Dec 3-4, Garrison 800-799-4242
- **Parade of Lights** Nov 30,  
Ellendale 701-349-4103

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)



Fort Lincoln Trolley - Bismarck-Mandan

# Legendary ITINERARIES North Dakota®



## BISMARCK-MANDAN

The sister cities of Bismarck and Mandan; Bismarck being North Dakota's capital city, it still prides itself on small town hospitality. Their frontier history is alive and well, with Fort Abraham Lincoln, where Custer and the 7th Cavalry rode out on their ill-fated expedition to Little Big Horn, and the On-A-Slant Indian Village's reconstructed earthlodges offering visitors a trip back in time. Cruise the Missouri River aboard the Lewis and Clark Riverboat or ride the Fort Lincoln Trolley (pictured above and lower left) on a trip to Fort Abraham Lincoln State Park, rich in both military and early Native American history.

On a more modern side, shop a wide variety of major retailers and downtown art galleries, unique shops and a variety of restaurants. Take home authentic American Indian art to western art and antiques, Bismarck-Mandan has much to offer all who visit. (See location on map, page 65)

## other mayberry's of north dakota

**Dickenson** – Explore the western edge where cultural history and scenic beauty provide recreational opportunity and adventure! Come explore the fossilized exhibits and fossil digs along with outdoor trails, historical sites and group fun, next to the Theodore Roosevelt National Park. Prime location along Interstate 94 means the town has several lodging and dining choices to meet any group needs!

**Fort Totten** – Great attractions include the Fort Totten State Historic Site – the best-preserved military fort of the frontier era west of the Mississippi. The Pioneer Daughter's Museum, changing State Exhibits, a walking tour of 16 original 1870s buildings in the square, and the Fort Totten Little Theatre.

**Jamestown** – Known as the Buffalo City with the World's Largest Buffalo, National Buffalo Museum & 3 rare albino buffalo!! Take a step back in time in the re-created prairie town with a walking tour of the towns historic buildings and old haunts of the popular Western writer and town native, Louis L'Amour; or view a stunning American Gothic-style church. These are just a few of the highlights!

**Medora** – Historic Medora offers a unique experience for all ages. Their signature event is the Medora Musical, a high-energy western show with singing, dancing, comedy & more. It is also a brilliant stop for groups heading to the Canadian Rockies, Glacier, Yellowstone or Mount Rushmore.

**Regent** – The location of the Enchanted Highway, a series of what are known as the world's tallest metal sculptures. These sculptures reflect the rural North Dakota life, which includes

grasshoppers, Theodore Roosevelt, the world's largest tin family and more!

**Rugby** – Rugby the Geographical Center of North America! With historical sites that bring history to life, such as the International Peace Garden, the Victorian Dress Museum, Northern Light Tower, Niewoehner Bell Tower and the Dakota Hills Winery!

**Wahpeton** – The magnificent artistry of the Prairie Rose Carousel and the always entertaining Chahinkapa Zoo, offering hours of pleasure and education for the young and young at heart. And you'll want to visit "Wahpper" the World's Largest Catfish!

**Washburn** – The grandest little city on the Missouri River, where history comes alive through the beauty of the river and the connection to Lewis & Clark's historic journey to explore the west.

**Williston** – A town where the history is legendary and the people are the friendliest. Visit Fort Buford State Historic Site and its original buildings dating back to the 1870s. Experience life in the past at the Frontier Museum, which includes a restored Great Northern Depot, depot taxi and numerous displays.

**Valley City** – Recognized as the city of bridges with 11 historic bridges in about every corner of the city. See these bridges plus historic buildings and parks when your group takes the Historic Bridges Tour. Make sure to see Medicine Wheel Park, a must see with two solar calendars, a walking tour of the solar system, a 3000 sq-ft flower garden and others!



## VISIT NORTH DAKOTA!

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

### 10 – 12:00 pm

Arrive in **Rugby, North Dakota**, the geographical center of North America, and spend some time touring the town, including the **Prairie Village Museum**. The Museum and Historical Society display the fascinating history and beauty of “old North Dakota.” Walk along the wooden walkways and through fully furnished pioneer buildings displaying everything from classic cars, antique guns, Native American and Eskimo artifacts, the hobo jungle and so much more.

### 12 – 1:00 pm

Have a little lunch at **Bob's Pizza Inn**. Don't let the name fool you; he has a full menu with something to please anyone's taste.

### 1 – 2:30 pm

Head east to the community of **Knox, North**

**Dakota** to the pleasant surroundings of the **Dakota Hills Winery**. Taste their delicious wine made from hand picked fruits, that make the difference in their handmade, carefully crafted wines, produced from the ground up. Located on a beautiful century old farmstead with a small pond, complete with a few animals and a pleasant host and hostess. They really mean it when they say, “You really are welcome here.”

### 2:30 – 3:30 pm

Take a ride up to a one of a kind place; **The International Peace Garden**.

### 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Devoted to world peace, and situated along the world's longest unfortified border of Canada and the United States. Boasting colorful displays of 150,000 flowers, splashing across the grounds terraced walkways. Hear the 14-bell chime echo in the distance as you ponder the beauty of the two floral displays of the American and Canadian

Flags, the only two floral designs that remain the same each year. The 120-foot concrete Peace Tower, and the Peace Chapel can be seen at the end of the formal garden. The Japanese Government presented seven Peace Poles in which the words “May Peace Prevail” are written in twenty-eight different languages. (Don't miss the floral clock – 18 feet in diameter!)

### 5:00 pm

Browse through your souvenirs and relax on the return trip to Rugby, where you will check into **The Econo Lodge** for the night and enjoy a wonderful dinner at the **Hub Restaurant** in their banquet room.

For more information on this sample itinerary contact your tour operator or Rugby CVB 701-776-5846.

## directory & map

### attractions

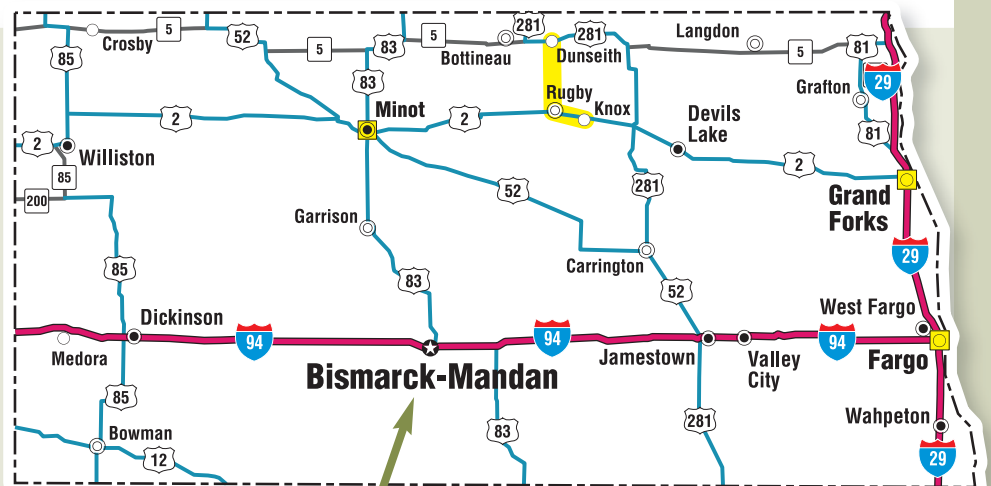
Dakota Hills Winery Knox ..... 701-583-2202

International Peace Gardens  
 Dunseith ..... 701-263-4390

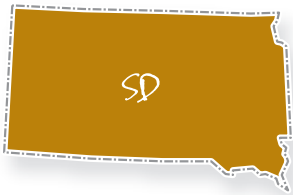
### convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

North Dakota Tourism Division  
 Bismarck ..... 800-435-5663

Rugby CVB Rugby ..... 701-776-5846



Bismarck-Mandan



## 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

### august

- **Annual Big Sioux Bustle GPS/Geocaching Race** Aug 1, Brandon 605-582-7243
- **Huron Senior Games** Aug 14-15, Huron 605-352-8291
- **White River Frontier Days** Aug 15-16, White River 605-259-3240
- **Yankton Riverboat Days & Summer Arts Festival** Aug 21-23, Yankton 605-665-1657
- **Corn Palace Festival** Aug 26-30, Mitchell 605-995-8427

### september

- **South Dakota State Fair** Sept 3-7, Huron 605-353-7354
- **LifeLight Outdoor Music Festival** Sept 4-6, Sioux Falls 605-338-2847
- **Deadwood Jam** Sept 11-12, Deadwood 800-999-1876
- **Ribs, Rods & Rock 'n Roll** Sept 11-12, Vermillion 605-359-3154
- **Annual German Fall Fest** Sept 11-14, Hill City 605-662-5651
- **Watertown Arts Festival** Sept 12-13, Watertown 605-886-7397
- **Annual Homesteader Day** Sept 13, Brandon 605-594-3824
- **Spirit of the West Festival** Sept 18-20, Sioux Falls 605-334-9202
- **Corn Palace Polka Festival** Sept 18-20, Mitchell 605-995-8427

### october

- **Oktoberfest** Oct 2-3, Deadwood 605-578-1876
- **River City Band Festival** Oct 10, Chamberlain 605-234-5474
- **Haunted Forest** Oct 23-24, Aberdeen 605-229-4626
- **Deadweird** Oct 31, Deadwood 605-578-1876

### november

- **Aberdeen Winterfest** Nov 21-22, Aberdeen 605-226-1557
- **Brookings Festival of Trees** Nov 26-Dec12, Brookings 605-692-4177
- **Mobridge Parade of Lights** Nov 27, Mobridge 605-845-2387

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)



# Great Faces. Great Places.

## ITINERARIES South Dakota®



### CHAMBERLAIN - OACOMA

Located on the banks of the grand Missouri River off of Interstate 90, this lovely community offers your group a rich combination of history, culture, natural beauty and hospitality. With local attractions, quality accommodations and restaurants that cater to groups, Chamberlain-Oacoma will be sure to please everyone.

The Lewis & Clark Interpretive Center (pictured above) commemorates the Lewis & Clark 1803-1806 expedition as they voyaged through South Dakota. It features interpretive panels & murals reconstructing the expedition journey, including a full-size keelboat replica that doubles as a viewing balcony.

A visit to Chamberlain-Oacoma is not complete without a stop at the South Dakota Hall of Fame. Enjoy learning about the powerful personalities (past, present & future) of South Dakota as you enjoy the Wall of Fame, Wells Fargo Theater, on-going displays, exhibits & a gift shop. (See location on map, page 67)

### other mayberry's of south dakota

**Custer City** – Custer City is the gateway to the Black Hills' best: Custer State Park – a 71,000-acre vacation paradise featuring 1,500 free roaming buffalo plus the scenic Needles Highway. Crazy Horse Memorial – a continuous project of the world's largest mountain sculpture, and Jewel Cave – filled with calcite crystals and other wonders. Just to name a bit of what this town has to offer!

**Deadwood** – The entire city of Deadwood is a national historic landmark. Authentic re-creation of turn-of-the-century street lamps light the way through perfectly, restored architecture. The famous and infamous have left their marks here. Follow their footsteps as you explore the beauty and history of this one-of-a-kind Wild West town.

**De Smet** – Wide-open prairies greet you when you discover the "Little Town on the Prairie". View the original homes of famous author Laura Ingalls Wilder, ride in a covered wagon or take in the Laura Ingalls Wilder pageant. De Smet also offers many unique shops on Main Street, midwestern hospitality at a wide selection of restaurants and lodging options.

**Hill City** – A great headquarters for exploring the natural wonders of the Black Hills: pan for gold, view Tyrannosaurus Rex skeletons, and ride on a 1880s steam train, all in this modern, mountain town.

**Hot Springs** – A beautiful town nestled in the Southern

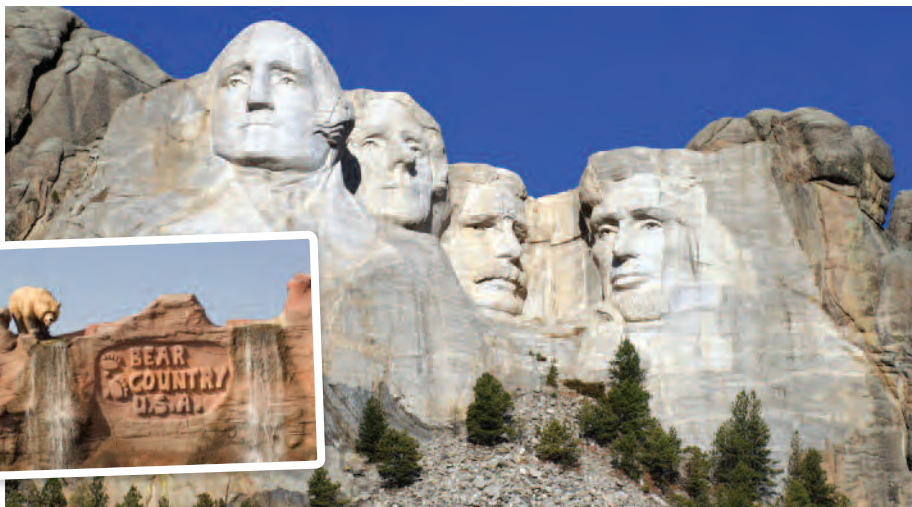
Black Hills and is home to soothing natural springs, scenic beauty, stunning sandstone architectures. Experience the world famous Mammoth Site where you can see history being uncovered right before your eyes. Wild mustangs roam in their natural habitat at the Black Hills Wild Horse Sanctuary...beautiful!

**Mitchell** – Tour a building "made of corn" at the World's Only Corn Palace. Mitchell also boasts historical and cultural attractions, outdoor adventures, art galleries, antique shops, and souvenir shops. Come for the Corn and stay for the adventure!

**Pierre** – Numerous historical sites illustrating the area's rich frontier and Native American heritage surrounds the town. One of them, known worldwide as the place where Dances With Wolves was filmed, the Triple U Buffalo Ranch – 65,000 acres of unspoiled prairie for abundant creatures including 3,500 buffalo. Plus see the state capitol, Lewis & Clark history & vast Lake Oahe.

**Wessington Springs** – See sites that are on the National Register of Historic Places. One of these is the Anne Hathaway Cottage, a replica of Shakespeare's original cottage in England. In addition, tour the home of Governor Vessey, and walk the restored Old Grade Trail featuring a hand-built stone arch bridge.

## WINTER IN SOUTH DAKOTA



This sample itinerary is best during the winter months. See route on map below.

### day one

9 – 10:30 am

Starting in Rapid City, depart on Highway 16 south to **Mount Rushmore National Memorial**. View America's most famous faces covered with a dusting of snow.

10:30 – 12:00 pm

The next stop is **Crazy Horse Memorial**, the largest sculptural undertaking of its kind. Besides seeing the world's largest mountain carving, visit the **Indian Museum of North America**. It's home to an extraordinary collection of art & artifacts reflecting the diverse histories & cultures of the American Indian people.

12 – 2:30 pm

Custer makes a good lunch stop, before heading to the **Wildlife Loop Road** in **Custer State Park** to watch for buffalo, elk, deer, and antelope.

2:30 – 4:00 pm

From here, travel south on Highway 385 through **Wind Cave National Park**, one of the world's longest & most complex caves. Your group can opt for the "Garden Of Eden Cave Tour" their least strenuous tour; see beautiful formations, cave popcorn and flowstone.

4 – 9:00 pm

Continue your travels on to **Hot Springs**. Choose from a variety of overnight options. Take a dip in the natural, indoor warm-springs swimming pool or enjoy their *Christmas in the Hills Festival* (held in December).

### day two

9 – 11:00 am

After breakfast, tour **The Mammoth Site** in Hot Springs, where Columbian mammoths fell into a sinkhole 26,000 years ago and their bones are preserved where they fell. Take in a *Walk-In Mammoth Bone Hut*, a *Scientific Excavation*, *Hands-On Activities* and more!



11 – 1:00 pm

Depart north on Highway 79 back to **Rapid City**. Take an interesting tour inside a Black Hills Gold manufacturing plant—see diamonds set in molten gold & the ancient art of lost wax casting.

1 – 2:00 pm

Enjoy a leisurely 3-mile drive through **Bear Country USA**. Experience bears, buffalo, wolves, elk and over 20 other species of North American animals all from the comfort of your bus!

2 – 9:00 pm

Then it's off to **Deadwood** to try your luck at gaming at one of over 80 establishments, plus learn about the history of this gold rush town. Choose your overnight accommodations.

### day three

You can either head for home or travel to **Pierre** to experience **Christmas at the Capitol**. Each year, the Capitol is filled with nearly 100 evergreen trees, decorated with handmade ornaments and trimmed in various themes. (Thanksgiving through Christmas).

For more information or to customize this sample itinerary for your group contact your tour operator or the South Dakota Tourism Office at 800-952-3625.

## directory & map

### accommodations

**Holiday Inn Sioux Falls –**

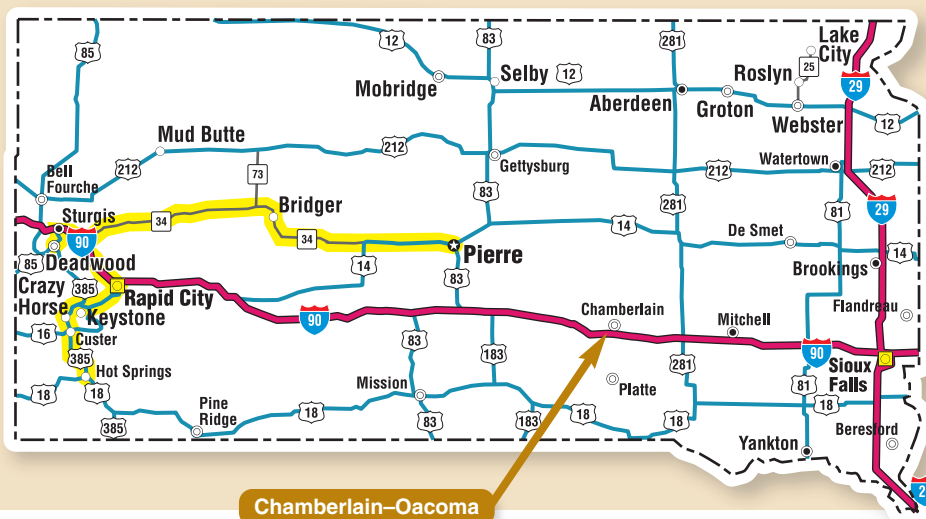
**City Center** ..... 605-339-2000  
100 W 8th St – Sioux Falls, SD 57104 / www.hisioxford.com  
Sited in the heart of Sioux Falls. Our hotel is surrounded by the city's most popular attractions. We offer great vacation packages for an affordable, fun-filled getaway at a great discount!

### attractions

**Wilder Homes & Pageant** De Smet .. 605-854-3383

### convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

Department of Tourism & State Development  
Pierre ..... 800-S-DAKOTA





## 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, MENOMONIE, MOUNT HOREB, OSHKOSH, PLATTEVILLE, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, SPARTA, ST. CROIX FALLS, STEVENS POINT, STOUGHTON, STURGEON BAY, STURTEVANT, SUPERIOR, TOMAH, WATERTOWN, WAUKESHA, WAUSAU, WOODRUFF, WISCONSIN DELLS

## calendar of events

### august

- **Lincoln's Frontier: 1825-1832** Aug 1-2, Villa Louis Historic Site 608-326-2721
- **Taste of Wisconsin** Aug 1-2, Kenosha 262-654-7307
- **Wisconsin State Fair** Aug 6-16, West Allis 800-884-FAIR
- **Irishfest** Aug 7-9, La Crosse 800-658-9424
- **Milwaukee Wine Festival** Aug 21-22, Milwaukee 888-210-0074

### september

- **Wilhelm Tell Festival** Sept 4-6, New Glarus 800-527-6838
- **Baraboo River Rendezvous** Sept 4-6, Baraboo 608-522-3319
- **Loggins & Messina** Sept 8, Potawatomi Bingo Casino 800-729-7244
- **Folk 'n' Blues** Sept 11-12, Beloit 608-363-2000
- **Volksfest-German Festival** Sept 11-13, Waupun 920-324-2531
- **Laura Ingalls Wilder Days** Sept 12-13, Pepin 800-442-3011
- **Cannons and Redcoats Military Events** Sept 18-19, Prairie du Chien 608-326-6960
- **St. Croix Falls Autumn Fest** Sept 26-27, St. Croix Falls 800-222-7655

### october

- **Shinata Orchard Fest** Oct 3-4, Prairie du Chien 608-326-2785
- **Oktoberfest Taste of Germany** Oct 9, Chateau St. Croix Winery 715-483-2556
- **Historic Downtown La Crosse Day** Oct 10, La Crosse 608-784-0440
- **Fall Foliage Cruises** Oct 10-11, 24-25, Mississippi Explorer Cruises 877-647-7397
- **Lighthouse Legacies Quilt Show** Oct 10-11, Racine 800-272-2463
- **Autumn Swing - Celebrating Music, Arts & Food** Oct 23-25, Monroe 608-328-3212

### november

- **Swissfest** Nov 1, Monroe 608-325-3461
- **Brookfield East Holiday Art Fair** Nov 8, Brookfield 262-786-5001
- **Holiday Folk Fair International** Nov 20-22, West Allis 800-324-7468
- **Stone Ring** Nov 21, Monroe 608-325-5700
- **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever** Nov 28-Dec 27, The St Croix Festival Theatre 888-887-6002

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

# Travel Wisconsin ITINERARIES Wisconsin®



## PRAIRIE DU CHIEN

The confluence of the Wisconsin River and the Mississippi is the location of one of Wisconsin's prettiest river towns, Prairie du Chien. First Indians, then French explorers, followed by early fur traders found this plateau along the river to be a natural gathering place. The town's varied history is captured in a number of intriguing historic sites in Prairie du Chien as well as in the surrounding area. Perhaps most notable is the gracious Victorian country estate Villa Louis. Embracing twenty-five acres along the Mississippi River on St. Feriole Island, the site includes the Villa Louis mansion complex, restored grounds and gardens just to list a few! If you enjoy watching Bald Eagles, visiting this area is a must, as Prairie du Chien is along the migration route and is a normal wintering area for these magnificent birds. Bald Eagle Appreciation Day is held in February and features live bald eagle programs, birding experts, views and more! Fascinating history, towering rugged bluffs, and savvy shops and restaurants, make this city a memorable visit for your group. *(See location on map, page 72)*

## other mayberry's of wisconsin

**Ashland** – Ashland is a one-of-a-kind place with lots of one-of-a-kind attractions. Like the giant ore dock reaching into Lake Superior - one of the largest concrete structures on earth. Take a cruise to the scenic Apostle Islands, or historic & ghost walks with costumed guide & candle lanterns. Plus scenic waterfalls throughout the region!

**Baraboo** – You can browse in unique shops, visit their historic downtown square, explore some of the most scenic natural areas in Wisconsin, ride the rails on vintage locomotives, see a circus, marvel at some of the world's most beautiful birds, try your luck at the state's largest casino, and so much more. It all begins here in Baraboo!

**Bayfield** – Bayfield is the type of small town travelers dream about – picturesque and charming with all the modern amenities. View Victorian mansions, explore the famous Apostle Islands, pick fresh berries or apples, or just relax and listen to the soothing waves of Lake Superior.

**Brookfield** – You'll enjoy money-saving shopping at over 250 stores, limitless dining options, plus amusing activities for the entire group! From laser tag and rock climbing to museums and fine arts centers, Brookfield is great for your group outing.

**Cambridge** – Here you'll find a mingling of both old and new. Inside Victorian storefronts and century-old buildings are charming shops and galleries with countless specialties from pottery to furniture, crafts to folk art, antiques, coffees, candies, food and much more.

**Cedarburg** – Their unique collection of 19th century stone buildings and their tempting array of specialty shops and

restaurants make this southeastern community a must-see midwestern town. Stroll the tree-lined streets; a perfect backdrop for a day of shopping and antiques.

**Green County** – Green County is famous for colorful ethnic and heritage festivals, Swiss heritage and cuisine, and award-winning cheese. You'll enjoy the small town flavor of our communities, including New Glarus – famously known as America's "Little Switzerland", and Monroe – known as the Specialty Cheese Capital of the USA, plus unique shopping and dining experiences throughout Green County, WI.

**Mineral Point** – Take a step back in time when your group views homes made of stone, stroll through a Cornish village and a restored miners settlement. Artisans & craftsmen do all types of work. Their presence contributes to a vibrant shopping environment.

**Pepin** – Known as the birthplace of Laura Ingalls Wilder. Learn more about Laura during their Laura Ingalls Wilder Days in September and visit their Wilder Museum & Wilder Wayside. Pepin also has many choices for shopping, dining & lodging.

**St Croix Falls** – The gateway to the upper St. Croix River, enjoy the scenery from rustic country roads, discover the cultural and historic aspects at art galleries, antique shops and professional theatre productions.

**Spring Green** – This sparkling town has a reputation that far outranks its size, thanks to architect Frank Lloyd Wright. Wright built his Wisconsin home, Taliesin in the early 1900s. It also sparked the creation of the American Players Theatre. South of town is another architectural display, *House on the Rock*.

# WELCOME TO SOUTHERN WISCONSIN

## La Crosse

La Crosse is a dynamic destination, born of a rich river history. Surrounded by majestic bluffs that take on different characteristics with each season, La Crosse is a jewel on the Mississippi River. With nationally renowned restaurants, first class lodging, and unique attractions the area is a perfect choice for your next tour. Free customized itinerary planning, step-on guide service, brochures and maps. Call today!

**800.658.9424**  
For free itineraries.



**La Crosse**  
*Regally River. Original. Believer.*

**EXPLORE LACROSSE.COM**

## Racine

Located on the shores of Lake Michigan, Racine offers a selection of interesting, cultural, historical and entertaining attractions including fine restaurants and affordable accommodations. Frank Lloyd Wright architecture, Danish Bakeries, The Wind Point Lighthouse and The Basement Bijou, a 1926 Wurlitzer Organ Show; These are just a few of the exciting and beautiful attractions that your group will delight in seeing when they visit Racine County, Wisconsin.

**Experience Racine County, WI**  
Tour Fred Hermes' Basement Bijou, Wind Point Lighthouse, Racine Art Museum, Danish Kringle Bakeries, and so much more!  
Contact Eileen Arnold at the Racine County CVB at: [eileen@racine.org](mailto:eileen@racine.org) or 1-800-272-2463 x28



## Brookfield

A sophisticated and vibrant community with charm ideally located 10 miles west of downtown Milwaukee. Over a dozen hotels in Brookfield offer a comprehensive selection of accommodations-fine hotels and resorts, guest suites, motor lodges and more. Over 150 dining options, the best shopping in all of Wisconsin and endless attractions. Let us help you plan your group's stay.



**BROOKFIELD**  
wisconsin  
Convention & Visitors Bureau

**Brookfield...get-away while you're getting away.**  
Mere minutes from Milwaukee.

**800-388-1835**  
[www.visitbrookfield.com](http://www.visitbrookfield.com)

Say goodbye to your old routine. Breakaway! To Brookfield, Wisconsin

## Green County

Smile, and say cheese! You're in southwestern Wisconsin's Green County - famous for Swiss entertainment and ethnic cuisine, colorful festivals like Cheese Days and Wilhelm Tell, and tasty local brews paired with award-winning cheese. A new favorite is "Barn Quilts and Bovines" - a guided agricultural tour through the rolling hills countryside.

**GROUP TOUR**  
**Cheese Lovers in Paradise!**

Memorable attractions. Tours with tasty endings. Let your group experience a little bit of Switzerland right in Southern Wisconsin.

**GREEN**  
Wisconsin  
**COUNTY**

Visit Green County - New Glarus & Monroe  
1.888.222.9111  
[greencounty.org](http://greencounty.org)



## Waupun

Waupun "The City of Sculptures" is known for its seven outdoor bronze sculptures. Tours of the statues and their history and meaning can be arranged through Waupun Tourism. Several unique shopping experiences and a wide range of dining opportunities are available. Very close to the Horicon Marsh and Marsh Haven Nature Center offering lots of outdoor opportunities. Come and enjoy small town amenities.

**Waupun Tourism**



201 W Main Street | Waupun, WI 53963 | 920-324-2384 Phone | 920-324-2384 Fax | [www.cityofwaupun.org](http://www.cityofwaupun.org)



# JOIN IN WITH GROUP SALES AT POTAWATOMI BINGO CASINO

Experience the bigger, better Potawatomi Bingo Casino, which now offers:

- 108 table games
- 3,100 slots
- 5 restaurants
- Off-Track Betting
- Woodland Dreams Ballroom

## GROUP PACKAGES ARE AVAILABLE FOR BINGO OR CASINO PLAY

CALL 414-847-7910  
GROUPSALES@PAYSBIG.COM



BINGO • CASINO

1721 WEST CANAL STREET  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53233  
1-800-PAYSBIG • PAYSBIG.COM

MANAGEMENT RESERVES ALL RIGHTS • MAKE A SURE BET - KNOW YOUR LIMIT  
©2009 FOREST COUNTY POTAWATOMI COMMUNITY, WISCONSIN

## POTAWATOMI Bingo • Casino

As Wisconsin's No. 1 entertainment destination, Potawatomi Bingo Casino offers a distinctive blend of exciting gaming, outstanding food, great theater performances and excellent service. A recent \$240 million expansion of the casino allows for even more gaming and dining options.

Experience a day of excitement, fun and food when you participate in a line run to the Casino. The standard package is available for just \$14. You receive a \$2 discount by making reservations by 3 p.m. the day prior, and it includes a \$5 Bonus Play to use that day, a \$5 Bonus Play valid for two weeks for your next trip and round-trip transportation. Plus, guests on a day run will receive lunch at The Buffet.

For additional information about Potawatomi Bingo Casino's line runs visit [www.paysbig.com](http://www.paysbig.com). Call our new motorcoach line, Badger Bus, toll-free at 1-877-894-6287 to make reservations.



Northern Lights Theater

Here is a complete list of where Potawatomi Bingo Casino line runs pick up and drop off:



### ILLINOIS

- Arlington Heights
- Buffalo Grove
- Cicero
- Des Plaines
- Elmhurst
- Evanston
- Gurnee
- Libertyville
- Lincolnwood
- Morton Grove
- Mundelein
- Norridge
- Niles
- Forest Park

- Rockford
- Rosemont
- Skokie
- Vernon Hills
- Waukegan
- Wheeling

### WISCONSIN

- Allenton
- Beloit
- Beaver Dam
- Brown Deer
- Burlington
- Cedarburg
- Columbus

- Delafield
- East Troy
- Elkhorn
- Fitchburg
- Germantown
- Glendale
- Greendale
- Hales Corners
- Johnson Creek
- Kenosha
- Lake Geneva
- Madison
- Menomonee Falls
- Milwaukee
- Muskego



- Pewaukee
- Port Washington
- Racine
- Sheboygan
- Sun Prairie
- Waterford
- Watertown
- Waukesha
- Wauwatosa
- West Allis
- West Bend

# Tour the beautiful Upper St. Croix Valley

Overlooking a unique stretch of the St. Croix River hewn into magnificent structures by the glaciers, the quaint, appealing, and historic communities of St. Croix Falls and Taylors Falls beckon. They quietly sit across the river from each other amidst the amazing natural beauty that will make you catch your breath any time of the year. Your group will find a wonderful variety of area attractions that will make any tour memorable... here are some of our most popular group-friendly options...



**Eichten's Market & Cafe**  
Cheese & Bison  
specialtycheese.com

## Enjoy Our Fall Colors!

While on a fall colors drive, enjoy tasting our golden Chardonnay or our rich Cabernet Sauvignon. All of our wines are produced right here in the scenic St. Croix river valley.

*Chateau St. Croix Winery*  
www.chateaustcroix.com

### Chateau St Croix Winery and Vineyard

The Chateau St. Croix Winery & Vineyard is crafted in the image of a European estate, complete with an art gallery, vineyard, carriage house, stables, gardens, and a fishing pond. Your group will enjoy their experience as we host them with our award-winning wine selections. Free motorcoach parking.  
www.chateaustcroix.com | 715-483-2556

### Eichtens

Look west and you will find one of the largest bison herds roaming the pastures. You're invited to tour our famous family farm producing prize-winning Artisan Cheeses and American Bison Meat. Then onto to our Market and Restaurant, for tasting, sampling and dining. Free motorcoach parking.  
www.specialtycheese.com | 651-257-4752

### Festival Theatre

Step back in time to an historic 1917 Vaudeville Theatre in downtown St. Croix Falls, WI. Here you'll discover Festival Theatre, a professional theatre company and music venue. There's truly something for everyone in this magical space that overlooks the beautiful St. Croix River. Free motorcoach parking.  
www.festivaltheatre.org | 888-887-6002

### Greccos on the St Croix

Owner Justin Grecco invites you to reserve time for a wonderful meal that he creates from fresh, natural ingredients. His passion for food, wine and a quality dining experience for every member of your group is displayed on a menu that changes every week. Let Justin and his staff make your visit to St Croix Falls truly memorable...and worth coming back for. Free motorcoach parking.  
www.greccos.com | 715-483-5003



*Eclectic infusion of global cuisine and wine offering a unique outdoor dining experience overlooking the beautiful St. Croix River*  
\*Private Parties & Catering also available

www.greccos.com | 715.485.5003

## FESTIVAL THEATRE

### Where Groups Get Fanfare!

Professional Theatre in a 1917 Vaudeville House  
888-887-6002  
www.festivaltheatre.org



**TAYLORS FALLS RECREATION**  
EST. 1906  
SCENIC BOAT TOURS  
TAYLORS FALLS BOAT TOURS  
WWW.TAYLORSFALLSBOAT.COM 651-465-6315

### Recapture the Romance of a Bygone Era Travel Back in Time along the scenic St. Croix River

The Osceola & St. Croix Valley Railway operates a regular schedule on weekends, holidays, and special events, May-October

- Spectacular views of wildlife and natural areas
- A unique group destination
- Full Dinner or Brunch Buffet, Pizza & Box Lunches or just coffee and desert are available on Board

**OSCEOLA & ST. CROIX VALLEY RAILWAY**  
Info and Tickets  
715.755.3570 | www.trainride.org  
114 Depot Road, P.O. Box 138, Osceola, WI 54602

### Osceola St Croix Railway Company

Experience the St. Croix River valley as you can only see it while taking a TRAIN RIDE. Breathe in the incredible wildflowers, waterfalls, nesting eagles, trumpeter swans, osprey and other nature and scenery while rolling through the area. Is it time to eat? Dinner, brunch, pizza or even box lunches are available to make your train ride even more memorable. Free motorcoach parking.  
www.trainride.org | 715-755-3570

### Taylors Falls Recreation and Wild Mountain

Taylors Falls Scenic Boat Tours has been operating on the scenic St Croix River since 1906. We offer daily-narrated tours 7 days a week from May-mid October. You can also enjoy lunch or dinner cruises as well as private charters. You will see several famous rock formations on the trip including the Old Man of the Dalles, and the Holy Cross. On 75%+ of the boat trips you will see a Bald Eagle. Free motorcoach parking.  
www.taylorsfallsboat.com | 651-465-6315

www.visitscf.com | 651-465-6315

**ST. CROIX**  
Adventure Awaits!  
Just Up River



directory & map

accommodations

Country Inn & Suites ..... 262-782-1400
1250 South Moorland Road – Brookfield, WI 53005
krylko@csmcorp.net

Enter our two-story Lobby and enjoy the warmth of our welcoming fireplace, 149 spacious guest rooms, complimentary Deluxe Breakfast Bar, Outback Steakhouse and Champpps Americana restaurants on-site, and indoor pool.

Country Inn & Suites Prairie du Chien .800-456-4000

Holiday Inn Express St. Croix Falls ... 877-422-4097

Marriott Milwaukee West ..... 262-574-0888
W 231 N 1600 Corporate Court – Waukesha, WI 53186
tholmes@csmcorp.net

The Milwaukee Marriott West provides outstanding service and amenities. Onsite amenities include a gift shop, indoor pool and whirlpool, fitness center and complimentary parking. Enjoy Bistro 1600 or room service for dining pleasure.

attractions

Chateau St. Croix Winery & Vineyard
St. Croix Falls ..... 715-483-2556

Potawatomi Bingo Casino ..... 877-894-6287
1721 West Canal Street – Milwaukee, WI 53233
www.paysbig.com
Wisconsin's #1 entertainment destination! We offer a distinctive blend of exciting gaming, outstanding food, great theater performances and excellent service.

Osceola & St. Croix Valley Railway
Osceola ..... 715-755-3570

Shihata's Orchard, LLC
Prairie du Chien ..... 608-326-2785

Villa Louis Prairie du Chien ..... 608-326-2721

Wild Mountain – Taylors Falls Recreation
Taylors Falls, MN ..... 800-447-4958

Wilder Museum & Birthsite Pepin .715-442-3011

convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

Brookfield CVB Brookfield ..... 800-388-1835

Green County Tourism Monroe ..... 608-325-1838

La Crosse Area CVB La Crosse ..... 800-658-9424

Racine County CVB
Sturtevant ..... 800-272-2463 ext 28

Waupun Tourism Waupun ..... 920-324-2384

entertainment & theater

Festival Theatre
St. Croix Falls ..... 888-887-6002

restaurants

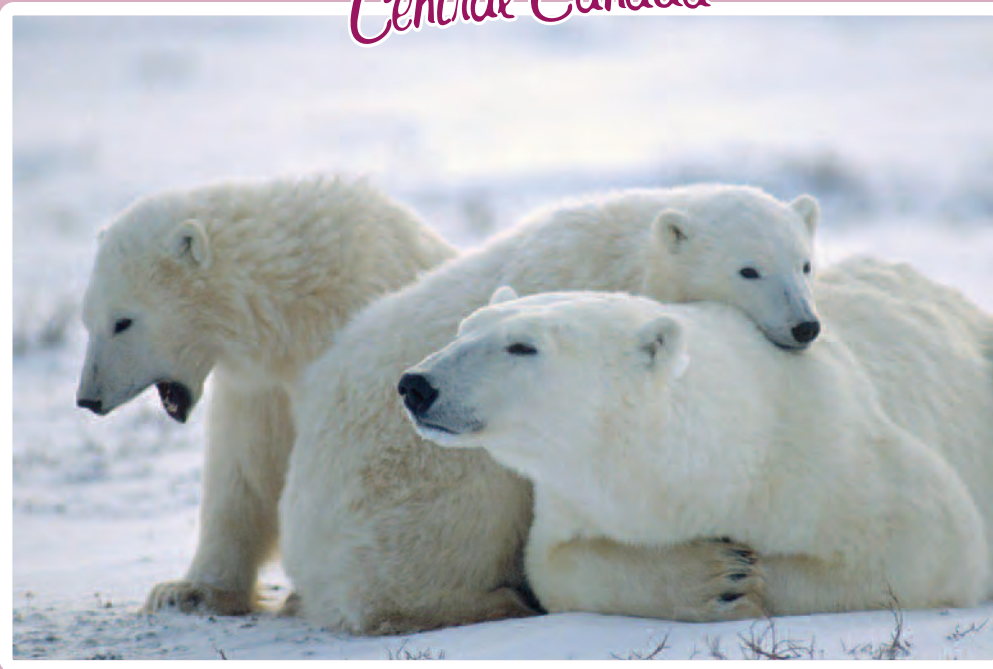
The Barn Restaurant Prairie du Chien .608-326-4941

Eichten's Market & Café
Center City, MN ..... 651-257-4752

Grecco's on the St. Croix
St. Croix Falls ..... 715-483-5003



# Keep Exploring ITINERARIES Central Canada®



## CHURCHILL

Churchill is a town on the shore of Hudson Bay in Manitoba. They are most famous for the many polar bears that move toward the shore from inland in the autumn, leading to the nickname “Polar Bear Capital of the World”. One way you can safely view these polar bears is from specially modified buses known as tundra buggies. Other options include dogsled, plane, helicopter, or wilderness lodges. You will find a number of different venues that offer viewing of polar bears and other wildlife such as Beluga whales (they also claim to be the “Beluga Capital of the World”).

Besides polar bears, Churchill has an Eskimo Museum, Prince of Wales Fort – imagine the first fur traders huddled here through those winters. Learn about bear safety at the Parks Canada Visitor Reception Centre, stroll the town, visit gift shops for souvenirs. Be sure to learn about the Churchill Rocket Research Range – the launching silos, which dominate the horizon will intrigue your group. This just scratches the surface of what you can see and do in Churchill, an accessible way to touch the arctic. (See location on map, page 74)

## other mayberry's of central canada

**Altona, Manitoba** – Altona is the Sunflower Capital of Canada. The Manitoba Sunflower Festival is celebrated the last weekend in July. No stop would be complete without viewing the world's tallest painting on an easel, a replica of Van Gogh's Sunflowers, standing 76 feet high at the northeast entrance of the town.

**Carman, Manitoba** – An oasis on the prairies, the Boyne River flows through this beautifully treed community. A 5 km-pathway features three river bridges and a tall grass prairie. Celebrate the Carman Potato and Blossom Festival in June, Carman Country Fair in July and the Carman Fiddle Festival in August.

**Dauphin, Manitoba** – The beautiful backdrop of the lush rolling prairie of the Dauphin area offers an opportunity for scenic, self-guided driving or walking tours. Engage all five senses while exploring a few of their hidden gems – Mountain View Gold, Baked Elsewhere & Savour the Flavour.

**Kakabeka Falls, Ontario** – The “Niagara of the North” near Thunder Bay, as it plummets 128 feet to the mighty cataracts below. Kakabeka Falls means “thundering water”, and in its two-billion-year-old rocks, some of the world's oldest fossils are found.

**Kenora, Ontario** – See a floatplane land along the harbor front, take a walking tour and see the city's beautiful Heritage

Murals. Kenora competes in the national “Communities in Bloom” competition each year - come see the flower displays! Or take a picture with “Husky the Muskie,” a 40-foot tall replica of the fish the lake is famous for.

**Morden, Manitoba** – Find out for yourself why Harrowsmith Country Life Magazine named Morden a “Best in Country Living” community. Tree-lined streets, antique fieldstone buildings and mansions, beautiful parks, a bronze statue by renowned artist Leo Mol and three historical murals, grace the downtown area.

**St. Claude, Manitoba** – View how cream and butter were made in the early part of the last century, a kilometer of gardens where artist-gardeners gather to paint and maintain these gardens, a roman catholic church, and the world's second largest smoking pipe are just a few things to see and do!

**Terrace Bay, Ontario** – A town built on a series of giant steps that were formed by receding glaciers at the end of the last ice age. See attractions like the 100 ft Aguasabon Falls and Slate Islands and its caribou population. Plus catch festivals such as the Superior Snow Challenge Loop or the annual Dragfest racing festival.



## central canada cities

### manitoba

ASHERN, BINSKARTH, BRANDON, DAUPHIN, FLIN FLON, GRAND RAPIDS, PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE, SELKIRK, STEINBACH, THE PAS, ST. ANDREWS, THOMPSON, WINNIPEG

### ontario

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

## calendar of events

### august

- **Folklorama** Aug 2-15, Winnipeg 800-665-0204
- **Anishnawbe Keeshigun Aboriginal Festival** Aug 15-16, Thunder Bay 800-667-8386
- **Morden Corn & Apple Festival** Aug 21-23, Morden 204-822-5630
- **27th Annual Westfort Village Street Fair** Aug 22, Thunder Bay 800-667-8386

### september

- **Dawson Trail Days** Sept 4-7, Ste. Anne 204-422-5293
- **Winnipeg Chinatown Centennial Street Festival** Sept 5, Winnipeg 800-665-0204
- **Manitoba Dragon Boat Festival** Sept 11-13, Winnipeg 800-665-0204
- **Railway Days 2009** Sept 12-13, Winnipeg 800-665-0204
- **Itineraries Midwest Group Travel Show & FAM** Sept 17-20, Winnipeg 877-832-7267
- **Migration Festival** Sept 26-27, Oak Hammock Marsh 204-467-3300

### october

- **Oktoberfest** Oct 15, Thunder Bay 800-667-8386
- **Haunted Fort Night** Oct 23-25, Thunder Bay 800-667-8386
- **Manito Ahbee 2009 – A Festival for all Nations** Oct 30-Nov 8, Winnipeg 800-665-0204

### november

- **Manito Ahbee-A Festival for all Nations** Nov 4-8, Winnipeg 800-665-0204
- **Peek Behind-The-Scenes** Nov 4-11, Churchill 204-675-8863
- **A Wine Affair 2009** Nov 7, Thunder Bay 800-667-8386
- **Winnipeg Aboriginal Film Festival** Nov 18-22, Winnipeg 800-665-0204
- **Canad Inns Winter Wonderland** Nov 27-Dec 31, Winnipeg 800-665-0204

(Contact area CVBs for complete calendars)

Polar Bear & tundra buggy





## 2009 ITINERARIES MIDWEST FAM!

Great attractions, hidden gems and festive events are waiting to be discovered this fall, at the **2009 Itineraries Midwest Show & FAM, September 17-20**, in **Winnipeg**.

Centrally located in the heart of Canada, Winnipeg is a unique prairie city where its Aboriginal roots, multiculturalism and diversity shine brightly through the many ethnic restaurants, cultural neighborhoods, attractions and festivals throughout the city.

This blend of culture and heritage, attractions and festivals provides you with a multitude of itinerary options for any group with a penchant for entertainment, history and discovery.

### Friday, September 18th

Your FAM tour begins with an exciting night featuring fantastic local food and exhilarating entertainment that will leave you wanting to come back for more!

Hosted by the **Winnipeg Tour Connection**, this festival themed evening will feature a taste of entertainment from two of Winnipeg's largest festivals – **Folklorama** and **Festival du Voyageur**.

Summertime favorite Folklorama is a two week festival celebrating the multicultural make up of the city. Each week a number of pavilions representing cultures and countries from around the globe take place at various venues throughout Winnipeg. At the pavilions you can sample ethnic cuisine, take in a cultural performance and learn about the customs of the featured culture or country.

Meanwhile, during the winter months Festival du Voyageur heats things up. Festivalgoers are sure to find their "joie de vivre" with entertainment ranging

from traditional jiggling to dogsled races to snow sculpture competitions. The evening will also feature food stations serving up tantalizing ethnic and local cuisine found at the festivals and around the city of Winnipeg.

Following the festival themed dinner, your Winnipeg hosts will take you on an adventure seeking scavenger hunt at the tropical themed **Club Regent Casino**. With its large walk through aquarium featuring exotic fish, palm trees and lush garden atmosphere.

### Saturday, September 19th

After a good night's sleep, get ready for an educational and breathtaking **City Tour of Winnipeg**. The WTC will take you through the city's historic **Exchange District** -- home to some of the best "Chicago School" architecture, **St. Boniface** -- Winnipeg's very own French Quarter and down the majestic elm tree lined **Wellington Crescent** -- home to some of the city's most elaborate mansions.

## GROUP TRAVEL SHOW

# ITINERARIES *Midwest*

At the end of Wellington Crescent is the beautiful **Assiniboine Park**. A lush urban forest, Assiniboine Park is one of the city's most valuable treasures and boasts a Zoo, English Garden and Conservatory. We will also take you through the **Leo Mol Sculpture Garden** -- a must see while at the park featuring artistic bronze sculptures beautifully showcased in a natural setting.

Following the City Tour, you will be treated to another great made-in-Winnipeg meal at a local restaurant, before departing for Fargo.

So get ready to discover why Winnipeg is the heart of Canada at the **2009 Itineraries Midwest Show, September 17-20** (see ad on page 2).

For more details and to register today call 877-832-7267 or visit [www.itinerariesmidwest.com](http://www.itinerariesmidwest.com).

## directory & map

### accommodations

Club Regent Casino Hotel Winnipeg . 888-332-2623

### attractions

Club Regent Casino Winnipeg . . . . . 204-957-2500

### convention & visitors bureaus and chambers

Travel Manitoba Winnipeg, Manitoba . . 800-665-0040

Winnipeg Tour Connection . . . . . 800-665-0204

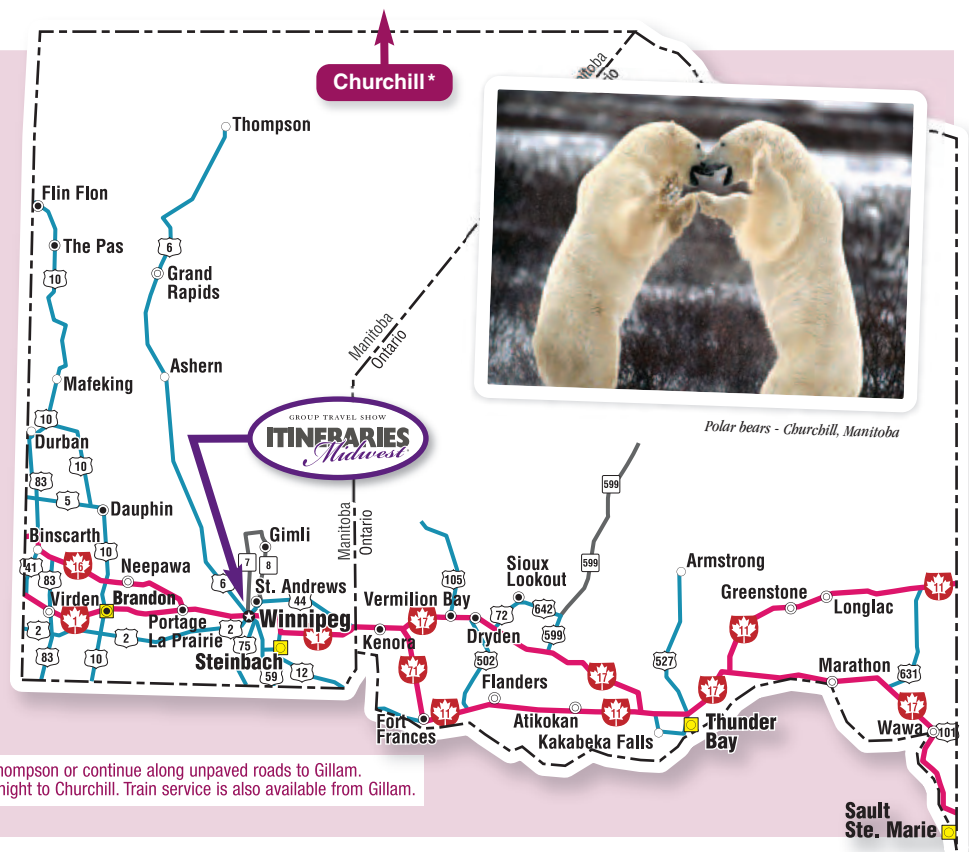
Winnipeg, Canada / [www.destinationwinnipeg.ca](http://www.destinationwinnipeg.ca)/540

A group of 25 dedicated professionals, working together to make planning group travel a breeze. Use our resources and partnership when planning your group(s) next trip to Winnipeg. A one-stop-shop for fast, efficient access to the best of Winnipeg!

### festivals & events

Festival du Voyageur Winnipeg . . . . . 204-237-7692

Folklorama Winnipeg . . . . . 800-665-0234



Polar bears - Churchill, Manitoba

\* No roads lead to Churchill but you can follow Hwy 6 as far as Thompson or continue along unpaved roads to Gillam. From Thompson, you can fly or hop aboard the train for an overnight to Churchill. Train service is also available from Gillam.

# GROUP LODGING *Midwest*



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

## A Place To Go Before You Go

Designed by group travelers, [grouplodgingmidwest.com](http://grouplodgingmidwest.com) is the premier online travel tool that gives you all the information you need to plan upper Midwest group travel stays. Enjoy peace of mind knowing you have the right contact names, numbers, maps, photos and little details that always make a difference.

Bookmark [grouplodgingmidwest.com](http://grouplodgingmidwest.com) today and check back often for new hotels to check out.

### FIND THESE "GROUP-FRIENDLY" HOTELS ONLINE NOW:

Bloomington, MN: **COURTYARD BLOOMINGTON**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_bloomington\\_courtyard.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_bloomington_courtyard.html)

Bloomington, MN: **HOLIDAY INN BLOOMINGTON AIRPORT I-35W**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_bloomington\\_holiday.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_bloomington_holiday.html)

Brookfield, WI: **COUNTRY INN & SUITES**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/wi\\_brookfield\\_countryinn.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/wi_brookfield_countryinn.html)

Clive, IA: **COUNTRY INN & SUITES**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/ia\\_clive\\_countryinn.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/ia_clive_countryinn.html)

Eagan, MN: **SPRINGHILL SUITES**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_eagan\\_springhill.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_eagan_springhill.html)

Eden Prairie, MN: **HILTON GARDEN INN**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_edenprairie\\_hilton.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_edenprairie_hilton.html)

Eden Prairie, MN: **SPRINGHILL SUITES**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_edenprairie\\_springhill.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_edenprairie_springhill.html)

Elk River, MN: **HOLIDAY INN**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_elkriver\\_holiday.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_elkriver_holiday.html)

Golden Valley, MN: **SUPER 8**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_gvalley\\_super8.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_gvalley_super8.html)

Madelia, MN: **AMERICINN LODGE & SUITES**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_madelia\\_ameriinn.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_madelia_ameriinn.html)

Minneapolis, MN: **THE DEPOT MINNEAPOLIS, A RENAISSANCE HOTEL**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_minneapolis\\_depot.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_minneapolis_depot.html)

Minnetonka, MN: **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_minnetonka\\_holiday.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_minnetonka_holiday.html)

Moorhead, MN/ND: **AMERICINN LODGE & SUITES**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_moorhead\\_ameriinn.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_moorhead_ameriinn.html)

Oakdale, MN: **HILTON GARDEN INN**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_oakdale\\_hilton.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_oakdale_hilton.html)

Roseville, MN: **COURTYARD**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_roseville\\_courtyard.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_roseville_courtyard.html)

Roseville, MN: **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_roseville\\_hiex.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_roseville_hiex.html)

Sioux Falls, SD: **HOLIDAY INN CITY CENTRE**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/sd\\_siouxfalls\\_holiday.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/sd_siouxfalls_holiday.html)

St. Cloud, MN: **AMERICINN LODGE & SUITES**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_stcloud\\_ameriinn.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_stcloud_ameriinn.html)

St. Louis Park, MN: **MARRIOTT MINNEAPOLIS WEST**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_louispark\\_marriott.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_louispark_marriott.html)

St. Louis Park, MN: **SPRINGHILL SUITES**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_louispark\\_springhill.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_louispark_springhill.html)

Waukesha, WI: **MILWAUKEE MARRIOTT WEST**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/wi\\_waukesha\\_marriott.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/wi_waukesha_marriott.html)

Woodbury, MN: **COUNTRY INN**  
[www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn\\_woodbury\\_countryinn.html](http://www.GLMhotels.com/h/mn_woodbury_countryinn.html)

# Group travel the Bloomington way.

Getting together is better than ever in Bloomington. Our convenient central location puts you right next to the airport, next door to the world-renowned Mall of America,<sup>®</sup> and just minutes from downtown Minneapolis and St. Paul. Try something new for groups-Bloomington's The Big Ticket<sup>™</sup> three-day attractions pass or the new Shop America Packages. Make your next trip to Bloomington even easier when we handle all the planning details for you. Call 1-866-435-7425, or visit [bloomingtonmn.org](http://bloomingtonmn.org). And start group travel the Bloomington way!



Accommodating groups  
for 10 to 2000 people



Home of  
Mall of America

1-866-435-7425  
[sales@bloomingtonmn.org](mailto:sales@bloomingtonmn.org)  
[bloomingtonmn.org](http://bloomingtonmn.org)

