

HOLLAND AT TULIPTIME, PLUS MICHIGAN'S LIGHTHOUSES AND GARDENS MAY 18-23, 2020

Boarding in Davenport & Dubuque, Iowa and Moline & Galena, Illinois
Partnering with Plus 55 Club

TO MAKE A RESERVATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT 1-800-779-4869

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:

- ❖ 13 Meals: 5 breakfasts, 4 lunches (one voucher), 4 dinners
- ❖ Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation with full-time Tour Director
- ❖ St. Joseph Lighthouse
- ❖ Saugatuck Dune Ride
- ❖ Dutch Village
- ❖ Aqua Star Sightseeing Cruise
- ❖ Gerald Ford Presidential Museum
- ❖ Frederick Meijer Gardens
- ❖ Our Lady of the Woods
- ❖ Fairview Organic Maple Sugar Farm
- ❖ Besser Museum
- ❖ Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center
- ❖ Sturgeon Point Lighthouse
- ❖ Japanese Gardens
- ❖ Critchlow Alligator Sanctuary
- ❖ Indiana Amish Country Touring
- ❖ Wellfield Botanical Gardens



Your Tour Price:

- \$1459.00 per person – 4 to a room
- \$1479.00 per person – 3 to a room
- \$1569.00 per person – 2 to a room
- \$1855.00 per person – single

Your Tour Includes: 5 Nights' Accommodations, Luggage Handling for One Suitcase Not to Exceed 50 lbs., Taxes and Gratuities on Included Accommodations, Attractions, and Meals

Not Included: Travel Protection Plan, Gratuities to Tri-State Travel Tour Director and Motorcoach Driver, Items of a Personal Nature

DAY # 1 - Monday, May 18, 2020

Getting acquainted with our traveling friends is first on our agenda as we travel to Holland Michigan. Our first stop is at the St. Joseph Lighthouse. Here we will meet our guide for a tour the length of the North Pier (approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ mile) and learn about the Twin Cities' rich maritime heritage and 180 years of lighthouse history. From here we make our way to Saugatuck, MI and board the dune schooners. Learn of the lost town of Singapore and discover the local vegetation and wildlife. A family style dinner is included prior to checking into our Holland, MI hotel. (D)

DAY # 2 - Tuesday, May 19, 2020

We depart this morning after an included breakfast for a tour of Holland including a picture stop at "Big Red": the most photographed lighthouse on Lake Michigan. Step back in time as we visit a reproduction of an 1800's Dutch Village. Learn a few steps of Holland's traditional "klompen" dance and watch artisans make cheese and carve candles. There will be time to have lunch on your own and explore the Dutch import shops. We now depart for Muskegon, MI where our step on guide awaits to share the local history and a scheduled picture stop at the South Pierhead Light. Late afternoon finds us cruising Michigan's shoreline aboard the Aqua Star. Dinner and touring will be aboard the USS LST-393. LST stands for landing ship tank (or as many soldiers called it a long slow target). The LST 393 was in many battles including D Day. The LST is one of two remaining after the war. This is a ship museum that honors all veterans throughout the ship. You may go through the ship after your dinner. Most of the artifacts are on the tank deck (main floor). There will be docent on board to answer any questions during the meal. It is time to check into our Muskegon hotel. (BD)

DAY # 3 - Wednesday, May 20, 2020

After an included breakfast we make our way to Grand Rapids, MI. Our first stop is the Gerald Ford Museum. The museum contains exhibits on President Ford's life and career and the Office of President. Candid photographs of Ford interacting with his family and colleagues offer the visitor a personal glimpse of the president. The main floor includes a full-scale replica of the Oval Office furnished as it was during Ford's presidency. An interactive Cabinet Room allows visitors to take part in presidential decision making. The award-winning film, "A Time to Heal," is shown hourly in the museum auditorium. A section of the Berlin Wall stands in the museum's lobby. We now depart for Frederick Meijer Gardens. A lunch voucher is included at Taste of the Gardens Café with its dazzling glass ceiling sculpture by renowned artist Dale Chihuly. Named Lena's Garden in honor of Lena Meijer, the sculpture, comprised of dozens of individually blown-glass pieces, spans the ceiling in a spectrum of colors from cool greens, cobalt blues and purples to brilliant oranges, yellows and reds. Time to board the tram to tour the outside gardens. The greatest concentration of work is featured in a 30-acre sculpture park, which hosts both colossal and more traditional scale works sensitively sited in a natural environment. A local guide joins us for a tour of the Conservatory. The Lena Meijer Tropical Conservatory is a five-story, 15,000 square-foot facility featuring rock landscapes, a waterfall and a variety of exotic plant selections. The conservatory houses tropical plants from around the world, including fig trees from India, exotic orchids from Central and South America, Asiatic bamboo and banana trees. The Tram will skirt the edge of the Japanese Garden, for those who would like to walk through the garden, they can depart the tram at the garden instead of riding back to the main building. It is approximately a 2-block walk from the Japanese Garden to the café. We check into our hotel and enjoy the dinner show "Whispers of the North" The GORDON LIGHTFOOT Tribute. This show replicates the songs and styles of a Gordon Lightfoot concert. Enjoy the classic tunes made famous by the Canadian balladeer who wrote about the woods and the water, sailing ships, broken hearts and lost loves. (BLDS)

Day # 4 - Thursday, May, 21, 2020

We depart this morning after breakfast for the “Sunrise” side of Michigan. Learn about Kirtland’s Warbler and steps that have been taken to prevent its extinction. A stop will be made at Our Lady of the Woods Shrine in Mio. Take a moment to walk through the gardens on their beautifully landscaped grounds before continuing to Alpena. Our next stop is Fairview Organic Maple Sugar Farm. Take a short stroll through the Sugar Bush and see the original Sugar Shack built in the early 1900’s by the Amish family that settled the land. See the carvings on the trees by young lovers who joined in the yearly festivities associated with maple sugaring. Lunch today is at Stoney Acres Winery. Relax on their covered garden patio and enjoy a gourmet lunch. This unique boutique winery offers wine tasting as well as a tour of its caramel corn production. After lunch we depart for Besser Museum, a unique institution with enriching cultural experiences in art, history and science. Time allows for only a limited number of experiences. Our next stop is the Great Lakes Heritage Center: Science on a Sphere theater: “Climate Change on the Sphere”. Climate Change is a global problem, but a specific subset of its challenges are already affecting the Great Lakes Region, join National Marine Sanctuary staff as they illustrate these challenges using data sets on the Science on a Sphere theater. Time to depart and check into the Thunder Bay Resort. This family run resort offers the beauty of Northern Michigan. This evening step back in time as you board a horse drawn carriage that takes you through over the Thunder Bay River and into the woods at Thunder Bay Resort. Enjoy the scenery, the smell of pine, and the ever-changing face of the Thunder Bay River as the horses make their way deep in the woods to the beautiful Elk Antler Log Cabin. A blazing fire in a massive split stone fireplace welcomes you. This elegant cabin maintains its rustic appearance while providing every amenity. Throughout your dinner, sample five to seven wines from nearby Stoney Acres Winery as attentive servers see to your every need. (BLD)

DAY # 5 - Friday, May 22, 2020

Breakfast is included in the Clubhouse Grille. We depart for picturesque Sturgeon Point Lighthouse. This Lighthouse is operated by the Alcona Historical Society, the tower is 70 feet, 9 inches tall and is 16 feet in diameter at its base. Visit the maritime museum in the keeper’s house and walk along the peaceful shore. Lunch today is included at Krzysiak’s House Restaurant where they serve home cooked food with a European Flair. The Cathedral walls also reflect pictures that were taken during a trip to the motherland, Poland. This afternoon we experience the Japanese Cultural Center. Celebrants wear traditional kimono as they perform this 400-year-old ritual of serving tea. You can ask questions, take photographs, and enjoy the authentic whisked tea and sweets served in the ceremony itself. This form of tea ceremony dates back in an unbroken lineage to 1600 A.D. Celebrants glide and kneel on the tatami (reed) mats in a disciplined manner that is simple and attractive, with no wasted motion. Performing the tea ceremony fulfills their mission: “to promote intercultural understanding and peace through a bowl of tea.” Our overnight is in Marshall, MI. (BL)

DAY # 6 - Saturday, May 23, 2020

Following an included breakfast, we depart the hotel for Athens, MI. Our first stop this morning is at Critchlow’s Alligator Farm, home to hundreds of reptiles who have come there through adoption, donation, rescue, or from other institutions. No animals are bought, sold, or traded at the Alligator Sanctuary. They provide a comfortable home and care for these rescued animals for the rest of their lives. Tour the facility, feed the alligators and even have a chance to hold or touch one. Our travels continue as we make our way into Indiana. Lunch will be included at an Amish home before continuing to Wellfield Botanical Gardens a 36-acre natural enclave touted as a “living museum” and a working source of hydropower and drinking water. Modeled after the Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids, Michigan, the goal was to create a community asset that served locals and tourists alike, preserving the natural habitat and contributing positively to the local economy. The gardens feature over 20 individual gardens including an English-style garden and a waterfall garden. It is time to reflect on our gardens and lighthouse visits as we make our way home arriving late afternoon. (BL)