

# <u>AUTUMN IN MICHIGAN 2025</u> <u>FEATURING 2 NIGHT STAY ON MACKINAC ISLAND</u> <u>OCTOBER 5-10, 2025</u>

## **YOUR TOUR INCLUDES:**

- 5 Nights' Accommodations
- 12 Meals: 5 Breakfasts (3 continental, 1 full breakfast, 1 \$20 voucher), 4 lunches and 3 Dinners
- Visit to Our Lady of the Woods Tour of Fairview Organic Maple Farm
- Visit to the Great Lakes National Maritime Heritage Center Tour of the Presque Isle Lighthouses
- Guided tour between Rogers City and Mackinac Island

  Ferry to and from Mackinac Island
- Carriage Tour of Mackinac Island
   Tour of Charlevoix
- Guide Tour of the Grand Hotel with author Mike Fornes Saugatuck Dune Ride
- Walking and tram tour of Castle Farms (tram is dependent on the weather)
- Cherry pie at the Cherry Hut, Beulah, MI
- Admission to and ride on The Silver Beach Carousel
- Luggage handling at included hotels
- Taxes and Gratuities on Included Accommodations, Attractions, Meals and Step on Guide

### **TOUR DOES NOT INCLUDE:**

- Travel Protection Plan
- Gratuities for Tri-State Travel Tour Director and Motorcoach Driver
- Incidentals at the hotel or Items of a Personal Nature

### **Per Person Pricing:**

\$2,299.00 per person – 4 to a room \$2,379.00 per person – 3 to a room \$2,469.00 per person – 2 to a room \$2,989.00 per person – single

TRAVEL INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE AND STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

#### Day #1 Sunday, October 5, 2025

Welcome Aboard as we get acquainted with our fellow travelers while enjoying activities onboard our deluxe motorcoach. We change to Eastern Daylight Savings time before we check into our Mt. Pleasant, MI casino hotel for the night. Time to relax before enjoying the Gordon Lightfoot Tribute Dinner Show. 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. Following dinner: Try your luck on the casino floor, relax in the 2400 square foot "free form" pool that holds 66,000 gallons of water ½ million glass tiles from Milan, Italy, underwater music and lights, Douglas fir ceiling and trim. Enjoy an indoor/outdoor jacuzzi or snuggle in for the night. (DS)

OVN: Soaring Eagle Casino/Mt. Pleasant, MI

#### DAY #2 Monday, October 6, 2025

A \$20.00 meal voucher is included to purchase breakfast. We depart for Our Lady of the Woods. Take a moment to walk through the gardens on their beautifully landscaped grounds before continuing on to the Thunder Bay Resort. Arrive 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. Learn about the modern techniques Tim and Judy Boonstra use to tap over 2,500 Maple Trees with tubing and vacuum. Then sample one of Judy's Maple Syrup Cookies. Our next stop is Art in the Loft. This gallery has over 7,000 square feet of open loft space devoted to the exhibit of fine art by local, regional and national artists. You will have time to browse the exhibits prior to your lunch buffet. After lunch we depart for the National Maritime Heritage Center. This visitor center for the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary features exciting exhibits for all ages. Exploring the Shipwreck Century, is in the center's main hall and includes a full-size replica wooden Great Lakes schooner and shipwreck where visitors can walk the decks, feel a Great Lakes storm, and touch the massive timbers of the boat resting on the lake bottom ... without getting wet! We depart and make our way to Thunder Bay Resort. This family run resort offers the beauty of Northern Michigan combined with a friendly staff to give you a matchless Northern Michigan experience. This evening step back in time as you board a horse drawn carriage that takes you 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. Wonderful aromas mix with the scent of hardwood smoke and emanate from two antique wood cook stoves in full view. This elegant cabin maintains its rustic appearance while providing every amenity. Throughout your dinner, sample wines from nearby wineries as attentive servers see to your every need. (B,LD)

OVN: Thunder Bay Resort/Hillman, MI

#### DAY #3 Tuesday, October 7, 2025

A hot breakfast is included before we depart the resort. Our first stop this morning is at the Presque Isle Lighthouse. This lighthouse is a complex of three historic buildings including a lighthouse tower and two keeper's residences. Located on the Lake Huron shoreline near Presque Isle Harbor, the "New Presque Isle Light" is the tallest lighthouse tower accessible by the public on the Great Lakes. Visitors, for a nominal fee, may climb the 130 steps to the top of the tower for a spectacular view. Lunch is included at the Lighthouse Restaurant in Roger City, MI. This afternoon visit the Great Lake Lore Museum. The Great Lakes Lore Maritime Museum is a maritime museum that specializes in memories not just artifacts. From small "day" sailors manned by pre-colonial French and British traders to modern-day super carriers bearing the flags of most maritime powers, Great Lakes commercial craft, their captains and crew members are depicted and commemorated. Visit also a Calcite mine dock before continuing to 40 Mile Point Light house. Located just north of Rogers City, the lighthouse was built in 1896 to assist ships through the dangerous shoreline where open water, hidden shoals and false bays had claimed many vessels. The tour concludes with a fascinating ride across the Mighty Mac. At one time this was the longest suspension bridge in the world. Hear the dramatic tales of the brave iron workers who built this massive structure. Your guide will provide more than hearsay – in many cases these are eyewitness accounts of local history. Time to board the ferry to Mackinac Island. As you step upon the island you will feel like you have stepped back in time. Horse drawn vehicles transport everything from supplies for the businesses on the island to passengers. Accommodations are on Main Street at the Bicycle Street Inn. The evening is free for you to explore this unique island at your leisure. Be sure to taste some of the famous Mackinac Island fudge. (B,L)

OVN: Bicycle Street Inn/Mackinac Island, MI

#### DAY #4 Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Continental breakfast is included at the Bicycle Street Inn. We board a carriage for a tour of the island. For anyone who has seen the movie "Somewhere in Time" there will be moments of déjà vu during the tour of this picturesque island. The tour ends at the Grand Hotel with its fabulous buffet. Meet author Mike Fornes for a tour of the Grand Hotel. For 135 years, the Grand Hotel has overlooked the Straits of Mackinac. It has been the setting for Hollywood films, and favorite vacation spot each summer. Now go behind the scenes at this idyllic resort as Mike reveals its iconic history and be amazed at today's world of Mackinac Island finery. Following the tour, take some time to relax on the hotel's porch. At 660 feet, the Grand Hotel's Front Porch is the world's largest and has one of the most spectacular views of the straits. Wander down Main Street and visit some of Mackinac Island's unique shops. (CB,L)

OVN: Bicycle Street Inn/Mackinac Island, MI

#### DAY #5 Thursday, October 9, 2025

Breakfast is included at the hotel before we board our ferry to Mackinaw City. We arrive Charlevoix and are joined by a local guide who will share with us the architectural diversity of this lovely city. Highlights will be the unique "mushroom houses" which are built out of native stone and sport cedar shake roofs. Lunch is included at Castle Farms before we enjoy a walking and tram tour through this unique facility. Your tour guide will delight your group with the rich history of Castle Farms, from its original construction 1918 as the Loeb Farm, to the Van Haver art studio and gallery period, as well as the music concert era, and through the extensive restoration process from 2001 to present. The completed buildings and landscaped gardens are breathtaking. One last stop before checking into our hotel. How about an afternoon snack…a piece of Cherry Pie and Ice Cream at the Cherry Hut in Beulah, MI? Our overnight stay is in Manistee, MI at the Inn at Manistee National. This 42-room Inn is nestled between two stunning courses, Canthooke Valley and Cutters' Ridge, and is surrounded by Michigan's Manistee National Forest. Dinner is included at your leisure in the dining room off a special tour menu. This evening relax around a firepit and enjoy s'mores, a delightful outdoor tradition. As the flames crackle and the cool night air sets in, the experience of making s'mores by the firepit creates lasting memories of camaraderie and comfort. (CB,L,D)

OVN: Inn at Manistee National/Manistee, MI

#### DAY #6 Friday, October 10, 2025

Breakfast is included at the hotel. We make our way to one of West Michigan's Premier Attractions, Saugatuck dune rides. Board the Schooners for 30 minutes of entertainment, fun and edification. Lunch on own downtown Saugatuck. We arrive at the Silver Beach Carousel Museum. The horses, the tigers, the panda, the clown fish – in all, 48 unique carousel figures and two chariots – are whirling with excitement to see you. Come pick your favorite and ride beneath 1000 twinkling lights as the ban organ's music happily soars and dips with the gears. Following your ride, it is time to depart Michigan and head for home, with great memories of our Northern Michigan tour. (B)

**TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN:** The Travel Protection Plan is not included but is available and strongly recommended. There are three options:

- #1 Sign up for the insurance and pay the premium at the time you register for the tour and pre-existing condition waiver is included (refer to insurance flyer for details)
- #2 Sign up for the insurance any time after you make our initial trip deposit and Prior to the final date for trip registration and received the same travel insurance inclusions except the pre-existing waiver will not apply
- #3 Decline the Travel Protection Plan

The trip interruption and medical cancellation insurance premium is non-refundable unless the entire tour cancels. We offer a travel protection plan through Trip-Mate Insurance/a division of United States Fire Insurance Company Eatontown, NJ. Anu surcharges and/or tax increases received suppliers for the package (airlines, cruise companies, hotels, etc.) may result in an increase in the per person price of your tour package. For those individuals who may have purchased the Travel Protection Plan this may also result in an increase in your Travel Protection Plan premium. Please refer to <a href="https://www.tripmate.com/Plan TPD013">www.tripmate.com/Plan TPD013</a> for information regarding detailed coverages and limitations to the insurance policy. Waiver of Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion. The exclusion for pre-existing conditional will be waived provided

- (A) Your payment for this plan is received with your reservation
- (B) You are not disabled from travel at the time your plan premium is paid