

7 Day Rambling On The River

2020

Tour #20126

Aug. 14-20

2021

Tour #21126

Aug. 13-19

1 LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY / BUFFET LUNCHEON AT CHURCHILL DOWNS RESTAURANT / DINNER CRUISE

The long awaited day of departure has finally arrived and we anxiously board our Knoxville Tours motorcoach traveling through Tennessee to the beautiful Bluegrass State of Kentucky. Upon arrival in Louisville, we will enjoy a delicious buffet luncheon at Churchill Downs Cafe. After lunch we will take a 30 minute walking tour of Churchill Downs Racetrack. "The Greatest Race," a 360° 18-minute media experience that will make your heart race and

emotions soar. Enjoy two floors of family-friendly interactive exhibits including their resident Thoroughbred and Miniature horse display. After our visit to the Kentucky Derby Museum we will check into our hotel to freshen up and relax before our dinner cruise aboard The Belle of Louisville on the mighty Ohio River. The Belle is a National Historic Landmark and the oldest authentic river steamboat in the world. **L D**



2 NEW HARMONY, INDIANA / LUNCH AT RED GERANIUM RESTAURANT / ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI DINNER CRUISE ON THE MIGHTY MISSISSIPPI

We depart Louisville this morning traveling to New Harmony, Indiana, a historic town on the Wabash River in southwestern Indiana. We will discover a distinctive rural village, where the simple wooden structures of the Harmonists blend with modern architectural masterpieces on quiet tree-lined streets. We will enjoy a guided tour of New Harmony before enjoying a delicious luncheon at the Red Geranium Restaurant. It's a short two hour drive to St. Louis our next overnight stop. We will be amazed at the 630 foot Gateway Arch that beckons millions of visitors to St. Louis each year. After checking into our hotel, we will enjoy a delicious dinner and cruise on the Mississippi River with magnificent views of the breathtaking St. Louis skyline by night. **L D**



3 JOURNEY TO THE TOP OF THE ARCH / HANNIBAL / MARK TWAIN BOYHOOD HOME AND MUSEUM / BECKY THATCHER'S HOUSE / MISSISSIPPI RIVER DINNER CRUISE

What a way to start the day—a four minute narrated enclosed tram ride to the Top of the Gateway Arch with unparalleled views of the city from the Observation Deck. Next, we travel north to Hannibal, Missouri, also located on the mighty Mississippi. More than 140 years ago Mark Twain transformed this sleepy river town into an American icon. We will tour the authentically restored Boyhood Home of Mark Twain and experience the inspiration for The Adventures of Tom Sawyer and Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. We will also visit the Becky Thatcher House—the home of Laura Hawkins who was immortalized as Becky Thatcher, Tom's sweetheart, in The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. We will enjoy an evening dinner and cruise aboard the Mark Twain, an authentic Mississippi River paddlewheeler. **D**



4 MOLINE / JOHN DEERE FACTORY TOUR / JOHN DEERE PAVILION LACLAIRE / MACHINE SHED / DAVENPORT

Our travels continue to the north today along the Mississippi River Valley. We go behind the scenes for a John Deere Harvester Works Factory tour (must be 13 & over). Our guide takes us through the manufacturing process, explaining how all the pieces come together to create a massive green machine. Next, we visit the John Deere Pavilion, an impressive showcase of vintage and modern-day farm equipment. We have a chance to see where agriculture, construction, and forestry are heading in America and around the world. We continue along the Great River Road to LeClaire, Iowa for a two night stay. LeClaire, Iowa is the birthplace of Buffalo Bill. A two-story former fabrication shop is the home base for the American Pickers Show on the History Channel. It now houses some antique picks and a new merchandise store. This evening we enjoy a special feast at the Machine Shed Restaurant, a unique restaurant with great home cooked food that is operated as if it were run by a bunch of farmers. **D**



5 MISSISSIPPI RIVER CRUISE TO DUBUQUE

This morning we depart for an all day cruise on the Mississippi River from LeClaire onboard the Celebration Belle! A paddle wheeler from bygone days will take us leisurely up the river as we enjoy live entertainment and delicious food. Sit back, relax, and watch the unfolding panorama as the largest luxury excursion vessel on the upper Mississippi River sails past wild and remote islands, high bluffs, and picturesque 19th century towns. Enjoy entertainment throughout the day. Take a spin on the dance floor or just relax on one of the observation decks enjoying the weather and scenic views. Enjoy three meals (breakfast buffet, luncheon buffet and the famous “prime rib dinner buffet”) while on this cruise. Our driver and motorcoach will meet us in Dubuque and return us to LeClaire for our last night. **B L D**



6 CHARLEY CREEK INN AT WABASH, INDIANA

We depart LeClaire today traveling east along Interstate 80 through the state of Illinois before entering Indiana. After lunch we continue through Indiana to the quaint little town of Wabash, for overnight at the Charley Creek Inn. Located in the heart of downtown Wabash, the Inn is a historic boutique hotel standing as a proud symbol of the 1920s. After a two year restoration, the Charley Creek Inn is the perfect place to rediscover history. Dinner is included this evening at the Inn. Wabash is notable as being the first electrically lighted city in the world, which was inaugurated on March 31, 1880. **D**

7 HOMEWARD BOUND

After breakfast at the Inn, we depart Wabash for Knoxville as we reflect on the good times we have shared on the greatest river adventure of all. Now we realize how Mark Twain came to love the Mighty Mississippi River. **B**

11 MEALS INCLUDED

B - Breakfast • L - Lunch • D - Dinner

Price Per Person:

Single \$2395 Twin \$1695 Triple \$1575

8 day tour from these cities departing one day earlier: Attalla, Decatur and Huntsville, AL and Nashville, TN. Add \$30 to the above prices for twin and triple and \$180 for single.