



HAPPY TIMES TOURS & EXPERIENCES

AMERICA'S RIVER TOWN EXPLORER

(ALTON, ILLINOIS)

Trip Includes:

- 4 Nights at the **Best Western Premier**
- **Guided sightseeing tour of Historic Alton, IL** – includes **Statue of Robert Wadlow, Mansions of the Middletown Historic District, the Lovejoy Monument, and Christian Hill Historic District**
- Visit the **National Great River's Museum**
- Tour of **Lack & Dam #26**
- Visit the **Audubon Center**
- Visit the **Principia College Campus**
- Visit the **quaint village of Elsah**
- Lunch on **top of the bluff at the Tara Point Inn in Grafton, IL**
- **Aerial Grafton Sky Tour**
- **Cruise the Mighty Mississippi River on the Hakuna Matta**
- **St. Louis Gateway Arch – Museum, Movie & Tram to the top**
- Tour **Anheuser-Busch Brewery**
- Drive through **Forest Park**
- **Tram Tour of the Missouri Botanical Garden**
- **Motorcoach Transportation and the Services of a Happy Times Tour Director**
- **9 Meals**

Departure Times & Locations:

- 7:00am Depart College Ave NE Park & Ride (estimated return 6:30pm)
- 7:30am Depart Watertown Plank Park & Ride (estimated return 6:00pm)
- 8:00am Depart Johnson Creek Park & Ride (estimated return at 5:00pm)
- 8:30am Depart American Center Park & Ride Madison (estimated return 4:30pm)

PER PERSON RATES:

- Double Occupancy \$1759**
- Single Occupancy \$2025**
- Triple Occupancy: \$1739**
- Final payment is due 5/9/2024**
- Optional Travel Protection Plan**
- Per Person Rates:**
- Double or Triple Occupancy: \$157**
- Single Occupancy: \$191**

*Gratuities for the tour director and driver are not included in the price and are at the passenger's discretion. There will be no refund for any cancellations received on or after 5/9/2024 unless a replacement is found. We highly recommend purchasing the optional travel protection plan.



visit to the life size statue of Robert Wadlow, the world's tallest man; the magnificent mansions of the Middletown Historic District; the Lovejoy Monument, dedicated to our nation's first "free press" martyr, and the quaint Christian Hill Historic District with its spectacular views of the Mighty Mississippi. Add to that, a visit to the National Great River's Museum featuring a tour of Lock and Dam #26; the Lewis and Clark Center where the Great Expedition began, and lastly the Audubon Center for the bird lovers of the group.

Day 3 B, L

The river town adventures continue by traveling along the Great River Road. First stop is at the campus of **Principia College**, the only Christian Scientist College in the world. Situated high atop the bluffs, the river views are amazing and rivaled only by the spectacular architecture provided by world famous architect, Bernard Maybeck. Rounding out the morning will be a visit to the **Village of Elsah**, a quaint village is like a "little bit of New England." The entire Village is listed on the National Historic Registry and it is ranked first in the State of Illinois for 19th century village design. Next will be the river town of **Grafton, Illinois**. Once in Grafton the group is **shuttled some 300 feet to the top of the bluff and the lunch destination – Tara Point Inn**. This magnificent bluff top hide-away will provide a delicious hot catered luncheon and a breath-taking view of the Illinois and Mississippi rivers far below. We will take a ride on the **Aerial Grafton Sky Tour**; a Gondola ride or ski-lift style ride offers amazing views. Then, we will take a **cruise on the Hakuna Matta** and enjoy the views of the bluffs and the Mighty Mississippi.

Day 4 B, D

What better way to conclude this Mississippi River Adventure than paying a visit to **St. Louis, Missouri** – a big city version of a river town. We will start at the **Gateway Arch** with a **visit to the Arch Museum, a movie showing the building of the Arch and a tram ride to the top**. What a view of the city below and surrounding sights. **Anheuser-Busch Brewery** is a favorite attraction in St. Louis. Learn about the brewing of beer from beginning to end and, of course, have a look at the beautiful Clydesdales in their home environment. A visit to St. Louis has to allow at least a **drive through Forest Park site of the 1904 World's Fair**. Concluding the day of touring, is a **tram tour of the Missouri Botanical Garden**. This is a jewel. Dinner is included at Favazza's Restaurant on The Hill in St. Louis.

Day 5 B

Return home with wonderful memories of America's Great River Towns.

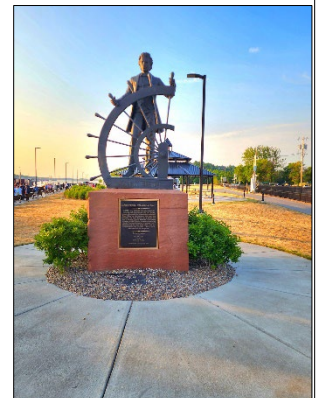
5 Days: June 13-17, 2024

Day 1 B, D

Enjoy a light continental breakfast as we make our way to Alton, IL. This Mid-Western region is where early settlers lived in fear of a mythical man-eating bird, continental explorations were made and cities were forged and transformed by the ebb and flow of nature, history and the mighty waterways of the region. We will overnight at the Best Western Premier in Alton for 4 nights. Get to know your fellow travelers at dinner this evening.

Day 2 B, D

Begin the Mississippi River adventure in 188-year old **Historic Alton, Illinois**. Highlights will include a



Happy Times Tours & Experiences

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