

With The Sheboygan County Historical Research Center (SCHRC)

Take a ride through history with Personalized Tours and the SCHRC's Steve Rogstad, local historian and Lincoln expert. We will travel down through Illinois and into Iowa, stopping and learning about our country, it's leaders and the innovators who designed the nation. Enjoy a wide variety of entertainment, from robotic farming to musical performances. There is a little bit of everything included in this tour. Plus, enjoy the humor and historic expertise from Steve Rogstad, the director of development at the SCHRC.

Monday, Oct 19 As we board our comfortable coach and meet our driver, we get ready to learn and explore the history of our beloved country, meet new friends, and make amazing memories. We start our tour with a stop at the **John Deere Historic Site**. This spot in Dixon, Illinois is where John Deere crafted his first commercially successful

steel plow. Relive the experience of his original blacksmith shop, feel the heat from the forge, watch iron melt and take shape.

Afterwards, we will continue on our journey and stop for lunch at **Flynnies Diner**, a small-town diner serving up local, farm-fresh food. After lunch, we venture to **President Ronald Reagan's Boyhood Home**. This modest home is the place where our beloved president, Ronald Reagan, began his journey in the 1920's. Experience what his youth was like and walk in his footsteps. Next we will have a photo op at **Lincoln's Statue** and Steve will indulge us with some stories. Moving along our route, we make a stop at **Reagan's birthplace** in Tampico, IL. Finally, we arrive in Bettendorf, IA, at **The Isle of Capri Casino Resort**, our home for the next three nights. **(D)**



We depart our hotel after breakfast and make our way to the **Rock Island Arsenal** for a tour. This historic landmark is an active military base and is still the largest government-owned weapons manufacturing arsenal in the USA. After our tour, we stop at the **Melvin Price Locks and Dam** and get a tour of how these manufacTuesday, Oct 20

tured marvels work. Our last stop before lunch is at the **John Deere Pavilion**. Climb into the cab, sit in the driver's seat. Test your skills in state-of-the-art simulators. Explore some of the biggest John Deere machines — from combines and dozers, to excavators and swing machines — and learn how they change lives around the world. We enjoy lunch downtown with some time to explore



the nearby stores and do some shopping before we head out to **Lagomarcino's Confectionary**. This fourth generation candy and confection shop is a staple in the Quad Cities area. Our final stop of the day is at **Cinnamon Ridge Farms** where we will have a tour and dinner along with entertainment. This family owned robotic dairy farm features state-of-the-art technology and is ranked 2nd in the nation for Jersey milk production! Tonight the choice is yours to rest up from the day's activities, take a relaxing swim, or try your luck in the casino. **(B, D)**

Wednesday, Oct 21 After breakfast we depart for a visit to the **Isabel Bloom Studio.** During our **behind-the-scene tour**, we will get a look at how artist Isabel Bloom's legacy is maintained in the sculptures. Next we climb aboard the

Celebration Belle for a fall foliage lunch cruise down the Mississippi River. What a wonderful time of year

to relax while enjoying the beautiful colored leaves. After arriving in Muscatine, IA we travel the short distance to the **Harlan-Lincoln Home** located in Mt Pleasant. **(B, L)**

Thursday, Oct 22 After breakfast at the hotel our first stop today is the **Herbert Hoover Museum** located in West Branch. This museum is dedicated to the life and presidency of our 31st President. We travel the short distance to the Amana Colonies and enjoy a family style lunch at the **Ox Yoke Inn** before our next destination, the **Amana**

Heritage Society. For eighty years, the Amana Colonies maintained an almost completely self-sufficient lifestyle, importing very



little from the industrializing American economy. The Amanians were able to achieve this independence and lifestyle by adhering to the specialized crafting and farming occupations that they had brought with them from Europe. Craftsmen passed their skills and techniques on from one generation to the next. They used hand, horse, wind, and water power, and made their own furniture, clothes, and other goods. We will welcome a local guide to tour with us and learn all about this colonial settlement and it's followers, including a visit to the **Communal Kitchen**, **General Store**, and their **Old Homestead**

Church. There will be time to shop before we head back to the Quad Cities and **Circa 21' Dinner Playhouse.** Our dinner will be delicious and our show hilarious. Sit back and enjoy the comedy **"The Savannah Sipping Society"** where four women "of a certain age" together decide their sassy humor and Southern charms are better suited for solving life's problems over cocktails than at yoga class. A joyful and touching comedy! **(B, L, D)**

We load our luggage for the trek home today. After breakfast, we make a stop at **Trappist Caskets**. This unique experience will highlight the monks of the **New Melleray Abbey** who handcraft caskets and urns. This order of Cistercian monks are part of the Roman Catholic Church and follow a strict code of observances, including celebrating the beauty in death. Their work to create the Trappist Caskets provides meaningful work and financial support. Each piece is blessed before it's use and is signed by the monk who

Friday, Oct 23

blessed it. Upon arrival in Galena we enjoy an informative tour onboard the **Galena Trolley** with historical and architectural narration along the way. Home of President Grant, Galena is a small town nestled in the hills and valleys of this former mining community. Time for a bite to eat and a look around the quaint shopping area before finishing our drive home. **(B)**



Tour #6365

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

\$250 Deposit Due With Reservation

Final Payment Due August 15, 2020

FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

Personalized Tours, Inc. W4928 Pheasant Valley Road Waldo, WI 53093 920.528.7600 or 262.339.9898 www.GoPersonalized.com **TOUR PRICE**: \$1239 Per Person Double \$1429 Single Occupancy

TOUR INCLUDES:

- * Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation
- * Hotel Accommodations for 4 Nights
- * Sightseeing and Admissions Per Itinerary
- * 4 Breakfasts
- * 2 Lunches
- * 3 Dinners
- * Expertise of Steve Rogstad

CANCELLATION PROTECTION: \$112 & \$168 \$112 medical cancellation / \$168 cancel for any reason

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