



NATIONAL BALLOON CLASSIC

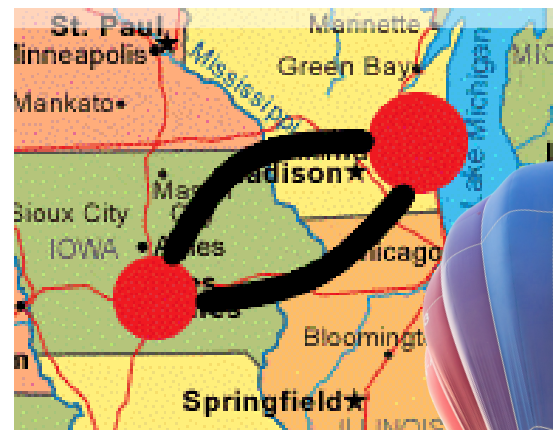
July 28-31, 2024 (4 Days)

Ready to take your summer to new heights? There is no better summer fun than spending time at the National Balloon Classic in Indianola, Iowa! More than 100 magnificent hot air balloons paint the sky with brilliant colors as skilled pilots from around the world compete for points, prizes, and championship titles. Watch in awe as we enjoy live music, Nite Glows, fireworks, kite shows, skydivers, and so much more.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- John Wayne Museum & Home
- Picturesque Covered Bridges
- National Balloon Classic Admission
- Early Morning Balloon Competition
- Guided Tour of Madison County
- Homemade Local Lunch
- Iowa Quilt Museum
- Winterset Iowa Courthouse Square
- National Balloon Museum & Hall of Fame
- Poppajohn Sculpture Park
- Wine Tasting & Tour at Summerset Winery
- Matchstick Marvels Museum

MAP AT A GLANCE



Sunday, July 28 - This morning we board our motorcoach and begin our journey into Iowa. Along the way, we will get to know our fellow travelers. We will make a stop at the **Matchstick Marvels Museum**, home to some of the most spectacular matchstick models in the world! Using millions of matchsticks and gallons of glue, Pat Acton creates models that are highly detailed and painstakingly scaled. Tonight we arrive to our hotel and enjoy a light dinner and cocktails. **(LS)**



Monday, July 29 - After breakfast, we are off to **Madison County**. As we venture through this unique and colorful county, we will learn about its history and the place that inspired **The Bridges of Madison County**, one of the greatest love stories of our time. While we won't have time to visit them all, we will get to see some of the famous covered bridges that have put this county on the map. There's the **Roseman Bridge**, which was featured in the novel and movie. The **Cedar Covered Bridge** is pictured on the cover of the original novel. The **Holliswell Bridge** is the longest bridge at 122 feet and is featured in the movie. Three other bridges, Cutler-Donahoe, Hogback, and Imes are famous in their own right. Perhaps even more famous than the bridges, is the **Birthplace of John Wayne**. This four room house is now a museum and dedicated to the life and career of this iconic American star. After enjoying lunch, we will make a visit to the **Iowa Quilt Museum** which showcases the beautiful art and culture surrounding quilting. The Iowa Quilt Museum is an aesthetically beautiful and culturally valuable institution, not just for Madison County or quilting enthusiasts, but to all lovers of the arts and American heritage. After a day filled with excitement, we will return to our hotel to catch our breath before heading back to the balloon launch for their evening flight and entertainment. Live music, balloon demos, and more will fill the night. **(B,L)**



Tuesday, July 30 - Rise and Shine! This morning you will have the option to attend the **Morning Competition Flights**. Watch as balloon pilots "race" to win points based on accuracy and skill. Perhaps you will even decide to take a balloon ride yourself (**OPTIONAL: \$260 Per Person**). We will make our way through the **National Balloon Museum & Ballooning Hall of Fame**. This colorful museum is dedicated to all things hot air balloon! The museum dedicates itself to providing the public with a comprehensive understanding of ballooning and its history through exhibitions and collections. This national museum made its home in Indianola because the city is known for its prime flying conditions. For many years, this area was home to the Balloon Federation of America's National Championships. Lunch will be included this afternoon before we take some time to enjoy some wine at **Sunsets Winery** along with a tour of this beautiful property. Another night of beautiful balloons and wonderful entertainment fills the air this evening. Balloons suspended over the horizon, skilled pilots from around the world, roaring burners creating a whoosh that is both heard and felt - all of this and so much more! **(B,L) Balloon ride accommodates 14 people. Reserve ASAP.**

Wednesday, July 31 - After 4 fun filled days of colorful balloon fun, we depart for home. Along our route home, we recount our favorite activities from our time together and cannot wait for our next tour. **(B,L)**



TOUR #7860

EXPERIENCE
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You are content to spend time on board the bus and relaxing, but want to be a part of experiences rather than watching them.

TOUR PRICE:

\$1199 Per Person Double
\$1499 Per Person Single

\$500 Per Person Deposit Due With Reservation
Final Payment Due May 15, 2024

TOUR INCLUSIONS

- Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation
- Baggage Handling 1 Suitcase P/P
- Accommodations for 3 Nights
- All Attractions & Admissions per Itinerary
- 3 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 1 Light Supper
- Services of a Personalized Tour Director

FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS

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