



Whispers of the North

AN EXPLORATION OF MICHIGAN

JUNE 10-14, 2018



South to north and east to west, explore the beautiful state of Michigan. Included are a variety of wonderful sights and attractions that will appeal to men and women, young and... not so young. From the excitement of a dune buggy ride to the serenity of a horse-drawn carriage tour on Mackinac Island; from watching the elk graze at Thunder Bay River to the lake views from atop Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, you will enjoy every moment of this five-day summertime tour.

SUNDAY JUNE 10

This morning we are greeted by our tour director as we board the deluxe motorcoach and meet our fellow travelers. We travel around the southern tip of Lake Michigan and along the eastern shore to Mears. Fun is the order of the day at **Mac Woods Dune Rides**. We hop aboard special dune schooners to ride the sand dunes in the Silver Lake area. Our experienced driver will amuse

and educate us as we cruise the slopes and valleys of one of Michigan's treasures. Lodging for the evening is at The Inn at Manistee National, on the grounds of Manistee National Golf & Resort. The inn is surrounded by Manistee National Forest and features both indoor and outdoor pools and whirlpools. Dinner is included in the inn's dining room. (D)



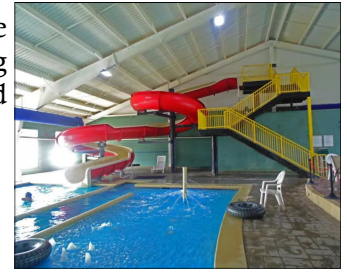
MONDAY JUNE 11

After continental breakfast at the inn, depart for **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore**. Upon arrival at the visitor center, view a short film before taking a guided ride along **Pierce Stocking Drive**. World-class

vistas give a view of Lake Michigan that is simply spectacular. We continue along the lakeshore to the beautiful community of Charlevoix and the amazing **Castle Farms**. A luncheon is included, followed by a guided walking tour through the buildings that resemble a French Chateau. The tour guide will delight us with the rich history of Castle Farms, from its original construction in 1918 through the extensive restoration process from 2001 to the present. The formal and informal gardens are stunning works of natural beauty, matching any found throughout Europe. Our home for the evening is Lakeside Resort & Conference Center, located on beautiful Houghton Lake. Tonight we are treated to the dinner show

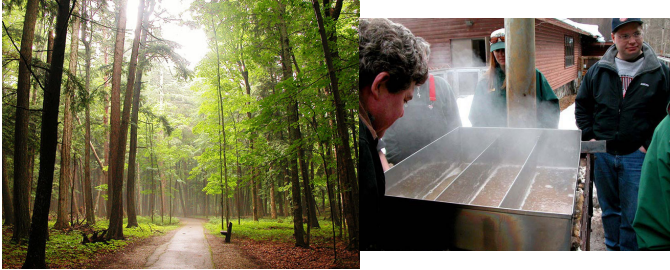


“Whispers of the North, The Gordon Lightfoot Tribute.” Enjoy the classic tunes made famous by the Canadian balladeer who wrote about the woods and the water, sailing ships, broken hearts and lost loves. If you need a little exercise, don your swimsuit and head to the indoor pool, jacuzzi, lazy river and two-story high water slide. **(CB, L, D)**



**TUESDAY
JUNE 12**

A hot breakfast begins our day before departing for **Hartwick Pines State Park** near Grayling. In the **Michigan Forest Visitor Center**, learn more about Michigan’s forests in an exhibit hall that focuses on the history of logging, forestry, and the numerous



ways we utilize trees in our daily lives. From there take a stroll with one of the park rangers down the **Old Growth Forest Foot Trail** through a 50-acre stand of virgin pine trees. At the end of the trail, we are invited to visit the **Logging Museum** buildings, where you are taken back in time to life in an 1880’s logging camp. Period settings depicting a bunkhouse, mess hall, blacksmith shop, camp office, and store give us a sense of what logging camp life was like. We

continue east to the “Sunrise Side” of Michigan along the shores of Lake Huron. A gourmet lunch is served on the covered garden patio at **Stoney Acres Winery** near Alpena. Check out their grape and fruits wines. Then, if your sweet tooth is acting up, they offer chocolate barks, hand-dipped gourmet wine truffles, and other yummy treats. Nearby is the **Great Lakes Maritime Heritage Center**, a visitor center for the **Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary**. The Shipwreck Century exhibit includes a full size replica of a 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. National Marine Sanctuary staff will illustrate the challenges of global climate changes and their effects on the Great Lakes Region in the Science on a Sphere Theatre. Our destination today is Thunder Bay Resort near Hillman. This evening, step back in time as



we board a **horse-drawn carriage** that takes us through the woods and over a wooden bridge, crossing the Thunder Bay River. We enter the **elk preserve**, for a close up view of majestic bull elk, and make our way to **Elk Antler Log Cabin** where a blazing fire welcomes us. Savor the aromas put forth by the twin antique wood stoves as the staff prepares our delicious dinner. Overnight accommodations are at Thunder Bay Resort. **(B, L, D)**



**WEDNESDAY
JUNE 13**

Our route today takes us north to Mackinaw City, located at the southern end of the “Might Mac.” We say “goodbye” to the mainland as we cross the Straits of Mackinac by ferry.

Upon arrival we’ll be treated to a **horse-drawn carriage tour** of the island. We learn all of the ins and outs and what makes this island one of the most popular destinations in the country. For anyone who has seen the movie, “Somewhere in Time” there will be moments of déjà vu. Our tour concludes at the magnificent **Grand Hotel**.

We enter the dining room and enjoy every bite of the fabulous luncheon buffet. Feeling really stuffed, we let our lunch settle as we rock on the 660-foot front porch. The world’s largest porch provides breathtaking views of the straits. Later, wander down Main Street and visit some of Mackinac Island’s unique shops. Be sure to taste some of the famous Mackinac Island fudge. Our hotel, the Bicycle Street Inn, is located on Main Street. The evening is free for us to explore this quaint island at our leisure. **(B, L)**

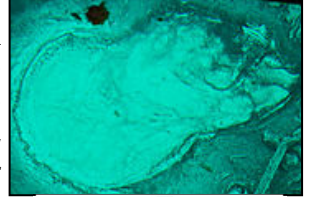


**THURSDAY
JUNE 14**

Continental breakfast is served this morning at the Bicycle Street Inn. We board the ferry that will take us across the straits to St. Ignace, located on the north side of the Mackinac Bridge. Our homeward route takes us to **Palms Book State Park**, situated



northwest of Manistique. There we find **Kitch-iti-kipi**, Michigan's largest freshwater spring. Sometimes referred to as "The Big Spring," it is 300 ft. by 175 ft. and 40 ft. deep. Over 10,000 gallons per minute flow from underground fissures, bubbling up through the sandy bottom. The crystal clear water is a constant 45 degrees and never freezes. We get a good look at ancient tree trunks and huge trout through a viewing window as we cross the spring on a wooden raft. We continue along the northern shore of Lake Michigan, returning to Wisconsin, having experienced new sites and attractions in our neighbor state to the east and north. **(CB)**



MEAL CODE: B-Breakfast CB-Continental Breakfast L-Lunch D-Dinner

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Moderate Physical Activity-walking tours, as well as walking longer distances, up stairs or uneven walking surfaces should be expected.



TOUR PRICE: \$1199 Per Person Double Occupancy
\$1411 Single Occupancy

TOUR INCLUDES:

- * Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation
- * Hotel Accommodations for 4 Nights
- * Sightseeing and Attractions Per Itinerary
- * 2 Full Breakfasts, 2 Continental Breakfasts
- * 3 Lunches
- * 3 Dinners
- * Luggage Handling for 1 Suitcase Per Person
- * Services of a Personalized Tour Director

**TOUR
5185**

"PEACE OF MIND" CANCELLATION PROTECTION: \$89

PAYMENT INFORMATION:

\$200 Deposit Per Person Due with Reservation
Balance Due April 10, 2018

FOR INFORMATION
& RESERVATIONS CONTACT:

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Find us on 

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