Abraham Lincoln's Springfield, Illinois

SEPTEMBER 17-20, 2018



Join the Sheboygan County Historical Research Center and local Abraham Lincoln expert, Steve Rogstad, on this four-day excursion to historic Springfield, Illinois. Listen to Steve's captivating commentary and visit the sites where Lincoln lived, worked, and was buried. Take in the Old State Capitol and the current Illinois State Capitol building. Wander through Lincoln's New Salem State Historic Site, a reconstruction of the village where Lincoln spent his early adulthood. Listen, Learn and Love Springfield!

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 17

This morning we board our deluxe motorcoach and begin our four-day trip to Springfield, Illinois. With a mid-day arrival, our first stop is the **Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum**. The museum documents the life of the 16th U. S. president and the course of the American

Civil War. Combining traditional exhibits with 21st-century showmanship techniques, the museum ranks as one of the most visited presidential libraries. It contains life-size dioramas of Lincoln's boyhood home, areas of the White House, the presidential box at Ford's Theatre, and the settings



of key events in Lincoln's life, as well as pictures, artifacts and other memorabilia. With over 200,000 square feet, it is 50% larger than any other presidential library. We check into the President Abraham Lincoln Doubletree Hotel in down-town Springfield and have a little time to relax before our group dinner. This evening, Abraham Lincoln expert, Steve Rogstad, will share his knowledge of many details in the life of Former President Lincoln. (D)





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guide will share his knowledge of the community as well. Within the walls of the **Old State Capitol**, a great man rose to prominence. It is here Lincoln spoke the immortal words, "A house divided against itself cannot stand..." as the threat of a civil war loomed. He tried several hundred cases in the Supreme Court and swapped stories with other lawyers in the law library. The present center of Illinois politics, the **Illinois State Capitol** is topped by a 405-foot dome and is a combination of Renaissance Revival and Second Empire architecture. The **Lincoln Home National Historic Site** includes

Our itinerary for the next two days features a number of

historic sites in Springfield. Not only do we have the ex-

pertise of Steve Rogstad as he travels with us, but a local

the only home Lincoln ever owned, as well as a four-block neighborhood. The home has been completely restored to its 1860 appearance and reveals much about Lincoln as husband, father, neighbor, and politician. In 1861 Abraham Lincoln left his home of 17 years to serve as the 16th president. Nestled in Oak Ridge Cemetery is the **Lincoln Tomb**. Within the walls of this stunning granite monument is the final resting place of Abraham Lincoln, his wife, Mary and three of their four sons. Of course as you enter, you will want to rub the nose on Mr. Lincoln's bronze bust, as it is said to give good luck. The Lincoln family rented a pew and regularly attended church services at the **First Presbyterian Church** from 1850 until they left for Washington, DC in 1861. Although Mrs. Lincoln became a member, Mr. Lincoln served as a trustee, but never formally joined the church. We will be able to see the actual Lincoln pew during our visit. **(2 B, 2 D)**



THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 20

Today we depart Springfield and travel a short distance northwest to Lincoln's New Salem. En route we stop at the gravesite of Ann Rutledge, located in Oakland Cemetery. Miss Rutledge was allegedly Abraham Lincoln's first love

while living in New Salem. Her death, at the age of 22, sent Mr. Lincoln into severe depression. Now, go back nearly two centuries in time as you walk the streets of



reconstructed New Salem, the village where Abraham Lincoln lived as a young man. See where he split rails, clerked in a store, and served as postmaster. Watch and interact as history comes to life through the costumed characters representing the people who lived there over 150 years ago. We make our way home through Northern Illinois, having a better understanding of the personal life and accomplishments of Former President Abraham Lincoln. **(B, L)**



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