

BUS TOURS

Magazine



Transportation Museums
page 9

Shopping, Dining & Lodging
page 12

Historical Attractions & Museums
page 17



PREVOST
THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE

UNMATCHED EXPERTISE. UNPARALLELED SERVICE.

The world's most advanced coaches deserve the best in support, and that's precisely what Prevost provides. No other service network delivers more technical expertise and years of hands-on experience. It's a commitment we make to your drivers, your passengers, your schedule and your bottom line.

contents

MAY/JUNE 2022

Volume XLIIII, Number 5



Features

9 TRANSPORTATION MUSEUMS
Transportation museums and tourist railroads are always a hit on bus tours. They include history and nostalgia and possibly even a scenic ride. Here are some good ideas for a museum and train ride in Minnesota as well as a change to return to the famous Maine two-foot gauge railways in Boothbay, Maine.

20 MAGIC IN NORTHERN KENTUCKY
Brad Brown Magic is a great addition to bus tours in northern Indiana. Located near the popular Arc attraction, Brown offers an interesting and exciting show that is appropriate for all age groups including seniors, students and faith-based tours.

And More

4 BUZZ ON THE BUS
News and notes of interest to the bus tour industry.

20 FROM THE ROAD
22 ADVERTISERS INDEX

Guides

12 HISTORICAL ATTRACTIONS AND MUSEUMS
Looking to add something historical to your next bus tour? Here are thero-good ideas from all over: Historic Richmondtown is right in New York City while the Bush Presidential Library and Museum is a major attraction in Texas and the Columbia Gorge Center in Washington has always been popular with bus tours.

17 SHOPPING, DINING AND LODGING
Lodging and dining are major parts of any bus tour while shopping is a popular addition and often welcomed by many passengers. Here are a couple of examples in Illinois and Indiana that are sure to please the people on your bus tour.

STAFF

Editor & Publisher Larry Plachno
Business Manager . . . Nancy Ann Plachno
Typesetting/Page Layout . . . Sherry Mekeel
Web site Jake Ron Plaras
Advertising Sara Morris

Bus Tours Magazine

9698 W. Judson Road

Polo, Illinois 61064-9015

Phone: (815) 946-2341

Fax: (815) 946-2347

Web site: bustoursmagazine.com

Advertising

Central/International

midwest@busmag.com – (815) 946-2341

West

bustoursmag@gmail.com – (815) 946-2341

Midwest

midwest@busmag.com – (815) 946-2341

Northeast

tourgroups@busmag.com – (815) 946-2341

Southeast

ChristopherClawson@busmag.com

(616) 328-1404

COVER PHOTO

Experience masterpieces of art and nature that will delight the senses of your bus tour passengers at one of the nation's premier horticultural display gardens and sculpture parks at the Frederik Meijer Gardens in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Always growing. Always beautiful. Always new.

BUS TOURS MAGAZINE (ISSN 0199-6096) is published six times annually by National Bus Trader, Inc., 9698 W. Judson Road, Polo, Illinois 61064. Subscriptions, \$15 (in US funds) annually, Canadian & International \$20 (in US funds). Printed in U.S.A. Periodicals postage paid at Polo, Illinois 61064 and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to BUS TOURS MAGAZINE, 9698 W. Judson Road, Polo, Illinois 61064.

Change of Address: Please send old mailing label (or old address and computer number) as well as new address.

Advertising: Display advertising rates sent on request. Advertising deadline is the last day of the second month preceding publication.

Founded in 1979, BUS TOURS MAGAZINE is the oldest independent magazine in the bus and group tour market. Circulation includes bus and group tour planners in the United States and Canada regardless of affiliation or whether commercial, private or corporate or group leader.

The contents of this publication may not be reproduced either in whole or in part without the written consent of the publisher. The name BUS TOURS MAGAZINE and the logo incorporating the passengers, bus and destinations are trade marks of National Bus Trader, Inc.

Buzz on the Bus

News and notes for bus tour planners

Arlington's National Medal of Honor Museum Arlington, Texas

The National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation broke ground on the future museum on March 26. Former President George W. Bush, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Mark Milley and Medal of Honor recipient Major General Patrick Henry Brady were on hand for remarks.

"When you look at the Medal of Honor recipient, you are looking at someone who has demonstrated gallantry under impossible odds, you are looking at someone who has placed duty above self, you are looking at someone who understands the meaning of sacrifice in the most profound way," former President Bush said at the groundbreaking ceremony. "During these turbulent times people ask me, am I worried, and my answer is no. I'm optimistic about the future so long as we emulate the virtue and the character of the people we honor, we're gonna be just fine."

"We will soon have this Medal of Honor Museum deep in the heart of Texas," Chairman Milley said. "By shining a spotlight on the Medal of Honor recipient that received it, the values they lived for, and in many cases died for; visitors will come to understand the meaning and price of freedom."

The one-of-a-kind museum is in recognition of the Medal of Honor, the nation's highest award for valor in combat beyond the call of duty. The museum will stand in affirmation of the values of the Medal of Honor and its 3,511 brave recipients since the Civil War, of whom only 66 are living today. Designed by world-renowned architect Rafael Viñoly, it will sit amidst a five-acre landscape adjacent to major attractions like

National Medal of Honor Museum



Six Flags Over Texas, AT&T Stadium, Globe Life Field and Esports Stadium Arlington. The 101,000-square-foot footprint will encompass 25,000 square feet of exhibition galleries, a state-of-the-art Education Center, conference and event space, and an outdoor amphitheater for ceremonies.

The National Medal of Honor Museum is set to open in 2024.

National Comedy Center Jamestown, New York

As the world remembered the late comedy legend Carl Reiner on his 100th birthday recently, the National Comedy Center – the United States' official cultural institution dedicated to the art form of comedy, and the home of Reiner's career archive – continues digitizing and preserving rare documents, scripts and artifacts spanning Reiner's extraordinary career in preparation for its new, multi-media exhibit: *Carl Reiner: Keep Laughing*, debuting on July 1, 2022.

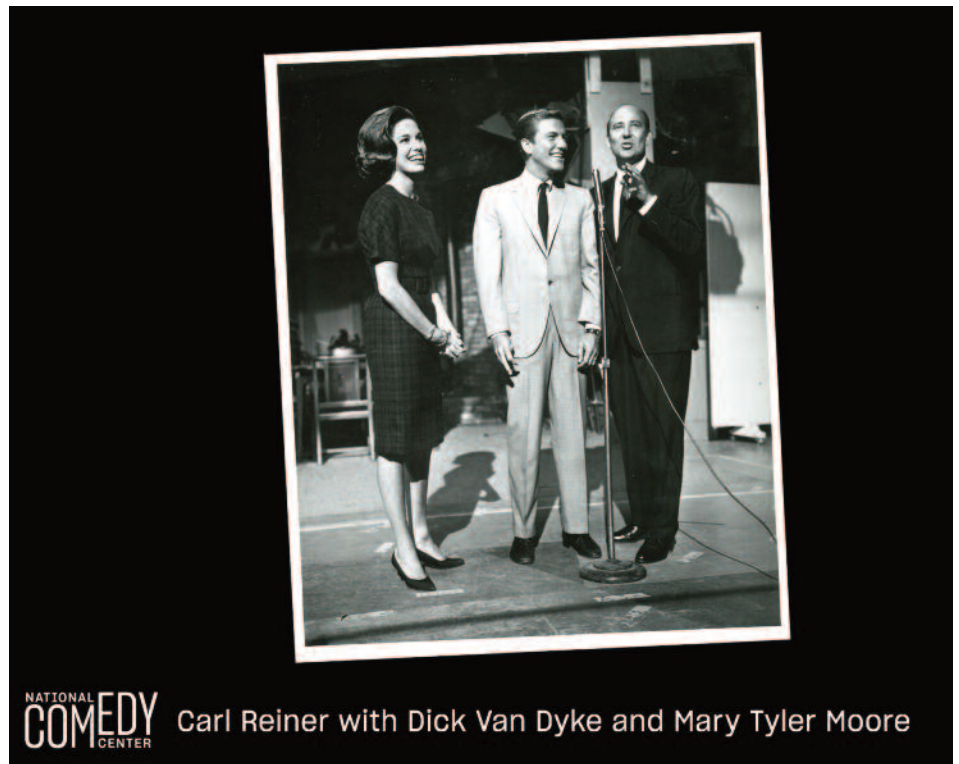
The new exhibit will showcase hundreds of never-before-seen archival materials

spanning Reiner's remarkable seven decades as a writer, director, producer, author and performer. Visitors will explore interactive stations that feature rare audio-visual clips, creative papers, photographs and dimensional artifacts that intimately chronicle a lifetime of creative output: from Reiner's early years as a performer on Sid Caesar's legendary *Your Show of Shows* to his creation of the seminal *The Dick Van Dyke Show*, from his collaboration with Mel Brooks on the Grammy-winning *2000 Year Old Man* to his acclaimed cinematic partnership with Steve Martin (*The Jerk*, *All of Me* and more), and across his far-reaching contributions to the comedic art form. The exhibit will run throughout 2022 and beyond.

On the occasion of Reiner's 100th birthday, the National Comedy Center released images of select artifacts and documents which will be on display in the exhibit, including Reiner's typewriter case and original, typed manuscript for the first episode of *Head of the Family* – which would become the leg-

endary *The Dick Van Dyke Show*; rare photos of Reiner with Mel Brooks, Sid Caesar and Imogene Coca, and with Dick Van Dyke and Mary Tyler Moore; the cowboy hat that Reiner wore in the final episode of *The Dick Van Dyke Show*; and a manila envelope with Reiner's New Rochelle, NY address on Bonnie Meadow Road (just one number off from Rob Petrie's address in *The Dick Van Dyke Show*) in which he kept early short stories, and more.

With a multi-faceted career spanning television, film, stage, record albums, books and even social media, Reiner, who passed away in June of 2020, was a 12-time Emmy® award-winner, a Grammy® award-winner and a recipient of The Kennedy Center's Mark Twain Prize for American Humor. For more information view comedycenter.org.



NATIONAL COMEDY CENTER Carl Reiner with Dick Van Dyke and Mary Tyler Moore

New and Renewed Cultural Gems Throughout San Diego, California

Art With a View

In April 2022, the Museum of Contemporary Art San Diego (MCASD) debuted the long-awaited renovation and expansion of its La Jolla flagship campus. The museums will feature four times the previous gallery space, two levels of light-filled galleries, a

public park and new seaside terraces, allowing visitors the opportunity to both relax and reflect. In addition, guests will be able to enjoy some 200 works of contemporary art with views of the Pacific Ocean serving as an inspiring backdrop. The first exhibition museumgoers will experience is that of artist Niki de Saint Phalle's innovative work from the 1960s. The exhibition will be the first to focus on the artist's experimental and prolific work

during this decade, from her famous "shooting paintings," created by shots from a .22 caliber rifle, to the exuberant sculptures of women known as "Nanas."

Under the Shell

The Rady Shell at Jacobs Park, which opened as the first bayside concert venue in the nation in August 2021, provides not only state-of-the-art acoustics and architecture but also stunning views of the waterfront and downtown San Diego's cityscape. The new concert hall without walls serves as a summer home to the San Diego Symphony and entertainment space to other performers throughout the year. Tickets are now on sale for an impressive lineup of artists from the San Diego Symphony to performers like Lea Salonga, Olivia Rodrigo, Leon Bridges, Little Dragon and Ben Platt.

Breaking New Sound

San Diego visitors will have another opportunity to experience the magic of the San Diego Symphony, but in a revitalized historical setting. The Jacobs Music Center is undergoing a major renovation that will



San Diego Mingei Gallery

Buzz on the Bus

transform its Copley Symphony Hall in downtown San Diego. The project will include the reconfiguration of the stage; the addition of a choral terrace behind the orchestra; new finishes and seating; state-of-the-art lighting, sound and video equipment and superior acoustics. The renewed and improved Jacobs Music Center is scheduled to open in fall of 2023.

Art of the People

After a three-year renovation, Mingei International Museum opened to the public in September 2021 with a reimagined space and a renewed commitment to the idea of community, culture and creativity. Located in Balboa Park, the museum, which is housed in a Spanish Colonial Revival building constructed for the 1915 Panama-California Exposition, highlights how everyday objects and materials that serve a useful purpose can also be objects of great beauty. Its admission-free commons level, patio, amphitheater, library and large exhibition space filled with folk art, aims to be accessible so people everywhere can engage with its mission.

Geek Out Year Round

Comic-Con fans do not have to squeeze all their excitement and celebration into a four-day convention. The Comic-Con Museum in Balboa Park now allows pop-culture enthusiasts the chance to engage with its comic-inspired content year-round. Museumgoers can expect 25,000 square feet dedicated to rotating exhibits; a 6,000-square-foot education center; a 4K video theater and presentation space; a gift

shop filled with comics, graphic novels and branded souvenirs; learning-focused labs, classes and seminars. Comic-Con also plans to continue to expand its interior display space and educational area over the next several months leading to a grand opening of the three-floor museum in July 2022.

Intimate Art

The Timken Museum of Art, which is set to open in the first half of 2022, has spent the last two years renovating itself so that it honors the museum's historic architecture and mission while improving the visitor experience. Called Balboa Park's "jewel box," the Timken Museum, is a treasure of mid-century architecture filled with European and American masterpieces, including the only Rembrandt publicly on display in San Diego, as well as European art icons. The museum's minute size is by no means a minus. Instead it makes for an art-viewing experience that is both intimate and accessible, allowing visitors to relax and absorb what is considered one of the finest small museums in the world. Admission is always free.

For more information on San Diego's offerings, visit the San Diego Tourism Authority's Web site at sandiego.org.

Old Town Smethport Opens Smethport, Pennsylvania

Step back in time. Nestled in the hills of northwestern Pennsylvania, Smethport offers a glimpse of its pioneer past to visitors at the newly-opened Old Town Smethport. Within this one building, your group

can explore the historic displays, shop at the General Store and then enjoy a delightful meal at the Cottage House Restaurant & Winery.

Old Town Smethport was created to highlight segments of Smethport's remarkable history. Smethport went from a pioneer town, to become the hub of commerce for lumber barons, bankers and oil men during the 1800s. This history is reflected in the beauty of the mansions built along Main Street during the 1800s and early 1900s. Exhibits at Old Town



Old Town Smethport Stagecoach

Smethport include a passenger stagecoach, a Civil War cannon, a General Store delivery truck, an antique horse saddle, a life-size log cabin and a working general store. These are just a part of the displays you will see as you stroll inside along a pathway designed with life-size trees, a cloud-covered painted sky overhead and a wide selection of displays honoring Smethport's history.

The General Store in Old Time Smethport is constructed to replicate an authentic old time general store. As you walk across the wooden porch to enter the store, you will see an antique Texaco sign hanging overhead. The shop offers a collection of nostalgic gifts and hand-crafted, locally made treasures. The cash register on the counter is more than 100 years old and is from an original shop in Smethport. Smethport has a history of making folks happy. Smethport Specialty Toys is where one of the most influential toys of the 20th century, Woolly Willy was invented and manufactured. Invented in 1955 by James Reese Herzog, the original Woolly Willy, with his magnetic personality, allowed you to draw whiskers, hair and eyebrows with your magnetic wand on Willy's bald head. Old Town Smethport has a display of the historic toys created and manufactured by Smethport Specialty Toys.

During the Civil War, General Thomas L. Kane mustered recruits on the steps of the McKean County Courthouse, a local recruit saw a deer hanging at a butcher shop nearby and he cut off the deer's tail and affixed it to his hat. This group of First Pennsylvania Rifles, gained the nickname of "The Bucktails." The Bucktails became renowned for their skill as sharpshooters. Also, on display is a Civil War three-inch cannon with a limber. According to the display text, "The three-inch cannon was the most widely used Union gun during the war. Invented by John Griffin, it was extremely durable, with the barrel made of wrought iron primarily produced by the Phoenix Iron Company of Phoenixville, Pennsylvania. The cannon had exceptional accuracy." The limber, the cart designed to carry the ammunition and support the cannon allowing it to be pulled by horses, is also on display.

Old Town Smethport currently has original displays crafted at America's First Christmas Store; they are in the process of recreating an updated version of America's First Christmas Store within their location. The new shop will honor the artwork and holiday specialties originally sold in 1932 and feature new holiday selections for the modern home. America's First Christmas Store was originally opened in 1932 by Leonard Johnson after his gold rush adventure out West was unsuccessful. A druggist by trade, he opened a corner store with two store fronts. One store front was a drug store, the other sold handmade Christmas displays. By 1935, his Christmas displays were nationally known, and his store became a shopping destination. People from all over the world drove to Smethport to visit his store. The shop was open for MORE THAN 70 years. Today, Johnson's historic Christmas displays are sought after antiques.

The restaurant at Old Time Smethport, the new Cottage House Restaurant & Winery is open for both lunch and dinner. Group menus

are available. They can also arrange a dessert and specialty cocktail menu as a treat for your group after their visit to the nearby Kinzua Sky Walk.

The Kinzua Sky Walk is "one of the top 10 most scenic skywalks in the world," according to The Culture Trip, U.K. It is located at the Kinzua Bridge State Park at 296 Viaduct Drive, Mt. Jewett, Pennsylvania. Admission is free. The skywalk extends 624 feet into the Kinzua Gorge at a height of 225 feet. The park offers a selection of free educational programs for motorcoach groups. To arrange a tour date and program for your group call 814-778-5467 or e-mail kinzuabridgesp@pa.gov.

Old Town Smethport is located at 113 West Water Street, Smethport, Pennsylvania. It is housed in an historic building, which was once a lumber mill, close to Hamlin Lake. It is open Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Admission is free. The restaurant is open the same hours as are the displays and General Store. To schedule a tour, phone (814) 568-2091, or e-mail oldtownsmethport@yahoo.com.

For additional information on this attraction and other group tour attractions in the Allegheny National Forest region, phone (800) 473-9370 or click on VisitANF.com/group-tours-motorcoach-itineraries.

Tudor Place Historic House & Garden Washington, D.C.

Tudor Place Historic House & Garden reopened Thursdays through Sundays beginning March 4 with a return to docent-led guided tours of the historic house. Advance registration is suggested for timed entry tickets. Docent-led tours start on the hour, with the last tour beginning at 3 p.m.

Visitors also may enjoy the garden during their visit and are encouraged to bring a picnic and bask in the beauty of this space. The Web site tudorplace.org provides information and resources for visitors, including registration for timed entry tickets.

A model of Federal-period architecture in the nation's capital, Tudor Place shares the stories of multiple generations of Martha Washington's descendants and the enslaved workers and servants



Buzz on the Bus

who lived and worked here. With more than 18,000 objects, including the largest Washington collection outside of Mount Vernon, Tudor Place sits on 5½ acres in the heart of Georgetown.

Ticket reservations and health and safety guidelines are listed at tudorplace.org/visit/plan-your-visit-2. Visitors to the historic house 12 years of age and older will be required to provide proof of vaccination upon entry, and masks are required in all indoor spaces.

Tudor Place preserves the stories of six generations of descendants of Martha Washington, and the enslaved and free people who lived and worked at this Georgetown landmark for nearly two centuries. By examining their legacy, our visitors are challenged to celebrate the triumphs and to confront the complexities of the past.

East Troy Railroad Museum

The East Troy Railroad Museum, doing business as the East Troy Electric Railroad, is celebrating 50 years of running tourist trains and trolleys this year. The regular season started the weekend of April 23-24 and runs through October.

Fifty years is quite an accomplishment for a volunteer-run organization that is keeping history alive on the last remaining segment of The Milwaukee Electric Railway & Light Company (TMER&L) track. At one time the TMER&L system had more than 200 miles of track stretching north, south, west and southwest from the Public Service Building in Milwaukee.



East Troy Railroad

Vue Orleans

New Orleans, Louisiana

New Orleans' newest attraction, Vue Orleans, is officially open and features the city's first 360-degree view of the Mississippi River and the New Orleans landscape. This breathtaking panorama is not

reserved just for geography – exhibits and interactive experiences also give visitors a robust view back in time, covering 300 years of history and the diverse people and groups that created the city's unique culture and continue to shape it today.

Vue Orleans is a one-of-a-kind observatory and exhibit located at the foot of Canal Street in the newly-renovated Four Seasons high-rise building. Touchless interactive exhibits feature legendary New Orleans figures, such as the Soul Queen of New Orleans, Irma Thomas; Preservation Hall Jazz Band and even more of the city's famed culture bearers.

“For years we've been gathering stories from local historians, artists, musicians, Mardi Gras Indians, and chefs, leaders of business and leaders second lines, all with the goal to curate a state-of-the-art cultural experience and share the real story of New Orleans – what it was, what it is and what it all means,” said Paul Flower, developer of Vue Orleans. “Vue Orleans is a fresh look at one of the world's most historic and beloved cities and we are proud to finally unveil this unique experience.”

Before stepping into the Vue Orleans entrance, guests begin an immersive journey by entering through a towering display at the foot of Canal Street highlighting the individuals that create the vibrant daily life of New Orleans. Ground-floor exhibits feature a visual explosion of local artwork and the opportunity to interact with personalities pulled straight from the pages of history books – including Henriette De Lisle, a free woman of color, activist and nun; Giacomo Cusimano, Italian immigrant and pasta maker; and Tillie Karnofsky, Jewish immigrant and early supporter of Louis Armstrong – all brought to life by actors on life-sized touchscreens.

Additional Experiences

- Get a taste of the history of New Orleans cuisine served up hot at the Story Café, led by PBS Chef Kevin Belton and cookbook author and “Louisiana Eats!” host, Poppy Tooker;
- Take a visceral step inside the soundtrack of the city in a larger-than-life trumpet-shaped listening stations featuring selections of jazz, blues, classical and more;
- Try a hand at virtually piloting a river boat through sharp turns and whirling river currents of the Mississippi River and earn a pilot pin;
- “Zoom in” and see the landscape of the city on a virtual “vue finder” located along side breathtaking real-life views;
- Mix and match costumes with a digital outfitter and leave with a souvenir photo in full regalia;
- Ride an elevator through the history of New Orleans – showcasing three centuries of events and personalities in 34 floors

Vue Orleans is located at 2 Canal Street in New Orleans. For more information about Vue Orleans, including hours of operation, and more, visit VueOrleans.com. □



Minnesota Transportation
Museum

Transportation Museums

Minnesota Transportation Museum

Osceola, Wisconsin

Enjoy all the sensations of a bygone era by riding the vintage Osceola & St. Croix Valley Railway. Round-trip excursions depart from the historic Soo Line Depot in Osceola, Wisconsin. The 45- to 90-minute trips provide stunning vistas of Bridal Veil Falls, Buttermilk Falls and the Cedar Bend

Drawbridge that crosses the beautiful St. Croix River.

Take a ride in a vintage turn-of-the-century railcar, or in an air-conditioned first-class streamliner car. Pizza cars are popular with adults and kids, and periodic brunch, dinner or wine-tasting trains offer adults a truly romantic railway adventure. The seasonal operation runs from May through October.

Special events include fireworks trains, the popular Pumpkin Express at Halloween time and the spectacular beauty of autumn on our Fall Colors trains.

Bus tours are also welcome to visit us at the Minnesota Transportation Museum in Saint Paul, Minnesota. The historic Jackson Street Roundhouse is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Wednesdays and Saturdays. The building houses a museum of railroad history,

Feature: Transportation Museums

railroad restoration shops, vintage machine shop and blacksmith shop. One of the few remaining operational railroad turntables in the nation is also available. If your group visits on Saturday, a short ride in a vintage caboose through the rail yard will be given.

Whether it is a ride on the romantic Osceola & St. Croix Valley Railway, a visit to the Minnesota Transportation Museum or both, your bus tour patrons will have a memorable experience that they will share with their families and neighbors.

Phone the office at (651) 228-0263 for more information.

Boothbay Railway Village Museum Boothbay, Maine

Step back in time for a peek at Maine and the way life used to be. Nowhere else in New England can you ride the rails behind vintage steam or diesel locomotives, surrounded by historic Maine buildings preserved in a recreated village, and view a superb collection of more than 60 antique automobiles. Spend a

fun-filled day discovering 35 acres of Maine history brought to life.

The Boothbay Railway Village Museum features more than two dozen historic buildings and structures, including Boothbay Town Hall (1847), Freeport Station (1911), Thorndike Station (1871), and Spruce Point Chapel (1927). The Village structures are open for visitors to stroll through and experience real life history. Each building is filled with unique collections, some of which are original to the building.

The Village exhibits surround a four-acre Village Green, offering a scenic place to relax, have a picnic or for children to run around and play. Children can also feed the resident goats, play on the vintage caboose, visit the Schoolhouse swing set, enjoy a game of corn hole on the green, or look for turtles and frogs at the pond.

The extraordinary Model Railroad display is a sight to behold for all ages, with ever growing and intricate detail representing railroading in Maine during the 1950s and '60s housed in a replica of a historic Maine freight station. The display features 600 feet of tracks and



Historic train excursions through the St. Croix Valley from Osceola, WI. Groups and charters welcome. 651-291-0074 | barb@trainride.org www.trainride.org



Boothbay train

Feature: Transportation Museums

turnouts, both standard and narrow gauge, on 3.5 scale mile main line and a 46x20 layout.

The Antique Auto Museum features more than 60 vehicles on display, dating from 1902-1962, illustrating technological advances and engineering fetes that helped make cars accessible to the masses. The collection also includes vintage gas pumps, oil cans, service manuals and other automotive ephemera. Throughout the season a wide variety of special events are hosted on the Village Green, from vintage car shows to family festivals. The Iron Horse Antiques & General Store is located at the museum entrance, featuring heirlooms, handmades, gifts, toys and snacks. The store is seasonal and open

to the public. The museum is located on Route 27 in Boothbay, just 10 minutes from one of Maine's most picturesque Harbor villages, offering endless opportunities for shopping, dining and boating. The museum is open from Father's Day to the third weekend in October.

Phone (207) 671-7676 or visit the Web site for the train schedule. □



Boothbay car

CITY OF FORT MADISON IOWA

Visit our website at:
visitfortmadison.com
1-800-210-TOUR (8687)

WESTERN RAILWAY MUSEUM
 SUISUN CITY, CALIFORNIA

50-MINUTE RIDES ON A HISTORIC ELECTRIC TRAIN OR STREETCAR

GUIDED TOURS OF EXHIBIT BUILDINGS WITH STEAM, DIESEL, AND ECLECTIC TRAINS ON DISPLAY

LARGE TREE-FILLED GRASS-COVERED PICNIC AREA

BUS PARKING & GROUP RATES
 1 HOUR FROM SAN FRANCISCO & SACRAMENTO
 30 MINUTES FROM NAPA AND OTHER WINERIES

5848 CA-12,
 SUISUN CITY, CA 94565
 707-374-2978
 WWW.WRM.ORG

Marvel at the
Texas-sized collection
 of dining, shopping and entertainment.

Grandscape

Wineries • Brewery
 Restaurants • Music
 Museums and Galleries

Schools

Amusement Parks and Games • The Colony

Ames World
 The Exhibition

Grandscape in The Colony is the ultimate indoor-outdoor entertainment district featuring unique venues you won't find anywhere else in Texas or the U.S. Offering plenty of variety, it's perfect for all ages and interests. Make Grandscape part of your next trip.

Visit THE COLONY

visitthecolonytx.com



Historical Attractions and Museums

Historic Richmondtown New York City

Historic Richmond Town is open all year long, offering a variety of daily seasonal programs, workshops, guided tours and living history experiences. May 25 through October 2, enjoy our Open Village season, where Historic Richmond Town's Main Village site comes alive with the sights, sounds, tastes and smells of New York City's rural past.

Visit skilled artisans as they practice their trade, tour the restored interiors of period homes, take part in civic life, browse working shops and functioning open hearth kitchens. Be a part of your community past, present and future.

You can also explore the Historical Museum, which houses exhibitions featuring the museum's extensive artifact, photograph and document collections.

View historicrichmondtown.org for more information.

George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum College Station, Texas

Set on 90 acres on the campus of Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas, The George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum reveals the values and events that shaped the 41st presidency. The main galleries

Guide: Historical Attractions & Museums

focus on the past 100 years of American and world history. Visitors can follow George

Bush's life through childhood, WWII, the oil industry and his years in various prominent

positions of public service, including Congress, the United Nations, the Republican National



George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum

HISTORIC
• RICHMONDTOWN •

New York
City's
oldest
living
history
village

Plan Your Visit Today

www.historicrichmontown.org | (718) 351-1611

*There's Always
Something
More to
Discover*

g on
copy

Dorothy Soto

Shopping, Art, History
Call to plan a custom
itinerary

Welcome to Steubenville
and Jefferson County, Ohio
866-301-1787

Guide: Historical Attractions & Museums

Committee, the Central Intelligence Agency and President. In addition to the 20,000 square feet of exhibit space, the grounds outside include statues, a catch-and-release pond, a walking trail, the Barbara Bush Rose Gardens and the Bush Family Gravesite, which is the final resting place of George Bush, Barbara Bush and their daughter Robin.

In late July, *Mandela: The Official Exhibition* will open in the Ansary Gallery of American History. This exhibit is the new major global exhibition that explores the life of one of the world's most famous freedom fighters and political leaders. The epic story of Nelson Mandela is told in a series of experiential galleries from his rural childhood home through years of turbulent struggle against the apartheid regime, to his eventual vindication and final years as South Africa's first democratically-elected president.

Visitors will learn about why Mandela is still such an important figure, as the exhibit explores his fight for racial equality, his

uncanny ability to forgive and his tireless work to unify South Africa. Mandela's values and commitment to making the world a better place are just as vital now as they were during his lifetime. *Mandela: The Official Exhibition*, produced by Round Room Live in partnership with the Royal House of Mandela (RHOM) and RHOM Investments, will be on display beginning July 29, 2022, through April 23, 2023.

The George Bush Presidential Library and Museum is open year-round and has hosted millions of visitors in its almost 25 years. For more information or to purchase tickets in advance visit Bush41.org.

Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center/Museum

Stevenson, Washington

The Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center/Museum is located in the heart of the Columbia River Gorge in Stevenson, Washington. The museum features more than 11,000 square feet of indoor exhibits, as



Visit Crawford
Everyone Needs a Getaway!




48 Miles of water trails **8 Lakes & 93 Streams**



814-333-1258



@BUSH41LIBRARY | 1000 George Bush Dr W, College Station, TX 77845

TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT BUSH41.ORG

GEORGE H.W. BUSH
PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY & MUSEUM




This program is made possible in part through hotel tax revenue funded from the City of College Station and the City of Bryan through the Arts Council of Brazos Valley





Guide: Historical Attractions & Museums

well as a large display of antique trucks, logging equipment, mine replica and train cars. The Columbia Gorge is known for its exquisite beauty and unique natural history. Would you like to learn more about how it was formed? Or explore the roots and culture of its earliest people? Then be sure to stop in and explore the 15,000



Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center / Museum


years of history, from local native tribes to the settlers that followed in the footprints of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

The museum is dedicated to preserving the stories and culture of the Columbia River Gorge. It features the world's largest Rosary Collection, 1917 Curtiss Bi-Plane, McCord Fishwheel Replica and exhibits dedicated to the local Columbia River Indian Tribes, as well as Russian and Japanese heritage. Feel free to rest your feet in the theaters featuring films about the formation of the gorge, local history and its future. Learn how Skamania County became Washington's first "Sasquatch Refuge," and why thousands of couples would anxiously run to Skamania County to tie the knot, earning it the title "Marriage Mill."

The museum is open seven days a week, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information and admission costs go to columbiagorge.org. If children are in your group, stop by to pick up a children's workbook and crayons (free). Even join in on the search for their very own "Bigfoot."

American Heritage Museum Stow, Massachusetts

The American Heritage Museum is the largest and finest museum of armored vehicles in North America. Opened in 2019, the American Heritage Museum explores America's conflicts begin-




**Columbia Gorge
Interpretive Center
Museum**

**Experience 15,000
Years of History!**

- 23,000 square feet to explore
- Family and group rates
- Meeting and event rentals
- Open 9am - 5pm daily

www.columbiagorge.org
990 SW Rock Creek Dr. Stevenson, WA



PLAN YOUR VISIT TODAY!
800.991.2338
509-427-8211

Printing Sponsored by the City of Stevenson and
Skamania County Lodging Taxes



La Rochelle

Home of the Bar Harbor Historical Society

Mansion & Museum

Bar Harbor Historical Society

127 West Street

Bar Harbor, ME 04609

207-288-0000

www.barharborhistorical.org

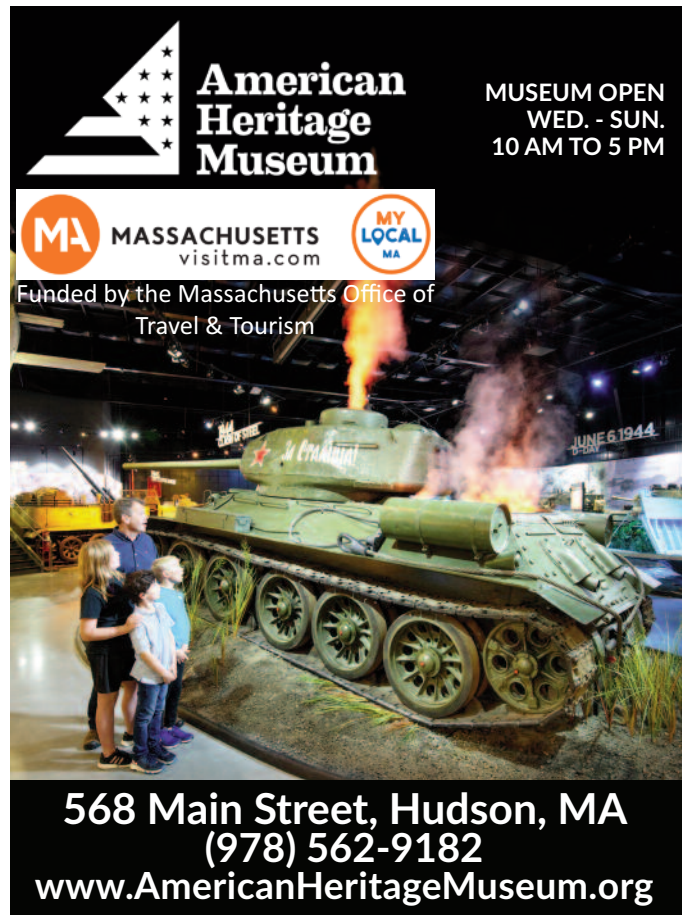


Guide: Historical Attractions & Museums

ning with the Revolutionary War to today. You will discover and interact with American heritage through the history, the national effort developing new technologies for the military and the human impact of America's fight to preserve the freedoms all hold dear. The American Heritage Museum is housed in a 67,000+ square-foot building located at the Collings Foundation's headquarters in Stow, Massachusetts.

The American Heritage Museum features more than 80 tanks, armored vehicles, historic aircraft and very rare major artifacts. During your visit you can see and experience: the Immersive WWI Trench Experience, the German half-track driven by Lee Marvin in the movie *The Dirty Dozen*, a Higgins boat that brought American troops to the shores of Normandy, a German Panther tank facing off with a Soviet T-34/85 tank (both the only ones in North America) and many more. WWII tank and driving programs are also offered along with a spring and summer filled with amazing living history events.

The American Heritage Museum is well suited for bus tours with plenty of on-site parking and knowledgeable and friendly tour guides who make the visit special. To book your bus tour email: ahm@collingsfoundation.org or phone (978) 562-9182. For more information on the American Heritage Museum visit AmericanHeritageMuseum.org. □



American Heritage Museum

MUSEUM OPEN
WED. - SUN.
10 AM TO 5 PM

MA MASSACHUSETTS visitma.com MY LOCAL MA

Funded by the Massachusetts Office of Travel & Tourism

568 Main Street, Hudson, MA
(978) 562-9182
www.AmericanHeritageMuseum.org



SECRETS OF WWII

Exhibition At the Reagan Library

REAL SECRETS
REAL STORIES
REAL ARTIFACTS

REAGANLIBRARY.COM/WWII



Tickets include admission to the Reagan Library, where you can touch an actual part of the Berlin Wall and climb aboard Air Force One!

40 Presidential Drive • Simi Valley, CA 93065 • ReaganLibrary.com



Shopping, Dining & Lodging

White Pines Lodge **Ogle County, Illinois**

There is a hidden gem in Ogle County, Illinois! It is nestled in a clearing deep in the forest of White Pines State Park located less than two hours west of Chicago. White Pines Lodge is the showpiece of the park. Anchored by a massive log lodge built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps, it is home to a restaurant known far and wide for its delicious home-style cuisine. Guests enjoy the generous portions served for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The staff is welcoming and friendly.

The restaurant is also host to the Pines Dinner Theater, a live theater experience which has been providing musical and

comedic entertainment for more than 30 years. This is the most popular activity for group tours because ever since its humble beginnings in 1989, the Pines Dinner Theater has blossomed into a well-known live professional theater boasting 30 different shows a year featuring talent from around the country. At Christmastime each year they produce their own month long show, "Scrooge the Comedy" which is a one-of-a-kind, side-splitting, hilarious comedy using audience participation.

Adjacent to the landmark restaurant is a charming and rustic gift shop filled with nostalgic flavors and precious mementos. From White Pines apparel to classic coffee mugs,

jewelry and delicious fudge, it is easy to find the perfect souvenir to take home.

Authentic, cozy log cabins provide overnight lodging just a stone's throw from the lodge. Natural beauty abounds with miles of hiking trails that crisscross over bubbling streams and along moss-covered limestone bluffs. The solitude of this wooded setting in northwest Illinois helps visitors relax and enjoy nature during their stay. It is a truly magical getaway where the only noises you will hear are the birds chirping and the wind whispering through the majestic pine trees. This hidden gem is ideal for romantic escapes, family outings, group tours, corporate retreats, weddings and weekend get-

Guide: Shopping, Dining & Lodging

aways. Enjoy an amazing experience guaranteed to create good old-fashioned times with family, friends and loved ones which harkens back to a time of simple pleasures and treasured memories.

Uranus Fudge Factory

Anderson, Indiana

Madison County's newest attraction just opened their doors on April 1, and this was no April Fool's joke. These folks are so fun and friendly you would swear you are on another planet. For fantastic service and fabulous fudge that is out of this world, make a trip to Uranus Fudge Factory.

From the famous destination on Missouri's Route 66, this landmark has traveled east to Anderson's 1423 West 53rd Street location to build and settle the second home for this iconic, quirky establishment. With puns around every corner, the order of the day is fun, offered liberally with fresh daily-made fudge, 72 flavors of saltwater taffy, ice

cream to scream for and a huge selection of gifts from the great to the goofy.

Getting Uranus off the ground was not an easy feat. With the pandemic still prevalent, shortages of staff, supply chain issues and crazy Indiana weather all had their impact. Hoping to open before Valentine's Day, the challenges led to setbacks that postponed their plans. However, Mayor of Uranus Louie Keen and his intrepid Girl Friday, Miss Tiffany, would not allow any negativity to deter them from their goal of creating this family-friendly venue and the outcome was certainly worth the wait.

Already a major force in the community, Uranus has reached out to its neighbors, touted other businesses, walked alongside a not-for-profit serving foster children and are partnering with other attractions to build energy and camaraderie. Clearly, they have already embraced Anderson and Madison County and from the reaction of their "citizens," the feeling is mutual.

Jacksonville
ILLINOIS

Customized
Itineraries for
any sized group

jacksonvilleil.org enjoy
800.593.5678 **illinois**

**Lose Yourself
Discover Yourself
Dillon Montana**

Bus Tours Welcomed
VisitDillonMT.com
406-683-5511

Book Now! **WHITE PINES**
Lodge

- Discounted Group Rates (minimum of 20 guests)
- Ticket price includes: 3-meat buffet, dessert, & show (+tax & gratuity)

Tribute Shows
Johnny Cash, Elvis,
Queens of Country,
and many more!

Mount Morris, IL
Call (815) 655-2400
www.VisitWhitePines.com

OUTLETS
of
Mississippi

NIKE

COACH
FACTORY

FOREVER 21

Your Retail & Entertainment Destination!

POLO RALPH LAUREN
FACTORY STORE

MICHAEL KORS

PUMA

BANANA REPUBLIC
FACTORY STORE

**Gaming & Virtual Reality,
Smash Rooms & Escape Rooms!
5 Restaurants,
Snack Vendors & Adult Beverages.**

OUTLETS OF
MISSISSIPPI

Bus Tour Drop Off Area Located by
Welcome Center, Food Court & Restrooms.
I-20 / I-55 Jackson, MS • OutletsofMS.com
Call and Book Today! 769-972-3000

Guide: Shopping, Dining & Lodging

Uranus Fudge Factory has big plans as they grow. Catering to the whole family, the coming months will bring Putt Pirates Mini Golf Course, a playground for little peoples' enjoyment, a new ice cream store and additional parking. Ideas are also being considered for the additional five acres adjoining the current building location.

If you are looking for the unique, a place that will have everyone leaving with a smile on their face, visit Uranus Fudge Factory, the best in the galaxy. □



Uranus Fudge Factory

Unforgettable Experiences

VisitAndersonMadisonCounty.com



Anderson Madison County
Visitors Bureau
INDIANA
800.533.6569




Experience

AN ILLINOIS HISTORIC LANDMARK DESTINATION

STARVED ROCK
LODGE & CONFERENCE CENTER



(815) 667-4211

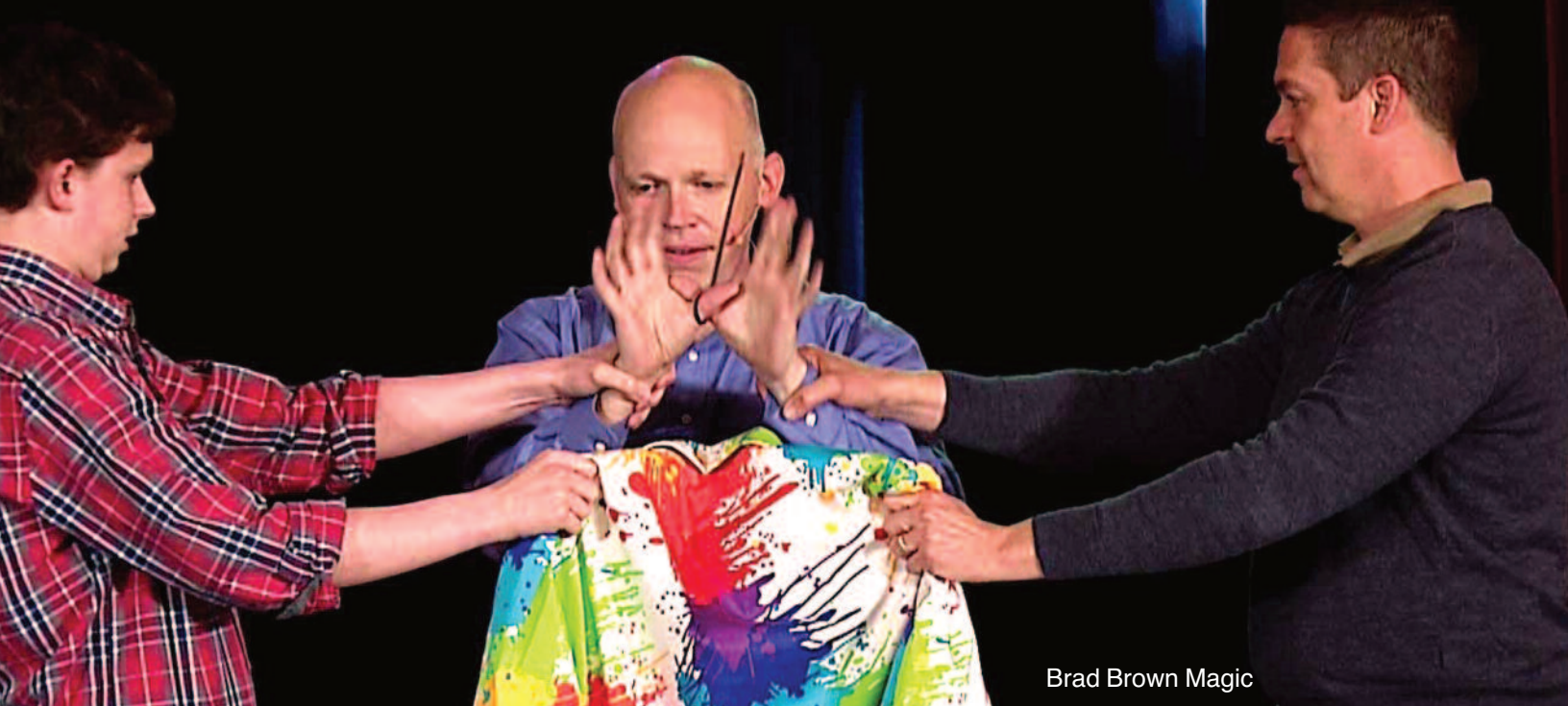


HISTORIC LODGING • MUSIC TRIBUTE SHOWS • TROLLEY TOURS • EXPANSIVE DINING • INDOOR POOL COMPLEX



ONE LODGE LANE, OCELSBY, IL

STARVEDROCKLODGE.COM



Brad Brown Magic

Magical Fun in Northern Kentucky

Experience the wonder with Brad Brown's Comedy Magic Show in Dry Ridge, Kentucky, just five miles from the Ark Encounter. Brown has spent decades entertaining and inspiring audiences from coast to coast and around the world. Now his highly rated one-man show in northern Kentucky brings laughter and amazement to groups ranging from students to families to seniors and everything in between.

Brown's show is squeaky-clean and is specifically designed to appeal to guests coming to the area to visit the popular Ark Encounter attraction. The show runs about 75-minutes, with no intermission. It can include anything from an appearing bowling ball, to a floating table, a real mind-reading robot or a wacky take on a Houdini-inspired escape. Brown understands that it is not enough to just fool people with his magic. He combines his astounding magic with his offbeat sense of humor to craft a unique, laugh-filled experience that can be enjoyed by all ages. It is all presented in an intimate venue where every seat has a great view. There are plenty of opportunities for guests to take part in the show, or they can just relax and enjoy the show from their seats.

You have the option for your guests to enjoy a delicious all-you-can-eat buffet meal before the show. In addition to the theater and restaurant, the venue also includes a gift shop filled with many unique hand-crafted items from Kentucky and a candy store featuring homemade fudge and other goodies. There is plenty for your guests to see and do. Bus tours are welcome and there is ample bus parking on-site. You can get a group discount for one of the regularly scheduled performances, or schedule a private performance for your group that

works around your tour schedule. For more information, visit KentuckyMagicShow.com, or phone (859) 428-8085. □



BRAD BROWN MAGIC

FUN, FAMILY-FRIENDLY COMEDY & MAGIC
NEAR THE ARK ENCOUNTER IN NORTHERN KENTUCKY

Squeaky-clean, highly rated comedy magic show.
Guests can enjoy a buffet meal with the show.
Gift shop, restaurant and candy store on site.
Five miles from the Ark Encounter.
Plentiful bus parking.

KENTUCKYMAGICSHOW.COM
DRY RIDGE, KY • 859-428-8085

From the Road

Share a story from the road

Have you gone on some really fun trips recently? We would love to see them. Send in some great photos and they could be featured in our next segment of "From the Road." Simply e-mail pictures (at least 1500 pixels wide) to editorial@busmag.com. Include a little information about your tour company to be considered for publication.



Eyre Tours powered by Starr, based in Glenleg, Maryland, is thrilled to be back on the road again. Kat Gavornik sent along these two photos of their bus tours from the road.

Above is a photo taken on a Fall Foliage Tour in September of 2021. Passengers loved visiting Morgan's Horse Farm in Weybridge, Vermont.

Below is a photo of a bus tour taken in Williamsport, Pennsylvania next to the Hiawatha Paddle-Wheeler on the Susquehanna River. This group had a fabulous time exploring Pennsylvania's Grand Canyon.



★★★★★
EXPERIENCE

LEXINGTON

MASSACHUSETTS

IT'S A
GREAT
TIME TO
EXPLORE
Lexington



MAKE HISTORY ON A BUS TOUR!

Sit back, relax, and allow our costumed step-on guides to transport your guests back in time to April 19, 1775. You'll explore the notable sites and historic houses around Lexington Battle Green, Minuteman National Park and the Old North Bridge in Concord. Or, create your own custom itinerary! Tours available seven days per week.

All tours depart from the Lexington Visitors Center;

1875 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, LEXINGTON

To book a step-on guide and custom tour contact:

Casey Hagerty, Tourism Coordinator
781-698-4568 or email at chagerty@lexingtonma.gov.

ENJOY:

- Dedicated Bus Parking
- Restrooms
- Gift Shop

VISIT US ONLINE:

TourLexington.us | Don't wait. Explore Lexington Today!

Omission

Our apologies for the omission of a photo credit for the cover photo of our March/April 2022 issue of BUS TOURS MAGAZINE. Credit should have been given to Kathy Casstevens.

Bluegrass Scenic Railroad & Museum
90 Minute Train Rides through Thoroughbred Horse Country!

www.BluegrassRailroad.com

Advertiser's Index

Atlantic City	24	Historic Ft. Steuben	13
American Heritage Museum	16	Historic Richmondtown	13
Anderson-Madison County CVB	19	Jacksonville Area CVB	18
Bar Harbor Historical Society	15	Minnesota Transportation Museum	10
Bay Area Electric Railroad Association	11	NFI Group	23
Beaverhead Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture	18	Outlets of Mississippi	18
Bluegrass Railroad & Museum	22	Prevost	2
Boothbay Railway Village Museum	10	Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation	16
Brad Brown Magic	20	Starved Rock Lodge & Conference Center	19
City of Ft. Madison	11	Town of Lexington	22
Columbia Gorge Interpretive Center	15	Visit The Colony	11
Crawford County CVB	14	White Pines Lodge	18
George H.W. Bush Library & Museum	14		



Leading the **ZE**volution.™

Leading global electrification of mass mobility through buses and coaches, infrastructure, technology, and workforce development.



REDISCOVER ATLANTIC CITY

The Story Continues

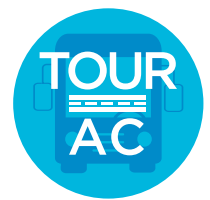
Excitement awaits in Atlantic City, including miles of sandy beaches, our world-famous Boardwalk and the thrilling Steel Pier. Enjoy tax-free shopping, award-winning dining, live entertainment and other great attractions. Here you can experience the ultimate getaway and create a lifetime of memories.



Atlantic City Expert Heather Colache is available at 609-318-6097 or hcolache@meetac.com to make sure you enjoy Atlantic City as it was meant to be experienced.



Meet AC received funding through a grant from the New Jersey Department of State, Division of Travel and Tourism.



TourAtlanticCity.com

Reader Service Card

To receive more bus and group tour planning information, from these advertisers, just check the box and mail or fax this form back to us.

Mail to: Bus Tours Magazine, 9698 W. Judson Road, Polo, Illinois 61064 or fax to (815) 946-2347

Please print all information to insure correct response.

Name/Title
Firm/Organization
Address
City, State, Zip
Area Code & Phone No.
E-mail (optional)
Comments

**MAY/JUNE
2022**

To receive information from **all** advertisers in a territory, check the box below

Midwest Northeast Southeast West Central

To receive information from individual advertisers, check the specified box(es) below

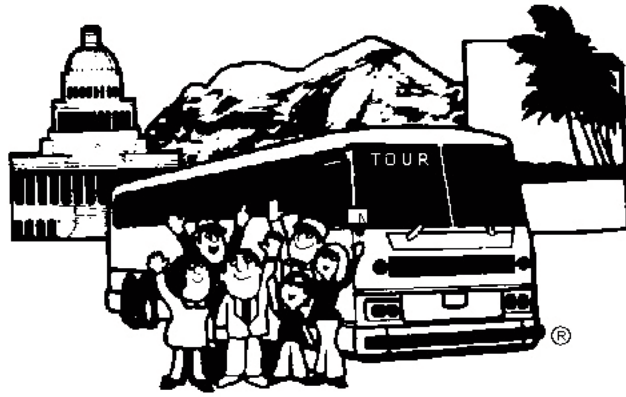
- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Atlantic City24 | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Ft. Steuben13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Heritage Museum16 | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Richmondtown13 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anderson-Madison County CVB19 | <input type="checkbox"/> Jacksonville Area CVB18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bar Harbor Historical Society15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota Transportation
Museum10 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bay Area Electric
Railroad Association11 | <input type="checkbox"/> NFI Group23 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beaverhead Chamber of
Commerce & Agriculture18 | <input type="checkbox"/> Outlets of Mississippi18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bluegrass Railroad & Museum22 | <input type="checkbox"/> Prevost2 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boothbay Railway Village Museum .10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Ronald Reagan
Presidential Foundation16 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brad Brown Magic20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Starved Rock Lodge
& Conference Center19 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> City of Ft. Madison11 | <input type="checkbox"/> Town of Lexington22 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Columbia Gorge
Interpretive Center15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit The Colony11 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crawford County CVB14 | <input type="checkbox"/> White Pines Lodge18 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> George H.W. Bush Library
& Museum14 | |

**You Can
Return Your
Reader Service
Request
Three Ways:**

1. Mail to *Bus Tours Magazine*, 9698 W. Judson Road, Polo, Illinois 61064
2. Fax to (815) 946-2347
3. Fill out online at BusToursMagazine.com/rsc

Save postage or fax charges and get bus and group tour information by filling out the Reader Service Card online.

Just go to **www.BusToursMagazine.com/rsc**



Bus Tours Need to be Invited

No one wants to take a bus tour to places that do not want groups, cannot accommodate them or are closed. This is why bus tour planners depend on invitations in *Bus Tours Magazine* to fill out their itineraries..

Now that the buses are back on the road and bus tour planners are already working on trips for 2023, they are looking for your invitation.

Whether you are interested in print or digital, the staff at *Bus Tours Magazine* has several programs and options that will get your invitation out to the bus tour people and bring buses to your door.

Reach out to us so we can help you

Just phone (815) 946-2341 or
e-mail midwest@busmag.com

Bus Tours Magazine

Get a Copy of Bus Tours Magazine for a Friend or Associate

If you would like an additional free copy of Bus Tours Magazine, please follow one of the three steps below to get on the mailing list. Please be sure to check one of the tour involvement boxes on the form.

How Can I Receive Bus Tours Magazine Free?

1



Snail Mail – Fill out the form and mail to:
Bus Tours Magazine
9698 W. Judson Rd
Polo, IL, 61064

2



Fax – Fill out the card below and fax to (815) 946-2347.

3



Online – Visit our Web site at www.bustoursmagazine.com and click on the appropriate “Subscribe” link.

Postal regulations require that we periodically obtain your approval to keep your name on the mailing list of Bus Tours Magazine.

Free Bus Tours Magazine Subscription

You May Also Fax This Form To: 815-946-2347

**Additional Free Copy
of Bus Tours Magazine**

Name _____

Company _____

Street Address _____

City _____

State (Province)/Zip (PC) _____

Contact me for renewal by e-mail phone

Phone# _____

e-Mail _____

Please indicate your area(s) of group tour involvement:

Bus/Group tour planner

Tour Wholesaler

Bus Operator Planning Tours

Corporate/Organization Tours

Receptive Operator

Group Leader

Other, please specify _____

Today's Date _____

Your signature _____

Bus Tours Magazine

9698 W. Judson Road, Polo, Illinois 61064
May/June, 2022

- **American-Heritage Museum**
page 16
- **Anderson-Madison County CVB**
page 19
- **Atlantic City**
page 24
- **Boothbay Railway Village & Antique Museum**
page 10
- **Brad Brown Magic**
page 20
- **George Bush Library & Museum**
page 19
- **Minnesota Transportation Museum**
page 10
- **Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation**
page 16

Looking Ahead to 2023 Tours

Please fill out the Reader Service Card
on the back wrapper.