

# Great Day! Group Tours Ideas

## TRENDING TOURS

Pricing varies by departure city . . . call for your customized package and pricing.

### AMISH COUNTRY THEATER

Walnut Creek from May 11 - December 16, 2019

Hold on to the theater seat and get ready for some explosive laughter. This award-winning show, including being voted as a "Top 100 Event in North America" features live entertainment with hilarious actors, magicians, comedians, live country music and even a ventriloquist!



- Family-style Amish luncheon or dinner
- Tickets to the Amish Country Theater Show – Matinees on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays (New Theatre)
- Several options (select two) to complete your tour. Choices include winetasting, Flea Market (selected days), P. Graham Dunn, either Warthers Museum, Amish Farm and House with buggy ride or a stop to purchase Amish meats, cheese and baked goods

*Scheduled Tours on October 2, 2021 for groups unable to fill a bus*

### WOOSTER AND AMISH COUNTRY



- **Castle Noel** . . . a "castle" located in downtown Medina.
- **Everything Rubbermaid** to browse or shop Buffet lunch - Plus time to shop in a bakery
- **JM Smucker Store** - Shop in the store with the trusted brand that has brought quality products to families for over 100 years.
- **Lehman's Hardware** - Where the Amish shop
- **P. Graham Dunn** - See craftsmen create laser engraved wood pieces for your home or gifts.

### JAWS WITH PAWS

- K-9 experience - See how these amazing animals are trained for law enforcement and the military.
- Farm-to-table luncheon at a farm market - Meet the farmer and take a tour of his farm and market.
- Horse Farm - The trainer will explain how they raise, train and show these Belgium horses. Tour the barn and see many beautiful horses.
- Winetasting - Visit a beautiful countryside winery and sample some wines while the owners tell their personal stories of starting their business.

*Scheduled Tour, June 24, 2021 for groups unable to fill a bus*

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## **CORKSCREWS AND CARAFES**

The Ohio wineries are some of the best in the nation, with the Ashtabula - Lake County grape-growing region producing more than 60% of all the grapes grown in Ohio. This package features three of the most popular wineries.



- Guided Tour of the Covered Bridges
- Chalet Debonne Vineyards - winetasting at this family owned and operated facility which recently opened a micro-brewery
- Grand River Cellars - located in the heart of the wine valley grape growing region, this winery has been serving their wide variety of wines since 1976
- Enjoy lunch at one of these fine wineries
- Ferrante Winery - tucked into the heart of the vineyards, they offer a luscious contemporary oak-laden atmosphere. Enjoy time at the tasting bar and sample these award-winning wines

## **CUYAHOGA VALLEY SCENIC RAILROAD**

**Available Sat & Sun March - May**

**Available Wed - Sun from June to October**

- Train ride through the Cuyahoga Valley National Park (October sells out so book early)
- Lunch at The Spaghetti Warehouse, Hartville Kitchen or a German Restaurant or other location
- Tour a chocolate factory (shopping-only on Saturday)
- Choose one option to complete the package:
  - Classic car museum
  - Air museum with planes that still fly
  - Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens . . . beautiful
  - Flea market (Thursdays or Saturdays only)
  - Stop for an ice cream cone



## **RICKY RICARDO TROPICANA CLUB DINNER**

The National Comedy Center in Lucille Ball's hometown of Jamestown, New York, is the first state-of-the-art museum dedicated to telling the vital story of comedy in America. Exclusive collections and world-class exhibits give comedy fans an unprecedented behind-the-scenes look at the time-honed creative processes that have elevated entertainment to an art. More than 50 immersive exhibits take visitors on an interactive journey through comedy history, from early vaudeville acts to today's comedians. There are several package options including this national museum. Here are a few suggestions:

- **Cruise and Comedy** - Comedy Center plus lunch and a cruise on Lake Chautauqua.
- **Cruise and Comedy, Act 2** - Comedy Center plus a luncheon cruise.
- **Ball of Comedy** - Comedy Center, the Lucy Desi Museum and Studios and lunch in the Tropicana Room.
- **Chautauqua, Comedy and Crusin' two-day** - Guided tour of the grounds and the history of Chautauqua Institution with lunch served in the Atheneum Hotel, one of the world's oldest hotels, followed by time to explore everything that the institution has to offer. Enjoy dinner aboard the Chautauqua Belle, tour Lucille Ball's hometown, visit the Lucy Desi Museum and Studios, have lunch in the Tropicana Room and visit the Comedy Center.



*Scheduled Tour, August 12, 2021 for groups unable to fill a bus*

## **JET EXPRESS TO PUT-IN-BAY**

- Jet Express Cruise to Put-In-Bay
- Tram tour of Put-In-Bay
- Luncheon
- Time to explore Put-In-Bay; wineries, fudge and souvenir shops or its entertainment district

*Scheduled Tour, August 6, 2021 for groups unable to fill a bus*

## **LAKE ERIE "ISLAND HOPPING" CRUISE**

- Cruise to both Kelley's Island and Put-In-Bay
- Tram tour of Put-In-Bay or golf carts on Kelley's Island
- Luncheon buffet aboard the ship
- Time to explore Put-In-Bay

*Scheduled Tour, July 17, 2021 for groups unable to fill a bus*



## **MYSTERY DINNER TRAIN**

**Available Monday - Friday**

- Tickets for the Murder Mystery Dinner Train - enjoy a two and a half-hour dining and entertaining experience aboard a moving train. As the train makes a leisurely trip through the countryside, you are served a wonderful meal while being entertained by a troupe of actors and actresses performing a comical interactive murder mystery as they travel through the train cars. The actors actually ask a passenger to “volunteer” to be their victim. The show is more of a comedy versus a drama and the best way to describe the experience is that it is much like being in the front row at a comedy club, where some of your group members are likely to be involved in the show



*Scheduled Tour, September 16, 2021 for smaller groups, an alternate date you may want to consider since the railroad has a "40-passenger minimum"*

## **ALUM CREEK STATE PARK FANTASY OF LIGHTS**

**Available November 23, 2021 - January 1, 2022**

Gardens Aglow at the Franklin Park Conservatory - A docent will give you a guided tour followed by time to explore elegant displays of poinsettias, seasonal foliage and lights, delightful entries in the annual gingerbread competition, a Paul Busse model garden railway and an array of activities. Lunch - In a restaurant that features German specialty entrees Alum Creek State Park Fantasy of Lights - Three miles of LED holiday lights with more than 100 displays.

## **CHRISTMAS AT A COUNTRY INN**

- Family-style Southern dinner at Tara in Pennsylvania
- Tara Tour - southern Belles guide you through the rooms of this beautifully-decorated mansion
- Stop at a special indoor Christmas display
- Visit to a candy shoppe
- Visit to the world's largest Hummel gift shop



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## GERVASI VINEYARD PLUS STAN HYWET

- Gervasi Vineyard - This premier winery complex is beautifully decorated for the holidays. The group will enjoy a winery tour and a luncheon with winetasting
- Stan Hywet - In 1898, F.A. Seiberling co-founded The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company, naming it after Charles Goodyear, the inventor of the vulcanization process for rubber. Stan Hywet is his estate and it is beautifully decorated for the holidays (decorations plus Christmas Trees in almost every room). We go here after the winery and depart at dusk so your group can see the outside lit up for the holidays



## THE BIG APPLE . . . NEW YORK CITY

**Each package is customized for your group!**

**Suggested Tour Length - 3, 4 or 5 Day**

- Lodging can be in New York City or a suburban hotel (less expensive)
- Great meals - We know some great restaurants in New York City
- Possible package inclusions:
  - Tickets to a Broadway Show
  - Guided Tour of New York City
  - Shopping in New York City
  - Seeing Ellis Island and the Statue of Liberty
  - NBC Studios and Rockefeller Center
  - Dinner-Cruise
- Also see the New York City Shopping Express Tours



*Scheduled Tour, September 12-15, 2021 for groups unable to fill a bus*

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## THEATRES IN LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA . . . SO MANY CHOICES

### Suggested Tour Length - 2 or 3 Days

- **Each package is customized** - Depending on your show and attraction preference(s).
- **Several meals** - This is Pennsylvania's Amish Country, so come hungry!
- **Possible shows to include**
  - **"Queen Esther" at the Sight and Sound Theatre** (March 6 - December 23) - Queen Esther is set in the Persian empire, where her great beauty takes her from an ordinary life to the palace, where she becomes queen. But she hides from her husband, the king, that she is Jewish. Will she stand up for her people and follow God's plan for her?
  - **"Britain's Best" at the American Music Theatre** (May 18 - June 24) - This production features British musical artist hits that span decades and thrill music lovers with talented singers and dancers from around the world.
  - **"Winter Wonderland" at the American Music Theatre** (November 9 - December 30) - This live music production will ignite your holiday spirit. • **Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre** - 2021 schedule features *On Your Feet!* (April 15- May 29), *Beauty and the Beast* (June 3-July 31), *Grumpy Old Men* (August 5-September 4), *Mama Mia!* (September 9-November 6) and *Miracle on 34th Street* (November 11-December 23).
- **Attractions to consider:**
  - **Magic Lantern Show** - America's entertainment before the movies.
  - **Artist in an Hour** - A Chalk Talk Artist helps your group members create an Amish farm scene.
  - **Underground Railroad Experience** - Begin with a Magic Lantern show which brings to life the horrors of the slave trade . . . from its beginnings to the Civil War. As the show concludes, a conductor on the Underground Railroad appears to tell you real life stories of successful flights to liberty. To conclude the experience, a Local Guide boards the bus for a tour which includes an actual Underground Railroad Site.
  - **Dairy Farm Tour** - See cows being mechanically-milked along with other interesting processes.
  - **Strasburg Railroad** - Ride, tour and shop.
  - **Amish Farm** - Milk a cow and learn how the farm resources are used to make ice cream. Relax during a tractor and wagon ride through the farm fields to learn more about Amish farming practices. Enjoy a taste of homemade, small-batch ice cream.
  - **Bible History Exhibits** - A collection of Biblical artifacts and replicas from around the world.
  - **Mount Hope Estate & Winery** - Guided tour of the production facility, wine tasting (everyone gets a glass) and lunch in "the barn" with choice of entrees.
  - **Potato Chip Factory Tour** - See and smell the making of potato chips and snacks as you view the process from beginning to end in the enclosed observation gallery.
  - **Ice Cream** - Sweet Willows Creamery (home to York's best homemade ice cream) or Turkey Hill Experience.
  - **Gettysburg Visitors Center, Cyclorama and Battlefield Tour**
  - **Hershey's Animated Chocolate World**
  - **Flight 93 Memorial and Museum or Frank Lloyd Wright's Fallingwater**
  - **Call about our show combination packages with a casino resort**

*Scheduled Tour, July 20-22, 2021 and for groups unable to fill a bus*

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## NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE . . . NOW WITH MORE SHOWS

*Each package is customized! Optional stop at Falcon Rest Mansion*

**Suggested Tour Length - 4 Days (expandable to 5)**

- Ask us about staying at the Opryland Hotel
- Nashville Dinner Theatre . . . buffet and entertainers
- Grand Ole Opry . . . live performances in a relaxed atmosphere
- Luncheon or dinner cruise aboard the General Jackson Showboat
- Guided tour of Nashville with a stop at Ryman Auditorium, Country Music Hall of Fame or the Johnny Cash Museum
- Time at Opry Mills . . . all new!
- Studio B Tour with optional group song taping and CD for passengers
- Falcon Rest Mansion & Gardens tour - this Victorian mansion called "Tennessee's Biltmore" by PBS with humorous tales from the past, food like grandma used to make, plus a friendly ghost
- Choice of Mansion entertainment: Vaudeville-Style History Show, Murder at the Mansion or Ghost at the Mansion
- Don't forget a Holiday Tour featuring spectacular shows for the season



*Scheduled Tours, September 16-19, 2021 and December 8-11, 2021 for smaller groups*

## WASHINGTON D.C. TOUR

**Suggested Tour Length - 2 to 4 Days**

- Several meals including a dinner overlooking the Washington Channel.
- Full-day guided tour of Washington including the popular monuments, memorials, Arlington National Cemetery (with the tram) plus the Kennedy Gravesite and Tomb of the Unknown Soldier . . . where we watch the "Changing of the Guard".
- Smithsonian Museums (number of museums varies on time requested) - options include the Air and Space Museum, American History Museum, Natural History Museum, Museum of the Bible or the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Note: the new museum requires timed tickets and is based on availability.
- Four-day package can include a Capitol Building tour, Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, the National Zoo and additional Smithsonian Museums.



*Scheduled Tour, September 21-23, 2021 for groups unable to fill a bus*

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## MISSISSIPPI RIVER CRUISE ABOARD THE RIVERBOAT TWILIGHT

**Suggested Tour Length - 4 Days but expandable up to 9 Days**

Mark Twain said "nothing so liberalizes a man and expands the kindly instincts that nature put in him as travel and contact with many kinds of people." Cruise the Mississippi River much like Huckleberry Finn except you'll be in an elegant riverboat which features three decks with Victorian steamboat architecture, both inside and out. There are comfortable dining salons (pictured) and sun decks with lounge chairs to sightsee or to "catch a snooze." This is also a nature habitat for many rare species . . . you typically see 20 to 30 bald eagles on a cruise. This is a Great Day! Specialty tour.



- Two nights lodging in the Quad Cities
- One-night lodging at the Grand Harbor Resort in Dubuque, Iowa
- Two-day, 166-mile roundtrip cruise aboard the Riverboat "Twilight"
- Lunches and Dinners aboard the cruise are served, plated meals
- Nine meals including five meals plus snacks aboard the ship
- Live entertainment both days including musicians and storytellers
- Admission to the National Mississippi River Museum
- Complimentary shuttle service to Dubuque attractions and casino
- Baggage handling, taxes and gratuities on items included
- Expandable to a five or six-day package including Wisconsin Dells, Milwaukee or Chicago or a nine-day Mount Rushmore tour



*Scheduled Tour, October 4-7, 2021 for groups unable to fill a bus*

## MOUNT RUSHMORE plus IOWA and WISCONSIN

**Suggested Tour Length - 7 Days, but expandable to 8 or 9 Days**

- Several Meals - Including dinner theatre, chuckwagon dinner, lunch in the Amana Colonies, family-style Amish feast and breakfasts.
- Mount Rushmore, Black Hills National Forest, Custer State Park, Crazy Horse Monument, Mount Rushmore National Memorial and much more. Enroute we'll travel through the Badlands National Park, seeing the results of 37 million years of erosion.
- Mount Rushmore evening lighting ceremony
- Wall Drug Store, in a town "almost forgotten"
- "World's Only Corn Palace" in Mitchell, South Dakota
- Guided tour of Amana Colonies (Upper, Lower & Middle)
- House on the Rock . . . a destination in itself



*Scheduled Tour, July 11-18, 2021 for groups unable to fill a bus*

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## MACKINAC ISLAND

- Several meals including dinner at Castle Farms, lunch in Frankenmuth and lunch at the Grand Hotel on the island
- Castle Farms day (above)
- Ferry to Mackinac Island
- Horse-Drawn Carriage Tour of Mackinac Island
- Afternoon on Mackinac Island - you can rent a bike and ride around the island, watch fudge being made or explore the "nooks and crannies" of this island
- We can modify this package to include a night of rooms on the island



## FAST PASS TO WISCONSIN

### Suggested tour length is 5 or 6 days

As presented at our recent Group Leader Travel Marketplace and Dinner Party, there is a faster way to get to Wisconsin. Travel into Michigan see an attraction and spend the night. The next morning, cruise across Lake Michigan (the bus comes with us) on a 600-passenger ship to Wisconsin

**Milwaukee's Progressive Ethnic Meal Tour** begins on Old World 3rd Street with an overview of Milwaukee's German history. Enjoy sausage, cheese, and beer/root beer at the Wisconsin Cheese Mart plus shopping time. Between stops, learn about the city's Irish history. See Milwaukee's Art Museum and North Shore Lighthouse. Enjoy a generous family-style lunch at Milwaukee's last remaining Polish restaurant. Visit the Italian enclave with a stop for a cannoli and conclude the day with a custard dessert.



**Lambeau Field Stadium Tours** allow fans to experience the Packers' history-rich facility first-hand and see several behind-the-scenes areas. There will be time to visit the Hall of Fame and the Packers Pro Shop.

**Historic Milwaukee Boat Cruise** - The Automobile Gallery Museum located in the former home of a Cadillac dealership; this museum will trigger memories with some hard to find classic automobiles and concept cars. **National Railroad Museum** - Enjoy a train ride, a theater presentation, time to explore the museum and a hobo lunch (dine like a real rail rider!) O & H Bakery known for their Danish Kringle . . . and one is included for each passenger to take home.

**Miller Brewery Tour Featured Meals** - The Progressive Ethnic Meal (above), a hobo lunch, an Amish luncheon and a dinner-show at the Fireside Dinner Theater are only a few of the included meals.

**Iron Mountain Iron Mine Option** - Package can be expanded to six-days to include this attraction. Ride the underground train and explore this historical mine which operated for 68 years and produced over 21 million tons of iron ore for the great steel mills of the Midwest. After the tour, enjoy a traditional Cornish pasty

## **SOUTHERN CHARM . . . SAVANNAH AND CHARLESTON**

### **Suggested tour length is 6 or 7 days**

Charleston is the second largest city in South Carolina and originally was called Charles Towne, to honor Charles II of England, Scotland & Ireland. Savannah's history goes back to 1733 when it became the first city in the 13th, and final, American colony called "Georgia", named after England's King George II. We have combined popular attractions, historic restaurants and some time on your own to explore to make this a memorable experience. Carriage ride through Historic Charleston. Joseph Manigault House - Built in 1803, this is one of Charleston's most exquisite antebellum structures. USS Yorktown - One of the 24 Essex-class aircraft carriers built during World War II for the United States Navy. Two dinner cruises - One in Charleston and one in Savannah. Trolley Tour of Savannah - Plus time on your own with a trolley hop-on, hop-off pass. Dolphin Cruise - Pass by shrimp boats and boat docks that portray the charm of an old fishing village enroute to seeing a friendly bottle-nosed dolphin. Several Great Meals - At restaurants that give a flavor of the area. Restaurants like the Pirate House, a historic restaurant and tavern established in 1753.



*Scheduled Tour, April 18-22, 2022, for groups unable to fill a bus*

## **ARK ENCOUNTER**

This full-sized replica of Noah's Ark is the largest wooden timber structure in the world. Built as described in the Book of Genesis using the original dimensions, the Ark is 510 feet long, 50 feet tall and 85 feet wide. You will be seeing how Noah and his family may have lived, as well as an "animatronic Noah" who will answer questions. There is plenty of seating throughout the Ark so passengers can rest as needed. Great Day! Tours has designed a variety of options in various price ranges so your group can enjoy this fabulous new attraction.

### **CUSTOMIZE YOUR TWO OR THREE-DAY EXPERIENCE TO INCLUDE SOME OF THE FOLLOWING**

- Noah's Ark Encounter experience (see above)
- Lodging in the Queen City area or at a casino hotel (with meals and a gaming bonus)
- Meals at some great restaurants
- Dinner-cruise on the Ohio River
- Creation Museum - this state-of-the-art museum brings the pages of the Bible to life.
- National Underground Railroad

*Scheduled Tour, June 15-16, October 16-17 and December 7-8, 2021 for groups unable to fill a bus*

## **TRAINS OF NEW ENGLAND**

**Suggested tour length is 8 days**

Spring, Summer or Fall, the scenery in New England is spectacular. This tour features three train rides. The first ride is from the Boston area to Maine. Imagine passing the sandy beaches and rocky coastline as we travel. Your group will enjoy a narrated tour of the coastal villages of Kennebunk and Kennebunkport and stop at a Maine lighthouse. Our second ride travels through some of the most dramatic natural scenery in the East as you travel through spectacular Crawford Notch over what was once the Maine Central Railroad's famed Mountain Division line. Enjoy some of the most dramatic natural scenery in the East as you pass sheer bluffs, steep ravines, cascading brooks and panoramic mountain vistas. As you travel through this terrain, you will appreciate the remarkable engineering achievement constructing this railroad over 140 years ago. Train number three is aboard the world's first mountain climbing cog railway to the summit of Mount Washington (bring your camera for this view).

This tour has so much that it is impossible to list it all in this write-up, so you'll have to contact us for a complete itinerary. In addition to the trains, you tour Rocks Estate, discover the sweet process of creating maple syrup (with a special recipe that dates back to the Native Americans), travel the scenic Kancamagus Highway through the White Mountains of New Hampshire, tour the Mount Washington Resort Hotel (it took 250 craftsmen to build it), Quechee Gorge, maple sugar and cheese farm, visit Woodstock, Norman Rockwell Museum and so much more.

***We have a scheduled-departure fall foliage tour on October 10-17, 2021 for groups unable to fill a bus.***