

Suites in Iowa City and will have an evening reception of food and drinks.

Day 6 (Oct 9): We begin our day with a tour of the Johnson County Poor Farm. Built in 1855, its purpose was care for the poor or mentally ill. Each county in Iowa had its own poor farm and in Johnson County it was on 160 acres on the edge of Iowa City. The early care of the poor and mentally ill was crude by modern standards, reflecting the prevailing attitude that fresh air and work would be good for these “poor unfortunates.” From the earliest days, “inmates” were expected to do

farm chores to the extent of their abilities. Today, the early twentieth century milking barn, a late nineteenth century hay/horse barn, five smaller buildings, the “insane” wing, and the cemetery survive.

Package includes:

- 5 nights lodging with luggage handling
- 5 breakfasts at your hotels, 3 lunch buffets and 2 dinner buffets on the boat, 1 additional lunch, 2 evening Kickback receptions
- 3-day river cruise
- Tours highlighted in this itinerary

Price per person:

Quad occ: \$1020* | Triple occ: \$1075*
Double occ: \$1170* | Single occ: \$1500*

To sign up, send deposit of \$200* per person and the registration by August 20, 2019. Balance is due by October 1. If you prefer to pay by credit card, a 5% convenience fee will be added to your transaction. To pay by credit card, please call toll free at 1-877-250-8857.

In the event that Hart Travel needs to cancel this trip, all payments will be refunded in full.

Contact:

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Presents:

**Riverboat Cruise
 on
 The Spirit of Peoria**



on

October 4-9, 2019

Experience the slower pace of life with peaceful daytime cruising on the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers!

Cruise from Peoria, IL to St. Louis, MO on this relaxing three-day, two-night trip.

Trip includes all-you-can-eat buffet meals—including the chef’s prime rib dinner—and live entertainment, such as singing, guitar, banjo, and ragtime piano, storytelling, calliope playing, historical information, and wildlife sightings.

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Boat Specifications	
Owner	Alex Grieves
Built	1988
Length	160' long
Height	4 decks, 47.5' tall
Weight	Dry weight is about 275 tons
Capacity	Passenger capacity of 385. The boat carries 3500 gallons (13200L) of fuel and 2500 gallons (9500L) of water.
Propulsion	Solely propelled by its 21' diameter paddlewheel; making it one of the few riverboats operating without the aid of any props or thrusters
Steering	7' diameter maple wheel
Average speed	Between 7–10 miles per hour, depending on the current

Peoria to St. Louis Cruise Excursion

Cruise both the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers between Peoria and the "Gateway to the West," St Louis, MO.



Itinerary:

Day 1 (Oct 4): We make our way from Minnesota to Illinois and will spend our first night in Peoria, IL at the Springhill Suites. Our hotel is next door to the Westlake Shopping Center. Tonight you will have a free night to enjoy dinner and shop (if you like).

Day 2 (Oct 5): We begin our river cruise. The boat will take us through both the Peoria and La Grange Locks and Dams. We will stop tonight in in Meredosia, IL and that is where our coach will pick us up and take us to Springfield, IL where we will spend the night at the President Abraham Lincoln Hotel. Our hotel is located just blocks from the Old State Capitol and the site of Abraham Lincoln's law office.

Day 3 (Oct 6): We start our day with a self-guided tour of the President Abraham Lincoln Museum. After opening in 2005, The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library rapidly became the best attended of all the Presidential libraries and one of the most studied new museum in the world. The 200,000 square foot complex,

which includes an Archive, Library and Museum, features public experiences, galleries and theater presentations that are more than 50% larger than any other presidential library.

Next, our coach will take us to back to the riverboat where we cruise to Grafton, IL. This is where the Illinois River meets the Mississippi River. Tonight we will stay at the historic Père Marquette Lodge. The Lodge is located in Pere Marquette State Park, situated 5 miles north of Grafton. It is comprised of 8,050 acres making it Illinois' largest state park.

Day 4 (Oct 7): This is our last day of the cruise and the boat will take us down the Mississippi River from Grafton to St Louis, MO. On our way we will go through the Melvin Price Locks and Dam and the Chain of Rocks Locks and Dam. We dock that afternoon on the Laclede's Landing, just below the Gateway Arch. Our coach will meet us here and we will spend the night at the Drury Plaza Hotel. You will enjoy an evening reception of food and drinks at our hotel. Later that night, you are welcome to



take an evening walk to the Gateway Arch grounds or have a cocktail at a nearby pub.



Day 5 (Oct 8): We will start our day by visiting the Gateway Arch. We will tour the interactive Museum, view the documentary movie, and ride to the top in the tram. Next we will take a short drive to Grant's Farm which was at one time owned by Ulysses S. Grant and prior to that. It is now owned by the Busch family, who owned the Anheuser-Busch Brewing Company for many years until it was sold in 2008. We will find out what it takes for a Clydesdale to make the hitch and become a Budweiser Clydesdale. As well as tour the stables and get an inside look into Clydesdale Operations, including the training and daily maintenance of these iconic horses. You will enjoy and included lunch in The Bauernhof (German for "farmstead"). The Bauernhof was built in 1913. It surrounds a beautiful courtyard typical of a 19th century Bavarian farm, complete with stables, a carriage house, offices, and quarters for those who lived and worked there. Tonight we will spend the night at the Drury Inn and