

## Mighty Mississippi #6 October 3-5, 2019

### Thursday, October 3, 2019

Welcome aboard our sixth Mighty Mississippi tour! We haven't been up the river in quite some time so for this tour we are heading to Minnesota. After our round of pick-ups we travel to Wabasha, MN, to the National Eagle Center. The **National Eagle Center** is home to many bald and golden eagles that cannot survive in the wilderness. Our **included** visit will allow us to see these truly magnificent birds up close.



We will learn many interesting things about the eagles that make their home here. This area of the country is home to many bald eagles that live in the wild. Many choose to build their nests in the tall trees along the river valley. It will be fun to see how many eagles we can count while visiting this awesome place!



What is a size 638 ½ D and stands over 20 feet tall? The answer is the world's largest boot! It is located in Red Wing, MN, and it was made by the Red Wing Shoe Company. We will be stopping at the **Red Wing Shoe Company** to visit their **museum**. The museum is an **included stop** with some hands on things for us to do and also a video to watch to see how the famous footwear is made. Afterwards, we will have a bit of time to check out their store. It is not every day we get the chance to see the world's largest boot so we will gather around to take an awesome group photo.

The **Rock Island Swing Bridge** connected the cities of Inver Grove Heights, MN, with St. Paul Park, MN. The bridge, many years ago, had two levels that allowed cars to travel on the lower deck and trains to travel on the upper deck. After many changes, today the bridge has been turned into a pier that is 670 feet long. At this **included stop** we will walk out to the end of the pier and see the most beautiful view of the majestic Mississippi River.



We continue on to Minneapolis MN, where we will have our **included dinner** at a local restaurant before arriving at our hotel in Mounds View, MN. You will have the evening to enjoy the heated indoor pool, hot tub or relax with friends poolside for an evening of socializing.

### **Friday, October 4, 2019**

Rise and shine to an **included delicious hot breakfast** located in our hotel. We travel this morning to Coon Rapids, MN, to the **Coon Rapids Dam Visitor Center**. Once at the dam we



will have an outdoor tour with a naturalist who will give us a walking history tour of the dam which includes lots of Mississippi River information. We will also have the chance to walk out on the top of the dam. It will be really neat to learn how this dam operates. Be sure to check the weather because we will be outside for the whole **included** tour!

Once back on dry land we will have our **included lunch** at a local fast food restaurant.

Our next **included stop** is to **Mill City Museum**. Here we will learn some history about the flour industry in Minneapolis and find out how the Mississippi River helped their businesses. We will have plenty of time to see the exhibits as well as see a couple of very interesting short films. There is also a scavenger hunt that we can play as we tour the museum. It will be a fun way to learn! At the end of our museum visit we will have some time to visit the gift shop.

This evening we are setting sail on the Mississippi River aboard the **Minneapolis Queen** for an **included cruise and dinner**. We will see the beautiful sights of the Minneapolis area including the stunning 35W Bridge, the beautiful view of St. Anthony Falls, the historic Stone Arch Bridge and the amazing Minneapolis skyline all while dining on a delightful dinner. We return to our hotel late this evening.



### **Saturday, October 5, 2019**

Good morning! Our **included delicious breakfast** is at our hotel. After loading the motorcoach we travel to Otsego, MN, to visit **Nathe's 101 Market**. Nathe's 101 Market is a large greenhouse that changes into a fun fall outing. You will find plenty of **included** things to do such as: winding your way around the corn maze, riding the pedal carts, visiting the pumpkin patch or stopping in at the petting zoo. There is definitely something for everyone to enjoy! We will enjoy our **included lunch** at the 101 Market visiting the local food tents that are set up. Afterwards we start our journey back home dropping off at our usual locations. It has been another wonderful journey exploring another area of the Mighty Mississippi River!

**Activity Level: High**

**Tour Includes:**

**All Attractions**

**All Meals**

**Lodging for Two Nights**

**Motorcoach Transportation**

**Refreshments & Snacks**

**Tour Director and Chaperones**

**Cost: \$680.00 per person; Double Occupancy**

**Pick-up Areas: Spencer, Marshfield, Junction City and Wausau**