

## TRAVEL NEWSLETTER January 2018

# STEP ON BUS TOURS

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### --JANUARY--

**January 19 - Nooks and Crannies of Detroit** — Get an inside look at some of the most prestigious and mindboggling institutions in Detroit! One guaranteed location is the Detroit Opera House. The rest is a secret! Lunch at Andiamo's included. **\$70/person**

### --FEBRUARY--

**February 9 - Treasures of Early Christian Art & The Mummies Two exhibits in one** -- -- Glorious Splendor: Treasures of Early Christian Art --Christian art borrowed heavily from non-Christian traditions in terms of its techniques, media, style and iconography. Glorious Splendor traces these continuities through the most remarkable objects of the period: precious stones, metals and jewelry. The exhibition will feature some 30 masterpieces of Late Roman art, most of which have never been exhibited before in a museum. The Mummies: From Egypt to Toledo In 1906 the founders of the Toledo Museum of Art, the Libbey's visited Egypt, where they purchased a pair of Egyptian mummies as part of a collection of artifacts. Due to conservation issues and ethical considerations surrounding the display of human bodies, these mummies are only occasionally on view. This special installation will trace the history of Egyptian mummies, from their lives and burial rituals in Late Dynasty Egypt to their rediscovery during the Napoleonic era and the resulting Egyptomania for subsequent generations. Lunch will be between exhibits and at the Spaghetti Warehouse **\$78/person**

**February 12 - Paczkis, Pierogis, and Polkas** — Changed from last year ... there will be a few things that will remain the same. Visit Polish churches, the Polish Art Center, and bakeries. Lunch will be bountiful so don't wear tight clothing. There will even be an appearance by the Polish Hussars! Of course, our priest will also put on a fabulous performance again this time. Come with me as we expand this trip to include even more highlights ... it's not just mum's the word, but we've added a whole new side of the experience. There will be plenty of stops for shopping. Lunch is included and an adult beverage tasting. Tour Includes: Roundtrip Motor coach, Meal. **\$70/person**

**February 14 - Valentine's Victorian Tea Party** — Attend an authentic Victorian tea party and learn the ins and outs of 19th-century table manners. You'll never guess where we're going ... not your usual. Lunch is included. **\$65/person**

**February 24 – March 4, 2018 - San Antonio, Padre Island, and the Gulf of Mexico** - COME JOIN THE FUN! This is a 10 day, 9 night tour of all of the history, culture, and natural beauty of the Texas shoreline! Enjoy our luxury Motor coach as we take you down to San Antonio, Corpus Christi, and Padre Island. Includes stops at tourist destinations in Memphis, Little Rock, and Dallas! Our itinerary includes: the beaches of the Gulf of Mexico, a guided tour of San Antonio, a Riverwalk cruise, the Texas State Aquarium, Padre Island National Seashore Park, San Antonio Missions, LBJ Ranch, National Museum of the Pacific War, Institute of Texan Cultures, The Alamo, The Sixth Floor Museum (dedicated to the assassination of John F. Kennedy) and the former home of President Clinton. Includes 6 breakfasts and 6 dinners. **\$800/person. \$255 single supplement – The trip is a go and there is still time to register.**

### --MARCH--

**March 16 -- St. Patrick's Day in the D** -- Corn beef & cabbage, Irish store, Irish bar (or 2), tour of Irish church. Cool places. **\$65/person**

**March 16 – Virtuoso Pianists** – Extraordinary Detroit Performance. 13 year-old prodigy Naomi Yamaguchi winner of the Kaufman International Piano Competition in NY. Along with the Mack Sisters, duo pianists extraordinaire", says the Detroit Free Press. Featured works include Scarlatti, Chopin, Dvorak, Smetana, with a surprise six-hands selection as dessert. Tickets must be purchased by March 1. Heavy dinner prior to concert. **Cost \$80/person**

**--APRIL--**

**April 9 -- Kiss me I'm Russian!** -- Look forward to lunch. Paprikash -- Shredded chicken stew with sweet bell peppers, paprika, and onions in a white-wine cream sauce, served over egg noodles. Or Russian Placek (potato pancake) with sour cream, red caviar, and dill and other specialties taste delicious. Of course, there's a stop at a Russian Market. Visit an absolutely stunning Russian Orthodox Church with our docent who is very knowledgeable. A wonderful short talk about Russian today and a stop at the Bookstore. Not in Detroit. **\$68/person**

**April 11 - Vera Bradley Annual Sale** -- Join us as we travel to Fort Wayne, Indiana to attend Vera Bradley's Annual Sale! Get the best deals on all products. We reserved 2 buses, half of which are already sold out! Put down your \$20 non-refundable deposit to reserve a space today. **\$85/person**

**April 18 -- Resale Shopping** -- 3 Resale shops, 1 Salvation Army (M-59), 1 Goodwill. Lunch in a restaurant -- **\$55/person**

**April 28 -- Historic Homes On The Market** -- Tour 5-7 historic homes that have been refurbished, restored, redone in Detroit neighborhoods. Unusual features. Great neighborhoods. Each home has its own personality. History lovers, home buyers and anyone interested in seeing these beautiful gems. **\$45/person.**

**--MAY--**

**May 4 -- Cinco de Mayo** -- Mexicantown of Southwest Detroit has changed and there are more places to explore. Join us as we fill up in a bakery, hear about the culture in a brief talk, tour the streets, and enjoy a filling lunch at a little known Mexican restaurant. Church & cemetery included as well as a local grocery store. **\$65/person**

**May 5 -- Tea & Scones in Historic B&B** -- Treat mom, or yourself, for a tea service at a fabulous urban bed & breakfast in the "D". This is a wonderful combination of exploring the history of a very historic street where you can enjoy a wonderful meal. There'll be a stop at the Eastern Market. The Mimosas are on your own. We look forward to a fabulous Saturday together. **\$75/person**

**May 10 - Tulip Time in Holland MI** -- Always so much to see and do. Includes visiting a group of clog dancers, Windmill Farms where there are fields of endless tulips. Be a part of the tastes, sights, sounds, and crafts of 19th Century Holland at the 2017 Dutch Marktplaats. Enjoy stage events including Dutch Dance performances, wooden shoe carving demonstrations. **\$90/person**

**May 15 -- Quilting with Elaine & Her Amish Friends** -- Can you imagine!!! There's shopping for fabrics, household goods, food and other items in Shipshewana and Middlebury and then meet with Elaine and do quilt with her Amish friends for 2 hours. Enjoy a groaning board lunch. Learn a thing or two at the quilting bee just for us. Doesn't matter if you quilt or sew or not. It's so interesting to hear about their lives. Her house has a large quilt rack set up along with plenty of chairs for each of us. If quilting isn't your thing, you'll want to meet up with Josh and hear all about his horses. This is such a cool glimpse into a single family home, barn and property. A local Amish Guide to enhance your travel. Your guide will entertain your group with fun facts, local history and an introduction to the Amish culture. **\$95/person**

**May 31 -- Historic Orthodox Churches of Detroit** -- Greek, Serbian and Romanian tells the stories of the eastern immigrants and the beautiful churches they built. There'll be a guide at each house of worship. The Orthodox Church in this country owes its origin to the devotion of so many immigrants from lands such as Greece, Russia, the Middle East, and the Balkans. In the great wave of immigrants in the 19th and 20th centuries, Orthodox Christians from many lands and cultures came to America in search of freedom and opportunity. Like the first Apostles, they carried with them a precious heritage and gift. To the New World they brought the ancient faith of the Orthodox Church. **\$65/person**

**--JUNE--**

**June 7 -- Mystery Tour** -- Clue. No casinos. Maybe a little food tasting. Maybe something behind the scenes. You'll be surprised and say: oh -- I never knew. **\$65/person**

**June 13 -- Jefferson Jaunt** -- Jefferson Avenue is a 63.71-mile-long (102.53 km) scenic road along the eastern part of the Detroit metropolitan area in the southeastern part of the U.S. state of Michigan. It travels alongside Lake Erie, the Detroit River, and Lake St. Clair. This road also provides access to many recreational facilities in the area. West Jefferson Avenue is primarily a commercial, while East Jefferson Avenue contains a historic residential district. Visit bakeries, restaurants, unique coffee shops, tour 2 local businesses. Have a neighborhood home tour. **\$65/person**

**--JULY--**

**July 12 -- The Wyandotte Street Art Fair** is one of the nation's finest art fairs. The fair will feature over 300 artists, entertainers, local businesses, exhibitors and food vendors, creating a wide variety that people of all ages can enjoy. The jury selected fine artists representing 30 states and Canada, will display their works in special booths. It takes place right off the Detroit River on the streets of downtown Wyandotte. A colorful, fun filled experience walking down streets filled with artists displaying their works. Sculptures in wood and metals, pictures, jewelry, wooden toys and puzzles. Also features musicians, bands, food, drinks, and ice cream. **\$35/person**

**July 18 -Saugatuck** — In Saugatuck, you can stroll along the boardwalk admiring the boats and explore the dockside shops. We'll experience a Dune Buggy ride for about 45 minutes in an open air truck. Your guide stops along the way and tells you fun 7 interesting facts about the area. At the top of the dunes, you'll be able to take some photos and may even see wild turkeys. The final destination point will be at the corner drug store soda fountain where hand creamed sodas and malted shakes have been a specialty for 86 years! Exit the bus here and enjoy shopping in the fabulous downtown area. There's lots of fun for all. **\$95/person**

**July 20 - Quilts, Quakers & Questors** — History buffs will have the opportunity to get an inside look at Michigan's role in the Civil War and its celebrated contributions to the Underground Railroad. Did you know that abolitionist Sojourner Truth's final resting place is located in southwest Michigan? See monuments dedicated to Truth's life and the lives of other abolitionists as well as historical homes connected to the Underground Railroad. The Nathan Turner house in Schoolcraft, a stop on the tour, hid over 1,000 slaves during the Civil War. Travelers will also visit Ramptown, a "vanished" settlement of freedmen. **\$75/person**

**--AUGUST--**

**Aug 22 -- Wine Trail Tour** -- Hold the stem of the glass, sniff and savor -- sounds easy but never is to identify which wine is this or that. This time, you'll learn for sure and have fun with the others. Visit 3 wineries, one store that has the appropriate appetizers to go along with choice wine. Lunch is included. Each winery has a unique presentation. Great guide tells us about the region. Always fun. **\$85/person**

**--SEPTEMBER--**

**September 7-11 - Washington DC** — Visit the Nation's Capital on this completely guided tour. See monuments, memorials and museums! Includes George Washington's Mount Vernon and a train ride through Arlington Cemetery. Includes motor coach transportation, 4 nights lodging and 8 meals. **\$625/person, \$255 single supplement**

**Nov 6 - 16 - Madrid & Costa del Sol, Spain** -- Soak up the sun on the sandy beaches of the Mediterranean • Marvel at the architecture of the Cathedral of Seville, third largest in the world • Enjoy the Giralda, built originally in the 12th century • See the Alcazar Royal Palace, a UNESCO World Heritage site • The Santa Cruz Jewish quarter • Visit Ronda, one of the loveliest and most historic towns in Andalucía • Learn about Bullfighting history while exploring Plaza de Toros, the oldest bullring in Spain • Scenic ferry trip to Tangier in Morocco • Visit the continent of Africa • The views of the Mediterranean, Spain and Morocco from the Rock of Gibraltar • Visit famous citadel and Alhambra Palace in Granada, a UNESCO World Heritage site • The Generalife gardens, a green paradise constructed for Nazarite kings and queens • Discover Mijas, a beautifully preserved Andalusian village • Experience majestic Madrid with its magnificent monuments such as, Neptune and Cibeles fountains, the Alcazar Gate, the Plaza de España & the Royal Palace, the lavish site of royal events **\$3,548 (ask for our flyer for more details)**

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