

AMERICAN QUEEN STEAMBOAT COMPANY'S ST. LOUIS (ALTON, IL) - MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL ITINERARY

FALL IN LOVE WITH THE HEARTLAND - There's no better place to begin a journey through America's Heartland than lively St. Louis, "The Gateway City." From its founding in 1764 to the 1904 World's Fair, the Spirit of St. Louis and Miles Davis, this beautiful city has an abundance of intriguing history to explore. On your voyage, discover the true inspiration behind Mark Twain's beloved American classics in his hometown of Hannibal. These treasured stories come to life as you take a leisurely stroll through the properties and learn of their literary significance. America's Heartland is full of surprises that will undoubtedly leave a lasting impression.

Theme:

- Fall Colors

Itinerary

Day 1: Hotel Stay - St. Louis



Your journey begins with a deluxe hotel stay in St. Louis. Tomorrow you will board the *American Queen*.

Day 2: Alton, IL



Departure 9:00 PM

Explore St. Louis at your leisure or consider a pre-cruise Premium Shore Excursion with afternoon transfer to the *American Queen*.

Day 3: Scenic River Cruising



Enjoy the sights and sounds of river cruising as you spend a leisurely day onboard.

Day 4: Hannibal, MO



Board the Twainland Express for a journey enlivened by the spirit of Samuel Clemens, who authored American classics under the pen name of Mark Twain. Stroll through the Museum Complex, explore the famous Cave and watch as your guide points out scenes from famous tales.

Included Hop-on Hop-off Tour:

This tour is all about exploring Hannibal through the eyes of Samuel Clemens; known as “Mark Twain.” Experience the stories created by Twain through the power of a youthful imagination and experience the real-life “Adventures of Tom Sawyer.” We’ll begin with a journey back in time to the Golden Age of railroading at the **Big River Train Town**. Then, we’ll visit the place where the stories all started. Discover how a young boy growing up in this small village along the banks of the Mississippi would become the world’s most beloved author. At **The Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum** we’ll learn everything that we need to know about this literary icon.

After a stop at the Sanctuary of the **Trinity Episcopal Church**, we will visit **The Cave Hollow Complex**. Here you can indulge in a tasting at the winery or explore the cave where Tom and Becky were lost in the Adventures of Tom Sawyer. Last but not least, we’ll stop at Historic Main Street which offers over 50 shopping stores, restaurants, historic buildings and finally, a stop at the **Hannibal History Museum**.

Day 5: Scenic River Cruising



Enjoy the sights and sounds of river cruising as the you spend a leisurely day onboard.

Day 6: Dubuque, IA



The flags of five nations have flown over a city that lives and breathes river lore. Take in its diverse flavors from Cable Car Square to the Smithsonian-affiliated National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium.

Included Hop-on Hop-off Tour:

We'll begin with a drive by the **Shot Tower**, a seven story structure built to produce lead shots for the civil war. Then, we will bask in the beauty of light filtered through 101 Tiffany stained glass windows at **St. Luke's United Methodist Church**. Next on the tour is the **Dubuque's Museum of Art**, where we will discover the third largest collections of Grant Wood art in Iowa. We'll stop at **The Fenelon Place Elevator** where we can enjoy a bluff-top view of the Mississippi River and downtown Dubuque. Hop-off at 2nd & Main Street at **The Hotel Julien** for some shopping, spas, and beauty salons before we will visit the oldest and most "grand" of more than 16 legitimate theaters which served the community; the **Grand Opera House**. Lastly we will visit the **Dubuque County Jail**, which once housed the Notorious Butch Cassidy who was detained there on suspect of a local bank robbery. The **Old Jail Museum & Dubuque County Courthouse** is an example in Egyptian Revival style and is only one of three of its kind still standing today.

Day 7: La Crosse, WI



This gem of Victorian and Art Deco architecture with an inviting Riverwalk is your gateway to local culture.

Included Hop-on Hop-off Tour:

Board our deluxe Hop On- Hop Off motorcoach at the Riverside Park dock and enjoy a narrated tour of charming downtown La Crosse. First stop is the **Dahl Auto Museum** where we can view antique cars and learn about the Ford Motor Company and its five generations of history through their automotive journey since 1911. Then we will visit the **Chapels of St. Rose**; discover a variety of exhibits, from Prehistoric times to the 20th century, surrounding the history of La Crosse at the **Swarthout Museum**. Then, enjoy a view of the **Hixon House**, a Victorian style home beautifully restored from the late 1850's. Last stop is the Riverside Museum and Riverside International Friendship Garden. Visit the **Riverside Museum** to enjoy exhibits that explore the chronological history of La Crosse and the **Riverside International Friendship Garden**; a place of beauty that reflects an appreciation for the diverse cultures that share the earth. Here, you'll find gardens to represent six different nations from around the world.

Day 8: Red Wing, MN



Red Wing is home to a variety of shops, including arts, antiques, pottery and one-of-a kind boutiques. Red Wing ranks as one of Minnesota's leading manufacturing cities. Historically it is known as home to products including shoes, pottery and linseed oil. Today it also produces safety and robotic products.

Included Hop-On Hop-Off Tour:

Start our narrated tour of Minnesota's favorite destination at the **Pottery Place District**. Here guests will find antiques, gift shops and eateries. Watch and interact with potters at work in the pottery studio of the **Red Wing Pottery Salesroom** as they wheel-throw and decorate their own pottery. Then we will visit the **Sheldon Theatre**; the country's first city-owned theatre, which showcases the best in arts and entertainment from Minnesota's heartland and beyond. Next, we'll stop at Walgreens, where guests can stock up on necessary essentials. Then we're off to **Bush & Main Street's Shopping District**, the perfect area for some last minute shopping or to grab a snack. Some must-see places at this stop include the St. James Hotel, the Native-American Store, UFFDA shops, and more. Our last stop at **Red Wing Visitor Center and Art Association** exhibits local artwork and shops.

Day 9: Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN



Arrival 8:00 AM

Disembark in the Twin Cities surrounded by skyscrapers, bridges and the first of many Mississippi River locks and dams.

For more information, visit www.americanqueensteamboatcompany.com.