

Holiday Extravaganza in Grand Central USA!

Day 1 - St Louis



Arrive in St Louis and begin with a tour of the **Old Courthouse**, the 25 foot Christmas tree is always a focal point during the holidays. Check into a hotel of your choice before dinner at one of St Louis many restaurants. This evening visit **Tilles Park** to find a winter wonderland decorated with hundreds of lights and holiday displays. Sit back and enjoy this spectacular display as we drive thru the park. Overnight St Louis, MO.

<u>Day 2 – St Louis – Defiance – St Charles – St Louis</u>

After breakfast we depart for the **Missouri Botanical Gardens** for their special Holiday displays such as wreath exhibitions; a Holiday flower and train show, and Henry Shaw's Victorian country home decked out for the season. Then a guided tour of **St. Louis' Union Station** showcases this magnificent station that remains one of our nation's architectural gems. Enjoy

Boone's Home & Boonesville Village. This Missouri frontier village includes a one room school, church, general store, gristmill, farmstead, dressmaker's shop and much more. See holiday decorations typical of the early 1800's as you tour Boone's home and the village. Check the calendar of events for historic St. Charles to find out what special event will be happening during St. Charles Christmas Traditions. Spend the evening amid Holiday festivities which include carolers, costumed Santas from around the world, Santa's Train Land, and much more. After time for dinner and shopping amid the Holiday festivities in Historic St. Charles we will return to our hotel in St. Louis for our second night in the Gateway City.



Day 3 - St Louis MO- Independence MO - Kansas City

This morning enjoy breakfast at the hotel before saying good bye to St. Louis and heading west across Missouri to Independence, MO. Here we will enjoy lunch in the Carriage House of the **Bingham Wagner Estate** before touring this historical home decorated for the holidays. Then

we tour another house from the 1800's, this one was built by a local entrepreneur and US Mail contractor Harvey Merrick Vaile. We find the 30-rooms of the **Vaile Mansion** decorated with



hand-painted murals, whimsical detailing and holiday decorations. Check into one of Kansas City's hotels before our evening which begins with dinner and a guided tour of the lights on the Plaza. With over 80 miles of lights Kansas City's **Country Club Plaza** is a spectacular magical holiday display. Overnight Kansas City area.

Day 4 – Kansas City

Our first stop this morning after breakfast is the **Liberty Memorial** towering 250 feet above a hill top in Kansas City and home to the **National World War I Museum**. The museum features highly interactive technology to bring history to life. Next, visit Kansas City's **Union Station**

and experience the KC Rail with a journey thru the exciting history of the American railroad with sights and sounds from the golden age of rail travel. At the **Hallmark Visitors Center** we learn the Hallmark story, from J.C. Hall's humble beginning in 1910 to the creation of the world's largest greeting card company. Among the exhibits is the collection of 17 unique Christmas trees created and decorated by Hallmark employees. See a demonstration of hot-foil stamping and the process of die-cutting used in the manufacturing of Hallmark cards. Enjoy time at Crown Plaza home of the Mayor's Christmas Tree with time for shopping and dinner. Then select a performance at one Kansas City's theaters for an evening full of drama or song and dance. Overnight Kansas City area.



Day 5 – Kansas City – Bartlesville OK

Begin the day with breakfast at the hotel before departing Kansas City and traveling to Bartlesville in Northeast Oklahoma. This afternoon visit **Keepsake Candle** and watch candles being made from molds of antique glassware and other unique designs. The Keepsake store also features many Made in Oklahoma products in the store as coffee, teas, specialty food mixes, and soap and bath products along with their collection of scented candles. Next, visit the **Frank Phillips Home**, a 26 room Neo-Classical mansion built by the co-founder of Phillips Petroleum.



Hear stories of the Phillips as we tour the mansion decorated for the holidays. Shop for another "Made in Oklahoma" product at **Red Dirt Soap** where specialty soaps have been manufactured for over 10 years. Enjoy dinner at a restaurant of your choice before driving thru the **Fantasyland of Lights** where thousands of twinkling lights light up larger than life animated displays for the holiday season. Overnight in Bartlesville, OK.

Day 6 - Bartlesville OK - Eureka Springs AR

Enjoy breakfast this morning before departing Oklahoma for Eureka Springs, AR. We arrive in Eureka Springs for lunch and shopping in historic downtown Eureka Springs. Explore the many

shops **downtown**, with everything from antiques, art, boutiques, jewelry, candy, quilts, or Ozark souvenirs. Then visit

Thorncrown Chapel, a 48-foot tall glass chapel that blends into the natural beauty of the Ozark woods. Check into one of Eureka Springs hotels with time to freshen up before dinner. Then enjoy a Christmas show this evening at one of Eureka Spring's theaters or check the calendar for special holiday presentations at **The Passion Play**.



Day 7 - Eureka Springs - Branson



After breakfast at the hotel depart Eureka Springs for Branson where the morning is filled with free time for shopping at one of Branson's outlets, or Old Downtown, or Branson's newest shopping venue **The Landing**. Check into one of Branson's hotels before an evening full of song, dance, and comedy at one of Branson's theaters then enjoy a drive thru the streets of Branson blanketed with holiday decorations and lights. Overnight Branson, MO.

<u>Day 8 – Branson</u>

This morning select one of the morning shows for more holiday entertainment then spend the afternoon with more shopping, a matinee show, or visit a museum of your choice. With over 100 shows there is plenty to choose from for the evening's holiday entertainment. Overnight Branson, MO.



<u>Day 9 – Branson MO – St Louis MO</u>

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before departing Branson and heading home with many wonderful holiday memories in Grand Central USA!



Holiday Extravaganza in Grand Central USA!

Day 1 - St Louis

3:00 pm – Arrive in St Louis – Old Courthouse

4:30 pm - Check into hotel

Dinner

Evening – Tilles Park Christmas Lights

Overnight St Louis MO

<u>Day 2 – St Louis – Defiance – St Charles – St Louis</u>

Breakfast at hotel

8:30 am – Depart hotel

9:00 am – Missouri Botanical Gardens w/Christmas Display

10:30 am – Depart

11:00 am – Union Station tour of station and free time for lunch and shopping

1:00 pm - Depart

2:00 pm – Daniel Boone Home & Boonesville Village

3:30 pm – Depart for St Charles –

4:30 pm – Arrive St Charles – City tour – CHECK CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Evening – St Charles

Overnight St Louis MO

Day 3 – St Louis MO– Independence MO - Kansas City

Breakfast at hotel

8:00 am – Depart hotel

12:30 pm – Arrive Independence MO – Lunch and tour Bingham Wagner House

2:30 pm – Depart

3:00 pm – Vaile Mansion

4:30 pm – Depart

5:00 pm - Check into hotel

Dinner at restaurant of your choice

7:00 pm – Kansas City Christmas Lights w/guide

Overnight Kansas City

Day 4 – Kansas City

Breakfast at the hotel

9:00 am – Depart

9:30 am – National World War I Museum

11:15 am – Depart

11:30 am – Union Station – lunch on own

1:30 pm – Depart

2:00 pm – Hallmark Visitors Center

3:30 pm – Free Time Crown Plaza

5:00 pm – Dinner at Crown Plaza

Evening – Dinner and Show of choice

Overnight Kansas City

<u>Day 5 – Kansas City – Bartlesville OK</u>

Breakfast at hotel

8:00 am – Depart

Noon – Arrive Bartlesville – lunch on your own

1:30 pm – Keepsake Candle

3:00 pm – Frank Phillips Home

4:45 pm – Red Dirt Soap

6:00 pm – Dinner included

7:00 pm – Fantasyland of Lights

Overnight Bartlesville

<u>Day 6 – Bartlesville OK – Eureka Springs AR</u>

Breakfast at hotel

8:00 am – Depart

Noon – Arrive Eureka Springs – Lunch on own downtown – shopping

3:00 pm – Thorncrown Chapel

4:00 pm – Check into hotel

5:30 pm – Dinner included

Evening Show of choice

Overnight Eureka Springs AR

<u>Day 7 – Eureka Springs - Branson</u>

Breakfast at hotel

8:00 am – Depart

10:00 am – Arrive Branson – Free time at the Landing – shopping and lunch on your own

Matinee Show

Dinner

Evening Show

Overnight Branson MO

<u>Day 8 – Branson</u>

Breakfast at hotel

9:00 am – Depart hotel

Morning Show Aftn – Lunch, Shopping, Winery Tour Dinner Evening Show Overnight Branson MO

<u>Day 9 – Branson MO – St Louis MO</u> Breakfast at hotel

Breakfast at hotel 8:00 am – Depart Branson Noon – Arrive back in St Louis