

## Traveling Bearkats presents

# MACKINAC ISLAND, THE GRAND HOTEL & NIAGARA FALLS

## 8 Days October 9-16, 2026





#### Dear Alumni & Friends,

Immerse yourself with unique and captivating experiences, each contributing to the cultural tapestry and natural beauty of the Great Lakes region. Whether you're seeking the charm of a car-free island, the opulence of a historic hotel, the grandeur of a natural wonder, or a deep dive into American history and innovation, this tour has something to offer every traveler. Begin your journey with visits to the River Rouge Plant, the Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, all located in Dearborn, Michigan. The River Rouge Plant is an industrial landmark and was once the largest integrated factory complex in the world. It played a significant role in the American automotive industry's history. The Henry Ford Museum is a captivating attraction that celebrates American innovation and history with an extensive collection of historic artifacts, including automobiles, aviation exhibits, presidential limousines, and much more.

The following days will be highlights as we explore the Jewel of Michigan, Mackinac Island, for a two-night stay at the Grand Hotel. This historic hotel opened in 1887. It is renowned for its world-class service, exquisite architecture, and breathtaking views of the Straits of Mackinac along its iconic front porch, all while offering a glimpse into a bygone era. Explore the island on a horse-drawn carriage tour to see stunning natural beauty, rugged cliffs, views of the Great Lakes, and Victorian architecture. A free afternoon allows time to sample fudge and browse the shops along Main Street. Sightseeing of Michigan continues as you cross the Mighty Mac suspension bridge and travel to the charming town of Frankenmuth. Here you'll find a city with old-world charm known as "Michigan's Little Bavaria," Stroll the quaint streets with half-timbered buildings and savor delicious German cuisine. Shop for unique gifts and souvenirs and experience the world's largest Christmas store at Bronner's Christmas Wonderland.

Finish this vacation with two nights in Niagara Falls, Canada, where you'll see and tour the awe-inspiring, massive waterfalls on the Niagara River. Explore the quaint town of Niagara-on-the-lake and experience the falls up close on a Niagara Falls Cruise. Learn about the natural wonders of the area with a unique experience descending 125 below the falls at the Journey Behind the Falls then feel the power the mighty rapids of the Niagara River at White Water Walk. The final evening features a Farewell Dinner at the top of Skylon Tower in the revolving restaurant overlooking the falls.

Consider joining us on this extraordinary vacation which includes airfare. Reserve your seat today!

Cheers,

Charlie Vienne

Charlie Vienne Associate VP for Alumni Relations & Annual Giving Executive Director of the SHSU Alumni Association







## 8 Days October 9-16, 2026

## Highlights

- •2 Nights at the Grand Hotel
- 2 Nights in Niagara Falls
- Henry Ford Museum
- Horse Drawn Carriage on Mackinac Island
- Niagara Falls Cruise
- Niagara Falls Area Tour
- Niagara-on-the-Lake
- River Rouge Truck Plant
- Skylon Tower Dinner at Niagara Falls
- •Bavarian town of Frankenmuth, MI
- Ferry ride to Mackinac Island
- Journey Behind the Falls
- White Water Walk
- Greenfield Village\*

#### Inclusions

- Roundtrip Airfare IAH\*\*
- •7 Nights First Class Hotels
- Sightseeing per Itinerary
- Admissions per Itinerary
- •11 Meals: 7-Breakfasts & 4-Dinners
- •Two Beer & Wine Receptions
- Hotel Transfers
- Professional Tour Director
- Motorcoach Transportation
- Baggage Handling at Hotels

#### Accommodations

- 7 Nights First Class Hotels
- •2 Nights Doubletree by Hilton, Dearborn
- •2 Nights Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island
- •1 Night Drury Inn & Suites or Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth
- •2 Nights Marriott on the Falls, Doubletree or Sheraton on the Falls, Niagara Falls
- On some dates alternate hotels may be used

## Tour Rates

Booking Discount\*: Regular Rate: Single Supplement: \$4399 pp double \$4499 pp double +\$1000







\*See Reservation Info for Booking Discount details

\*Other gateways are available. For more information and pricing, please call Premier World Discovery at 877-953-8687.

## DAY 1: ARRIVE DETROIT

Upon arrival in Detroit, meet your Tour Director and transfer to your hotel in Dearborn for a two-night stay. Dinner is included this evening.

(D) Overnight: Dearborn

## DAY 2: FORD FACTORY & VILLAGE

This morning, visit the famous **River Rouge Plant**, a modern marvel of 21st century manufacturing where Ford F-150 trucks are built. Then, visit the **Henry Ford Museum**, known as the greatest auto collection documenting the American experience. See the Rosa Parks bus, the chair in which Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, the limousine where President Kennedy was shot, and much more. Also, visit **Greenfield Village\***, established by Henry Ford in 1929 as a living history museum to celebrate the American spirit from pioneer days to modern times. Tonight enjoy a **Welcome Dinner** with your fellow travelers.

(B,D) Overnight: **Dearborn** 

### DAY 3: DEARBORN - MACKINAC ISLAND

Today, journey north to **Mackinac Island**. Your adventure begins with a 16-minute ferry ride in the shadow of the Mackinac Bridge. You'll be greeted with the sights and sounds of the Victorian era, where transportation was by horse drawn carriage or bicycle. Step back in time for two nights at **The Grand Hotel**, Mackinac's finest & most famous resort property. The Grand Hotel provides an elegant dining experience for dinner this evening.

(B,D) Overnight: Mackinac Island

#### DAY 4: MACKINAC ISLAND CARRIAGE RIDE - TIME AT LEISURE

Begin today with a **Horse Drawn Carriage Tour** of Mackinac Island. Your private carriage will take you on a scenic tour of the famous West Bluff Victorian homes. Enjoy a free afternoon to explore the quaint town and more of the island. This ideal vacation spot is a paradise of exploration with incredible natural landmarks, unique shopping, diverse dining and famous fudge!

🛞 (B)

### Overnight: Mackinac Island

#### DAY 5: MACKINAC TO FRANKENMUTH

After breakfast, ride the ferry back to the mainland. Cross the Mighty Mac, one of the world's longest suspension bridges, and later arrive in **Frankenmuth**. Enjoy this small city settled by Germans from the Bavarian region. The streets are lined with Bavarian style shops including Bronner's Christmas Wonderland and Frankenmuth Riverplace.

(B) Overnight: Frankenmuth

## DAY 6: FRANKENMUTH - NIAGARA FALLS

Motorcoach into Ontario, Canada<sup>\*\*</sup>, and drive east to **Niagara Falls**, one of the natural wonders of the world. Enjoy the unique **Journey Behind the Falls** experience where you descend 125-feet and explore 130-year-old tunnels carved through the bedrock. Feel the thunderous vibration of the Horseshoe Falls before arriving at the observation deck for an up close and possibly wet view of the falls. Later check into your hotel for two nights in Niagara Falls.

🛞 (В) С

### Overnight: Niagara Falls

## DAY 7: NIAGARA FALLS AREA

A full day of incredible Niagara Falls Area Sightseeing awaits as you drive the scenic Niagara Parkway with stops at the Hydro Floral Clock and a visit the quaint town of Niagara-on-the-Lake which sits on Lake Ontario at the mouth of the Niagara River. Stop to experience the White Water Walk which offers a first-hand lesson the Niagara River's whitewater rapids. Walk on a quarter-mile boardwalk with incredible views that will take your breath away! Later experience the legendary Niagara Falls Boat Tour for an up close encounter with the aweinspiring thundering falls. Other than the falls themselves the boat excursion is the most famous attraction in the area. The Niagara Falls were created by glacier activity over 10,000 years ago, and the 3 waterfalls combine to produce the highest flow rate of any waterfall on earth. Tonight enjoy a Farewell Dinner at the world-famous revolving Skylon Tower which combines an exhilarating 52 second ride with the awe of seeing Niagara from 775 feet above the mighty Falls.

(B,D) Overnight: Niagara Falls

## DAY 8: NIAGARA FALLS - TORONTO - FLY HOME

This morning travel to the Toronto airport for your flight home. 🛞 (B)

\*On some departures, an alternate venue will replace Greenfield Village due to seasonal closures. \*\*Valid U.S. Passport required for this tour.



#### **Reservation Information**

DEPOSIT & FINAL PAYMENT

Deposit of \$400 per person is due with Reservation Form to secure reservations. Final Payment Due Date is 90 days prior to departure.

#### \*BOOKING DISCOUNT

Make your <u>Final Payment by check</u> prior to the Final Payment Due Date & receive **\$200 per couple/\$100 per person Booking Discount!** 

- \*Land Only/Own Air bookings receive \$100 per couple/\$50 per person Booking Discount
- •Initial Deposit can be made by check or credit card to be eligible.
- Payments after Initial Deposit are considered part of Final Payment & must be made by check.

<u>ONLINE BOOKING OPTION</u> - Save time, postage & secure your seat for this group departure. Simply type https://res.premierworlddiscovery.com into your web browser & use the Booking Number (Web Code) from this flyer to make your Deposit online in just a few minutes. No need to submit a Reservation Form if booking online.

Reservation Form Mackinac Island, The Grand Hotel & Niagara Falls October 9-16, 2026 Booking #201774 (Web Code) Make Checks Payable to: Promise World Discovery	Fax, Mail or Email Form to: Sam Houston State University Traveling Bearkats c/o Premier World Discovery 1650 So. Pacific Coast Hwy., Suite 202 Redondo Beach, CA 90277 Phone: 877.953.8687 Fax: 310.372.0637 Email: bookings@pwd.travel Website: https://res.premierworlddiscovery.com
Premier World Discovery	(\$400 per person) to secure reservations for# of people.
Premier's Travel Protection Plan (TPP): (TPP must be	
Yes, I (we) wish to purchase travel protection	
Enclosed find payment in the amount of \$	_(\$399 per person) to secure the Premier's Travel Protection Plan (TPP).
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Email Address	
Emergency Contact/Tel #	
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Signature Required	Today's Date: ce of terms*):
*I (We) agree to pay according to the credit car policy and other terms.	d issuer agreement. I understand and accept the cancellation fees/

#### PREMIER'S TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN (TPP) \$399 per person (must purchase with Initial Deposit)

Part A – Cancellation Waiver provided by PWD

ments, except the Trip Cancellation Waiver Fee itself in case of cancellation up to the time and date of departure due to the passenger's personal illness or death of an immediate family member. Medical/official documentation required.

II. Premier "Any Reason" Cancellation Waiver (ARCW) - Reimburses 75% of the cancellation fees in the form of a future travel credit certificate \*If purchased \*\*Future Travel Credit issued for Deposit or TPP\* value (FTCC) valid for 1 year, if you cancel more than 48 hours prior to scheduled departure for any reason not eligible for cash refund under the TCW RESPONSIBILITY (Part A - I.). FTCC is non-transferable, may not be redeemed for cash Premier World Tours LLC dba Premier World Discovery (hereafter PWD), and does not include any credit for the Trip Cancellation Waiver Fee. The whose vouchers are used by respective agents for the passenger in all Trip Cancellation Waiver Fee must be paid for with Initial Deposit and is matters pertaining to hotel accommodations, sightseeing tours and refundable until 180 days prior to departure. The Trip Cancellation Waiv- transportation, hold themselves free of responsibility for any damages er does not cover any single supplement charges due to an individual's occasioned from any cause whatsoever. PWD will not be responsible traveling companion canceling prior to departure. The Trip Cancellation for any damages or inconvenience caused by late arrivals, departures Waiver is non-transferable and valid for each applicant only. The Trip and change of schedule or other conditions nor will they be responsible Cancellation Waiver does not cover any services such as airline tickets for any act, omission, or event during the time the passenger is not on not purchased through PWD. Cancellations, Refunds & Inquiries under board their conveyance. The passage contract in use by the airline Part A will be handled by PWD. Certain Exclusions and Restrictions apply. concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the Part B - Post Departure Travel Protection Plan\* provided by USI

(\$500); Emergency Accident/Sickness Medical Expense - excess coverage reserves the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member (\$30,000); Emergency Evacuation/Repatriation (\$150,000): Accidental of a tour/cruise at its discretion. PWD &/or its Tour Director retain Death & Dismemberment (\$25,000); Non-Insurance and Emergency Travel Assistance Services\*\* (24/7). Claims & Inquiries under Part B will any time, if determined to be in the best interests of health. safety & be administered by USI

#### For full Part A and Part B plan details visit: premierworlddiscovery. Arbitration - I/We agree, any and all disputes concerning this contract or com/TPP

only. There are certain restrictions, exclusions and limitation that apply to all insurance coverages. Plan benefits, limits and provisions may vary by state jurisdiction.

#### **\*\*NO RISK DEPOSIT - NO CHANGE FEES**

Deposits & TPP payments for any Bookings made for this tour are fully refundable until 180 days prior to departure, should your plans change Air Schedules may not be available until Final Trip Documentation is inside of 180 days you can use the full value (Future Travel Credit\*\*) of received. Airline baggage fees & seat assignment fees are not included your Deposit or TPP on a different program as long as you change plans in tour rates. Many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments or let us know prior to the Final Payment Due Date.

\*\*FTC's are valid for 12 mos from dep date & non-transferable.

#### IMPORTANT CONDITIONS/NOTES

A valid US passport is required for this tour and is the responsibility of each passenger. Passports should be valid for up to six (6) months beyond the travel dates. All names must be submitted to Premier exactly as they appear on passenger passports. US Passport Cards are not accepted for Air Travel to/from Canada. Itinerary and hotels are subject to change.

#### **CANCELLATION FEES\*\***

Cancellations not covered by the Travel Protection Plan (TPP) or if the TPP is not purchased, are subject to the following per person fees: I. Trip Cancellation Waiver (TCW) - Guarantees full refund on all pay- - Cancel more than 180 days prior to departure: Full Refund - Cancel 179-90 days prior to departure: Deposit or TPP\* is Retained\*\* - Cancel 89-60 days prior to departure: 25% of total price - Cancel 59-30 days prior to departure: 50% of total price - Cancel 29-15 days prior to departure: 75% of total price - Cancel 14 days or less prior to departure/no shows: No refunds

airline and the purchaser of this tour/cruise, and/or passenger. PWD Includes coverage for: Trip Interruption (\$1,000); Trip Delay (\$100/ does not hold any responsibility for the conduct of any of its members. Day-Max \$500); Baggage & Personal Effects (\$2,000); Baggage Delay hotel, motorcoach, cruiseline, train, airline or other personnel. PWD the right to require any participant to withdraw from a tour/cruise at general welfare of the tour/cruise group or of the individual participant.

any other material concerning the trip, or the trip itself must be resolved All Benefits described on this page are for general information basis exclusively pursuant to binding arbitration in the state of California. pursuant to the then current rules of the American Arbitration Association. Payment of the deposit for this tour/cruise constitutes acceptance of these terms and conditions. CST #2048841-40

#### AIR NOTE/SEAT REQUESTS/AIRLINE BAG FEES:

until check-in at the airport. If specific seat requests or airline choice is extremely important to your reservation, we recommend you book land only and make your own air reservations. Please make this adjustment to land only/own air at time of tour reservation.





Sam Houston State University Traveling Bearkats PO Box 2022 Huntsville, TX 77341

