

\*\*\* NEW ITINERARY \*\*\*



S.S. BADGER

# GREAT LAKES CIRCLE TOUR

Door County • S.S. Badger • USS Silversides Submarine & Museum • Holland, MI

Visit **Door County**, described as the “Cape Cod of the Midwest”. We will visit the **Maritime Museum** in Sturgeon Bay and discover the region’s rich history.

Enjoy the **Washington Island Ferry** for the five-mile crossing to Washington Island.

The **S.S. Badger** is the largest cross-lake passenger service on the Great Lakes. Enjoy the nostalgic ride on an authentic steamship as we traverse Lake Michigan from Manitowoc to Ludington.

The **USS Silversides Submarine & Museum** in Muskegon is home to the submarine considered the U.S. Navy’s most successful surviving World War II submarine.

**Holland**, nicknamed Tulip City, is perhaps best known for its Dutch heritage. We will visit Nelis’ Village where you can see a Wood Carver demonstrate the making of traditional wooden shoes by hand. Also Delftware making & the VanderWilt Antique Collection.

Day 1..... Chicago to Milwaukee

Day 2..... Door County

Day 3..... Washington Island

Day 4..... S. S. Badger/ Ludington

Day 5..... Muskegon / Holland

Day 6..... En Route to Chicago

# TOUR DATE(S):

2017

Fri., Sept. 29 to Wed., Oct. 4

# TOUR PRICE:

*All prices are per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.*

## \$1,995 - 6 Days

**SINGLE \$2,395**

## YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round-trip transportation by Amtrak rail, ferry, and deluxe motorcoach.
- Coach seating on Amtrak.
- First-class hotel accommodations for five nights.
- Eight meals.
- Sightseeing tours and admissions to all included attractions.
- Baggage handling, taxes & tips.
- Services of a professional America by Rail Tour Director.

## GREAT LAKES CIRCLE TOUR

### Day 1: Depart Chicago

**G**reat Lakes Circle Tour members will arrive in Chicago's Union Station throughout the day. This afternoon we will board Amtrak's Hiawatha Service to Milwaukee.

We will transfer to the DoubleTree by Hilton, our home for the night.

A welcome dinner is included this evening. **D**

### Day 2: Door County

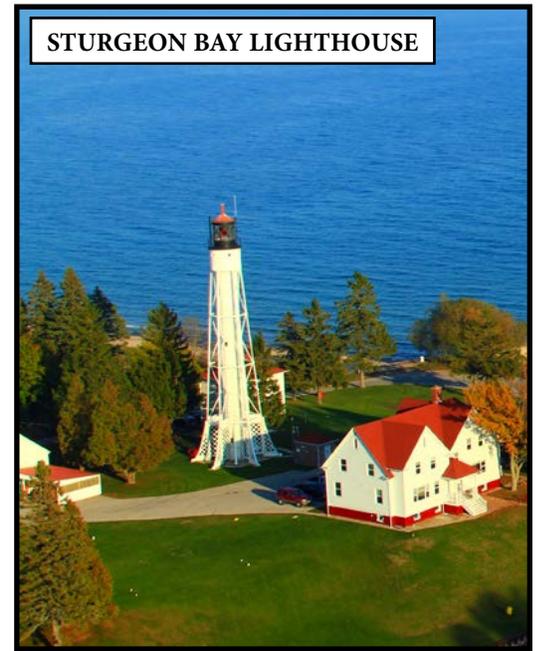
Following breakfast we'll board our deluxe motorcoach and head north to Door County, described as "The Cape Cod of the Midwest". Stretching 75 miles long and 10 miles wide, the Door Peninsula has received countless accolades for its natural scenic beauty and nautical history. In 2013 Fodor's ranked it among the 10 best small towns in America, stating: "Five state parks, 300 miles of shoreline, hundreds of non-chain shops, galleries and restaurants, all amid the beauty of Lake Michigan – need we say more?"

Our first stop will be at the Maritime Museum in Sturgeon Bay where we'll discover the region's rich history. Following an "on-your-own" lunch we will set out on a sightseeing tour of this unique nautical region before checking in to our home for the next two nights, the Bridgeport Resort. Tonight we will enjoy an included dinner at the Door County Fire Company! **B & D**

### Day 3: Washington Island

Following a Continental breakfast we're heading north to the tip of the peninsula where we'll board the Washington Island Ferry for, you guessed it, Washington Island. This five mile crossing where Green Bay and Lake Michigan meet was named Porte des Morts, or "Door of the Dead", by early French explorers (from which Door County and Door Peninsula derive their names).

The island is 5 miles wide by 6 miles long and home to over 600 year-round residents. Among the places we'll visit are the Commercial Fishing Museum, Stave Church, a lavender farm, School House Beach and



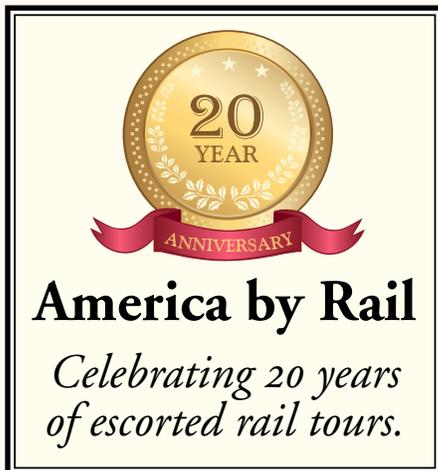
STURGEON BAY LIGHTHOUSE

Nelsen's Hall Bitters Pub. Lunch is included.

This afternoon we'll return to the mainland and visit Seaquist Orchard Market, the Village of Ephraim and Peninsula State Park with a stop at Sven's Bluff. Tonight's included dinner will feature regional fare at Pellitiers. We will return to the Bridgeport Resort for the night. **CB, L & D**

### Day 4: The S.S. Badger, Manitowoc to Ludington

This morning we'll travel to Manitowoc where we'll board the S.S. Badger, the largest cross-lake passenger service on the Great Lakes, and enjoy an authentic steamship experience. The 410 foot ship features outside deck areas, deli-style snack bar, buffet-style dining area, upper deck lounge, aft end lounge, gift shop/ship's store, free quiet room/



AMERICA BY RAIL WILL BE HAPPY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR CONNECTING TRANSPORTATION TO CHICAGO AND BACK BY RAIL OR AIR.



museum, two TV lounges and a movie lounge! Relax on deck during the scenic four-hour, 60-mile cruise across Lake Michigan to Ludington.

Our home for tonight will be the Ludington Comfort Inn.

## Day 5: Muskegon, Silverside Submarine Tour and Museum

Following a Comfort Inn Express Start Breakfast we'll board our motorcoach and head south to Muskegon.

We will visit the USS Silversides Submarine Museum. The mission of the Museum is to honor the men and women of the military, preserve military history and provide experiences that educate the public about past and present military history and technology.

The USS Silversides was commissioned just a few days after the attack on Pearl Harbor and completed 14 combat war patrols during World War II. USS Silversides is officially credited with sinking 23 major Japanese ships (the third highest total for any U.S. Navy



Submarine). Silversides received the Presidential Unit Citation and 12 Battle Stars for her wartime service. Portions of the 1943 film *Destination Tokyo* were inspired by the real-life events which occurred aboard the USS Silversides during the war.

The submarine was decommissioned from active service in 1946 and was moved to Chicago where it was utilized by the U.S. Navy Reserve until 1969. In 1987 she was moved to Muskegon and is maintained in its World War II configuration and is considered the U.S. Navy's most successful surviving World War II submarine. In 1993, the Prohibition-era U.S. Coast Guard Cutter McLane joined the USS Silversides on display at the museum.

Following the tour we will board our motorcoach and travel to the beautiful city of Holland, MI.

An "on-your-own" lunch stop will be made.

We will arrive at Nelis' Dutch Village where you will have the opportunity stroll around the village. There are 30 structures in the Dutch Village, with architecture representing different provinces in the Netherlands. You'll see costumed klompen dancers, street organs, a carousel, carillon bells, heirloom quality gifts and other Dutch treats. You will hear Carillon Bell Music on the hour plus the Westminster Chimes.

You can see a Wood Carver demonstrate the making of traditional wooden shoes by hand. Also Delftware making & the VanderWilt Antique Collection.

There will be Dutch Dancing and De Gouden Engel - Amsterdam Street Organ demonstrations. You may want to try some Dutch Cheese or a Brew.

We will transfer to our home for the night the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Holland.

You are free to continue exploring Holland. You'll love the diverse, first-class shopping and dining - everything from trendy boutiques to upscale clothiers.

A Farewell dinner is included in the hotel. **B & D**

## Day 6: En Route to Chicago

This morning we will board our motorcoach and transfer to the Holland Amtrak Station for the 6:54 a.m. departure of the Pere Marquette for Chicago.

Arrival into Chicago is scheduled for 9:11 a.m.

*"HAVE DONE 17 TOURS WITH YOU AND HAVE BOOKED OUR 18TH, 19TH, 20TH AND 21ST."*

JERRY G.  
MILWAUKEE, WI



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT:

A deposit of \$200 per person, of which \$100 per person is non-refundable, is required to finalize registration. The balance is due 75 days prior to departure. If payments are not received by the due date(s) specified, reservations may be cancelled without notice.

## TOUR CANCELLATIONS:

If cancellation is received by America by Rail more than 75 days prior to departure, \$100 of your deposit will be retained. For cancellations received within 75 days of departure, the following per person cancellation fees apply:

- 46-75 days prior to departure: 25% of total tour cost.
- 15-45 days prior to departure: 50% of total tour cost.
- 14 days or less prior to departure through duration of the tour: 100% of total tour cost.

The total tour cost includes tour price, add-ons and upgrades.

Refunds will be made approximately 30 days after the conclusion of the tour.

Payment / cancellation exceptions are noted on tours. All pricing is per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.

## TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

### TRANSPORTATION

Rail transportation over the tour route and motorcoach, van, or other modes of transportation where specified in the tour.

### TRAIN ACCOMMODATIONS

All tours except those categorized as Coach Class include private Roomette on Amtrak overnight trains and Bedrooms (double occupancy) or Roomettes (single occupancy) on VIA Rail Canada overnight trains.

Bedrooms on Amtrak are available at an additional cost. Reclining coach seats are included on U.S. and Canadian trains used only during the daytime except for those categorized as Coach Class. Coach Class tours include reclining coach seats with leg rests on Amtrak trains. Meals on the trains are included for those traveling Coach Class on the North American tours as indicated in the itinerary.

### HOTELS

Accommodations are based on two persons sharing a room. Two-bedded rooms are provided in most instances. However, sometimes their availability is limited. If a two-bedded room is required, please notify America by Rail at time of registration.

America by Rail reserves the right to substitute hotels for those named in any tour description, when necessary. Every effort is made to have hotel rooms available for occupancy upon arrival. There may be instances when rooms are not available until later.

### SINGLE ROOMS

Single rooms at hotels and Amtrak Roomettes on a single basis are available at a single cost.

### SIGHTSEEING / ADMISSIONS

Sightseeing, as outlined in the itineraries, will be provided by motorcoaches in most instances. Admission fees are included as specified. Sightseeing tour arrangements may be altered if required.

### MEALS

All included meals are listed in the tour itinerary. Persons requiring a special diet must inform America by Rail at the time of registration. Not all restaurants / trains will be able to honor special requests. Due to events beyond our control, trains are sometimes delayed and supplies may become limited. If you have special dietary requirements, please make sure you have a sufficient supply of nourishment to meet your dietary needs.

In the itineraries, the meals are listed at the end of each day using CB for Continental breakfast, B for breakfast, L for lunch, and D for dinner.

### BAGGAGE

For your convenience and to expedite movement, baggage handling is limited to one suitcase per person. Transfer and portage of one suitcase per person is included at

overnight stopovers. On most tours the one suitcase per person is handled by America by Rail and is checked through to the next destination. An overnight bag is used while en route. America by Rail is not responsible for loss or damage to your baggage or for any lost, stolen or destroyed item. Specified transfers between rail stations and hotels are included.

### TOUR DIRECTORS

Services of a qualified America by Rail Tour Director are included for all matters pertaining to the tour. Tour Directors will meet all tour members at the origination city.

### TIPS AND TAXES

All gratuities to hotel staff (except to chambermaids), sightseeing guides and drivers are included. Gratuities for sleeping car attendants and meals aboard the train are included. Gratuities for meals specified in the tour itinerary are included on escorted portions of the tour. Gratuities for cruise ship stateroom stewards and dining waitstaff are included.

### TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Transportation and tips between your home city and the official origination city; charges for excess baggage; health, accident or baggage insurance; tips to chambermaids and for personal services; items of a personal nature such as laundry; meals, except those specified as included; gratuities for special services; charges for room service, and alcoholic beverages with included meals.

Gratuities for the America by Rail Tour Directors are at your discretion; \$3-\$10 per person per day is the industry standard. They should be extended on an individual basis, not as a group.

### RAIL SCHEDULES:

The routing and features described in tour descriptions may be altered to adjust to rail schedules in effect at the time of the tour. America by Rail reserves the right to substitute motorcoach or air travel for unavailable rail schedules, misconnections, delays or other causes.

### TRAVEL DOCUMENTS :

A valid passport will be required for any trip crossing international borders. i.e. into or out of the United States. At time of reservation we will need your date of birth; gender; passport number, passport expiration date and issuing country.

### HEALTH, MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL:

America by Rail will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. Any type of disability requiring special provisions must be reported to America by Rail at the time of registration. America by Rail is not required to provide participants with personal devices, such as wheelchairs or individually prescribed devices such as prescription eyeglasses, or to provide services of a personal nature including assistance in eating, toileting or dressing. Accordingly, all participants are responsible to participate without assistance of the America by Rail Tour Director or other attendant. Tour Directors are prohibited from providing physical assistance or accommodations (beyond normal civil courtesies, such as holding doors open for passing). It is recommended that participants requiring assistance, including those requiring the use of a mobility device, be accompanied by a travel companion who will be responsible to provide required assistance. Participants will be asked to submit a confidential medical form for each tour.

Those travelling with oxygen are required to advise America by Rail at least two weeks prior to departure. Amtrak requires all equipment, including oxygen concentrators, must be able to operate a minimum of four hours without available onboard electrical power (in the event of a power disruption onboard). Oxygen equipment must be Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM) listed. The total weight of all tanks may not exceed 120 lbs. Within this limit, no more than 2

tanks 50 lb each, or no more than 6 tanks 20 lbs each

### SMOKING:

Smoking is not permitted on America by Rail motorcoaches. Those who smoke may do so at any of the frequent stops we make. All Amtrak and VIA Rail trains are entirely smoke-free. If time is available at station stops, it will be announced by the conductor. Cruise ships policies vary from line to line, but all have designated areas to accommodate smokers.

### PLEASE NOTE:

America by Rail reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to accept or retain any individuals as members of the tour. The acceptance of any service provided as part of an America by Rail tour, or any ticket or voucher, shall be deemed to be acceptance of and consent to these conditions.

All rates published herein are in U.S. dollars and based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on the printing date of the tour brochure. Prices and arrangements are subject to change without notice.

No persons, other than a representative of America by Rail, authorized by a document in writing, may vary, add or waive any term or condition set forth in the preceding provisions.

A \$50 per person fee will be assessed for each itinerary alteration requested after final arrangements are confirmed.

It is our company policy to issue a tour roster to all tour participants containing all tour participants' names and addresses. If you do not want your address included, you must let us know at time of reservation.

Times, schedules, entertainment and activities are subject to change without notice.

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING

#### FUEL SUPPLEMENT:

Please be advised America by Rail reserves the right to apply a fuel supplement for all guests should the price of oil warrant it.

#### RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE:

America by Rail acts only in the capacity as an agent for the owners and contractors providing means of transportation, hotel or other services. All tour services, tickets and vouchers are subject to any and all terms and conditions under which such means of transportation, hotel or other services are offered or provided. America by Rail shall not be or become liable or responsible in any way whatsoever, for any loss, injury or damage from acts of God, sickness, theft, weather, strikes, war, or quarantine however caused or arising.

America by Rail reserves the right to cancel a tour in the event tour participation does not meet minimum requirements.

America by Rail shall not be obligated to honor any booking resulting from, nor shall be responsible or liable whatsoever in connection with, misprints or errors of any kind, whether in brochures, advertisements, on the Internet, during the booking process or otherwise, that result in traveler being undercharged for the tour. America by Rail reserves the right, prior to departure, to collect the correct fare or cancel the booking and refund any payment made by traveler.

#### AMTRAK STATEMENT:

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) is not to be held responsible for any act, omissions, or event during the time passengers are not on board their trains or conveyance. The passenger contract in use of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and purchaser of these tours and / or passenger. All conditions are subject to the laws of the District of Columbia, U.S.A.

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