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OMAHA
ABA’s
MARKETPLACE 2020

FAM TOURS | JANUARY 11-14, 2020

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THESE TOURS, PLEASE CONTACT:

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BUFFALO BILL’S RAILS & TRAILS WEST

Scottsbluff, Gering, Harrison, Chadron, Alliance, Bayard, Ogallala, North Platte

To experience western Nebraska is to experience the Old West, and on this tour that’s actually what you’ll do. Step back into the 1950s at Cozad’s Ford Garage and then enjoy a stunning view of the North Platte River Valley from atop the 800-foot Scotts Bluff National Monument. Follow western Nebraska’s agricultural history at Legacy of the Plains Museum before visiting Agate Fossil Beds National Monument to view authentic Miocene fossils and valuable artifacts belonging to Red Cloud, Chief of the Oglala Lakota. We’ll visit the one-of-a-kind Museum of the Fur Trade, the nation’s only museum dedicated solely to the preservation of the fur-trading industry, and the quirky Carhenge, an exact recreation of England’s Stonehenge. Visit the “Cowboy Capital” of Nebraska and experience the true Old West at Front Street before venturing to North Platte to meet Buffalo Bill and his wife Louisa for a guided tour of their stately mansion at Buffalo Bill State Historical Park. Another unique Nebraska attraction is the Golden Spike Tower & Visitor Center where we’ll take in a bird’s eye view of Bailey Yard (the World’s Largest Railroad Classification Yard) from atop the tower’s 8th floor observation deck. An excellently prepared Dutch oven lunch is on the menu at the Lincoln County Historical Museum where we’ll also learn more about the famous North Platte Canteen of WWII.

Flight information: Tour attendees will need to fly into the Western Nebraska Regional Airport in Scottsbluff, NE.

THE GREAT PLATTE RIVER ROAD

Kearney, Grand Island, Hastings, Henderson, York, Lincoln, Ashland

This tour takes us from Nebraska’s Central Flyway region to the state’s capitol and second largest city, Lincoln. Along the way we’ll explore the three-story Archway, a testament to the hardships and determination of the early pioneers. We’ll visit Rowe Sanctuary and Crane Trust Nature Center to learn about the annual spring Sandhill Crane migration when more than 500,000 Sandhill Cranes rest in Nebraska’s Central Flyway. Next on the itinerary is Stuhr Museum of the Prairie Pioneer, one of the top ten living history museums in the country, and Hastings Museum where we’ll explore the Kool-Aid exhibit and learn how it became such a popular drink. Next is the Clayton Museum of Ancient History where we’ll learn about ancient Mesopotamia and Rome, and view an exact reproduction of the Western Wall in Jerusalem (visitors are welcome to write and leave prayers there.) Car and racing enthusiasts will have a great time exploring the 135,000 sq. ft. Museum of American Speed, an impressive museum dedicated to preserving the American automotive industry. At a height of 400 feet, the Nebraska State Capitol Building is one of four skyscraper style capitol buildings in the country and after a guided tour of its chambers, enjoy a bird’s eye view of Lincoln from atop the observation deck on the 15th floor. The International Quilt Study Center displays quilts from around the world, some hundreds of years old. Groups can enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at how experts work to protect and conserve the quilts.

Flight information: Tour attendees will need to fly into either the Grand Island Central Regional Airport or the Kearney Regional Airport.
UNIQUELY NORTHEAST NEBRASKA

La Vista, Fort Calhoun, Tekamah, Bancroft, Stanton, Norfolk, Genoa, Monroe, Columbus, Schuyler

disaster. Established by the federal government, the Genoa Indian School was one of the nation's 16 Indian Boarding Schools. On our visit, we'll hear the stories of the students who called the school home. Next, we'll visit the Horn T Zoo and learn how this family-owned and operated destination works to connect visitors with animals from around the world. Finally, we'll visit the Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum, home to one of the largest collections of Cold War aircraft in the country.

Flight information: Tour attendees will need to fly into Omaha Eppley Airfield.

SAVOR THE FLAVORS

Council Bluffs, Corning, Stanton, Elk Horn, Manning, Le Mars, Honey Creek

A culinary tour featuring French, Swedish, Danish and German cuisine, you'll be immersed in the unique culture and history of the immigrants who settled in small town Iowa. Stops include a French Icarian Village, Swedish Heritage and Cultural Center, the Danish Windmill, VikingHjem, and Manning Hausbarn-Heritage Park. Indulge in award-winning wines, fresh cheeses, breads, spritz cookies, and more – including a visit to the Ice Cream Capital of the World - Le Mars, Iowa! You'll enjoy live entertainment in the historic Brown's Century Theatre and visit a picturesque sheep and goat dairy farm nestled in the rolling Loess Hills.

Flight information: Tour attendees will need to fly into Omaha Eppley Airfield.
HOLLYWOOD IN THE HEARTLAND
Clarinda, Corning, Winterset, Des Moines, Gladbrook, Clear Lake, Mason City, Dyersville, Dubuque, Cedar Rapids

Lights! Camera! Action! Explore Iowa's legacy with the silver screen. From silent films in the early 1900s to today, Iowa's impact in Hollywood is notable. This tour will begin with a visit to the birthplace home of Big Band leader, Glenn Miller. Tour the bridges that inspired the Robert J. Waller novel and major motion picture, The Bridges of Madison County. Visit John Wayne's birthplace and tour the Duke's childhood home. Step back in time and experience the last concert site of Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and J.P. “The Big Bopper” Richardson at the historic Surf Ballroom in Clear Lake. Learn about famous Mason City native Meredith Willson, composer of The Music Man. Visit the famed Bil Baird World of Puppets featuring the marionettes from the film, The Sound of Music. Is this heaven? No, it's Iowa! Discover the Field of Dreams Movie Site - a mecca for lovers of America's favorite pastime, and hear the history of how Hollywood made this Iowa farm so famous.

Departure flight information: Tour attendees should plan to depart from the Eastern Iowa Airport in Cedar Rapids, IA.

IOWA FEEDS THE WORLD
Des Moines, Amana, Quad Cities

Known for having some of the world’s most fertile soil, Iowa plays an important role in feeding the country and the world! On this tour, learn where your food comes from and watch it through the stages of production to your fork. Whether you’re a foodie, an agriculturalist or an interested consumer... this is for you! Since 1986, the World Food Prize has awarded scientists, entrepreneurs, policy makers and farmers for their tireless efforts to combat hunger across the globe. Learn about this evolving work and Norman Borlaug's lifelong passion at the World Food Prize Hall of Laureates & Educational Exhibit. You’ll discover America’s agricultural heritage and learn about modern-day farming practices and technology. Step back from today's busy pace, to relish in the comfort of locally crafted foods, furniture, art and more at the Amana Colonies. Enjoy an authentic field-to-fork experience at local restaurants serving local food made with local ingredients.

Departure flight information: Tour attendees should plan to depart from the Quad City International Airport in Moline, IL.

LAND OF THE PIONEERS
Bellevue, Plattsmouth, Nebraska City, Beatrice, Wymore, Lincoln

We'll start our tour of southeast Nebraska at Offutt Air Force Base, headquarters of the U.S. Strategic Command, Air Force Weather Agency, and the 55th Wing of the Air Combat Command before heading to one of the most haunted museums in the world. The Museum of Shadows houses more than 1,300 verified haunted artifacts, and during tours visitors have said they’ve experienced seeing full figure apparitions, items moving on their own, and children laughing. No visit to southeast Nebraska is complete without a visit to Arbor Day Farm where an experienced Nature Interpreter provides an informative tour of the farm. Arbor Lodge State Historical Park was the home of J. Sterling Morton, founder of Arbor Day. Costumed guides walk groups through rooms filled with authentic furnishings and displays. Homestead National Monument of America offers exceptional exhibits, living history demonstrations, and historical activities that tell the stories of our nation’s early pioneers and homesteaders. We’ll visit the Welsh Heritage Center to hear the interesting stories of the region’s Welsh immigrants before heading to Lincoln for a lunch filled with entertainment at Screamers Dining & Cabaret. At a height of 400 feet, the Nebraska State Capitol Building is one of four skyscraper style capital buildings in the country and after a guided tour of its chambers, enjoy a bird's eye view of Lincoln from atop the observation deck on the 15th floor. The International Quilt Study Center displays quilts from around the world, some hundreds of years old. Groups can enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at how experts work to protect and conserve the quilts.

Departure flight information: Tour attendees should plan to depart from the Lincoln Airport. Attendees may also arrange transportation back to the Omaha Eppley Airport.