



# MACKINAC ISLAND AND THE GRAND HOTEL

FEATURING HISTORIC MICHIGAN!!

DISCOVER THE MAGIC IN THE MITTEN!!

## Itinerary

### Day 1

Today you board your flight bound for **Michigan!** On arrival, you'll be met at the airport and assisted with your transfer to your private motor coach. You'll travel to **Frankenmuth**, otherwise known as Michigan's "**Little Bavaria**" where you'll enjoy a tour of this delightful town. After checking in to your hotel, you'll have time to enjoy the German atmosphere that has made this town famous! Don't forget to pay Bronner's Christmas Store a visit. This evening, Frankenmuth's famous Chicken Dinner awaits you.

**Overnight:** Frankenmuth (D)

### Day 2

This morning, you'll board your motor coach bound for **Mackinaw City**, where you'll peek into the past as you visit **Colonial Michilimackinac**, an 18th-century fort and fur trading village. You'll enjoy music, live demonstrations and reenactments, including musket and cannon firing demonstrations. This is one of the most extensively excavated early French archaeological sites in the US. After taking in the views of the mighty Mackinac Bridge, you'll hop a **ferry** to sail to your final destination today: **Mackinac Island**. Named by Conde Nast Traveler as one of the top 10 islands in the world, you'll find yourself reliving the simple pleasures of life! You'll transfer to the **Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island**, your home for the next two nights! As you begin to explore the island, you'll find that horse-drawn taxis are a way of life on Mackinac Island and a fun way to get from place to place! You might also wish to rent a bicycle to explore the island during your free time!

**Overnight:** The Grand Hotel (B/D)

### Day 3

You'll have the entire day to enjoy beautiful Mackinac Island. Your day starts with a visit to historic **Fort Mackinac** where inside the stately stone walls you'll find a different time! The cannon blasts, the rifles fire, the soldiers march and history comes alive! More than a military outpost, Fort Mackinac served as a home for soldiers and their families. It is here that during the **War of 1812** British soldiers surprised and captured this outpost and for the next two years, American forces struggled to regain control of the Great Lakes and Mackinac Island. After your visit to the Fort, you'll travel the island on a **horse drawn carriage ride!** On returning to the Grand Hotel, you'll enjoy a special "behind the scenes" tour of the kitchen! This afternoon, you'll have time to explore the island's historic downtown with streets lined with retail stores and candy shops before enjoying **dinner** in the **Main Dining Room** of the **Grand Hotel!** Few dining locales are more picturesque, as it overlooks the world's longest porch and the glistening Straits of the Mackinac. Evening wear is required with coat and tie for gentlemen and dress or pantsuit for ladies.

**Overnight:** The Grand Hotel (B/D)

### Day 4

After breakfast, you'll return to the mainland, as you travel via the picturesque towns of **Petoskey** and **Charlevoix** (which Forbes Magazine recently honored as one of "America's Prettiest Towns") to **Traverse City**, the **cherry capital of the world**. This small town is a bustling community at the Grand Traverse Bay of Lake Michigan with many galleries and unique shops to discover. In the afternoon, you will visit magnificent **Old Mission Peninsula**, a small stretch of land that divides the Grand Traverse Bay and has become renowned for its fine wine. You will step inside a historic Light House, and visit an award winning winery for a tour and **wine tasting**. An evening sail and picnic dinner on the glorious **Tall Ship Manitou**, one of the largest sailing vessels on the Great Lakes, completes your day.

**Overnight:** Traverse City (B/D)

### Day 5

Your first stop today is the **Sleeping Bear Dunes National Park**, voted Most Beautiful Place in America by Good Morning America last year. This is one of the few coastline national parks in the county, stretching over a length of 33 miles. Its huge sand mountains can reach 450 feet in height and are reshaped daily by Lake Michigan's breezes. Your motor coach will take you to the top of these impressive dunes. Your journey brings you back south to **Holland**, where you will spend the evening on the "**Great American Mainstreet**" in downtown Holland. Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant tonight on your own.

### **Day 6**

This morning you'll visit the **Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum**. You'll gain insight into President Ford's life and career as you are transported back to the 1970's! See his Oval Office and learn about the early days of Gerald Ford, growing up in Michigan. Your next stop is **Frederik Meijer's Gardens and Sculpture Park**. Here you'll see beautiful works of art in a variety of natural settings connected by waterways, meandering paths and quiet walkways. Featuring the work of over 30 world renowned sculptors such as Edgar Degas, Auguste Rodin and Roy Lichtenstein, this unique site was ranked as one of the top 30 must-see museums in the world by the author of 1,000 Places to See Before You Die! You'll then depart for the Dearborn area, where you'll check in to your hotel for the night and enjoy dinner on your own.

**Overnight:** Dearborn (B)

### **Day 7**

After breakfast, you'll board your motor coach for a tour of the Motor City - Detroit! One of the oldest cities in middle America, Detroit was referred to as the Paris of the Midwest in the early 20th century. The city's architecture is recognized as being among the finest in the US. Then, you'll enjoy a tour of the **Henry Ford Museum**, one of America's greatest history attractions. You'll also visit the adjacent **Greenfield Village**, an outdoor museum in a village style, where you travel through time and US history, and even take a test ride in a restored **Model T**. Your day concludes with a visit to the historic **Edsel & Eleanor Ford House**, the residence of Henry Ford's son, beautifully located right at Lake St. Clair where you'll enjoy dinner after touring the home.

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

### **Day 8**

After enjoying breakfast in your hotel, you'll be transferred to the airport for your flight home. **Your visit to Mackinac Island and Michigan is sure to be a filled with memories that will stay with you for a lifetime!** (B)



## Inclusions

- Round trip transportation to the airport
- Round trip airfare to Detroit (checked baggage fee in not included)
- Seven nights hotel accommodations featuring 2 nights at the World Famous Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island
- Breakfast daily at your hotel
- Five dinners including the popular chicken dinner in Frankenmuth, 2 dinners at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, a special picnic dinner onboard the Tall Ship Manitou and dinner at the Ford House
- Special "behind the scenes" Kitchen Tour at the Grand Hotel
- All admissions as described in the detailed itinerary including Colonial Michilmackinac, tour of the Edsel & Eleanor Ford House, Greenfield Village, the Henry Ford Museum, Fort Mackinac, Winery Tour & Tasting, cruise on the Tall Ship Manitou, Sleeping Bear Dunes and much more!
- Ferry to/from Mackinac Island, Carriage Ride, Model-T Ride and more!
- Services of a professional guide throughout your tour
- Porterage of one suitcase per person
- Tour guide/driver gratuities are not included
- All government taxes and fees

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