



GENTLEMEN OF GENIUS

AN ADVENTURE ALONG THE MISSOURI HIGHWAY36 CORRIDOR

Cities: Hannibal, Marceline, St. Joseph

FEATURING: MARK TWAIN, WALT DISNEY, JESSE JAMES, & THE PONY EXPRESS

This itinerary can run east to west or west to east, and could start, or end, at any point. The trip below is organized east to west.

DAY 1: HANNIBAL, MO – MARK TWAIN

The Hannibal Convention & Visitors Bureau can help you by planning a custom itinerary to fit your schedule. www.visithannibal.com

7:00 - 8:30 am - Breakfast at hotel

9:30 am - Tom Sawyer & Becky Thatcher greet group at Mark Twain Museum.

See one of the most famous literary couples act out their engagement in front of the Mark Twain Boyhood Home.

10:00 am - Explore the Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum properties on a fun self-guided tour.

Begin tour of Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum properties. This self-guided tour allows your group to explore the roots of Mark Twain's genius. The tour includes 7 buildings, most notably the world famous Mark Twain Boyhood Home. It also includes two exciting, interactive museums whose collections include fifteen original Norman Rockwell paintings. Your group can also choose a docent-led tour for an additional charge. www.marktwainmuseum.org

11:30 am - Special Mark Twain Curator talk with group – can be arranged.

12:00 pm - Lunch on own downtown

For lunch options, see www.visithannibal.com

1:30 pm - Tour Mark Twain's Cave where he came up with some of his fascinating story lines!

Explore the cave that Mark Twain made famous! This cave, which young Sam Clemens explored as a youth, was immortalized in The Adventures of Tom Sawyer. The Mark Twain Cave is also the oldest show cave in the state of Missouri, giving tours for over 114 years. Allow 1 hour for the tour of the Mark Twain Cave. www.marktwaincave.com

2:30 pm - Free time/downtown shopping

4:00 pm - Board the Hannibal Trolley or use a step-on guide for a fun and informative sightseeing tour of Hannibal. You'll see notable landmarks as well as learn some history you may not have known about Hannibal – Mark Twain isn't the only claim to fame the town has to offer!

5:00 pm - Enjoy a live stage performance from Mark Twain Himself!

This show will take you back to the days of Twain's famous stage shows. Richard Garey brings Twain alive as you enjoy a light Victorian tea. This live theater show has been performed to great reviews in over forty states and Canada and now makes its home in Hannibal. In this show, Garey recreates the famous Mark Twain shows from 100+ years ago. Did you know in his lifetime Mark Twain was just as famous for his shows as he was for his writing? www.heritagestage.com

6:15 pm - All aboard the Mark Twain Riverboat for a beautiful evening dinner cruise.

Return to the glory days of riverboats and enjoy the scenes of the Mississippi River. Enjoy a buffet dinner and relax or dance while you enjoy live music. Stroll the decks or step up to the Pilothouse to meet the captain and be entertained with stories of the river. www.marktwainriverboat.com

8:40 pm - Return to Hotel

DAY 2: MARCELINE, MO – WALT DISNEY

7:00 - 8:30 am - Breakfast at hotel

9:00 am - Depart for Marceline, MO

11:00 am - Visit the Walt Disney Hometown Museum to learn about one of America's most-loved creators!

Walt, the man behind the Disney phenomenon, spent formative childhood years in Marceline. He even patterned Main Street, U.S.A., in Disneyland after Main Street in Marceline! While perusing this special museum you'll feel transported to a simpler time and, unlike the hustle and bustle of the Disney theme parks, gain understanding of the man behind the mouse (Mickey, that is) amongst intimate exhibits that chronicle Walt Disney's amazing life history & family. www.waltdisneymuseum.org

12:30 pm - Lunch in downtown Marceline

2:00 pm - Visit the Uptown Theatre and enjoy free time in downtown Marceline

When entering Uptown Theatre, memories of Saturday afternoon matinees come to mind. Built in 1930, the theatre has hosted two Disney Premieres: "The Great Locomotive Chase" Midwest premiere in 1956, with both Walt and Roy Disney in attendance, and "The Spirit of Mickey" premiere in 1998. Grab your popcorn and enjoy a short video shown especially for your group.

3:30 pm - Depart for St. Joseph

5:30 pm - Dinner in St. Joseph

For dinner options, see www.stjomo.com

8:00 pm - Check into hotel

DAY 3: ST. JOSEPH, MO – JESSE JAMES & PONY EXPRESS

The St. Joseph Convention & Visitors Bureau can assist in personalizing your itinerary. www.stjomo.com

7:00 - 8:30 am - Breakfast at hotel

9:30 am - Visit the Patee House Museum – home to the Pony Express headquarters – to learn the story of one of the West’s greatest innovations.

This former pioneer hotel and Pony Express headquarters was also a gathering spot for Jesse James’ family and the media during the Ford brothers’ trial after James’ assassination. Visit the “Streets of Old St. Joseph,” enjoy art, antique toys and trains. Ride the vintage “Wild Thing” carousel. Then, walk over to the **Jesse James Home where Jesse’s story came to an end.** See the house where the outlaw was shot and killed by fellow gang member Bob Ford. Exhibits include artifacts from Jesse’s grave.

www.ponyexpressjessejames.com

11:30 am - Lunch in St. Jo

1:30 pm - Head to the Pony Express National Museum to continue your journey through this piece of legendary American history.

The famous overland mail service began on horseback from these stables on April 3, 1860. State-of-the-art exhibits illustrate the need, creation, operation and termination of the Pony Express. www.ponyexpress.org

2:30 pm - Stop by Mount Mora Cemetery for a walk around.

Established in 1851, Mount Mora is one of St. Joseph’s oldest operating cemeteries and the burial site of many prominent citizens. Three Missouri Governors, multiple Civil War veterans, two Pony Express riders, and an English Baronet are among those found. www.mountmora.com

Itinerary provided by MO Highway 36 Heritage Alliance.

For more information: www.americangeniushighway.com