



### **LEGENDS & LEGACIES**

St. Louis, St. Charles, Hermann, Sibley, Independence, Kansas City, Weston, Liberty, Kearney, St. Joseph

**Day 1: St. Louis.** Arrive and begin your journey at the **Gateway Arch**...a tribute to westward expansion. Beneath the Arch, the Museum of Westward Expansion offers an outstanding chronology of pioneer life and history. You'll have time for a tour of the **Old Courthouse**, where the famous Dred Scott case took place. After lunch, it's off to the **Missouri History Museum** in Forest Park or a tour of the **Anheuser-Busch Brewery**. If time permits, enjoy some ragtime during a visit to the **Scott Joplin House** and get keyed into some toe-tapping sounds. During the evening, enjoy one of the **Fabulous Fox Theater's** many superb live performances.  
[www.explorestlouis.com](http://www.explorestlouis.com)

**Day 2: St. Louis, St. Charles, Hermann & Columbia.** After breakfast, take in the majestic gardens of the **Missouri Botanical Garden**. The Garden features 79 acres of landscaped displays that can be seen on foot or via a tram.

Next, head west across the wide Missouri into historic **St. Charles** ([www.historicstcharles.com](http://www.historicstcharles.com)) circa 1769 and Missouri's first state capital between 1821 and 1826. This quaint river town offers a glimpse into early Americana as you experience the largest historic district in Missouri. Enjoy lunch at one of the many unique restaurants before a guide in period dress will take you on a city tour of this historic town located on the banks of the Missouri River. It was here in 1804 where Lewis and Clark met to begin their westward expedition. Take time to stop at **the Lewis & Clark Boat House and Nature Center** which houses several full-scale replicas of the boats used by Lewis & Clark. The museum above the boats includes a diorama illustrating the highlights of the expedition along with Native American displays. After your tour enjoy some free time shopping for antiques, decorating accents, stained glass, pottery, and framed art, or visit the boutique shops available along St. Charles' 200 year old **Historic Main Street**.

This afternoon travel to Hermann, MO where we find **Stone Hill Winery**.

Arriving in **Hermann** and **Stone Hill Winery** ([www.stonehillwinery.com](http://www.stonehillwinery.com)) you may be reminded of Germany's Rhine Valley as the winery sits on a hill offering a view of the town below. A tour guide will take you thru the arched cellars and production room where more than 1,250,000 gallons of wine are produced each year. Then enjoy dinner in the Vintage Restaurant, a restored carriage house and horse barn, which specializes in German cuisine. Travel to **Columbia, MO** to overnight. [www.gocolumbiamo.com](http://www.gocolumbiamo.com)

**Day 3: Sibley & Independence.** First stop after breakfast is a trek to **Arrow Rock** ([www.arrowrock.org](http://www.arrowrock.org)), a true designated historic district. This pioneer settlement will take you back to the 1800s, as you visit the general store, gunsmith, antique shops and local artisans.

Afterwards, it's back on I-70 toward Kansas City. Along the way, consider visiting **Fort Osage in Sibley** ([www.jacksongov.org/fortosage](http://www.jacksongov.org/fortosage)). This reconstructed fort offers insight into 1800s military life. Other options include a stop in **Independence** for the **Harry S Truman Presidential Library and Museum** or the **National Frontier Trails Museum** ([www.visitindependence.com](http://www.visitindependence.com)); or in **Excelsior Springs**, visit the historic **Elms Hotel** ([www.elmshotelandspa.com](http://www.elmshotelandspa.com)). Known for its mineral waters and spa treatments, this hotel was once frequented by President Harry S Truman and the notorious Al Capone. Overnight in Kansas City or Independence.

**Day 4: Kansas City.** It's time for famous museums, fountains, shopping and legends. Kick off the day with a tour of the **Arabia Steamboat Museum**. The sunken vessel was recovered in the late 1980s with an incredible amount of intact artifacts. You'll see everything from canned vegetables and dinnerware to clothing and tools. Learn more about the legacy of WWI with a visit to **The National World War I Museum**. The museum uses its comprehensive, world-class historical collections and exhibitions to inspire its strategic efforts in the areas of exhibition, education, research and interpretation.

Shopping enthusiasts can't miss the **Country Club Plaza**-a premier area designed after Seville, Spain. Interesting architecture and fountains abound on every corner. Spend the rest of the afternoon exploring the Plaza or venture to the **Hallmark Visitors Center**. Kansas City is the world headquarters for the greeting card company and you'll see firsthand the evolution of the popular cards. After an elegant dinner, head to the **18th & Vine District** for the jazz that made Kansas City famous. [www.visitkc.com](http://www.visitkc.com). Overnight in Kansas City.

**Day 5: Liberty, Kearney & St. Joseph.** It's now time for a few legends. Travel north to **Liberty**, the site of the first daylight bank robbery committed by none other than Jesse James and his gang. Continue the James' saga by traveling to **Kearney** - home to **the Jesse James Farm** where you'll find artifacts from the notorious outlaw's life. [www.jessejames.org](http://www.jessejames.org)

Then head off to **St. Joseph**-home of the **Pony Express**. It was here in St. Joseph where, living with his family under the alias of Mr. Howard, Jesse was shot and killed. Move from one American legend to another with a visit to The **Pony Express Museum**, where the mail was originally carried from Missouri to Sacramento. Stop in the **Glore Psychiatric Museum**, with its displays of some of the more famous outdated psychiatric treatments. [www.stjomo.com](http://www.stjomo.com)

A short drive leads you to **Weston** ([www.westonmo.com](http://www.westonmo.com)), where your exploration will uncover quaint shops and incredible wineries. Or head east to **Jamesport** and the **Amish country** ([www.jamesport-mo.com](http://www.jamesport-mo.com)), where you can relive the America of old and sample homemade breads and jams. Return to Kansas City for a delicious dinner of Kansas City barbeque. Overnight in Kansas City.