



## **RIVERS, THE ARCH & THE HISTORY BETWEEN**

St. Louis, Saint Charles, Hannibal, Marceline, St. Joseph, Kansas City

### **Day One - St. Louis**

Arrive in **St. Louis** ([www.explorestlouis.com](http://www.explorestlouis.com)) to begin your tour. Experience the Journey to the Top at the **Gateway Arch**. You will be whisked back in time to the day in 1965 when the Gateway Arch was finished. Then you will take the tram to the top for a breathtaking view of St. Louis. The Arch trip also includes a visit to the underground **Museum of Westward Expansion** - from rare Indian Peace Medals and weapons of survival, to an actual tepee and Sioux war bonnet, the museum has preserved the days of the past so they'll live in your mind forever. [www.gatewayarch.com](http://www.gatewayarch.com)

What better way to get a feel for Ol' Man River, than with a relaxing **Gateway Arch Riverboat Cruise**. Two vessels, the Tom Sawyer and Becky Thatcher, offer one-hour narrated cruises daily. [www.gatewayarch.com](http://www.gatewayarch.com)

Next stop is the World's Largest Brewery, **Anheuser-Busch**, with a look at the spectacular stables of the famed Clydesdales. The tour is complimentary as are the samples offered in the hospitality room! [www.budweisertours.com](http://www.budweisertours.com)

Tour the majestic **Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis**. The Cathedral is of Romanesque and Byzantine design and contains the most extensive collection of mosaic art in the world. [www.cathedralstl.org](http://www.cathedralstl.org)

Check into your hotel.

Dinner options include an evening on **The Hill** - St. Louis' famous Italian neighborhood known for its nationally acclaimed restaurants, specialty groceries and bakeries, tiny "shotgun" houses and fire hydrants proudly painted red, white and green, the colors of the Italian flag.

This evening enjoy a show at the **Fabulous Fox Theatre**. This 1929 movie palace, one of the first theatres built for "talkies" by movie mogul William Fox, was designed in a style described as Siamese-Byzantine. [www.fabulousfox.com](http://www.fabulousfox.com)

Overnight: St. Louis

### **Day Two - St. Louis, Saint Charles, Hannibal**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before departing for Saint Charles.

**Historic Saint Charles**, Missouri's first capital city between 1821 and 1826. The South Main Street Historic District features 125 unique shops and is also home to a number of quaint restaurants. 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.

Following lunch take a trolley tour of the area followed by some free time to explore the unique shops. [www.historicstcharles.com](http://www.historicstcharles.com)

By mid-afternoon depart for **Hannibal** [www.visithannibal.com](http://www.visithannibal.com). Live the Adventure...Mark Twain wrote, *"By and by somebody shouted, "Who's ready for the cave?" Everybody was!"* Today you will have the same exciting experience exploring this remarkable cave as Tom Sawyer and Becky Thatcher did many years ago. [www.marktwaincave.com](http://www.marktwaincave.com)

Board the **Mark Twain Mississippi Riverboat** for a sumptuous dinner cruise. Cruises on this nostalgic Riverboat start from the landing at the foot of Center Street. See this famous river town from the boat that bears the name of its most famous citizen...Mark Twain.  
[www.marktwainriverboat.com](http://www.marktwainriverboat.com)

Overnight: Hannibal

### **Day Three - Hannibal, Marceline, St. Joseph**

The Stories Started Here... Discover how a young boy growing up in the small village of Hannibal became one of the world's most famous authors. A self guided tour of the **Mark Twain Boyhood Home & Museum Properties** gives you the chance to explore the Hannibal of Samuel Clemens' childhood and experience the beloved stories he created through the power of his imagination. [www.marktwainmuseum.org](http://www.marktwainmuseum.org)

Depart Hannibal for **Marceline**. [www.marceline.com](http://www.marceline.com) *"To tell the truth, more things of importance happened to me in Marceline than have ever happened since, or are likely to in the future."* - Walt Disney

Find out for yourself when you tour this quaint area. In fact, Disney World's Main Street USA was designed after the **Main Street** in **Marceline**. After you've seen the museum, you'll want to visit the Dreaming Tree and Walt's Happy Place at the old family farm, spend some time in Ripley Park, take a stroll around the lake at the Walt Disney Park Complex and watch the sun set, go antiquing down Main Street USA or just sit and watch the trains go by just outside the Museum or from a viewing window in the baggage room (we guarantee you won't have to wait long with more than 70 trains passing through Marceline each day). There are also several special tours. [www.waltdisneymuseum.org](http://www.waltdisneymuseum.org)

Depart Marceline for **St. Joseph**. [www.stjomo.com](http://www.stjomo.com)

Enjoy dinner and overnight in St. Joseph

### **Day Four - St. Joseph, Kansas City**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel.

**St. Joseph**, a town rich in history - famous for being the place where the Pony Express began and Jesse James met his demise. **Hotel Patee House** was the center of the nation's Westward expansion from the start of the **Pony Express** to the death of Jesse James. It was opened by John Patee as a luxurious hotel in 1858 to serve travelers as the railroad pushed west to St. Joseph. The hotel cost \$180,000 and has 140 guest rooms. It featured winding stairs to the fourth floor covered with red Brussels carpets. It is a National Historical Landmark for its role as headquarters for the Pony Express where Russell, Majors and Waddell had their office starting April 3, 1860. Of course, no visit to St. Joseph is complete without a visit to the **Jesse James** home which contains a number of items owned by Jessie and his family. It was in this house that Jessie James was gunned down by Bob Ford.

After lunch depart for **Kansas City**. [www.visitkc.com](http://www.visitkc.com)

The **Arabia Steamboat Museum** tells the story of a group of men that uncovered the Arabia which had been lost over 100 years earlier when it sank in the Missouri River just north of Kansas City. As the river changed courses the steamboat was buried under a cornfield. The men were amazed when they found that the 200-tons of cargo had been preserved in a remarkable condition. Fine china, clothing, tools, canned food, buttons, cloth, and perfume were among the cargo that the Arabia had on board. [www.1856.com](http://www.1856.com)

This evening take in a live performance at the **American Heartland Theatre**, located in Crown Center. The theatre continues to provide an intimate space where the audience can forget reality and take back their imaginations. [www.ahkdc.com](http://www.ahkdc.com)

Overnight: Kansas City