

The Garden Series Presents: HOLLAND'S TULIP FESTIVAL AND THE GARDENS OF MICHIGAN

With George Weigel

Saturday—Sunday, May 7—15, 2016

Saturday, May 7, 2016

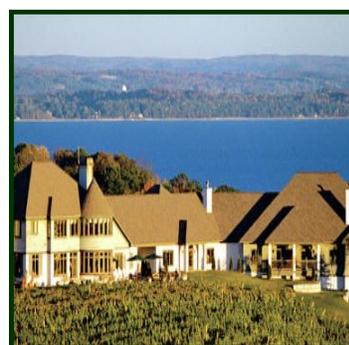
Depart for Toledo, Ohio, with a lunch stop on your own en route. This afternoon we will tour the Toledo Botanical Garden and its 60 acres of display gardens and plant collections, including a large perennial garden, woodland garden, herb garden, vegetable garden, pioneer garden and gardens around an artisans' village. Art lovers will especially enjoy the original sculptures throughout the Garden, and there's a large central lake as well as numerous trees. Overnight is in Toledo with dinner on site. (D)

Sunday, May 8, 2016

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel, then depart for Dearborn, Michigan, and a visit to the Henry Ford Greenfield Village and Museum. Greenfield Village features 80+ historic homes and workplaces from American history — most of them relocated here — such as Thomas Edison's Menlo Park laboratory, the bicycle shop where the Wright Brothers built their first airplane, and the birthplace and boyhood farm of tire pioneer Harvey Firestone. The Ford Museum is 12 fascinating indoor acres of Americana, featuring the limousine in which President John F. Kennedy was shot, the chair in which President Abraham Lincoln was sitting when he was shot, and the bus in which Rosa Parks made her civil-rights stand (technically, civil-rights "sit.") Next, it's off to Ann Arbor and the University of Michigan's Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum. Together, these offer 700 acres of gardens and natural areas. Matthaei has a collection of interesting gardens, including a bonsai garden, children's garden, rock garden, herbal knot garden and a garden of Michigan native plants. Nichols dates to 1907 and is one of America's oldest campus arboreta, featuring a prairie, a peony garden and wetlands in addition to numerous specimen trees. Overnight is in East Lansing. Dinner is included. (B,D)

Monday, May 9, 2016

After breakfast at the hotel, we'll head to the park-like campus of Michigan State University to see MSU's Lewis Landscape Arboretum, 4H Children's Gardens and the W.J. Beal Botanical Garden. The MSU campus covers 5,192 acres with gardens and trees throughout. In all, the campus has 14,000 trees of 7,000 different varieties. Particularly worth noting is that the MSU 4H Children's Gardens is a model and pioneer for the new generation of children's gardens that have been popping up in public gardens in the past two decades. We'll then depart for Grand Rapids to see the 158-acre Frederik Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, which was named to TripAdvisor's list of Top 10 Public Gardens in the U.S. It gets a 5-star rating from visitors and is the No. 1 overall Trip Advisor attraction in Grand Rapids. Besides a flagship collection of 200 sculptures inside and out, Meijer Gardens has a superb conservatory. Enjoy your box lunch on the grounds here. After our afternoon visit there, we'll head west to Holland, Michigan, and check into our downtown hotel. You are in the heart of the Tulip Festival. Dinner is on your own tonight. (B,L)



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Tuesday, May 10, 2016

We'll start our two-day visit to Holland's annual Tulip Festival with breakfast at the hotel and a tour of historic Holland. You'll find more than 750,000 tulips planted here in city parks, public areas and along the streets. Today's itinerary includes visits to the Dutch Marktplaats (a marketplace of Dutch foods, crafts and culture), Veldheer Tulip Gardens (a production bulb farm with display gardens, a wooden-shoe and Delft-pottery factory, and roaming buffaloes) and Nelis' Dutch Village (a recreated Dutch town with all sorts of specialty shops and imported gifts). We'll top it off with a Dutch-inspired dinner tonight. (B,D)

Wednesday, May 11, 2016

Enjoy breakfast at our Holland hotel. Then see where perennials come from with a visit to one of America's biggest wholesale perennial growers, Walters Gardens, which is home to many cutting-edge Proven Winners perennial varieties. Today we'll also visit Windmill Island, which has America's only working Dutch windmill. It's 12 stories high, 230 years old and was relocated from the Netherlands. Costumed guides escort visitors through the windmill. Windmill Island also has more than 100,000 tulips in bloom each May. The afternoon itinerary includes the traditional "Street Sweeping & Volksparade" from reserved seats. The balance of the days is yours to enjoy in the heart of Holland. (B)

Thursday, May 12, 2016

After breakfast at the hotel, we're off to Mackinaw City. Along the way, we'll stop at the Chateau Chantal Winery for a tour and tasting. The winery is located on Old Mission Peninsula with stunning views of the Grand Traverse Bay below. After a tour and tasting, grab a bite for lunch on your own before we depart for Mackinaw City. Check into our hotel and have dinner, which is included this evening. (B,D)

Friday, May 13, 2016

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Today we go back in time to the beautiful Mackinac Island. No cars here! All transportation is via horse-drawn carriages or bicycles. We take a ferry to the island, where our day will include a presentation by Jack Barnwell, creator of the gardens at the Hotel Iroquois. He will explain the ins and outs of creating this masterpiece in a place without motorized vehicles. We'll also take a 90-minute horse-drawn Mackinac Island Carriage tour, up to Surrey Hill, through the State Park and to the scenic view at Arch Rock and end at the Grand Hotel for their famous Luncheon Buffet. After lunch, take time to relax on the Grand's 660-foot-long porch and stroll that hotel's flower gardens and enjoy free time to explore the charm of the island's downtown with its many restaurants, shops and activities. We'll take the last ferry back to the mainland. (B,L)

Saturday, May 14, 2016

After breakfast at the hotel, we'll depart for Cleveland, Ohio, the "home of rock and roll." We'll tour the city's famous Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and enjoy dinner and entertainment at the Music Box Supper Club. The R&R Hall of Fame celebrates the biggest names in rock and roll through four theaters, multiple interactive stations and seven floors of exhibits. We'll stay overnight in the Cleveland area. (B,D)

Sunday, May 15, 2016

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel and head for home... but with one more garden to see on the way — the brand new Pittsburgh Botanic Garden. This one will eventually cover more than 400 acres and just opened in the fall of 2014. So far, Pittsburgh Botanic has a welcome center, an heirloom apple orchard, a meadow garden, woodland gardens and a network of shady trails. Next on the drawing board is a family garden to be based on Mister Rogers' Neighborhood. Pittsburgh Botanic is noteworthy as being the world's first public garden built on a cleaned-up mining tract. We'll make a dinner stop (on your own) on the way home. (B)

Itinerary subject to change

Terms & Conditions

Deposit Requirements

An initial deposit of \$100pp is required to confirm reservation.

Travel insurance must be purchased at the time of booking to cover pre-existing conditions.

Full payment must be received by April 1, 2016.

Baggage ~ Portage of baggage is included, based on a maximum of 1 piece of standard baggage per person. We recommend that passengers limit baggage to 1 suitcase per person plus 1 carry on.

Items Not Included ~ Our tours do not include items of a personal nature such as laundry, room service, laundry, telephone charges or other hotel extras. All passengers are responsible for settling any such costs incurred before checking out of each hotel or returning home.

Gratuities ~ Tips for baggage-handling, guides, chambermaids, and waiting staff for included meals are included.

Gratuities are not included to the motorcoach driver. These are at the participant's discretion. A guideline is \$5 per person per day for the driver.

Taxes ~ Our prices include all government taxes as levied as of the date of this proposal. In the event that additional taxes are introduced by governing bodies or existing taxes increased, we will have to pass on all such additional charges to the individual passengers concerned.

Insurance ~ We strongly recommend that all passengers be adequately insured for medical expenses, baggage loss or damage and trip cancellation or interruption. This is the responsibility of individual tour participants. Insurance is \$145pp.

Trip includes:

Transportation, 8 nights lodging, 8 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 5 dinners, George Weigel, escort service, Toledo Botanical Gardens, Henry Ford Greenfield Village & Museum, Matthaei Botanical Gardens, Nicolas Arboretum, Michigan State Lewis Arboretum, 4H Childrens Gardens, W.J. Beal Botanical Gardens, Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park, Holland Tulip Festival, Reserved Parade Seats, Holland tour, Dutch Marktplaats, Veldheer Tulip Gardens, Nelis Dutch Village, Windmill Island, Walter's Gardens, Chateau Chantel wine tasting & tour, Mackinac Island ferry, Hotel Iroquois garden tour, Mackinac Island tour, Rock N' Roll Hall of Fame, The Music Box Dinner Show, Pittsburgh Botanic Garden, taxes and meal gratuities.

Cost:

\$1,749pp Double Occupancy / \$2,295pp Single Occupancy

Deposit due to secure reservation \$100pp. / Final payment due by April 1, 2016.

Michigan ~ Tulip Festival

Package Price:

\$1,749pp Double Occupancy - \$2,295pp Single Occupancy

Enclosed please find a deposit in the amount of \$ _____ (\$100 pp) to secure reservation for _____ # people

I (We) wish to purchase Travel Insurance yes _____ No _____

Enclosed please find payment in the amount of \$ _____ (\$145pp) to secure Travel Insurance
Travel insurance must be purchased with original deposit to cover pre-existing conditions.

Total Payments \$ _____

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Please submit names exactly as they appear on:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone # \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact / Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Requests: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Reservation form to:  
Lowee's Group Tours  
PO Box 6658  
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Make Checks Payable To: Lowee's Group Tours, LLC

For questions:  
717-657-9658 or ckelly@lowees.com

Payment by Credit Card (circle one)      Visa      MasterCard      Discover

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_ CID Code \_\_\_\_\_

Amount to be Charged : \_\_\_\_\_ Signature : \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit due with registration \$100pp / Final payment due by April 1, 2016