



WEST VIRGINIA Scenic Fall Getaway September 15 - 25, 2026



Day 1: Journey Begins to Janesville, WI

Your heritage journey begins as you travel east to the **SPAM® Museum**, a tribute to one of America's most iconic brands. Through engaging exhibits and vintage displays, discover how this humble product became a symbol of wartime resilience, Midwestern pride, and American innovation—an unexpected but fitting introduction to the story of our nation.

Day 2: Janesville, WI to Dayton, OH

Today brings a visit to the **Indiana State Museum**, located within the scenic **White River State Park**. Thoughtfully curated exhibits trace Indiana's past—from ancient geology and early settlers to industrial progress and cultural achievement—offering a deeper understanding of how regional stories shape the American experience.

Day 3: Dayton, OH to Marietta, OH

This morning's guided tour of the **National Museum of the U.S. Air Force** reveals the evolution of American air power and technological achievement. Housing more than 350 aircraft and thousands of artifacts, the museum chronicles over a century of aviation history—from fragile early planes to modern aerospace marvels—set across an expansive 19-acre campus. As evening falls, step aboard the **Valley Gem Sternwheeler** in Marietta, Ohio. During the **Captain's Dinner Cruise**, enjoy a classic riverboat experience complete with live entertainment and a delicious meal, celebrating the enduring role of America's rivers in commerce, culture, and connection.

Day 4: Marietta, OH to Natural Bridge, VA

This afternoon unveils one of America's most intriguing hidden landmarks—the **Greenbrier Bunker**. Built in 1958 as a top-secret Cold War relocation site for Congress, this massive underground complex remained concealed for decades. Today, it stands as a powerful reminder of a tense era in American history and the extraordinary measures taken to preserve democracy.

Day 5: Natural Bridge, VA

Begin the morning with a guided visit to the **Stonewall Jackson House**, a carefully preserved 1800s residence that reflects the domestic life and historical context of a prominent Civil War figure. Next, slow the pace with a fully narrated **carriage ride** through historic Lexington, where brick-lined streets, stately architecture, and academic heritage unfold to the rhythm of hoofbeats—an evocative way to experience this storied college town. The afternoon features a guided tour of the **Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum**, including the Wilson family home filled with personal belongings, period furnishings, and interpretive exhibits that illuminate the early life and enduring legacy of the 28th President. Your day concludes with dinner at the nostalgic **Pink Cadillac Diner**, where classic American fare and retro style offer a warm and memorable evening.

Day 6: Natural Bridge, VA to Staunton, VA

Enjoy a self-guided exploration of the **Frontier Culture Museum**, where colonial farms and historic homesteads—staffed by costumed interpreters—illustrate the daily lives, skills, and traditions of early settlers who shaped America's frontier. After lunch, experience classical theater at the **American Shakespeare Center's Blackfriars Playhouse**, a faithful re-creation of Shakespeare's indoor theater. This intimate venue brings centuries-old works vividly to life through authentic staging and performance.

Day 7: Staunton, VA to Elkins, WV

Today begins in **Shenandoah National Park** at the **Harry F. Byrd Sr. Visitor Center**, where informative exhibits and scenic vistas introduce the natural heritage of the **Blue Ridge Mountains**. Following lunch, journey beneath the surface during a self-guided tour of **Luray Caverns**. Walk brick pathways past towering 140-foot columns, glowing stalactites, and echoing chambers within the largest and most celebrated cavern system in eastern North America. Three additional museums further explore the region's cultural and geological history.

Day 8: Elkins, WV to Columbus, OH

As the journey turns homeward, enjoy a hands-on custom candle-making experience at **Penn & Beech Candle Company**, celebrating modern American craftsmanship through scent and design. Later, unwind at the **Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens**, where historic glasshouses and lush plant collections reflect a long tradition of botanical preservation, education, and artistry.



Day 9: Columbus, OH to Dayton, OH

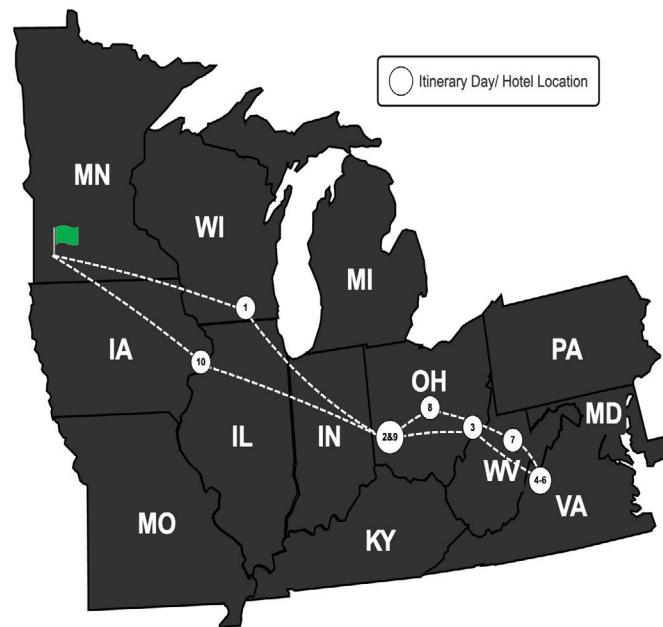
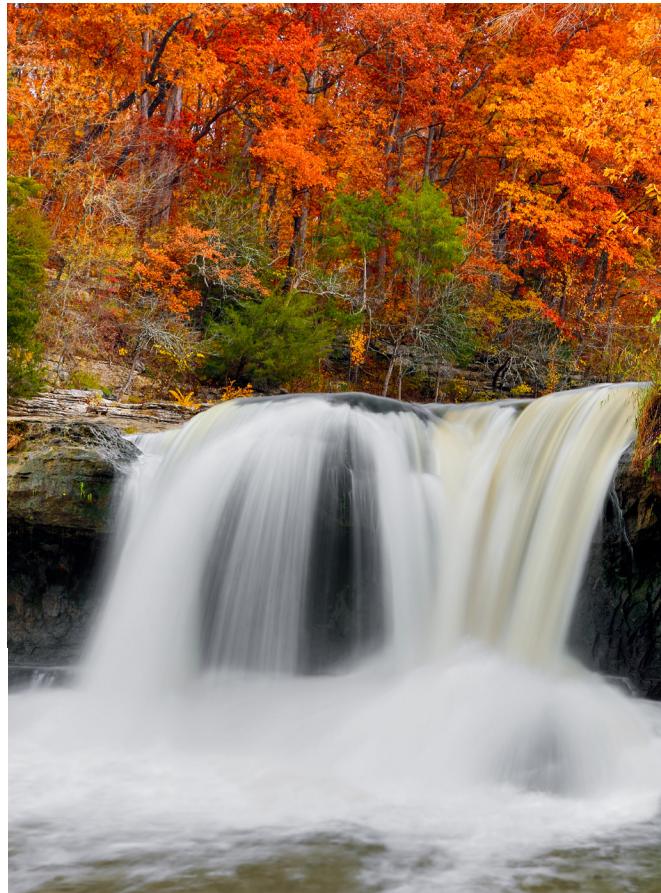
This morning offers a guided visit to **Anthony-Thomas Candy Shoppes**, where time-honored chocolate-making techniques continue a proud Midwestern confectionery tradition. Next, discover the imaginative **Hartman Rock Garden**, a restored folk-art landmark created between 1932 and 1944 using more than 250,000 stones—an enduring example of personal creativity turned public treasure. The day concludes with a guided tour of the **Dayton Aviation Heritage National Historical Park**, honoring American aviation pioneers through preserved sites, exhibits, and programs that celebrate innovation, perseverance, and flight.

Day 10: Dayton, OH to Davenport, IA

Enjoy a guided tour of the stately **David Davis Mansion**, a beautifully preserved Victorian home that offers insight into 19th-century life, architecture, and the influence of one of President Abraham Lincoln's closest friends and advisors.

Day 11: Davenport, IA to Home

Your heritage journey concludes at the **John Deere Tractor & Engine Museum**, where hands-on exhibits trace the evolution of agricultural machinery and celebrate the ingenuity that helped build America's farming legacy and industrial strength.



Activity Level: Active Traveler

10 Breakfasts 1 Lunch 3 Dinners 3 Drury Kickbacks

Occupancy	Price Per Person	Credit Card Price
Double	\$3,630	\$3,776
Triple	\$3,220	\$3,349
Quad	\$3,034	\$3,115
Single	\$4,840	\$5,034