

AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL

250 Years in the Making

Washington D.C. and Philadelphia

March 15 - 28, 2026



Day 1: Journey Begins to Rockford, IL

Your adventure begins this afternoon in Madison, Wisconsin, where the **Olbrich Botanical Gardens** invite you to step into a world of beauty and tranquility. Sixteen acres unfold with a kaleidoscope of colors, from lush rose gardens to tropical conservatories filled with exotic blooms. The centerpiece, a golden Thai Pavilion shimmering in the sun, sets the perfect tone for the journey ahead.

Day 2: Rockford, IL to Grove City, OH

The road east takes you to one of the most iconic names in American sports—the **Indianapolis Motor Speedway**. On the View From the Top tour, you'll stand on Victory Podium, stroll through Victory Lane, and gaze out from the towering Pagoda, 153 feet above the track. From here the view stretches across the Speedway and the city skyline beyond, a breathtaking panorama that captures the thrill of racing and history alike.

Day 3: Grove City, OH to Gettysburg, PA

This afternoon you arrive at a place etched deeply into America's story: Gettysburg. At the **National Military Park Museum and Visitor Center**, you'll be welcomed into a remarkable collection of Civil War history—artifacts, maps, drawings, even presidential belongings. A stirring film and the sweeping Cyclorama bring the battle to life, immersing you in the gravity of the moments that unfolded here.

Day 4: Gettysburg, PA to Washington, D.C.

Today the battlefield itself becomes your classroom as a guide leads you across the hallowed grounds of **Gettysburg**. You'll walk where Union and Confederate soldiers once fought with ferocity during those fateful days in July 1863. The tour continues at the **Gettysburg National Cemetery**, where President Lincoln gave his immortal address and where more than 3,500 Union soldiers now rest. Monuments throughout the grounds stand in solemn tribute to the sacrifices of both sides.

Day 5: Washington, D.C.

The capital beckons, and with a local guide you will uncover its treasures. The **U.S. Capitol** opens its doors, the **White House** shines as a photo opportunity, and the grandeur of the **Library of Congress** leaves you inspired. Visits to the **Supreme Court**, the **National Archives**, and a drive along historic **Embassy Row** reveal a city where every corner whispers with history and power.

Day 6: Washington, D.C.

This morning begins at **Arlington National Cemetery**, where silence falls as you watch the precision of the **Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**. The day unfolds with stops at the **Tomb of Women in Military Service**, the **Iwo Jima Memorial**, and the reflective walls of the **Vietnam** and **Korean War Memorials**. The **U.S. Navy and Air Force Memorials**, the **WWII Memorial**, and the solemn **9/11 Pentagon Memorial** complete a day that is as humbling as it is unforgettable.

Day 7: Washington, D.C.

At **George Washington's Mount Vernon**, the life of America's first president comes into focus. You'll wander the gardens, step into historic outbuildings, and join a guided tour of the elegant mansion, lovingly expanded over forty-five years into the stately 21-room residence it is today. In the afternoon, the city is yours to explore. Perhaps the wonders of the Smithsonian call to you—the Air and Space Museum, the Museum of Natural History, or countless others—or maybe you'll choose the intrigue of the International Spy Museum. If shopping is more your style, L'Enfant Plaza offers glassy arcades filled with shops and eateries.

Day 8: Washington, D.C.

This morning, step into the **Museum of the Bible**, where more than 40,000 artifacts—including Dead Sea Scroll fragments and rare manuscripts—trace the history of one of the world's most influential texts. Interactive exhibits and a rooftop garden add to the experience. The afternoon turns somber at the **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum**, where three powerful floors of exhibits document life before, during, and after one of history's darkest chapters. Photographs, diaries, and survivor stories provide an emotional encounter you will not soon forget. The day ends with a visit to the **Washington Monument**, where, if you choose, an elevator can take you 500 feet skyward to sweeping views of the nation's capital.

Day 9: Washington, D.C. to Philadelphia, PA

Philadelphia welcomes you with lunch at **McGillan's Olde Ale House**, where the taps have been flowing since 1860, making it the oldest tavern in the city. In the afternoon, art takes center stage at the **Philadelphia Museum of Art**, an encyclopedic collection housed in a building nearly as iconic as the works it protects. History comes alive again at **Eastern State Penitentiary**, once the most famous prison in the world and home to notorious inmates like Al Capone. Its wagon-wheel design and haunting stone walls make it an unforgettable stop.



Day 10: Philadelphia, PA

A “Colonial” guide joins you today to reveal the historic heart of **Philadelphia**. At **Independence National Historical Park**, you’ll see the **Liberty Bell** and step inside **Independence Hall**, where the Declaration of Independence and Constitution were signed. **Christ Church**, built in 1695 and final resting place of Benjamin Franklin, offers another glimpse into the nation’s early days. At the **Museum of the American Revolution**, explore The **Declaration’s Journey**, a special exhibit that brings the document’s story to life. Before the day ends, channel your inner **Rocky** with a climb up the famous museum steps and a photo at the statue—an **iconic Philadelphia moment**.

Day 11: Philadelphia, PA to Lancaster, PA

In the rolling countryside of Lancaster, the Amish way of life unfolds before you. A **guided tour of an Amish farm and house** introduces you to traditional homes, a one-room schoolhouse, and peaceful farmlands, with time to browse the gift shop for handmade treasures. The evening brings a spectacular performance of **Joshua at Sight and Sound Theatre**, where biblical stories are brought to life on a grand stage.

Day 12: Lancaster, PA to Cleveland, OH

On your westward journey, a stop in Pittsburgh offers a feast for the senses at the **Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens**. This steel-and-glass Victorian greenhouse dazzles with brilliant plant displays and themed gardens, a living work of art that delights every visitor.

Day 13: Cleveland, OH to Janesville, WI

Today is a day for rest and reflection as you travel toward home. It is a chance to share stories, relive highlights, and enjoy the companionship of your fellow travelers.

Day 14: Janesville, WI to Home

Your journey comes to an end, but the memories linger—a tapestry of gardens and battlefields, monuments and museums, history and heritage. As the nation marks its 250th anniversary, you return home carrying a deeper connection to America’s past and the enduring spirit that shaped it.

Activity Level: Very Active Traveler

13 Breakfasts		2 Lunches	1 Dinner
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	

