

# Learning In Retirement, Inc.

## TRAVEL TIP REMINDERS

January-July, 2022

### **\*\*General\*\***

- **LIR Coach trips depart from and return to Walmart Super Center, 724 W. Stadium Blvd. (near the Central Bank ATM). Coaches most often arrive 30 minutes prior to departure time.**
- Put escort names and phone numbers in your cell phone when you are confirmed on a trip. If they need to call you with important information about the trip, you will have them in your contact list and know who is calling!
- LIR trips visit both public and government sponsored sites. It is the responsibility of the traveler to follow the guidelines as dictated by the venues visited.
- Tips are included in the cost of the trip for the coach driver, for all included meals, step-on guides and donations for charitable venues. Meals on your own and hotel housekeeping tips are at your discretion.
- **Please wear your name badge—it really helps everyone!!**

### **\*\*Health & Safety\*\***

- COVID precautions follow LIR guidelines which, at this time, include wearing a mask at all indoor activities and use of hand sanitizer. If the LIR Board changes these guidelines, you'll be notified when we send out reminder letters.
- If someone on a trip later tests positive for the virus, you will be contacted as soon as possible.
- Travelers should carry medication lists with them AT ALL TIMES. Your name badge is a handy storage place. AND, don't forget all your medications.
- LIR travel requires walking and the physical capability to tour the site. If you have concerns regarding the described activities, please call an escort to discuss the degree of difficulty of the trip's venues.
- Comfort stops are planned for the comfort and wellbeing of travelers when travel time is between 2 and 2-1/2 hours. Passengers are encouraged to leave the coach for a short walk for their health.
- Water is provided for travelers on all coach trips.
- Travelers with special dietary needs should contact **an escort PRIOR to the trip** to express their required dietary accommodation.

### **\*\*Registration\*\***

- Submit separate checks for each trip (if possible). Couples may combine payments on one check.
- Checks for multiple trips will be deposited even when placed on a wait list for some trips. Refunds will be made after the date of the trip.
- When registering with a friend for trips, you are strongly encouraged to mail or drop off registrations together as registrations are recorded as received.
- Refunds for trip cancellations depend on the ability to fill the vacancy and/or the recovery of expenses already paid.
- NO deposit is necessary to be placed on a wait list.
- Registrants for a trip are automatically added to a wait list if the maximum number of travelers has already been confirmed.

LIR TRIPS  
January-July, 2022

**Auschwitz. Not long ago. Not far away.**

The Exhibition at Kansas City Union Station  
Tuesday, January 11

*Please Note: This trip and registration were offered through the Special Edition of LIR's "The Learning Times" in October. At this time, we have a full enrollment but a fairly short waitlist. We are accepting registrations for the waitlist ONLY at this time with **NO** payment.*

This is the most comprehensive exhibition dedicated to the history of Auschwitz and its role in the Holocaust ever presented in North America, and an unparalleled opportunity to confront the singular face of human evil—one that arose not long ago and not far away.

The exhibition explores the dual identity of the camp as a physical location—the largest documented mass murder site in human history—and as a symbol of the borderless manifestation of hatred and human barbarity. Featuring more than 700 original objects and 400 photographs, the exhibition allows visitors to experience artifacts from the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum, including hundreds of personal items—such as suitcases, eyeglasses, shoes—that belonged to survivors and victims of Auschwitz. Other artifacts include concrete posts that were part of the fence of the Auschwitz camp; fragments of an original barrack for prisoners from the Auschwitz III-Monowitz camp; a desk and other possessions of the first and the longest serving Auschwitz commandant Rudolf Hoss; a gas mask used by the SS; Picasso's Lithograph of Prisoner; and an original German-made Model 2 freight train car used for the deportation of Jews to the ghettos and extermination camps in occupied Poland.

Depart: 9:30 a.m.

Return: 9:30 p.m.

Escorts: Vicki Ford 573-694-0014

Lee Bunch 573-797-3271

**Send NO money at this time-- this registration is for the waitlist only. If you are called later to fill a cancellation and can go, cost would be \$66 and you would pay at that time.** Cost would include coach fees, driver's tip, exhibit tickets and water/snacks on coach. **All meals are on your own.**

## **ELVIS: THE MUSICAL**

Capital City Productions

Jefferson City

Saturday, February 19

*Join us for an unforgettable afternoon of music when Capital City Production presents ELVIS: THE MUSICAL.*

This official Elvis Presley bio-musical takes a closer look at the rock star and cultural icon whose impact shaped the history of music and culture. This new musical explores the pivotal moments in Elvis's life through the perspectives of those who knew him best. Using different lenses to dig deeper into fact vs. fiction, ELVIS: THE MUSICAL spans from his impoverished childhood in Tupelo, Mississippi to his triumphant 1968 "Comeback Special," and his ascent to be "The King." It features over 40 Elvis hits and iconic songs including, "That's All Right," "Blue Moon of Kentucky," "All Shook Up," "Heartbreak Hotel," "Burning Love," "Good Rockin' Tonight," "Earth Angel," "Hound Dog," "Don't Be Cruel," "Jailhouse Rock," "Are You Lonesome," and "Blue Suede Shoes."

You will enjoy a dinner buffet in The Hawthorn Banquet Room by the award winning Argyle Catering.

Time: 11:30 a.m. Doors Open  
Noon Buffet Served  
1:00 p.m. Performance

Escorts: Martha Kleindienst 573-353-7582  
Carol Bowdoin 706-338-5726

Cost: \$42 Total due at registration

## **Show-Me Columbia**

**Two Inspirational Sites in Columbia MO**

Tuesday, March 22

Join us for two gem locations in Columbia, Missouri, on Tuesday, March 22. We will depart from the Walmart parking lot on Stadium at 8:15 a.m. and head north. Our first stop will be the new State Historical Society of Missouri (SHSMO).

At this state-of-the-art facility constructed with Missouri woods and stone, we will be welcomed by Dr. Gary Kremer, Executive Director. SHSMO houses thousands of manuscript collections, maps, rolls of newspapers on microfilm, oral history interviews, original photographs, postcards and other graphic materials, a growing collection of Civil War diaries, political papers, genealogy records, and rare books on state and local history.

We'll also discover the state's history through their art gallery which boasts the nation's best collection of Missouri regional and westward expansion art, including Thomas Hart Benton's *Year of Peril* series, Fred Geary's regionalist woodcuts, and one of the largest collections of paintings by George Caleb Bingham. The art will transport you through the eras that shaped Missouri's history. You will have an hour in each area with time to browse the gift shop.

After lunch at the Olive Garden (included in cost of trip), we will visit Mobility Worldwide. Mobility Worldwide is a nonprofit organization that makes three-wheeled, hand-cranked carts for victims of polio and landmines in underdeveloped countries. The carts are made by volunteers with terrain mobility steering, a hand crank, a front-wheel brake and a simple parking brake. This facility constructs, assembles, and ships carts to underdeveloped nations. We will be able to watch the construction and assembly and you can even try out the carts yourself! This is a great resource for providing much needed mobility in underdeveloped countries. Mobility Worldwide offers other needed resources to the countries which we will have an opportunity to learn about and participate in.

After our day of exploring these two exceptional venues, we'll head home, arriving back in Jefferson City at approximately 4:45 p.m.

Depart: 8:15 a.m.

Return: 4:45 p.m.

Escorts: Paula Hilkemeyer 816-518-9039  
Marge Kudrna 573-694-8550

Cost: \$60 Total due with registration

**From Fish to Wine**  
**Exploring St. James in Springtime**  
Thursday, April 21

Join us as we celebrate spring! Departing from the Walmart parking lot on Stadium Blvd., we will head for Maramec Spring Park, just outside of St. James. Our day will begin there with a guided tour of the Park and Ironworks with their naturalist, Kendra Swee. She will accompany us as we walk around the spring. Please note: although this is a short walk, we will be going over some uneven terrain and different surface types. We will also visit the Rainbow Trout Fish Hatchery managed by the Missouri Department of Conservation, the Maramec Museum and their Agricultural Museum.

From the Park, it is just a short coach ride back into St. James. There we will spend a delightful afternoon at the St. James Winery and Public House Taproom. Our hosts will tell us about the area and their companies as well as fill us in on the wine and beer making processes before touring both the winery and brewery. At the conclusion of each tour you, will have an opportunity to taste some of the wines and beers they produce.

Lunch (included in cost of the trip) will be hosted at the Public House Brewing Company Garden. There will be a selection of their wood-fired pizzas, a spring green salad and your choice of soft drink, tea or coffee.

With any remaining time before we head back to Jefferson City, you can visit the winery gift shop or sit and enjoy the spring day with a glass of wine or beer. If you are so inclined, you can walk across the parking lot to a second winery and sample their wines as well.

So, come join us for a great spring day in St. James!!

Depart: 7:30 a.m.

Return: 5:30 p.m.

Escorts: Carole Spencer 573-694-5776

Wendy Hansen 573-645-2031

Cost: \$55 Total due with registration

**Osage County**  
**Ambulances, Farms & Flowers**  
Wednesday, May 4

Join us as we explore our neighbor, Osage County. We'll depart Walmart parking lot on Stadium Blvd., Jefferson City at 8:30 a.m. on May 4. After we stop for a brief restroom break at the Osage County Community Center, a step on guide will join us for the day.

Then it's on to Osage Industries where we'll have a tour of the factory which has been in operation for 35 years. They began by building personal-use conversion vans. As they moved into the production of emergency vehicles, they began to create high quality custom ambulances for communities across America.

Not too far away is our next stop which will be a visit to Linn's St. George Catholic Church, started in 1866. The present building was dedicated in May of 1976 but recently the entire sanctuary was renovated. A member of the parish will be greeting us and be available to answer any questions about the church and school.

A homemade lunch of German pot roast, mashed potatoes, cabbage slaw, and a vegetable will then be served right at the church by the St. Ann's Sodality. Very important--we'll be treated to some yummy homemade desserts!

After lunch, we return to the coach and, after a short drive, will be at the Seven Thunder Bison Farm where we'll be joined by Steve Smyth. He will share the history of their operation and you will have a close-up view of the bison without getting off the coach.

Next, we'll visit one of the largest farming operations in the Chamois bottom, the Paulsmeyer Family Farms. They are a sixth generation farm and, besides raising corn and soybeans, they grow sweet corn, melons, and pumpkins. They will be sharing their story about the 2019 floods as well as showing and demonstrating some of the equipment that they use in their operation.

To end our tour of Osage County, we head to Countryside Gardens in their picturesque location near Frankenstein. They will visit with us about their operation before turning us loose in their large array of plants, trees, and other garden accessories which we can purchase. Heads up: this is the Wednesday before Mother's Day so, guys, this is a great opportunity to find something for that special woman in your life. And, ladies, it's okay to treat yourselves too!

We'll load up once more and, after a brief comfort stop at McDonald's near Linn, head back to Jefferson City, returning at approximately 5:00 p.m.

Depart: 8:30 a.m.

Return: 5:00 p.m.

Escorts: John Gulick 573-690-1076

Wendy Hansen 573-645-2031

Cost: \$60 Total due with registration

# HAMILTON, THE MUSICAL

St. Louis Fox Theater

Thursday, May 12

Lin-Manuel Miranda's Pulitzer prize-winning transformation of Ron Chernow's biography, *Hamilton*, into a hip-hop musical took the world by storm. At the center of this groundbreaking multi-award-winning musical is the story of founding father, Alexander Hamilton, whose ambition drove him from the position of Caribbean outsider and bastard child to American war hero and George Washington's right-hand man. In the process, Alexander Hamilton powerfully shaped America as we have come to know it – and gave us all a template for what it means to pull ourselves up by our bootstraps and realize the American Dream.

This exploration of *Hamilton* is being called “the most exciting and significant musical of the decade.” David Brooks, of the *New York Times*, declared *Hamilton* to be “one of the most exhilarating experiences I've had in the theatre.” With heart, humor, and respect, Lin-Manuel Miranda's musical breathes vibrant, colorful life into this story of America's founding fathers.

For those of you who haven't seen it, you might want to listen to the CD (or watch some YouTube videos). There is so much happening on the stage that it's hard to watch and listen at the same time! Don't be put-off by the label “hip-hop”! Granted, it is not a musical in the *MY FAIR LADY* or *WICKED* tradition, but a blend of styles. The choreography is unbelievable. For those who have seen it, just sit back and enjoy it once more!

Our seats are on the main floor in Orchestra Four, rows V, W, X. We have the entire three rows from aisle four to aisle five, 20 rows from the stage! We are VERY EXCITED about our seats—and excited you won't have to mortgage the farm to pay for your ticket!

After the 1 p.m. matinee, we will have an early dinner at Zia's Restaurant on The Hill. The meal is included with registration. After dinner, we will travel back to Jefferson City—making one comfort stop if necessary. More information will be included in your notification letter in April.

Please NOTE: Covid-19 protocols (proof of vaccination and masks worn inside theater) are currently in effect at the Fox Theater through January 4<sup>th</sup>. We will keep you advised as to what protocols are required in our April reminder letter.

Departure time: 9:15 a.m.

Return: 8:30 p.m.

Escorts: Vicki Ford 573-694-0014

Martha Kleindienst 573-353-7582

Cost: \$190 \$100 due with registration

\$ 90 final payment due March 30

## Where the Wild Things Are

Wednesday, May 25

We hope you will join us for a trip on the wild side. This one-day adventure along the I-44 corridor focuses on animals: rescuing horses, saving endangered wolves and preserving and protecting birds around the world. These are mostly outdoor venues with walking on paved and natural paths. Benches are provided along the way for anyone wanting to rest.

We depart from the Walmart parking lot on Stadium Boulevard at 7:15 a.m. on Wednesday morning. We will go directly to the Longmeadow Rescue Ranch near Union, arriving at approximately 9:00 a.m. and will take a brief comfort break before beginning our tour.

The ranch was established in 1988 by George Packwood, Jr. specifically for the care of ranch animals. Initially known as the Packwood Longmeadow Farm, it was later renamed the Longmeadow Rescue Ranch. The ranch focuses on rescuing and training horses but is also home to some other farm animals affectionately referred to as barn buddies. We will spend two hours learning about the ranch, enjoying a wagon ride around the grounds, taking a short walk through the stables and exploring the gift shop.

At 11:15 a.m. we will board the coach for a delicious buffet lunch at the Pacific Brew Haus. The three-story building was built from remaining material and ornamentals of the 1904 St. Louis World's Fair. Lunch will be served on the third floor which is accessible by stairs or elevator. The "Opera House of Pacific" still houses a complete 1904 World's Fair stage. There is additional World's Fair memorabilia for your viewing.

At 1:15 p.m. we will board the coach for the Endangered Wolf Center. For more than four decades the Center, founded by Marlon Perkins, has been recognized for its achievements and leadership role in the recovery of the endangered species in its care. Its mission is to preserve and protect Mexican wolves, red wolves and other wild canid species through carefully managed breeding, reintroduction into their native habitat, and inspiring educational programs. It is approximately a one and a half mile walk to view five different endangered wolf breeds and learn about each from our guides. There are benches and shade along the route and a golf cart is available for anyone that would be more comfortable riding in place of walking. They have an extensive gift shop with wolf displays and benches if you prefer to spend time there.

At 3:00 p.m. we will head for the World Bird Sanctuary. Established in 1977, the Sanctuary works to preserve and protect bird species around the world against endangerment and extinction. Over 200 non-releasable birds are in its care and 500 birds are receiving medical care in its rehabilitation hospital. Our one-hour tour will be led by guides as we walk along the enclosures and learn about the various species. If you need to rest a bit, there are benches along the paved walkway. You can also relax at the tables and chairs near the gift shop.

At 4:30 p.m. after a day with the wild things, we will board the coach for home, stopping at the Union McDonald's for a 30-minute comfort and food break. We will depart at 5:30 p.m. with an estimated 7:00 p.m. arrival time at the Jefferson City Walmart.

Depart: 7:15 a.m.

Return: 7:00 p.m.

Escorts: Kay Martellaro 573-680-6058

Kay Freidinger 573-645-3116

Cost: \$100 Total due with registration

**Rollin' with the Rivers**  
**Great Rivers Road Trip**  
Wednesday-Thursday, June 29-30

Rivers are such an important part of our country's story and on this trip we're going to explore and experience two of the major arteries that make up the Midwest's history: the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers.

We leave early Wednesday morning, June 29 from the Walmart Parking lot on Stadium Blvd. and, after a comfort stop at Warrenton, head for the Lewis & Clark State Historic Trail Site in Hartford, Illinois which commemorates Camp River Dubois. This is the camp where Meriwether Lewis and William Clark planned their journey to explore the western U.S. with the Corps of Discovery from December 1803 to May 1804. We'll watch the film "At Journey's Edge" and while wandering through five exhibit rooms, view a 55-foot full scale "cutaway" keelboat as well as other interesting exhibits. A replica of Camp River Dubois is located outside of the Interpretive Center.

Next, we'll enjoy a picnic lunch at the covered pavilion at the Lewis & Clark Site before heading to the National Great Rivers Museum & the Melvin Price Locks & Dam. Our group will rotate between a guided tour of the lock structure, their movie, and museum. The Locks and Dam help control the flow of the Mississippi and are the means by which barges are able to navigate the river. Constructed between 1978 and 1994, it is one of the largest lock structures on the river.

As we leave the Locks & Dam, we begin our drive along the Great River Road (recognized as one of the most scenic river drives in the country) to the Grafton SkyTour at Aerie's Resort. By now, we've had a lot of educational input so this will be our time to relax a bit while actually experiencing the river in a unique way! The winery/resort is located atop the bluffs of the majestic Mississippi with breathtaking views of the confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. To get to those views, we'll soar over the treetops in an aerial-lift (either open chair or enclosed gondola)! We will arrive and depart to the winery this way. (If you choose not to ride on the aerial, we'll also have a shuttle bus option as the coach cannot maneuver the steep road.) While at the winery, you may enjoy a glass of wine, other beverage of your choice or a snack (on your own).

Leaving the winery, we'll travel about ten minutes up the road to Pere Marquette Lodge in Pere Marquette State Park where we'll have dinner and spend the night. The main part of the Lodge was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps during the Great Depression of the '30s. It was constructed of limestone and massive timbers and is nestled in a very scenic area with a terrace and walking areas that you can enjoy. It features a 700-ton stone fireplace in the Great Room, a life-size chess set, an indoor pool, and an on-site winery.

After we get settled in and freshened up, we'll be treated to a fried chicken dinner with all the fixings (that the Lodge is widely known for). They will be able to accommodate dietary needs if we let them know in advance. The rest of the evening is yours for relaxation of your choice.

The next morning we'll begin with a buffet breakfast at the Lodge and then head out at 9:30 a.m. for the Grafton Harbor where we'll board the Hakuna Matata (no worries!) for a boat cruise of the Mississippi and/or Illinois Rivers. This is another way to experience the river! Some drinks/snacks will be available for you to purchase.

We will then travel south to Collinsville, IL where we'll have a tour, tasting and lunch at Old Herald Brewery & Distillery. This former site of the Collinsville Herald newspaper has been transformed into a full service restaurant, production brewery and craft distillery. Craft beers such as Proofreader Pale and Printer's Ink harken back to the site's printing history. The buffet lunch and tasting are included in cost of the trip.

After lunch, we have about a ten minute drive to Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site. Here we explore the remains of the most sophisticated Indian civilization north of Mexico from about 700 A.D. to 1300. The site was once home to nearly 20,000 Native American Indians who thrived amid more than 120 mounds. The 2,200-acre tract is also designated as one of 24 World Heritage Sites in the U.S. We'll all view the wonderful "City of the Sun" video followed by self-guided viewing of the interpretive center inside or hiking the interpretive trails outside. The largest mound, Monks Mound, has 147 steps to the top and affords a great view of the region, including downtown St. Louis and the Gateway Arch (on a clear day). The climb is purely optional and we'll decide at the time if there is interest for **some** to do that.



As we leave Cahokia Mounds, we'll cross the Mississippi once more and head for home with a comfort stop in Warrenton and arrive back at Walmart in Jefferson City by approximately 6:40 p.m. We hope you will have gained a new appreciation for the power, usefulness and beauty of one of our most precious resources: the river.

Depart: 7:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 29

Return: 6:40 p.m., Thursday, June 30

Escorts: Wendy Hansen 573-645-2031

Julie Cook 573-230-4914

Cost: Single: \$320 \$180 due with registration  
\$140 final payment due by May 18

Double: \$260 \$150 due with registration  
\$110 final payment due by May 18

## **FREAKY FRIDAY**

The New Theatre, Overland Park, KS

Saturday, July30

*Freaky Friday* is a new musical adaptation of the beloved novel and the hit Disney film of the same name. It's a heartfelt, comedic and unexpectedly emotional update on the American classic. When an overworked mother and her teenage daughter magically swap bodies, they have just one day to put things right again. By spending a day in each other's shoes, Katherine and Ellie come to appreciate one another's struggles, learn self-acceptance and realize the immeasurable love and mutual respect that bond a mother and daughter.

To begin our journey, we will meet the coach near the Central Bank ATM on the Walmart parking lot, 724 Stadium West Boulevard, Jefferson City. We will depart at 7:45 a.m. with a comfort stop at McDonald's in Sedalia, arriving at the New Theater in Overland Park KS at 11:15 a.m.

In addition to the laughs, travelers will also enjoy the wonderful New Theatre lunch buffet prior to the matinee. At 3:30 p.m. we will depart from the New Theatre with another comfort stop at McDonald's in Sedalia. We should arrive back at the Walmart Parking Lot by 7:00 p.m.

Depart: 7:45 a.m.

Return: 7:00 p.m.

Escorts: Martha Kleindienst 573-353-7582

Ed Zagorac 573-230-4840

Cost: \$80 Total due with registration

### **Learning In Retirement, Inc.**

Office Hours: 10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Mon.-Thurs.

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