

The Bed and Breakfast Tour

June 8-13, 2026 6 Days, 5 Nights All-Inclusive

This tour includes 4 Bed and Breakfasts, 3 National Parks, 2 Presidential Home Tours and 1 Train Ride in a Private Rail Car, 5 Breakfasts, 6 Lunches, 5 Dinners

June 8

7:30 am – Leave the Watertown Plank Park and Ride with additional pick-ups at The Brat Stop in Kenosha (I will arrange in advance for you). The first stop will be a luncheon tea (included) at the **Oliver Mansion** in South Bend.



After lunch we move on to Elkhart, Indiana for a tour of the **Gene Stratton-Porter Estate**. In her lifetime, Porter authored 12 novels, seven nature studies, three poetry books, children's books and numerous magazine articles. With an estimated 50 million readers, her works have been translated into several foreign languages as well as Braille. Eight of her novels were produced as motion pictures.



On this day we visit her home and estate. Relax in 148 acres of loveliness and lush gardens. Tour Gene's magnificent waterside cabin. Learn about the force that was Gene Stratton-Porter. Dinner (included) will be served on the grounds of the estate.

After the tour we move on to [Potawatomi Inn](#) nestled on Lake James in Angola, IN where we rest for the night.



June 9

After breakfast (included) at the inn, we leave to tour the **Rutherford B Hayes Estate, Spiegel Grove**— the home, museum, grounds and tomb.



Rutherford Birchard Hayes was the **19th** president of the United States, serving from **1877 to 1881**. A staunch abolitionist from Ohio, he was also a brevet major general for the Union army during the American Civil War. We discover his past here at **Spiegel Grove**. Lunch (included) will be served at Spiegel Grove with the tour to follow.

We make our way to our next stay after the tour, with dinner (included) along the way. **The Historic Island House** has hosted stars like Marilyn Monroe and Joe DiMaggio and Presidents Taft, Hayes and Garfield and many more notables. We walk in their footsteps as we sleep in the rooms they slept in.



June 10

Following an early breakfast (included), we check out and board the ferry to **Put-In-Bay**, Ohio – bus and all. Put-In-Bay is an island off shore of Lake Erie chalk full of history and fun. Often called the “Key West of the North,” Put-In-Bay features a lively entertainment scene, historic sites, and breathtaking water views.



While on the island we will visit several must see sites:

Perry's Victory and International Peace Memorial is the national park in Put-In-Bay, Ohio. The national memorial was established to honor Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry's victory in the Battle of Lake Erie. It is located on South Bass Island and is surrounded by 25 acres of landscaped ground. Following the tour we break for lunch (included).



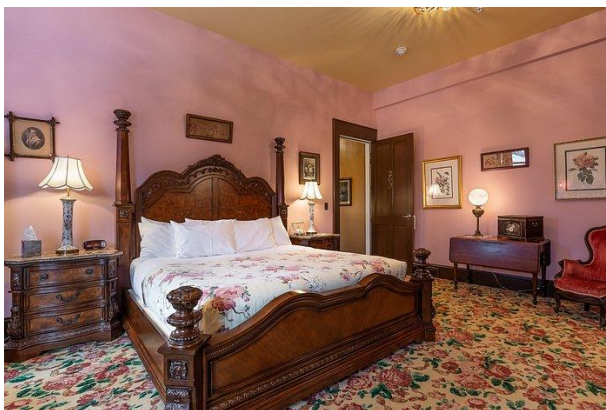
Heineman Winery and Crystal Cave – Crystal Cave is the world’s largest geode. The cave is uneven and tight to get into. Enjoy it if you can. But right next door is the Heineman Winery where we have a tasting scheduled in the Wine Garden. The Heineman Winery was founded in 1888 by Gustav Heineman, an immigrant from Baden, Germany, the grape growing region of that country. The Lake Erie Islands were already noted for quality grapes as a result of ideal soil conditions and the long growing season because of the tempering effect of Lake Erie.



Skip Duggan’s Antique Car Museum – Bask in all of the old car yumminess in this barn.



After dinner (included) on the island, we board the ferry and head for the **Steele Mansion Bed and Breakfast** in Painesville, Ohio. One of the most magnificent bed and breakfasts in the midwest, it's our home for two nights. It was rescued from the wrecking ball within two months of demolition by the current owner. The story of the Steele Mansion begins in 1867, marking a pivotal chapter in Painesville's architectural history. Constructed as the residence for George Steele, an opulent businessman and significant figure in the local community, the mansion quickly earned the name of the "Jewel of Painesville." According to historical records and accounts, the daily newspaper of the time lauded the mansion as the grandest home in town, setting a new benchmark for luxury and elegance. George Steele and President James Garfield were very close friends.



June 11

After breakfast (included) we head for **The Christmas Story House**.



This is the set of the classic Christmas movie, A Christmas Story. We tour the house and then enjoy lunch (included) at another set from the movie, **The Rowley Inn**. Following lunch we tour The James A. Garfield Nation Historic Site.



The James A. Garfield National Historic Site is a United States National Historic Site located in Mentor, Ohio. The site preserves the **Lawnfield Estate** and surrounding property of James A. Garfield, the 20th president of the United States, and includes the first presidential library established in the United States.

The Garfield Historical Site is one of the most accurately restored and highly detailed of the 19th-century U.S. presidential sites. Of its hundreds of examples of antique Victorian furniture, over 80% was owned by the Garfield family themselves in the 1880s. Many others were acquired or recreated by the National Park Service to supplement the collection. Ten wallpapers were also reproduced from photographs, and from samples found under layers of wallpaper applied through the subsequent decades. We enjoy the tour followed by dinner (included) at The Steele Mansion.

June 12

After breakfast (included) at the inn we check-out and head for **The Cuyahoga Valley Scenic Railroad** located in **Cuyahoga National Park**. Today's activity is a stunning 3.5-hour train ride through the national park on a PRIVATE RAIL CAR reserved just for us. Lunch is included on the tour.



We leave the national park for the [Gordon Beach Inn](#) with dinner along the way. The Gordon Beach Inn is a nationally known and recognized State of Michigan Historic Site. The Inn was built in the 1920s and features a warm and distinctive atmosphere.



June 13

After breakfast (included) we check-out and visit the **Barker Mansion**. The mansion has just reopened after years of renovation. Built in 1857, The Barker Mansion is a monument to Gilded Age architecture.



Lunch (included) will be located in the carriage house on the grounds of the estate. A 90-minute tour of the mansion follows. After the tour we return to our original pick-up points.

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