

ECO-TOUR OF MINNESOTA AND ITS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE

8 DAYS/7 NIGHTS, AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 7, 2009

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Scheduled transfers to/from MSP airport
- 7 Nights Accommodations
- 7 Breakfasts/4 Lunches/5 Dinners
- **IEN Host Onboard the Entire Tour**
- Vista Fleet Duluth Harbor Cruise
- Great Lakes Aquarium
- S.S. William A. Irvin Ore Boat Museum
- Gooseberry Falls State Park
- Split Rock Lighthouse State Park
- International Wolf Center
- Bois Forte Cultural Museum
- Tower-Soudan Underground Mine
- Federal Dam Historian
- **Special Presentation by Tom Goldtooth of Indigenous Environmental Network**
- Schumacher's Straw Bale House
- Concordia Bio-House
- Native American Wild Ricing
- Walleye Fishing on Red Lake Reservation
- Red Lake Foods
- Red Lake Tribal Roundhouse History Presentation
- Labor Day Pow-Wow
- Headwaters of the Mississippi River
- Mississippi River Cruise

DAY 1 WELCOME!

Welcome to the Land of 10,000 Lakes—Minnesota! Arrival transfers are available at 10AM, 1PM and 4PM. This evening, we will enjoy a wonderful welcome dinner where we'll get to know each other. Our home for the night will be the Country Inn & Suites right across from the Mall of America. (D)

DAY 2 DULUTH

We depart this morning for Duluth. Upon arrival, we get to experience the Duluth harbor as we enjoy a luncheon cruise aboard the Vista Fleet. Afterwards, we visit the Great Lakes Aquarium. The Aquarium models a number of habitats from the Great Lakes and around the world. Finally, we tour the ore boat S.S. William A. Irvin. For more than 40 years the S.S. William A. Irvin carried iron ore and coal to Great Lakes ports, often crashing through ferocious storms to reach her destinations. Then, it's off to our home for the evening—Superior Shores resort on majestic Lake Superior, where a delicious dinner awaits us. (CB, L, D)

DAY 3 NORTH SHORE & ELY

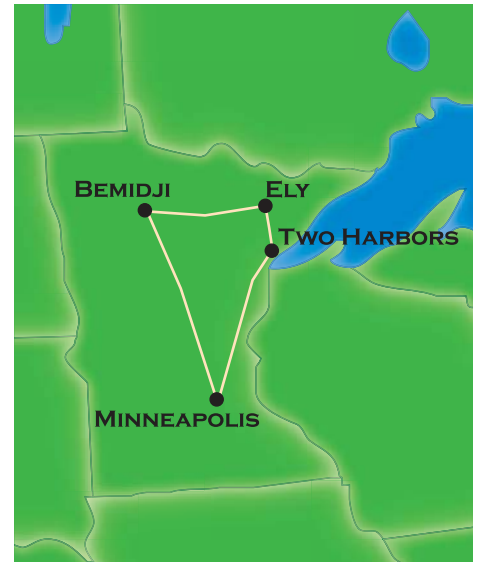
Have your cameras ready for today's trip. Today we will sightsee our way up the North Shore of Lake Superior. We will stop at the gorgeous Gooseberry Falls. Take the opportunity to walk up to look at the waterfalls, perhaps wade in the water. Our next stop will be the Split Rock Lighthouse. Beautiful views are abundant at this fully functional lighthouse. Take a break with us and enjoy the beautiful Minnesota wilderness as we have a picnic box lunch! This afternoon, we head inland to look for some indigenous wildlife in the area that include; whitetail deer, timber wolves, black bears, and hopefully a moose or two. We will arrive in Ely, MN later to tour the International Wolf Center. Tonight we rest our heads at the Bois Forte Band's Fortune Bay Hotel & Casino. (B, L, D)



GO DEEP UNDERGROUND IN THE TOWER-SOUDAN MINE!!

DAY 4 MINING & HISTORY

Our first stop this morning is the Bois Forte Band Cultural Museum and Heritage Center. The history of the Bois Forte Band is told and how they survived in this area. There are several artifacts that are on display such as their bead work, clothing, tools and hunting items. Later, we get a first-hand look at the mining history in Northern Minnesota. On our tour of the Tower-Soudan Mine, visitors wear hard hats and journey down 2,341 feet via a "cage." On the 27th level, the transportation shifts to a rail car for a ride back into the mine as you listen to the stories of the mining days. We then journey to Federal Dam, MN, home of the last conflict between the U.S. Government



and the Native Americans. We will have a local historian tell us of the battle that occurred and we will be able to imagine it as we look at the site. Tonight we will enjoy a wonderful dinner sponsored by the Indigenous Environmental Network in Bemidji, MN. Tom Goldtooth, Executive Director, and several of the staff will be on hand to provide a presentation on the environmental impacts that have occurred in our area in the past, with views on our present and future situations. Our next three nights are at the Hampton Inn on Lake Bemidji in Bemidji. (B, D)

DAY 5 BACK TO NATURE

After our continental breakfast, we'll have our first chance to see a low cost way of living "green". We will visit the Schumacher's Straw Bale House. This house was built for around \$20,000. The family lives off their farm by growing their own foods, and is completely off the electrical grid. Next stop, experience the Bio-House at



HARVEST WILD RICE

Any questions? Call Erik or Tam at 1.877.828.4332 or +1.218.828.4332

Concordia Language Village. This building was designed and built using the state of the art in building materials and designs. This building is 84 percent more energy efficient than a building of the same size, built using traditional methods. Some of the highlights of this building are geothermal heating, triple pane windows, and solar for heating the air and water. This afternoon, we are going to learn how to harvest wild rice first-hand! After our local guides give us an onshore lesson of how to “knock” the rice off its stalk, you will be given an opportunity to go out and harvest some rice. Be careful; if you rock the canoe too much you could tip over and lose all your wild rice! After we have harvested some rice, we will go to a local ricing camp. At the ricing camp we will be shown the process of making the green wild rice into an edible gourmet. Later, take the opportunity to explore the Bemidji area. Perhaps take a stroll to the legendary statues of “Paul and Babe” on the Lake Bemidji waterfront. These are the second most photographed statues in the United States, only behind Mount Rushmore in South Dakota. (CB)

DAY 6 RED LAKE RESERVATION

Bring your cameras for another picturesque day. After our continental breakfast, we will begin by going to the only closed reservation in the United States. Tribal Fishing Licenses will be obtained for all in the group for a morning of fishing. We will be seeking the world-famous “Red Lake Walleye”. Local tribal members will be our guides to fishing the outlet of Lower Red Lake. After we hopefully catch some walleye, we will take a short trip to the Red Lake Fisheries for a tour of their operation. As we take our tour, we will see our catch processed and frozen. Our next stop will be the Red Lake Foods Building. We will be given a tour of the facility where they make their own jams,



VISIT RED LAKE FISHERIES



PARTICIPATE IN RED LAKE’S LABOR DAY POW-WOW!

jellies, and other wonderful treats. Next is a highlight of your trip. We will go to a traditional roundhouse to be told of the history of the Red Lake Reservation and its people. Our next stop is to attend the Labor Day Pow-Wow in Ponemah, MN. Here we will watch internationally known traditional dancers and drum groups from the reservation. Enjoy the traditional drums and songs sung in their native language. There are several types of Native American Dances that will be showcased, and several dances that are open to everyone so you can participate. During an intermission, you will be invited to participate in a highlight dinner—a traditional feast, including walleye, wild rice, and berries. We will return to Bemidji in the evening. (CB, L, HD)

DAY 7 ITASCA STATE PARK

After breakfast, we make our way back to Minneapolis. On our way we visit the headwaters of the mighty Mississippi River. Here you can take your shoes off and wade across the river or take your chances on crossing the rocks that create the headwaters. We then travel to Brainerd for our farewell brunch cruise on the Mississippi River. Explore the beautiful Upper Mississippi River of the Brainerd Lakes Area aboard the Mississippi Belle. Afterward, we return to Minneapolis for dinner and last minute shopping at the famous Mall of America (time permit-

ting). We overnight at the Country Inn & Suites for our last evening together. (B, L)

DAY 8 HOMEWARD BOUND

This morning you may have one last chance to explore Mall of America (based on departure time). Airport transfers are available at 8AM, 10AM and Noon. We hope that by taking this tour, you have a better understanding of the Native Americans, this region, and the need to find solutions to keeping Mother Earth healthy for generations to come. (CB)



ALL ABOARD THE MISSISSIPPI BELLE!

PRICE (LAND ONLY)

DBL (2 to a room).....\$2,499.00pp
 SGL (1 to a room)\$2,899.00pp

NOT INCLUDED:

Some meals, items of a personal nature, driver and tour director gratuities, and traveler’s insurance.

PROOF OF CITIZENSHIP:

Passport requirements for non-US citizens varies by country. Please consult your appropriate consulate for further details.

Note: These prices may be subject to a fuel surcharge.

Any questions? Email us at epaulson@ptstours.com

SIGN-UP SHEET

<u>Passenger 1</u>	<u>Passenger 2</u>
Name _____	Name _____
Address _____	Address _____
City/State _____ Postal Code _____	City/State _____ Postal Code _____
Phone _____	Phone _____
Email _____	Email _____
Birthdate: _____ Passport # _____	Birthdate: _____ Passport # _____

Special Requests

Smoking Preference: Non-Smoking Smoking

Bed configuration: Two Beds One Bed

Special Requests: Ground Floor Room: Handicap Room:

Special Occasions: _____

Other Special Requests: _____

TO RESERVE SPACE

You must send in a deposit to reserve space. PTS Tours cannot hold space for more than 5 business days without deposit. The deposit amount for this tour is \$250.00 per person. Final payment is due in our office on or before July 1, 2009. Please send all payments to: PTS Tours, 405 Washington Street, Brainerd, MN USA 56401.

CANCELLATION PENALTIES

Please note that cancellation penalties only take effect AFTER July 1, 2009!

<u>Days Prior to Departure</u>	<u>Cancellation Penalty</u>
Before Final Payment Date.....	None
Final Payment - 61 Days.....	Deposit Amount
60 - 31 Days	50% of Total Charges
30 Days to Departure	100% of Total Charges

PAYMENT CONDITIONS

We accept cashier's checks or bank money orders (drawn on US banks). If you wish to pay by credit card, please call our office between the hours of 8AM - 5PM Central Time, USA.

TOUR DOCUMENTS

Tour members will receive their tour documents approximately one week before departure. The documents will include tour information book, personal data sheet and a luggage tag. Name tags will be given upon arrival. ****NOTE: IF YOU CHOOSE TO BOOK YOUR OWN AIRFARE, PLEASE DO NOT BOOK IT UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED NOTICE FROM PTS TOURS THAT THE TOUR IS A GUARANTEED DEPARTURE. PTS TOURS IS NOT LIABLE FOR ANY AIR PURCHASED SEPARATELY.****

CURRENCY RATES

All tour prices are subject to revision in the event of a fluctuation in tariff, currency rates, fuel surcharges or other factors which are beyond our control. Every effort has been made to publish accurate pricing. We reserve the right to correct errors. Prices are quoted in US dollars and will be charged in US dollars. **Fuel surcharges may be added at any time and are collectable at that time.**

BY SIGNING UP FOR THIS TOUR, ALL PASSENGERS AGREE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS LISTED IN THIS BROCHURE.

Any questions? Call Erik or Tam at 1.877.828.4332 or +1.218.828.4332

GENERAL INFORMATION AND TERMS & CONDITIONS OF SALE

SMOKING POLICY

For maximum tour enjoyment by all participants, there will be no smoking while aboard the motorcoach. Frequent stops are made for those who wish to smoke. Please be aware that many hotels do not allow smoking in the rooms. PTS Tours will request, but cannot guarantee, smoking rooms for those who wish them.

CLOTHING AND LUGGAGE

On tour, dress is casual unless otherwise advised. Comfortable walking shoes are recommended. One suitcase (50 pounds/22 kilos or less) and one small carry-on (fits under seat or overhead of motorcoach) is allowed per passenger. It is the responsibility of the passenger for his/her carry-on bag.

ELIGIBILITY

To fully enjoy your tour, you should be in good physical and mental health. If you have any physical or mental limitations, please advise us of your situation when making your reservation. Travelers who require assistance must be accompanied by an able companion who will provide all necessary assistance. To be fair to all travelers, we reserve the right to decline or remove anyone whose health impacts the safety, welfare or enjoyment of the group. PTS Tours reserves the right to terminate the tour of any persons who are objectionable to other passengers or who disrupt the operation of the tour.

CUSTOMS/IMMIGRATION DOCUMENTATION

Please be aware that immigration requirements may change. PTS Tours is not responsible for any additional costs due to customs/immigration requirements, nor is PTS Tours financially liable for any passenger without proper customs/immigration documentation. The price of all customs/immigration documentation is the sole responsibility of the passenger.

PROTECT YOUR TOUR INVESTMENT WITH COMPREHENSIVE TRAVEL INSURANCE!

We strongly urge you to purchase travel insurance. Information on insurance coverage and an application form will be mailed to you upon reservation. If you wish to be covered for a pre-existing condition, you must pay the insurance premium with your deposit. If you wish to purchase insurance, you must do so by final payment. Travel Insurance issued through PTS Tours is only available to US citizens. We are unable to process any insurance applications once final payment has been received. Upon receipt, please read insurance policy carefully. PTS Tours is not responsible for coverage. Final determination of benefits is responsibility of insurance underwriter only.

RESPONSIBILITY

This tour is arranged and operated by PTS Tours, a division of Paulson Travel Service, Inc., 405 Washington Street, Brainerd, Minnesota USA 56401 with the cooperation of Indigenous Environmental Network, PO Box 485, Bemidji, MN USA 56619. In all matters relating to the making of arrangements for hotel and/or motel accommodations, sightseeing tours and services provided incidental thereto, entertainment, and transportation by air, railroad, motor bus, automobile or steamship, PTS Tours and its subsidiaries act only in the capacity of an agent for the airlines, hotels/motels, and other suppliers stated in the tour literature describing the services purchased. Because of its status as an agent, and because it maintains no control over the personnel, equipment, or operations of these travel service suppliers, PTS Tours and its subsidiaries assume no responsibility for and cannot be held liable for any personal injury, property damage or other loss, accident, delay, inconvenience, or irregularity which may be occasioned either by reason of (1) any wrongful, negligent, or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any of these suppliers, (2) any wrongful, negligent, or unauthorized acts or omissions on the part of any employee of any of these suppliers, (3) any defect in or failure of any vehicle, equipment, or instrument owned, operated or otherwise used by any of these suppliers, or (4) any wrongful or negligent acts or omissions on the part of any other party not under the supervision and control, direct or otherwise, of PTS Tours.

PAULSON TRAVEL SERVICE, INC. RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE ITINERARIES WITH OR WITHOUT NOTICE.



**A PORTION OF PROCEEDS WILL BE DONATED TO
INDIGENOUS ENVIRONMENTAL NETWORK.**

Any questions? Email us at epaulson@ptstours.com