Dear Sam Houston Alumni & Friends,

Immerse yourself with unique and captivating experiences, each contributing to the cultural tapestry and natural beauty of the Great Lakes region. Whether you’re seeking the charm of a car-free island, the opulence of a historic hotel, the grandeur of a natural wonder, or a deep dive into American history and innovation, this tour has something to offer every traveler. Begin your journey with visits to the River Rouge Plant, the Henry Ford Museum & Greenfield Village, all located in Dearborn, Michigan. The River Rouge Plant is an industrial landmark and was once the largest integrated factory complex in the world. It played a significant role in the American automotive industry’s history. The Henry Ford Museum is a captivating attraction that celebrates American innovation and history with an extensive collection of historic artifacts, including automobiles, aviation exhibits, presidential limousines, and much more.

The following days will be highlights as we explore the Jewel of Michigan, Mackinac Island, for a two-night stay at the Grand Hotel. This historic hotel opened in 1887. It is renowned for its world-class service, exquisite architecture, and breathtaking views of the Straits of Mackinac along its iconic front porch, all while offering a glimpse into a bygone era. Explore the island on a horse-drawn carriage tour to see stunning natural beauty, rugged cliffs, views of the Great Lakes, and Victorian architecture. A free afternoon allows time to sample fudge and browse the shops along Main Street. Sightseeing of Michigan continues as you cross the Mighty Mac suspension bridge and travel to the charming town of Frankenmuth. Here you’ll find a city with old-world charm known as “Michigan’s Little Bavaria.” Stroll the quaint streets with half-timbered buildings and savor delicious German cuisine. Shop for unique gifts and souvenirs and experience the world’s largest Christmas store at Bronner’s Christmas Wonderland.

Finish this vacation with two nights in Niagara Falls, Canada, where you’ll see and tour the awe-inspiring, massive waterfalls on the Niagara River. Explore the quaint town of Niagara-on-the-Lake and experience the falls up close on a Niagara Falls Cruise. Learn about the natural wonders of the area with a unique experience descending 125 below the falls at the Journey behind the Falls then feel the power of the mighty rapids of the Niagara River at White Water Walks. The final evening features a Farewell Dinner at the top of Skylon Tower in the revolving restaurant overlooking the falls.

Consider joining us on this extraordinary vacation which includes airfare. Reserve your seat today!

Cheers,

Donna Gilbert
Director of Alumni Engagement & Membership

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CANCELLATION FEES**

PREMIER’S TRAVEL PROTECTION PLAN (TPP) $375 per person (must purchase with Initial Deposit)

If purchased by the agent and the TPP is not purchased, are subject to the following per person fees:

- Cancel more than 180 days prior to departure: Full Refund
- Cancel 59-30 days prior to departure: 50% of total price
- Cancel 14 days or less prior to departure/no shows: No refunds

**If purchased, the FTCC (Part A – I.) is non-transferable, may not be redeemed for cash however, if the vouchers are used by respective agents for the passenger in all other travel arrangements of their choice only. There are certain restrictions, exclusions and limitations that apply to all insurance coverages. Plan benefits, limits and provisions may vary by location.

**CANCELLATION FEES**

AIR NOTE

**NO RISK DEPOSIT - NO CHANGE FEES**

**BOOKING**

**NO RISK DEPOSIT**

Traveling Bearkats presents

MACKINAC ISLAND, THE GRAND HOTEL & NIAGARA FALLS

8 Days October 10-17, 2025

Please note: All names and trip dates must be submitted to Premier World Discovery in accordance with the Isis Travel Plan. No exception will be made. A valid US passport is required for this tour and is the responsibility of the participant. US Passport Cards are not accepted for Air Travel to/from Canada.
DAY 1: ARRIVE DETROIT
Upon arrival in Detroit, meet your Tour Director and transfer to your hotel in Dearborn for a two-night stay. Dinner is included this evening.
(B,D) Overnight: Dearborn

DAY 2: FORD FACTORY & VILLAGE
This morning, visit the famous River Rouge Plant, a modern marvel of 21st century manufacturing where Ford F-150 trucks are built. Then, visit the Henry Ford Museum, known as the greatest auto collection documenting the American experience. See the Rosa Parks bus, the chair in which Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, the limousine where President Kennedy was shot, and much more. Also, visit Greenfield Village®, established by Henry Ford in 1929 as a living history museum to celebrate the American spirit from pioneer days to modern times. Tonight enjoy a Welcome Dinner with your fellow travelers.
(B,D) Overnight: Dearborn

DAY 3: DEARBORN - MACKINAC ISLAND
Today, journey north to Mackinac Island. Your adventure begins with a 16-minute ferry ride in the shadow of the Mackinac Bridge. You’ll be greeted with the sights and sounds of the Victorian era, where transportation was by horse drawn carriage or bicycle. Step back in time for two nights at The Grand Hotel, Mackinac’s finest & most famous resort property. The Grand Hotel provides an elegant dining experience for dinner this evening.
(B,D) Overnight: Mackinac Island

DAY 4: MACKINAC ISLAND CARRIAGE RIDE - TIME AT LEISURE
Begin today with a Horse Drawn Carriage Tour of Mackinac Island. Your private carriage will take you on a scenic tour of the famous West Bluff Victorian homes. Enjoy a free afternoon to explore the quaint town and more of the island. This ideal vacation spot is a paradise of exploration with incredible natural landmarks, unique shopping, diverse dining and famous fudge!
(B) Overnight: Mackinac Island

DAY 5: MACKINAC TO FRANKENMUTH
After breakfast, ride the ferry back to the mainland. Cross the Mighty Mac, one of the world’s largest suspension bridges, and later arrive in Frankenmuth. Enjoy this small city settled by Germans from the Bavarian region. The streets are lined with Bavarian style shops including Bronner’s Christmas Wonderland and Frankenmuth Riverplace.
(B,D) Overnight: Frankenmuth

DAY 6: FRANKENMUTH - NIAGARA FALLS
Motorcoach into Ontario, Canada**, and drive east to Niagara Falls, one of the natural wonders of the world. Enjoy the unique Journey Behind the Falls experience where you descend 125-feet and explore 130-year-old tunnels carved through the bedrock. Feel the thunderous vibration of the Horseshoe Falls before arriving at the observation deck for an up close and possibly wet view of the falls. Later check into your hotel for two nights in Niagara Falls.
(B,D) Overnight: Niagara Falls

DAY 7: NIAGARA FALLS AREA
A full day of incredible Niagara Falls Area Sightseeing awaits as you drive the scenic Niagara Parkway with stops at the Hydro Floral Clock and a visit to the quaint town of Niagara-on-the-Lake which sits on Lake Ontario at the mouth of the Niagara River. Stop to experience the White Water Walk which offers a first-hand lesson the Niagara River’s whitewater rapids. Walk on a quarter-mile boardwalk with incredible views that will take your breath away! Later explore the legendary Journey Behind the Falls boat tour for an up close, eye level, inspiring thundering falls. Other than the falls themselves the boat excursion is the most famous attraction in the area. The Niagara Falls were created by glacier activity over 10,000 years ago, and the 3 waterfalls combine to produce the highest flow rate of any waterfall on earth. Tonight enjoy a Farewell Dinner at the world-famous revolving Skylon Tower which combines an exhilarating 52-second ride with the awe of seeing Niagara from 775 feet above the mighty Falls.
(B,D) Overnight: Niagara Falls

DAY 8: NIAGARA FALLS - BUFFALO - FLY HOME
Today motorcoach & cross the border back into the U.S. Visit Goat Island in Niagara Falls, NY for more views of the amazing falls. Then drive to the Buffalo airport for your flight home.
(B)