

Sunday June 10

D

Day 1 - Depart Big Rapids Meijer parking lot at 7 AM (**everyone should have a passport**). Pick up at AMC parking lot on Alpine at 8 AM. We travel via motorcoach to the Canadian border via the Blue Water Bridge and Sarnia. We enjoy a lunch stop at **White Oaks Mall** in London and continue our travels to **Rockway Vineyards** near St Catharine's Ontario for local wine tasting and hiking in the Conservation area. We cross the border again and enter Niagara Falls NY. We check into the brand new **Doubletree by Hilton Niagara Falls NY**.

We enjoy a get-acquainted dinner at **Parkway Prime Restaurant** in the Doubletree Hotel. This evening as the sun begins to set, we enjoy walking the trail along the **Niagara River's** edge while viewing the panoramic vistas of Horseshoe and American Falls...one of the natural Wonders of the World.

Monday June 11

Day 2 - After breakfast on your own, plan your full day of hiking as you wish. There will be a complimentary shuttle service along the Niagara Parkway with various stops at different State Parks. I'd suggest the group start the day's activities at the **Niagara Power Vista** (NY State's largest electricity producer) which includes a Surround Sound 4D Theater, Erosion in Motion, and spectacular views. No park admission fees are required.

Experience America's oldest state park, **Niagara Falls State Park** and all the hiking opportunities in that area. Also hike on **Goat Island** and **Three Sisters Islands** and other sites along the Niagara Scenic Parkway. For an additional fee you can decide to experience the Maid of the Mist Boat Tour & Cave of the Winds. This evening's dinner you can choose from the many local restaurants within walking distance from our hotel. Enjoy our second night at the **Doubletree by Hilton**.

Tuesday June 12

B, L

Day 3 - Breakfast buffet in hotel. We travel to Mount Morris NY where we meet our step-on park guide at the **Letchworth State Park** entrance. She will provide narration including history of the park and flora and fauna details. We will make a few stops at gorge overlooks. The famous **Glen Iris Inn** is our lunch stop. After lunch two park naturalists will divide the group and guide us hiking in the right direction and meeting up with the motorcoach after an approximate 2-hour hike. We depart Letchworth State Park and travel to Corning NY ("Crystal City"). We experience a wine tasting at a popular Finger Lakes winery before checking in at our hotel, the newly renovated and conveniently located to downtown shops, the **Radisson Hotel Corning**. Local cuisine in the Corning Gaffer District is diverse... so everyone can enjoy their culinary delight for dinner tonight. The shops will be open for your browsing in downtown Corning, NY.

Brief History/Facts

Niagara Falls State Park – America's oldest State Park

Letchworth State Park was named "Best State Park in the U.S. in the 2015 USA TODAY Readers' Choice Award for Best State Park.

Letchworth State Park, known as the "Grand Canyon of the East" welcomes 650,000 visitors to Castile, NY each year to explore 66 miles of hiking trails, and other outdoor recreational activities.

Finger Lakes Wine Country – there are over 200 wineries, 75 craft Breweries, Distilleries and Ciders.

Watkins Glen State Park – Water shaped the natural landscape of the park. The public has marveled at the sculptured chasm and the 19 waterfalls of this area for more than a century. The gorge was first opened to the public in 1863. It was privately owned until purchased by NY State in 1906.

Wednesday June 13

B, L, D

Day 4 - Rise and Shine to a Breakfast delight at a local popular restaurant. This morning we experience a fascinating guided tour at the **Corning Museum of Glass**. We visit the new Contemporary Glass Gallery, and everyone has the opportunity to do a hands-on sand blowing wine glass activity. We pick up our box lunch from the Cafe and travel north to Watkins Glen State Park featuring a series of up to 19 waterfalls and gorges and a two-mile hike with over 800 stone steps. We also hike in Buttermilk State park and Robert H Treman State Park later this afternoon. We check into the **Fairfield Inn Ithaca NY**. We enjoy a group Dinner at a local Italian restaurant in downtown Ithaca NY.

Thursday June 14

B, L, D

Day 5 – Breakfast buffet in the hotel. Today we say Farewell to the Finger Lakes area and travel to another scenic area after a stop at a local winery. We enjoy a 3 hour visit at the **Sonnenberg Gardens in Canandaigua NY**. This visit will be a lunch stop and hiking around the grounds. We continue our travels to Buffalo NY and hop aboard our Dinner Cruise on the **Spirit of Buffalo** while we experience old world sailing on a classic 73ft coastal sailing vessel, the same kind that used to carry grain, coal and lumber across the Great Lakes to the Buffalo Harbor. We check into the new **Wyndham Garden Niagara Falls NY**.

Friday June 15

B, L

Day 6 – After Breakfast in the hotel, we cross the US/Canada border at Rainbow Bridge and we travel to Hamilton Ontario. Here we learn about the Niagara Escarpment and hike the **Spencer Gorge** for our morning hike. Then we travel to Ingersoll Ontario where we enjoy a lunch buffet at **Elm Hurst Inn** and continue to the **Duty-Free** store at the Canadian border. We cross the St Clair River on the Blue Water Bridge and travel to Grand Rapids and Big Rapids arriving approximately 6:30 pm and 7:30 pm.

Tour Cost:

- \$ 1500 single occ.
- \$ 1200 pp/double occ.
- \$ 1040 pp/triple occ.
- \$ 970 pp/quad occ.

Tour cost includes motorcoach transportation, 11 meals, attractions, and lodging as listed in this brochure.

The awe-inspiring scenery will create memories to last a lifetime.

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Trip Insurance
Trip cancellation insurance is an option available on multiple day tours. Please check the appropriate box on the reservation form and the insurance form will be mailed with your confirmation letter. The insurance provider is Travelex Insurance Services.

Women's Hiking in the Finger Lakes NY



Buttermilk Falls State Park, Photo: Eric Serritella/Ithaca CVB

June 10-15, 2018 (Sunday-Friday)

Featuring:

- * Niagara Falls State Park, NY
- * Letchworth State Park, NY
- * Corning Museum of Glass, NY
- * Watkins Glen State Park NY
- * Buttermilk Falls State Park, Ithaca
- * Sonnenberg Gardens & Mansion
- * Rockway Vineyard St Catharines
- * Spirit of Buffalo /Dinner cruise

Presented by:



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