Welcome to St. Louis, MO
45th Annual 8th Air Force Historical Society Reunion

Sights of St. Louis (City Tour)
Thursday, October 17, 2019

Sit back and enjoy the amazing sights of St. Louis as your guide expertly traces the history of St. Louis, beginning with the city’s original settlement, Laclède’s Landing. It is now a nine-block historic district filled with renovated turn-of-the-century buildings housing shops, eateries and offices. We will visit the famous Gateway Arch, the Nation’s tallest monument, which commemorates the gateway to the west for thousands of 19th century pioneers. We’ll begin our tour at the Gateways to the West Park, and continue with a walk through the park area of the Arch, Gateway to the West Plaza and the Old Courthouse. The Old Courthouse is the setting for cases involving slavery, the Old and New Testaments, the life of Saint Louis IX, King of France, and many men and women prominent in the history of St. Louis. At the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, also known as the New Cathedral, we will see one of the largest collections of mosaics in the world—84,000 square feet in 8,000 shades of tiny pieces of color! The tiny pieces of tesserae and glass portray scenes from both the Old and New Testaments, the life of Saint Louis IX, King of France, and many men and women prominent in the history of St. Louis.

9:00am board bus, 2:00pm back at hotel.
$65/Person includes bus, guide, and gratuities.
BOX LUNCH INCLUDED!

Keep the Memory Alive Tour
Friday, October 18, 2019

Boeing James S McDonnell Prologue Room

At our first stop on this experience, we will learn the history of the Boeing Company and the companies with which it shares a common heritage paralleling the exciting history of humankind learning to fly. The men and women of the Boeing Company and the aircraft they have built—from the first cloth-and-wood airplanes to today’s sleekest fighters and jetliners—have played a pivotal role in shaping the history of aerospace. The James S. McDonnell Prologue Room in St. Louis tells this panoramic story of nearly eighty decades of aviation progress, from biplanes to bombers to space travel. Scale models, dioramas, paintings, and photographs depict such important events as the first flight around the world in 1924, the first take off of a jet fighter from a US Navy carrier in 1946, the first aircraft to land at the South Pole in 1956, and the first manned spacecraft to orbit the Earth in 1962.

Holocaust Museum and Learning Center

Our next stop is the Holocaust Museum and Learning Center. The work at the Learning Center focuses on building a community of defenders. Even in the face of this world’s history of genocidal injustices perpetrated in Cambodia, Bosnia, Rwanda, and most recently, Darfur, we cannot lose hope that the next generation will hear, understand, feel compassion, and take action to end such tragedies.

The museum contains eight different installations that you can wind your way through. Begin at the Introductory Room which contains pre-World War II photographs of the survivors who immigrated to St. Louis, and then continue through the Rise of Nazism in Germany among many other exhibits.

9:30am board bus, 1:30pm back at hotel.
$26/Person includes bus, guide, and gratuities.
Lunch is on your own.

Sights and Shops in St. Charles Tour
Saturday, October 19, 2019

Enjoy a visit to St. Charles, the oldest town on the Missouri River. Founded as Les Petites Cotes (The Little Hills) by French Canadians, St. Charles has carefully preserved its heritage as a river town that has been welcoming visitors since 1769. Thousands of pioneers replenished supplies here on the awesome journey west. St. Charles is a source of multiple historical encounters: the Lewis and Clark Rendezvous, Missouri’s First State Capitol, and the origin of the Boone’s Lick Trail. We’ll take a driving tour of Main Street—a nine block historic district filled with 80 restored buildings dating from 1790 to 1900. This cobblestone street is known for its array of gift, antique and craft shops.

If you wish, you will have time to explore Missouri’s First State Capitol* or the Lewis & Clark Nature Center* on your own during this tour. The Capitol has been completely restored and furnished as it appeared during the period of 1821-1826 when the Missouri State Legislature met in St. Charles. The lower level of the Nature Center houses replicas of the three boats of the Lewis & Clark Discovery Expedition. Upstairs, the Nature Center is a “hands-on” museum following the adventures of Lewis and Clark into the wilderness of the West. Take in the various displays of Native American tribes, the men of the expedition with their equipment and artifacts, and a walk through the forest as it was during Lewis and Clark’s expedition.

12:00pm board bus, 4:00pm back at hotel.
$26/Person includes bus, guide, and gratuities.
Lunch is on your own.*

*IF you wish to visit the First Missouri State Capitol State Historic Site, admission is $4.50/Person and is NOT included in the cost of this tour. Also, you may choose to visit the Lewis & Clark Boat House and Nature Center, admission is $3.00/Person and again, is NOT included in the cost of this tour.

**A list of restaurants will be provided for your convenience.