HOLIDAY 2020 CUSTOMER NEWSLETTER

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2021 Safe and Small Group Tours and Day Trips

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Debbie's Corner -Holiday Greetings

Tod's Corner -A New Year Soon

WELCOMING Teraca Grim

Nini Harris talks "Life in St. Louis a Century Ago"

Holiday Word Search and more inside this edition!

20 YEARS

Excellence In Travel



www.directionstours.com



Hello DIRECTIONS Tours Travelers and Friends,

All of us at DIRECTIONS Tours miss our customers and being on tour with you VERY much. Thank you for all of your kind comments, cards, emails and calls... we all appreciate the warm words of inspiration and encouragement. I hope this Newletter finds you and your loved ones healthy and happy!!!

Hard to believe that the Holiday Season is upon us... this entire strange year is just about over and with a vaccine rolling out and our knowledge of being able to navigate life more safely, an end seems to be in our reach! Thank goodness!

It has been a hard year for so many financially, emotionally and physically. No Doubt it has severly affected the travel and tourism industry around the world. When I began DIRECTIONS Tours 20 years ago... I knew that we may encounter industry and economic highs and lows (albeit I never thought a pandemic would be one of the lows) and knew that in order to sustain and weather those lows, we needed an emergency financial plan. I have never run DIRECTIONS on credit and never will. During this pause, we have geared up for new and exciting adventures that are "Safe and Responsible". We have also added "Included Travel Insurance" for most tours - so you can feel confident that you are secure in making a reservation for furture travel with us.

Know that DIRECTIONS Tours remains committed to our customers now and always. We will get there and until then - I encourage you to "Be Inspired Now... we will travel soon" - and when that day comes, we call on you to think of us for your next vacation tour or day trip! Stay healthy and safe and take care of each other!

Warm Regards, Tod DeHart, President







DIRECTIONS TOURS, LLC

767 Gravois Road Fenton (St. Louis), MO 63026

314-577-0077 www.directionstours.com

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Hello and Happy Holidays DIRECTIONS family & friends!

I cannot believe that Christmas is now right around the corner. I think back over the last 9 months (who knew this would be this long) which have seemed like an eternity and yet the days have just slipped away so quickly. I hope this letter finds you and yours all staying safe and well.

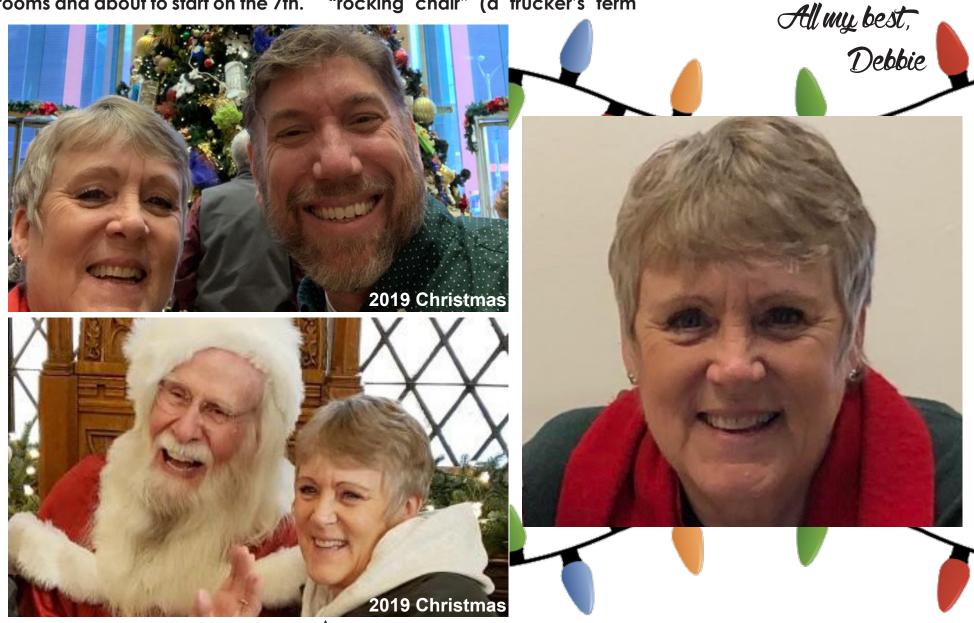
When not working on DIRECTIONS things, I have been staying busy plastering and painting rooms in my house. The last I wrote you I had just finished my study. Now I have completed 6 rooms and about to start on the 7th.

It has kept me busy for sure and the results have been quite rewarding.

As many of you know, in October we had our first overnight motorcoach tours since pandemic first started and they were a great success. We had four coaches; two going to Door County led by Krystal and me, and two going to the Dakotas led by Tod and Linda. I had the pleasure of attempting a first for DIRECTIONS in that while our two buses to Door County travelled in tandem, we also had a lovely couple that travelled with us in their beautiful motorhome. They followed in the "rocking chair" (a trucker's term

for all you 70's CBer's out there) between the two coaches. It was a lot of fun and everyone had a great time. We followed very strict guidelines with masks, washing hands, sanitizing continually and of course social distancing. Definitely a new way of doing tours, but how nice it was to get out and go.

I so wish everyone a SAFE and wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year. Please remember to wear a mask, wash your hands, use hand sanitizer and stay 6 ft apart so we can be together soon. I am certainly looking forward to seeing each of you in 2021!



DIRECTIONS TOURS CUSTOMER NEWSLETTER TOURS

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eraca



My name is Teraca Grim and I am excited about joining the **DIRECTIONS Tours Team!**

I was born in Des Moines, Iowa, however have lived in Arizona, Virginia, Missouri, Illinois, Nebraska and Texas. I graduated from Stephens College in Columbia, Missouri where I studied Dance, Psychology and Sociology.

My professional career up to now has included working as a Loss Prevention Manager for Target, Lowes, Belk, and Lord and Taylor. I have been a Store Manager for Gymboree, Claire's, The Children's Place, Hanna Andersson, American Greetings, and Stride Rite. For the last four years I was the Human Resource and Office Manager for a Mobile App corporation.

I have been married 20 years and have two beautiful daughters. Some of my other hobbies are managing my youngest daughter's competitive soccer team, going to concerts, movies, and I LOVE TO TRAVEL!

I am excited to apply my management and organizational background here at DIRECTIONS Tours and I look forward to speaking and/or meeting you all soon!

Happy and Safe Holidays,

Teraca



Back by Popular Demand... another Fun Motorcoach Mystery Tour Where oh where will we go?

Tour highlights include:



- GREAT DESTINATION & ATTRACTIONS! COMPANY OF FRIENDS!
 - THE BEAUTY OF SPRING! LAUGHTER AND FUN!
 - DELICIOUS FOOD! AND SO MUCH MORE (of course!)

*6 MEALS INCLUDED: 3 BREAKFAST, 3 DINNERS

Please reserve early to ensure your space is secured!



DESTINATION

FEBRUARY 5, 2021

JANUARY 27 - FEBRUARY 5, 2021 (By Coach 10 Days) \$ 2899.00 pp DBL Singles Just \$572.00 addt'l

The tour vacation for the winter blues! Not just exploring the upper or lower Keys... this tour includes <u>ALL</u> of the Keys from Key Largo to Key West and the wild and beautiful Everglades National Park!

A Perfect Vacation Tour For Social Distancing and Relaxation

Tour Highlights include:

- MOTORCOACH ROUND TRIP FROM ST. LOUIS (OR) ROUND TRIP AIRFARE TO/FROM FLORIDA
- TWO NIGHTS WATERFRONT DELUXE HOTEL IN THE KEYS
 ONE NIGHT IN THE EVERGLADES
 THE BEAUTIFUL AND WILD EVERGLADES NATIONAL PARK TOUR AND VISITORS CENTER
- EVERGLADES HISTORIC TAMIAMI TRAIL EVERGLADES SAFARI PARK AND AIRBOAT RIDE SPECTACULAR SCENERY DRIVING THE FLORIDA KEYS OVERSEAS HIGHWAY!
- FULL DAY IN KEY WEST FOR BROWSING AND SHOPPING EVERGLADES WONDER GARDENS
- FAMOUS KEY WEST CONCH TRAIN CITY TOUR LOURDES "HURRICANE" GROTTO AND SHRINE
 - SOMBRERO BEACH THE KEYS MOST PRISTINE!

*14 MEALS INCLUDED: 9 BREAKFASTS, 5 DINNERS

NIGHT #1: KENNESAW, GA NIGHT #2: DRURY INN & SUITES, GAINESVILLE, FL
NIGHT #3: DRURY INN & SUITES, FT. MYERS, FL NIGHT #4: HOMESTEAD/EVERGLADES, FL
NIGHTS #5-6: FLORIDA KEYS NIGHT #7: DRURY INN & SUITES, FT. MYERS, FL

NIGHT #8: DRURY INN & SUITES, VALDOSTA, GA NIGHT #9: DRURY INN AND SUITES, NASHVILLE, TN













Reserve With Assurance

Travel Insurance Included
DIRECTIONS Tours Commitment



For Comfort and Relaxation

Small Group Guarantee

2021 Group Departures for Safety



SOCIAL DISTANCING TRAVEL

TAKE OUR LIMITED SOCIAL DISTANCING DELUXE MOTORCOACH YOUR CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS INCLUDED - Reserve With Confidence!

only 16 passengers on full size deluxe motorcoach

JOIN ON THIS NEW "WARM UP" MOTORCOACH AWAY MYSTERY TOUR!

- NON-STOP ROUND-TRIP MOTORCOACH FROM/TO ST. LOUIS
 NEW SIGHTS AND SOUNDS
 THE COMPANY OF FRIENDS!
 FIVE NIGHTS DELUXE HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS
- ALL ATTRACTIONS LAUGHTER AND FUN! GOOD FOOD! AND SO MUCH MORE (of course)! *10 MEALS INCLUDED: 5 BREAKFASTS, 5 DINNERS







The Lowest Single Traveler Rates

WE ARE PROUD TO BE THE ONLY TOUR COMPANY IN OUR REGION TO OFFER SINGLE TRAVELERS THE MOST AFFORDABLE SINGLE RATES!

SINGLES CAN TRAVEL WITH DIRECTIONS FOR THE SAME PRICE AS DOUBLES*
OR JUST A LITTLE MORE ON LONGER TOURS!

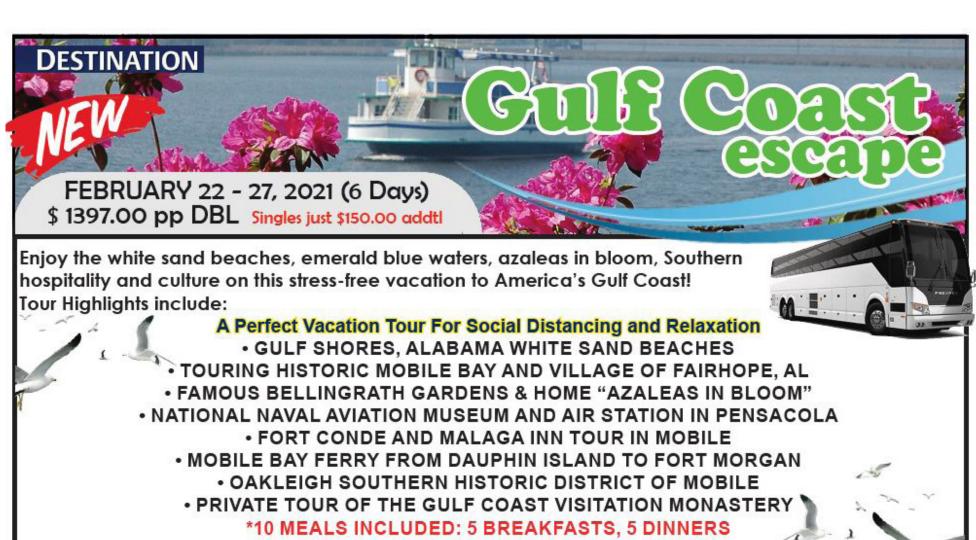
Enjoy Single Travel on any DIRECTIONS Tour for:

*up to 3 Days: SAME PRICE AS DOUBLE

(NO EXTRA SUPPLEMENT)

4 to 6 Days: ONLY \$150.00 supplement 7 to 10 Days: ONLY \$275.00 supplement 11 to 14 Days: ONLY \$375.00 supplement

SINGLES CAN NOW TRAVEL LONGER FOR THE BEST RATES... PERIOD! WHY PAY MORE?! (These discounted Single Supplement Rates are on all Motorcoach Tours over 3 Days. Excludes Mackinac Island, International, Florida and some Flight, Cruise and Train Tours)



EXPERIENCE THE GULF COAST - CLOSE TO HOME ESCAPE!

NIGHT #1&5: DRURY INN & SUITES, JACKSON, MS NIGHT #2-4: DRURY INN & SUITES, MOBILE, AL







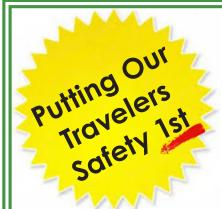
GOWING INCLUDED!

100%
NO TIP POLICY
GUARANTEED

SAVE EVEN MORE MONEY TRAVELING WITH DIRECTIONS TOURS... YOUR GRATUITIES ARE ALREADY INCLUDED!!! EVERY DIRECTIONS Tour and Day Trip Price are inclusive of ALL TIPS including your Motorcoach Driver, Tour Director, Step-On Guides and Included Meals!



Call Us! (314) 577-0077 www.hellodirections.com







Reserve With Assurance

Travel Insurance Included

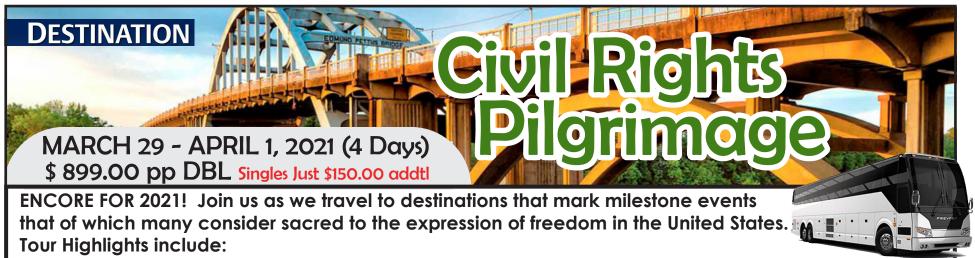
DIRECTIONS Tours Commitment



For Comfort and Relaxation

Small Group Guarantee

2021 Group Departures for Safety



• THE NEW NATIONAL MEMORIAL FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE AND LEGACY MUSEUM Located in beautiful Montgomery, Alabama, this new museum and memorial opened in 2018. It is the nation's first memorial dedicated to the legacy of enslaved black people, people terrorized by lynching and African Americans humiliated by racial segregation. The stunning and emotional memorial structure on the center of the site is constructed of over 800 corten steel monuments, one for each county in the United States where a racial terror lynching took place. The names of the lynching victims are engraved on the columns. A moving experience for all Americans.

• TRACING THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA
In Birmingham, we will make several Pilgrimage stops. Kelly Ingram Park was the site of organized protests and boycotts and today honors Civil Rights leaders with statues. The 16th Street Baptist Church's new statue memorializing the four girls killed 50 years ago.

DELICIOUS SOUL FOOD LUNCHEON IN MONTGOMERY

• DRIVING THE CIVIL RIGHTS TRAIL TO SELMA - The Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail commemorates the events, people, and route of the 1965 Voting Rights March in Alabama.

SELMA-TO-MONTGOMERY TRAIL NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MUSEUM

• STOP IN SELMA AT THE EDMUND PETTUS BRIDGE

*6 MEALS INCLUDED: 3 BREAKFASTS, 3 DINNERS

NIGHT #1: DRURY INN, BIRMINGHAM, AL
NIGHT #2: DRURY INN, MONTGOMERY, AL NIGHT #3: DRURY INN, MERIDIAN, MS









\$ 821.00 pp DBL Singles Just \$150.00 addtl

Tour Highlights include:

DESTINATION

Back by Popular Demand... another Fun Motorcoach Mystery Tour Where oh where will we go?

Tour highlights include:



- GREAT DESTINATION & ATTRACTIONS! COMPANY OF FRIENDS!
 - THE BEAUTY OF SPRING! LAUGHTER AND FUN!
 - DELICIOUS FOOD! AND SO MUCH MORE (of course!)

*6 MEALS INCLUDED: 3 BREAKFAST, 3 DINNERS

Please reserve early to ensure your space is secured!

DESTINATION

PENNSYLVANIA DUTCH COUNTRY 21 (7 Days) FARMS FIELDS & FLOWERS

APRIL 28 - MAY 4, 2021 (7 Days) \$ 1699.00 pp DBL Singles Just 275.00 addtl

Located in southeastern Pennsylvania, Dutch Country is inhabited by the the largest Dutch and Amish communities in the Nation. There is so much to see and do!

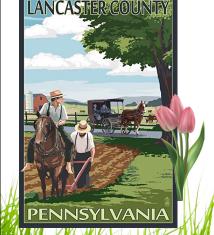
Tour Highlights include:

- THE UNIQUE VILLAGES OF PA DUTCH COUNTRY INCLUDING LANCASTER
 - AMERICA'S LARGEST AMISH AND MENNONITE SETTLEMENTS
 - AMISH HOME AND FARM AN AUTHENTIC AMISH EXPERIENCE!
 - DUTCH APPLE DINNER THEATER
 - TURKEY HILL DAIRY FARM AND EXPERIENCE
- HERSHEY, PENNSYLVANIA CHOCOLATE WORLD TOUR AND VISITORS CENTER
 - STRASBURG DUTCH COUNTRY RAILROAD EXCURSION
 - SHADY MAPLE DUTCH SMORGASBORD AND SHOPS
 - PENNSYLVANIA CAPITOL TOUR AND MUSEUM
 - 9/11 FLIGHT 93 NATIONAL MEMORIAL AND CENTER

*6 (ALL) MEALS INCLUDED: 2 BREAKFASTS,

2 LUNCHES, 2 DINNERS

NIGHT #1: COLUMBUS, OH NIGHTS #2-4: LANCASTER, PA NIGHT #5: CARLISLE, PA NIGHT #6: COLUMBUS, OH







OREGON is one of our top destination tours and one of our favorites to showcase!

OREGON is so large it features many diverse landscapes, scenery and attractions that we split it into two dynamic tours for you to enjoy! Take #1 or #2 or #8 FULL TOUR - AMAZING PRICES FOR ALL!

MAY 4 - 8, 2021 (5 DAYS) \$1697.00 pp DBL Singles Just \$290.00 addtl

COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE ~ CASCADE MOUNTAINS NORTH OREGON COAST ~ OREGON TRAIL

Tour Highlights include:

ROUND TRIP FLIGHTS TO/FROM ST. LOUIS TO PORTLAND

COLUMBIA RIVER GORGE INCLUDING MULTNOMAH FALLS AND HORSETAIL FALLS

- COLUMBIA RIVER CRUISE AT CASCADE LOCKS
- CASCADE MOUNTAINS AND LOGGING MUSEUM @ CAMP 18
- NORTH OREGON COAST, CANNON BEACH AND ASTORIA

Lewis and Clark National Expedition / National Historical Park.
Astoria and Mouth of Columbia River at the Pacific Ocean.

- END OF THE OREGON TRAIL MUSEUM AND VISITOR CENTER
- MT. HOOD NATIONAL FOREST AND OREGON WINE & FRUIT TRAIL
- TOUR OF PORTLAND INCLUDING THE INTERNATIONAL ROSE GARDENS

*8 MEALS: 4 BREAKFASTS, 1 LUNCH, 3 DINNERS NIGHTS #1- 4: WILSONVILLE, OR

MAY 8 - 13, 2021 (6 DAYS) \$1997.00 pp DBL Singles Just \$390.00 addtl

CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK ~ COASTAL REDWOODS SOUTH OREGON COAST ~ WILLAMETTE VALLEY

Tour Highlights include:



- ROUND TRIP FLIGHTS TO/FROM ST. LOUIS TO PORTLAND
- SOUTH OREGON COAST, NEWPORT TO CALIFORNIA LOST COAST
- TWO SPECTUCULAR NIGHTS OVERLOOKING THE PACIFIC OCEAN
- OREGON MARINE LIFE CRUISE see whales, crabbing and Pacific sealife!
 - TILLAMOOK OREGON CHEESE FACTORY
 - CRATER LAKE NATIONAL PARK VISITOR CENTER AND LODGE Scenic Drive through the Willamette National Forest and Lost Lake
 - OREGON / CALIFORNIA TREASURED REDWOODS FOREST
- "TREES OF MYSTERY" PARK AND SKY RIDE ABOVE THE TREES / OCEAN
- TOUR OF PORTLAND INCLUDING THE INTERNATIONAL ROSE GARDENS

*10 MEALS: 5 BREAKFASTS, 1 LUNCH, 4 DINNERS

NIGHTS #1 & 5: WILSONVILLE, OR NIGHTS #2-3: NEWPORT BEACH, OR NIGHT #4: GRANTS PASS, OR

MAY 4 - 13, 2021 (10 DAYS) FULL TOUR \$3299.00 pp DBL Singles Just \$680.00 addtl

FULL TOUR - SEE OREGON FROM NORTH TO SOUTH

*18 MEALS: 9 BREAKFASTS, 2 LUNCHES, 7 DINNERS
COMBINE THE TWO OREGON TOURS ABOVE AND SAVE \$197.00 PER PERSON!

NIGHTS #1-5 & 9: WILSONVILLE, OR NIGHTS #6-7: NEWPORT BEACH, OR NIGHT #8: GRANTS PASS, OR



A little fun and funny...

Holiday 2020 WORD SEARCH

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ACTIVE
ARTIFACTS
BOOK
CALCIUM
CAPTAIN
CENTER
CHILDREN
COLLECTION
DIARY
EUROPE
FIBER
FRUIT
HAHN
HARBOR

HEALTH
HISTORY
HITCH
HOLIDAY
HOSTEL
JOSEPH
LETTERS
LIFESTYLES
MEMORIES
MUSEUM
PAPER
PEACE
PEARL

PRESERVE
RECORDS
SAVE
SCIENCE
SHIP
SNOWMAN
STORIES
THUMB
TRAVEL
TURKEY
WWII
YOUTH





SOCIAL DISTANCING



PHOTOS



ENCORE FOR 2021! Join us as we get our "Kick's on Route 66" - from St. Louie to Santa Monica. Trace "The Mother Road" across America the Beautiful with us!

Tour Highlights include:

ANNUAL COACHING ACROSS THE MOTHER ROAD OF AMERICA

Since 1926, driving down Route 66 has been the experience of a lifetime for travelers, adventurers, desperados, and dreamers. We will head west tracing much of the old road's infamous attractions, scenes and nostalgia - kick back and see the sights and make new memories on Route 66 with us!

• RETRO AND ICONIC ESTABLISHMENTS FROM MOTELS TO DINERS AND UNIQUE TOURIST ATTRACTIONS WITH STOPS AND SIGHTSEEING (OR EATS) INCLUDING...

- MISSOURI: CIRCLE INN MALT SHOP, MUNGER MOSS MOTEL, MISSOURI ROUTE 66 MUSEUM
 KANSAS: GALENA AND BAXTER SPRINGS MAIN STREETS AND ATTRACTIONS
 - OKLAHOMA: THE BLUE WHALE, 66'S ROCK CAFE, THE WORLD'S LARGEST TOTEM POLE
- TEXAS: SHAMROCK MAIN STREET AND FAMOUS CONOCO (featured in Disney's "Cars" Movie), AMARILLO MAIN STREET AND CADILLAC RANCH, THE MIDPOINT CAFE
 - NEW MEXICO: LAGUNA PUEBLO & SAN JOSE MISSION CHURCH, TUCUMCARI MAIN STREET & MUSEUM, TRADING POSTS, THE BLUE SWALLOW MOTEL, ALBUQUERQUE 66
 - ARIZONA: PETRIFIED FOREST NATIONAL PARK VISITOR CENTER, "STANDING ON THE CORNER IN WINSLOW", WIGWAM MOTEL, TWIN ARROWS TRADING POST, HOLBROOK AND WILLIAMS MAIN STREETS, GRAND CANYON CAVERNS GROTTO
- CALIFORNIA: ROYS MOTEL AND CAFE, WIGWAM VILLAGE, AND SANTA MONICA PIER (END OF ROUTE 66 SIGN AND PACIFIC OCEAN)
 - INCREDIBLE DRIVING SCENERY THROUGHOUT WITH ADVENTURE, HISTORY, LAUGHS, FRIENDS AND LOTS OF "AWESTRUCK" MOMENTS ALONG THE WAY!

*9 MEALS: 6 BREAKFASTS, 3 DINNERS

- ONE WAY MOTORCOACH TO LOS ANGELES AND FLIGHT HOME TO ST. LOUIS INCLUDED

NIGHT #1: OKLAHOMA CITY, OK NIGHT #2: TUCUMCARI, NM NIGHTS #3: GALLUP, NM NIGHTS #4-5: KINGMAN/WILLIAMS, AZ NIGHT #6: BARSTOW, CA

DIRECTIONS TOURS IS A PROUD MEMBER OF THE ROUTE 66 ASSOCIATION OF MISSOURI FOR 11 YEARS!



HISTORICALLY SPEAKING...

LIFE IN St. LOUIS A CENTURY AGO by NiNi Harris, DIRECTIONS Tours

Vivid images of the day-to-day life of a North St. Louis family a century ago are part of the extraordinary Special Collections Department of the St. Louis Public Library. These remarkable photos are the work of father and son amateur photographers Albert J. and Albert W. Dubach.

Photography was still a relatively new art form when the Dubachs were taking pictures that included interior scenes of their North City home, self-portraits taken in looking mirrors, children at play in the yard, and family members carrying parasols or wearing early swimsuits. The photos date from the turn-of-the-century through World War One. The images were on more than 400 glass negatives, each stored in a manilla envelope. Luckily, names of individuals, sites and addresses were written on many of the envelopes.

The Dubachs lived at 3948 Lincoln, only a few blocks west of North Grand Avenue near the Old Sportsman's Park (then home of the St. Louis Cardinals). According to documents found in the Special Collections Department, their home was built in 1892. The 20 foot wide frame house sat on a 25 foot wide lot. Since few of the original houses in the immediate neighborhood still exist, the photos are even more important. They document the architectural history of the area as well as the family life of the middle-class in this North City neighborhood.



Bernice and Adele Dubach at play on the front porch of 3948 Lincoln in 1902.



Proud of their handiwork, the Dubach children posed with their snowman in their yard at 3948 Lincoln Avenue in North St. Louis



Dubach family photos show frame houses lining most of their block of Lincoln Avenue. The houses pre-date 1897, when a new building ordinance included their neighborhood in the area of the City requiring masonry construction.



Photos of the children at play show board walks instead of brick or granitoid sidewalks. Stockade fences and wood sheds frame the yard.

The scene of St. Louis children posed with their snowman reminds me of the snowmen scenes in the film classic Meet Me in St. Louis.

In the Christmas scene of that movie, which was set during the holiday of 1903, Judy Garland sang the new carol, "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas." That haunting carol became a hit when the movie was released in 1944. The lyrics, "someday soon we all will be together," struck a chord with Americans, who were longing for the safe return of their sons, husbands, and brothers from the battlefields of Europe and the South Pacific. The line in the song "happy golden days of yore" echoed the longing of soldiers far from their families that Christmas season.

Captions: Photos Courtesy of St. Louis Public Library.
© 2016 copyright by NiNi Harris

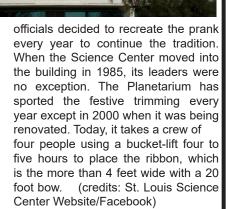
About Nini...

NiNi Harris is an accompished writer and Historian of St. Louis. She enjoys sharing her knowledge and experiences with DIRECTIONS Tours groups every year. Her recent books, are online now at www.niniharris.com



STL LOUIS SCIENCE CENTER HOUDAY REBON

The now famous red ribbon that decorates the James S. McDonnell Planetarium each holiday season was actually instigated as a prank by Washington University students in 1966. On a December evening, a group of architecture students scaled the building and left the ribbon on the recognizable hyperboloid curve of the Planetarium building. How were the culprits discovered? They also left a sign reading "Merry Christmas St. Louis, Washington University School of Architecture" tied on the handrail. None of the pranksters were caught, nor charges filed, and St. Louisans' response was so positive, Planetarium



The planetarium which was dedicated May 30, 1963 continues to be a popular attraction as part of the St. Louis Science Center, offering daily star shows and welcoming about 150,000 visitors each year.









Tour Highlights include:

FERRY CRUISE TO MACKINAC ISLAND ACROSS LAKE HURON

• TWO NIGHTS ON MACKINAC ISLAND AT THE GRAND HOTEL &

ALL BREAKFASTS AND DINNERS IN THE LUXURIOUS GRAND MAIN DINING ROOM

CARRIAGE TOUR OF MACKINAC VILLAGE AND THE ISLAND (optional charge)

• ENJOY A BICYCLE RIDE AROUND THE ISLAND, SHOP THE VILLAGE, TAKE IN FORT MACKINAC, RELAX WITH A BOOK ON THE PORCH OR TAKE A DIP IN ESTHER WILLIAMS GRAND HOTEL POOL

MICHIGAN'S FAMOUS HWY 31 ALONG LAKE MICHIGAN

*7 MEALS INCLUDED: 4 BREAKFASTS. 3 DINNERS NIGHTS #1: GRAND RAPIDS, MI NIGHT #2-3: MACKINAC ISLAND GRAND HOTEL NIGHT #4: ELKHART, IN

Join us as we travel to Northern Michigan and the crossing of the Mackinac Straights where the Upper Peninsula of the state meets the lower. Here is where the two Great Lakes of Michigan and Huron connect and we find the beautiful lakeside village of Mackinaw City (spelled Mackinaw). It is also where we board the passenger ferry over to Mackinac Island. This is such a beautiful crossing of Lake Huron, indoor seating or for those who love the wind in their hair, there is outdoor seating atop the ferry for the twenty minute crossing. It

is always a great pleasure Mackinac approach Island, as she is a gem to gaze upon from the waters.

Welcome to Mackinac Island! Here, there are no motorized vehicles allowed on this pristine 3.8 mile Mackinac Island island. once served as a strategic point for the Great Lakes fur trade and later the British established Fort Mackinac on the island during the American Revolutionary War. The Fort still stands today and is open for tours which include costumed docents and battle recreations. Mackinac Island first became a popular

vacation resort destination for the very wealthy in the late 19th century and the entire island is now listed as a National Historic Landmark. Travelers are wooed by the architecture, gardens, galleries, restaurants, history, natural beauty, and the eight mile bicycling trail that follows the island's perimeter. The Village main streets are filled with wonderful shops, cafes and fudge shops and tourists are known as "fudgies"!

The natural beauty of the island is best experienced by horse-drawn carriage. Narrated carriage tours are always a highlight

as the horses make their way through the heavily wooded areas, past the fort, and over to a scenic lookout of a natural carved arch that overlooks the water. The lilacs that drench the island are thick and sweetly scent the air!

Your Tour Vacation includes two nights at the majestic Grand Hotel which first opened in 1887. It is the Island's most predominant focal point. The hotel features 386 guest rooms, none of which are alike and boasts the world's largest front porch.

We hope you can join us on this beautiful Summertime tour!

When you are ready... Give us a call!

Call Us! (314) 577-0077

www.hellodirections.com

DESTINATION AKE TAHOE • RENO & Northern Nevada MAY 24 - 29, 2021 (6 Days) \$ 2497.00 pp DBL SINGLES SAME PRICE

Adventure and explore beautiful LAKE TAHOE, RENO & NORTHERN NEVADA on this new tour vacation! Tour Highlights include:





Resting on the California-Nevada border is the incredible and extraordinary sheer beauty of Lake Tahoe. The granite cliff sides and towering mountaintops, as well as the emerald crystal-clear waters have earned Lake Tahoe the reputation of being one of the most beautiful lakes in the country!

LAKE TAHOE M.S. DIXIE PADDLEWHEELER DINNER & SIGHTSEEING CRUISE

SQUAW VALLEY OLYMPIC VILLAGE

LAKE TAHOE AERIAL TRAMWAY - STUNNING VIEWS FOR MILES!

TAHOE NATIONAL FOREST AND VISTOR CENTER

• CAMP RICHARDSON CORRAL (HORSE DRAWN WAGON TOUR)

HISTORIC GENOA, NV MINING TOWN (ON THE PONY EXPRESS TRAIL)

VIRGINIA & TRUCKEE CARSON CITY RAILROAD EXCURSION

LUXURY CASINO RESORT ACCOMMODATIONS IN RENO

SCENIC SIGHTS OF NORTHERN NEVADA

Leaving Reno and heading east along the slope of the Sierra Nevada Mountains and into the boundary of the Great Basin high desert toward the Great Salt Lake in Utah.

NEVADA'S THUNDER MOUNTAIN MONUMENT

GREAT SALT LAKE STATE PARK VISITORS CENTER

*7 MEALS: 3 BREAKFASTS, 1 LUNCH, 3 DINNERS

NIGHTS #1: CISCO, CA NIGHTS #2-3: LAKE TAHOE, CA NIGHT #4: RENO, NV NIGHT #5: ELKO, NV





DESTINATION YELLOWSTORE & MAY 31 - JUNE 6, 2021 (7 Days) \$ 2387.00 pp DBL Singles Just \$489.00 addtl

Tour Highlights include:

YELLOWSTONE N.P ~ TETONS N.P ~ IDAHO FALLS, ID

• ROUND TRIP AIR FROM ST. LOUIS (Fly into Salt Lake City / Fly out of Denver)
• YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK TOUR

The oldest, one of the largest, and the best-known national park in the nation is located in Wyoming, Idaho and partly in southern Montana. The park includes the greatest concentration of hydrothermal features in the world.

On this tour, we will not just do a portion of this amazing park - we will take the <u>circle tour</u> to include many popular areas. North to Canyon Village to experience the famous "Yellowstone Grand Canyon and Falls". West to the largest geyser basins including the famous Old Faithful Geyser and Kepler Cascades. East to Yellowstone Lake, Grant Village and West Thumb; then south to Lewis Lake Falls and River Canyon. This comprehensive tour makes stops throughout this amazing park for time to enjoy the natural beauty and features,

visitors centers, attractions and time to reflect. TWO Nights in West Yellowstone, MT at 320 Guest Ranch!

GRAND TETONS NATIONAL PARK TOUR

Connected to the south of Yellowstone, there are few landscapes in the world as striking and memorable as that of Grand Teton National Park. Rising straight up into the sky with no foothills, The Teton range is breathtaking.

JACKSON HOLE COWBOY RANCH CHUCKWAGON DINNER AND SHOW

• TETON'S GLACIER LAKE BOAT CRUISE

*10 MEALS: 6 BREAKFASTS, 4 DINNERS

NIGHT #1: OGDEN, UT NIGHTS #2-3: 320 GUEST RANCH, WEST YELLOWSTONE, MT NIGHTS #4-5: JACKSON, WY NIGHT #6: LARAMIE, WY















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HOLIDAY CRANBERRIES

With the Holiday Season in full swing, Cranberries are usually one of the favorite dishes to grace the table.

Cranberries are not only delicious, they are one of nature's most healthy berries. In fact, many call cranberries a natural antibiotic. Recently, I spent time during cranberry harvest season in Wisconsin – America's largest Cranberry producing state. Here, more than 20 counties grow cranberries as their largest and biggest financial crop.

Most think that cranberries are actually grown in water as seen in popular television commercials. Actually, cranberries grow on low-trailing vines in sandy or peat marshes/ditches. Then during harvest season (usually late September in Wisconsin) the bogs are flooded with water and the berries float to the surface to be picked up by harvesting equipment. This makes the harvesting of the beautiful berries much easier. It also allows the growers control over the crops if a freeze should come early. Covering the berries will encase them to protect them from the frost and snow.

A landmark study published in the New England Journal of Medicine, found that condensed proanthocyanidins, are the compounds in a cranberry responsible for preventing and treating urinary tract infections. If you have ever had this problem, your doctor most likely has prescribed cranberry juice to ease the discomfort. In addition, cranberries and cranberry products contain significant amounts of antioxidants that may help protect against heart disease, cancer and other diseases. Cranberries may be



beneficial in the prevention of ulcers, which are linked to stomach cancer and acid reflux disease. Cranberries contain hippuric acid, which has antibacterial effects on the body, as well as natural antibiotic ingredients.

Cranberries also are used plentifully in many products for their flavor, smell and beauty. Cranberries can be found in soaps, chocolates, wreaths, lotions, salsa, jelly and even wine! Mmmmmm.

If you are like me, cranberries and their juice can be a little tart. Instead of adding sugar, just add a touch of lime or orange juice to your recipes. Doing so will take the tart edge off and add a hint of another fruit flavor without limiting the full benefits of the berry.

Happy Holiday's and don't forget the cranberry sauce!



health.

A cold December day is the perfect time to make yourself a cup of hot cocoa and celebrate National Cocoa Day. Each year on December 13, people across the country enjoy honoring their favorite cold weather comfort drink.

Hot cocoa is a warm beverage made with cocoa powder, heated milk or water and sugar. The terms "hot chocolate" and "hot cocoa"are often used interchangeably by Americans making the difference between them that hot chocolate is made with shaved or melted chocolate instead of the cocoa powder.

It is believed that it was 2000 years ago that the first chocolate beverage was created by the Mayas and a cocoa beverage was an essential part of Aztec culture by 1400 AD. Europe popularized the beverage after it was introduced from Mexico in the New World and it has undergone multiple changes since then. Up until the 19th century, hot chocolate was used medicinally to treat ailments such as stomach diseases.

In the United States an instant form of the drink is popular. It is made with hot water or milk and a packet containing mostly cocoa powder, sugar and dry milk. People enjoy topping it with marshmallows or whipped cream. There are health benefits to drinking hot cocoa. Cocoa contains large amounts of antioxidants that may help prevent cancer. It has also been shown that the cocoa beans help with digestion. The flavonoids that are found in the cocoa also have a positive effect on arterial

lappy Nolidays

Cranberry Pumpkin Muffins



INGREDIENTS

2 cups flour •1/2 cup brown sugar •1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon cinnamon •1/2 teaspoon nutmeg •1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup pumpkin puree •2 cups fresh or frozen cranberries, coarsely chopped
1/2 cup oil •1/4 cup milk 1/4 cup molasses •1 egg, lightly beaten

PREPARATION

Combine flour, brown sugar, baking soda, cinnamon, nutmeg, and salt in a medium mixing bowl. Combine the remaining ingredients in a separate mixing bowl. Add wet ingredients to dry, mixing just until the dry ingredients are moist. Do not overmix. Generously grease a 12-muffin tin and dust with flour or line with paper muffin cups. Fill muffin cups about 2/3-full with batter. Bake pumpkin muffins in preheated 350° oven for 25 to 30 minutes, or until nicely browned. Remove pumpkin muffins from tins to wire rack to cool.

Makes 12 cranberry pumpkin muffins.

Candy Came Cookles

- 1 cup sugar
 1 cup butter or margarine, softened
 1/2 cup milk
 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 teaspoon peppermint extract
 1 teaspoon baking powder
 1 egg
 3 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon red food color peppermint candies
 2 tablespoons finely crushed
 2 tablespoons sugar



- Stir together 1 cup sugar, the butter, milk, vanilla, peppermint extract and egg in large bowl. Stir in flour, baking powder and salt. Divide dough in half. Stir food color into 1 half. Cover and refrigerate at least 4 hours.
 Heat oven to 375°F.
 Stir together peppermint candy and 2 table-spoon sugar; set aside.
 For each candy cane, shape 1 rounded teaspoon dough from each half into 4-inch rope by rolling back and forth on floured surface. Place 1 red and white rope side by side; press together lightly and twist. Place on ungreased cookie sheet; curve top of cookie down to form handle of cane.
- 5) Bake 9 to 12 minutes or until set and very light brown. Immediately sprinkle candy mixture over cookies. 6) Remove from cookie sheet to wire rack and

cool completely, about 30 minutes. ENJOY THE HOLIDAY TASTE!





What we are doing to ensure your well-being and safety on tour with us...

- We have included your Cancellation / Trip Interruption Insurance in 2021 Our Group Travel Protection plan [included on all flight and motorcoach tours in 2021] protects you and your finances when booking with DIRECTIONS Tours. It gives you peace of mind when booking in the new year with us (see details on inside back cover). This plan also provides trip interruption if you should fall ill while on tour. (Tour participants departing prior to January 2021 may purchase an individual travel cancellation insurance policy please call us for details.)
- Pre-Tour Health and Safety Questionnaire We will require all travelers to complete a Health and Safety Questionnaire prior to departure.
- Smaller Groups and Social Disabancing We will continue to have smaller group tours now and throughout 2021. Keeping our groups smaller will accommodate a healthier and safe environment onboard. We will operate our new state-of-the-art motorcoaches and caravans with many empty seats onboard to ensure comfort and relaxation. We will continue to encourage travelers to respect social distancing guidelines onboard, at stops and destinations along the way.
- Guest Responsibility and Face Coverings A special, comfortable DIRECTIONS Tours face covering will be provided (or your own) and required to be worn throughout your tour's events and while onboard the motorcoach/caravan (and airplane if applicable). We also need your assistance and responsibility to maintain our commitment to a safe environment and successful tour vacation. Your own health priority will ensure you and your fellow travel guests safety. We ask that you adhere to our outlined health and safety protocols, including washing your hands frequently, wearing a face covering, using provided hand sanitizers and maintaining personal/social distancing, throughout your tour vacation.
- Transportation Cleaning Our state-of-the-art motorcoaches and caravans offer the finest onboard amenities. Our vehicles will be professionally cleaned and disinfected prior to every departure (above and beyond the American Bus Association and Federal Transportation Administration guidelines) and also disinfected inside at EVERY stop along the way by your Driver and Tour Director(s). *If your Tour Vacation includes Air Travel, our preferred airline is Southwest Airlines and will be used on most domestic air travel tours. All airlines are also following strict health safety protocols and will be outlined prior to your departure.

 *Clean Accommodations** All accommodations while on tour have been extremely vetted by us for your safety. Hotel protocols must include deep-cleaning, regular disinfecting and overall health and safety consciousness. We are proud to continue our partnership with St. Louis-based and owned, Drury Hotels**. Drury Hotels** has been awarded 14 consecutive "Highest in
- now more than ever. Drury Hotels® will always be our first hotel choice wherever possible.

 Attractions, Meals and Itinerary Protocols Your tour destinations, attractions and inclusions have been carefully selected and added to your itinerary. All destinations offered during 2021 have been selected with your personal safety in mind (less crowded areas and less congregated places). We want your tour vacation to be relaxed and stress-free. Included Meals will be provided with/at restaurants that ensure/allow our guests physical distancing guidelines and seating for smaller groups. In some areas, we will have meals catered to achieve our safety measures.

Guest Satisfaction Among Upper Midscale Hotel Chains" by J.D. Power, and their cleanliness exceeds travelers expectations,

DIRECTIONS Staff Tour Directors and Resident Drivers Touching Hearts - Not Hands... To ensure a healthy environment for our team and our guests. Every Tour is guided from start to finish. DIRECTIONS Tours provides professional, full-time and knowledgeable Tour Directors/Guides and Drivers on all of our tours. All of our staff members (including your Tour Director and Resident Driver) have strict protocols to follow for our guests safety and health (and theirs).