

# Lighthouses of the Great Lakes: Southern Lake Michigan

7 Days: July 25-31, 2010



*This travel package planned and escorted by Becky DeKruif.*

Summer is the perfect time of year to enjoy the beauty of the Great Lakes and their majestic lighthouses! We'll also experience much more. (This is the first in a series of "Lighthouses of the Great Lakes" itineraries. Don't miss the first one!)

July 25 we pick up through our guaranteed departure cities on our way to St. Joseph, MI. We'll make a lunch stop and take breaks along the way. We'll make a photo stop at our first lighthouse, **Old Michigan City Lighthouse** before checking in at our hotel for the next 2 nights, in St. Joseph. Our hotel is conveniently located close to the waterfront downtown. Find a spot for dinner, browse some of the quaint shops along brick streets, explore the tree-lined streets, take a stroll on Silver Beach, enjoy the indoor pool, sauna, or hot tub at the hotel; or relax on the balcony of your room.



July 26 after **breakfast**, we will walk out on the pier to see **St. Joseph Lighthouse**, constructed in 1906, replacing the 1859 lighthouse. We then visit **Silver Beach Carousel and Silver Beach Amusement Park Museum**. Look through Michigan's tallest kaleidoscope! Next, we travel to Eau Claire, MI, for a unique **tour of a fruit farm**. We start with a **guided open-air excursion** around the farm, via the cushion-seated "**Folkswagon**."

This unique vehicle has a roof, just in case the weather does not cooperate! Then enjoy a **delicious home-cooked chicken feast** with all the trimmings as well as dessert; **served in the meadow**. A country gift shop is on premises for those who wish to shop. **Tour** the state-of-the-art **Tabor Hill Winery** at Buchanan. Learn how their wines are made in the cellar theater and **taste** if you wish. Our next stop is

**Kalamazoo Air Zoo**, where more than 50 historical and rare aircraft are housed in two buildings. You will be amazed to see the world's only remaining SR-71B Blackbird, a Curtiss P-40N and a collection of Grumman Cats, to name a few of the attractions. The Air Zoo is also home to the nationally recognized **Guadalcanal Memorial Museum, the Aviation Hall of Fame, and the Michigan Space Science Center**. Our time here will also include a **3-dimensional movie**. We return to St. Joseph for the night.



July 27 after **breakfast**, we'll travel to **DeGrandchamps** to visit their **Farm Market** and stroll through their **nursery**. Blueberries, dried fruits, preserves, candies and other tasty temptations are their specialties. In South Haven we will visit the **Michigan Maritime Museum**, where we'll learn about the heritage and history of the Great Lakes. Find out what part the Great Lakes played in the War of 1812, experience the life of a Great Lakes fisherman and learn about the Coast Guard. We'll see **South Haven South Pier Lighthouse**, which has been in operation since 1903, replacing an 1872 wooden tower. Take a **dockside tour of the tall ship, Friends Good Will**, with learning stations above & below deck to illustrate navigation, the trade of the times, and how politics and culture shaped the Great Lakes. Lunch and shop on your own in the retail district of South Haven, featuring more than 70 shops and restaurants as well as scenic harbor views. In Saugatuck, we'll take a **guided sand dune ride** up and down sand dunes along the shores of Lake Michigan. We continue to Holland, MI, to check in. Tonight we enjoy a **dinner cruise** aboard a 65-foot Victorian-style paddlewheel riverboat. We'll cruise through beautiful Lake Macatawa and into Lake Michigan, past one of the most well known lighthouses of the area, **Big Red Lighthouse**, built in 1907. Its gabled roof reflects the Dutch influence of the area.



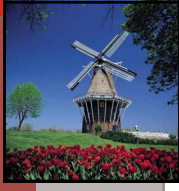
July 27 after **breakfast**, we'll travel to **DeGrandchamps** to visit their **Farm Market** and stroll through their **nursery**. Blueberries, dried fruits, preserves, candies and other tasty temptations are their specialties. In South Haven we will visit the **Michigan Maritime Museum**, where we'll learn about the heritage and history of the Great Lakes. Find out what part the Great Lakes played in the War of 1812, experience the life of a Great Lakes fisherman and learn about the Coast Guard. We'll see **South Haven South Pier Lighthouse**, which has been in operation since 1903, replacing an 1872 wooden tower. Take a **dockside tour of the tall ship, Friends Good Will**, with learning stations above & below deck to illustrate navigation, the trade of the times, and how politics and culture shaped the Great Lakes. Lunch and shop on your own in the retail district of South Haven, featuring more than 70 shops and restaurants as well as scenic harbor views. In Saugatuck, we'll take a **guided sand dune ride** up and down sand dunes along the shores of Lake Michigan. We continue to Holland, MI, to check in. Tonight we enjoy a **dinner cruise** aboard a 65-foot Victorian-style paddlewheel riverboat. We'll cruise through beautiful Lake Macatawa and into Lake Michigan, past one of the most well known lighthouses of the area, **Big Red Lighthouse**, built in 1907. Its gabled roof reflects the Dutch influence of the area.



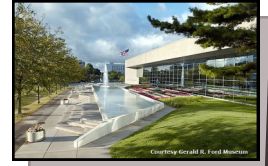
July 27 after **breakfast**, we'll travel to **DeGrandchamps** to visit their **Farm Market** and stroll through their **nursery**. Blueberries, dried fruits, preserves, candies and other tasty temptations are their specialties. In South Haven we will visit the **Michigan Maritime Museum**, where we'll learn about the heritage and history of the Great Lakes. Find out what part the Great Lakes played in the War of 1812, experience the life of a Great Lakes fisherman and learn about the Coast Guard. We'll see **South Haven South Pier Lighthouse**, which has been in operation since 1903, replacing an 1872 wooden tower. Take a **dockside tour of the tall ship, Friends Good Will**, with learning stations above & below deck to illustrate navigation, the trade of the times, and how politics and culture shaped the Great Lakes. Lunch and shop on your own in the retail district of South Haven, featuring more than 70 shops and restaurants as well as scenic harbor views. In Saugatuck, we'll take a **guided sand dune ride** up and down sand dunes along the shores of Lake Michigan. We continue to Holland, MI, to check in. Tonight we enjoy a **dinner cruise** aboard a 65-foot Victorian-style paddlewheel riverboat. We'll cruise through beautiful Lake Macatawa and into Lake Michigan, past one of the most well known lighthouses of the area, **Big Red Lighthouse**, built in 1907. Its gabled roof reflects the Dutch influence of the area.



Reservations & Information: 1-877-694-8687 or [www.northlandtravel.com](http://www.northlandtravel.com)



July 28 enjoy **breakfast** at our hotel. **Windmill Island** is our first destination of the day. This beautiful oasis within the city of Holland features a 240-year old working Dutch windmill. The windmill towers over 36 acres of gardens, dikes, canals and picnic areas. Next we visit the **Gerald R. Ford Museum** in Grand Rapids. Participate in history, while reviewing the highlights of the lives of President and Mrs. Ford. Exhibits include a White House State Dinner and Oval Office re-creation as well as the original Watergate burglar tools. We then visit **Grand Haven Lighthouses**, established in 1839. Two red lights on the south pier are connected to a lighted catwalk and boardwalk. We continue to Muskegon, where we'll check out **Muskegon South Pier Lighthouse**, built in 1903. We'll also view Muskegon Lighthouse, which is still an active Coast Guard and NOAA facility. Our hotel in Muskegon is downtown, near the harbor. You may choose to dine at the hotel's restaurant, enjoy the on-site lounge and relax in the indoor pool. If you would enjoy a stroll, explore nearby restaurants.



July 29 after **breakfast**, we start with a visit to **Great Lakes Naval Memorial and Museum**. Your self-guided tour may take you aboard **USS Silversides** and the **USCGC McLane**. Then visit **Hackley & Hume Historic Sites**, 2 beautifully restored Queen Anne-style homes of two of Muskegon's lumber barons. Later today, we'll experience a 90-minute, narrated, historical and **scenic cruise on Muskegon Lake and Lake Michigan**. Learn about Buster Keaton's home and view the historic ship display of the original Milwaukee Clipper and USS LST 393, one of two surviving ships that went into Normandy Beach during World War II. Departing for Ludington, we'll stop in Whitehall to view the **White River**



**Light Station**, built in 1875. The lighthouse is now a museum and visitors can climb the spiral staircase to the top for a view of Lake Michigan as a lighthouse keeper would have seen it. We stay the night in Ludington and enjoy **dinner on the waterfront**, where we should get a view of ships and sailboats as they enter and exit the harbor. Choose either **Whitefish or Prime Rib**. After dinner, we'll take a little time to explore the Ludington's downtown, with antique shops, ice cream shops, a brew pub and other shops. A walkway connects the downtown to the lakeshore.




July 30 we're up and at 'em early, having **breakfast** before heading to the ferry terminal. We and our coach will board the **SS Badger Car Ferry** for a **4-hour cruise from Michigan to Wisconsin**. Check out the sights from the upper deck, or go below to read, relax, play bingo, watch movies or grab lunch on your own. After docking in Manitowoc, WI, we leave for **Port Washington** aboard our coach.

We'll meet our **guide** for a **tour** of Port Washington, which was recently named to the National Register of Historic Places. This historic city boasts the largest concentration of pre-Civil War buildings in the state. Tour **St. Mary's Church**, built in 1888 in a beautiful Gothic style, as well as **Port Washington Light Station**. Restored in 2000, it now has a small museum attached. Explore more of this scenic historical city on your own and grab an early dinner at one of its many restaurants. We continue to metro Milwaukee for the night.



July 31 after **breakfast** we head back to our departure cities with photos, memories and new friends.



**Your 7-day Lighthouses of the Great Lakes package includes:** Luxury motor coach transportation, lodging for 6 nights, luggage handling, tickets/admissions to bolded attractions, gratuities to step-on guides, 6 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 2 dinners (meals inclusive of tax and gratuities).

\$1,399 per person, double occupancy  
\$1,329 per person with 3 or 4 persons sharing a room with 2 beds  
\$1,734 single room accommodations

**Reservations:** anytime as long as space is available

**Deposit:** \$75 per person, due with reservation

**Balance due:** June 25

**Cancel by:** June 25 for full-refund cancellation

**Early booking discount:** \$50 per person discount applied to final balance if deposit is received by February 8

**Peace of Mind Protection:** 5% of the trip cost, due with deposit or **Travel Insurance** is available at a group rate for this travel package. Please contact us for details.

**Guaranteed departure cities:** Fort Dodge, Webster City, Williams, Ames, Des Moines, Newton, Coralville, Decorah, West Union, Independence, Cedar Rapids, Clear Lake, Charles City, Waverly and Waterloo

