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September 25-29, 2009
5 Days

This travel package planned by
Denise Hovden-Baumler

THE SPIRIT OF PEORIA

If you're looking for a relaxing autumn getaway, we have a great idea. Join us for a 5-day trip which includes 3 days cruising the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. Lots of great meals and fun experiences are included.

September 25 board our luxury coach in one of our convenient guaranteed departure cities (listed below) as you start your mini-vacation. Get acquainted as we travel to Morton, IL, for the night.

September 26 enjoy **breakfast** at our hotel before we depart for the **Spirit of Peoria**. This authentic, 3-deck paddle wheeler was built in 1988. A light **breakfast** will be available on deck. We embark on a journey south from Peoria to the "Gateway to the West," Saint Louis, MO. We will go through two sets of locks. The first is just a few minutes into our cruise. The second is just south of Beardstown, IL. **Lunch** is served on board the Spirit as we cruise today you're also welcome to **unlimited soft drinks, coffee and tea**. A **wine and cheese reception** precedes a **Prime Rib dinner buffet**. We later land at Meredosia, IL, established in the 1890s. Meredosia was home to 4 button factories. The pearl button business dried up in 1948. We stay the night in Jacksonville, IL.

September 27 we shuttle back to the Spirit of Peoria where **breakfast** is waiting! From Meredosia, the cruise will continue south to Grafton, IL. Relax in the sun on one of the Spirit's peaceful decks, spot river wildlife with **an expert on river lore** or visit the pilothouse and learn the rules of the river with your Captain. Ragtime piano as well as guitar and banjo music will also be a part of our cruise! **Lunch** will be served as well as an **after-noon snack**. Grafton sits at the confluence of the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers. We stay the night at **Pere Marquette Lodge**, situated among 8,000 acres which comprise Illinois' largest state park. Enjoy a relaxing **dinner** at the Lodge.

September 28 have **breakfast** before we leave the Lodge to rejoin the Spirit of Peoria. We continue to St. Louis, traveling through two more locks (and enjoying **lunch**) on the Mississippi before landing at the Gateway Arch. We stay in downtown St. Louis, near the Arch. You'll have time to sightsee and have dinner on your own this evening.

September 29 enjoy **breakfast** at our hotel before boarding our coach for the trip home. We hope you were able to sit back and relax along the scenic Illinois River Valley and enjoyed the wonder of natural beauty and history on this unique mode of transportation.



Your 5-day Spirit of Peoria package includes: Luxury motor coach transportation, lodging for 4 nights, luggage handling, tickets/admissions to bolded attractions, 4 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 2 dinners (meals inclusive of tax and gratuities).

\$985 per person double occupancy

\$915 per person with 3 or 4 persons sharing a room with 2 beds

\$1,076 single room accommodations

Reservations: anytime as long as space is available

Deposit: \$100 per person, due with reservation

Balance due: August 27

Cancel by: August 12 for penalty free cancellations

Peace of Mind protection: 5% or trip cost, due with deposit

Guaranteed Departure Cities: Fort Dodge, Webster City, Ames, Des Moines, Newton, Rochester, Decorah, West Union, Independence, Cedar Rapids, Coralville, Mason City, Charles City, Waverly and Waterloo.

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Ph: 877-694-8687

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