# CRUISING THE MISSISSIPPI RIVER

September 13 - 17, 2025



## Day 1: Journey Begins to Moline, IL

Enjoy the fall colors of the Midwest countryside as you travel to Moline for your evening stay.

#### Day 2: Moline, IL

This morning begins at the *Black Hawk State Historic Site*, a 208-acre park along the Rock River. The site also features the *Hauberg Museum*, where you can discover the history of Black Hawk and the Sauk and Meskwaki people through artifacts and seasonal dioramas. Later, in Le Claire, you'll explore the *Buffalo Bill Museum*, which features Buffalo Bill's life and the heritage of the Mississippi River, including an 1800s stern-wheeler. You'll visit the *Quad City Botanical Center* to explore the sites that interest you most, including the new Garden Glass exhibit. This evening, at *Circa 21 Theatre*, enjoy their Dinner Show, a production of "*Come From Away*." This beautiful musical tells a true story of the legend of the isolated, small town of Gander, Newfoundland. On September 11, 2001, they played host to 38 planes and 7,000 stranded travelers, providing housing, clothing, and food and creating lasting friendships. This story concerns generosity, connections, and the most heartwarming evening available at a theatre!

### Day 3: Moline, IL to Dubuque, IA

Today take a cruise upriver aboard the *Celebration Belle* to Dubuque, IA. During the day, sit back and enjoy the beautiful scenery and wildlife as the Celebration Belle cruises through two locks and dams on this journey. You'll enjoy three full meals, fabulous live entertainment, and narration by their Captain. During the day, you can stroll up to the two observation decks, with plenty of outside seating to enjoy the views. Perhaps you will visit the gift shop on the 3rd deck or say "hello" to the Captain in the pilothouse.

## Day 4: Dubuque, IA to Winona, MN

Arriving in Winona today, you'll cruise the Mississippi River with a *guide from the National Eagle Center for a narrated eagle experience*. You'll have the opportunity to view Bald Eagles and other native wildlife that call the Upper Mississippi River Valley home as your expert naturalist provides you with information on eagle behavior and biology. They will also provide great information on the variety of birds, fish, and wildlife you will observe and encounter.

## Day 5: Winona, MN to Home

Enjoy the *National Eagle Center* this morning, home to several non-releasable Bald Eagles and a nesting place for hundreds of others who come for the winter. Here, you can embark on an unforgettable experience by meeting live Eagles up close and exploring the connections Eagles have to human history and cultures. Your last stop before your tour concludes will be *LARK Toys*. LARK Toys began 30 years ago designing handmade wooden toys onsite and has been rated one of the top 10 Best Toy Stores in the World by USA Today and the World's Greatest Toy Stores by Travel & Leisure!







