

Philadelphia

Where History Comes to Life

Walk in the footsteps of our founding fathers

April 25 – May 1, 2010

Sunday - Saturday

Day 1 – April 25, Sunday:

This morning we'll start with a spring in our step as we begin an exciting journey. We'll travel across country stopping for breaks along the way. Tonight our lodging will be in Columbus, OH.

Day 2 – April 26, Monday:

After breakfast at the hotel we continue traveling east. This afternoon we visit **Gettysburg National Park** and pick up our licensed guide for a private battlefield tour in



our coach. The guide will bring the fury of the final Confederate assault on July 3, 1863, to life, providing the viewer with a sense of what occurred at the battle long touted as the turning point of the Civil War. We'll overnight in Gettysburg, PA. (Included meals – breakfast)

Day 3 – April 27, Tuesday:

After a breakfast at our hotel we are ready to travel to Philadelphia—a magnificent city! Our first stop is the **QVC Studio** where we get a one-of-a-kind guided walking tour through the fantastic world of electronic retailing. You'll see and experience how QVC products are sourced, tested, brought to life on air and delivered to millions. There is a spectacular view from the Observation Deck into the studio. This afternoon we'll enjoy learning the history of **Valley Forge National Historic Park** from a local expert. It should also be a good time to look for the dogwoods in bloom. Tonight your evening will be open to relax, shop or dine. We check into our Philadelphia hotel early in the evening and have time to unpack and relax. Our hotel is located beside the King of Prussia Mall, which has many shops and restaurants. Tonight's dinner is included in the package. (Included meals – breakfast and dinner)

Day 4 – April 28, Wednesday:

After a good night's rest and a big breakfast we are ready for history to come alive as we walk in the footsteps of our Founding Fathers along brick walkways and cobblestone streets in Penn's "Green Countrie Towne,"



Philadelphia. Our local guide will lead us through this city, which served as the capital of the colony of Pennsylvania, the capital of Colonial America, and the Federal capital from 1790-1800, and has a history that is unrivaled in America. In an area known as “**America’s Most Historic Square Mile**” we visit or pass such sites as **Independence Hall**, where the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution were signed; **The Liberty Bell**, America’s most cherished artifact now housed in a new Pavilion with interesting displays regarding the bell’s history; **Elfreth’s Alley**, the oldest continuously occupied residential street in America; **Betsy Ross House**, Quaker seamstress who legend maintains made our first flag and whose home is an excellent example of an 18th Century working class residence; **Christ Church**, Anglican church founded in 1695 where many of the founding fathers worshiped; and **Christ Church Burial Ground** where five signers of the Declaration of Independence are buried. Burials date to early 1719.



One of the highlights of the day will be visiting the new **National Constitution Center**. “We, the People” is the preamble of the document establishing a system of government that has enabled the U.S. to flourish into the most successful republic in history. Washington called it a “miracle” and it remains such. This interactive facility is dedicated to help people better understand the Constitution and its impact on our lives as well as prepare us to be better citizens. What better location than the city of its birth!

Lunch is on you own at either the food court of the **Bourse Building** or the **Reading Terminal Market**, Philadelphia’s indoor farmers market where you can feast on a variety of foods from Philadelphia cheese steaks to Amish Pot Pie. Another good choice would be the **Delegates Restaurant of the National Constitution Center**.



Your tour also will include a driving overview of downtown Philadelphia including the **Penn’s Landing** area along the Delaware waterfront, the charming 18th Century neighborhood of **Society Hill** to see its many mansions, churches, cemeteries and gardens; **City Hall**, which is the largest municipal building in the U.S.; and the **Benjamin Franklin Parkway**, referred to as the “Champs Elysees of America.” Tonight we have a group dinner at the historic City Tavern. (Included meals – breakfast and dinner)

Day 5 – April 29, Thursday:

Get ready for a great day among the Plain People in a county where time seems to stand still. We depart the hotel after breakfast and our expert guide will tell us about one of the most conservative of the Plain People—**The Old Order Amish**. We begin with a

visit to the **Amish Farm & House** for an introduction to their most unusual lifestyle. These people have inhabited this area for more than 250 years and live today much like their forefathers, who came to Pennsylvania in the early 1700s to escape religious persecution. Enjoy the fascinating information related by your guide regarding their lifestyle, their church services, clothing, language, transportation, weddings and more. Then we will board the coach for a tour of the **Back Country**, driving through their beautifully “silent” farmlands to experience first-hand the lifestyle of these Plain People from cradle to the grave. We pass by one-room school houses, grossdadis, cemeteries, a carriage maker and working farms where mules and horses pull the machinery in the fields. We will stop at a roadside stand where delicious homemade jellies, relishes, breads and cookies are sold. Then we visit an Old Order Amish home that houses a quilt shop. Marvel at the exquisite handwork as you have the opportunity to “chat” with family members.

Hope you brought a big appetite for a very special treat. Enjoy lunch in a private Old Order home where you will be treated to a variety of foods such as fried chicken, ham, meat loaf, mashed potatoes, vegetables and a variety of desserts including pies, puddings and ice cream. It is all perfectly delicious!

This afternoon you will be traveling like the Amish—in a real horse and buggy. Relax and enjoy the beautiful farmlands as you travel in authentic buggies pulled by horses. Experience the simple pleasures of the turn-of-the-century travel. (Included meals – breakfast and lunch)

Day 6 – April 30, Friday:

After our final breakfast buffet in Philadelphia we will head west. Today we travel through pretty countryside and stop to remember the heroes at the Flight 93 memorial. Our overnight lodging is in Columbus, OH. (Included meals – breakfast)

Day 7 – May 1, Saturday:

Today we travel home stopping for breaks along the way and reminiscing about all we have experienced. (Included meals – breakfast)

Package includes: Deluxe roundtrip motorcoach transportation, 6 nights lodging and portorage, 9 meals, sightseeing fees per itinerary, taxes and gratuity per itinerary and a friendly tour director.

Package pricing: \$1055 per person double or triple occupancy
\$1315 single

Call 1-800-247-3204 for more information or to make a reservation!

