

# A Castle and Carriages



**DAY 1:** Arrive Soaring Eagle Casino. Snuggle in for the night. Relax in their 2400 square foot “free form” pool that with its ½ million glass tiles from Milan, Italy and underwater music and lights OR try your luck on the casino floor. The Casino Package presently includes \$20 food vouchers and \$30 in free play.

**DAY 2:** Depart this morning for Michigan’s west side and a visit to Castle Farms. Built in 1918 by Albert Loeb, the “farm” has had a fascinating history. In addition to its original purpose it has been an artists’ colony, an outdoor concert stage, and now a lovely wedding venue and tourist attraction. Its beautifully landscaped gardens are breathtaking. Lunch is included before departing for Charlevoix. One of Michigan’s most charming small towns, it is home to the architecturally unique Earl Young homes. Dating from 1921 to the 1950’s the “mushroom houses” are built out of native stone and sport cedar shake roofs; you will think that hobbits live here.

Arriving in Mackinaw City, you will meet your guide for a fascinating ride across the Mighty Mac. At one time this was the longest suspension bridge in the world. Hear the dramatic tales of the brave iron workers who built this massive structure. Your guide will provide more than hearsay – in many cases these are eyewitness accounts of local history.

Then board the ferry for Mackinac Island. As you step onto the island you will feel like you have stepped back in time. Horse drawn vehicles transport everything from supplies for the businesses on the island to passengers. Motorized vehicles are not allowed.

Accommodations tonight are at the Lake View Hotel, Bicycle Street Inn or Grand Hotel.

**DAY 3:** The day begins with a tour of the Island. For anyone who has seen the movie “Somewhere in Time” there will be moments of déjà vu as a horse drawn carriage takes you on a tour of the island. This afternoon, continue exploring the island and visiting some of Mackinac Island’s unique shops. Be sure to taste some of the famous Mackinac Island fudge before boarding the ferry to Mackinaw City.

Accommodations tonight are at Thunder Bay Resort. This family run resort offers the beauty of Northern Michigan and a friendly staff, recipe for a matchless Up North experience.

This evening step back in time as you board a horse drawn carriage that takes you over the Thunder Bay River and through the woods at Thunder Bay Resort. Enjoy the scenery, the smell of pine, the ever-changing face of the Thunder Bay River and the magnificent elk as the horses make their way deep in the woods to beautiful Elk Antler Log Cabin. Warm yourself by the fire and savor the delicious aromas put forth by the twin antique wood cook stoves as the staff prepares your gourmet meal. Throughout your dinner, sample five to seven wines from nearby wineries.

**DAY 4:** Depart for home.