

Exploring along the Shores of the St Lawrence River 1000 Islands

Visitors Itineraries

CULTURAL ODYSSEY – 1000 ISLAND LIGHTHOUSES – 1900 ISLAND HISTORY – -ECOLOGY/HABITAT AND BIRD WATCHING –

Charm and hospitality abound is Clayton's tradition. The beginning of this tradition started more than a century ago when the 1000 Islands Region was a playground of the Nation's most wealthy and powerful. Our Itineraries share this tradition, a tradition we invite you to experience firsthand.

-CULTURAL ODYSSEY-

One day

Arrive in Clayton New York a quintessential river village nestled along the Northern edge of upstate New York.

- 10am ~ Explore the worlds renowned Antique Boat Museum with a docent explaining the tradition of the fascinating wooden boats, hear the stories of boat building and recreation in the 1000 Islands. Tour a 106' historic, fully furnished, historic houseboat originally owned by the wealthy and powerful George Boldt where money was no object in entertaining his guests.
- 12 noon~ Board the Island Girl one of Clayton Island Tours boats at the ABM dock, enjoy a relaxing narrated tour of the Islands, see the pictures where famous 1900 Hotels once stood. Hear and see where the tradition of Resort Hotels started. Stop off at one of the 1000 Islands for a picnic lunch, where the River Views are breathtaking.
- 2pm~ Board the boat and travel to the Clayton Docks where you will walk across the street and view the Historic Clayton Opera House. This 1903 building was the center of the Cultural Events in Clayton and is again today.
- 2:45pm~ Stroll the main street of Clayton where the shops were constructed in the late 19th Century to meet the needs of shoppers coming from land and water. Pursue the quaint shops including clothing boutiques, jewelry shops, 1000 Islands collectibles as well as Corbin's River Heritage Shop full of historical photographs and books of the 1000 Islands. Traditionally the St Lawrence River has inspired artists for centuries; Clayton is no exception with two galleries located on your walk.
- 3:45pm~ Next stop, Thousand Island Museum, famous for duck decoys, muskies and rich heritage of river life. Step back in time and enjoy a walk thru "Yesterdays Memories" Gift Shop housing the St Lawrence Tartan, the museum's trademark.
- 4:45pm~ Walk across the street to The Thousand Island Arts Center, home of the Handweaving Museum where visual arts come alive through art instruction happening year round. Tour through their gallery "Along the River's Edge" where exhibits are ever changing, that showcases the work of area artists and the museum's permanent collections are always on display.
- 6pm~ After a day of wandering through time, board your bus outside the Museum, end your day with reminiscing and relaxing with a stop at one of Clayton's many restaurants.

Package Price – Call for Prices

Package includes: Step on Guide, Admission to all Museums, 1900 Island Boat Tour and Picnic Lunch.

-1 000 ISLAND LIGHTHOUSE TOUR-

One day

Come along with us for a 30 mile journey of lighthouses in and along the St Lawrence River. Enjoy the rich history, varied architecture and panoramic vistas provided by the light towers and keepers dwellings. Marvel in the fact that these lighthouses guided many a ship as they sailed the beautiful Islands. On most days one can see the giant Lakers and ocean going vessels making their way into or out of the Great Lakes filled with Cargo.

- 8:30am~ Arrive in Clayton where you will board one of **Clayton Island Tours** Boats to view the Island Lighthouses. Where Coffee, Muffins, Juice or Water will be waiting.
- 9am ~ Pass by **Rock Island Lighthouse** on Rock Island as we travel down River. Will return for a stop later in the trip.
- 9:15am~ As we circle Bush Island you will have time to photograph **Sunken Rock Lighthouse** while the Tour Guide shares stories and information about the Lighthouse.
- 9:30am~ Pass by Boldt Castle and hear the Story behind the Castle.
- 10:30am~ **Three Sisters Island Lighthouse** is next, where we will circumnavigate the Island Lighthouse for viewing and photographing.
- 11:15am~ Next, we will reach **Crossover Lighthouse**; this is as far east as we will travel. After spending time at Crossover Island viewing the lighthouse, we will head back to the west traveling in the Canadian Channel viewing many smaller lighthouses.
- 1pm~ A stop at Grassy Point State Park is next where we will sit under a Pavilion and view the River activity while eating lunch.
- 2pm~ After Lunch a short boat ride to **Rock Island Lighthouse** located on Rock Island where we will walk the grounds see the sites of the Island and Lighthouse.
- 3:30pm~ Return to Clayton and board your Motorcoach to Cape Vincent.
- 4pm~ Finish your exploration where “The Lake and River Meet”, everywhere you look the views are magnificent. **Tibbets Point Lighthouse** located in Cape Vincent, New York, shared by the St Lawrence River and Lake Ontario, is one of the oldest on the Great Lakes and has the only operating Fresnel Lens on the Lake.
- 5pm~ Stop for dinner at Aubrey’s Restaurant in Cape Vincent.

Package Price: Call For Prices

Package Includes: Morning snack, Lighthouse Island Boat Tour with Guide, Lunch along the River.

-ECOLOGY/HABITAT AND BIRD WATCHING —

ONE DAY

Experience the newest recreational and educational attraction on the St. Lawrence River. Our guided adventure on the majestic St Lawrence River offers breathtaking photographic opportunities, and possible wildlife sightings, while our staff Naturalist discusses the history and ecological significance of each setting. Our fun and informative tours depart from Riverside Drive, Clayton NY and travel along the historic Clayton waterfront and out to the local islands.

- 9:30 am Arrive at the Clayton and enjoy Muffins, Juice and Coffee.
- 10 am Ecology Tour leaves the Dock for a 3 hour adventure on the beautiful St. Lawrence River, guided by our staff Naturalist. Enjoy this unique opportunity to view wildlife of the Thousand Islands region, including Osprey, Terns, Double-breasted Cormorants, Great Blue Heron, Mink, turtles and fish. Halfway through the tour, we will disembark the boat and enjoy a pleasant 45 minute Nature Walk on Grindstone Island. This is a great opportunity for bird watching, as well as spotting frogs and reptiles sunning on the trail. Learn about the River's natural history, and the past and current environmental issues concerning the St. Lawrence River. Bring your binoculars and a spirit of adventure!
- 1 pm Disembark at the Minna Anthony Nature Center on Wellesley Island, enjoy a box lunch and a guided tour of the wonderful Centers displays.
- 3pm Depart Clayton on Board your Motorcoach for a scenic drive to Cape Vincent at the opening to Lake Ontario where a stop at the NYS Fisheries Station with aquariums and environmental interpreter await.
- 4:30pm Board Motorcoach for return.

Package Price: Call For Prices

Package Includes: Naturalist, Muffins, Coffee and Juice, Ecology/Habitat Boat Tour, Picnic Lunch, Minna Anthony Nature Center and NYS Fisheries. (Audubon specialist available upon request)

— 1900 ISLAND HISTORY —

ONE DAY

If you are interested in History you will love this Tour. Step back in time as our guides share life along the St Lawrence River in the early 1900's. See, feel and hear about the Gilded Age as you experience travel and vacationing with the wealthy and powerful who claimed the 1000 Islands as their playground.

- 9:30am Arrive downtown Clayton New York at Village Docks, muffins, juice and coffee before you board the boat for your Island Tour.
- 10am Board **Clayton Island Tours**, see pictures of Island Hotels as you pass the Islands where they stood and listen as our Tour Guide shares stories of life in the 1900's.
- 12 noon Disembark back in Clayton and walk a short distance to the Historic **Thousand Island Opera House** where a Catered Buffet lunch awaits. Enter and tour the building where the wealthy and famous were entertained.
- 1pm Arrive after a short walk to the **Thousand Island Museum** where interpretive displays include, Clothing, Hunting Decoys, Muskie and museum guides will share more interesting facts about Life Along the St Lawrence in the early 1900's.
- 2:30pm Board the bus outside the TI Museum and travel a short distance to the **Antique Boat Museum** where a docent will meet you and share the collection of over 200 wooden boats used to travel the River in the early 1900's.
- 4:30pm Return to the bus and enjoy a stop at one of the many restaurants in the Clayton area.

Package price: Call For Prices

Package Includes: Step on, Muffins, Coffee and Juice, Island Hotel Cruise, Lunch, Admission to Museums.

Tours are custom tailored to your groups' interests. All itineraries are available with overnight accommodations and can be developed into multi day excursions.

Other possible Tours -

- **WINERIES, VINEYARDS AND TWILIGHT BOAT CRUISE —**
- **GILDED AGE CASTLES ALONG THE ST LAWRENCE-**
- **ANTIQUE BOAT MUSEUM AND BOLDT CASTLE YACHT HOUSE TOUR-**
- **WAR OF 1812 TOUR-**
- **OPERA HOUSE PERFORMANCE -DINNER- WINE AND DESSERT CRUISE -**

315-686-4820 and ask for Debbie

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