

### **Are We There Yet? Tours**

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# Crystal Bridges Art Museum

Plus see ride the rails on the A&M Railroad, enjoy an art demo at Terra Studios, tour The Peel Mansion
July 11-14, 2025

Come see some of the best works of American Art in a brand-new gallery designed just for this purpose! Alice Walton used the Walmart fortune to bring incredible works of art to the South, put on display for the public to see. From Norman Rockwell's *Rosie the Riveter* to Winslow Homer's *Spring* you will be astonished at the collection that's less than a day's travel from home! A highlight is touring a Frank Lloyd Wright house on the property.

#### Friday, July 11

We begin our journey by heading west, along I-44, following the course of the famous Route 66. We'll take a break along the way and enjoy lunch at one of Dea's favorites, **Sybill's** in St. James. Enjoy a plated lunch and then shopping at her boutique. We then head south into Arkansas, arriving at the **Embassy Suites** for their **Happy Hour**. Tonight, dine at the hotel restaurant or visit restaurants in the nearby shopping areas to the hotel. **(L, Happy Hour)** 

#### Saturday, July 12

Enjoy our included hot, cooked to order breakfast at the hotel before we visit a homegrown artist haven, **Terra Studios**! A collection of art studios with numerous artists in residence tucked away into the woods, Terra Studios is the home of the *Original Blue Bird of Happiness* made famous by Hallmark! After a tour of their Art Park and Garden, we will see an artist create right before our eyes. (Based on availability) This visit will get you prepared for taking in all the different types of art tomorrow at Crystal Bridges.

We then head down to Van Buren, Arkansas for a quick bite to eat and to ride the rails on the **A&M Railroad**. Arkansas & Missouri Railroad's special passenger train services offer you 'A Window Seat to History' -- an



opportunity to travel in the style of a bygone era. You can still enjoy the leisurely elegance of real train travel through the mountains and valleys of Northwest Arkansas. Over trestles with views for miles and through a quarter mile tunnel, your journey will take you all the way to the top of the scenic Boston Mountains and into the historic Arkansas River Basin.

The Arkansas & Missouri Railroad is one of the few commercial lines left in the United States that operates both freight and passenger service. All passengers travel the regular working rails in refurbished antique passenger or parlor coaches. We arrive at the Springdale station where our motorcoach meets us to return to the hotel to enjoy Happy Hour before. Then we head down to the Catfish Hole in

Fayetteville for those that want to have a dinner out after the Happy Hour. You'll be sure to find some fine southern cooking here with a large choice of menu from fish to chicken to beef. **(B, L)** 

#### Sunday, July 13

Enjoy our included hot, cooked to order breakfast at the hotel before visiting the highlight of our tour at opening time - **Crystal Bridges Art Museum!** Enjoy an afternoon wandering the curving halls of this incredible museum, featuring such well known works as Asher Durand's *Kindred Spirits* and Andy Warhol's *Dolly Parton*, just some of the many treasures awaiting your gazing pleasure at the gathering place of five centuries of American masterpieces. Or take a stroll through the outdoor sculptures along the walking paths on the grounds as well. Lunch will be on your own at Eleven or Bars & Bites located in the Museum. Enjoy yourself for as along as you like. LET US KNOW AT TIME OF RESERVATION IF YOU



WANT TO TOUR THE FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT HOME ON PROPERTY. WE NEED TO SECURE TICKETS.

We will run two shuttles to the hotel this afternoon. We then return to the hotel to enjoy Happy Hour before heading to a local Arkansas favorite for a family style fried chicken dinner. (B, D, Happy Hour)

#### Monday, July 14

After breakfast we visit the wonderfully quaint Bentonville downtown, home to numerous shops as well as the Walmart Welcome Center, a museum focused on the origin of the largest retailer in the world. There is even an AI generated Sam Walton available to answer your questions. We then head for a **tour at the Peel Mansion Museum and Heritage Gardens**. Built in 1875 by Colonel Samuel West Peel, this amazing Italianate Mansion features amazing woodwork, particularly the walnut stairway in the front hall. There are numerous other styles found in the home as well, including a rare Anglo-Japanese mantle in the library and Greek Revival molded trim in the parlor, and the museum has collected period appropriate pieces to furnish the house in the grand Victorian Style in which it was designed. This attention to detail extends to the gardens, where paintings, photographs and even interviews with those descended from the early settlers were interviewed for what the gardens would have been like in the late 1800s. We depart Arkansas and stop for lunch and shopping on own at Branson Landing before returning home this evening. Thank you for traveling with us! **(B)** 

#### **Tour Price includes:**

- Deluxe Motor Coach transportation round-trip
- **THREE** nights at the Embassy Suites
- Admission to all attractions as listed
- 6 Meals: 3 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 1 Dinner and 3 Happy Hours
- A Ride on the A&M Railroad
- Day visit to Crystal Bridges
- Art Tour at Terra Studios
- Baggage Handling of one suitcase per person.
- Are We There Yet? Tour Directors to handle whatever comes our way
- Gratuities to Tour Guides, Coach Driver, Bellmen & Servers at Included Meals

\$1,093 per person, double occupancy

\$1,391 per person, single occupancy \$964 per person, triple/quad occupancy

## Save 4% on this tour! See the best of American Art for just \$1,049 per person double occ\* when you pay with check, cash or money order!

\$1,049 per person, double occupancy

\$1,335 per person, single

\$925 per person, triple/quad

A **deposit of \$250** per person is due when signing up for this tour. Final Payment is due June 1, 2025. Multiple payments and types of payment are accepted towards the tour.

There will not be any discount on portions paid by credit card.

The 4% discount is only for checks and payment apps like Cash App, Zelle or PayPal

There will be 1.8% discount with ACH from your bank.

We are working in a new system called Group Collect. You may pay online with credit card too but receive no discount. If you enter your own bank account info you will only receive a 1.8% discount off the price.

We encourage trip interruption and cancellation insurance. You will want to send that with your deposit to cover pre-existing conditions. We are also offering coverage through TripMate in conjunction with Group Collect and can begin offering it on tours not previously booked. The pricing on group insurance is NOT based on age, just the price of the tour.

The individual trip insurance policy is based on both age and price of tour. We can check for best fit. We also offer Cancel Any Time policies but they are often much more expensive and you receive either 75% or 80%, based on which insurance company, of what you paid for the tour if reason is not a covered reason. If it is covered, you will receive the full amount once the claim information has been filed and approved by the insurance company. It takes 8-12 weeks typically. Ask Maggie when you sign up.

Call us at 314-304-3508 or email us at <a href="mailto:info@arewethereyetdea.com">info@arewethereyetdea.com</a> to reserve your space.

The itinerary is subject to change and substitutions will be made with service of equal or greater value.