

# gateway to the west

## ITINERARY

Nestled in the northern part of the USA lies a region that's truly magical, packed with epic vistas and stunning natural beauty. Awe-inspiring outdoor adventure awaits visitors here coupled with an abundance of cultural activities. Visit museums and interpretive centers to take a hands-on journey into Old West history and Native American cultures.

★ Stone Arch Bridge, MN



★ Mall of America, MN



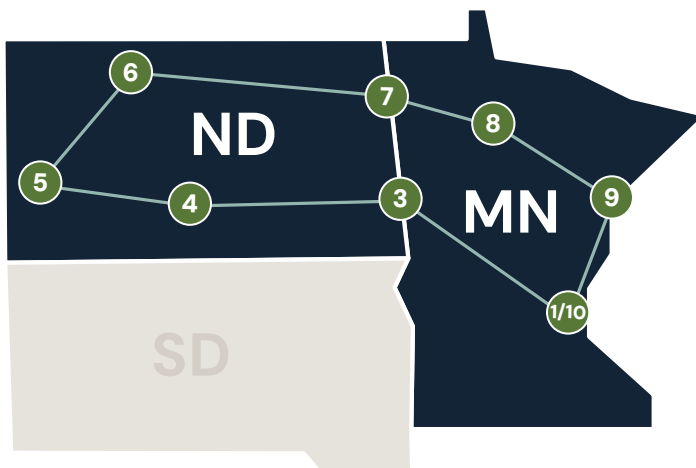
★ First Avenue, MN

### DAY 1: MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL/BLOOMINGTON, MN

Arrival at Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport (MSP). Use a complimentary hotel shuttle and check into your Bloomington, Minnesota hotel. Then it's off to an evening of shopping, entertainment and dining at Mall of America, the largest enclosed shopping and entertainment center in the U.S. There's no sales tax on clothing or shoes in Minnesota!

### DAY 2: MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL, MN

Start your day exploring the Mississippi River in downtown Minneapolis. Walk across the historic Stone Arch Bridge for a view of the only natural waterfall on the entire river, St. Anthony Falls. Learn about the history of Minneapolis at Mill City Museum, which was once one of the most important flour mills in the U.S. Then take a short drive to St. Paul, following Summit Avenue which features a collection of Victorian-styled homes. Stop at the Minnesota State Capitol, the Saint Paul Cathedral and the James J. Hill House. Final stop of the day is First Avenue, the nightclub in Minneapolis that Prince featured in his movie *Purple Rain*.





★ Hjemkomst Center, MN

### DAY 3: FARGO, ND/MOORHEAD, MN

Following a four-hour drive, visit the Fargo–Moorhead Visitor Center to get your photo taken with The Woodchipper, made famous in the film *Fargo*. Next stop is the Hjemkomst Heritage Center to see a locally built Viking ship that sailed from Duluth, Minnesota to Bergen, Norway in 1982. Then it's off to Bonanzaville USA, a re-created pioneer village, a stop at the Plains Art Museum or the Fargo Air Museum.

### DAY 4: BISMARCK, ND

On the drive west, stop in Jamestown to see the world's largest buffalo and the North American Bison Discovery Center. Upon arrival in Bismarck, visit the North Dakota Heritage Center and State Museum on the North Dakota State Capitol campus. Next a short drive to Mandan leads to old Fort Abraham Lincoln, which shows life as a frontier soldier in a living history demonstration. End the day with a sunset cruise aboard the Lewis & Clark Riverboat.



★ Theodore Roosevelt National Park, ND

### DAY 5: MEDORA, ND

U.S. President Theodore Roosevelt visited Medora and was captivated by the spirit and beauty of the small town, resulting in the creation of Theodore Roosevelt National Park. After a visit to the park, stop at the North Dakota Cowboy Hall of Fame and the Chateau de Mores, Roosevelt's home in Medora. For dinner and entertainment, attend the Pitchfork Steak Dinner and Medora Musical, a stunning outdoor variety show.

### DAY 6: MINOT, ND

Driving east this morning, first stop in New Town, home of the MHA Interpretive Center and earth lodge building, which tells the story of the Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nations. Reflect on the beauty of the area at Lake Sakakawea. After arrival in Minot, walk through the Scandinavian Heritage Park, featuring buildings, statues and monuments that celebrate the heritage of the Nordic countries. And visit the Dakota Territory Air Museum, which features a variety of military and civilian aircraft as a tribute to the city's importance as an aviation training center.



★ Itasca State Park, MN

### DAY 7: GRAND FORKS, ND

Upon arrival in Grand Forks, take a tour of the North Dakota Museum of Art. Then time for outdoor parks with Lincoln Drive and Riverside offering paths lined with beautiful flowers and foliage. Setoma boasts a picturesque Japanese Garden and great birdwatching. And River Cities Speedway is the top 1/3-mile dirt and clay track in the nation, with Friday night races testing the speed of Outlaw Sprints, Midwest Modifieds and Street Stocks.

### DAY 8: BEMIDJI, MN

This morning it's a short drive to Itasca State Park, where the Mississippi River begins its journey to the Gulf of Mexico. Drive to the Headwaters in the park for a photo and walk across the stepping stones where the river flows from Lake Itasca. Late afternoon drive to Bemidji, known as the First City on the Mississippi. Highlights include the famous statues of lumberjack Paul Bunyan and Babe the Blue Ox, the Bemidji Woolen Mills and the outdoor Sculpture Walk.

### DAY 9: DULUTH, MN

Enjoy the drive through Minnesota's Iron Range on the way to Duluth, the world's largest inland seaport on the shore of Lake Superior. First stop is Canal Park and the iconic Aerial Lift Bridge, which opens to allow ocean ships to enter the harbor. Visit the Maritime Marine Visitors Center to learn about the history of shipping on Lake Superior. Other top attractions are Glensheen Mansion, the Lake Superior Railroad Museum and Spirit Mountain Recreation Area.

### DAY 10: MINNEAPOLIS/ST. PAUL/BLOOMINGTON, MN

Depart Duluth for the 2.5-hour trip back to Minneapolis/St. Paul. Take a walk along the Minnesota River at the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge in Bloomington or shop for some last-minute items at Mall of America—both are only five minutes from the Minneapolis/St. Paul International Airport (MSP).



★ Glensheen Mansion, MN