

# Chinese Lantern Festival

JUNE 20-22, 2012

PROVIDED BY INTERLUDE TOURS

*Featuring 20 larger than life lanterns at the Missouri Botanical Garden and a performance at “The Muny” with backstage tour*



Performance at “The Muny”



Chinese Lantern Festival



Missouri Botanical Garden Tram Tour

The Missouri Botanical Garden is hosting one of China’s most treasured events and ancient traditions – a lantern festival! More than 20 larger than life lanterns have been custom-designed and crafted from silk and steel. The exhibition is the first of its kind and size in the United State and offers a unique opportunity to witness a spectacle that’s rarely staged outside of Asia.

The Muny Theatre in St. Louis’ Forest Park is the nation’s oldest and (some claim) largest outside theater. Since 1918 it has been a St. Louis tradition. Go behind the scenes before the evening performance where you’ll be guided through the maze of mammoth stage sets. Then enjoy the evening performance of Thoroughly Modern Millie, the tale of a small-town girl arriving in New York City to lead a new, thoroughly modern lifestyle. A big, fun-filled show done in true Muny fashion, Millie is filled with energetic dance numbers, fabulous flappers, and the spectacle of 1920s New York.

But that’s not all...enjoy a tour of The Hill, a traditional Italian-American neighborhood. The tour will provide you with an opportunity to learn and experience why this beloved neighborhood remains a special place to visit and enjoy. Besides the obvious well-known restaurants, bakeries and Italian food markets, the Hill has many other aspects that will educate, charm and delight you.



St. Louis Cathedral Basilica



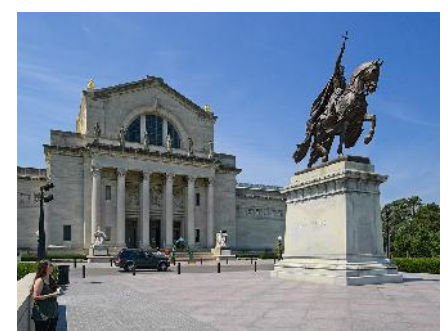
Jefferson National Expansion Memorial

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- ◆ St. Louis Cathedral Basilica
- ◆ “The Muny” Backstage Tour
- ◆ “The Muny” performance of “Thoroughly Modern Millie”
- ◆ Missouri Botanical Garden Tram Tour by day
- ◆ Chinese Lantern Festival by night
- ◆ Guided tour of “The Hill” with ravioli making demonstration
- ◆ Visit Historic St. Ambrose Church
- ◆ Your choice of attractions:
  - ⇒ Shopping the Galleria
  - ⇒ St. Louis Art Museum
  - ⇒ St. Louis Zoo
  - ⇒ Jefferson National Expansion Memorial at the Arch



St. Ambrose Church “The Hill”



St. Louis Art Museum

## Tour Itinerary

### Day 1: Indianapolis, IN / St. Louis / St. Louis Basilica

Travel by motorcoach arriving in St. Louis for lunch on your own in the Central West End, an eclectic, cosmopolitan showplace of St. Louis. There you'll find a fine selection of restaurants and sidewalk cafes nestled in with notable art galleries, antique shops, specialty shops, boutiques and bookstores. After lunch enjoy a tour of the magnificent St. Louis Basilica where you'll be awe-struck by the world's largest collection of mosaic art. This evening go behind the scenes at The Muny where you'll be escorted through the maze of mammoth stage sets. You'll see where and how those sets are designed and built, and learn the history of The Muny. The tour culminates on the Muny's grand stage itself! Enjoy a bountiful buffet dinner at the Muny's Culver Pavilion before the performance, Thoroughly Modern Millie, the tale of a small-town girl arriving in New York City to lead a new, thoroughly modern lifestyle. A big, fun-filled show done in true Muny fashion...Millie is filled with energetic dance numbers, fabulous flappers, and the spectacle of 1920s New York. Crowne Plaza Hotel, Clayton, MO (CB, D)

### Day 2: St. Louis / The Hill / St. Ambrose Church / Missouri Botanical Garden Tram Tour / Chinese lantern Festival

This morning meet our local guide for an insider view of The Hill, St. Louis' famous Italian-American Neighborhood. You'll have an opportunity to learn and experience why this beloved neighborhood remains a special place to visit. Enjoy a ravioli making demonstration, savor and sample as you visit wonderful Italian markets and bakeries; visit historic St. Ambrose Church where you'll learn the colorful history of the Italian immigration to the area, why they came and stayed, plus a primer on local Italian-American

culture and customs. You'll also find an array of Italian made crafts and souvenirs awaiting you as well as an authentic Italian lunch. Nearby we'll visit the Missouri Botanical Garden, founded in 1859, it is one of the oldest botanical institutions in the United States. Their Lantern Festival: Art by Day, Magic by Night, debuts for the first time in 2012. You'll have an opportunity to view the garden by tram during the day, then return in the evening for an international exhibition of 26 larger-than-life, lighted works of art from China. Besides the lighted lanterns in the evening, enjoy acrobatic performances, a marketplace, food and a "wish tree." (Note: evening performance is lawn seating, you may want to bring a chair or blanket; plenty of room to stow on the coach) Crowne Plaza, Clayton, MO (B, L, Reception)

### Day 3: St. Louis / Galleria - Art Museum - St. Louis Zoo - Jefferson National Expansion Memorial / Indianapolis

Today, enjoy St. Louis "Your Way." If you're a shopper, it doesn't get any better than the St. Louis Galleria. Did you know that St. Louis is just behind Washington DC in the number of free attractions? Our coach will shuttle you to the attraction of your choice: St. Louis Art Museum, St. Louis Zoo or the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial. We'll rendezvous in the afternoon for our coach trip home. (Note: admissions are free, but there is a charge for extra features/exhibits.) (B)

## Chinese Lantern Festival

Wednesday-Friday

June 20-22, 2012

3 days / 2 nights

Cost per person: Coach Only

\$639 (D)

\$789 (S)

Cancellation Insurance:

\$49 (D), \$61 (S)

Deposit per person: \$200

Balance due: May 1, 2012

**SAVE \$25: Bring a friend who has not traveled with Interlude in the past.**

For reservations, call:

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### Your Tour Includes:

- Transportation by luxury coach
- 2 nights accommodations
- Baggage handling
- 6 meals:
  - ⇒ 3 breakfasts
  - ⇒ 1 lunch
  - ⇒ 1 dinner
  - ⇒ 1 reception
- Admission to included attractions highlighted in itinerary
- All taxes and gratuities on included features (including driver)
- Interlude Tour Director

**Cancellation policy for multi-day travel:** if insurance is not purchased, cancellation charges are: 46 days and earlier: full refund; 45-31 days before departure: \$200 plus the cost of any non-refundable tickets; 30 and less days prior to departure: no refund. **Optional trip cancellation insurance:** pre-existing conditions are covered if purchased within 7 days of initial trip deposit. An application will be sent to you upon registration. **Itinerary Changes:** All itineraries are planned at the time they are published, but they are subject to revisions should circumstances make such changes necessary. Interlude Tours reserves the right in its sole discretion to make changes in the itinerary or to cancel or alter any portion of the tour if circumstances require it, and is not responsible to any person for expenses, loss of time, money or other happening resulting from a change in tour scheduling.

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