

Join us...

Where the Wisconsin River joins the mighty Mississippi



2017 Great River Getaway!

Tues-Thur, Oct. 3-5 OR Fri-Sun, Oct. 6-8

- ~ Stand atop 500-foot bluffs gazing at forests of reds and golds.
- ~ Hike the "other" Pike's Peak ... the highest point along the Mississippi River.
- ~ Trek through crisp autumn air and golden forests in Iowa and Wisconsin.
- ~ Discover Native American effigy mounds, and learn their significance.
- ~ Kayak the Yellow River, one of Iowa's most remote and scenic waterways.
- ~ Relax on a Mississippi sunset riverboat cruise.
- ~ Relax. Reflect. Recharge. Repeat.

Trailbound Trips: Explore. Dream. Discover

Day 1: Tues, Oct. 3 ... Fri, Oct. 6

Noon: Meet at Wisconsin's gorgeous Wyalusing State Park. This 2,600-acre park perches above, and along, the confluence of the Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers. It boasts sweeping bluff-top views of autumn foliage and the mighty rivers. We'll enjoy a trail lunch together here.

12:45 – 3:15 pm: Our 2-mile trail meanders from the bluffs to the canoe landing. This hike has it all ... breathtaking views of the Wisconsin and Mississippi Rivers, fall colors, majestic forests, eagles, and Native American effigy mounds.

4 pm: Settle into your comfy room at *AmericInn Hotel*.

4:30-6:30 pm: Stroll across the street for a sunset riverboat cruise along the Mississippi's pretty backwaters and towering bluffs. Like us, river wildlife relish early evening's peace, so we might glimpse deer, beaver, otter, eagles, great blue heron, and more! The on-board naturalist will tell us about the area history, wildlife, river, and its ecology. Feel free to bring snacks and drinks. There are restrooms on board, indoor and outdoor seating, and heaters if it's chilly.

7 pm: Relax with hearty soup and pie in a private room back at our hotel.

Day 2: Wed, Oct. 4 ... Sat, Oct. 7

8:30 am: Head out for a great day at Yellow River State Park, 8,500 acres of gorgeous, golden woods and expansive vistas. We'll follow the gentle bluff trail downhill for 2.5 miles through old-growth forests to Little Paint Creek, where we'll have cars waiting.

12-12:30 pm: Lunches are always better outdoors near a stream, which is where we'll enjoy ours!

"When my daughter saw the pictures from our getaway, her comment was, 'OMG Mom, you look so happy!' And then: 'What an awesome group!' Thanks for all you do to organize and lead these wonderful trips." ~ "Last Minute"



Enjoy sweeping vistas on the bluff trail at Wyalusing State Park.



Enjoy the company of other fun, outdoor women.



Reconnect with nature ... and with yourself. (At Yellow River State Park)



Kayak the scenic Yellow River.

Day 2: 1-4 pm: Next adventure? You choose...

* **Kayak with a Trailbound guide** down the scenic Yellow River between limestone cliffs, and through forests, eagle country, and farmland. We kayak the easiest 5-mile stretch, which is mostly flat-water with some Class I (smallest) rapids. Reserve now, but you can decide for sure and pay that day, once you know the weather.

* **Explore antique and gift shops** on your own at *The Cannery* in Prairie du Chien or *Turkey River Mall* in nearby Elkader, IA.

* **Time-travel to 19th-century Victorian splendor** at *Villa Louis* in Prairie du Chien. Costumed interpreters conduct house tours, sharing stories of the Dousman family, the home's belongings and its architecture. On this 25-acre site, you'll also see Wisconsin's sole 1812 battlefield, archaeological remains of Fort Crawford, and a National Landmark fur trade museum.

* **Explore Spook Cave.** Travel by small fishing boat and guide through a beautiful cave, which is a constant 47 degrees. Narrow passages on this 40-minute trip require you to lean forward in some places to avoid head bumps.



Walk through towering forests at Pike's Peak State Park.

6:30: Gather for dinner and share the day's stories at the local favorite, *Ft. Mulligan's Grillpub*. You'll like its history and relaxed ambience as much as the yummy food.

"Everything about the Great River Getaway was wonderful! I loved this trip. I enjoyed the hikes and met new ladies, it was easy on the pocketbook, and the weather was perfect. I especially liked the kayaking because I could challenge & overcome my fears. Kudos to Trailbound Trips for another spectacular getaway!" ~ "CCC"

Day 3: Thurs, October 5 ... Sun, Oct. 8



Spot eagles and their nests.



Let autumn air and outdoor exercise refresh you.

8:30 am: Pack your car and head out for Effigy Mounds State Park. This park offers spectacular views of the Mississippi River, and is famous for its Native American effigy mounds. We'll hike the 2-mile Fire Point Trail, which starts uphill steeply, and then levels off.

11-11:30 am: Head to Pike's Peak State Park, just across Iowa's border. Yep, same "Pike," different peak! Munch a trail lunch there.

11:30 am-1:30 pm: This gorgeous 2.5-mile hike at Pikes Peak treats us to a wispy waterfall, Native American mounds, gently rolling hills, vistas, and golden trails through towering forests.

1:30 pm: Head home, filled with memories, rejuvenated spirit, and a heart warmed with friendship.

Our AmericInn Hotel features:

- Indoor heated pool, hot tub, fitness center and massage chair
- Complimentary hot breakfast beginning at 6 am, with made-to-order omelets
- High-speed internet and guest laundry facilities
- 24-hour coffee bar, also serving cappuccino and hot chocolate
- Your room has 2 queen beds, mini-fridge, coffee pot, hair dryer, shampoo/lotion

The hotel is located along the big river at **130 S. Main Street, Prairie du Chien**. Check-in time is 3 pm; check-out is 11 am.

We've reserved your room under Trailbound Trips' room block. When you check in, simply put your room under your own credit card. Rooms, with tax, for the 2-night stay are \$378.88/rm during the week (\$189.44/pp); and \$412.33/rm on the weekend (\$206.17/pp). The 2-night price for solo king rooms is \$356.58/weekdays and \$434.63/weekends.

The registration of \$155/person covers:

- * 2 experienced guides throughout the getaway
- * 4 guided hikes through autumn beauty
- * Assistance on the river paddle, and payment for its shuttle
- * Relaxing 2-hour sunset riverboat cruise, and tips for cruise staff
- * Authentic Mississippi dinner following the cruise
- * 2 hot, yummy breakfasts at the hotel
- * All trip arrangements
- * Info packet with itineraries, driving directions, area info & more
- * State park permits (but not car stickers)
- * Online photos of your adventures
- * Memories and smiles for a lifetime

Please note: Registration cost is non-refundable; it does not cover lodging, trail lunches, one dinner, \$25 fee for optional kayaking, state park parking sticker, or housekeeping tips.

Registration for our 2017 Great River Getaway

Reserve your spot soon! Space is limited to 24 women per trip, and spots fill quickly. Mail this form with your \$155 registration to: **Trailbound Trips**, 533 S. Summit Street, Barrington, IL 60010 ... or register online at www.TrailboundTrips.com under Autumn Great River Getaway.

1. Your contact info

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

(All communication will be via e-mail)

Preferred Roomie: _____

(Or we'll be happy to pair you with another solo hiker)

2. Dates you'll join us

(filled) Weekday trip: Oct. 3-5 ___ Weekend trip: Oct. 6-8

___ Weekday trip wait list (send no money for the wait list)

3. Optional kayak

Reserve now – pay later. You can opt out, depending on weather. Cost is \$25 per solo kayak (no tandem rentals). (Trailbound will pay for the car shuttle.)

___ I plan to paddle the Yellow River

4. Info packet

In late summer, we'll e-mail you driving directions, area info, packing list, a roster of your fellow hikers, and more.

Questions? Contact Carol Ruhter at 847-381-9374 or

TrailboundTrips@gmail.com



Explore new trails ... and new opportunities.



Let's go make some memories!

We're glad you're joining us! Happy Trails!
Your Guides: Carol "Scout" Ruhter & Marlene "River Rat" Tres

"Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things you didn't do than by the ones you did do ... Explore. Dream. Discover."