

"It's Beginning to Look a lot Like Christmas"

(2 day tour) Mason City, Iowa

DAY ONE

Morning:

Did you know that Meredith Willson is the author of the popular holiday song "It's Beginning to Look a lot Like Christmas"? Uncover the unique story regarding how Meredith Willson created this wonderful song, as well as, many other popular songs and plays while touring the [Meredith Willson Boyhood Home](#) and [The Music Man Square](#). Both facilities will be filled with holiday decorations and the warmth of the holiday season.

Afternoon:

The group will then tour the [Charles H. MacNider Art Museum](#) to see the wonderful works of art that is featured including works with a holiday feel and vision. The group will also learn about Bil Baird, another famous, former Mason City resident and renowned puppeteer that has donated hundreds of his puppets to the museum. Baird's most famous puppets were featured in the movie "The Sound of Music", these puppets are currently on display at the museum.

Evening:

Check into the hotel and take some time to relax. Then off we go to enjoy a scrumptious meal at one of the area restaurants with true River City entertainment, a [barbershop quartet](#) featuring songs from "The Music Man" and other musical favorites including Willson's "It's Beginning to Look a lot Like Christmas". Another option available would be to partake in one of the many holiday annual events including [Home for the Holidays](#) or Clear Lake's [Christmas By the Lake](#). The group could also attend a [Mason City Community Theatre](#) production or enjoy a performance of the [North Iowa Performing Arts Series](#), the holiday options are endless! [Wine sampling](#) is also available.

DAY TWO

Morning:

First stop of the day is an [Architectural Tour / Slide](#)

[Presentation](#) of Mason City. The tour can be strictly a guided tour by motorcoach or can include a 20-minute slide presentation of the architectural aspects in the Rock Glen and Rock Crest area, the largest grouping of Prairie School Architecture on a unified site. A great opportunity to view the Frank Lloyd Wright and Prairie School architectural designs in the community softly blanketed in the new fallen snow. What would the holidays be without shopping....next is a great chance to have some time to uncover those special treasures at the abundance of specialty shops and retail stores in Mason City.