

## Music... Memories... Wright... here in Mason City, Iowa - (3-day tour)

### DAY ONE

#### *Morning:*

The group will start their day by uncovering the story about Mason City's famous hometown son, Meredith Willson, author of "The Music Man". The group will tour the [Meredith Willson Boyhood Home](#) to learn more about the man behind the music. Next, enjoy a tour of Mason City's newest \$10 million attraction [The Music Man Square](#). The tour will highlight the Meredith Willson Museum and an old fashion 1912 streetscape replica of the movie set designs from the Warner Brothers motion picture.

#### *Afternoon:*

The group will then tour the [Charles H. MacNider Art Museum](#), formerly a gracious 1920's Tudor revival home, which now houses a permanent collection of American art, including works by Regionalists Thomas Hart Benton and Grant Wood. Other highlights of the collection are post World War II paintings, contemporary prints, and works by Iowa artists. The museum also features the puppet collection of renowned puppeteer and Mason City native, Bil Baird, including his most famous puppets from the movie, The Sound of Music.

#### *Evening:*

Guests will check into a Mason City lodging facility of their choice and freshen up for evening activities. Get ready to enjoy an elegant evening in Mason City, "The Original River City". The group will enjoy a delightful evening meal at one of the numerous restaurants in the community, with true River City entertainment, [a barbershop quartet](#) featuring songs from "The Music Man" and other musical favorites. Another option available would be to enjoy a private showing of the video ["The Music Man"](#). Popcorn can be included as a special treat for those who choose to enjoy this Broadway favorite.

### DAY TWO

#### *Morning:*

Mason City is known for our appreciation of music since it is the hometown of Meredith Willson, composer of "The Music Man". Plus, the area is known for wind power! What, wind power in Iowa? Your group will learn about the 89 wind turbines at the [Top of Iowa Wind Farm](#). These structures are mounted on 237-foot tall tubular towers. The facility represents a growing effort to meet America's energy needs with clean, reliable and economical electricity generated in harmony with the environment. The wind farms energy is equivalent to electricity consumed by 30,000 typical Midwest homes. This unique tour will amaze your group as you discover how homes are powered by these "gentle giants".

Mason City is also home to Prairie School Architecture with several buildings in the community designed by Frank Lloyd Wright including a residential home, a bank building and the only remaining Wright designed hotel in the world. Discover more about Frank Lloyd Wright, Mason City's architecture and about the past, present and future of the community on an [Architectural Tour](#) 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. Continue your quest to learn more about Frank Lloyd Wright while touring the [Frank Lloyd Wright](#)

[Stockman House](#). The Stockman House, constructed in 1908, is located adjacent to the Rock Glen - Rock Crest National Historical District. This home was the first and only Prairie School house designed in Iowa by Wright.

***Afternoon:***

Take a step back in time at the [Kinney Pioneer Museum](#) and relive the memories of days gone by. Experience life on the Iowa frontier through the vintage exhibits and living history, which includes a pioneer village, one-room schoolhouse, log cabin and blacksmith shop. Plus, demonstrations of pioneer crafts and trades including weaving, broom making and radio deejay. [Civil War presentations](#) are the next stop of the day. Discover why Iowa was the number one provider of volunteer infantry in the Union Army. See and feel the fashions worn during this time period and learn about the life of a soldier. An additional option would be to take part in a [barbecue taste testing](#) experience. Learn the in's and out's of barbecue provided by a sanctioned barbecue judge. These interactive presentations cover what is barbecue, how to and end with everyone becoming a judge with actual taste testing.

***Evening:***

Experience a breathtaking sunset over the lake during an evening excursion on a paddlewheel vessel, the [Lady of the Lake](#). A perfect end to a delightful day.

**DAY THREE**

***Morning:***

First stop of the day will be at [Winnebago Industries](#) where the group will witness the production of recreational vehicles at the largest motor home production facility. Next, the group will try their luck at the [Fort Custer Maze](#), a one of a kind wooden maze. This replica of an 1850 western fort covers almost 2 acres with approximately 2 miles of zigzagging and adventurous paths. The maze features bridges, a lookout tower and 8 stations to help guests find their way out and conquer the maze.

***Afternoon:***

Next, a chance to have some time on their own as they uncover those special treasures at the abundance of antique/specialty shops and retail stores in Mason City. A map of retail stores within walking distances can be provided.