

# Mountain Rails and Appalachian Trails

August 18 – 22, 2025

\$ 1849 Per Person Double Occupancy
\$2323 Per Person Single Occupancy \$1713 Per Person Triple \$1643 Per Person Quad
Deposit \$150 Per Person----Final Payment Due 6/1/25
Departure Locations: Fort Wayne and Decatur

Join us for a five-day journey through the world of Appalachia. Enjoy the sights of Steel Town from the river and ride the rails around Horseshoe Curve. Step back in time as we ride mountain trains in the heart of Maryland and West Virginia and be inspired by sounds of the Gandy Dancer Dinner Theater.

# **Trip Includes:**

Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens
Grand Concourse
Monongahela Incline
Amtrak Train, Horseshoe Curve, A National Historic Landmark
Altoona Railroaders Museum
Blackwater Falls State Park
Branch Bender Cidery
Ski Lift Ride with Snow Making Demo
Gandy Dancer Dinner Theater
Green Bank Observatory
Cass Scenic Railroad
West Virgina Railroad Museum
Eleven Meals, Lodging, Transportation

Gratuities for driver and step-on guides not included.



Memories in Motion, Inc.

"Making Memories One Trip At A Time"

Steve and Sheila Magsamen, Tour Managers-----260-432-8488 E-Mail: memoriesinmotiontravel@gmail.com

# Mountain Rails and Appalachian Trails

**Day One:** Our tour starts in Pittsburgh, PA known as "the Steel City" for its more than 300 steel-related businesses. **Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens**, is located in Pittsburgh, it is a stunning Victorian glasshouse that showcases diverse plant collections from around the world. We will explore the lush indoor gardens, vibrant seasonal flower displays, and innovative sustainable landscapes, all while learning about horticulture, conservation, and the beauty of nature.

After our visit to Phipps we will enjoy dinner at The **Grand Concourse** Restaurant, which is housed in the beautifully preserved Pittsburgh & Lake Erie Railroad Station. The Grand Concourse at Station Square is a true testament of grandeur and elegant dining. With a cathedral stained-glass vaulted ceiling, marble columns, and a grand staircase, we will be quickly transported to the glamorous side of the Progressive Era with the luxury of a modern-day menu. Once we finish our delicious meal, we walk across the street and take a ride on the **Monongahela Incline**. This incline was built in 1870 and today is the best way to see the city from Mt. Washington. Enjoy the ride and the breathtaking views! (**Dinner**)

Day Two: Rise and shine for an early breakfast as afterwards we are off to Pittsburgh's Union Station for the 7:30 a.m. departure on the Amtrak Train to Altoona, PA. This train ride winds through the countryside and the Allegheny Mountains. Nearing the end of our two-and-a-half-hour ride, we will traverse the famous Horseshoe Curve, which is a National Historic Landmark. The Horseshoe Curve has both a museum and visitor center, as well as a viewing area to watch trains round the Curve itself. Next, we visit the Altoona Railroaders Museum. Learn about the massive railroad history of this area of Pennsylvania, and tour this fascinating interactive museum, housed in the 1882 Master Mechanics Building. The museum will take you into the personal lives and ethnic heritages of the men and women who lived, ate, and slept railroads back in the day! From the museum our guide will take us to ride the FUNICULAR up to the overlook, which will provide spectacular views of the countryside and of trains rounding this stunning horseshoe curve! Lunch will be included today. Then board your motor coach for the scenic drive to McHenry, Maryland. Set in the Appalachian Mountains on the northermost shore of Deep Creek Lake, in Garrett County. This afternoon we'll enjoy a Cidery & Goat Cheese Tasting at Branch Bender Cidery. A true artisanal farm Cidery. Taste 3 ciders paired with Firefly Farms internationally award-winning premium goat cheese. Enjoy the tasting under the Tin Roof Shed, tour the floral fields, the milk parlor and the cidery. Check in to the Wisp Resort, a 4-season ski, golf and recreational destination resort. This evening enjoy dinner at the Resort. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day Three: Begin the day with breakfast and then take a scenic chairlift ride to the top of the mountain and enjoy breathtaking views of Deep Creek Lake and the surrounding area. Venture out around the top of the mountain by taking a short walk to the mountaintop recirculating a whitewater course. Then watch a snow making demonstration before boarding our coach to depart for Elkins, WV. We make a stop at Blackwater Falls State Park. Located in the Allegheny Mountains of Tucker County, Blackwater Falls State Park is named for the amber waters of Blackwater Falls, a 57-foot cascade tinted by the tannic acid of fallen hemlock and red spruce needles. Enjoy lunch at the lodge. This evening we enjoy dinner and show at the Gandy Dancer Dinner Theater. This venue is West Virginia's ONLY Branson – style dinner theater and is nestled in the heart of the WV mountains. The show features music from the 50's to present day, country, gospel, rock and roll as well as patriotic. (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)

**Day Four:** This morning we reach for the stars at the **Green Bank Observatory**, an astronomical observatory with the world's largest steerable radio telescope, located in the National Radio Quiet Zone in Green Bank, West Virginia. Next, it's onto the **Cass Scenic Railroad!** A RIDE on the Cass Scenic Railroad is a thrilling experience for young and old. This train will take us to the top of Bald Knob, which is the third highest point in West Virginia, making for breathtaking views and amazing photos. The long haul of 11 miles to Bald Knob takes about four and a half hours for the 22-mile round trip. Panoramas of the lofty Appalachians become more beautiful as the train climbs higher and higher. We will have an included box lunch while on this train ride adventure! Tonight, our farewell dinner is at C.J. Maggie's in Elkins. (**Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner**)

# **Day Five:**

After Breakfast enjoy a visit to the **West Virginia Railroad Museum** then depart for home with fond memories of Mountain Rails. (**Breakfast**)

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Tour is sponsored by Memories in Motion, Inc. and escorted by Steve and Sheila Magsamen. Memories in Motion, Inc. and Steve and Sheila Magsamen act only as agents for the tour members in arranging accommodations, transportation, sightseeing, admissions, restaurants, etc. and are not responsible for any loss or damage of personal property or for injuries or expenses incurred or claimed by tour members. Memories in Motion reserves the right to make changes in the tour for comfort and well-being of passengers; decline or accept any person as a tour member at any time, cancel the tour should it become necessary, refunding all trip monies, thus releasing them from further obligation.

### Payment: Check or Money Order Payable to Memories in Motion, Inc., 9733 Red Twig Place, Fort Wayne, IN 46804-5962.

<u>Cancellations</u>: Cancellations made prior to Final Payment Due Date, will receive a full refund of deposit less 10%. Refunds for cancellations after final payment due date will be determined by the monies received back from hotels, restaurants, attractions, etc. All efforts will be made to find a replacement for you from the waiting list to help ensure you receive a full refund.

<u>Insurance</u>: Insurance protection is recommended if you feel you are at risk of cancellation. Pre-existing conditions are covered only if insurance is purchased within 14 days of initial trip deposit. Please contact Sheila Magsamen, 260-432-8488.

Gratuities: Gratuities for the meals listed in the itinerary are included. Gratuities are NOT included for local step-on guides and driver.

If additional information is needed, contact Sheila Magsamen, 260-432-8488.

Name Name on Name Badge		PASSENGER 2           Name           Name on Name Badge					
						Address	
						Phone: HomeCell	
E-Mail		E-Mail					
Roommate		Roommate					
Emergency Contact		Emergency Contact					
Emergency Contact Phone Number(s)		Emergency Contact Phone Number(s)					
Food Allergies or Special Dietary Needs		Food Allergies or Special Dietary Needs					
Bed: King	2 Queens	Bed: King 2 Que	ens				
Pick Up Location: Fort Wayne OR Decatur		Pick Up Location: Fort Wayne OR Decatur					
Signature	Date	Signature	Date				

### Please submit completed form with deposit.

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