



Optional Balloon Rides
40-60 Min. At time of print,
pricing not available. Please
call & we'll send when ready.



National Balloon Classic

July 27 - 30, 2023 (4 Days)

HIGHLIGHTS

Faribault Woolen Mills Tour

Birthplace of Mamie Eisenhower – Boone, IA

Guided Tour of Madison County

Picturesque Covered Bridges

Boyhood Home of John Wayne & Museum

Homemade Lunch at First Presbyterian Church

Iowa Quilt Museum

Winterset Iowa Courthouse Square

National Balloon Classic

Early Morning Balloon Dawn Patrol

National Balloon Museum Tour

Poppajohn Sculpture Park

Wine Tasting & Tour at Summerset Winery

Grand Opening Mass Balloon Ascension

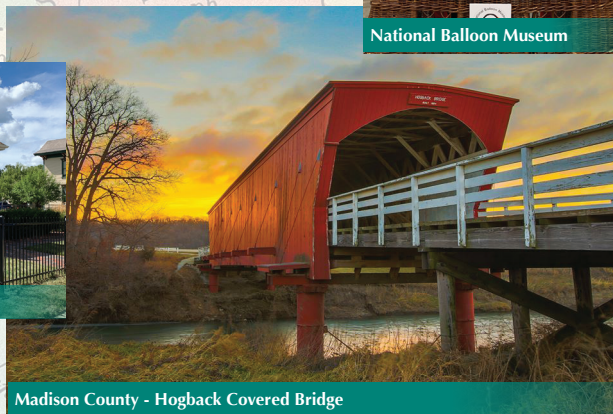
MAP AT A GLANCE



National Balloon Museum



Mamie Eisenhower's Birthplace



Madison County - Hogback Covered Bridge

Iowa skies come alive as 100+ hot air balloons paint the sky with brilliant colors and charming special shapes. Don't miss a moment of the excitement as skilled pilots compete every morning and every evening, while dazzling guests below. Great family fun and incredible entertainment await you at the Memorial Balloon Field. Just sit back and enjoy the beautiful countryside as you listen to live music during the evening balloon flights. Grab a bite to eat, buy a balloon ride for a one-of-a-kind view, and prepare to be awestruck as the skies come alive with a mystical glow of balloons!

SUMMER
108



Day 1 - Home to Indianola, IA

Only about an hour down the road we make our first meaningful stop. A guided tour of the Faribault Woolen Mills. A real live "Made in the USA" success story, this family-owned business was recently invited to the White House to present their products and business to the President himself. We will get to experience first-hand why Minnesota's quality received so much attention. After lunch on our own, we board the bus and soon exit the freeway for a side trip to Boone, Iowa. Ever been there? It's well known for being on the Lincoln Highway (US 30), but even more well known for being the birthplace of none other than Mamie Eisenhower! We'll make our way along Mamie Eisenhower Boulevard before turning up a side street to her very modest and humble home where she was born in 1896. We have planned a brief viewing of the home before continuing on our journey. We will get to know our fellow travelers with an included dinner at the Machine Shed before we check into our hotel for the next three nights.

Included Meals: Dinner

Hotel: Country Inn & Suites (3 Nights)

Day 2 - Madison County

After a delicious hot breakfast, we are off to Madison County. We are privileged today to have our own local expert guide to tell us the history and story of this colorful place. We will visit some of the picturesque covered bridges! We won't have time to visit them all, so our guide will choose which ones to take us to. There's the Roseman Bridge featured in the book and movie, "The Bridges of Madison County." The Cedar Covered Bridge is pictured on the cover of the novel. The Holliswell Bridge is the longest bridge at 122 feet and is featured in the movie. Three other bridges, Cutler-Donahoe, Hogback and Imes are famous in their own right! Maybe even more popular than the bridges, though, is the Birthplace of John Wayne. The mere mention of his name produces images of courage and patriotism! John began his life in Winterset in 1907, and we will visit the four room house now replete with Wayne memorabilia. Newly expanded, this is the only museum in the world dedicated to John Wayne. What fun it will be to share an included homemade lunch at First Presbyterian Church. Visiting the Iowa Quilt Museum, featuring the amazing work of Victoria Findlay Wolfe, is also on our agenda. You'll have time to also enjoy strolling the sidewalks of Winterset town square, the home of the beautiful Madison County courthouse! We return to our hotel later in the afternoon to catch our breath. We will head to Memorial Balloon Field for opening night of the National Balloon Classic. Enjoy dinner on your own from one of the many food truck vendors. The festival also has live music on stage each night for us to enjoy. Behold - the visual exhilaration of scores of colorful hot air balloons filling the evening sky is sheer joy! Rest well tonight after an adventure-filled day.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 3 - Indianola

For our adventuresome early risers, roll out of bed very early, and head to the Memorial Balloon Field. Prepare to be awestruck as dark skies come alive with a mystical glow as balloons ascend the skies during Dawn Patrol. Bring your flashlight, it's still dark! Watch in wonder as the balloons launch prior to sunrise and fly until it's light enough to land. Secured with specially approved lighting systems, balloons flying in the dark are a rare phenomenon in ballooning. We don't want to be late or we'll miss it! If you purchased an optional balloon ride, you'll be among the riders in the early morning sky! (Individuals are responsible for the cost and liability.) We'll get back to the hotel in time to enjoy a relaxing hot breakfast buffet. We've earned it. Later this morning we will check out the National Balloon Museum and Ballooning Hall of Fame. This is an included, don't miss, opportunity for us to tour & explore Hot Air Ballooning and its rich history through amazing and colorful exhibits. We'll enjoy an included lunch together then head to Summerset Winery for a tour and wine tasting. We'll



Faribault Woolen Mills

return to the hotel later this afternoon to rest and refresh before we return to the Balloon Classic for this evening's festivities. The OPEN THE SKIES Mass Ascension Balloon Flight is an incredible sight to behold. More than a hundred unique and colorful balloons rising almost simultaneously is breathtaking! Throughout the evening live music is on stage. A spectacular fireworks show at dusk caps off the day. Our comfy bed will feel great tonight!

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 4 - Indianola to Home

We are headed home today following another great, leisurely breakfast. This morning we visit the amazing Poppajohn Sculpture Park and also have a photo stop at the Iowa State Capitol - what a spectacular building! After lunch, we will be stopping for an included ice cream treat at Russell Stover Chocolates - save room! What a special time we've had exploring Iowa and experiencing the National Balloon Classic!

Included Meals: Breakfast, Treat



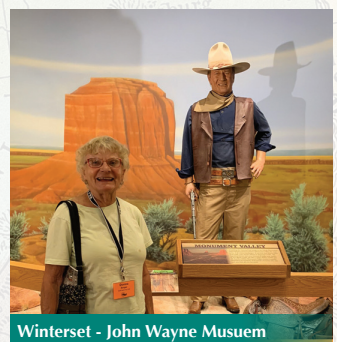
Poppajohn Sculpture Park



Winterset - Beautiful Courthouse



2022 R&J Group at Roseman Bridge



Winterset - John Wayne Museum



Iowa Quilt Museum

National Balloon Classic

2023 DATES & PRICES

DATES:	July 27 - 30, 2023 (4 Days)	
PRICE PER PERSON:	\$1,199 Double	\$1,489 Single
	\$1,129 Triple	\$1,069 Quad
PRICE INCLUDES:	6 Meals plus Treat, Hotels & Activities as stated in brochure, Luxury Motorcoach	
DEPOSIT DUE PER PERSON:	\$100 per person deposit at time of reservation. Full payment due 30 days prior to departure.	
OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION P/P:	\$85 Double (per person) / \$85 Single *Does not cover optional balloon ride.	
TOUR PACE: (See page 9 for description)	Moderate Walking (*Some uneven terrain. Early morning & late night walking in the dark.)	
TRAVEL BUCKS	\$25 Travel Bucks Earned With This Tour	

SUMMER
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1-800-758-6877 or www.rjtoursonline.com