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EXPERIENCE THE 1000 ISLANDS REGION

JUNE 1-4, 2023

Explore the tranquil beauty of the Thousand Islands and revel in the historic charm of its region on this fascinating tour. Of the 1,864 islands that dot the St. Lawrence River and comprise the spectacular 1000 Islands Region, many of the most amazing islands can be found in, and surrounding, Alexandria Bay. Located along the peaceful border between northern New York State (USA) and southeastern Ontario (Canada), the 1000 Islands is a region of endless shorelines, rich history and unique culture complete with lighthouses, historic castles, maritime museums, shopping, waterfront dining & much more!

Departure/return times and pickup location are as follows:

	<u>DEPART</u>	<u>RETURN</u>
Kohl's, Westminster Rt. 140 & Market St. (Rear of parking lot)	7:00 AM	6:45 PM

THURSDAY, JUNE 1: We will travel north to the 1000 Islands region today making breakfast, lunch and rest stops en route. Upon arrival in Alexandria Bay, we will check into our accommodations for the entire tour at:

RIVEREDGE RESORT (800)365-6987
17 Holland Street
Alexandria Bay, New York 13607

Our deluxe waterfront resort was built on a steamboat wharf, boasting beautiful views of the St. Lawrence River and centrally located to the shops and eateries in Alexandria Bay. Relax after a day of travel and enjoy dinner which will be included at the hotel this evening.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2: Following a buffet breakfast at the hotel, we will travel a short distance to the town of **Clayton** which became a major shipbuilding and lumbering port soon after it was settled in 1822. Learn about boating history on the St. Lawrence River while on a guided visit at the **Antique Boat Museum** which features the largest and most impressive collection of antique and classic boats on display in North America! Then, board the **Night Heron**, an incredible glass-bottomed boat, to get an unparalleled view of underwater life in the clean waters of the St. Lawrence River. Enjoy a narrated cruise to **Rock Island** and spend time visiting the island where you can climb up in the **Rock Island Lighthouse** tower which overlooks the St. Lawrence River. Visit the lighthouse keeper's home that is now a museum and gift shop. Walk the island and see the building once used to store whale oil for burning in the lighthouse. Have lunch on your own in the charming town complete with shops, eateries, museums, and galleries, before we head to

the **Thousand Islands Winery** for a tour and sampling of some of their wines. The winery, housed in the original 1923 Sears & Roebuck barn, is the largest farm winery in Northern New York State, located on the St. Lawrence River on a historic 40-acre farmstead. Learn about their award-winning wines, the process from start to finish, and the history of the property. A delicious dinner will be included at **Cavallario's Steak House** in Alexandria Bay this evening.

SATURDAY, JUNE 3: Following a buffet breakfast at the hotel, we will depart for Uncle Sam's Boat Tours to depart on a unique cruise to **Dark Island** to learn about the mysterious history and possible hauntings of **Singer Castle**. Singer Castle was built at the turn of the century by Commodore Bourne, president of the Singer Sewing Machine Company, as a hunting lodge which remained in his family for half a century until it was bought by Reverend Martin in the 60s and established as a religious retreat. In 2005, the castle was purchased by a group of German investors and was opened to the public, allowing visitors from all over the world to view a castle that had always been shrouded in mystery and, as rumor would have it, haunted. Afterwards, enjoy a boxed lunch as we set sail on a **Two Nation Tour** cruising on the emerald green waters of the mighty St. Lawrence River. The scenic, narrated cruise will take us on a 22-mile journey through what is considered the heart of the Thousand Islands and into American and Canadian waters, providing the best view of this truly unique geographical area shared by two nations and you don't even need a passport! Cruise through the narrow channels, over historic sunken wrecks, and by magnificent summer homes of the rich and famous while hearing about local historical facts and folk lore as well as information about the area's geology, environment, and native wildlife. Then, visit famous **Boldt Castle** located on **Heart Island**, famous for its tragic love story and gives a glimpse into life during America's Gilded Age. The historic summer home was built by George Boldt for his wife, Louise, between 1900 and 1904. Explore the five-acre island, touring the 129-room castle, its outbuildings, and its lovely landscaped grounds before returning by boat to Alexandria Bay. Relax at the hotel and enjoy a free evening to explore downtown Alexandria Bay at your leisure with dinner on your own.

SUNDAY, JUNE 4: After breakfast and hotel check out, we will begin our travels homeward. We will visit **Beak & Skiff Apple Orchards** in Lafayette, NY, a five-generation family operation committed to growing the best apples possible. Enjoy browsing their general store, tasting at their 1911 Distillery, and grabbing a bite to eat in the tavern for lunch. Afterwards, we will finish our journey home making rest stops en route, and sharing our unforgettable memories made in the 1000 Islands!

PRICE PER PERSON:

SINGLE	\$1,300.00	(PRICE INCLUDES: motorcoach transportation, lodging, luggage handling, 3 breakfasts, 1 boxed lunch, 2 dinners, admissions, boat cruises, wine tasting, and tax & gratuities on meals included)
DOUBLE	\$1,100.00	
TRIPLE	\$1,030.00	
QUAD	\$1,000.00	

A DEPOSIT OF \$300 PER PERSON IS REQUIRED WITHIN TWO WEEKS OF BOOKING. ALL RESERVATIONS AND FINAL PAYMENT MUST BE MADE BY **APRIL 17, 2023**. Payment can be made by cash, check or money order and mailed to our office at above address. Luggage tags and final itineraries are mailed about 2 weeks prior to the trip. Bills are not mailed

for balances due, however, courtesy calls as a reminder will be made in case payment is not received by due date. Bus driver & tour director gratuities are not included in tour cost.

In the event of a cancellation, any non-refundable expenses for package inclusions such as reserved seat tickets, admissions, meals, or lodging may be forfeited. Rills will guarantee full refund only if the cancelled reservations can be resold to another customer. In the event where travel companions sharing the same room should need to cancel one or more persons in that room, the remaining passengers will be responsible for paying the supplemental charge to change occupancy.

We strongly suggest purchasing trip cancellation insurance which is available through Travel Guard Insurance. For specific questions regarding cancellation insurance, call Travel Guard at (800)826-1300. You will need to refer to Agency #50810 (Rill's Bus Service as agent). All policies will need to be quoted and/or purchased electronically, or by calling the 24-hour service center (paper applications are no longer accepted). Insurance coverage information will be mailed to you upon request to Rill's Bus Service.

Our motorcoach is equipped with restroom, reclining seats, air-conditioning/heating as needed, luggage compartments, and electrical outlets. Smoking of any kind is strictly prohibited onboard the motorcoach. The consumption of alcoholic beverages by any tour member while onboard our coach is also strictly prohibited. While every reasonable effort will be made to handle your luggage carefully, Rill's Bus Service will not assume any liability for lost or damaged luggage, due to breakage, theft, hotel or carrier handling, fair wear and tear, etc.

CASUAL CLOTHING is appropriate for the entire tour. Comfortable walking shoes are highly recommended. PLEASE NOTE THERE IS CONSIDERABLE WALKING involved on this tour.

Rill's Bus Service reserves the right to change itineraries and reservations at their discretion, with or without notice, if in the best interest of the customer and to improve the quality of the tour, which could be necessary for a variety of reasons including, but not limited to, local weather conditions, cancellations/substitutions for trip inclusions made by outside vendors, and/or any other circumstances beyond their control. Rill's Bus Service acts only as an agent on behalf of tour patrons in all matters relating to tour package inclusions, except transportation by their own vehicles, and is not responsible for any damage, delay, loss, injury, or accident to person or personal property when passenger is participating in tour activities and/or traveling by other transportation means while on tour prepared by Rills. Furthermore, Rill's is not responsible for any additional expenses incurred as a result of sickness, injury, weather, or any other unforeseen circumstances that are beyond their control.

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