



## Gladstone Parks & Recreation

50+ Travel

### *Christmas Around the World*

December 3-5, 2014

*Omaha, Nebraska is your destination on this exciting trip that is sure to get you in the holiday spirit!*

#### **Day 1: Wednesday, December 3rd**

Your first stop will be Brazenhead Irish Pub. The bar at Brazenhead was designed in Dublin, built in Wexford, Ireland and then shipped over to the United States. The bar was then reassembled under the supervision of Irish joiners. You will enjoy a delicious Irish lunch and entertainment. Next you will experience an Irish Christmas at Father Flanagan's Boys Town. In 1917, a young Irish priest named Father Edward J. Flanagan grew discouraged in his work with homeless men in Omaha, Nebraska. He shifted his attention and in December of that year, borrowed \$90 to pay the rent on a boarding house that became Father Flanagan's Home for Boys. Since then, Boys town has become one of the largest non-profit child-care agencies in the country. You will visit the Father Flanagan House, decorated according to a traditional Irish Christmas, and you'll enjoy a guided tour of the campus and tour the impressive Hall of History Museum. This evening you will experience Christmas in Germany at the German American Society. You'll enjoy a holiday program of dancing, singing and food! You'll listen to traditional German holiday favorites by the Men's Choir, and shop for crafts and items imported from Germany at the Christmas Market. Your hotel is the Doubletree Suites by Hilton. *(Lunch and dinner are included today).*

#### **Day 2: Thursday, December 4th**

You're in for a full day of fun beginning with a stop at the Lithuanian Bakery where you'll taste mouthwatering Lithuanian tortes and find out how these multi-layered treats are delicately handcrafted. Next, you'll visit Omaha's famed botanical gardens, Lauritzen Gardens. During the holidays, their floral display hall is transformed into a celebration of the season with a beautiful poinsettia display and evergreens, twinkling lights and other festive decorations. You will enjoy lunch and a Kolachy making demonstration at the Bohemian Café. Your next stop is the Tea Smith where you'll enjoy a presentation on the blending and flavoring of holiday teas. You'll sample some teas and learn interesting facts about each tea. You'll visit the Mormon Visitors Center where you will view over 100 gingerbread houses of all shapes and sizes. This evening will be one of the highlights of your trip when you participate in The Madrigal Christmas Feast. Announced by fanfares and accompanied by music, mirth and traditions, the multi-course meal is designed to delight you and to celebrate Christmas. Every person, from your table server to the kingdom's favorite performer, is dedicated to making this an unforgettable event. From the rousing Wassail Toasts to the last spoonful of plum pudding and the final fading melody of the Madrigal Singers' performance, you will be enchanted and filled with the spirit of Christmas. *(Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included today).*

**Day 3: Friday, December 5th**

This morning you will experience a Ukrainian "Linens & Traditions" presentation at the hotel. Olesia Reprichowskyj will bring various Ukrainian linens and tell about their connection to Ukrainian history, customs and traditions. Next, you will visit the Durham Museum in Omaha's impressive Union Station. You will see Omaha's largest Christmas tree in the main hall and several smaller Christmas trees that have been decorated by Omaha's ethnic communities. The museum itself contains everything from antique passenger trains to exhibits from the Smithsonian. Experience Christmas in Greece when you visit the St. John Greek Orthodox Church for lunch and a tour of the Byzantine Style church. You will be amazed by the décor of gold and traditional icons. You will hear about the meaning of the décor and the history of the Greek Orthodox Church and their holiday traditions. *(Breakfast and lunch are included today).*

**Per Person Tour Price: Double - \$425.00  
Single - \$515.00**

Price includes motor coach transportation, hotel accommodations, tours, 7 meals, and driver's gratuity. A deposit of \$50.00 will hold space no later than July 31<sup>st</sup>, with final payment due October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Cancellation policy: A full refund will be issued if participant cancels before the deadline for final payment. After that time, a full refund cannot be guaranteed. It will be at the discretion of hotels, restaurants and attractions. A \$5.00 processing fee will be withheld for any refunds issued.

**For reservations or further information, please contact:**

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