ALL ABOARD for our 9th private rail journey! Join our history-themed rail tour as we travel east to Boston & New England. Celebrate the golden age of trains on private, restored train cars built between 1946 and 1950. Our private cars include a dome car, the Moonlight Dome with 4 deluxe bedrooms and the Birch Grove with roomettes and standard double bedrooms. Our train cars are hooked to the end of Amtrak’s Lake Shore Limited then unhooked and parked at Boston’s South Station. The number of sleeper berths are limited so do not delay.
Itinerary

Day 1 Saturday: Central Illinois-Chicago-Board-Departure

Board our private motor coach as we set off for Chicago. Before heading to Union Station we will visit Chicago’s Pullman Historic District. Built between 1880-1884 it was a planned model industrial town for the Pullman’s Palace Car Company. Pullman employees were the first to use mass production to build a thousand homes and public buildings 13 miles south of Chicago adjacent to Lake Calumet.

Then we continue on to Union Station allowing you time for dinner on your own before its “All Aboard” time. Those joining in Chicago, meet us in the Metropolitan Lounge. We board our private rail cars hooked to Amtrak train #48, the Lake Shore Limited for a 9:30 p.m. departure. As we travel along the south shores of Lake Michigan, enjoy snacks and adult beverages. Celebrate the golden age of rail service onboard our private train.

Day 2 Sunday: Train En Route-Boston

As we travel east, we enjoy the first of many delicious meals by chef Bill. You can sit in the dome car for great panoramic views as America passes by. We travel through upstate New York with a stop in Albany where our train is split. We continue into Massachusetts arriving Boston’s South Station, scheduled for 8:01 p.m. (B, L, D)

Day 3 Monday: Boston-Salem

After breakfast we visit the coast where Tuna fishing and lobstering is at the forefront of the economy. We will develop a blend of topics including the Witch Trials, the Perfect Storm’s Andrea Gail and more. The railway incidentally arrived in Marblehead in 1871, now a posh and upscale residential area; this was also the birthplace of the Continental Navy. At infamous Salem, the site of the 1692 Witch Trials, our guided sightseeing includes the cemetery and the Judge’s Chambers also known as the Witch House, the only structure still standing associated with the trials. Then we continue to the House of Seven Gables made famous by Nathaniel Hawthorne’s gothic novel of the same name featuring the struggle of Hepzibah Pyncheon and family. Enjoy a tour of this man- sion built in 1668 by merchant ship-owner, John Turner.

Tonight, we enjoy a pizza party on board our train. (B, D)

Day 4 Tuesday: Boston-Plymouth

We depart Boston heading southeast to Plymouth Rock where tradition says the Pilgrims first landed. Learn about the relationships between the Native American Wompanoag Tribe and the Pilgrims, some good and some not so good. Then on to Plimouth Plantation a living history museum where the historical interpreters dressed in 1624 style, are answering questions and discussing their lives and viewpoints from that time. We will have demonstrations on cooking, farming and making pottery. The Mayflower II is a replica ship and has been refurbished for her 400th anniversary of bringing the Pilgrims to America. We also visit the water-powered Grist Mill from 1636 and get some souvenir cornmeal ground there. (B, D)

Day 5 Wednesday: Boston

This morning we stay in Boston for a full day of local sights starting out on the Freedom Trail. We will include the USS Constitution, Bunker Hill Monument, Old North Church (“One if by land, two if by sea”), Old State House and Granary Burying Grounds. After time for lunch on your own at Faneuil Hall, we visit the Soldiers & Sailors Monument and JFK Library. (B, D)

Day 6 Thursday: Boston-Portsmouth-Kennebunk-Kennebunkport

Today we journey north to New Hampshire’s Portsmouth Harbor Lighthouse for a photo stop then on to Maine’s charming villages of Kennebunk and Kennebunkport. Our step-on guide will show us around these quaint towns. We will drive by former sea captains homes, mansion, the Bush compound and enjoy the views along Ocean Avenue, considered one of the most scenic drives. You will have free time for lunch and shopping downtown Kennebunkport. Next we visit
the Seashore Trolley Museum with the largest electric railway collection and enjoy a ride on the Atlantic Shore Line Railway. (B, D)

Day 7 Friday: Boston
This morning we walk a few blocks to the Boston Tea Party Ships & Museum, getting in before they open to the general public. Our fully guided tour with an 18th Century host leads you through an interactive colonial town meeting and gives you the opportunity to “dump the tea”. From here the remainder of the day is free to enjoy Boston with an Old Town Trolley “hop on & off” pass. Tonight dinner is on your own in the city, then return to our rail cars when you are ready. (B)

Day 8 Saturday: Boston-Train En Route
Our train departs Boston’s South Station hooked to the Lake Shore Limited #49, at 12:50 P.M. Enjoy the panoramic view and high life aboard the train as we head back towards Chicago, mingling with our companions and discussing our favorite parts of the trip. (B, L, D)

Day 9 Sunday: Train Arrival-Chicago-Central Illinois
This morning we are scheduled to arrive Chicago at 9:50 A.M. We say our farewell to the train crew who provided great service over the past 9 days. We board our private motor coach back to Central Illinois with special memories of this unique rail journey through history. (B)
What's Included:  
• Round trip motor coach transportation from Central Illinois  
• Rail transportation  
• Premium snacks and beverages  
• Guided sightseeing & transportation  
• Admissions  
• Old Town Trolley Boston  
• 16 Meals: 8 Breakfasts 2 Lunches 6 Dinners  
• Sleeper accommodations  
• Led by ‘rail buff’, Joe Luka

Accommodations:  
(8) total number of nights
Private Train Car (1) Sleeping berth, en route Lake Shore Limited
Private Train Car (6) Sleeping berth, Boston station
Private Train Car (1) Sleeping berth, en route Lake Shore Limited

What's Not Included:  
• Travel insurance  
• Crew tips ($195)  
• Unlisted meals  
• Free time activities

Price Options

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*All prices are per person, based on occupancy, double: $4882, single: $5432, triple $6,459.
• Additional cost applies for special double bedrooms in the Moonlight Dome (see price chart).
• Document required for US Citizens is government-issued photo ID.  
• This trip is non-refundable; we suggest purchasing travel insurance to cover cancellations for medical reasons. Insurance coverage is Deluxe Group Plan from AIG/Travel Guard at a cost of 7.2% to cover cancellation charges, for coverage details see the webpage tourgroupplanners.com/insurance. Other terms at tourgroupplanners.com/terms incorporated by reference.  
• Price and details are subject to change. Acct#00912t 21Dec19 21:54

Join us from • Urbana • Decatur • Springfield • Chicago.
Tour Coordinator is Judy or Dawn, email: Judy@TourGroupPlanners.com or Dawn@TourGroupPlanners.com; call 217 422-5002. Mail a check for $1500 per-person deposit (sorry, no credit cards accepted) to Tour Group Planners, 363 S Main St Suite 307, Decatur IL 62523

This is a fund-raiser trip for WILL.
A non-refundable donation (minimum of $200/person) is included in the trip cost. Thank you for your support of WILL.
About our Vintage Train Cars

Birch Grove was built in 1950 by the Budd Company as part of a twenty-five car order from the Southern Pacific Railroad. They wanted to rebuild the rolling stock used on their famed Sunset Limited route between Los Angeles and New Orleans.

Moonlight Dome (interior above) was the first of three private room-dome cabin cars originally built for the Chesapeake & Ohio Railway (C&O) and intended for service on The Chessie, the planned but never-operated Washington-Cincinnati dayliner. These cars were called Strata-Domes. These three C&O dome cabin cars were ordered in 1946 and built by Budd. Without a need by C&O, the three cars were sold to the Baltimore & Ohio in December 1950.

Sleeping Accommodations

Each car has a shower for car occupants to share.

The Birch Grove (exterior shown at upper right) has 2 standard types of rooms as shown below:

Double Bedroom

Two double bedrooms may be converted to a quad bedroom by removing the partition and used for a party of 3 or 4 people.

- Double bedroom with upper and lower twin berths.

- En-Suite bedroom with 2 lower twin berths being 2 double bedrooms with partition removed. The double cost is $9,837 per person.

- Triple bedrooms cost more because it is actually a Quad bedroom with an unused berth.

- Quad bedroom is actually 2 Double bedrooms with the partition removed.

By night, the upper berth is lowered and the couch (or chairs, used by day) converts to a lower berth. Each bedroom has a small room for facilities (sink and toilet accessible day and night), facilities door opens into the bedroom.

Roomette

In addition to the seat(s) or couch in your compartment, there is seating in the dome car.

Single roomette for one person is available.

Single occupancy of a double bedroom is at a higher cost.

By day, some roomettes have a toilet and sink. There is a door on the roomette. By night, the berth takes up the whole roomette. To use the toilet during the night, you must lift the berth or go down the hall (each car has a shared toilet).

Special Accommodations

The Moonlight Dome (exterior shown at right) has 4 special rooms:

- 2 Lower Twin Beds with facilities. We have 3 rooms identified with the letters A, B & C. Each bedroom has a small room for facilities (sink and toilet accessible day and night), facilities door opens into the bedroom.

- 1 Full (Lower) Bed without facilities. We have just 1 room, identified with the letter D.

Diagram and pictures are for a general indication. Accommodations vary in configuration. While completely refurbished and modern features added, a key goal of the restoration is to maintain the 1950s look and feel.

Dining

Chef Bill, at right, has logged over 1 million miles in the U.S. and Canada working on private charters, and is known as a culinary innovator, producing top quality meals out of the smallest galleys under harsh conditions & over rough tracks. His guests disembark with wonderful lifelong memorable experiences.
**Booking form:** To reserve your place, please fill in & return to Tour Group Planners

**WILL History Train Sept. 12-20, 2020**

Full Name as on ID (including Middle name/initial if any)  N\_ickname

1

2

Address

City St Zip

Phone

Cell

E-Mail optional

Balance of tour payment due May 12, 2020

Confirmation & statement will be sent after the receipt of this booking form and deposit.

Sorry, no Credit Card on this tour. All payments are non-refundable.

☐ Check: **made out to** Tour Group Planners LLC

$1500/person non-refundable deposit due, Payment enclosed $ _____________________

I want to join the tour at (circle): Springfield / Decatur / Urbana / Chicago

Occupancy ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ I want to share a room; with __________________________

Accommodation Type ☐ Double Bedroom for 1-2 persons with upper & lower beds  ☐ Roomette (accommodates a single)  ☐ Two lower beds for 1-2 persons  ☐ Full bed for 1-2 persons

☐ Vegetarian  ☐ Gluten free  ☐ Diabetic  ☐ Food allergies __________________________

Emergency Contact ___________________ Relationship ____________________ Phone ____________________

Send to:

Tour Group Planners

363 S Main St Ste 307

Decatur IL 62523

Group # 00912  [ ] TT by Agt. __________

Cover your investment from these unforeseen circumstances.

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**COVERAGE**

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Private rail travel is a privilege Amtrak provides.

This privilege can be removed at any time, discontinuing private rail journeys. Sign up today to join our rail trip as we will not know when it will be our last.