



MARSP

MICHIGAN
ASSOCIATION OF
RETIRED SCHOOL
PERSONNEL

TRAVEL PROGRAM
2026 SEASON



TRAVEL PROGRAM

2026 SEASON

MARSP TRAVEL PROGRAM: **SEASON 5**

Whether you're a seasoned traveler or setting out on your first journey, the **MARSP Travel Program** welcomes you!

Now in our fifth season, we've use member input to develop a program that reflects your interests, travel style, and preferred price range.

This guide includes an overview of the Travel Program, highlights of upcoming trips, and provides links to learn more or book. **For questions about a specific tour, contact our program partner, Collette Travel, at +1 (800) 581-8942 with the tour's booking number.**



4 PATAGONIA: EDGE OF THE WORLD

5 SPOTLIGHT ON NEW YORK CITY

6 CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

7 FRANCE MAGNIFIQUE

8 DISCOVER SWITZERLAND, AUSTRIA & BAVARIA

9 ALASKA DISCOVERY: LAND & CRUISE

10 SHADES OF IRELAND

MEMBERSHIP IS FOR **ANYONE**

While the Travel Program is exclusively for MARSP members, a MARSP membership is for anyone. An annual membership unlocks this exciting lineup of curated tours at discounted rates. **As a bonus, membership protects the pensions and health care of current and future public school retirees.**

Visit www.marsp.org/join-marsp to become a member today!

TRAVEL WITH **CONFIDENCE**

Traveling with MARSP means smoother travel, more personalized experiences, and deeper connection—both with the places you visit and the people you travel with.

Support Before and During Your Trip

With MARSP, you're never on your own — from the moment you book to the journey back home. Meanwhile, our partner, Collette Travel, handles the logistics so you can relax and enjoy a smooth, enriching, and memorable experience.

- **Two Months Before Travel:** Join a virtual meet-and-greet to connect with fellow travelers, go over key milestones, and ask questions.
- **Two Weeks Before Travel:** We meet again to review the itinerary, important documents, and extra travel tips so you feel confident and ready to travel.
- **A Friendly Face on the Journey:** MARSP provides a dedicated Host for nearly every trip to assist the Collette Tour Manager and serve as a point of contact for the MARSP group. Whether you have a question, want to share a highlight from your day, or simply need a friendly face, your Host is there for you throughout the journey.



JOIN ONLINE



How to Scan a QR code Using Your Smart Device



Open your camera and point your device at the QR code



Wait for the camera to detect and scan the code



A link or banner will appear once the code is recognized



Click the link or banner to open the information associated with the code

THE REVIEWS ARE IN: REPEAT TRAVELER

"I have been on four MARSP trips and have thoroughly enjoyed the people on all of them. Try one and I bet you'll sign up for another."

- Bill R.
Alaska (2022), National Parks (2023),
Hawaii (2024), Iceland (2024)

Bill enjoys the **MARSP Travel Program** for the shared experiences that give way to lasting friendships. "People tend to be more open and social on vacation because they're away from everything they know and all their responsibilities. For the most part, it's all new. And that lends itself to more openness and more "wow" moments. I can always turn to someone and share in the beauty of what's out there."

Bill also finds that having trusted travel companions helps ease stress in unfamiliar places or situations!

FIND YOUR IDEAL **ACTIVITY LEVEL**

Each Travel Program destination has a unique itinerary and the intensity of that itinerary is subject to your interpretation.

Tour Activity Levels can help you decide if a tour's pace is right for you. As you peruse this guide, you'll notice that each tour is given a 1-4 Activity Level ranking. Definitions for the four activity levels are listed below. If you have questions regarding a specific tour, please inquire at the time of reservation.

Level 1: You're a leisurely traveler. You like to discover the energy of a new place, but typically take it easy. You can handle at least one flight of stairs, board a coach, and walk for 15-30 minutes at a time with little difficulty.

Level 2: You like a balanced approach to travel. You feel confident walking at least 30-45 minutes at a time over a variety of terrains, but also need time to unwind and relax.

Level 3: You're an on-the-go traveler. Walking and standing for 1-2 hours at a time isn't a big deal. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation, and handle changes in elevation. You enjoy longer days balanced with free time.

Level 4: You're ready to seize the day, whatever it may bring. You lead an active life at home and a few thousand steps a day isn't out of the norm. You can handle 90+ minute walking tours, dusty or uneven terrain, and varying altitudes and temperatures. You don't mind early mornings, late-night activities, or full days. Unfortunately, this level is not appropriate for individuals who use wheelchairs or walkers.

TOUR TYPES: **CLASSIC & SPOTLIGHTS**

Spotlights: With a Spotlights tour, you'll stay in one city and one hotel, so you can unpack and really settle into your surroundings. Alongside planned excursions to must-see destinations and hidden gems, these tours also include built downtime into the itinerary so you can explore your own way.

Classic: Classic tours are designed to let you experience multiple cities, countries, and destinations. Collette covers the details as you travel from one location to the next, so you can make the most of every moment. Alongside planned excursions to must-see destinations and hidden gems, these tours also include built downtime into the itinerary so you can explore your own way.



THE REVIEWS ARE IN: FIRST TIME ABROAD

"I had never traveled internationally before, but decided it was time to check that square off on my bucket list, as I'm not getting any younger! It was great traveling with other school retirees. We all had a lot in common and I felt comfortable joining any of them for a meal. The entire trip was so well planned, with down time if we needed it. This trip met all of my expectations and then some. Wonderful memories!"

**- Lynn B.
Tuscany, 2025**



PATAGONIA

Edge of the World



In Patagonia, you'll encounter landscapes unlike any other—towering glaciers, snowcapped mountains, and fjords that stretch endlessly into the horizon.

Your journey begins in Buenos Aires, where the vibrant rhythms of a tango show immerse you in Argentine culture. Then, venture into the heart of Patagonia, where you'll visit a traditional estancia. Here, you'll meet a local gaucho and gain insight into ranch life, from sheep herding demonstration to a leisurely lamb roast.

Set sail on a 4-night cruise through the fjords, navigating past Glacier Alley, Pia Glacier, and Cape Horn. Explore Torres del Paine National Park, marvel at the Perito Moreno Glacier, and discover remote spots like Ainsworth Bay and Tucker Islets, where you may spot colonies of Magellanic penguins up close.

Every day offers a new adventure in this extraordinary region—a truly once-in-a-lifetime experience!

BOOKING #
1307843

TRAVEL DATES
February 4 – 18, 2026

TOUR TYPE
Classic

ACTIVITY LEVEL 3
You're an on-the-go traveler.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Buenos Aires tango dinner show
- Scenic glacier trails
- Torres del Paine
- Ventus Australis cruise
- Magellanic penguins at Tucker Islets



**PER PERSON RATES,
ITINERARY, & BOOKING**



ONLINE



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**TOUR PRESENTATION
WITH MEMBER Q&A**



TOUR WEBINAR

**QR CODE
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ON PAGE 2.**

[www.marasp.org/travel/
patagonia-2026](http://www.marasp.org/travel/patagonia-2026)



SPOTLIGHT ON NEW YORK CITY

Featuring "Hamilton: An American Musical"

BOOKING #
1355421

TRAVEL DATES
March 9 – 13, 2026

TOUR TYPE
Spotlight

ACTIVITY LEVEL 3
You're an on-the-go traveler.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Two Broadway shows, including the Pulitzer- and Tony-winning musical, Hamilton
- Statue of Liberty
- Ellis Island
- Greenwich Village
- Central Park
- Chinatown



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[www.marsp.org/travel/
new-york-city-2026](http://www.marsp.org/travel/new-york-city-2026)



New York City hums with a rhythm all its own—bright lights, bustling streets, and a sense that anything could happen. Four nights in Midtown put you steps from the city's top sights, with time built in to relax or explore on your own.



Take your seat for Hamilton, the Pulitzer Prize-winning musical, as the story unfolds on stage. Later in the week, choose a second Broadway show—because one is never enough! Cruise past the Statue of Liberty and wander through Ellis Island, then take in sweeping views from the Empire State Building. Stroll through iconic neighborhoods like Rockefeller Center and Greenwich Village, discovering the sights, sounds, and hidden corners that make the city unique. Your tour concludes with a farewell dinner at a local restaurant, a relaxed chance to share stories, reflect on the week, and enjoy good food with fellow travelers.

Experience the best of the Big Apple—your way!



**PER PERSON RATES,
ITINERARY, & BOOKING**



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**TOUR PRESENTATION
WITH MEMBER Q&A**



REPLAY



CELEBRATING AMERICA'S 250th ANNIVERSARY



In honor of America's 250th anniversary, journey to Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C., the historic cities where the nation's founding ideals took shape and were first put to the test.

Walk the battlefields of Lexington and Concord, where the Revolution began. At the Museum of the American Revolution, trace the fight for independence through artifacts, personal stories, and immersive exhibits. At West Point, trace the transformation of a Revolutionary War stronghold into the world-renowned United States Military Academy. Explore Mount Vernon, George Washington's home and a lasting symbol of his leadership.

This journey is perfect for travelers who love history, enjoy exploring iconic landmarks, and want to connect with the people and events that shaped the nation.

BOOKING #
1355524

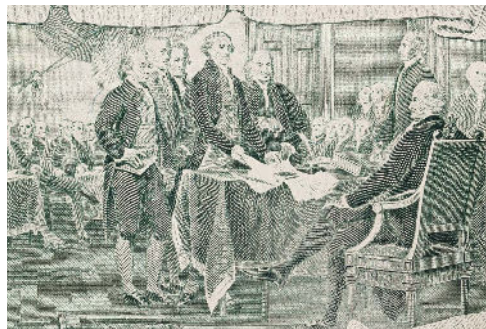
TRAVEL DATES
May 11 – 19, 2026

TOUR TYPE
Classic

ACTIVITY LEVEL 2
You like a balanced approach to travel.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Lexington Battle Green
- Old North Bridge
- West Point
- Panoramic tour
- Museum of the American Revolution
- Dinner aboard Tall Ship Moshulu
- U.S. Capitol Building
- Washington's home at Mount Vernon



PER PERSON RATES, ITINERARY, & BOOKING



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TOUR PRESENTATION WITH MEMBER Q&A



REPLAY

QR CODE INSTRUCTIONS ON PAGE 2.

www.marsp.org/travel/america-250th



FRANCE MAGNIFIQUE

BOOKING #
1355536

TRAVEL DATES
May 14 – 25, 2026

TOUR TYPE
Classic

ACTIVITY LEVEL 3
You're an on-the-go traveler.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Palace of Versailles
- Giverny
- Normandy
- Winery tour
- 2-night Château Stay
- Chenonceau Castle
- Paris
- Seine River Cruise
- Eiffel Tower Dinner



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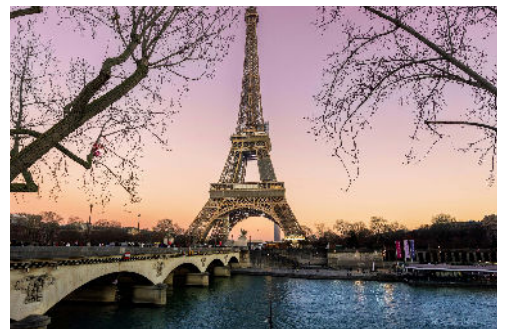
[www.marsp.org/
travel/france-2026](http://www.marsp.org/travel/france-2026)

From bustling Paris streets to the serene gardens that inspired Monet, *France Magnifique* brings the best of France to life. Explore charming towns and historic landmarks while savoring the culture, cuisine, and atmosphere that make this country a must-visit destination.



Step inside the private apartments of King Louis XIV at Versailles, and spend two nights at the 15th-century Château de Beauvois for a taste of French castle life. Reflect at the Normandy American Cemetery and visit the D-Day landing sites, including Omaha Beach. Wander through the Loire Valley, explore iconic castles like Chenonceau and Amboise, and enjoy a winery tour. In Paris, choose between a city tour by bus or a walking tour of Montmartre, and end your tour with a Seine River cruise and dinner at the Eiffel Tower.

Carefully curated stops and local experiences make this tour an effortless way to see France beyond the usual highlights.



PER PERSON RATES, ITINERARY, & BOOKING



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TOUR PRESENTATION WITH MEMBER Q&A



REPLAY

DISCOVER SWITZERLAND, AUSTRIA *and* BAVARIA



Alpine peaks rise above charming villages and serene valleys in *Discover Switzerland, Austria, and Bavaria*. Experience the culture, music, and traditions that give this region its unique character.

Stroll the historic Old Town of Bern, Switzerland's capital, and witness the creation of Alpine music during alphorn and yodeling demonstrations. Then journey to Lucerne, the 800-year-old "Swiss Paradise on the Lake." Across the border in Austria, experience a Tyrolean folklore show and wander the Mirabell Gardens. In Bavaria, visit Linderhof Palace to experience the grandeur of royal life. From there, continue to Ettal Abbey, an active Benedictine monastery founded in 1330 by Louis IV. Admire its Baroque architecture in a peaceful alpine setting.

For travelers who want to experience the variety of the Alps, this tour delivers it all in one seamless journey.

BOOKING #
1355693

TRAVEL DATES
July 22 – 31, 2026

TOUR TYPE
Classic

ACTIVITY LEVEL 3
You're an on-the-go traveler.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Bern
- Alphorn maker
- Yodeling demonstration
- Lucerne
- Austrian Alps
- Innsbruck
- Salzburg
- Mirabell Gardens
- Bavaria
- Linderhof Palace



PER PERSON RATES, ITINERARY, & BOOKING



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TOUR PRESENTATION WITH MEMBER Q&A



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[www.marsp.org/
travel/switzerland-2026](http://www.marsp.org/travel/switzerland-2026)



ALASKA DISCOVERY *Land & Cruise*



BOOKING #
1355694

TRAVEL DATES
August 19 – 30, 2026

TOUR TYPE
Classic

ACTIVITY LEVEL 1
You're a leisurely traveler.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Fairbanks
- Sternwheeler Discovery
- Denali Dinner Theater
- Denali National Park
- Tundra Wilderness tour
- Luxury Domed Rail
- Anchorage
- Hubbard Glacier
- Glacier Bay
- Skagway
- Juneau
- Ketchikan
- Inside Passage



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[www.marsp.org/
travel/alaska-2026](http://www.marsp.org/travel/alaska-2026)



Experience the vast wilderness, fascinating history, and one-of-a-kind spirit of Alaska in August 2026!

Meet the wildlife of Denali National Park on a guided Tundra Wilderness Tour. From there, take in the scenery aboard a luxury domed railcar on the way to Talkeetna. Step back into the gold rush in Skagway, watch glaciers calve into the sea in Glacier Bay, and sail the Inside Passage with stops in Juneau and Ketchikan. Along the way, you'll enjoy local touches like a sternwheeler cruise and the music of Denali Dinner Theater.

For anyone who's dreamed of Alaska, this tour has it all.

Back by popular demand!

After a successful 2023 trip, Alaska returns! Explore glaciers, wildlife, and stunning landscapes on this member-favorite MARSP adventure.



PER PERSON RATES, ITINERARY, & BOOKING



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TOUR PRESENTATION WITH MEMBER Q&A



REPLAY





SHADES of IRELAND



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From lively Dublin to rolling green hills and dramatic coastlines, Ireland is everything you've imagined and more. (You'll even spend the night on the grounds of a stately castle for a touch of old-world charm.)

Drive the Ring of Kerry, one of the world's great coastal routes, and watch skilled sheepdogs in action during a traditional demonstration. Meet the McGill family to learn about their roadside brewery, and take in highlights like Blarney Castle, the Cliffs of Moher, and a jaunting car ride through Killarney National Park. Evenings include Irish dinners, music, and entertainment that give you a true taste of local culture. Blending history, scenery, and tradition, this journey shows you the many shades of Ireland.

Back by popular demand!

After delighting MARSP members during our inaugural 2022 Travel Program season, we're excited to share the magic of Ireland with a new group.



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TOUR PRESENTATION WITH MEMBER Q&A



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BOOKING #
1356143

TRAVEL DATES
October 10 – 19, 2026

TOUR TYPE
Classic

ACTIVITY LEVEL 2
You like a balanced approach to travel.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Dublin
- Blarney Castle
- Brewery experience
- Jaunting car ride
- Ring of Kerry
- Cliffs of Moher
- Sheepdog demonstration
- Castle stay



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www.marsp.org/travel/ireland-2026



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www.marsp.org

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ANTARCTICA IS ON OUR RADAR!

We're gauging member interest in a trip to Antarctica! If this is a destination you'd like to explore, scan the QR code below or visit www.marsp.org/travel to let us know. Your response also ensures you receive updates should plans progress.

