

## **Rally Near The River ...and a caravan to boot**



Stillwater... the 1848 Birthplace of Minnesota located on the scenic St. Croix River, looking at Wisconsin on the left side of this photo.

Stillwater was voted one of the “Top 5 Midwest Towns to Visit Now” and is rated by Forbes in the top 10 “Prettiest Towns in America.” It is voted the Best Small Town in Minnesota and maintains a Favorite Getaway status nationwide. Stillwater is just 35 minutes from the downtowns of Minneapolis or St. Paul, and the Mall of America.

Ride an authentic paddle wheel riverboat, visit antique shops on Historic Main Street, enjoy riverside patio dining, taste local beers, or feast at the famous Gasthaus Bavarian Hunter restaurant. Camping with water and electric hookups in nearby Somerset, WI.

This rally starts on Tuesday and transitions to an informal caravan on Friday, going into Iowa and then back into Wisconsin. Come for the whole thing, or just a portion. You have options.

<b>Monday, Sept 20</b>	
<b><i>OPTIONAL Early Arrival</i></b>	Nothing planned. Hang out, get out, eat out, explore more.
<b>Tuesday, Sept 21</b>	
Afternoon arrival	River's Edge RV & Camping Resort 1820 Raleigh Road Somerset, WI 54017
Advisory:	Arrive with empty grey and black tanks. There is a dump station on site. Potable water and electricity at all sites. Nearest WI dumps are City RV Park in New Richmond along Hwy 64, or Willow River State Park in Hudson, WI. You can also dump at the municipal campground in River Falls, WI. Or in Decorah. Or somewhere else.
1600	Social Hour at the benches and tables under the nearby covered pavilion. Bring your own beverages and snackies.
1730 or so	Enjoy an evening stroll along the St Croix River in Stillwater, have dinner downtown Stillwater, have a snack and beverage at one of the rooftop bars, or try one of the many restaurants along Hwy 36. Or just hang around the campground.
<b>Wednesday, Sept 22</b>	
0800	Coffee and morning chat at the covered pavilion.
Daytime	A good day to venture out. Visit the MN State Capitol or the Cathedral in St Paul, go to the Mall of America. Or drive up the St. Croix River to Taylors Falls, MN, or down to Hudson, WI. Lots of choices
1700	Depart for group dinner at the Gasthaus Bavarian Hunter. You might go there earlier for Happy Hour. There is a lovely deck to enjoy, and twelve (12) German and Austrian beers on tap. It's about a 20-minute drive. There's lots of parking, but drive together if you're okay with that. <a href="http://GasthausBavarianHunter.com">GasthausBavarianHunter.com</a>
1730	<b>Dinner at the Gasthaus.</b> You will pay individually at the restaurant. 8390 Lofton Avenue, Stillwater, MN 55082. The restaurant needs a firm a head count, and I will assume you're going UNLESS you tell me otherwise SEVERAL DAYS BEFOREHAND.

<b>Thursday, Sept 23</b>	
0800	Coffee and morning chat at the covered pavilion.
Daytime	Explore Stillwater. Lots of antique shops, alley ways, decks, rooftops and patios. Stillwater has old and new bridges as well as authentic historic buildings. Both Maple Island and Lift Bridge breweries are in or near downtown. Take a walk over the historic Lift Bridge, (it's one of just three still remaining in the country) or enjoy the view from the new St. Croix Crossing Bridge. Walk or bike some or all of the scenic 4.7-mile loop, MN on one side, WI on the other, over both bridges. Check out this website featuring a complete list of shopping, attractions, events, the Stillwater Visitor Guide, and more! <a href="http://DiscoverStillwater.com">DiscoverStillwater.com</a>
1700	Depart the campground for the evening river cruise, or amble your way from wherever you are in downtown Stillwater to the river cruise check-in. Complimentary guest parking is to the left of the boat boarding area. Follow the "Boat Parking" sign located on the South end of Main Street. Also, there are several Stillwater Public Parking areas nearby. And there is ALWAYS parking available in the Stillwater RAMP (\$3 flat fee) located on 2nd St/Commercial St. next to the Lowell Inn and only one block from Main Street. You can use your smartphone to pay, so go to <a href="http://AirGara.ge">AirGara.ge</a> , choose the "Stillwater Ramp", enter your name and plate number, and off you go! In any case, <b>plan to leave EARLY to allow time to find parking.</b> Figure on about 15 minutes to walk downhill from the public ramp to the river boat check-in. Carpool, if you're comfortable with that idea.
1800	All Aboard!! Stillwater River Boats, 525 South Main Street, Stillwater MN 55082
1815	River Cruise with dinner @ \$35. <b>Individual advance reservations are REQUIRED.</b> Book your river cruise directly with <a href="http://StillwaterRiverboats.com">StillwaterRiverboats.com</a> . <b>Indicate that you're with the Wisc-UP Airstream Club when you make your reservation.</b> Or you can call 651-430-1234 to reserve. The website has links for driving directions and a good parking map.
<b>Friday, Sept 24</b>	
0800	Coffee and morning chat at the covered pavilion.
Mid-morning or so	Caravan to Decorah, Iowa, or head homeward

	<b>And now a word or two about what happens next...</b>
Afternoon arrival	Pulpit Rock Campground 505 Pulpit Rock Rd Decorah, IA 52101
<b>Saturday, Sept 25</b>	
0800	Morning coffee
Daytime	Find a brewery. Or maybe visit Luther College. Check out Decorah's website at <a href="http://www.visitdecorah.com">www.visitdecorah.com</a> . <b>Drift Less....See More</b>
<b>Sunday, Sept 26</b>	
0800	Morning coffee
Late morning	Caravan to Gays Mills, WI. Something like 60 miles to get there.
Afternoon arrival	Kickapoo Stump Dodger Campground 388 Railroad St Gays Mills, WI 54631
Evening	Campfire??
<b>Monday, Sept 27</b>	
0800	Coffee gathering
Daytime	Find a brewery or an apple orchard
Evening	Farewell cookout?
<b>Tuesday, Sept 28</b>	
0800	Coffee klatch
Morning	Hit the road for home

