

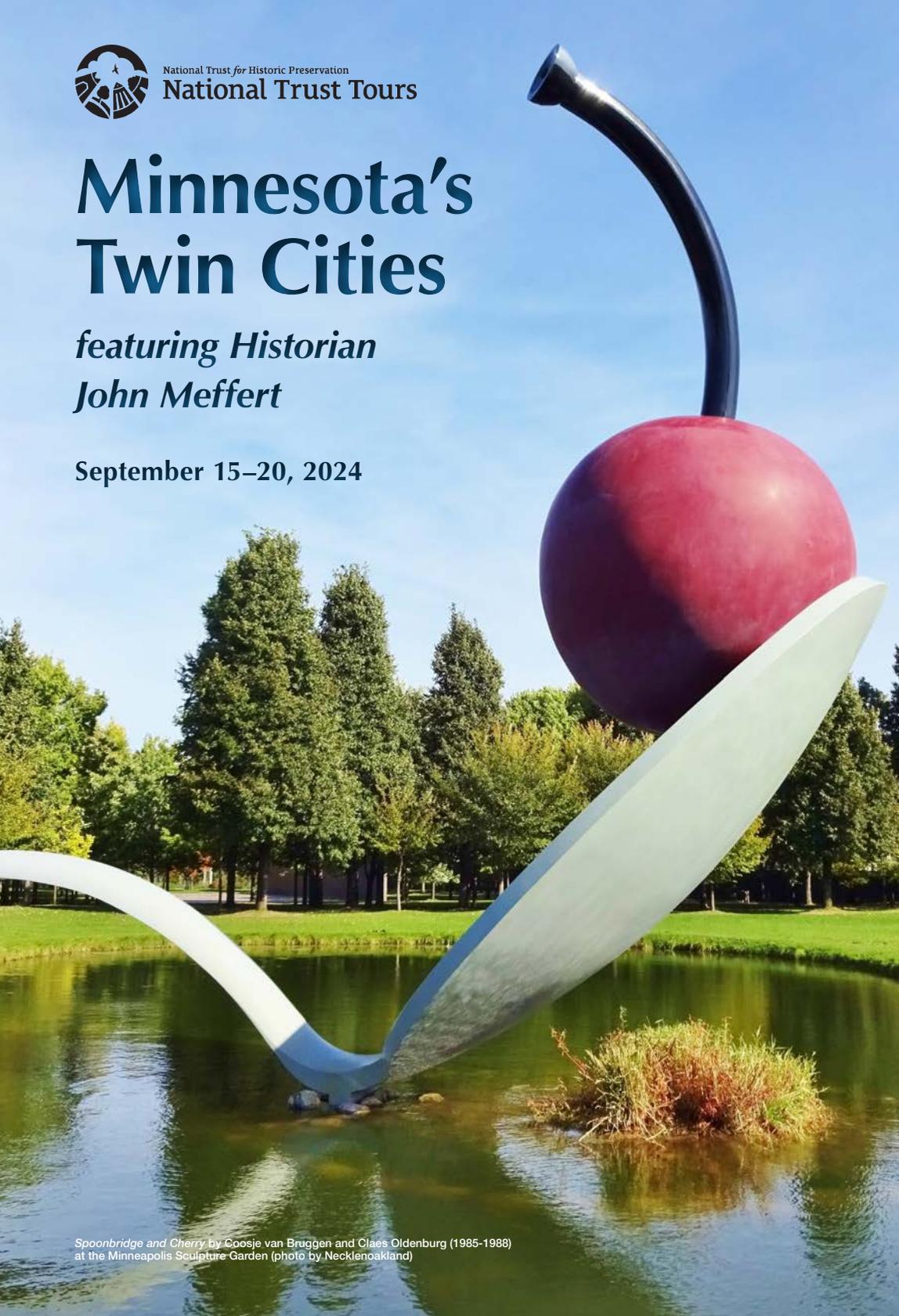


National Trust for Historic Preservation  
National Trust Tours

# Minnesota's Twin Cities

*featuring Historian  
John Meffert*

September 15–20, 2024



*Spoonbridge and Cherry* by Coosje van Bruggen and Claes Oldenburg (1985-1988)  
at the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden (photo by Necklenoakland)



Dear National Trust Traveler:

Get into the fall spirit with an autumnal adventure in the Twin Cities and enjoy the cultural energy and manmade marvels of these great northern cities. Join National Trust Tours on a captivating tour of Minneapolis-St. Paul – a wonderful destination for architecture and art aficionados – brought to you as only the National Trust can and led by historian and study leader favorite John Meffert.

Renowned theater, music and world-class museums make the Twin Cities home to a rich and vibrant arts scene. Minneapolis boasts more theater seats per capita than any U.S. city outside New York. In terms of architecture, four Pritzker Prize winners have major works in the Twin Cities. The region's splendid system of parks is widely considered one of the best in the world. This custom-designed tour offers an insightful and encompassing look at the art and architecture that make Minnesota's Twin Cities one of the nation's most buzzworthy cultural destinations.

Our program takes you beyond mere sightseeing, instead providing you with special access to significant sites and personal connections with local residents. Take a backstage tour of the Tony award-winning Guthrie Theatre, designed by Jean Nouvel and described by Time magazine as a "21st-century dream factory." See Frank Gehry's spectacular Weisman Art Center and its excellent American Modern Art collection. Take in the cities' architectural marvels, from the Victorian-era mansions along Saint Paul's Summit Avenue to the cutting-edge skyscrapers in downtown Minneapolis. During a hosted reception, discuss preservation issues with the dynamic homeowners, a lawyer and journalist. Meet other historic preservation experts and enjoy exclusive access to private historic homes in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

The tour is greatly enriched by the leadership and camaraderie of John Meffert, consistently rated as one of our top Study Tour leaders. Also enhancing your travel experience are five nights at the renowned Saint Paul Hotel. This architectural landmark in the heart of Minnesota's capital city is member of the Trust's Historic Hotels of America program, offering luxury rooms replete with the finest modern amenities.

I hope that you will join the National Trust in exploring the magnificent cultural treasures of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MPP'.

Meg Annacone-Poretz  
Director, National Trust Tours

For more information on National Trust Tours, please visit our website at [www.nationaltrusttours.com](http://www.nationaltrusttours.com) or phone 888-484-8785 Find us on f

*The National Trust for Historic Preservation is a private, nonprofit membership organization dedicated to saving historic places and revitalizing America's communities.*



Weisman Art Museum  
(photo by Justin Ladia)

## Tour Highlights

- Enjoy the leadership of John Meffert, a long-time preservationist and historian.
- Discuss architectural preservation during a special reception with the owners of a lovely home in Minneapolis.
- Stay at the Saint Paul Hotel, a Historic Hotels of America member.
- Take in breathtaking scenery during an unforgettable sunset dinner cruise on Lake Minnetonka.
- Walk in the footsteps of the world's most innovative architects, including Frank Lloyd Wright, Frank Gehry, and Jean Nouvel.
- Hear the amazing tale of rescue and preservation of the Landmark Center.

## Accommodations at the Saint Paul Hotel



Regarded as one of the nation's premier historic hotels, The Saint Paul is a luxury European-style hotel built in 1910 in the gorgeous Italian Renaissance Revival style.

Located in the heart of the city amid St. Paul's business and cultural districts, the hotel overlooks historic Rice Park, offering guests respite in its tranquil English garden setting.

## Travel with John Meffert



Historian John Meffert is a longtime champion of preservation. Formerly the director of the National Trust's Southern Office, he now serves as a consultant

on heritage conservation services in his hometown of Charleston, where he was previously the director of the Preservation Society of Charleston, responsible for protecting the city's historic resources.



Memorial Chapel at Lakewood Cemetery  
(photo by McGhievr)

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

### *Welcome to St. Paul*

Upon arrival at the Minneapolis St. Paul International airport (MSP), transfer independently to the landmark Saint Paul Hotel, a luxury 1910 hotel and a member of the Historic Hotels of America program. The hotel offers an excellent location within walking distance of the Landmark Center, City Hall, Ordway Theatre, and Science Museum. At 4:00 pm, join study leader John Meffert for an overview of the days to follow. Then venture out on an orientation walking tour of St. Paul, viewing Rice Park, the Ordway Center for Performing Arts, the City Hall and Courthouse, and St. Paul's waterfront. Continue to an excellent restaurant for a welcome dinner. (D)

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16

### *St. Paul*

Walk to City Hall, built in the American Perpendicular style with an ornate interior

designed in the “Zigzag Moderne” style. The Art Deco theme can be found throughout the building, even down to details such as door handles, light fixtures, stair railings, and even the lobby mailbox. View the spectacular *Vision of Peace* sculpture by Swedish sculptor Carl Milles in the ornate, three-story Memorial Hall. Continue on foot to the nearby Landmark Center, a dynamic cultural center for music, dance, theater, and exhibitions, now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Like the Old Post Office Building in Washington D.C., it was designed by Willoughby J. Edbrooke in the Romanesque Revival style with numerous turrets, gables, and dormers. The interior features a five-story courtyard with skylight and grand rooms appointed with marble and carved mahogany details. Learn how this impressive building was saved from demolition and the story of its remarkable preservation. Following a

casual lunch downtown, set forth on a private city orientation bus tour. Admire the State Capitol designed by St. Paul native Cass Gilbert who also designed the U.S. Supreme Court. It features the second largest self-supporting marble dome in the world. At the St. Paul Cathedral, marvel at the recently restored 175-foot-high copper dome and magnificent stained-glass windows. Tour Summit Avenue and view the nation's most impressive array of Victorian mansions, including a stop to visit the James J. Hill Mansion, the 36,000 square-foot “Gilded Age” residence of the founder of the Great Northern Railroad. Stop to see a magnificent private home owned by members of the National Trust. Return to the hotel or enjoy a longer outing by strolling through the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary and around the exterior of the Custom House. The evening is at leisure. (B, L)

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

### *Minneapolis*

During a morning visit to the Weisman Art Museum, designed by Frank Gehry, see masterpieces from its important American Modern Art collection. Explore Minneapolis' Waterfront Park, including a stop at the Mill City Museum. Following lunch, visit Jean Nouvel's Guthrie Theater for a backstage look at how shows progress from script to stage. Experience the theater's cantilever walkway and its incomparable view of the Mississippi. Drive through downtown Minneapolis to see its most important skyscrapers, including Phillip Johnson's beautifully reflective IDS Center and Cesar Pelli's Gaviidae Common and Wells Fargo Center. The evening is at leisure. (B, L)

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

### *Minneapolis*

Begin your day at the Purcell-Cutts House, built in 1913 by Purcell and inspired by the

style of Louis Sullivan. It is considered one of the most significant examples of Prairie School architecture and most of its furnishings are original to the home. Continue to the famed Minneapolis Institute of Arts for a curator-led tour of its decorative arts collection. Following lunch in the Walker Art Museum's café, enjoy a stroll through the Minneapolis Sculpture Garden, the largest urban sculpture garden in the U.S. Drive to Lowry Hill for a view of contemporary homes, stately older mansions, and several houses that show a strong Prairie School influence. Stop at the Memorial Chapel, one of the most perfect examples of Byzantine mosaic art in the United States. When it was completed in 1910, it was the only building in America with an authentic mosaic interior. Designed by prominent Minneapolis architect Harry Wild Jones and modeled after the Hagia Sophia in Istanbul, it is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

During a reception hosted at a private home, discuss current preservation issues with your hosts, fellow members of the National Trust. The evening is at leisure. (B, L, Rec)

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

### *Excursion to Stillwater*

Drive to a privately-owned Frank Lloyd Wright designed house for an exclusive tour of this rarely seen property (pending confirmation). Return to St. Paul for an afternoon at leisure. Set sail on a relaxing sunset cruise on Lake Minnetonka and bid farewell to your fellow travelers over an unforgettable dinner. Return to St. Paul and retire for the evening. (B, D)

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

### *Departures*

Following an included breakfast, transfer independently to the Minneapolis St. Paul International airport (MSP) to catch flights home. (B)



Guthrie Theater (photo by Warren LeMay)

# Minnesota's Twin Cities

September 15–20, 2024



National Trust for Historic Preservation

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## Tour Information

### Tour Cost:

Land Package ..... \$3,995

Single Supplement..... \$595

*Tour price is per person based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 15 paying participants.*

**Activity Level:** Moderate, good overall mobility required.

**Deposit & Final Payment:** A deposit of \$1,000 per registrant is required to reserve space on the tour, of which \$500 is nonrefundable for ISDI's registration and planning fee unless the tour is cancelled due to low enrollment. This deposit may be paid by check or by Visa, MasterCard, or American Express. Final balance will be invoiced and is due on June 10, 2024 and must be paid by check to International Seminar Design, Inc. Registrations are accepted after this date on a space-available basis with payment in full by check only.

**Flights:** Airfare is not included in the tour price. Participants are responsible for their own air arrangements. Please do not purchase airline tickets until the operation of the tour is confirmed by ISDI.

**Tour Inclusions:** 5 nights at the Saint Paul Hotel; breakfast daily, 3 lunches, 2 dinners, including dinner cruise; 2 glasses of wine or beer at included dinners; land transportation by private coach; entrance fees to sites and visits listed in the itinerary; services of an ISDI Tour Manager; expert local guides; gratuities for local guides and drivers and at included meals; bottled water on coach; service charges and taxes.

**Tour Exclusions:** Airline tickets, airline taxes and surcharges, and baggage fees; airport portorage; airport transfers; meals other than those specified in the itinerary; gratuities for hotel housekeeping; personal items such as telephone calls, room service, valet service, à-la-carte orders, specialty wines and liquors, laundry charges, travel extensions, or tour deviations; travel insurance; any other items not specifically included in the itinerary.

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**Terms and Conditions:** ISDI requires that all tour participants be vaccinated against COVID-19 to participate on the tour. Upon receipt of registration, ISDI will send registrant a Participant Tour Agreement detailing the full terms and conditions for this tour. This document must be signed and returned to ISDI before participant's registration is considered complete and any arrangements can be confirmed.

**Cancellations & Refunds:** Cancellation by participant must be made in writing to ISDI and is effective only upon acknowledged receipt by ISDI. There is a non-refundable registration and planning fee of \$500 per person regardless of cancellation date. Written cancellation received by ISDI on or before June 10, 2024: full refund minus \$500 per person registration and planning fee. Written cancellation received by ISDI between June 11 and August 5, 2024: full refund minus \$2,000 per person cancellation fee (includes registration and planning fee). Written cancellation received by ISDI on or after August 6, 2024: no refund. Tour registration is non-transferable. In the case of cancellation, substitutions are not allowed. After the tour has commenced, no refunds will be issued for any reason including, but not limited to, unused portions of tour. If the tour is cancelled by ISDI or National Trust Tours due to low enrollment, active registrants will receive a full refund of all tour payments.

**Travel Insurance:** Travel Insurance is not included in the tour cost, but participants are strongly encouraged to purchase a travel protection plan in conjunction with this tour, including coverage of trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency evacuation/repatriation, medical expenses, lost or damaged baggage, and other expenses and/or losses incurred due to unexpected situations. Should a participant cancel at any time after registering for the tour, ISDI must strictly abide by the cancellation policy outlined herein. Travel insurance information will be sent upon tour registration. For additional information, please contact National Trust Tours at 888-484-8785.

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Visit

<https://nationaltrusttours.com>

**TO REGISTER BY PHONE:**

Call National Trust Tours at

888.484.8785

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Email National Trust Tours at

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National Trust for Historic Preservation  
**National Trust Tours**

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*February 20–24, 2024*

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## **Chicago: Epicenter of American Architecture**

*May 26–31, 2024*

## **Pittsburgh: Art & Architecture in the Steel City**

*September 24–28, 2024*

## **An Ode to New Orleans**

*November 10–14, 2024*

***For more information, visit [nationaltrusttours.com](https://nationaltrusttours.com)***

*Travel with National Trust Tours is open to members of the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), a privately-funded non-profit organization, works to save America's historic places. Membership is \$20 for individuals and \$30 for families. To learn more about the NTHP, visit [www.savingplaces.org](https://www.savingplaces.org).*