

Buffalo, NY, A Sweetheart City in the Heartland FAM Tour

Wednesday, Feb. 14

Happy Valentine's Day! We're sure you'll fall in love with a captivating visit to **The Made in America Store**, the only store in the USA selling only 100% American made products. Explore the aisles of products from apple pie spice to zippers and everything in-between! Learn first-hand the compelling story of determination that drove Mark Andol to make this truly unique American dream shopping destination a reality.

Mention the Arts and Crafts style and most people think of bungalows and mission furniture. But it was more than a period, it was also a mindset — devoted to the honesty of craftsmanship, simplicity in the design and the joys of nature, hearth and home. Sound lovely? You bet. Experience the creative energy of the historic **Roycroft Inn**. Originally opened in 1905 to accommodate visitors and artisans looking to experience the emerging style known as the Arts and Crafts movement, this meticulously renovated masterpiece is a feast for the senses – complete with a delicious lunch and an opportunity for you to experience the vision of the movement with a hands-on arts and crafts activity.

Kids today don't have it as lucky as we did. Why? They may not have fond memories of a glorious trip to a five and dime store. Our stop in East Aurora includes a trip down memory lane with a visit to **Vidler's 5 & 10**, the largest five and dime variety store in the world! With more than 75,000 items in Vidler's alone and many other shops in this picturesque village, you'll wish we had more time to explore! In fact, we've planned for it, by creating a one stop mini marketplace at the village theater with merchants from Greater East Aurora. In a short time, you'll get a quick overview of this unique shopping destination.

Great atmosphere, delicious cuisine and beers that reflect the highest quality of craftsmanship make dinner and tastings at **42 North Brewing Company** the perfect ending to a lovely day.

Thursday, Feb. 15

We'll start our day celebrating the remarkable architecture of Buffalo. Nestled in a quiet neighborhood, the **Darwin Martin House** is considered by many to be Frank Lloyd Wright's finest work during his Prairie period. This world-renowned composition of buildings and landscape will have you swooning at every turn. A walk through the iconic complex reveals stained glass windows, original furniture, a plant-filled conservatory and plenty of low-slung horizontal lines. Not many cities can boast that they have a Wright building located right in their backyard.

The **Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural National Historic Site** speaks to the presidential history found in Buffalo. High-tech, interactive exhibits tell the story of Theodore Roosevelt's presidential journey in an engaging and dramatic fashion.

We're off to explore **Canalside**, the heart of Buffalo's waterfront revitalization efforts. Canalside is located on the original site of the Erie Canal Harbor. Built in 1825, it was coined America's "Gateway to the West" and was one of the world's greatest business centers, teeming with canal and rail traffic passing from the Atlantic seaboard across the Great Lakes. Vibrant again, this energetic hub is host to dynamic activities and events for residents and visitors alike.

Enjoy lunch in Buffalo.

See behind-the-scenes where the artifacts are stored at ***The Buffalo History Museum***. Interesting collections celebrating many Buffalo natives, including the most recent Meet the Press exhibit highlighting the contributions of Tim Russert, make this a remarkable stop.

One of Western New York's most exquisite landmarks, ***Our Lady of Victory National Shrine and Basilica*** attracts visitors worldwide. Rivaling the great churches of Europe, the Basilica, built in 1926, includes breathtaking paintings and marble sculptures, a museum and gift shop.

Enjoy a memorable dinner at a local restaurant.

We'll end our day on a high note with Lumagination, a unique event at the ***Buffalo Botanical Gardens***. Colored lights transform the gardens into a truly spectacular site – a perfect ending to a too brief visit and peek into some of the reasons why we love Buffalo!

Friday, Feb. 16

Following a delicious breakfast, we'll depart for the Hyatt Regency Buffalo Hotel and Conference Center and the commencement of the 2018 Heartland Travel Showcase.