



Newsletter

WWW.LAKEFREDERICKTRAVELCLUB.COM

MEETS THE 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH FROM 11:30 A.M. – 1:00 P.M. IN RACHEL'S KITCHEN

2025 Committee

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Cruise & Foreign Travel

AUGUST 2025 ISSUE

President's Message

Welcome to the Dog Days of Summer!

Do you know where this phrase originated? If not, look it up. You may be surprised how old it is. Bill Johnson did a great job on our July wine tour. Read the trip report in this issue.

August and September Trips

We still have room on our August brewery and vineyard tours. In fact, we have room on all our trips through September. Check them out in this issue and register soon. But don't wait too long and be disappointed.

October Trips

Sam Kerns' overnight trip to Pennsylvania in October is full, but we have a waiting list. Check out the fall color palettes wine tour and train ride we have scheduled for October. Registration is now open on MTL Events. Don't forget to drop off your check with the concierge to seal the deal.

Schedule of Trips Updated.

See the updated list of trips (V12) in this issue. This is our busiest travel season. Bill Johnson is working on our Leesburg Outlets Shopping spree with lunch and wine stops in November. Doc Holaday is exploring a Christmas Candlelight tour of Mount Vernon in December. Watch for details in coming issues. We usually post our trips on MTL Events at least a month before the trip for registration. Mark your calendars and stay tuned to MTL Events.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Next Meeting
Monday, August 11, 2025
Rachel's Kitchen
11:30 a.m.
Bring a dish to share!

Frederick County Parks and Recreation Trips

Frederick County Parks and Recreation conduct day and overnight trips for county residents, some tailored to seniors. You can find them on the web, and they are on Facebook. They contacted me via email, offering to partner with us.

Foreign Travel 2025

Check out the cruises and land tours that Greg Payonk has scheduled for 2025 and contact him if you need more information. You can find copies in our August Newsletter as well as all our newsletters on our website at Lake Frederick Travel Club.

Trip Ideas for 2026

It's not too early to start thinking about our trips for 2026. If you have any suggestions, especially if you can help in the planning, please send them to me with as much information as you can.

August 11 Meeting

I hope to see you around campus and at our August 11 meeting in Rachel's Kitchen at 11:30 a.m. Derrick from Shenandoah Shores Travel in Front Royal will give a presentation on the services they provide. Many of our members have been pleased with their services and recommended them to us. This will be our usual potluck lunch meeting, so don't forget your dish.

Registering for Travel Club Trips

If you have any trouble registering for our trips, the Lodge Concierge should be able to help you. Or send me an email with questions.

George Darnell, President

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Fauquier County Wine Tour July 21, 2025 Trip Report



Bill Johnson selected three great Fauquier County wineries for this trip. Slaters Run has a modern open concept to it. Naked Mountain has the feel of a rustic mountain retreat. And Barrel Oak reminds me of an Old-World grand lobby.

Sixteen enthusiastic travelers left the Lodge at 10:30 in a Shenandoah Shuttle driven by Erica. Our first stop was Slaters Run Vineyard near Upperville off Route 50. The winery sits on top of a hill overlooking the vineyards. We were the first arrivals and had the place to ourselves. The morning was pleasant; so, we selected a long table outdoors on a covered patio. After we made our wine selections and were served, the owner told us the history of the vineyard, which sits on a 300-acre farm that has been in her husband's family for over 300 years. Rather than raise cattle or grow crops, they decided to establish a vineyard, after consulting with a wine expert from Charlottesville. The vineyard has been a success, and they have many loyal wine club members who enjoy their tastings and wine dinners. My son, Mark, and his wife, Mary, known as M&M, were members until they moved to Roanoke from Purcellville.

Our next stop was Naked Mountain Vineyard, off Route 55. Erica headed back toward Winchester on Route 50 and turned left on Route 17. She found a shortcut to Route 55, and we drove along a country road passing a cemetery that dates to the 1700's and mountain-side farms and estates. The entrance to Naked Mountain is hilly and curvy and Bill suggested that Erica blow the horn to warn any oncoming drivers. Erica let us off at the main entrance, on level ground, and we were soon in the winery. They had a long serving bar with only one attendant. The owner assured Bill there would be two. Oh well, it took a while to get our wine and food. There was plenty of seating inside and outside and we all found a place to enjoy our selections and conversation.



After a while, Bill ushered us back to the bus to head for our last stop, Barrel Oak Vineyard and Brewery. It sits on a hill overlooking I-66 near Route 17 exit. It was one of the first wineries in Fauquier County. It is a large establishment, with a long bar and plenty of seating inside and out. The estate of early American Chief Justice, John Marshall, is nearby. After enjoying our wine or beer selections, we were soon back on our bus and headed home. We arrived at the Lodge right on schedule, tipped and thanked Erica, said our goodbyes, and headed to our homes. Another great wine trip!

Trip Ideas for 2025, V12

- Aug 7-21—Norwegian Fjords & Artic Circle Cruise w/Greg Payonk
- Aug 8—Summer Brewery Tour
- Aug 22—Summer Wine Tour
- Sep 19—Deep Creek Lake Trip
- Sep 29—Oktoberfest Bridges & Breweries Tour
- Oct 15-16—Pennsylvania Disasters & Trains Tour
- Oct 23—Potomac Eagle Train Ride
- Oct 27—Fall Colors Winery Tour
- Nov 14—Leesburg Outlet Mall Shopping Spree with Lunch & Winery Tour
- Dec 4-18—Seaboard Antarctica Exploration with Greg Payonk
- Dec 7—Bull Run Winery & Festival of Lights
- Dec 13—Wreaths Across America in Winchester
- Dec 19—Christmas at Mount Vernon

Check out the [Shenandoah Tours](#) at < Early registration is recommended. They sell out quickly.



Only 3 More Months
Until AUTUMN!

Summer Brewery Tour -- August 8, 2025

Some breweries were closed on Monday for our St. Patrick's Day Tour. So, we are trying again with a Friday, August 8th date. Our area is home to many popular breweries. We selected three, not far from Lake Frederick, breweries for this trip.



Our first stop will be Chilly Hollow Brewing Company, a new craft brewery located on the rolling hills of an operating cattle farm near Berryville, Virginia. It offers beer crafted on site by an award-winning brewmaster as well as local wine, cider, bar food, and grass-fed beef raised right in the brewhouse's backyard.

Our second stop, Bluemont Station Brewery & Winery, offers craft beer, local wine, and a variety of food in a colonial mansion setting near Bluemont, Virginia, on the east side of the Blue Ridge. Visit their Facebook page for more information.



Lost Barrel Brewing, a favorite of the Middleburg crowd is our third stop. It is a large facility with a variety of food and drink with indoor and outdoor seating. <https://lostbarrel.com/>

If we have time we may revisit [Twisted Oak Brewery](#) in nearby White Post. This is a recent startup with a limited selection of beers to try. Who knows, it might become our

local favorite.



Schedule:

- 11:15 a.m. Leave Lodge
- 12:00 p.m. Chilly Hollow Brewing Company
- 1:15 p.m. Leave
- 1:30 p.m. Bluemont Station Brewery & Winery
- 2:45 p.m. Leave
- 3:00 p.m. Lost Barrel Brewing
- 4:15 p.m. Leave
- 5:00 p.m. Twisted Oak Brewery
- 5:45 p.m. Leave
- 6:00 p.m. Arrive Lodge

Registration is **\$60** for transportation. Food, drinks, and driver tip are not included.

Minimum for this trip is 14 and maximum is 24. Please register on MTL Events and drop off your registration check, made payable to "Lake Frederick Travel Club" with your contact information and the date of the trip at the lodge concierge desk **no later than July 31, 2025.**

Summer Wine Tour -- August 22, 2025



What better way to celebrate summer than to enjoy a glass of wine on the grounds of one of our neighborhood vineyards. For this trip we have selected three great vineyards in our own backyard, so to speak. We will start with Valerie Hill near Stephens City, then move to James Charles Vineyard near Winchester, and end at Veramar Vineyard near Berryville.

Schedule:

- 11:15 a.m. Check in at Lodge
- 11:30 a.m. Leave Lodge
- 12:00 p.m. Arrive Valerie Hill Vineyard
- 1:30 p.m. Depart
- 2:00 p.m. Arrive James Charles Vineyards
- 3:30 p.m. Depart
- 4:00 p.m. Arrive Veramar Vineyards
- 5:30 p.m. Depart
- 6:00 p.m. Arrive Lodge

Registration is **\$60** for transportation. Food, wine, and driver's tip are not included.

The minimum for this trip is 12 and the maximum is 18. Please register on MTL Events and drop off your registration check, payable to "Lake Frederick Travel Club," with your contact information and the date of the trip, with the lodge concierge **no later than August 12, 2025.**

Deep Creek Lake Trip -- September 19, 2025

Deep Creek Lake and Lake Frederick have one thing in common: they are both man-made. Visiting Deep Creek Lake is special any time of year, but mid-September, when summer vacationers are back at work and school, is a real treat. The weather is still warm, but not hot, and everything is green and peaceful. For this trip we selected a lake-side restaurant with outdoor and indoor seating. We will have plenty of time to enjoy our lunch and the view.



On our way to Deep Creek Lake, we will pass through areas frequented by George Washington, Berkley Springs, WV, where he “took the waters,” and Cumberland, MD, where his Chesapeake and Ohio (C&O) Canal ended. In Berkley Springs State Park we can use the public restrooms and wade in the mineral waters flowing by a monument to Washington.

In Cumberland, we will visit the National Park Service C&O Canal Museum and learn the history of this monumental early American transportation project that never realized Washinton’s dream of a link between the Chesapeake Bay and the Ohio River. It did, however, provide transportation for Shenandoah Valley and Western Maryland produce to seaports. On our way home, we will stop again in Berkley Springs at a local brewery for refreshment.



Schedule:

- 8:00 a.m. Leave Lodge
- 9:15 a.m. Arrive Berley Springs State Park
- 9:45 a.m. Leave
- 10:45 a.m. Arrive C&O Canal Museum in Cumberland
- 11:45 a.m. Leave
- 1:00 p.m. Arrive Deep Creek Lake Restaurant located at Firewater Kitchen & Bar, 20128 Garrett Hwy, Oakland, MD 21550
- 3:00 p.m. Leave
- 4:45 p.m. Arrive Berkly Springs Brewing Company
- 6:00 p.m. Leave
- 7:15 p.m. Arrive Lodge

Registration is **\$60** for transportation only. Food, drinks, and driver tip are not included.

Minimum for this trip is 12 and maximum is 24. Please register on MTL Events and drop off your registration check, made payable to “Lake Frederick Travel Club” with your contact information and the date of the trip at the lodge concierge desk **no later than September 9, 2025.**

Oktoberfest Bridges & Breweries -- September 29, 2025

Celebrate Oktoberfest with the Travel Club by visiting historic covered bridges in Frederick County, MD, followed by a walking tour of the Carroll Creek historic area in downtown Frederick MD. Frederick County is home to three historic bridges in the Route 15 corridor, north of the city of Frederick, that are listed on the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places. The Utica, Loy's Station, and Roddy Road covered bridges all cross streams in northern Frederick County, within twelve miles of one another. Besides their beauty, the bridges are also structurally interesting, as all three have different truss systems (which is what keeps a bridge standing). [_____](#)



Spanning more than a mile through the heart of hip and historic Downtown Frederick. This creek-walk offers more than just a beautiful view; specialty shops, outdoor dining, breweries and a distillery are among the businesses located along the park. Located at the east end is a cluster of breweries that provide the perfect opportunity to enjoy a variety of drinks and atmospheres. Before exploring the breweries, we will stop for lunch at The Wine Kitchen to satisfy the wine lovers on our tour. Afterwards, we will stroll the park and visit a few of the breweries.

Schedule:

- 7:45 a.m. Check in at Lodge
- 8:00 a.m. Board bus
- 9:30 a.m. Visit bridges
- 12:00 p.m. Arrive Carroll Creek
- 12:30 p.m. Lunch at The Wine Kitchen
- 2:00 p.m. Walking tour with brewery stops
- 5:00 p.m. Depart Frederick
- 6:30 p.m. Arrive Lodge

(All times are approximate and subject to change depending on the conditions of the day of the trip.)

\$60 covers round-trip bus transportation. Lunch, breweries, and driver's tip are not included.

The minimum for the trip is 14 and the maximum is 24. Please register on MTL Events and drop off your registration check, payable to "Lake Frederick Travel Club," with your contact information and date of the trip, with the Lodge Concierge **no later than September 20, 2025.**

Potomac Eagle Fall Foliage Train Ride -- October 23, 2025



This trip was so popular in 2023 that we decided to repeat it in 2025. The Lake Frederick Travel Club has reserved 20 to 28 seats on October 23, 2025, for a three-hour round-trip ride along the South Branch of the Potomac River in West Virginia. Potomac Eagle gets its name from the American Eagles that are frequently seen along the train route. You can also enjoy views from an open gondola, weather permitting.

We will be riding in reserved seats in a vintage dining car with a boxed lunch. The meal selections are Ham, Turkey, or Vegetarian sub.

Menu choices **are due with your reservation**. We will be taking round-trip bus transportation from the lodge to the train station in Romney, WV.

STANDARD DINING CAR BOXED LUNCH CHOICES:

1. Ham Sub
2. Turkey Sub
3. Vegetarian Sub

(All lunches include chips, seasonal fruit, brownie, and bottled water)

All-inclusive cost is **\$150 per person** (excluding bus driver tip).

For more information you can view their website at PotomacEagle.com

There is also an overview You Tube video to view by clicking [here](#).

Schedule:

- 10:15 a.m. Check in at Lodge
- 10:30 a.m. Bus leaves Lodge
- 12:00 p.m. Arrive Romney train station
- 12:30 p.m. Board train
- 1:00 p.m. Train departs
- 1:30 p.m. Meal service
- 4:00 p.m. Train returns
- 4:30 p.m. Board bus 6:00 p.m. Arrive Lodge

The minimum for this trip is 20 and maximum is 28. The deadline for reservations and meal choice is **September 30**. Please register on MTL Events and drop off a check made payable to "Lake Frederick Travel Club" with your contact information, date of the trip, and meal choice at the concierge's desk.

Fall Color Wine Tour – October 27, 2025



Fall color in the Blue Ridge Mountains can be spectacular. Hopefully, we have picked a date when they will be in full color palette. For this trip we will travel through the Shenandoah Valley on I-81 to I-64 East, on our way to three of our favourite wineries in the Charlottesville area: Veritas; Barboursville; and Early Mountain. We will also stop for lunch at Michie Tavern, near Monticello. This will be a long day.

Schedule:

- 9:45 a.m. Check in at Lodge
- 9:00 a.m. Leave Lodge
- 10:30 a.m. I-81 Rest Stop
- 10:45 a.m. Depart
- 11:30 a.m. Arrive Veritas Vineyard
- 1230 p.m. Depart
- 1:15 p.m. Arrive Michie Tavern for buffet lunch
- 2:15 p.m. Depart
- 3: 00 p.m. Arrive Barboursville Vineyard
- 4:00 p.m. Depart
- 4:45 p.m. Arrive Early Mountain Vineyard
- 5:45 p.m. Depart
- 7:30 p.m. Arrive Lodge

Registration is **\$60** for transportation only. Food, drinks, and driver tip are not included.

Minimum for this trip is 12 and maximum is 18. Please register on MTL Events and drop off your registration check, made payable to “Lake Frederick Travel Club” with your contact information and the date of the trip at the lodge concierge desk **no later than October 17, 2025.**