GROUP TOURS

Austin is a special community with an astonishing abundance of unique attractions, events, and activities that will keep you busy for your entire visit.

We look forward to helping you make many memories in Austin, MN by creating a FREE custom itinerary for your group. For more information or to schedule a tour contact Discover Austin at 507-437-4563 or visitor@austinmn.com.

DAY ONE

10:30 AM - SPAM® Museum Tour: Please don't eat the exhibits. Yes, it's real. The SPAM® Museum is stuffed with interactive exhibits that bring the iconic history of the SPAM® brand to life like you've never seen it before! See what's trending in our pork-filled world; email yourself delicious recipes; and share your SPAM® brand story for a chance to become part of our exhibits. Explore the SPAM® brand across the globe. Find out what 6 simple ingredients make SPAM® classic, and then work the assembly line. Learn the history of Hormel Foods Corporation from its inception.



11:30 AM - Explore Downtown: Check out bookstores, the ArtWorks Center, Rydjor Bike Musuem, shopping, health and beauty services, photo opportunities and FOOD: Everything from pizza, Mexican, BBQ, bar and grill, American, health foods, bakeries/coffee and even a brewery! Plus you are welcome to relax and enjoy our beautiful community on the conversation benches or stop by the Discover Austin, MN office for a friendly conversation.

2:30 PM - St. Augustine's Catholic Church: One of the most iconic buildings in Austin with its distinctive set of asymmetrical steeples and its majestic Gothic Rival style.

3:30 PM – Hormel Estate: The former Jay and Germaine Hormel mansion is available for a drive through. This is a privilege and must be pre-arranged as it is currently housing for private residents of Nexus-Gerard Family Healing and located on a secluded driveway. Complimentary 'Echos Du Passe' publication for each guest.



4:00 PM - Check into the **Hotel:** Austin offers over 400 hotel rooms to relax and rejuvenate. Lodging options in Austin, MN include DoubleTree by Hilton, Days Inn, AmericInn, Cobblestone Hotel, Super 8 and RodeWay Inn & Suites.



5:30PM - Dinner at SuperFresh: Enjoy a very warm and casual atmosphere where you are able to wine, dine, and relax. Group menus arranged through Discover Austin, Minnesota.

7:15 PM – Paramount Theatre: One of only four atmospheric theatres remaining in Minnesota. The Paramount is designed to represent being in the courtyard of a quaint Spanish Village with twinkling stars and rolling clouds overheads. Group tours available to watch a short film while sipping a soda and munching on some popcorn.

8:00 PM - Arrive back at the hotel.

DAY TWO

9:00 AM - Hormel **Institute:** Cancer has affected so many people and now you can tour The Hormel Institute, a world leader in cancer research focusing on the study of food agents and cell functions. Experience a 3D simulation of molecules, view into the research labs and see a microscope so large it has its own special space.



10:00 AM - Jay C. Hormel Nature Center: Visit the interpretive center which includes exhibits such as Creatures of the Night, Renewable Energy, Climate Change, Forest Ecology, Live Birds of Prey, Soil is Habitat / Prairie Exhibit, Pond Ecology & Macroinvertebrates. A geological timeline wraps all the way around the main exhibit space, with images and information about the billions of years of Earth's history.



11:00 AM - City Tour: Be introduced to local points of interest and lesser known or quirky sites around the city that may merit further attention! Your step-on guide for the City Tour will stay with you for the rest of your scheduled day; PLUS, you get a SPAM® cookbook and a glimpse of Buffy the Cow!

NOON - Hormel Historic Home & lunch: Discover the stately 14-room home of the George A. Hormel family (founder of Hormel Foods Corp). Built in 1871, the home features stained glass windows, decorative woodwork, front pillars imported from Italy, Tiffany light fixtures and a Greek marble fireplace. Following the tour, a group lunch will be provided in the banquet center.





1:30 PM – Austin Public Library: View a copy of the Heritage Edition of the St. John's Bible on display and the only one known to be able to touch and turn pages by viewers.

2:00 PM - Tendermaid: A historic stop to grab a quick malt or milkshake to go. According to Family Destinations, The milkshakes and malts at Tendermaid aren't just a dessert - they're a nostalgic journey back to childhood summers. Each mouthful is a burst of joy, a reminder of why simple food done right is unbeatable. Tendermaid is where you find the kind of magic that only simplicity can bring. You get the classics, mixed with care and served with a smile that makes everything taste just a little sweeter.

