Mt. Vernon and Paducah Get-On-The-Bus Overnighter, May 16-19, 2019

McLean County Arts Center Bloomington en route. This triennial exhibition features artwork by MFA students currently enrolled or recently graduated from an Illinois university. The juror Tempestt Hazel, an independent curator, writer and director of Sixty Inches From Center, an arts publication and archiving initiative, will undoubtedly select works that wrestle with contemporary ideas in art making. The various painting, sculpture, video, and installation works will challenge and expand expectations of a gallery experience.

https://mcac.wildapricot.org/event-3173087
https://mcac.wildapricot.org/event-3173081

Firefly Grill in Effingham en route. Our food is made from the best stuff on earth! Firefly is so passionate about the ingredients that we grow many ourselves. The remainder are hand selected locally or sourced from artisan farmers, foragers and fisherman who care for them as deeply as we do at firefly. Our philosophy is simple; source the best ingredients possible and stay out of their way.

http://www.ffgrill.com/menu/

Mount Vernon, Illinois:

Jefferson County Historical Village The Museum and the Village, with its buildings and their contents, reflect life in the past. Among the furnished buildings, one finds log homes of the 19th century, a one-room school, a log church and log jail, operating blacksmith and print shops, a display of old merchandise in the general store and a variety of medical equipment from a foot-treadle dentist’s drill to a Civil War amputation kit in the Medical Building.

http://historicjeffersoncountyil.com/

Farmhouse Bakery & Café
https://www.facebook.com/pg/Farmhouse-Bakery-Cafe-1499822823472619/photos/?ref=page_internal

Cedarhurst Center for the Arts Cedarhurst is best known for its significant collection of late 19th and early 20th century American paintings, exhibitions featuring regional and international artists and a 90-acre sculpture park.

http://www.cedarhurst.org
http://www.cedarhurst.org/PermanentCollection.htm
http://www.cedarhurst.org/Goldman-KuentzSculpturePark.html
https://www.mnfinearts.com/mary-ann-michna/
http://www.carol-carter.com/

RARE Chop House Winner of the Illinois Office of Tourism's Enjoy Illinois Delicious Destinations Award, RARE Chop House is Mt. Vernon's unique fine dining establishment. RARE is the epitome of excellence serving great food prepared by professional certified chefs. Come in for the classy, sophisticated ambiance and enjoy their impressive wine list.

http://www.rarechophouse.com/

Super Museum The world-famous Superman Museum officially opened in 1993 in the Man of Steel's official hometown of Metropolis, Illinois on Superman Square. The museum features over 70,000+ items from the life's work of longtime Superman enthusiast and collector, Jim Hambrick who has amassed one of the greatest collections of Superman memorabilia in the world. Among the items showcased in the museum from the iconic superhero’s 75+ year history are virtually every Superman toy ever produced as well as movie props and promotional materials from all the Superman movies & TV series (including "Smallville" and "Man of Steel") and one of the only George Reeves Superman costumes still in existence.

https://supermuseum.com/
Paducah, Kentucky

**Whitehaven Welcome Center**

Restored 1860s Southern mansion features period furnishings and memorabilia of Paducah native Alben Barkley, who served as Vice President under Harry Truman. Whitehaven is one of the finest Classical Revival residential structures in Kentucky and is the only historic home serving as an interstate Welcome Center. Lobby open 24 hours. Welcome Center open Mon.-Sat., 8 AM-4:30 PM.

**The National Quilt Museum** The museum changes exhibits 8-10 times per year, so visitors will enjoy a unique experience every time they visit. On the day the museum opened in 1991, the entire collection included 85 quilts that were on loan from the founders. Over time, the collection has expanded both in quantity and diversity. Today the museum’s collection exceeds 600 works of art and continues to grow. In addition to exhibiting the exceptional works from our collection, throughout the year the museum also features traveling exhibits made up of breathtaking works of quilt and fiber art. The $2.2 million facility sits two blocks from the Ohio River in historic downtown Paducah.

[https://quiltmuseum.org/](https://quiltmuseum.org/)

**Paducah Flood Wall Murals** More than 50 life-sized panoramic murals by renowned artist Robert Dafford and the Dafford Murals Team. One ... of America's most prolific mural artists, Dafford's work may also be seen in France, Belgium and England. Drone-view on website:


The **River Discovery Center** stimulates curiosity and understanding of our nation's vital river system through real stories and interactive experiences for people of all ages.


**The Lower Town Arts & Music Festival (LTAMF)** is a regional two-day celebration of art, music, food, beer and wine all from a 350-mile radius of Paducah, Kentucky. LTAMF takes place in the Lower Town Historic Arts District near Downtown Paducah.

[https://lowertownnamf.com/visit/about-us/](https://lowertownnamf.com/visit/about-us/)

**The Yeiser Art Center** presents seven major exhibitions annually including two international juried exhibitions: Fantastic Fibers, and Art through the Lens (formerly known as Paducah Photo).

[https://www.theyeiser.org/project/fantasticfibers19/](https://www.theyeiser.org/project/fantasticfibers19/)

**William Clark Market House Museum** in the same building as the Yeiser Art Center is a local history museum housing a recreated 19th-century drugstore, along with artifacts & a gift shop. Open 10-4 on Saturday.

[https://markethousemuseum.com/](https://markethousemuseum.com/)

**Paducah, Kentucky** artist relocation program


Bloomingtom/Normal en route:

**Miller Park Zoo and Pavilion** Miller Park Zoo offers many exhibits and Zookeeper interaction opportunities that are enjoyed by the whole family. Some highlights include: sun bear, reindeer, Sumatran tiger, greater flamingos, harbor seals, river otters, red pandas, lemurs, Galapagos tortoise, bald eagles, Pallas' cat, snow leopards, gibbons, and red wolves. The Zoo features many large indoor and outdoor exhibits such as a Tropical America Rainforest, ZooLab, Katthoefer Animal Building, Wallaby WalkAbout, Children's Zoo, and Animals of Asia.
The pavilion at Miller Park was built at a cost of $45,000 in 1905 and was one of the finest pavilions ever put in a public park. It was designed by George Miller and is noted for its excellent acoustic properties for dance bands. This unique landmark was restored in 1977 and continues to be a popular spot for a variety of activities.

Medici  http://www.medicinormal.com/lunch.php

Mt. Vernon Info  http://www.enjoymtvernon.com/

Near our Hotel:
Mt. Vernon, IL  62864

http://www.enjoymtvernon.com/dining

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https://www.amctheatres.com/movie-theatres/mount-vernon (about 1.5 miles from hotel). Our bus can drop you off and pick up or you can call a cab or uber/lyft service.