

1000 Islands Summer Sampler....it will leave you wanting more!

Day 1 (Afternoon arrival)

Arrive in Alexandria Bay and begin your 1000 Islands adventure. No visit to the 1000 Islands would be complete without a traditional 1000 Islands Boat tour. These narrated, scenic cruises traverse the waterways and recant the legends of our region's founders, famous summer residents and hearty year-round citizens.

One such story told along the tours is the tragic tale that seems to be from a romance novel...the story of Boldt Castle. Near the end of the tour, a visit to this 120-room Rhineland style home will bring the story to life as you learn of George Boldt's shattered dream of a stately summer getaway. Due to the untimely death of his wife in 1904, the project was never completed. Years of neglect, vandalism and North Country winters took its toll on the island. Now under the care and management of the Thousand Islands Bridge Authority, Boldt Castle has been restored to the lovely showplace Boldt would be proud of.



Before dinner, a stop at the Thousand Islands Winery for a tasting and tour. This winery was the first in the region and their vineyard of hearty grapevines is a showplace on this 1830's farm. The centerpiece is a barn purchased from a Sears and Roebuck catalog. After dinner, time on their own to explore the shops and boutiques of Alexandria Bay will provide some time for souvenir shopping.

Day 2



Experience the heritage and culture of Clayton as you enjoy a leisurely day visiting three heritage centers and some more time on the St. Lawrence. Begin your morning at the Thousand Islands Museum and get a complete background of the village's diverse history. Exhibits include the region's favorite pastime, fishing, and an award winning Muskie and Decoy Gallery.

A short distance away is the Thousand Islands Arts Center. Gallery exhibits showcase regional artists. Best known for its outstanding collection of hand woven fabrics, the Arts Center also features potter, paintings and sculptures.



The largest and most notable museum in town is the Antique Boat Museum situated on a picturesque harbor. Articulate docents give informative tours of

the museum exhibits, known as the nation's largest collections of freshwater watercraft. George Boldt's yacht, La Duchesse is on exhibit here.



After lunch relax aboard Clayton Island Tours as you learn about the ecology of the St. Lawrence as you work your way to Rock Island for a tour of Rock Island Lighthouse. One of the oldest lighthouses on the St. Lawrence, Rock Island Light has an interesting story to tell. The lightkeepers home has been transformed into a small museum with interesting stories and the visitors can climb the stairs to the lantern room of the lighthouse if they

wish. Great views of the St. Lawrence Seaway and the 1000 Islands Bridge can be seen from there.

When back on shore be sure to save some time to stroll along James St. and Riverside Drive to take advantage of the great shopping in the unique shops and boutiques.

Day 3

On route home, history buffs in the group will appreciate a stop in Sackets Harbor along the Lake Ontario shore. Sackets Harbor played an integral role in the War of 1812. This protected port provided the US Navy safe harbor to work from as well as a protected ship building port to supply them. The Sackets Harbor Battlefield encompasses Navy Yard exhibits and costumed interpreters at the Battlefield and Commandants House bringing to life the passion of battles.

The Pickering Beach Museum, an amazing 1817 home exhibiting 19th Century village life is a pleasure for the antique buffs in the group. This home was once occupied by shipbuilders Joshua and Augustus Pickering as well as New York State Lieutenant Governor Allen Beach.

