

## Young At Heart Tours

# Summer 2017



## Ark Encounter Creation Museum

**Monday - Friday  
June 26-30, 2017**

*A wonderful 5-day trip that combines great fellowship, good music, delicious food, and highlights out of Bible history.*

*with Young at Heart's  
Tim Johnson as Tour Director.*

**Young At Heart Tours** offers its tour to the **Ark Encounter and Creation Museum** in Kentucky (Cincinnati Area). **Monday begins with departure from Park Community Church (6805 Minnetonka Blvd.) at 7:30 AM** with a **coffee and lunch** stops in Wisconsin. We will enjoy Monday evening in Lafayette, IN with dinner and our evening lodging. **Tuesday** will bring us to the **Ark Encounter** by later morning, spend 4 to 5 hours exploring that attraction, including lunch on the premises, checking into our hotel in the afternoon, and the taking a **dinner cruise** on the river in Cincinnati. **Wednesday** will give us a long visit at the **Creation Museum**, arriving in time to explore the museum, including its two media theaters, the daily speaker at noon, and their deluxe buffet luncheon. We will return for a short rest at the hotel before enjoying dinner together and a concert by a local barbershop quartet, and a visit to a world-famous **ice cream parlour**. **Thursday** will start with a **step on tour guide** showing us the highlights of the **city of Cincinnati**, proceeding to Indianapolis for lunch and then on to Deerfield, IL where we will spend the night near the Trinity International University campus. That evening we will enjoy dinner together, a **hymn sing at the Arnold T. Olsen Chapel**, featuring a renowned local organist, and be informed about Trinity by our hosts. **Friday** morning will involve a **brief tour of the Trinity campus**, followed by the trip back to the Twin Cities with lunch, afternoon break, and perhaps an extra attraction along the way as time permits. We should return to St. Louis Park by 7 pm. The entire trip will include the direction of Tim Johnson with all the music, door prizes, daily devotions, and fun that *Young at Heart* always enjoys.

Above itinerary subject to minor change.

**The entire tour:** motorcoach transportation, four nights lodging, four breakfasts, two coffee breaks, five lunches, four evening meals, Ark Encounter, Creation Museum, dinner cruise, barbershop quartet concert, hymn sing and musical program, step-on tour of Cincinnati, tour of Trinity Campus, driver gratuity, and one or two surprises is just **\$599 per person double; \$539 triple; \$499 quad; and \$800 single.**

### Young At Heart Tours RESERVATION FORM

#### Ark Encounter & Creation Museum

**Mon.-Fri. — June 26-30, 2017**

**Per Person:**

**Double Occupancy--\$599**

**Triple--\$539 - Quad--\$499**

**Single--\$800**

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ places for:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Call To Reserve Your Place.  
HOLD your place with a deposit of  
\$100 per person - for first 54 people.**

**Reservation deadline: May 26.  
Final Balance due no later than:  
June 6, 2017.**

Checks made to: **Young At Heart**  
Please return your reservation to:

**Young At Heart Tours**  
c/o Tim Johnson  
PO Box 1186 - Minnetonka, MN 55345  
952-934-6777

**Ark Encounter** is a Christian theme park that opened in Grant County, Kentucky on July 7, 2016. The centerpiece of the park is a full-scale model of Noah's Ark from the Genesis flood narrative in the Bible which is 510 feet long, 85 feet wide, and 51 feet high. It is one of only three full-size Noah's Ark replicas and derivatives in the world, and the largest of the three. Ark Encounter is operated by Answers in Genesis (AiG), that operates the Creation Museum 45 miles away in Petersburg, Kentucky.

On arrival, visitors ride a shuttle from the 4,000-space parking lot along a 1 mile path to the ark. Photo opportunities are provided as visitors approach the Ark from its "Port" side. The ark contains 132 bays, each standing about 18 feet high, arranged into three decks. Visitors enter on the lowest deck and move between decks on ramps constructed through the center of the ark. Bays on the first deck contain models of some animals that AiG believes were on the ark; there are no live animals within the ark. The models are meant to represent "kinds" of animals, which AiG maintains gave rise to modern animals through a process of rapid speciation following the flood. Dinosaurs are among the models presented. The second deck contains more animal models, along with dioramas of Noah's workshop and a blacksmith. Bays on the third deck contain displays presenting AiG's suggestions about what may have happened inside and outside the ark during the flood. Displays in three of the bays display artifacts from the Green Collection and promote the Museum of the Bible, a Washington, D.C. attraction currently being constructed by the Green family, who donated to the Ark Encounter's construction.

The ark is held 15 feet off the ground by a series of concrete towers. The "starboard" side of the hull merges into three 80-foot

masonry towers containing stairwells, elevators, and restrooms. A gift shop is positioned below the ark, while a restaurant called Emzara's Kitchen – an allusion to the traditional Jewish name for Noah's wife – is located behind the ark. The Ararat Ridge Zoo, a free petting zoo, is also part of the attraction.

The **Creation Museum**, is operated by Answers in Genesis (AiG). It promotes Young Earth creationist (YEC) explanation of the origin of the Universe based on a literal interpretation of the Genesis creation narrative in the Bible.

The 75,000-square-foot museum cost US \$27 million, raised through private donations, and opened on May 28, 2007. In addition to the main collection, the facility has a special effects theater, a planetarium, an *Allosaurus* skeleton, and an insect collection. It also serves as the headquarters of AiG. The museum has approximately 300 employees and permanent employees must sign a statement of faith affirming their belief in AiG's principles.

Visitors to the museum are directed through a sequential series of rooms. Casey Kelly and Kristen Hoed explain that "the museum constructs an argument chain in which claims from previous rooms provide support for subsequent claims". The first room in the sequence contains a diorama of two paleontologists uncovering the skeletal remains of an indistinct creature.<sup>48</sup> Two actors meant to represent the paleontologists are displayed on television screens mounted nearby; one explains that he believes that the creature died in a local flood millions of years earlier, while the other surmises that the creature died in the biblical Great Flood about 4,300 years earlier.

The second series of rooms depict a literal interpretation of the Book of Genesis,

arranged around the concept of "The Seven C's of History": creation, corruption, catastrophe, confusion, Christ, cross, and consummation. At the entrance to this area, a flat panel television displays a computer-generated imagery (CGI) animation of millions of particles converging to create an adult human male, the biblical Adam. Subsequent creation dioramas show Adam naming animals in the Garden of Eden and Eve being created from Adam's rib.

The exhibit on corruption shows Adam and Eve eating the fruit of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, resulting in the fall of man. Further exhibits depict the aftermath of this event: animals being killed to make garments for Adam and Eve, Cain killing Abel, and Methuselah warning of God's coming judgment. The "catastrophe", an allusion to the Great Flood recounted in Genesis chapters 6 through 9, is represented by animatronic figures constructing Noah's Ark and an interactive exhibit that allows visitors to select frequently asked questions about Noah's Ark and have them answered audibly by an animatronic Noah. The post-flood world is presented in the next room as a time when man began to rely solely on human reasoning, resulting in "confusion". Displays argue that dependence on human reasoning leads to racism and genocide, with one sign bearing a quote from Stephen Jay Gould noting that racism increased exponentially following the acceptance of the theory of evolution. A diorama claims that the Tower of Babel explains the dispersal of people after the flood and the rapid divergence of languages during that period.

The final three C's—Christ, cross, and consummation—are presented in a single room where visitors wait before entering a theater to view *The Last Adam*, a film where actors describe the drama surrounding the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ.