

“One of the best views of  
the river is from behind  
this wheel”  
– Captain Kevin Stier

# experience THE MISSISSIPPI adventure

**The Riverboat Twilight delivers one of the most exceptional cruise experiences in the Midwest.** Come aboard and step back in time to when riverboats were the most sophisticated and relaxing way to travel. Fast and elegant as she slips through the water, there are three decks of comfortable dining salons and sundecks with lounge chairs to sightsee or snooze in the sun.

The Twilight, designed and built by Captain Dennis Trone, is a replica of the lavish Victorian steamboats of a century ago. Her unique rounded stern and ornate architectural detailing are reminders of those classic riverboats Mark Twain called “floating palaces.”

The Riverboat Twilight offers one- and two-day cruises departing from the picturesque and historic river towns of LeClaire and Dubuque, IA, giving passengers a chance to experience the beauty and majesty of the Upper Mississippi River Valley.

## **The Two-Day Cruise**

Two-day cruises depart from the charming river town of LeClaire, IA and travel to Iowa’s oldest city, Dubuque. Overnight accommodations are provided at the Grand Harbor Resort and Waterpark with complimentary shuttle service to many Port of Dubuque attractions on the following day. Included are tickets to the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium, a Smithsonian accredited facility.

The Riverboat Twilight is proud to be the

official riverboat sponsor of *Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition* which is appearing now at the National Mississippi River Museum and Aquarium. *Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition* takes you on a journey back in time to experience the majesty and tragedy of the Titanic like never before.

After spending the morning enjoying Dubuque, re-board the Twilight for the return trip to LeClaire. Your fare includes all meals, entertainment, snacks, and, of course, informative and educational narration by the Captain.

## **The One-Day Cruise**

One-day cruises depart and return to Dubuque’s River’s Edge Plaza – board at 8:00 a.m., depart at 8:15 a.m., and return by 5:00 p.m. This cruise heads north from Dubuque and takes in one of the most beautiful areas of the Mississippi River. It includes continental breakfast, two snacks, full lunch, historical narration, eagles, relaxation, and local favorite L.A. Suess on banjo.

## **Experience Real People/Real Stories**

Watching the Captain at work as he leisurely spins the old-fashioned pilot’s wheel while cruising the main channel, anyone might get the impression his job is easy. After all, he’s mastered the art of enchanting his passengers with informative stories as he navigates the ever-changing Mississippi.

In actuality, he served a six-year apprenticeship to become a riverboat pilot, and

then qualified by taking a Coast Guard exam. He previously operated the Julia Belle Swain out of Peoria, IL, as well as the Diamond Jo out of Dubuque (in the days when it was a floating casino). He currently serves on the Upper Mississippi River International Port District Board, and is a past president of the Passenger Vessel Association.

Throughout the day’s cruise, Captain Stier narrates a wealth of interesting information about the river and the communities it flows through. Sometimes he’ll slow the Twilight for a closer view of a pelican rookery or an eagle’s nest. A college degree in zoology and botany from Western Illinois University helps him to interpret and appreciate the river’s natural landscape.

## **Bird Watching on the Mississippi**

In a typical year, you can find 180 to 190 species of birds within the Upper Mississippi River Valley; nearly 100 species breed here. Almost the entire length of your Riverboat Twilight journey takes place within the Upper Mississippi River National Wildlife and Fish Refuge. The Refuge was established in 1924 as a refuge for fish, wildlife, and plants and to provide a breeding place for migratory birds. It also lies within the Mississippi River Flyway, a major migration pathway.

Bordered by steep wooded bluffs that rise 100 to 600 feet above the river valley, the Mississippi River corridor and refuge of-

fers scenic beauty and productive fish and wildlife habitats unmatched in the heart of America.

Bring your binoculars and spot some of the many bird varieties including: migrating American white pelicans, snow and Canada geese and ducks, migrating osprey, bald eagles, northern harriers, Cooper’s hawks, broad-winged hawks, red-tailed hawks, peregrine falcons, 35 species of migrating warblers, herons, egrets, wild turkeys, turkey vultures, and whip-poor-wills to name a fraction of our fine feathered friends.

## **And Relax**

The Twilight is small enough to provide a very intimate experience for our passengers, yet large enough to accommodate everyone comfortably on the inside and outside decks. Find a comfortable rocking chair on the sunny side of the boat, sit back, close your eyes, and feel the quiet. All at once the splendor, tranquility, and magnificence of the river will hit you. It is truly an authentic American experience.

From the informative and engaging narration by a well-seasoned captain, to the stunning scenery, abundant wildlife, and comradery new friends, you will find the Riverboat Twilight to be an experience of a lifetime. It is this combination of experiences that enables you to transcend from just seeing a place, to discovering a sense of place, both enriching and enlightening. ♦

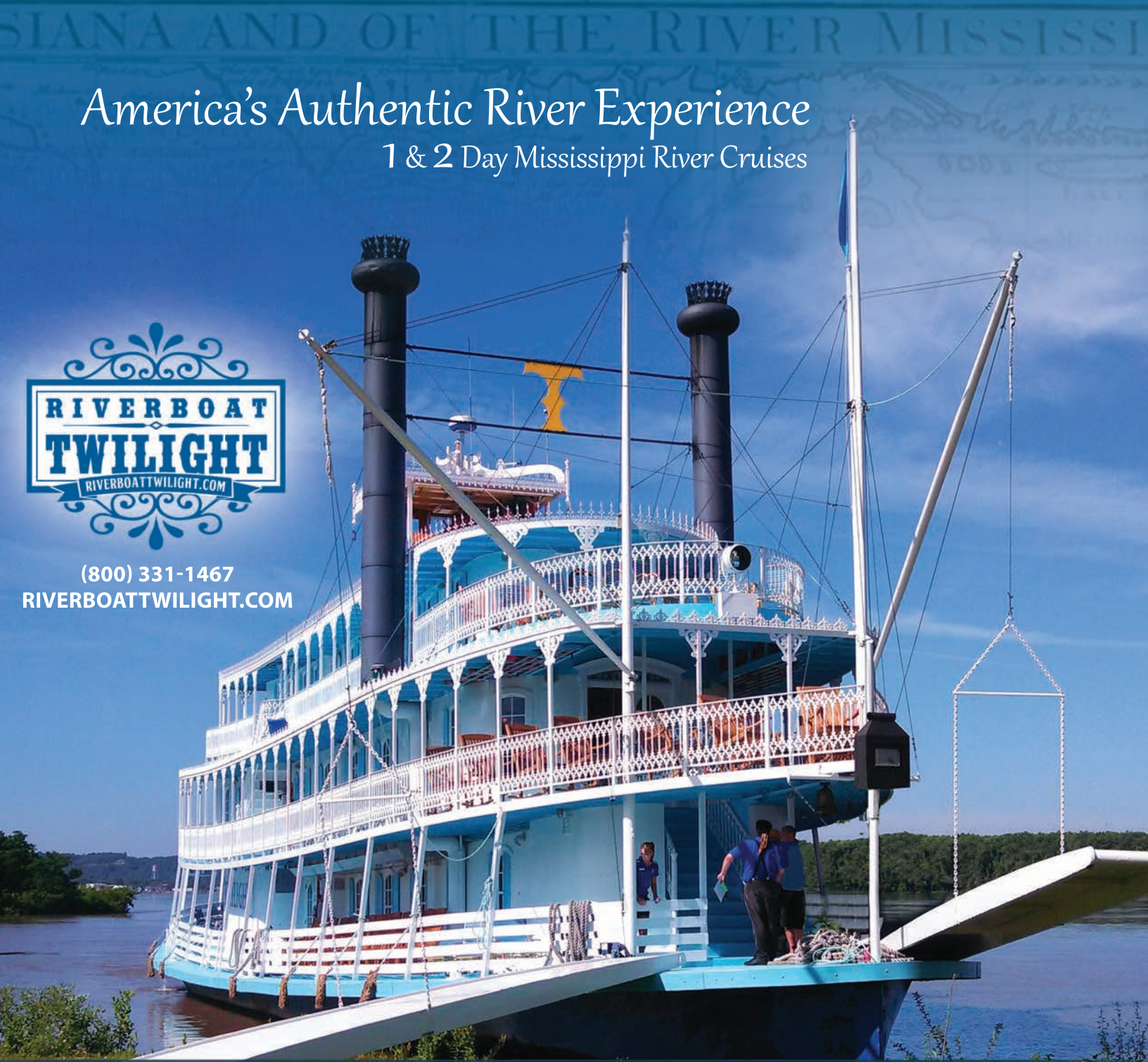


# America's Authentic River Experience

## 1 & 2 Day Mississippi River Cruises



(800) 331-1467  
RIVERBOATTWILIGHT.COM



**1 DAY** July 3,4,5 Sept 4,5,6,7  
Oct 30, 31 Nov 1  
\$159/Adults \$69/Children

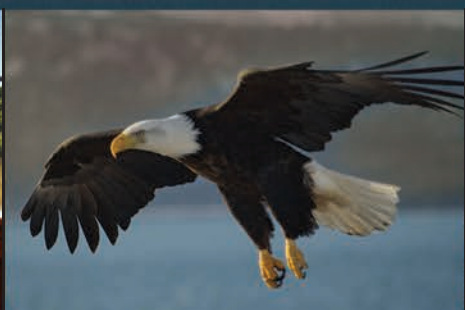
**Dubuque, Iowa  
to Guttenberg  
& Return**

Explore one of the most beautiful parts of the Upper Mississippi River Valley as the Twilight heads North from Dubuque, Iowa for this very special 1-Day Cruise with a stop in historic Guttenberg, Iowa. Fare includes entertainment, snacks and full lunch.

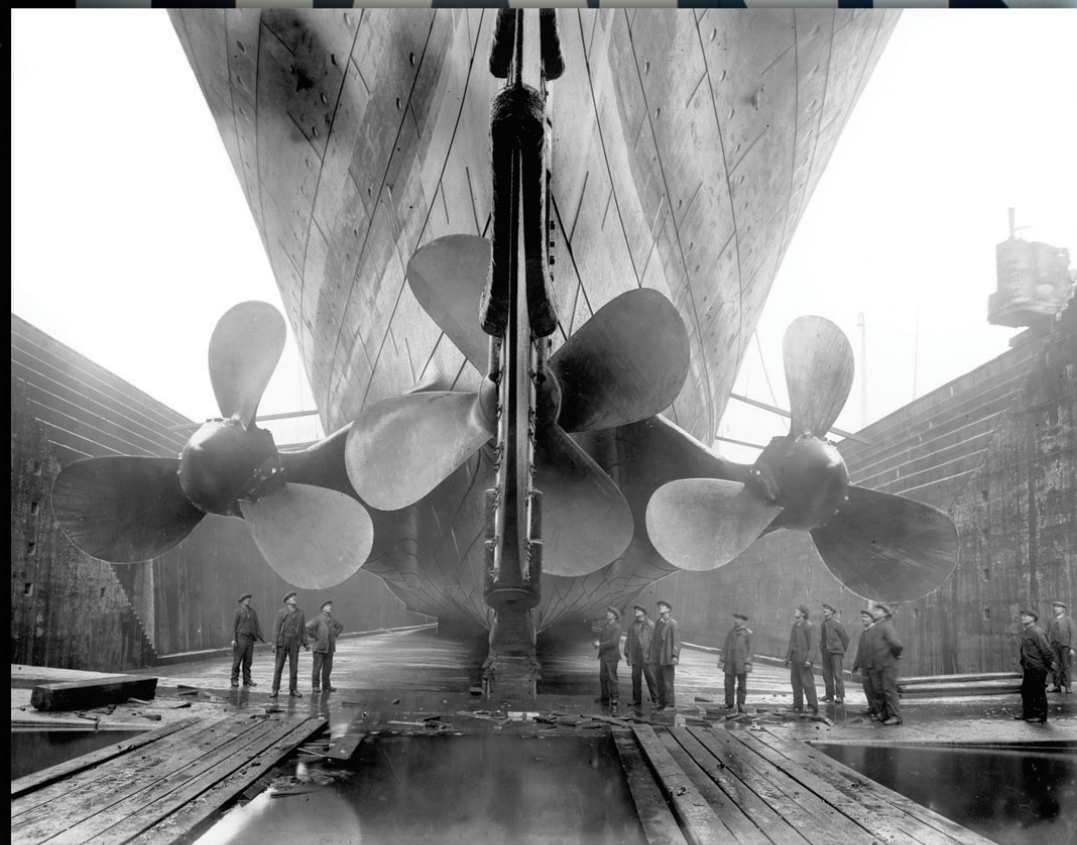
**2 DAY** Sun, Tues & Thurs  
Departures  
\$399/Adults - Dbl Occ (\$419 after Sept 15)

**Quad Cities  
to Dubuque  
& Return**

Our Signature Cruise transports you back to Victorian elegance. Relax as you take in towering bluffs, historic river towns, eagles, pelicans and life on the Mississippi River. Fare includes meals, snacks, entertainment and riverfront accommodations.



# TITANIC



## THE ARTIFACT EXHIBITION HAS ARRIVED

by Pamela Brandt

The Titanic, a magnificent floating palace, has become a cultural metaphor for disaster and calamity. The massive coal-powered trans-Atlantic steamship was the pinnacle of ostentatious luxury and designed to be unsinkable. When the Titanic hit an iceberg on its maiden voyage on Sunday, April 14, 1912, with over 2,200 people aboard, two-thirds of them perished.

*Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition* is on display at the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium until September 7. It shares the Titanic's story, from its construction in Ireland, to the night of the fatal collision, to the rediscovery of the shipwreck on the ocean floor. The entire second floor of the William Woodward Mississippi River Center has been renovated to provide a glimpse of this extraordinary tragedy.

*Julien's Journal* visited with Michael Sanders, executive director of the museum, and John Sutter, director of marketing and sales. "This is by far the largest temporary exhibit that we've ever put on here," said Sanders. "It's a big undertaking for us, but we hope that it's as big a deal for the community and the region. We're advertising in a 100-mile radius, hoping to draw a lot of people to Dubuque this summer."