

## **Mystery Trip – August 30, 2023**

Another stellar trip by Elite Coach, the organizer of all our mystery trips. As always, the only individuals to have prior knowledge of the destinations are the staff at Elite and the bus driver. The 2023 mystery trip included one destination in the morning, followed by lunch and two destinations in the afternoon.

The first destination was Lake Tobias Wildlife Park, outside the town of Halifax in Dauphin County. The highlight was the open-air safari tour. We got up close and personal to a wide variety of exotic animals as far away as Africa and Australia, as we observed, touched, and even fed them as they walked up to our bus. The reptile house was also a big hit, as handlers allowed the guests to touch an alligator and pet a python.

Lunch was served at Fenicci 's Italian Restaurant in downtown Hershey. Fenicci's is deeply embedded in the history of the town of Hershey since opening in 1935.

After lunch, we proceeded toward Harrisburg and the Susquehanna River for a boat ride on the Pride of the Susquehanna. The paddle-wheel riverboat, constructed and launched in 1988, is one of the few rear-driven paddle wheelers in America. An enjoyable 45-minute sight-seeing boat ride, in view of the Harrisburg skyline followed.

The final destination was a sweet one; the Turkey Hill Experience located in Columbia, Pa. A walk at your own pace tour of the history of the Turkey Hill Dairy and all its products. Yes, ice cream; not only were we offered free samples of Turkey Hill ice cream, but we also ended the tour in a classroom creating our own flavor of ice cream. Starting with vanilla ice cream and adding drops of favoring, various ingredients, and topped off with our favorite syrup. And yes, we got to eat our creation.

Associated Websites:

Lake Tobias Wildlife Park: <https://www.laketobias.com>

Fenicci's of Hershey: <https://feniccis.com>

Pride of the Susquehanna-Riverboat:

<https://www.visithersheyharrisburg.org/listings/pride-of-the-susquehanna-riverboat/571/>

Turkey Hill Experience: <https://www.turkeyhillexperience.com>

Denis and Kathy Dorward