

Connections 2025-26

Travel News

***Revised May 2025**



*Pack your bags.
It's time to fulfill your
passion for discovery.*



www.owensborohealth.org/travelwithconnections

Dear Connections Travelers,

We know its been long awaited...but we present to you our 2025 Travel Brochure! This past year we had a full slate of fun and exciting trips around the US and internationally. This year, we look forward to another full slate of opportunities to see the world. We have added a Mini Mystery Trip, a trip to the Wild Wild West, and of course Connections 20th Annual, (give or take a few years off for Covid) Mystery Trip!! As well as, a few fun day trips thrown in throughout the year!

Our travel program is one of the top reasons people join Connections. As they say, travel is food for the soul! Engaging in travel plays an important role in maintaining a healthy lifestyle that can significantly improve your physical health, mental well-being, and overall life satisfaction. It provides an opportunity for creativity, inspiration, and self-understanding and allows you to create memories with one another that you can cherish for a lifetime! Whatever your reason is for traveling, we invite you to join us on this unique adventure!

When you look through the brochure you will find information about the trips we are offering, registration is easy; just call or stop by the Connections office and pay your deposit. For day trips, full payment will be required at time of registration.

We hope you find a trip or two that inspires you to join us on these adventures. We look forward to traveling with you and on behalf of Owensboro Health, we thank you for your support of Connections, where it is our goal to connect you to better health through education, socialization, fitness, and travel.

Sincerely,

The Connections Team



Melinda Cornell
Manager of Volunteers &
Guest Services & Connections



Kendra Knott
Human Resource Specialist,
Connections/Volunteers



Jennifer Howard
Human Resource Specialist,
Connections/Volunteers



Connections General Trip Information

Cost:

Connections trips include all transportation, hotel/motel accommodations, tours, admission fees, tips and gratuities for all meals included in the itinerary and the bellhop gratuities when available.

Transportation:

All trips will depart from Owensboro Health Healthpark

Deposits:

Deposits are due at the time of reservation. Deposit amounts will vary depending on the cost of the trip. For day trips, payment in full will be required when making a reservation.

Reservations:

We suggest you make your reservation as soon as you know your travel schedule. Trips are scheduled with pre-arranged seating and many times extra seats for shows, meals, or even motorcoaches are not available. To avoid being disappointed, sign up before the trip is sold out. To register, call Connections @ 270-688-4855.

Waiting List:

Connections will take a waiting list on all tours since we do have cancellations. When a cancellation is known, the vacancy will be filled from the waiting list in the date order in which it was received.

Insurance:

The Travel Protection Plan Insurance is optional and covers for documented medical or emergency reasons for cancellation. You can find the cost for the plan on the trips in which insurance is offered throughout the brochure. Travel Protection Plan insurance must be paid at the time of the deposit for the trip.

Cancellation Policy:

Connections realizes that due to uncontrollable circumstances, there may be times you have to cancel a tour; therefore, we offer Travel Protection insurance. In the event of a cancellation becomes necessary the following policy occurs:

- With the purchase of optional Travel Protection Plan Insurance:

Your travel protection plan insurance becomes effective at the time of purchase. You will be protected against cancellation fees for unforeseen circumstances such as illness, death in the family or accidents. Under this program, you will receive a refund of all trip payments less the travel protection fee once all the necessary paperwork has been submitted and approved by the carrier. **The travel protection plan is optional and is the responsibility of the traveler to purchase travel insurance. Refunds can only be made if you meet the covered protections and upon carrier approval.**

- Without Travel Protection Plan Insurance:

You will only receive money that is recoverable. Please remember many hotels and restaurants require payments be made 90 - 120 days out from a trip and tickets are often purchased in advance. While Connections will try to recover all of your money there is no guarantee as each venue has its own cancellation policy.

Singing in the Rain

– at the Derby Dinner Playhouse

Thursday, April 24, 2025

\$99 per person **Activity Level: 1**

This beloved musical based on the MGM Film pays tribute to classical Hollywood and the introduction of “talkies”. Don Lockwood, a dashing silent film star and his glamorous, on-screen partner/diva Lina Lamont are pressured by studio boss R.F. Simpson to change their silent romantic drama into a sound picture, complete with songs and dances. The only problem is that the female star has a voice that screeches like fingernails on a chalkboard. Cosmo Brown, Don’s former song and dance partner, introduces the idea of letting aspiring actress/singer, Kathy Selden, dub her singing voice for lip-synching Lina. Everyone juggles the growing demands of jealous Lina, but finally work their way toward the classic Hollywood happy ending. **Buffet Lunch included. Payment due in full at time of registration.**



June 3-5, 2025 Activity Level: 2

Per person double occupancy	Connections Members \$799	Non-Connections Members \$849
Per person single occupancy	Connections Members \$949	Non-Connections Members \$999
Per person triple occupancy	Connections Members \$749	Non-Connections Members \$799
Per person quad occupancy	Connections Members \$719	Non-Connections Members \$769

Deposit Required: \$150 Optional Travel Protection: \$68 Per Person

Oh my, a three-day Mystery Trip filled with excitement around every corner! If you’ve always wanted to do a mystery trip, but never had the chance this would be a great trip for you! If you like the mystery of the unknown then this is the trip for you! If you just like to get away then it would be the trip for you! You get it! This is the trip for you!

7 Meals included: 2 Breakfast, 3 Lunches, 2 Dinners



Spring Day at the Races

Friday, June 20, 2025

\$109 per person **Activity Level: 1**

Join Connections for a fun-filled day at the races. It is horse racing at its finest. We start our adventure with the "Chef's Table of Delight" for lunch. Then we will spend the entire afternoon enjoying the horse races while sitting in the comforts of Millionaires Row! You can step out onto the balcony for the race or watch on the screen right from your dining table! Reserve your seat now, as this trip sells out fast. **Buffet Lunch included. Payment due in full at time of registration.**



Half Baked

– at the Derby Dinner Playhouse

Wednesday, June 25, 2025

\$99 per person **Activity Level: 1**

Two retired brothers move to Florida to open a café, but when the business starts failing they decide to take drastic action. Including murder for hire and baking cannabis into the appetizers to 'stimulate' business! A sure recipe for hilarity! **Buffet Lunch included. Payment due in full at time of registration.**

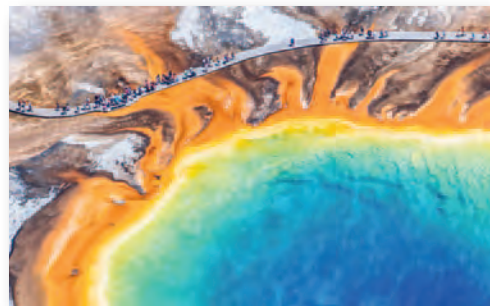


Wild Wild West

Postponed- Coming in 2026

Experience the grandeur of the American West as we explore the beautiful states of Wyoming, Montana, North & South Dakota, and Nebraska. While we make our way through these great states we'll make a stop through the Ice Cream Capitol of the World, **Blue Bunny** (they say Ice Cream before dinner is always a winner!) While traveling we will make a stop at the Fall State Park, known for over 128 acres of land and an average of 7400 gallons of water dropping 100 feet over the course of the falls each second! Come let loose in Deadwood, SD where roots go back to 1876 and just about anything goes! Enjoy the ride of a lifetime as we depart to take a **Buffalo Safari Jeep Tour** through the open air in search of pronghorns, elk, and the noble buffalo. Visit one of the country's most famous landmarks, **Mount Rushmore**, whose four figures carved in stone represent the first 150 years of American history. Nothing says western fun like an evening at the Cody Nite Rodeo which puts you at the center of the action under the glittering stars! We will explore the unique **Yellowstone National Park**, one of the most iconic parks in the western USA. Relish iconic sights like Old Faithful and Yellowstone Lake! Arrive in the cowboy town of Jackson and experience a fun filled day as you get to explore the **Jackson Hole Aerial Tram**, with 360-degree views. Experience life in the old day as you travel by Horse drawn covered wagon to the Cache Creek Canyon. Other highlights include: Medicine Wheel Park, Crazy Horse Memorial, Grizzly/Wolf Discovery Center, and so much more! Join Connections for this fun filled road trip as we're going straight to the Wild Wild West!

28 Meals Included: 13 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 11 Dinners



Twilight River Cruise

August 11-14, 2025 Activity Level: 2

Per person double occupancy	Connections Members \$1139	Non-Connections Members \$1239
Per person single occupancy	Connections Members \$1319	Non-Connections Members \$1419
Per person triple occupancy	Connections Members \$1089	Non-Connections Members \$1189
Per person quad occupancy	Connections Members \$1059	Non-Connections Members \$1159

Deposit Required: \$300

Unwind while we cruise the mighty Mississippi on board the beautiful Majestic **Riverboat TWILIGHT!** Enjoy a two-day cruise from Le Claire, Iowa to Dubuque, Iowa and back again. Learn the history of the river, gape at the wonderous bald eagles, immense flocks of pelicans and other unusual Mississippi River Wildlife. Delight in the sumptuous meals prepared by on board chefs and participate in exciting entertainment or relax in the lounge chairs on one of the three decks of the TWILIGHT. Stay overnight at the **Grand Harbor Resort** on the bank of the Mississippi River in Dubuque, Iowa. You'll have the opportunity to tour the **National Mississippi River Museum**, explore the quaint shops at Cable Car Square or try your luck at the Diamond Joe Casino. If you need a relaxing get away this 4-day trip is just for you! Included is a **Trolley Tour** of the historical downtown Dubuque, Iowa.



Travel Protection Plan Cost: \$103 Per person (optional)

9 Meals Included: 3 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 3 Dinners



Come From Away – at the Derby Dinner Playhouse

Wednesday, August 27, 2025

\$99 per person **Activity Level: 1**

This exciting Broadway Musical chronicles the real-life experiences of the people of Gander, Newfoundland, and the almost 7,000 airline passengers who were forced to land there when US air space was closed on September 11, 2001. Twelve actors tell the story of both the Islanders and the Plane People, revealing the fear and uncertainty that came with the terrorist attacks – as well as the profound generosity and compassion of strangers. A play everyone should see!



Buffet Lunch included. Payment due in full at time of registration.

Bluegrass, Bourbon & Horses

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

\$169 per person **Activity Level: 1**

Join us for the day at the historic grounds of Hermitage Farm which celebrates the unique agricultural heritage and the industries that make them a place like nowhere else. Experience a walkthrough tour of the gardens to discover how beauty and sustainability come together at the Hermitage. Enjoy a delicious farm to table lunch at their Barn8 restaurant, then saddle up to the Old Fashioned Bar where you'll have the opportunity to make your own "Old Fashioned" cocktail with different spices! We'll end the day with a guided hayride tour of the grounds and meet the horses that make up Hermitage farm!

Lunch is included, payment due in full at time of registration.





2025 Mystery Tour

September 29-October 9, 2025 Activity Level: 2

Per person double occupancy	Connections Members \$4269	Non-Connections Members \$4519
Per person single occupancy	Connections Members \$4969	Non-Connections Members \$5219
Per person triple occupancy	Connections Members \$4059	Non-Connections Members \$4309
Per person quad occupancy	Connections Members \$4109	Non-Connections Members \$4359

Deposit Required: \$750

Ohh my goodness 20 years of traveling to places unknown, but having the time of your life! And we believe we have done it again - we have created another great opportunity for a grand Mystery Tour! Could we travel to old places, new places, far, beyond, and in between? We can't tell much, but we can tell you this will be an adventure you won't want to miss! It's filled with excitement from start to finish!

22 Meals Included: 10 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 10 Dinners Connections Members Travel Protection Plan

Age	Single	Double/Triple/Quad
55-65	\$244.00	\$222.00
66-75	\$338.00	\$308.00
76-92	\$490.00	\$383.00

Non-Connections Members Travel Protection Plan

Age	Single	Double	Triple/Quad
55-65	\$273.00	\$244.00	\$222.00
66-75	\$378.00	\$338.00	\$308.00
76-92	\$490.00	\$490.00	\$433.00



Dial M for Murder – at the Derby Dinner Playhouse

Thursday, October 23, 2025

\$99 per person **Activity Level: 1**

This thrilling and suspenseful crime thriller unravels an elegant mystery about an ex tennis star who plots to kill his wealthy wife. Filled with surprising twists that will keep you riveted until the very end! **Buffet Lunch included. Payment due in full at time of registration.**



Fall Day at the Races

Friday, November 7, 2025

\$109 per person **Activity Level: 1**

Just like our spring day, we'll take the Motorcoach to Churchill Downs for a fun-filled day at the races. It is horse racing at its finest. We start our adventure with the "Chef's Table of Delight" for lunch. Then we will spend the entire afternoon enjoying the horse races while sitting in the comforts of Millionaires Row! You can step out onto the balcony for the race or watch on the screen right from your dining table! Reserve your seat now, as this trip sells out fast. **Buffet Lunch included. Payment due in full at time of registration.**



Adsmore... Christmas 1901: A Victorian Christmas

Tuesday, November 18, 2025

\$149 per person **Activity Level: 1**

Step back in time as we join little Katharine Garrett in celebrating her first Christmas at Adsmore in the winter of 1901. The house is aglow with the sights and sounds of this most joyous occasion and the parlor is adorned with a large tree under which are nestled Katharine's many gifts. The dining room is set for the family's Christmas dinner and the home reflects the elegance of this very special season. Afterwards we'll move on to Patti's 1880's Settlement to indulge in our very own delicious meal! Of course, you'll have time to stroll through the unique shops which by now should be decorated for Christmas! **Lunch included. Payment due in full at time of registration.**



European Christmas Markets

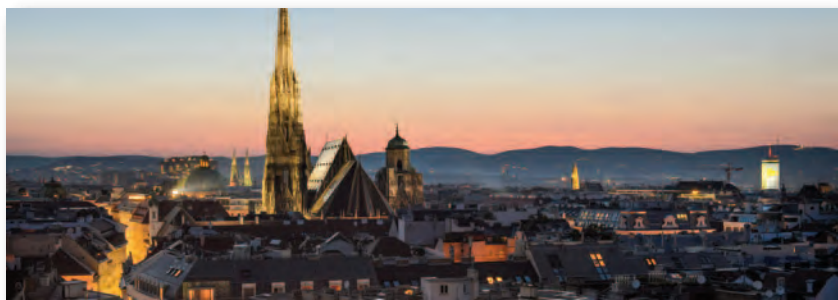
December 3-11, 2025 Activity Level: 3

\$4378 before June 4, 2025 and \$4878 after June 4th

Deposit Required: \$1,247

Set out on a grand holiday adventure through the winter wonderland of the Imperial Cities of Central Europe – Prague, Vienna and Budapest. Tour the magnificent Prague Castle and explore its famous Christmas market at the Old Town Square. Experience the world's oldest Christmas market. In Vienna learn the secrets of confectionary at a candy workshop, delight in the Baroque marvels of the Schönbrunn Palace and indulge in dinner at the famous Marchfelderhof. Travel via train from Vienna to Bratislava, Slovakia a historic gem. Experience the most famous Hungarian wine region visiting one of the best wine estates. Tour gorgeous Budapest, and explore its outdoor markets aglow with lights, where stalls of crafts and delicacies abound. Along the way, immerse yourself in festive Christmas markets, experience cultural traditions, sample local cuisine, and glimpse this region's rich history. Call Connections for a more detailed brochure.

11 Meals Included: 7 Breakfasts, 4 Dinners



Elf the Musical

– at the Derby Dinner Playhouse

Thursday, December 18, 2025

\$99 per person **Activity Level: 1**



Based on the hit movie, this modern-day holiday classic is full of humor and heart. Embrace your inner elf this holiday season and make Derby Dinner a family tradition! **Buffet Lunch included. Payment due in full at time of registration.**

The Bunco Squad is back! It's August, and Suzie thinks she is hosting a normal bunco night with this bunch, normal is never...well...normal. Join the ladies you fell in love with for another laugh-filled and heartfelt evening of fun. Bunco "newbies" welcome! Bunco Squad Rolls Again is promising to be just as fun and lively as the original Bunco Squad, you won't want to miss this! **Buffet Lunch included. Payment due in full at time of registration.**



Bunco Squad Rolls Again

– at the Derby Dinner Playhouse

Thursday, January 22, 2026

\$99 per person **Activity Level: 1**

NOLA Winter Getaway

February 23-28, 2026 **Activity Level: 2**

Per person double occupancy

Per person single occupancy

Per person triple occupancy

Per person quad occupancy

Connections Members \$2799

Connections Members \$3339

Connections Members \$2619

Connections Members \$2519

Non-Connections Members \$2999

Non-Connections Members \$3539

Non-Connections Members \$2819

Non-Connections Members \$2719

Deposit Required: 500

Immerse yourself into New Orleans as the music breathes pure sonic fire into your ears and the flavors of food delight the tongue, while every corner of the street will leave you with a new sensation. You will have the opportunity to be transported back in time to visit the quaint and beautiful architecture that the **French Quarter** has to offer, as well as time to explore the streets and check out the French Market! Experience **Mardi Gras** World, a behind-the-scenes look at what Mardi Gras has to offer. Strap in, for one wild ride as you will get the opportunity to get up close and personal with alligators on the **Airboat Swamp Tour**. Don't miss out on a hands-on class at the **New Orleans School of Cooking** where we will have the chance to prepare a classic New Orleanian dish! Then return to the glamour and romance of the riverboat era with a cruise aboard the **Paddlewheeler Creole Queen**! Sit back and relax while enjoying a Creole Buffet and lively sounds of traditional New Orleans Music along the Mississippi River! Join us for a fun adventure as you get the chance to experience the culture, art, music, nature, nightlight and delightful food that New Orleans has to offer! 11 meals included: 5 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 5 Dinners.

Connections Members Travel Protection Plan

Age	Single	Double/Triple/Quad
55-65	\$174	\$152
66-75	\$242	\$212
76+	\$332	\$280

*This above includes rates for Connections/Non Connections Members for the Double/Triple/Quad Rooms

Non Connections Members Travel Protection Plan

Age	Single (Non Connections Rate)
55-65	\$205
66-75	\$284
76+	\$383



The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee – at the Derby Dinner Playhouse

Thursday, March 12, 2026

\$99 per person **Activity Level: 1**

Six awkward spelling champions learn that winning (and losing) isn't everything. This fast-paced and wildly funny Broadway Musical is a riotous ride, complete with audience participation! **Buffet Lunch included. Payment due in full at time of registration.**



2026 Mini Mystery Tour

??????



April 1-3, 2026 **Activity Level: 2**

Per person double occupancy	Connections Members \$1089	Non-Connections Members \$1139
Per person single occupancy	Connections Members \$1269	Non-Connections Members \$1319
Per person triple occupancy	Connections Members \$1039	Non-Connections Members \$1089
Per person quad occupancy	Connections Members \$1009	Non-Connections Members \$1059

Deposit Required: \$300

Optional Travel Protection: \$103 Per Person

Come one come all, men and women- join Connections for a trip filled with excitement. What this three-day trip has in store is simply amazing! If you have never been on a mystery tour this will be the one to try. They are so much fun and you just have no clue what you might get yourself into! We'd like to tell you, but where's the fun in that!

6 Meals Included: 2 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 2 Dinners

Hairspray – at the Derby Dinner Playhouse

Thursday, April 16, 2026

\$99 per person **Activity Level: 1**



"You Can't Stop the Beat" of this Broady Musical Comedy! An award wining and joyout tribute to the 1960's piled bouffant-high with laughter, romance and deliriously tuneful songs! **Buffet Lunch included. Payment due in full at time of registration.**

Frequently Asked Questions:

Why are early deposits required?

Deposits are required to reserve space on the coach or airplane. Also, the uniqueness of some of the activities on a trip requires an early deposit to hold space. Many places now require groups to pay in full at least 60-90 days out from the trip.

What if I cancel a trip after I have put money down?

We will do everything possible to get you a refund. However, some vendors require non-refundable deposits upon booking to hold your space. Unless you have the Travel Protection Plan, at which point the carrier determines your refund based on medical documentation from your provider.

Can installment payments be made?

Yes, except on trips under \$100 or for our day trips. Overnight trips over \$100 can be paid through monthly installments, as long as the last payment is made by the final payment date.

Why are single rooms so much more expensive?

Most hotels set a price for a room. The cost of this room is then divided by the number of people in that room. Persons rooming alone will bear the entire expense.

Can there be more than 2 people to a room?

In most situations, accommodations will allow up to 4 people in a room. Pricing available upon request.

Does Connections offer a Travel Protection Plan?

Connections works very hard to offer an optional Travel Protection plan that best suits our travelers. For the past few years it's been very difficult to find a plan that would offer a flat rate per trip; instead it's based on the age of each traveler. This year, working with United Coach & Tour, we were able to find a Travel Protection plan that offers a flat rate; however, for a few of our trips the age-based plan has the better rate. Please keep in mind the Travel Protection Plans are optional, however we do encourage you to consider including the plan in order to protect your money. These plans do not include a "cancel for any reason" option, therefore; documentation will be required by the carrier for both plans should you have to cancel. **Travel Protection Plan insurance must be purchased at the time of the deposit for the trip.**

Activity Level

For each trip you will find an activity level listed. Please refer below, to the activity level to understand what it involves.

Activity Level 1 - Light & Leisurely

You're a leisurely traveler. You typically take it easy and discover the energy of a new place by people-watching or soaking in the atmosphere at a local café. You can climb at least one flight of stairs, board a coach, and walk unassisted at a relaxed pace for up to 60 minutes without difficulty. You can easily handle altitudes up to 5,000 feet.

Activity Level 2 – Moderate

You like a balanced approach to travel. Walking two to three miles over the course of a day is no problem for you. You can partake in a two-hour leisurely walking tour, covering up to two miles (with included breaks). You can handle a variety of terrains, from cobblestone streets to moderate hills with relative ease and without assistance. You can climb two flights of stairs with ease. *There may be guided walking tours on a trip of this level that cover up to a few miles over and could be on uneven terrain. You can handle altitudes up to 6,000 feet.*

Activity Level 3 – Active

You're an on-the-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

Activity Level 4 - Very Active

You're ready to seize the day, whatever it may bring. You lead an active life at home (walking, biking, and half or full day hikes are things you may enjoy) and 10,000 steps a day is normal for you. You can handle longer walking tours (more than 3 hours covering 3+ miles at a steady clip) and activities that involve traversing uneven terrain, steep slopes, standing for periods of time, and varying altitudes and temperatures. You don't mind being on the go with some early starts, late-nights, and full days. You can handle altitudes of 9,000 feet or higher with little to no issue. This level is not appropriate for travelers who use wheelchairs, walkers, and other mobility assistance devices.



Connections

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Coming in 2026

Discover Norway
Wild Wild West

Watch for an International Travel Show Coming Soon