



Discover Southwest Illinois

August 12-16, 2019

The International Trade Center at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and the Southwest Illinois Trade and Investment Council, in partnership with the State of Illinois Office of Trade and Investment, Leadership Council Southwestern Illinois and numerous regional leaders, cordially invite you to visit Southwest Illinois.

A unique opportunity awaits you in Southwest Illinois and the St. Louis Region, a national transportation hub with an abundance of resources and advantages.

Tour strategic air, rail and water transportation operations, meet with counterparts at U.S. Customs and Border Protection, representatives from the U.S. Department of Commerce, government and state officials; visit cutting edge manufacturing and distribution facilities, a nationally recognized university, learn of lucrative investment opportunities, and enjoy a special Riverboat Tour on the mighty Mississippi River, *aboard the Tom Sawyer or the Becky Thatcher*, for an up-close look at the roads, bridges, ports, facilities and infrastructure that make up the bi-state area's multimodal freight network.

Located in the center of America's freight network, Southwest Illinois and the St. Louis region represent the largest freight hub among comparatively sized Midwestern cities, totaling 210 million tons of inbound and outbound freight.

Our region is home to the third largest inland port, with positioning at the crossroads of six Class I railroads and strategic access to national interstates, international passenger and cargo airports and significant pipelines. Its logistics capabilities make it one of the most central ports in the Midwest, second only to Chicago

Southwest Illinois has experienced unprecedented economic growth over the past few years and continues to be a hot spot for development. Come learn to experience first-hand what is being said about our region:

Southwest Illinois is the Midwest's best kept secret: Gateway to the World!



Discover Southwest Illinois Proposed Tentative Agenda

August 11-16, 2018

Day 1

Delegation Arrives - St. Louis Lambert Airport
Arrival and Check-In at Hotel
Welcome Dinner.

Day 2

Breakfast at Hotel

America's Central Port - Tour and Presentations

ACP is in the center of our nation's transportation network strategically located in the heart of the U.S. on the Mississippi River. Transporting a value more than \$1.1 billion in freight annually, with six Class-I railroads, 30 miles of rail, two multi-modal harbors, warehousing, and 100 acres of development-ready land, ACP is one of the largest freight hubs in the U.S. Midwest with approximately 1,530 acres of foreign trade zone designation, serving as an asset for manufacturers across the food, fiber and energy supply chains.

Southern Illinois University Edwardsville -

Welcome Luncheon – Tour and Presentations

SIUE, a nationally recognized university, is situated on 2,660 acres of beautiful woodland atop the bluffs overlooking the natural beauty of the Mississippi River's rich bottom land. The SIUE campus is home to a diverse student body of more than 14,000.

Gateway Commerce Center – Tours and Presentations

The region's premier distribution and logistics park. Home to major companies: Walgreens, Amazon, Procter & Gamble, Hershey, Unilever, among others. Gateway Commerce Center has approximately 2,254 acres of designated foreign trade zone space.

Lakeview Commerce Center Major light industrial and logistics hub.

World Wide Technology - Tour

WWT is an award winning, privately held, integrator serving the needs of large public and private organizations around the globe, including many of the world's best-known brands.

National Great Rivers Confluence Center (to be confirmed)

Cocktail Reception and Dinner Program

Back to Hotel



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Day 3

Breakfast at Hotel

Mid America St. Louis Airport

*A public use airport co-located with Scott Air Force Base and home of **Boeing-St. Clair** and **North Bay Produce Inc.** (An international, grower-owned that handles cargo from Latin America). MidAmerica Airport can offer advanced corporate engineering and manufacturing capabilities, foreign trade zone opportunities, general aviation services, int'l/national/regional airfreight transportation and shipment/distribution, and perishable cold storage and warehouse capabilities. As a US Customs and Border Protection Port of Entry the airport hosts international air charters and is primed for scheduled international air cargo service.*

Tours: Boeing-St. Clair and North Bay Produce Inc.

Depart and Travel to Sauget

Windshield Tour: I-64/IL-255 Development Corridors

Arrive at Sauget Industrial Park

Home to over twenty light manufacturing, logistics, fabrication, processing facilities and a baseball stadium.

Windshield Tour: Sauget Industrial Park

Luncheon: "11 South"

Presentations: State of Illinois, government and county officials

Rock City Business Complex - Tour

Rock City is a subsurface business complex with approximately 6 million square feet of cost-efficient, earthquake proof, low maintenance space. This historic site was once the location of a limestone mine that has since been transformed into the nation's largest underground facility suitable for record, refrigerated, cold, food, and data storage; warehousing and distribution; maximum security depositories; light manufacturing, office space, high tech, and more.

Dinner



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Day 4

Breakfast / Hotel Check Out

Depart for St. Louis, Missouri

Customs and Border Protection (CBP) Meeting / Presentation

Special Riverboat Tour on the Mississippi River

Lunch buffet aboard

FedEx Meetings / Presentations

Depart for Memphis, Tennessee

Day 5

FedEx World Hub - Tours and Meetings (to be confirmed)

FedEx Customs Clearance Operation - Meeting /Presentation

Day 6

Depart for Lima

Discover Southwest Illinois - Sponsors



SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
EDWARDSVILLE
SCHOOL OF BUSINESS



Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity



U.S. Customs and
Border Protection





Clockwise from top left: Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, World Wide Technologies, Sauget Business Park, Mid America Airport, Gateway Commerce Center, Rock City Business Complex, America's Central Port, Gateway Arch Riverboat Cruise along the Mississippi River