

The date of preparation of this itinerary is October 18th 2021. It has been written well before 90% of 2022 race dates have been released. Hence it uses historical data and educated opinions to formulate what you are about to read. If necessary, we reserve the right to amend any or all of this itinerary as actual race dates are progressively released. Pricing may also have to be adjusted.



Any **text in orange** is a hyperlink. Please tap or click on it to watch or read more on that subject.

Day 1 – Thursday, June 23rd 2022

[Mechanicsburg, PA](#) / [Holiday Inn Express](#)

You'll fly out to the United States of America today from, what we hope by that time will once again be the united states of Australia. Your international departure airport will be the closest one to your residential base. If possible, we'll position you on flights with other tour members. A same day arrival into an American gateway airport will see you connecting with a domestic flight east to the Pennsylvanian capital of Harrisburg. Day 1 is always a long travel day in planes and airports, so it won't be until around 9.00pm this evening that you will drag a weary body into bed in your first US hotel after 22 hours on the go.

Day 2 – Friday, June 24th 2022

[Mechanicsburg, PA](#) / [Holiday Inn Express](#)

You're either going to awake around 3.00am or want to sleep until Midday. If it's not the first one, we'll wake you up for breakfast and a mid-morning departure to an all-American favourite called [Bass Pro](#). You'll be flabbergasted at the effort put in to decorate what could otherwise be a simple outdoor sporting goods store!

Lunch will be at the outstanding Hibachi Chinese Buffet next door to Bass Pro, after which we head straight to the [Eastern Museum of Motor Racing](#). A better range of speedway memorabilia you won't see on the eastern seaboard. Two hours or so will keep you well and truly occupied.

Our arrival time at each track throughout the tour varies upon the location and magnitude of the race night. Today at [Williams Grove Speedway](#) it's a 4.30pm appearance in the parking lot to get our position and to meet as many tailgating US fans as possible. It's a way of life for American sports fans and we have no doubt you will enjoy their instant friendship once they realise you are from Australia.

At all tracks we visit your ticket cost (and reserved seating if applicable) is included in your tour price. Should you want to upgrade your ticket to include a pit pass, then you are welcome to do so at your own cost.

The racing tonight is round 1 of Pennsylvania (PA) Sprintweek at a track that simply drips with history. The paper clip shaped half mile that is Williams Grove hosts Round 1 of PA Speedweek.

Day 3 – Saturday, June 25th 2022

[Mechanicsburg, PA](#) / [Holiday Inn Express](#)

Sightseeing is an integral part of our Global Speedway Tours trips. In fact, we estimate that you are only at a racetrack for 10% of the total tour time. Today is one such example when we visit the

historically important town of **Gettysburg**. It was of course the site of the bloodiest and most costly (*in terms of human lives lost*) battles of the entire Civil War in the 1860's. It is recorded that 53,000 Americans were killed by other Americans in the three days of the Gettysburg's carnage.

Lunch will be at **General Pickett's Buffet** before enjoying the optional **Gettysburg's Premier Battlefield Tours** double decker bus experience.

Without returning to the hotel, we head straight for Abbottstown, a mere "*dot on the map*" if it wasn't for the excellent **Lincoln Speedway** being hidden away there. Round 2 goes down tonight.

Day 4 – Sunday, June 26th 2022

Mechanicsburg, PA / Holiday Inn Express

An American institution that you will certainly grace the doors of on many occasions across this tour is Walmart. It just so happens that there is one a kilometre from the hotel. Not that we will make you walk, but you can if you like. If you want, the bus can ferry you to the **Mechanicsburg Walmart Supercentre** this morning for a visit.

Lunch should be taken while you are out and about this morning and a suggestion could be the Red Robin Gourmet Burger restaurant **Red Robin Gourmet Burgers** restaurant just around the corner from Walmart. Red Robin have been the PA Speedweek major sponsor for several years now and no doubt will do so again 2022. You might like to support them.

York, Pennsylvania is about 28 miles south of our hotel in Mechanicsburg. It'll take around 35 minutes to drive to the **Harley-Davidson** Assembly plant for our afternoon factory tour. The accompanying website is a little sparse in its content given that the tours have been suspended since the start of the COVID pandemic. However, they will open up again in time for us to enjoy all-new experiences in 2022. The accompanying gift shop is worth visiting too for super Harley clothing gifts.

From the Harley factory it's straight to **BAPS Motor Speedway** previously known as Susquehanna Speedway for PA Speedweek, Round 3.

Day 5 – Monday, June 27th 2022

Mechanicsburg, PA / Holiday Inn Express

Tonight, it's back to **Lincoln Speedway** for R4 and their second shot at Speedweek. Sprintcar racing on a Monday night is not a common occurrence, but when you're in the hotbed of racing that is Dutch Pennsylvania, racing any night of the week attracts enormous crowds.

But before the track, it's time to head over the picturesque Susquehanna River to Lancaster and progressively make our way into **Intercourse** with the Amish. Some of the **covered bridges of Lancaster County** are a must see and we'll do our best to visit at least two of them today. We won't spend long in Intercourse because it can be tiring, but we'll be there long enough to sample everything it has to offer.

New Oxford is an hour from Intercourse, so after a tasty late Amish lunch at **Diener's Country Restaurant** we'll find ourselves going through the gates of Lincoln Speedway about 4.30pm.

Day 6 – Tuesday, June 28th 2022

Quakertown, PA / Econo Lodge

We leave Mechanicsburg and the Holiday Inn this morning to drive further 105 miles further east to Quakertown which is one of the closer townships to **Grandview Speedway**, our destination tonight for Round 5. We'll be breaking the journey however with a stop at **Hershey** on the way through to

visit **Chocolate World** and also to take a look at (from the outside), the magnificent **Hershey Park** which boasts 13 of the biggest roller coasters you will see for a long time.

From Hershey we meander along Route 422 through Myerstown, the home of PA driver Brent Marks, before continuing to the very famous speedway town of Reading. It was here in this city where the local fairgrounds track produced some outstanding races. Local heroes and USAC champions regularly invaded Reading before it met its demise in 1979 with a shopping mall plastering itself right over the top of the fairgrounds. Then irony is that in 2020 the Fairgrounds Square mall was itself demolished and the site is now

Do yourself a favour and watch this **USAC national midget race from 1978**. It's a direct telecast by NBC Sports, so the quality of the vision is as good as the quality of the race. Even Australia gets mentioned and there is action aplenty from some enormous American names from the 1970's.

After Reading we continue on through wooded countryside that in winter would be covered in snow with several ski resorts along the way. The Econo Lodge in Quakertown sits across the road from a Walmart, so if we're early you can shop to your hearts content. This arvo will be an early arrival at Grandview as the place will be packed out. Expect a huge field of big block modifieds as the support class tonight.

Day 7 – Wednesday, June 29th 2022

Burnham, PA / Quality Inn & Suites

Today should be our most picturesque of the tour so far. Certainly, the most innovative. After leaving Quakertown, we take I-476 onto I-78 before leaving the freeway system to tackle to country roads. One of which (209) will take us past **Big Diamond Speedway**, not to watch anything but just to say we've been there!

Staying on 209 gets us to Millersburg which sits right on the mighty Susquehanna River, 464 miles long and claimed to be 300 million years old. Now guess what? There is no bridge over the Susky at Millersburg, but after having lunch with Max at his at **Grille & Sports Bar** we'll board the **Millersburg Ferry** which is just about as old as the river itself I reckon. But it's a reliable old thing as you see from the spectacular pictures on the website.

On the other side we should have time to call into the **"Winery at Hunters Valley"** for a tasting before continuing on the 43 miles to our hotel in Burnham, where we'll put our heads down for the night after returning from everybody's new favourite track **Port Royal Speedway** for Round 6. I'm sure you'll be excited to see a race at Port Royal, but your tour host will be more so. He's been there three times before but has been rained out every time!

Day 8 – Thursday, June 30th 2022

Hagerstown, MD / Sleep Inn & Suites

Our journey today takes us right through the **Tuscarora State Forest**, probably prettier in the middle of winter, but none-the-less there is still spectacular summer scenery to soak up. Hagerstown is only three hours away so you could expect to be there for lunch, so the adjacent Walmart and Premium Outlet stores will use up the time you need to wait to get access to your hotel room.

Tonight, its our final PA Speedweek race (#7) at the **Hagerstown Speedway** a true 1/2 mile red clay track with straightaways over 300 metres long and 22 metres wide.

Day 9 – Friday, July 1st 2022Cloverdale, IN / **Super 8**

PA Speedweek is over nine nights, with tonight back at Williams Grove, topped off by Port Royal again on Saturday. Given that we have already been to those two tracks, we have elected to forego these two races in favour of returning west into Indiana today and then up to "cheesehead" country in Wisconsin on Saturday.

Today will be the second longest drive of the tour at 565 miles (8 hours and 42 mins ... if we didn't stop). An early 7.00am start will see us start out on I-70, one of the most user-friendly Interstates in the country and one we'll use a lot over the next 30 odd days. We travel through an extraordinary five states today commencing in Maryland, followed by Pennsylvania (for about 20 minutes), West Virginia, Ohio and finally Indiana. There is plenty to see as we traverse the magnificent US road system. In particular I-68, a modern sweeping freeway through steep terrain for 112 miles.

One important chore that I haven't mentioned yet for passengers is that on the days when the itinerary hasn't specified where we will have lunch, it is the responsibility of a nominated passenger to select what they want for lunch, but not where. The driver will choose where to stop once we have located the selected style of food in a suitable town along the journey. Today will be a no knife and fork, eat on the run, type of lunch.

5.00pm should see us roll into Cloverdale and after checking in the hotel, we'll make the short seven mile drive to **Lincoln Park Speedway** aka Putnamville Speedway. A prettier setting for a racetrack you may never find. Tonight, USAC and MCSC combine for a co sanctioned non wing 410 sprintcar spectacular.

Day 10 – Saturday July 2nd 2022Sun Prairie, WI / **Quality Inn & Suites**

We don't get to stay in Chicago on this trip (*too many races to get to*), but today we do drive straight through the Windy City to get into Wisconsin and **Angell Park Speedway** at Sun Prairie. You'll get wonderful views of this fabulous city which sits on the magnificent Lake Michigan. As we go further north on our 346-mile drive today, we see the lake all the way until we hit Milwaukee. The truly superb **Harley-Davidson Museum** lives here, but whether we have time to do the tour depends on our progress negotiating the Chicago traffic.

Sun Prairie truly is a neat little town. Very tourist oriented, it looks to be the most unlikely place you'd ever find a speedway, but there it is nestled right in the main straight next to the fire station. It's very worthwhile reading the **history of Angell Park** and you'll then understand the reference to the firemen. **More can be found here.**



But that's for tomorrow, as tonight we make a 30-mile drive north to **Beaver Dam Raceway** which unfortunately was the scene of Jason Johnson's fatal accident in June 2018. Midgets, wingless sprintcars and Legend cars make up the program.

Day 11 – Sunday July 3rd 2022**Sun Prairie, WI / Quality Inn & Suites**

60 minutes further north from Beaver Dam is **Road America**, 640 acres of parklike grounds where for the last three days the NASCARs have been practicing for today's **Kwik Trip 250** one of their seven road course races for the year. Which means that today you have a choice of what to do.

If you are a NASCAR fan (*or even if you're not*) you might like to go with some of the group at 7.00am in the morning up to Plymouth to attend the NASCAR race at Road America. We'll do our best to get you there, but depending on the size of the group, it may be necessary for a rental car to be hired to make the drive. It will be an optional side trip so all admission costs to the race and any car rental costs will be personal. Whether you get back in time to also attend at **Angell Park** will totally depend on traffic and race end time.

Sun Prairie is essentially a suburb of Madison, the capital of Wisconsin. So the alternative plan for today is to take a drive into the city centre and wander about the city. With some luck there may be a food festival on in the square housing the incredible **State Capitol Building**. If so, enjoy the fun walking and sampling food and a couple of beers. But most of all I strongly suggest you also take a tour of the Capitol to see just how beautifully the Americans preserve their history.

Meanwhile back at Angell Park those same midgets and sprintcars are assembling in the pits ready for tonight's traditional Independence Day races. Before everything starts, suggest you make time to take a walk through the National Midget Hall of Fame and Museum that is at the track.

Day 12 – Monday July 4th 2022 - Independence Day holiday**Fond du Lac, WI / Hampton Inn**

It's unlikely that we'll get a race in tonight but never mind because you'll be looking for a break after 10 consecutive nights of racing. Besides you'll appreciate a meal where you can use a knife and fork! Before we get to enjoy that luxury though there are things to see and do. We depart Sun Prairie to keep going north, but not quite as far as Canada.

Our first stop will be at Elkhart Lake, a name you may be familiar with. To keep the auto racing connection going, it's important to drop into **Road America**. Although some of the group were there yesterday, the rest should still get the chance to see the complex which will be in clean up mode. A perfect time to call in I'd imagine. Those who attended can tell the others what they missed.

From there we will keep pushing north for another 45 miles or so until we get to Green Bay. One thing you might like to do here is to take a tour of **Lambeau Field, the home of the incredibly famous Green Bay Packers**. The merchandise shop is unreal

After Green Bay we make the 180° turn towards Lake Winnebago and tackle the western side of this 557 square kilometre freshwater lake. In winter they ice fish on it. We'd stop at the RV factory, but they've never made Winnebagos in Winnebago strangely enough. And then when we reach Oshkosh, we'd stop at the baby clothing factory, but that got moved to Bangladesh. So, we'll just keep going to the Oshkosh B'Gosh superstore if anyone wants to buy grandkid stuff.

Eventually we'll reach Fond du Lac where we'll pull up stumps for the night before heading off to **Sunset on the Water Grill & Bar** for dinner overlooking the lake.

Day 13 – Tuesday July 5th 2022**Peoria, IL / Comfort Suites**

Given some of the distances we have travelled in the last week, today is relatively mild at 271 miles, or 4.5 hours. Plus lunch that someone will have to think about.

Hope you brought a Late Model t-shirt with you because you will need one over the next three nights. Right back down in them thar southern states (*meant to be read with a drawl*) they hold the Summer Nationals about this time each year.

When it first started there were 35 races in 38 days throughout Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri. Sanctioned by the World Racing Group (*World of Outlaws*) the series quickly became known as the Hell Tour such is the toll on cars and teams. Over the next three nights we join these Outlaws on the road. Tonight at **Knox County Fair Speedway** it will be the 15th race since June 15th.

Home for the next two days will be Peoria, a classic river town on the Illinois. **The Spirit of Peoria** makes its home here and you'll often see her moored on the river awaiting its next customers.

We hit Knoxville tonight, but not Knoxville, Iowa the Sprintcar Capital of the World. This one has no motels and a population of 2,931 people, not all of whom will be race fans. But the farmers will come from miles around to watch the "stockcars" on the big half mile.

Day 14 – Wednesday July 6th 2022**Peoria, IL / Comfort Suites**

Rest day coming up. Washing, sleeping, walking, swimming in the indoor pool are all stuff you could choose to do today. Or, with a little help from the GST bus it could be exploring shops a mile or so away or the **Caterpillar Visitors Centre and Museum in Peoria**. Caterpillar have their worldwide headquarters in Peoria and bring a lot of wealth to the town.

Tonight, the Hell Tour moves to **Spoon River Speedway** 31 miles away for the Hell Tour's 16th go round for 2022.

Day 15 – Thursday July 7th 2022**Decatur, IL / Americas Best Value Inn**

A morning of nostalgia coming up when we motor into Streator, Illinois around 11.00am. If the name is not known to you, then you missed out on an era of midget / speedcar racing in Australia that will probably never be repeated. The incomparable **Bob Tattersall** made 12 consecutive trips to Australia winning "everything there was to win" and virtually becoming a national hero, such were the crowds that flocked to see him race at Rowley Park, Claremont, Brisbane's Exhibition Ground and most of all the Sydney Showground.

Bob died of cancer in 1971 leaving his wife Dee a widow for evermore. She did not marry again and still lives in the same house in Streator that she and Bob bought just before illness struck him down. Dee loves visitors to call in and we will again, to say hi and see the shrine of memories she has set up for her beloved Tat in the house.

Hopefully Dee will accept our luncheon invitation before we depart Streator after seeing the **enormous mural of him on the east wall of the Homebaker Automotive building**. The 17th Hell Tour race is on tonight at a track that is almost too small for midgets. But the Late Models find a way around the tiny 1/5th mile **Macon Speedway** as though they were made for it. Interestingly enough there is NASCAR money in Macon with **Ken Schrader, Kenny Wallace** and **Tony Stewart** as co-owners.

Day 16 – Friday July 8th 2022

Pella, IA / Baymont by Wyndham

Mark Twain must have been a clever bloke. Not just because he was a gun writer, but because he chose to grow up in **Hannibal, Missouri** right on the mighty Mississippi. We go right through Hannibal today on our way to Pella, Iowa ready for the USAC / POWRi Cornbelt Nationals, tonight and tomorrow night, at the (real) **Knoxville Raceway**.

Around about two hours after finishing breakfast we'll be rolling into Hannibal for morning tea. You'll have three options whilst here.

1. Explore **Mark Twain's Boyhood Home and Museum** \$14.00
2. Buy an ice cream at **Becky's Olde Fashioned Ice Cream Parlour** \$3.75
3. Eat your ice cream next to the Mississippi **hoping one of these goes past** Free

A mid-afternoon arrival in beautiful Pella will allow you to stretch your legs and take a look at the Dutch heritage of the town before we load up and make the 20 min drive to Knoxville via **Lake Red Rock**. Tomorrow will be a much earlier arrival in Knoxville to allow for the must do visit to the **National Sprint Car Hall of Fame & Museum** and then Dingus for those who must indulge ...

It maybe that tonight the only time we have is for the racing.

Day 17 – Saturday July 9th 2022

Pella, IA / Baymont by Wyndham

A leisurely morning perhaps allowing more sightseeing around Pella. Lunch could be in Knoxville at the **Rib Shack** adjacent to the Museum so you can just wander out from lunch and then get your fill of sprintcar history. Then of course a couple of fresh frothies in Dingus. Only to ensure our fluid levels are kept up in the heat of a summer's day.

Tonight will be a taste of non-wing and winged 410's out on the track.

Day 18 – Sunday July 10th 2022

Sioux Falls, SD / Holiday Inn Express & Suites

For years Knoxville was the furthest west we would travel on the Month of Money tour. But on the "Best of the Best" we are venturing another 300 miles towards the Pacific to visit a speedway that for quite some time lay dormant when owned by a guy who cared little for sprintcar racing. And then, the **Big Game Tree Hunter man, Tod Quiring purchased the track** and **Huset's Speedway** has been returned to its former glory.

They always race Sunday nights so without knowing exactly at the moment what's on the schedule for 10/07/22, we have included a visit to South Dakota so you can experience it for yourself. In 2021 on this same date they had 360's and 305's on the program.

Day 19 – Monday July 11th 2022

Joliet, IL / Hollywood Casino

One of the consequences of driving to South Dakota means that it makes for a long return trip to Ohio and the Brad Doty Classic. It's on at Attica tomorrow night and there is 878 miles and a different time zone between Sioux Falls and Attica. The saving grace is that we have a Monday night up our sleeve where there is no racing anywhere on the way that we would want to attend. So, we have 36 hours to do it in, along with a little sightseeing at a place that "If they build it, we will come".

It'll be an early start around 7.00am when we head off on I-90 for the first 82 miles to Jackson, Minnesota where we'll stop to take quick look at the **Jackson Motorplex** also owned by Tod Quiring.

You don't need to like baseball to watch the movie **Field of Dreams**. It's just a magic inspirational tale which shows that dreams can come true. 4.5 hours later we'll pull up at the **exact site where the movie was shot in Dyersville back in 1989**. In 2019 the Major League Baseball authorities announced that they had leased a couple of cornfields adjacent to the "movie diamond" in order to build an 8,000 seat park to let the Yankees play the White Sox in a regular season game for points in 2020. COVID took care of that idea, **but in 2021 they tried again and the match was a huge success**.

From Dyersville we take 136 to 38 and Lime City where, after an hour, we feed into I-80 and the **World's Largest Truckstop** for fuel and food before starting the final voyage of velocity and the 157 miles to Joliet. Reason for stopping in Joliet is (apart from the driver will be buggared) is that it is possible to catch the Metro (train) into Chicago if anyone wants to look around at night.

Day 20 – Tuesday July 12th 2022

Lima, OH / **Howard Johnson Hotel**

It's 275 miles today to "Stubb City", otherwise known as Findlay, Ohio where we pick him up from tonight ready for Attica. But first we call into Lima and check in to the fabulous Howard Johnson Hotel. I call it an "inside out hotel" as all the balconies face inwards overlooking the pool in the atrium inside the building. Remembering we lose an hour today, so it will be an early start again.

A lot of our journey today will be along US30 which deservedly should be as famous as Route 66. It is one of the oldest highways in America and because it has a zero as the last digit in its road number, you know that it spans the country from coast to coast. It's not an interstate freeway, but once on it you would never know that. In fact, much of the very historic Lincoln Highway is US30.

We should arrive in Lima around 2.00pm and if an early check in can be arranged it will allow us to take off again for **Attica Raceway Park** and turning up there around 4.00pm would be perfect. We will have reserved seating, but it will be a packed house and besides there will be plenty of Stubb's friends you **will need to meet and tailgate with like we did in 2019!**

The World of Outlaws are in the house tonight along with all the guns from Ohio and Pennsylvania who pay homage to Brad Doty and his benefit race. It should be a ripper.

Day 21 – Wednesday July 13th 2022

Winchester, IN / **Randolph Inn & Suites**

He first surfaced in Australia in the late 1970's when he toured with the four-man USA sedan teams which attracted magnet like crowds to all the big city tracks. One of those trips resulted in winning the legendary Marlboro Grand National at Liverpool Speedway in 1980. His first Aussie sprintcar steer appears to have been at Claremont for the Bob Trostle team on New Year's Day in 1982 followed by the Melbourne Speedbowl and Drouin in Feb 82.

We were graced with just one appearance in Sydney Parramatta City Raceway in the 1982/83 season, but his next visit to Oz was not until the 1990/91 World Series Sprintcars. Second in points (to Max Dumesny) and five wins from 16 races. And he won the Grand Annual Classic at Warrnambool in '91. Came back again for WSS in 91/92 to finish 3rd in points, with two wins.

Who are we talking about and why didn't he travel to Australia more often? Well, why not ask him yourself over lunch today in Troy, Ohio.

Yes, hosted by **2004 Sprintcar Hall of Famer Dave Argabright**, we will be lunching with **2002 Sprintcar Hall of Famer Jack Hewitt**.

This will be quite an experience I'd say and one of the highlights of the tour. We need to check out of the Howard Johnson because tonight (after Eldora) we will be checking in and staying in Winchester for the next four nights. Our hotel is co-owned by Charlie Shaw, who also owns Winchester Speedway which will be our objective on Friday morning.

After lunching with Jack, we'll head straight to **Eldora Speedway** with all your suitcases locked away in the bus. Here we'll meet up with the little fella again at what we quaintly call "Stubb Central". You'll become very familiar with this patch of turf right behind turns 3 & 4 in the massive RV and campgrounds that surround Eldora. This afternoon and again on Thursday and Friday will be spent based here while you explore the complex that is Eldora Speedway.

Stubb and his mate Jeff parallel park their caravans across three spots leaving the big gap in the middle for drinkin', meetin' and throwin' throughout the next four days. **You'll never know who just might drop in for a drink.**

Saturday of the Kings Royal it's all day here, meeting what appears to be every single person of the 25,000 strong crowd come up to say hi to Stubb and Gail. The 94th annual Petey Memorial Cornhole championship will be contested on this day so make sure you know how it works so you can enter.

To get an idea of life at Stubb Central, how well it's positioned and what cornhole is all about, please check out this 40 second video clip.

Tonight, the program is likely to be the World of Outlaws and USAC racing on the same night at the same track. Highly unusual, but a very worthwhile thing to see. Our seats will be on the front straight in the grandstand area.

Around midnight, or when Stubb allows us to leave, we'll tackle the 30 miles to Winchester and check in at the Hotel for a well-deserved sleep.

Day 22 – Thursday July 14th 2022

Winchester, IN / Randolph Inn & Suites

No organised activity is planned for today, specifically to allow you to catch up on long overdue sleep, washing and friends back home to tell them *"How much you wish they were here."*

If you did miss breakfast and / or want lunch, then consider walking across the road to **Wicks Pies - Bakery & Café**. Be careful though. They aren't meat pies, if you're hanging out for one of them. **Here's the menu to help get your mouth watering.**

At 3.00pm we'll make our way back to Eldora ready for the Historical Big One paying \$100k to win. The last time the HBO was run was back in 2003 when Daryn Pittman picked up the cash. The first winner was Jac Haudenschild in 1993 when \$100,000 was a big deal. Still is of course, but winning that much 28 years ago was very big ... and historical.

Tonight and tomorrow night we'll be in the back row of the stands beneath the corporate boxes midway between turns 3 & 4. **This is the view you'll have.**

Day 23 – Friday July 15th 2022

Winchester, IN / Randolph Inn & Suites

At 10.00am we'll be at **Winchester Speedway, the "World's fastest paved half mile"**. If it's the same as the last 10 years, we'll be met by Charlie Shaw the owner, along with Kirk Daugherty, Gary

McFarlane and Bob Lemons, his able offsiders in running the track. Bob's the historian and you'll hear all about the illustrious history and **why the banking is so steep.**

With a bit of luck, Bob may have his Nissan there to take everyone **for a couple of laps on the high banks.** This video proves **he's a good driver.**

Lunch will be in Greenville at Kathy's Restaurant, a beautiful little family restaurant with home cooked meals like meatloaf and spaghetti and meatballs!!

Then it's merchandise shopping over behind the front straight at Eldora, cornhole practice at "Stubb Central" and right arm strengthening exercises via corn boards and drinking. On track from 6.00pm is the quaintly named "Knight before the Kings Royal."

Day 24 – Saturday July 16th 2022

Winchester, IN / **Randolph Inn & Suites**

Let's assume we've had a favourable run with the rain staying away so far in the first 23 days. **But be assured it can rain at Eldora though as this video from 2015 proves.** But if it doesn't, then just remember **it can also get very dusty at Eldora, so be prepared.**

But it won't rain today and the weather will be fine from go to whoa. A midday arrival at "Stubb Central" and the first thing you will smell is the aroma of barbecued chicken with special herbs and spices from Walmart. Stubb is the cook and Gail prepares the rest for a lovely mid-afternoon lunch courtesy of Global Speedway Tours. Even the \$1 esky today is a zero dollar esky.

While waiting for the 94th annual Petey Memorial to start, you might be able **to go for a ride around the campground in this.** Just make sure though you take a drink with you because you'll be the odd one out if you don't.

Departure inside the cauldron that is Eldora is anytime you like. It's \$175,000 to win the 39th Kings Royal tonight and **this is the view you'll get from our reserved seats high up on Turn 1.**

We'll be home sometime tomorrow morning. The drive out of Eldora tonight is phenomenal. The local Ohio constabulary have this remarkable ability to send you in totally the opposite direction to where you want to go.

Day 25 – Sunday July 17th 2022

Franklin, PA / **Quality Inn & Conference Centre**

Pennsylvania is a huge state so it's not that surprising that we venture back onto the rim of it again today. We're on our way to Niagara Falls, but it just so happens that a sprintcar show is on at **Tri-City Raceway Park** in Franklin which is right in the way of getting up to where folks used to ride barrels over the edge of oblivion.

Between Winchester and Franklin lies the massive Industrial city of Pittsburgh. We could avoid it, but to do so would mean missing the wonderful sight of the Allegheny and Monongahela Rivers merging to form the massive Ohio River. We'll drive right over the top of it on classic American Iron bridges, two of a total of 446 in the city. It's Sunday, so the traffic won't be too bad

The speedway tonight has winged 410's, pro stocks, mini stocks, rush sprints and junior sprints. Grass roots racing with tons of variety.

Day 26 – Monday July 18th 2022**Niagara Falls, NY / TBA**

One of the more intriguing **facts** I came across during my research on Niagara Falls, is that 20% of the world's fresh water supply lies in the American Great Lakes of Michigan, Huron, Superior and Erie. 18,000 years ago, southern Ontario in Canada was completely covered by ice sheets, estimated at 2-3 kilometres thick. The last Ice Age.

As this ice melted for the last time, vast quantities of 'meltwater' was released into basins of land in the upper USA and southern Canada to form the Great Lakes that you will see in our travels throughout Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin. 99% of the water in these Great Lakes is called fossil water. ie. Left over from the melted ice sheets. The other 1% is renewable water from natural sources. Otherwise called, rain. Phenomenal.

The Niagara River, which created the Niagara Falls came about because of the melt. The water had to go somewhere and its natural path between the Great Lakes means that Lake Erie gets it all. Erie then has to send it further, so the 58 km long Niagara River was carved naturally to continue the flow to what is now Lake Ontario. The elevation difference between Lake Erie and Lake Ontario is 99 metres (half of which is at the Falls themselves), so it wasn't surprising that the water took this path.

So finally, you're entitled to ask what happens to the water then? From Lake Ontario it had to find its way to the Atlantic Ocean, 1,197 kms away. By itself it created the St Lawrence River, but later on mankind helped by constructing the St Lawrence Seaway which now provides shipping access to Canada and the USA

And the last fact before we move on? If all the fresh water in the Great Lakes system was spread out across the USA, it would cover the entire country to a depth of one metre.

So, with that out of the way, we are only three hours away this morning from seeing 2,271,247 litres of water flow over Horseshoe Falls every second. Our hotel will be on the Canadian side so we will need to have all our paperwork in the form of passport and vaccination proof to be able to enter Canada. Our plan is to first stop in Buffalo on the American side to ride the **Maid of the Mist**, (included in your tour price) then drive across the Rainbow Bridge into Canada.

This afternoon and tomorrow morning are allocated entirely to sightseeing Niagara Falls from the Canadian side. Those travelling on the *Best of the Best tour* are strongly encouraged to undertake your own research on what you want to see and do during this time. These two links will help.

Thirteen Top-Rated Tourist Attractions in Niagara Falls, Canada**The Niagara Falls Tourism Commission - Things to Do**

Dinner tonight will be as a group at a venue to be advised. Our hotel hasn't been decided yet either as it needs further research at this point. Unlike every other night on this tour for which hotels have already been booked and secured.

Day 27 – Tuesday July 19th 2022 Butler, PA / Comfort Inn & Suites

Midday will see us back on the road again, this time passing through a different border crossing to return to the US. Using toll roads will speed up the process significantly and if we get a good run through the authorities and traffic, around 4.00pm we'll roll into Butler, the town that will forever be remembered as "*where Trevor fell down the hill*". Just in time to check-in, get changed and head off to **Lernerville Speedway** to watch the Outlaws in the Don Martin Memorial.

Day 28 – Wednesday July 20th 2022**Indianapolis / Comfort Inn & Suites North at the Pyramids**

The last big drive of the tour is today as we turn back west again and make our way towards Indianapolis. I say towards because although we have our hotel accommodation secured in Indy for the next two nights, we don't have a race scheduled for tonight.

It may well be that somewhere rain has interfered with a race before today which has prompted the sanctioning body to shift the running of onto tonight. This happened last year when a USAC Silver Crown race popped up at Winchester Speedway. Who knows what will happen? There are hundreds of tracks between Butler and Indianapolis that we will keep an eye on!

If not, after 405 miles we'll be in Indy ready to explore this fabulous racecar-oriented city. If it's Indy, tonight's dinner will be in the **Texas Roadhouse** next to the Hotel.

Day 29 – Thursday July 21st 2022**Indianapolis / Comfort Inn & Suites North at the Pyramids**

A road trip around Indianapolis is always a good thing. There are plenty of places to see and explore such as the **Indianapolis Motor Speedway Museum** and the **VIP Track Tour** (both of which are inclusions in your tour price). Plus, the old Gasoline Alley, **Lucas Oil Raceway**, the **Indiana State Fairgrounds** (the site of the Hoosier Hundred since 1953), the suburb of **Brownsburg** where many Indycar and Drag Racing teams have their race shops.

Certainly enough to fill in a whole day, including lunch at the **Pit Stop BBQ & Grill** before finishing off at the brand new **Circle City Raceway** for a night of fun from winged 410's, midgets and micros.

Day 30 – Friday July 22nd 2022**Gas City / Best Western Plus**

The Indianapolis Motor Speedway might be the biggest sporting complex in the city, but it's certainly not the most visible. That honour belongs to **Lucas Oil Stadium, home of the Indianapolis Colts** which can be seen by absolutely everybody driving through, or into the city on the vast number of freeways that crisscross the capital of Indiana. Today we're going to get up close and personal with an 11.00am **guided tour** of this fantastic monolith. An added inclusion in your USA trip.

Following which we'll take lunch at **Shapiro's Delicatessen** where the catch cry is "**over 100 years of Jewish tradition**". Here's the **Menu - Homemade and Locally Sourced** if you're a little uncertain

Tonight marks the commencement of another long-held Indiana tradition. Especially if you love non wing 410 sprintcars. **Here's how Loudpedal Productions saw Indiana Sprint Week 2017 unfold.** (Even our own Will Liston gets a mention in the credits!) You too can be at all seven rounds by just sticking with Global Speedway Tours. Or as you will see, Indy cars and NASCAR's might entice you away from the last two rounds. Decision time is looming

Gas City Speedway is a gem and we'll need to make sure we are there early for Russell to mark off our seating in the grandstand. The Best Western Plus Hotel is not a long way from the track. At best, it might take three minutes if traffic is heavy!

Day 31 – Saturday July 23rd 2022**Gas City / Best Western Plus**

Two sleeps in this great hotel, so you can leave your gear in the room while we take off for some sightseeing. There's not necessarily a lot of things to do during the day around these parts, but the

James Dean Gallery in nearby **Fairmount** could occupy some of your time. The rest might be lunching in **Payne's British Restaurant** or the Casa Grande Mexican Restaurant or **Cracker Barrel** (*the chicken pot pie is superb*), all of which are within walking distance of the hotel front door.

Thus, allowing us plenty of time to make the 30-minute drive to **Kokomo Speedway** to get a prime position in the car park and grandstand. This joint will be packed for round 2 of Sprintweek.

PS. Betcha whoever won last night, doesn't win tonight!

Day 32 – Sunday July 24th 2022

Lawrenceburg / Comfort Inn & Suites

The caravan that consists of race cars and their haulers along with race fans and their hangovers, all make the annual pilgrimage from Kokomo to **Lawrenceburg Speedway** for Round 3 at the same time. We'll come across many of both on the 2½ drive to a track that has the highest banking of any place where you'll see racing on this tour.

We'll aim to arrive around 3.00pm so we can check-in to the hotel, rest up a bit and then make the five-minute drive to the Lawrenceburg Fairgrounds. Tailgating will definitely take place with dozens of friends made along the journey, all of whom also follow the Sprintweek trail.

If you're feeling a touch tired at this point, you deserve to be. It's race # 27 and were at day # 32. No other person outside your tour buddies can lay claim to those numbers.

Day 33 – Monday July 25th 2022

The time has come to return home to Australia for those who aren't taking the one-week tour extension. Those who do continue on will be able to complete Indiana Sprintweek. Or make the choice to forego the last two nights in favour of NASCAR Trucks at Lucas Oil Raceway on Friday night and Indy cars and Xfinity NASCARs on the road course at Indianapolis Motor Speedway on Saturday.

If you are leaving today, we will get you to Indianapolis Airport (IND) from Lawrenceburg in plenty of time to catch your connecting flights to international gateway airports in Dallas, Los Angeles or San Francisco. You'll lose tomorrow and will be home in Australia very early on Wednesday morning.

If you are staying on, please keep reading.

Indianapolis / Comfort Inn (Airport)

To cater for those leaving today, the two hour drive up from Lawrenceburg to Indianapolis will be an early one to ensure we can folks at the airport in time for their flights which will be some time after midday in all cases.

Those staying on can move into the Comfort Inn (Airport) in Plainfield shown above. We will endeavour to arrange an early check-in for you. It will be a reasonably leisurely day while we get departing tour members on their way back to Australia.

I would suggest however that tonight we dine at the adjacent **Coachman Restaurant** where a finer Rib Eye you will not get. 69 steps will then get you back to the Comfort inn car park and the \$1 esky.

Day 34 – Tuesday July 26th 2022

Indianapolis / Comfort Inn (Airport)

I'm tipping that the four **Ganassi Indycars** will still be in the race shop today, even though Saturday's race at Indianapolis Motor Speedway (IMS) is closing in. We will be getting in touch with our

contacts at Ganassi to request an appointment for a guided tour of the factory this morning. To be confirmed, but they have always been great to us in the past.

Note that the NASCARs are not housed in Indianapolis, but in Concord, North Carolina. But not for too much longer because effective November 7th 2021 the business shuts down completely having sold all NASCAR assets to Justin Marks, former partner with Kyle Larson in their sprintcar team.

Following the Ganassi tour, we'll head over to Main Street, Speedway (*yes that the name of the suburb*) for lunch at **Charlie Browns Pancake & Steak House**. You could find anyone who's anyone in here. Check out their **very old fashioned but up to date menu**.

After lunch a wander across the road to the **Speedway Indoor Karting** complex would be in order.

Afternoon tea will be at **Long's Bakery** and dinner will be somewhere else! Maybe **Big Woods** or the **Union Jack Pub**. Or just pick an old favourite like the **Golden Corral**.

Day 35 – Wednesday July 27th 2022

Terre Haute / Hampton Inn

Time to hit the road and get back to racing after two nights off. I-70 is an interstate that we have travelled frequently in recent weeks, but not the section which leads to the **Terre Haute Action Track**. If it's possible to find a dirt speedway that drips more history than this one, then I'm yet to see it. From the old-fashioned Wabash Valley Fairgrounds sign out the front, to the wooden grandstands that look capable of failing at any time, it demonstrates that auto racing has been around for a long, long time at this venue.

Indiana Sprintweek resumes with Round 4 on the half mile oval with spectators allowed to spend the whole night on the grassed infield if they want. Take your fold up chair and esky in with you. Otherwise take your chances in the grandstand ☺.

Day 36 – Thursday July 28th 2022

Terre Haute / Hampton Inn

Another day another race. Although there's not a lot we can do during the day. Pretty much a catch-up morning and afternoon, although there is a ton of stuff around the hotel to walk to and explore. If by this stage of the tour, we haven't eaten in an iHop yep, then there's one just up the road past the Starbucks (Terry). If you make it, then I suggest the Philly Cheesesteak.

In fact buy two and take the other one with you to **Lincoln Park Speedway** tonight for dinner at Round 5. Also known as Putnamville Speedway, it's not my all time favourite, but it's right up there. It is so picturesque with all the travelling RVs wedged very orderly into the grassed and heavily wooded campground.

The racetrack is a little ¼ miler which suits the non-winged cars down to the ground. Round 5. Every chance there has been five different winners so far.

Day 37 – Friday July 29th 2022

Edinburgh / Best Western

Day 38 – Saturday July 30th 2022

Edinburgh / Best Western

Decision time. Previously we had suggested that tonight and tomorrow night would be at Fairbury in Illinois for the Late Model Prairie Dirt Classic. We are prepared to reconsider our decision here if sufficient support is shown for doing so. I originally agonised over heading to Fairbury instead of doing the final two nights of Sprintweek at Bloomington and Tri-State (Haubstadt). That was difficult enough.

Now it's been made even harder by the NASCAR and Indycar organisations who have definitely confirmed the following races on these dates in 2022.

- **Friday night – NASCAR Trucks at Lucas Oil Raceway**
- **Saturday (daytime) – Indycars and Xfinity cars in the doubleheader on the Indianapolis Speedway infield road course** at 1.00pm and 4.00pm.

Going to the Trucks will mean missing Round 6 at **Bloomington Speedway**.

Going to the Indycars and Xfinity cars at Indy during the day means missing Round 7 at **Tri-State Speedway** because with a 4.00pm start at Indy for the Xfinity cars and 2½ hours to Haubstadt, you'd never make it in time. Even though Haubstadt is an hour behind Indy.

I already know there are some who want to go to the sprintcars and some who want to stay in Indianapolis. We can cater for both extremes at the same time by staying in Edinburgh at the **Best Western** and hiring a second vehicle for two days to handle each alternative.

However, if there are folks who want to do the “**Best of the Best**” tour and want to go to **Fairbury Speedway** for the **Prairie Dirt Classic** (YouTube video), then they should let Peter Physick know so we can cater for them as well.

We will adjust ticketing costs within the tour pricing once we have a clearer picture of who wants to go where.

Day 39 – Sunday July 31st 2022 **Edinburgh / Best Western**

We'll all be back together again on Sunday, so we can go as a full group to Indianapolis Speedway to attend the **Verizon 200** for NASCARS on the road course. Qualifying is at 9.05am and racing is from 1.00pm. We will make this an optional race on the itinerary. ie The ticket cost won't be included in the tour price, but we will most definitely get you there and home again.

What won't be optional is our final dirt track race at **Paragon Speedway**. Sprintcars plus everything!

Day 40 – Monday August 1st 2022

All tour vehicles will be returned to Budget at Indianapolis Airport as the group prepares to depart IND for gateway cities for their trans Pacific flights home. These will be either Dallas, Houston, Los Angeles or San Francisco. Global Speedway Tours will sort all that ticketing out for you.

Tuesday August 2nd 2022

This day mysteriously disappears, never to be seen again.

Day 41 – Wednesday August 3rd 2022

An early morning arrival in (probably) Sydney, Melbourne or Brisbane will see you at the end of your fabulous 40-day tour of the USA. Depending on what state you live in, quarantine may or may not be required for you over the next 0-14 days.

Good luck and thanks so much for travelling with Global Speedway Tours