Our Maritime Heritage



The first tour boat "BIDE-A-WEE", a Scottish Word meaning "Stay a While".

Captain Milo Beechwood Welch started the Soo Lock Tours in 1934 after many years working as a tug boat captain. Prior to starting the Soo Locks Tours, Captain Welch assisted the ships and tow-barges into the Soo Locks. He sold everything he had to fulfill his dream of sharing the wonder of the Soo Locks with others. His first tour boat was a wooden motor yacht named "BIDE-A-WEE".

Captain Welch retired the original "BIDE-A-WEE" and upgraded to a steel vessel. This boat would also be named "BIDE-A-WEE".



The third tour boat named "BIDE-A-WEE" was built by Blount Marine of Warren, Rhode Island in 1955. Blount Marine would later build two more tour boats named Holiday in 1957 and Hiawatha in 1959.

Mission Statement:

By the grace of God, we are a dedicated crew providing our guests a Great Maritime Adventure.

2022 Lock Tour Schedule

ALL DEPARTURES FROM DOCK # 1 1157 East Portage Ave.

MAY 15 – MAY 21 10:00 am 1:00 pm

MAY 22 – JUNE 12 10:00 am 1:00 pm 3:30 pm

JUNE 13 – JUNE 21

10:00 am 12:30 pm 3:00 pm

MORE DEPARTURES MAY BE ADDED DURING BUSY TIMES Call (906) 632-6301

JUNE	22 ·	-AU	IGU	IST	20
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10:00 am	11:00 am
12:30 pm	I:45 pm
3:00 pm	4:30 pm

AUGUST 21 – SEPTEMBER 2

10:00 am 1:00 pm 3:30 pm MORE DEPARTURES MAY BE ADDED DURING BUSY TIMES Call (906) 632-6301

SEPTEMBER 3 & 4 – LABOR DAY WEEKEND

10:00 am 11:30 am 12:30 pm 1:30 pm 3:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:30 pm

SEPTEMBER 5 – OCTOBER 15

10:00 am 1:00 pm 3:30 pm

MORE DEPARTURES MAY BE ADDED DURING BUSY TIMES Call (906) 632-6301

NOTICES AND DISCLAIMERS

Rain or shine (7 days a week). Tour is approximately 1 3/4 hours. We may have additional early and late departures for motor coach groups where individual passengers are welcome to sail with the groups. Call for details. Most tours include locking through both US and Canadian Locks. Unforeseen circumstances may arise where the tour will lock upbound and downbound only through the US or Canadian Locks. Schedule subject to change without notice. Company reserves the right to cancel tour for less than 15 passengers. Company does not guarantee that every tour will ride with a freighter.

ORIGINAL SOO LOCKS BOAT TOURS

Special Discount Tickets only at Dock #1, 1157 East Portage Ave. SAVE \$3 OFF Every Adult Fare SAVE \$3 OFF Each Child/Student Free Child (4 & under)

Offer valid only with purchase of one or more adult Lock Tour fare. Not valid with any other coupon offer, package ticket price, group rate or school rate. Must be presented at ticket office before purchase of tickets. Offer valid through October 15, 2022.

Valid only at Dock #1. 1157 E. Portage Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783 (906) 632-6301 • 800-432-6301 • (906) 632-1811 fax www.originalsoolocktours.com • sales@originalsoolocktours.com







LOCKS WITH US!



Join us for a true Maritime **Adventure!**

BOAT TOURS

• Enjoy a live narrated cruise on the beautiful St. Mary's River and actually "Ride Through the Soo Locks". You will experience both an up-bound and down-bound lockage through the Soo Locks.

See both U.S. and Canadian Locks.

- Cruise right alongside the giant ships!
- · Go under the International Highway Bridge
- Get a close-up view of huge hydroelectric power plants.
- · Learn the rich history of the Soo Locks and area.
- View many interesting sights on the Michigan and Ontario waterfronts.
- No Passport Needed

Get ready to wave at the Captain and crew as we cruise right along-side the giant ships. We may even get a Master Salute as we get up close.

Here's one of the thirteen 1,000 foot super freighters entering into the Poe Lock with only 2 ^{1/2} feet on either side of the giant ship.



Special Cruises

ALL DEPARTURES FROM DOCK #1 1157 East Portage Ave.

Fireworks Cruise July 1st & 4th

July 1st Canada Day See the Canadian Fireworks by boat. It's a great show!

July 4th Independence Day The American Fireworks are an absolute wonder.

The Firework Cruises depart from Dock #1 at 9:15 pm. The cruise is $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours. It does not include a Lock Tour.



"The fireworks are so close, you can almost reach out and touch them!"

Private Charters

ALL DEPARTURES FROM DOCK #1 1157 East Portage Ave.

Private Charters are available for an evening tour of the St. Mary's River, Soo Locks, or Sugar Island's Old North channel.

- Company Outings Family Reunions

Private Charters are a Great Way to enjoy an evening on the beautiful St. Mary's River. This makes for a great get-together for Convention Functions, Class Reunions, Company Outings, and Family Reunions.

Vessel & Dockside Services

- All boats are climate controlled
- All boats have snack bars and rest rooms
- All boats and dock facility are handicap accessible
- Hydrostatic cleaning of vessels and sanitizing before all cruises
- Dock Facility has easy access
- Plenty of Free Parking
- Pet kennels are available for free to guests