



**June 3, 2011**

**Minnesota River Valley  
Bus Tour  
Evaluation Compilation**

**Attendance: 46  
Evaluations Received: 40**

**Evaluation Summary:**

**I. Did this tour teach you something new about the Minnesota River Valley?**

40 Yes

0 No

That there was a road trail from L Sioux to New Ulm,  
I didn't know what sights were available along the MN River Valley.  
John LaBatte was very informative. The two at the Lower Sioux Agency were  
very informative too. 15 min. extra time at each would be nice.  
Rich history.  
For sure. Have a better appreciation for the topography of the MNR land.  
2010 at Redwood Falls.  
I had never been to Fort Ridgley.  
Some of it I have never been to and didn't know where it was.  
But could have used more time at the Lower Sioux Agency.  
I had never heard all the history before.  
The Fort Ridgley tour was very well done. John LaBatte — excellent!!  
History of Ramsey Park.  
Lower Sioux — Redwood Ferry.  
Scenic Byway interesting.  
Have driven this area many years ago, but it was nice to have things explained!  
Learned more about Redwood Falls and its history.  
History, commerce.  
Difference between Upper and Lower Sioux.  
Importance of River in settling this area.

**2. Did any part of this tour help you to understand the significance of the river valley to the U.S.-Dakota War?**

40 Yes

0 No

It teaches how the Indian War got started.  
How the (unreadable) change things.  
Especially liked learning about what the whites did to the Indians.  
The Indian way of life of the River Valley was taken away.  
Explanations/talks by guides at various sights. Repetition of names and incidents related to the war helped to cement the facts in.  
River, hills, etc.  
Most certainly. The multiple facets of the conflict recounted by J. LaBatte and Anthony, etc. at Lower Sioux were all (unreadable).  
Fort Ridgley and Lower Sioux Agency.  
That the reservation ran along the river.  
Very helpful. Learned new insights to this.  
The Lower Sioux.  
All.  
Great info for telling visitors at Flandrau State Park to see.  
Growing up in NU I have always heard bits and pieces of the history but it's good to get a more complete overview on a trip like this.  
Really gave me insight to the Conflict.  
The Lower Sioux Agency tour helped me understand the Dakota struggles.  
It gave a greater understanding of why it became a Conflict.  
Fort Ridgley — John LaBatte.  
Yes. Very much so.  
Nice explanation.  
Fort Ridgley tour. Lower Sioux Valley tour.  
Different views between the Lower Agency and Fort Ridgley.  
The value of the land in regards to settling/developing this part of U.S.

**3. Are you now encouraged to explore the Minnesota River Valley on your own?**

38 Yes

2 No

You need a guide.  
I would like to see more at the Lower Sioux Agency.  
Would like to explore more of both this river and many other "corners" of MN.  
Maybe, I used to go to the Park many years ago.  
Will return to Lower Sioux Agency and spend more time reading more of the historical accounts there. Also plan to stay in tepee at Upper Sioux Agency too!  
The host/hostess at alpaca farm were very generous and gracious with the tour group.  
Take road trip to check out more.  
I would go back to the park in Redwood Falls.  
Always without my husband.  
Our travels usually take us to the east of NU. This trip motivated me to spend more time to the west.  
Will bring family for exploring.  
Tour gave a sampling, now it's time to explore further.  
Tour other sites.

See more sites.  
Nicer to enjoy with other people.  
Tour gave us enough of a sample to learn and then to return to spots of interest.  
Back to Lower Agency.  
Many more places to check into.  
Would like to travel on rest of the Scenic Byway.

**4. Overall, did you enjoy this program?**

40 Yes

0 No

For sure.  
XXX (three yes marks).  
Needed more time at Lower Sioux Agency.

**5. Please write other comments about this program below:**

Didn't get time to see everything.  
More time at Lower Sioux — hike to river. More time at Ramsey Park.  
More time at Lower Sioux. Less time at alpaca farm. Really enjoyed Ramsey Park and the speaker. John LaBatte okay, needs more spark in his present.  
Repeat of film. Adlib more.  
One hour was not enough at Lower Sioux Agency.  
Hope the library can offer more tours like this in the future — price and convenience were great!  
The price was terrific!!  
Spend more time at Ridgley.  
Ramsey Park was unexpected delight to see.  
I learned new info about Indian life and war. I also had info that I knew brought back to mind.  
The alpaca farm was the best part of the trip.  
More time at Fort Ridgley to explore. Very good day. Informative.  
Well planned; nice indoor and outdoor options. I could have spent more time at the Lower Sioux Agency. The guides were very informative — it helped that they were Native American. I'm sure they would have had much more to share.  
This was great. More tours going west.  
At Fort Ridgley it would have been nice if John would speak up.  
Well planned!  
More time at Ramsey Park, maybe picnic lunch there.  
Needed more time at site stops.  
It is appreciated so much.  
Great tour guides — spoke well and had interesting information.  
Excellent program.

**6. Where did you hear about this program?**

Poster at public library — 21  
Word of mouth — 8  
Poster in community - 16  
Newspaper - 0  
Radio — 0  
Internet — 0  
Other — 0

## **7. Please list suggestions for future programs:**

Thank you!

Go to sod hut/stop at Riverside Park museum.

(unreadable) canoe trip on MN R. along New Ulm (start at historic site?) land at Riverside Park.

State Fair

MN Zoo

Renaissance Fair

More like this. Lower Sioux Agency was great, long time needed. Redwood Falls, didn't know so much to see; will be back to that area.

Could another section of valley toured at later date.

Sod but

Petroglyphs

Western Brown County

Lower Sioux stop had more things to see. Will have to make a return trip.

A little more time at Lower Sioux Agency would have been nice. Other stops seemed to be timed about right.

Local points are always interesting.

Gilfillan Farm and Museum

The zoo animals (would like to see more of)

Follow the MN River sips (?) of history trail

Science Museum @ the Cities

Would like more time at Fort Ridgley. Enjoyed Mayor's history of area. Maybe show Lower Sioux video on bus as some missed it today.

A bit more time to wander Redwood Falls Park/zoo/bridge. Next time or on our own — easy trip.

Very enjoyable.

Spend more time at Ramsey Park/zoo.

Visit Morton — St. Cornelia Church.