

# LOVING: Frank Lloyd Wright



**Saturday August 17<sup>th</sup> to Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT** is widely regarded as one of the greatest architects of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He certainly held this opinion himself: in fact during his lifetime he claimed to be “the greatest architect who ever lived”.

He was an American architect, interior designer, writer and educator, who designed more than 1,000 projects, which resulted in more than 500 completed works. His contribution to American culture is considered so important that no less than 17 of his buildings have been designated to be retained by the AIA (American Institute of Architects). His work includes original and innovative examples of many different building types, including offices, churches, schools, skyscrapers, hotels and museums. Wright also often designed many of the interior elements of these buildings, such as the furniture and stained glass.

Wright authored 20 books and many articles and was a popular lecturer in the US and in Europe. Even apart from his fame as an architect, his life is fascinating – his views were sometimes startling and outrageous and his personal life was complex. Despite the opinion he had of himself as a genius without any faults, he was a spendthrift, a womanizer and designed several buildings with leaking roof or bulging walls.

Testament to Wright’s fame, continuing importance and popularity, is the fact that even after his death, his designs (primarily those genuinely planned by Wright, but for some reason never actually carried out) continue to be built. While most other architect’s blueprints lie rolled and forgotten – even during their lifetime – Wright is the exception and several of his designs have been completed since his death in 1959.

In 1991 Wright was finally and “wrightfully so” recognized by the AIA as “the greatest American architect of all time”.

***Come join Margaret a trip of discovery – a journey that will expose, educate and elevate your knowledge of this great master.***

## **Itinerary:**

Day One – departing Toronto/GTA, we cross the border at Sarnia and travel to Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, for a visit/viewing of both Affleck House and the Smith House. We then continue across the state and check into our first overnight at the Fairfield Inn & Suites, Grand Rapids. A welcome dinner will follow the tour. (D)

Day Two – After breakfast, we then view the Four-star Meyer May House and the nearby Amberg House. After lunch we then arrive in the Chicago area. After checking into our hotel, the Hilton Palmer House, downtown Chicago, we will have time to grab a quick bite and then board the Architectural Boat Cruise, for an evening cruise – voted # 1 attraction in Chicago. (B)

Day Three – This day will be taken up with Frank – an in-depth tour of his home and studio in Oak Park, plus tours of the Frederick D. Robie House and the Unity Temple. This full day of Frank will be under the guidance of the Frank Lloyd Wright Trust. The remainder of the day is free for you to discover of Chicago. (L)

Day Four – We bid farewell to Chicago and head north to Racine and Milwaukee, where will have tours of the Johnson Wax Company, Wingspread and the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church, plus viewing other FLW properties. We will be spending the night at the Holiday Inn & Suites, Milwaukee (L)

Day Five – We travel to Madison, where a number of houses will be viewed, along with Monona Terrace and Unitarian Meeting House. We then check into the Hilton Garden Inn Madison West/Middleton, Wisconsin for the next two nights.(B)

Day Six – Today we discover the Spring Green area that was the background for the novel “Loving Frank”, including an in-depth tour of Taliesin including a tour of the school, house (both insides and out) and the chapel cemetery. The afternoon will end with a tour to the House on the Rock. Then returning to the Hilton Garden Inn for our last night in Wisconsin. (B, L)

Day Seven – We begin our route back to Canada. Travelling via Rockford, IL, we have the chance to visit the Laurent house, plus world-reknown Japanese Gardens. We continue on our journey, overnighing at the Hampton Inn, Kalamazoo. A farewell dinner will be included.(B,D)

Day Eight – Our day begins with an enlightening tour of the Parkwyn Village. En route to Canada, we will have the opportunity to exploring Detroit – uncovering its architectural splendor (?), after which we will then cross the border and head for our destination of Toronto. (B)

*Please note that itinerary is subject to alteration.*

## **HIGHLIGHTS:**

### ➤ **Chicago area:**

- **Oak Park Home and Studio;**
- **Frederick Robie House;**
- **Unity Temple**

### ➤ **Racine, WI area:**

- **Johnson Wax Company;**
- **Wingspread;**
- **Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church;**

### ➤ **Madison, WI area:**

- **Monona Terrace**
- **Taliesin – School and house;**
- **Unity Chapel;**
- **Unitarian Meeting House**

➤ **ALSO:**

- Affleck and Smith Houses, Bloomfield Hills, MI;
- Parkwyn Village, Kalamazoo, MI;
- May and Amberg Houses, Grand Rapids, MI;

➤ **Additional tours** - also included

- FLW Coach tour of the Chicago/Oak Park area
- Chicago Architectural Boat Tour
- The House on the Rock
- Rockford, IL – Japanese Garden
- Detroit City tour

**Your holiday package includes:**

- Return motor coach transportation
- Seven nights' accommodation
  - One night – Fairfield Inn & Suites, Grand Rapids, MI
  - Two nights – Hilton Palmer House, Chicago
  - One night – Holiday Inn & Suites, Milwaukee
  - Two nights – Hilton Garden Inn, Middleton/Madison, Wisconsin
  - One night – Hampton Inn, Kalamazoo, MI
  - Attractions/Houses listing above;
- Meals – Five breakfasts; two lunches; two dinners
- Includes all hotel taxes.

**COST:** \$ 2,299. per person/Dble. Occ. in Canadian Dollars – no HST (single occ. \$ 3,129)

A \$ 500. non-refundable deposit, per person, is due upon booking – balance is due on July 1<sup>st</sup>

**To guarantee this tour, we must have a minimum of 23 participants.**

***Deadline is July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 – after that date, the price is subject to increase.***

**Your package does not include:**

- Gratuity to Tour Director or Coach Driver
- Meals not listed above
- Items of a personal nature

**READY TO BOOK?** Simply call us and you are on your way

- ✓ Call us at: Toronto: 416-746-7199; Ottawa: 613-843-9900;  
TOLL-FREE 1-877-672-3030
- ✓ OR e-mail: hnatravel@gmail.com
- ✓ Pay by Cheque/Visa/Master Card.

*We will gladly take all your personal information; fully explain the details of the excursion and go over the pick-up points and travel requirements.*

**Please note: All travelers must have a valid/current Canadian Passport - if not Canadian, please contact the office for instructions.**

**PICK-UP INFORMATION:** this tour will originate in Toronto and the GTA and then continuing until the Windsor border. Please call to confirm your departure location.

**Travelling more than** 80 km from a scheduled pick-up? For your convenience, we will split the cost of your hotel night prior to departure – yes, we will arrange your accommodation at one of the scheduled departure locations and pay 50% of your hotel night (max \$ 50. Per room), prior to departure. Please contact the office for more information.

CANCELLATION INSURANCE AND  
OUT OF THE COUNTRY MEDICAL INSURANCE is always recommended,  
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**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE TOUR:**

**CHICAGO –OAK PARK AREA:**

**FLW Home and Studio:** Wright must have loved designing houses; he worked on more than a thousand of them. This was his first house, which he built for his family. Many alterations followed, but the more significant additions were the kitchen and playroom of 1895 and the studio of 1897 on Chicago Avenue, the commercial Street. During his life and after, there were many alterations, but the FLW Home and Studio Foundation chose 1909 as the “display” year, that was the last year that Wright used the house and studio as they were originally intended. Therefore all alterations made after 1909 have been removed. Rated 4 stars.

**Unity Temple:** Construction started in 1906 and was completed in 1908 (budget of \$ 45,000). It was built on a block surrounded by a noisy streetcar and by two train lines. It is composed of two similar, but unequal blocks –“Unity Temple” for worship and “Unity House” for social-service functions. It remains a transcendent work bound to the earth and open to the heavens. Rated 5 stars.

**Frederick D. Robie House:** Completed in 1910, the Frederick C. Robie™ House, located in Chicago’s Hyde Park neighborhood, is considered to be Frank Lloyd Wright’s most accomplished Prairie-style work. Prairie style is acknowledged as the first truly American style, characterized by dominating horizontal lines, banded rows of windows and spacious, open floor plans. F.C. Robie wanted a home that would provide beautiful vistas of the surrounding neighborhood while maintaining privacy for his family. Combined with the long, narrow size and shape, the views inspired Wright’s vision for the 9,062 square foot residence. Rated: 5 stars.

Other buildings in the area will be viewed during the FLW Coach Tour, upon arrival in Chicago.

**WISCONSIN:** Wright spent more time in this state than anywhere else: He was born here; grew up here; attended the University of Wisconsin in Madison; and was eventually buried here.

#### **MILWAUKEE/RACINE/WAUWATOSA AREA:**

**Johnson Wax Company:** This building put FLW at the forefront of commercial design. It was certainly a product of its time, with its sleek, streamlined appearance – appearing modern without being trendy. The SC Johnson Administration Building is celebrated as one of the top 25 buildings of the 20th century. From its 43 miles of Pyrex glass tubing to the dendriform columns soaring in the Great Workroom, it is truly a unique work of art that reflects that innovation and adventure that are still the spirit of SC Johnson today. Rated: 5 stars

**Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church:** was designed by architect [Frank Lloyd Wright](#) in 1956, and completed in 1962. It is listed on the [National Register of Historic Places](#). The church is one of Wright's last works; construction was completed after his death. This church designed for the Greek orthodox congregation in the suburbs of Milwaukee was one of Wright's last commissions. In the last few years of his life he completed almost seventy works, several of which illustrate his interest in the circular form. (ie Guggenheim Museum in New York City.) Wright's circular design uses two important elements from Greek Orthodox churches, the dome and the Greek cross. The shallow concrete dome (106 feet in diameter) is superimposed on a floor plan in the shape of a Greek cross; the Greek cross inscribed within a circle is a key design element in the details of the church as well. Rated: 4 stars

#### **MADISON/SPRING GREEN AREA:**

**Taliesin:** The most personal look at Wright can be found by visiting Spring Green where Wright began building his home, Taliesin®, a Welsh term meaning "Shining Brow," in 1911. This 600-acre estate, which he constantly revised until his death in 1959, represents the evolution of Wright's architectural development which spanned over seventy years.

No amount of study, reading or web surfing can substitute for an in-person visit to Taliesin. Here you'll breathe the fresh country air of Wright's Wisconsin home, take in nature's magnificent panorama, and trace the arc of Frank Lloyd Wright's creative vision.

**Also tours of the Unity Chapel (Rated: 4 stars) and Unitarian Meeting House (Rated: 3 stars)**

#### **OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS TOUR:**

**ARCHITECTURAL BOAT CRUISE:** brings Chicago's rich history of architectural development and innovation to vibrant life! Hop aboard your night sightseeing cruise at Navy Pier in Chicago and set off on your journey that takes in the three branches of the historical Chicago River. As the city skies darken, Chicago's architectural landmarks twinkle with lights, casting impressive reflections on the river as you cruise. Have your camera ready to capture illuminated sights of the city's finest buildings including the IBM Building, John Hancock Center, Wrigley Building, Aon Center, Willis Tower (Sears Tower) and more. Sights of around 40 impressive buildings are included on the route and your onboard guide will explain their features as you cruise. As well as hearing lesser-known facts about Chicago's architecture, learn about two major events that shaped the city's architectural history - the invention of balloon-frame construction and the dramatic story of Chicago's rise after the Great Fire of 1871. These pivotal events led to Chicago being known as the cradle of modern architecture. Look out for nighttime views of the skyscrapers designed by world-famous architects such as Miles van der Rohe and Helmut Jahn, and hear how Chicago's skyline has developed over the years into the impressive sight that it is today.

**The House on the Rock:** is the world's most bizarre and vast collection of stuff -- everything from scrimshaw and medieval armor to carousel horses and mechanical music machines -- and all of it may be fake. Or all of it may be real. An architectural marvel, the House on the rock is the grand vision of Alex Jordan, who believed that sights and sounds were the most effective means of stimulating he senses. The attraction has room after room of some of the world's most unique and eclectic collections which has amazed thousands of visitors each year.

For more information on Frank Lloyd Wright – please search the websites listed below:

- The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation: [www.franklloydwright.org](http://www.franklloydwright.org)
- The Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy: [www.savewright.org](http://www.savewright.org)
- Wright on the Web: a virtual look at the works of Frank Lloyd Wright: [www.delmars.com/wright](http://www.delmars.com/wright)
- PBS Frank Lloyd Wright Web site: [www.pbs.org/flw](http://www.pbs.org/flw)

***Please scroll down for a short biography on Frank Lloyd Wright***

#### **FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT – Biography:**

Frank Lloyd Wright, American architect, was a pioneer in the modern style. He is considered one of the greatest figures in 20th-century architecture. Wright was born June 8, 1867, in Richland Center, Wisconsin. When he entered the University of Wisconsin in 1884 his interest in architecture had already declared itself. The university offered no courses in his chosen field, however, and he matriculated in civil engineering and gained some practical experience by working part time on a construction project at the university. In 1887 he left school and went to Chicago, where he became a designer for the firm of Adler and Sullivan. One of the partners of this company, the American architect Louis Sullivan, had a profound influence on Wright's work. In 1893 Wright left the firm to establish his own office in Chicago.

Wright created the philosophy of "organic architecture," the central principle of which maintains that the building should develop out of its natural surroundings. From the outset he exhibited bold originality in his designs for both private and public structures and rebelled against the ornate neoclassic and Victorian styles favored by conventional architects. Wright was opposed to the mechanical imposition of preconceived styles. He believed that the architectural form must ultimately be determined in each case by the particular function of the building, its environment, and the type of materials employed in the structure. Among his fundamental contributions was the use of various building materials for their natural colors and textures, as well as for their structural characteristics. His interiors emphasize the sense of spaciousness, which derives from open planning with one room flowing into another. This concept was particularly evident in his early single-family houses, the so-called prairie houses, among them the Martin House (1904) in Buffalo, New York; the Coonley House (1908) in Riverside, Illinois; and the Robie House (1909) in Chicago.

Wright initiated many new techniques, such as the use of precast concrete blocks reinforced by steel rods. He also introduced numerous innovations, including air conditioning, indirect lighting, and panel heating. The Larkin Building in Buffalo, New York, which he designed in 1904, was the first office building to utilize air conditioning, double-glass windows, all-glass doors, and metal furniture. Among his remarkable engineering feats was the design of the huge Imperial Hotel in Tokyo, constructed to withstand earthquakes. To obtain the required flexibility, he employed cantilever construction with a foundation floating on a bed of soft mud. The building was completed in 1922, and it suffered no damage in the disastrous earthquake that occurred in the following year.

Throughout his career, architects who were more conventional than Wright opposed his unorthodox methods. Beset with personal difficulties and professional antagonisms, he passed a year of self-imposed exile (1909-10) in Europe. Upon his return, established in Taliesin (named after a 6th-century Welsh bard), the home and school he built for himself near Spring Green, Wisconsin, he began anew on a career of ever-widening achievements. Among his later works are the Millard House (1923) in Pasadena, Calif; the Kaufmann House (1937), called Fallingwater, at Bear Run, Pennsylvania (now maintained by the state and open to the public); the Johnson Wax Company Administration Building (1939) in Racine, Wisconsin; the First Unitarian Church (1947) in Madison, Wisconsin; the V. C. Morris gift shop (1950) in San Francisco; and the Price Tower (1953), a skyscraper in Bartlesville, Oklahoma. In 1959 he completed the curvilinear Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum in New York City.

Wright spent much time in writing, lecturing, and teaching. By 1908 he had originated most of the principles that are today the fundamental concepts of modern architecture. Although his early struggle against eclecticism won him the hostility of the American academicians, nevertheless his work profoundly influenced the development of contemporary architecture in the U.S. as well as in Europe. At Taliesin West (begun 1938), his winter home in Scottsdale, Arizona, Wright established a studio-workshop for apprentices who assisted him on his projects. He also founded the Taliesin Fellowship to support such efforts. His writings include *An Autobiography* (1932; revised ed. 1943), *An Organic Architecture* (1939), *Genius and the Mobocracy* (1949), and *Natural House* (1954). Wright died in Phoenix, Arizona, on April 9, 1959.

**Tour Organized by: Margaret Dailey-Plouffe of HNA TRAVELS**

*Heatherington & Associates*

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