

September 2 – St. Ignace MI

We slept late today, well not really with the time zone change. We breakfasted and made it out by 11:00 to catch the ferry to Mackinac Island. The ferry is fairly large and fast, less than 15 minutes to make the journey.



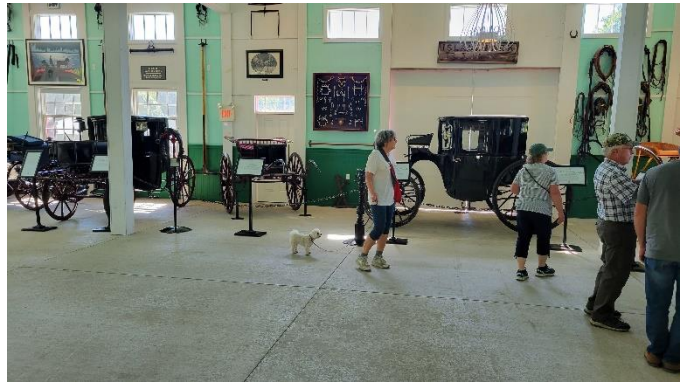
We disembarked right off main street. There were hundreds of bicycles, 16 stores selling fudge plus any sort of food, souvenirs, or other touristy items on main street. The horse drawn carriage tours were waiting for passengers, so we set out on a tour of the island.



The guide was entertaining, telling us about island trivia. The streets were amazingly clean which required many people pushing, pulling, or pedaling manure carts filled with scraped up road apples. They take great care of their horses with five veterinarians on staff while only one doctor for people on the island. There is a golf course associated with the Grand Hotel and it is the only golf course that requires a horse drawn carriage ride between holes 9 and 10. We transferred carriages on top of the hill at the museums.



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There was a stop at Arch Rock, which is crumbling, and they expect will be Rubble Rock within 20 years.



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The last stop was the Fort Mackinac. The fort is located near the top of the hill for visibility to most of the island. The fort saw only two battles but did develop a large number of marksmen because the soldiers had plenty of time to develop their skills with little else to occupy their time. The fort is well worth the stop. We had a good meal on the balcony overlooking downtown.

