

## **“ALL ABOARD FOR SPRINGTIME IN THE POCONOS”**

### **Waterfront at Silver Birches**

**May 31, 2018 (Thu)**

**Tour # 53976**

**\$125 Adult**

Price includes transportation, admission to Hawley Silk Mill, family style meal at Silver Birches and train ride on the Stourbridge Line.

Depart:	Phillipsburg, NJ - Phillipsburg Mall Rear	6:55am
	Bethlehem, PA - LVIP, 2012 Industrial Drive	7:25am
	Allentown, PA - Green Hills, 5925 Tilghman Street	7:45am
Arrive:	Hawley, PA	9:45am
	Hawley Silk Mill Tour	10:00am - 11:30am
Arrive:	Waterfront at Silver Birches - Hawley, PA	12:00pm
	Family Style Meal	12:30pm - 2:00pm
Arrive:	Honesdale, PA	2:30pm
	The Stourbridge Line Train Ride	2:45pm - 4:15pm
Depart:	Honesdale, PA	5:00pm
Approximate Return:	Lehigh Valley Area	7:00pm

### **Hawley Silk Mill**

The massive, Gothic-style structure is awesome both inside and out! The largest bluestone building in the world, it's on the National Register of Historic Places. Once a textile factory, the Silk Mill has recently undergone a 7 million dollar renovation. Take a guided tour and learn the mill's history, then browse the unique small shops on the first floor, including an art gallery, a specialty-foods market & bakery with artisanal breads and craft beers, and antique and gift shops. Outside, take a short walk to view the Paupack High Falls and rock ledges that create a breathtaking backdrop to this remarkable building.

### **Waterfront at Silver Birches**

Imagine what George and Rachel Singer thought in 1926 as they watched their farm, circa 1904, turn into a lake. By 1929 they determined that there would be a need for more tourism lodging and decided to build a fourteen bedroom inn complete with dining room and kitchen capable of serving a full house providing three meals a day. George Singer was not only a farmer and innkeeper but he also had a significant logging business in the area which was a growing concern so Rachel called upon her sister Marjorie Ehrhardt to assist with the inn. In 1943 Marjorie and George Ehrhardt purchased Silver Birches. The business continued to grow through the years and more land was acquired. The original 1904 farmhouse and barn were converted to more lodging for the sprawling resort. Before long the second Ehrhardt generation, Jerry and Alice joined the business. Alice and Jerry had three sons, Eric, Steve, and Craig. By the mid 1980's all three boys who grew up on property had completed their education with concentration in hospitality. In 1995, seeing a need to cater to large weddings and events in this beautiful setting, they further expanded the restaurant business by adding the large Waterfront Banquet Center. By 2015 three generations of Ehrhardt's had put in seventy-two years building the family business. But it was time to further evolve for the Ehrhardt's. Eric Ehrhardt and Justin Genzlinger put their heads together and devised a way for the growing Genzlinger family of businesses to acquire Ehrhardt's. With the acquisition came the passion of the Genzlinger's of historic preservation. The name of the business again became Silver Birches. The vision was to preserve the vintage lakeside resort but bring a new level of aesthetics to the property. 2016 saw a major renovation to the buildings and restaurant while preserving the original farmhouse and outbuildings but updating the restaurant, now known as The Dock. The Ehrhardt family has continued to work and consult with the Genzlinger's to enhance this beautiful gem on the shores of Wallenpaupack. Everything old is new again.

### **The Stourbridge Line in Honesdale**

Relax and enjoy the scenic drive to Honesdale, PA, the birthplace of the American Railroad and home to the Stourbridge Line Rail Excursion. Board the train and ride the rails along the scenic Lackawaxen River, through the historic town of Hawley, and through the wooded beauty of the Poconos. As you travel along the tracks, you'll learn about American's first steam locomotive operation, which took place right in Honesdale, and about the D & H Canal and the Gravity Railroad. You'll also ride past the generating station by the hydroelectric dam and waters of Lake Wallenpaupack!