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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Spectacular Scenery and Sunsets Showcased on Upper Dells Boat Tours

WISCONSIN DELLS, Wis. (April 26, 2016) – Vacationers looking for a bit of quiet in the bustling Wisconsin Dells, can get an up-close view by boat of the famous river bluff rock formations that were the earliest attraction drawing visitors to the area more than 160 years ago. An Upper Dells Boat Tour by day, or a scenic Sunset Dinner Cruise summer evenings, provide a relaxing way to see the spectacular scenery and learn about the history and geology of the sandstone cliffs that stand sentinel along the Wisconsin River where it winds through the Dells.

Upper Dells Boat Tour

The most remarkable views are found on the Upper Dells of the Wisconsin River. The waterway is broken into two sections by a dam about the midway point of the 7.5-mile stretch of the river where the bluffs are most prevalent. *Upper Dells Boat Tours* are offered from spring through early fall. The two-hour excursion winds its way up river with guides providing details about the channel, its famous rock formations, native species and the earliest settlers.

The tour also features two renowned shorelandings exclusive to Dells Boat Tours. Passengers disembark at Witches Gulch, a shady gorge that cuts deep into the river bank, a boardwalk leading the way into the extraordinary cavern. A second stop takes visitors to the famous Stand Rock, a towering rock outcropping where a trained dog jumps the five-foot gap from the main cliff, a classic photo-op for generations.

Visitors wanting to see the entire stretch of Wisconsin Dells can complete their journey on a *Lower Dells Boat Tour*, saving money by purchasing the two tours as a package. The Lower Dells features peaceful, beautiful scenery and guided narration.

Sunset Dinner Cruise

Mother Nature puts on a show nightly in the Dells as the setting sun casts a canopy of rich colors against the towering sandstone cliffs. Visitors can absorb the beauty when they steal away for a *Sunset Dinner Cruise* summer evenings beginning Sunday, May 29 of Memorial Day weekend and running through Saturday, September 10.

"People are often surprised to discover the quiet side of the Dells in the evening when our Sunset Dinner Cruise embarks; the sun-lit views are beautiful and it's just a relaxing time on the river," said Dan Gavinski, general manager of Dells Boat Tours.

The scenic nightcap excursion travels the Upper Dells and – new this year – includes an open bar for the first hour upon boarding (after that a cash bar). The excursion also features a surf n' turf meal, live musical entertainment and a stroll through a torch-lit canyon. Along the 2¹/₄-hour tour, boat pilots and guides provide some brief narration about the geology and history of the region, another great complement to the stunning scenery accentuated by the setting sun.

The surf n' turf dinner buffet is prepared by the chefs of Chula Vista Resort and includes a 5-ounce sirloin and a 5- to 6-ounce lobster tail, served with potatoes, chef's choice of market fresh vegetable, green salad and dessert. An assortment of beverages is included and a cash bar is available for cocktails during the return trip.

The relaxing sunset cruise also includes live musical serenades by well-regarded regional performers. Most evenings local crooner Dan Soma entertains guests with his diverse musical talents; singing while playing guitar and harmonica. On select nights, local favorite Mike Powers steps aboard to serenade and entertain.

Rounding out the excursion is a stop at Witches Gulch, where a torch-lit boardwalk provides the path for passengers to take a leisurely stroll into the beautiful shady gorge.

Sunset Dinner Cruises depart from the main landing building at 11 Broadway in downtown Wisconsin Dells. Tickets are \$62.50 for adults (ages 12 and older) and \$47.50 for children ages 4 to 11. Children ages three and younger are free without a meal. Reservations are required and can be made by calling (608) 254-8555, or by visiting one of the several in-area ticket booths when you arrive in Wisconsin Dells. A complete schedule can be found at <u>dellsboats.com</u>.

For more than 160 years, Dells Boat Tours have delighted travelers and are a main attraction of Wisconsin Dells. Various tour options allow for all ages and interests to have the opportunity to explore the Dells by water. The tours run on a 7½-mile stretch of the Wisconsin River giving vacationers an up-close view of the rocky cliffs that are the signature of Wisconsin Dells. To make reservations and for more information, please call (608) 254-8555, or visit www.dellsboats.com.

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