



Learning the Tricks of the Trade

Missouri LICA Winter Convention

January 25-27, 2018

Oasis Hotel & Convention Center

Springfield, MO

Special Tour - Friday, January 26

Wonders of Wildlife National Museum & Aquarium and the NRA National Sporting Arms Museum

WONDERS OF WILDLIFE NATIONAL MUSEUM & AQUARIUM

These museums are unique in both size and scope. We will explore over 1.5 miles of immersive galleries with state-of-the-art 4-D dioramas completely surrounding us with the sights, sounds and smells of the planet's most extreme wildlife habitats. It's decidedly chilly in the Arctic room, and on Sheep Mountain, the light changes every seven minutes to simulate day to night.

After admiring historic fishing boats that belonged to Ernest Hemingway, Zane Grey, and even President George W. Bush, we'll step inside a 300,000-gallon circular "open ocean" habitat teeming with underwater habitats for more than 35,000 animals, including over 800 species of sharks, rays, jellies, eels, and sport fish. We might even get to see a feeding frenzy! This marvelous museum and aquarium took over 10 years to research and construct.

NRA NATIONAL SPORTING ARMS MUSEUM

This museum traces the development and evolution of hunting arms in America from pre-colonial times to the present. We can expect to see dioramas of an early Native American hunter, Lewis and Clark, a buffalo hunter, and nearly a thousand historically significant firearms, including a comprehensive collection of 120 U.S. military pistols from 1797 through 1900.

In addition, there's a multi-million dollar collection of engraved Colt revolvers of the Old West, as well as the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Gallery which features Roosevelt guns and tells the story of TR's pioneering role in wildlife conservation efforts.

As one visitor said, "Worth a look if you're into guns or history or both. On display were guns from different eras, as well as historical artifacts from Jesse James, other outlaws, and the lawmen who either brought them in or took them down."