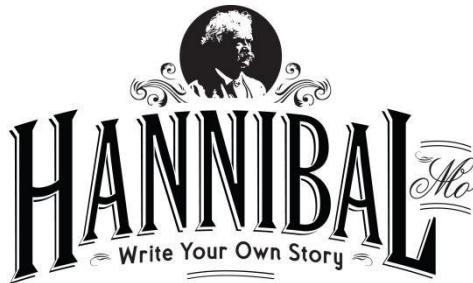


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Visitors Enjoying Fall Hannibal Fun

As the trees begin to change and requests for visitor guides are coming in faster than the leaves are falling, tourism is booming in Mark Twain's hometown.

"We had a record breaking summer and see no sign of fall slowing down", states Gail Bryant, director of the Hannibal Convention & Visitors Bureau. "The Autumn Historic Folklife Festival was huge, and this weekend's many Halloween Festival Activities promise a big crowd in Historic Downtown."

The special events are not the only thing bringing visitors to Hannibal. "We have had some great site visits from conventions and groups planning for 2018," says Bryant. "Just today we hosted a group doing a site visit for a group of over 200 people scheduled to tour Hannibal in the spring, and our staff is working hard on making sure upcoming fall conventions, which will bring in hundreds, are going smoothly."

This year has also brought a bevy of riverboat passengers during the fall. "We had 10 dockings in September and October alone. The passengers from the large passenger riverboats really add to our visitor mix, as that particular demographic is interested in history and heritage, something we have in spades, says Bryant.

The last riverboat docking for 2017 will be Sunday, October 29. The riverboats have already put in their tentative schedules for next year, with longer docking stays at the port of Hannibal.

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