



2024 Review

2025 Planning





**Public Cruises**



**Passengers**

2024	202	9,577
2023	199	9,298
2022	199	9,056

2024 Average Passenger Count = 47.41

2023 Average Passenger Count = 46.72





# Riverboat Cross + Up Sell Opportunities

2024: 2,606

Refreshments & Memorabilia

2023: 2,238 / 2022: 2,614



2024: 529

Mini-Golf add-on

2023: 518 mini-golf add-ons

NEW!



2024: 26

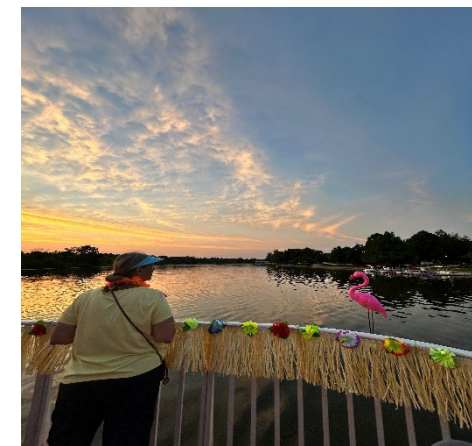
Charcuterie Board add-on's!

# Special Events

20 Specialty Cruises

- **New offerings:** Dock Side Party, Roaring Riverboat Cruise, Nature Scoops, History Sundays, Tiki Tuesday
- **Park District partnerships:** Nature Scoops & Pirate and Princess Adventure

868 Special Event Passengers  
2023: 780





# Private Charters

**96** Charters

2023: 91 / 2022: 107

Weddings, engagement parties, bridal showers, baby showers, senior outings, camp outings, birthday parties, networking events, team building, company outings, etc.

**27** Catering Orders



*"Dear Tera and Captain Steve,*

*I want to thank you both (and James too) for a fabulous evening on the Fox. The weather straightened up...oh boy did it! We had the most amazing sunset...it was like fireworks. Everyone had a great time and several people were asking me about the boat and saying that they were not aware of how nice the cruise would be. I hope we got some extra bookings for you. Anyway, I am so grateful for your help in pulling this off. Captain Steve was just wonderful. In addition to doing the captaining of the boat, he was just so welcoming and fun to talk with. More than one person told me they enjoyed talking with him. I will certainly tell others about our great experience and I want you all to know it too. Thanks again,*

*Deb Vensel and Steve (and Mark our son) Kennedy"*



# Marine Professional Development

- **Steersman Program** – Deckhand, Will Lackner is actively training and has logged 100 days toward his 100-Ton Master License. He plans to work part-time with us as a Captain once he obtains his license.
- **Internship** – This year, we were excited to welcome our first Paddlewheel Riverboat Intern, Conner Brown, from Illinois State University. He joined us for his junior-level internship, focusing on recreation and park administration.
- **Training** - Introduced Riverboat driving training for our deckhands to ensure they are fully prepared to assist the Captain in a emergency.
- **Retention** - As part of the Steersman Program, deckhands are eager to return, recognizing promising opportunities in the marine industry.



# U.S. Coast Guard

- U.S. Coast Guard Annual Inspections for the Fox River Queen & St. Charles Belle II took place on June 10th
- 2025 Annual Inspections will take place in June, 2025.
- In 2023, the USCG inspected the riverboat's electrical work and recommended updating the shore power for safety purposes, which was completed in April of this year.
- The new person-overboard ladder was also reviewed and inspected by the USCG, and it received approval.



# What else was new in 2024?



Fox River Queen  
Fence Rebuild



St. Charles II  
Belle Refresh



Live  
Speaking



Dock  
Renovation



# Looking Ahead 2025

- Leverage data on ticket buyer locations to implement targeted marketing strategies aimed at boosting daily public cruise sales.
- Contract the fabrication of a custom trailer for the St. Charles Belle II to enhance safety and streamline the processes of launching and dry docking the riverboat.
- Attract seasonal Captains by attending maritime networking events

