



New York City Metropolitan Opera: Aida

Saturday, November 19

Please note that there will be two pickup locations for this trip:

- The first at the **Springfield Museums'** State Street lot, Springfield, MA:

7:45 am – Depart from the Museums' State Street lot located across the street from the Springfield Main Library. Park in the lot and meet the bus at the curbside. *We ask participants to arrive by 7:30 am.*

- The second at the **Jewish Community Center**, Springfield, MA:

8:30 am – Depart from the Jewish Community Center parking lot. Enter the JCC from Converse Street and park in front of the Heritage Academy building on your left. Please do not park in front of the Community Center building. *We ask participants to arrive by 8:15 am.*

Guy McLain, Director of the Wood Museum of Springfield History and music historian, will provide an enlightening lecture on the composer and artistry of this popular opera. We will make one rest stop on the way.

A boxed lunch is included – menu to be announced.

11:30 am-12 noon – Estimated arrival at the Metropolitan Opera at Lincoln Center for a 12:30 pm performance of Giuseppe Verdi's Aida. The Met's monumental staging is a dazzling backdrop for the star-crossed love story set amid the clash of ancient empires.

Three commanding sopranos – Liudmyla Monastyrska, Latonia Moore, and Krassimira Stoyanova – appear in the title role, the slave girl Aida, who is secretly a princess. Ekaterina Gubanova and Violeta Urmana are the formidable Amneris, daughter of the Egyptian pharaoh, and Marco Berti is the hero Radamès, caught between them. Marco Armiliato and Daniele Rustioni conduct. Subtitles are displayed on a small seat-back screen in front of every seat.

Before the performance or during intermission, visit the Grand Tier level to see Marc Chagall's famous murals hanging on either side of the house, then take in the view of Lincoln Center Plaza from the balcony. The Met Opera gift shop is located in the north lobby. The south lobby features Met-inspired work by top contemporary artists.

Return: Immediately following the performance, meet the bus at the designated location and depart for home with an estimated return by 9 pm. We will make one rest/meal stop at the Danbury Fair Mall, Danbury, CT. Choose from a variety of dining options in their well-known food court.

Please note: cell phones must be silent in the theater.

What to bring: Water and snacks for the bus. Items may be left on the bus.