

Cognac track



John Snyder

Is that Hercule Poirot in the dining car enjoying the saged medallions of veal?

Could that handsome gent sipping a martini at the mahogany bar be James Bond?

Is this train ride through century-old oak groves and alongside bountiful vineyards an excursion on *The Orient Express*?

If it's not, it's the next best thing.

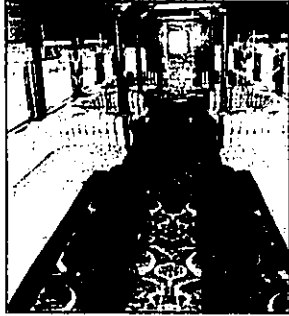
The new Wine Country Dinner Train departs Paw Paw, Michigan on an elegant journey reminiscent of the Golden Age of rail travel. The glass-domed dining car has a richly appointed decor, soft lighting and a prompt, attentive wait staff. Fresh linens, sparkling crystal, gold-rimmed china, silver dinner service and cut flowers make up a table setting that would please no less than Agatha Christie.

Even the most sophisticated European palate will find the choice of entrees appealing: poached filet of salmon with green pepper corns; scallops ala puff pastry with mushroom and white wine sauce; slow roasted Crystal Bay prime rib of beef, among others.

In harmony with the countryside, a selection of award-winning Michigan

wines are offered, along with other premium domestic and international vintages.

This return to the gracious era of dining should begin in the domed lounge car. Aperitifs and champagne are poured at the massive stand-up bar, which comes complete with a brass foot rail. Or sip an imported liqueur while luxuriating on the plush
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\$1 MILLION CAR— The dinner train lounge car, resplendent with mahogany woodwork and etched glass dividers, cost \$1 million to convert.

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HOURS:

Fri. 6-11 p.m.
Sat. Noon-10 p.m.
Sun. Noon-6 p.m.
Adults \$6.00
Children (6-12) \$2.00