



SAI PLATFORM ANNUAL EVENT 2026

Tour Summary: TOUR 1: Sustainability at scale with technology and culture 22nd - 24th June 2026



Summary

Doerksen Farms

Doerksen Farms, is a diversified and highly technified operation with a strong emphasis on diverse pulse production, including beans, lentils, chickpeas, and clover, alongside canola, wheat, hemp, and forages. This stop will highlight practical applications of precision agriculture, including 4R nutrient management, variable rate technology, irrigation strategies, and next-generation air seeding systems. It offers a grounded look at how innovation is being implemented in real time to support productivity, sustainability, and regenerative outcomes.

Chad loves working with soil, seeing it as a living, breathing organism that demands care and attention to sustain his family and grow strong plants. A tablespoon of his soil sustains over 6 billion organisms, working together. With full time agrologists on staff monitoring and measuring every aspect of production, Chad ensures the sustainability of his operation and that land that enables it.

Riverbend Hutterite Colony

Riverbend Hutterite Colony is where tradition and innovation operate side by side. As one of Saskatchewan's larger and more progressive colonies, Riverbend demonstrates how a highly coordinated, community-based model can deliver scale, sustainability and continuous reinvestment. Participants will see how modern technology integrates into daily operations, while also experiencing the colony's value-added capabilities firsthand.

University of Saskatchewan Crop Development Centre (CDC)

Next stop is the University of Saskatchewan Crop Development Centre, Canada's leading academic institute for crop improvement. Set against the iconic architecture of the University of Saskatchewan campus, participants will hear directly from leading plant breeders and gain insight into how crops are developed for prairie conditions. The CDC has played a foundational role in establishing pulse crops across Western Canada, alongside major advancements in wheat, barley, oats, and durum. Sustainable agriculture in the Prairies is made possible through genetic advancements aligned with modern agriculture.

Website: cdc.usask.ca

Summary

Black Fox Farm & Distillery

As the final stop for all tour paths, Black Fox Farm & Distillery stands as Saskatchewan's premier estate distillery, internationally recognized for crafting luxury Canadian gin and whisky. Founded by fifth-generation farmers and celebrated as recipients of Canada's Outstanding Young Farmers award, Black Fox is built on a profound connection to the soil and a deep respect for agricultural heritage. Operating across 160 acres of pristine prairie, 95% of the ingredients used in their spirits are grown directly on-site.

The distillery leverages Saskatchewan's dramatic climate and temperature fluctuations to rest and age its spirits under open prairie skies, giving them a distinctively bold flavor profile. Beyond world-class flavor, Black Fox is an industry leader in sustainability and environmental stewardship. The operation champions eco-friendly practices by reusing nearly 95% of its process water, composting 100% of spent grains back into their orchards, and prioritizing green energy to minimize its environmental footprint.

Website: blackfoxfarmanddistillery.com

Day Itinerary

Arrival and departure times are approximate based on weather, traffic and road conditions. Bus loading time is limited to 15 minutes. Tour stream buses will be leaving Black Box Distillery at different intervals should anyone want to leave earlier or stay later.

6:30 am - 7:30 am	Breakfast at Delta Hotels Saskatoon Downtown
7:45 am	Load Bus from Delta Hotels Saskatoon Downtown
8:00 am	Depart from Delta Hotels Saskatoon Downtown
8:45 am	Arrive at Doerksen Farms
10:00 am	Begin loading bus
10:15 am	Depart Doerksen Farms
11:15 am	Arrive at Riverbend Hutterite Colony
2:00 pm	Begin loading bus
2:15 pm	Depart Riverbend Hutterite Colony
3:30 pm	Arrive at the University of Saskatchewan Crop Development Centre (CDC)
4:15 pm	Depart from the University of Saskatchewan Crop Development Centre (CDC)
4:45 pm	Arrive at Black Fox Farm & Distillery
5:00 pm	Welcome from Black Fox and Networking
6:00 pm	Depart Black Fox Farm
6:30 pm	Arrive back Delta Hotels Saskatoon Downtown