



SPRINGTIME IN THE HISTORIC “DEEP SOUTH” VICKSBURG, NATCHEZ, NEW ORLEANS



Saturday, March 20 – Saturday, March 27, 2010

8 Days – 7 Nights

COST: \$1,198.00 per person (Dble. Occup.)

Deposit Due: \$100.00 per person

Final Payment Due: February 3, 2010

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Roundtrip motor coach transportation, fully equipped.
- 7 Nights accommodations include:
 - * 1 Night: Drury Inn & Suites in Bowling Green, Ky.
 - * 1 Night: Hampton Inn & Suites in Vicksburg, Ms.
 - * 1 Night: Grand Hotel in Natchez, Ms.
 - * 2 Nights: La Quinta Inn & Suites in New Orleans
 - * 1 Night: Drury Inn & Suites in Montgomery, Al.
 - * 1 Night: Drury Inn & Suites in Bowling Green, Ky.
- 13 Meals Include:
 - 7 Breakfasts
 - Dinner at Rowdy's Catfish in Vicksburg
 - Dinner in Natchez overlooking the Mississippi River
 - Lunch at the Greenwood Plantation.
 - Dinner Cruise on the Steamboat Natchez on the Mississippi River in New Orleans
 - Private Demonstration Dinner Class at the New Orleans School of Cooking in New Orleans.
 - Lunch in the French Quarter in New Orleans
- * Tours and admissions include:
 - * Locally guided tour of Vicksburg National Military Park.
 - * Tour the Montaigne, the Oakland, and the Lansdowne Mansions during the Spring Pilgrimage in Natchez. Azaleas, daffodils, and dogwood bring an abundance of color on this beautiful tour.
 - * Seating for the Historic Natchez Pageant, recreating the romanticized eras of old.
 - * Enjoy the Delta Music Tour at Frogmore Cotton Plantation – take a journey of the south through Song, seated in a rare 1800's plantation church with original pews with singing & narration that relates the trials and triumphs of life on a plantation.
 - * Tour Greenwood Plantation with its impressive Greek Revival-style mansion and live oaks draped with Spanish moss.
 - * Enjoy a day of touring in fabulous New Orleans. Visit the famous French Quarter, see the stately homes of the Garden District and view some of the areas hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina visit one of the New Orleans above ground cemeteries and much more.
 - * Evening cruise aboard the authentic Steamboat Natchez up the Mighty Mississippi River
 - * Swamp tour on the Pearl River at Dr. Wagner's Honey Island Swamp Tour.
 - * Visit the Battleship USS Alabama in Mobile
 - * City tour of Montgomery – learn about this former Capitol of the Confederacy and the City where the civil rights movement was started by a young Rev. Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks.
 - Travel on the Natchez Trace Parkway.
 - All baggage handling and taxes of those items listed above and completely escorted.



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TENTATIVE ITINERARY

Saturday, March 20/ Day 1: With our group together we depart Michigan. Rest and meal stops will be made along our route. Our destination today is Nashville, Tn.

Sunday, March 21 / Day 2: After breakfast we are on our way. Our travels today take us to Vicksburg, Mississippi. Vicksburg's location on the Mississippi River was of such strategic importance during the Civil War that the city was called the Gibraltar of the Confederacy. Still a trade center, Vicksburg offers history, industry, science and the arts. After checking into our Hotel we enjoy dinner at a local favorite – Rowdy's Catfish.. (B,D)

Monday, March 22 / Day 3: After breakfast we pick up our historical guide for a tour of the Vicksburg Military Park – one of the most renowned Civil War sites in the country!

Afterwards we travel on the Natchez Trace Parkway. The trace was instrumental in linking the lower Mississippi and southern Ohio River Valleys. After lunch we begin our Spring Pilgrimage Tour of Natchez and some of the most beautiful antebellum mansions. We will tour through the Montaigne, the Oakland and the Lansdowne Mansions.

Once settled into our hotel we transfer for dinner overlooking the Mississippi River. Afterwards we enjoy the beautiful Historic Natchez Pageant recreating the romanticized eras of old. (B, L, D)

Tuesday, March 23/ Day 4: On our way to Frogmore Plantation – find your seat in the original pews of an 1800's plantation church for an unforgettable musical adventure! Our Delta Music Tour of Frogmore Plantation – features outstanding vocalists and historical narration that will give you a glimpse of plantation life.

Lunch today will be at the impressive Greenwood Plantation, a Greek Revival mansion set among live oaks draped with Spanish moss, is considered to be the South's finest example of classic colonial architecture. You'll explore this magnificent home's rich past and its original builder's prominent role in Louisiana history.

We'll continue on the New Orleans, home for the next two nights. After checking into our hotel, we drive to the shores of the Mississippi River to savor the beauty and romance of New Orleans skyline aboard the Dinner/Jazz Cruise on the authentic Steamboat Natchez. (B, L, D)

Wednesday, March 24/ Day 5: After breakfast we are greeted by our local guide for a fabulous New Orleans Tour. Visit the famous French Quarter, see the stately homes of the Garden District see the majestic St. Louis Cathedral, one of the city's most recognizable landmarks and view some of the areas hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina. Enjoy a lunch in the French Quarter with time to browse this unique area at your leisure.

This evening we enjoy a delectable dinner and cooking demonstration at the world-famous New Orleans School of Cooking. (B, L, D)

Thursday, March 25/Day 6: After breakfast we are on our way. The first stop today will be in St. Tammany Parish to experience a swamp tour on the Pearl River at Dr. Wagner's Honey Island Swamp Tour. This pristine swamp is one of the least altered river swamps in the country. Observe the majestic cypress trees, watch alligators and various other wildlife and listen to the local guide's narratives about life in the swamps. Afterwards we will cross over into Alabama and a visit to the USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park. Once onboard, you can enter gun turrets, view crew's quarters, sick bay, an engine room and much more.

Our overnight stay is in Montgomery, Alabama. (B)

Friday, March 26/Day 7: After breakfast we meet a local Montgomery guide for a city tour. Learn about this former Capitol of the Confederacy and the city where the civil rights movement was started by a young Rev. Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks and listen to stories about former residents Governor Gorge Wallace, Hank Williams, and Zelda and F. Scott Fitzgerald. Afterwards we travel to Bowling Green, Kentucky, our last night on the road. (B)

Saturday, March 27/Day 8: Our last travel day – Memories to last a lifetime....