

12 DAYS DEEP SOUTH AND DELTA BLUES

DESTINATIONS

—

ATLANTA


TOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1

Destination	Atlanta
Meals included	
Accommodation	N/A


Welcome to Atlanta and the Southern state of Georgia! Today is free for you to explore before an evening welcome meeting at 18:00 hrs in your hotel. A self-guided walking tour of downtown Atlanta is highly recommended and if you fancy a bite of Southern cuisine, stop by Empire State South.

DAY 2

Destination	Atlanta  Birmingham
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Head west into Alabama and to the state's largest city - Birmingham. This city was the primary site of the Civil Rights Movement and where Dr Martin Luther King Jr. began his campaign of civil disobedience. We recommend a visit to the Civil Rights Institute for an excellent introduction to the region's volatile history as you start your journey through the Deep South of the USA.

DAY 3

Destination	Birmingham  New Orleans
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Welcome to the cultural melting pot of the Deep South, New Orleans. Otherwise known as the 'Big Easy', the eclectic mix of European, Creole and Cajun culture manifests in every aspect of the architecture, cuisine and musical scene. Take in the sights and sounds of Bourbon Street, relax in the Garden District and absorb the ambience of the French Quarter, known also as 'The Quarter'. Founded by French traders in 1718, there are many layers of history in this city, and all its many attractions combined make it one of the most visited cities in the USA.

DAY 4

Destination	New Orleans
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Step back in time to when life was gracefully slow and enjoy an included Mississippi riverboat dinner cruise, dining on delicious local cuisine that is directly influenced by the myriad of cultures that together make up Louisiana.

DAY 5

Destination	New Orleans
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Evenings in New Orleans will be easily spent as there is plenty to do, not least of all continuing your indulgence and

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TOUR ITINERARY

appreciation of American music by enjoying some of the many live performances that take place nightly in this vibrant city. This includes the famous Preservation Hall where top-drawer jazz musicians play every evening to a small audience in an intimate space - but be prepared to queue! There will also be the chance to step out of the city and explore the wild river swamplands of Louisiana, where you can head out by boat beneath the cypress trees in search of wildlife.

DAY 6

Destination	New Orleans 🚗 Houmas House Plantation 🚗 Natchez
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

This morning we visit Houmas House Plantation and Gardens. This antebellum estate was completed in 1828 and with 38 lush acres of gardens, ponds and a majestic live oak alley, Houma makes for a wonderful stop. Next you follow the river road north to the very first established settlement on the Mississippi River. The original capital of the Mississippi Territory, Natchez, was at the heart of the slave trade and is the birthplace of the Mississippi riverboat. We recommend a self-guided walking tour through the streets of Natchez' historic district with over 50 antebellum homes and historic churches. Also worthy of a visit is the 'Under the Hill' area made famous by Mark Twain, or discover one of the most interesting cemeteries in the South.

DAY 7

Destination	Natchez 🚗 Clarksdale
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Next up is Clarksdale and the Hopson Plantation, which is the former home of legendary blues pianist Pinetop Perkins. It is also where they tested the International Harvester automated cotton picker. Your leader will give you some history including the system of sharecropping and the evolution of the cotton industry. Clarksdale is also home to the infamous 'Crossroads', where legend has it that blues musician Robert Johnson sold his soul to the devil. Within the town itself you'll find the Delta Blues Museum, a literal blues shrine of artefacts and memorabilia, as well as actor Morgan Freeman's Ground Zero Blues Club. Red's is definitely worth a visit for live music - an authentic 'juke joint' where you'll be transported to the real heart of the South!

DAY 8

Destination	Clarksdale 🚗 Memphis
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

Today we cross into Tennessee. Located near the Mississippi River, Memphis has a long and colourful past. Legendary forefathers such as Louis Armstrong, Muddy Waters and the late B.B. King helped to put Beale Street on the musical map. A highlight of your stay in Memphis is an included excursion to Graceland, the home of Elvis Presley, who influenced country, blues and rock 'n' roll music.

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DAY 9

Destination	Memphis
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

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DAY 10

Destination	Memphis 🗽 Nashville
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

We make our way to Nashville today - the undisputed capital of country music. Home to the Country Music Hall of Fame and the famous Wildhorse Saloon, Nashville offers the perfect opportunity to try some line dancing (select nights only). Broadway is lined with honky-tonks and intimate live music venues playing not only country, but all genres of music.

DAY 11

Destination	Nashville
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

As well as its indelible country music links, Nashville is also the capital of Tennessee and the state's second largest city after Memphis. Situated on the banks of the Cumberland River it was established as a major river port by settlers in 1779. Our time in Nashville is free for you to indulge in your choice of the many music and entertainment options available (entrance fees apply). The Grand Ole Opry is the world's longest running radio show and a recommended highlight. You can enjoy performances at the famous Grand Ole Opry House located 24 km east of the city. Book before you arrive to avoid missing out as these shows are popular!

DAY 12

Destination	Nashville 🗽 Atlanta
Meals included	Breakfast
Accommodation	N/A

We make our way back to Atlanta today. There is the option of stopping at Lynchburg to pay homage to Tennessee's most famous drink! Enjoy a tour of the Jack Daniel's Whiskey Distillery and a serving of Southern hospitality.

Our tour of the Deep South ends in the modern day metropolis of Atlanta, known as the New York of the South. If you're staying on be sure to stop by Glady's Knight's famous Chicken and Waffles restaurant.

This tour ends at our gateway hotel at approximately 17:00 hrs. We can book your post-tour accommodation at our gateway hotel if required. If you are planning to fly tonight, please do not book a flight that departs before 21:00 hrs.

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TOUR ITINERARY

Inclusions

WHATS INCLUDED

All accommodation
11 breakfasts and 1 dinner
All transport and listed activities
Tour leader throughout
Travel by private minibus
10 nights hotel and 1 night in a historic property
Visit Houmas House Plantation and Gardens
Mississippi riverboat dinner cruise
Two nights in Memphis plus Elvis' Graceland Mansion and Beale Street
nightlife
Three nights in New Orleans and Bourbon Street's colourful music
scene
Two nights in Nashville - the country music capital
Cajun culture and cuisine
Superior twin share accommodation
Sightseeing and transportation as per the itinerary

Fine Print

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TOUR ITINERARY

HOW TO BOOK & PAYMENTS

Deposit & Payments

Book now and secure your package with only a \$600 deposit per person.

Pay a 2nd instalment of \$1054 per person within 28 days.

You will then be invoiced for final payment 90 days prior to departure.

Booking Process

Select the purple 'Reserve Your Seat' tab to begin your booking (you must 'Sign Up' first by entering your email and creating a password)

Then select the purple 'Book now' tab of the tour you have selected

Select your Departure Date, Departure City, Number of Passengers, Room Configuration, any Upgrade Options, and enter any Special Requests

Click the purple 'Proceed to Secure Checkout' tab

Enter your credit card or PayPal details to secure your deposit/payment. You may also pay via BPAY (not available within 70 days of departure)

Once your order is complete, you will be prompted to complete a Booking Form so that we can fulfil your booking

Your position on the tour will be confirmed within 48 hours of completing your order. If your place cannot be confirmed, a full refund of the deposit will occur

TOUR ITINERARY

OPTIONAL TOURS

Day 1:

Atlanta History Centre US\$17

Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site US\$free

Atlanta Botanical Garden US\$19

Day 2:

Civil Rights Institute in Birmingham, Alabama US\$12

Day 3/4/5:

Alligator swamp tour, New Orleans US\$23-\$40

Mardi Gras World in New Orleans US\$20

New Orleans Voodoo and Graveyard tour US\$20

New Orleans Preservation Hall US\$15-\$20

New Orleans jazz clubs US\$10-\$20

Scandalous Cocktail history tour US\$25

Day 6:

Antebellum mansions, Natchez US\$12-\$25

Day 7:

Delta Blues Museum in Clarksdale US\$10

Ground Zero Blues Club, Clarksdale US\$8

Day 8/9:

Civil Rights Museum in Memphis US\$16

Sun Studio in Memphis US\$14

Stax Museum of American Soul Music, Memphis US\$13 (closed Mondays)

Gibson guitar factory tour, Memphis US\$10

Day 10/11:

Grand Ole Opry US\$32-\$90

Ryman Auditorium tour US\$22-\$35

Country Music Hall of Fame US\$25-\$40

Johnny Cash Museum US\$19

Day 12:

Jack Daniel's Whiskey Distillery US\$17-22

EXCLUSIONS

International Airfares

Personal Expenses

Travel Insurance

Optional activities

Anything not mentioned in the itinerary or optional

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TOUR ITINERARY

HOTEL LIST

Atlanta - Country Inn & Suites Atlanta Airport South
Birmingham - Drury Inn & Suites Birmingham Grand View
New Orleans - The Whitney Hotel
Natchez - The Guest House Natchez
Clarksdale - Hampton Inn Clarksdale
Memphis - Crowne Plaza Memphis Downtown
Nashville - The Capitol Hotel Downtown Nashville

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Accommodation

The accommodation listed is subject to change. Any changes will be of an equal or higher standard. Bedding configurations (double or twin) are requests only. All efforts will be made to meet your preferences, however, any changes are beyond our control.

Single Supplement

A single supplement is available on all nights of this trip from an extra \$1935 subject to availability.

Triple Share

Not available.

Children

Children must be 5 years old or over and share a room with parents at all times. Children are charged the same price as adults.

Tour Documentation

Final documentation will be provided approximately 30 days prior to travel.