

SOUTHERN CAJUN COUNTRY TOUR

Nashville, TN ~ New Orleans, LA (2 nights)

Natchez, MS ~ Memphis, TN

March 25-April 3, 2020 • 10 Days

Motorcoach Tours across the U.S. & Canada

PRICE INCLUDES:

- Motorcoach Transportation
- Hotel Accommodations
- Utopia Tours Tour Director
- Baggage Handling (1 bag p.p.)
- 9 Breakfasts / 6 Meals
- Oglesby, IL
- Nashville, TN
 - General Jackson Showboat with *Dinner & Entertainment*
- New Orleans, LA
 - Bourbon Street & Jackson Square
 - Guided City Tour
 - Steamboat Natchez *Dinner Jazz Cruise*
- Oak Alley Plantation
 - Tour & Lunch
- Natchez, MS
 - Guided Tour of Antebellum Home & Garden with included *Lunch* at the Carriage House
- Vicksburg, MS
 - Vicksburg National Military Park, Cemetery, & Visitors Center
- Memphis, TN
 - Graceland Complex
 - Tour Mansion & Airplanes
 - Beale Street
- Branson, MO
 - Dinner
 - Curling Vine Winery Tour & Tasting
 - Show (tba)
- Des Moines, IA (Drury Inn)
 - Kick Back meal

STATES VISITED on this tour:

MN-WI-IL-KY-TN-AL-MS-LA-AR-MO-IA

PRICE PER PERSON

Double Occupancy\$1,950
Triple Occupancy.....\$1,920
Quad Occupancy\$1,890
Single Occupancy\$2,699
DEPOSIT: \$200 p.p. (due upon sign-up)
FINAL PAYMENT DUE: Feb. 12, 2020

**Early Bird Discount \$50 per person
if you pay the deposit by 1/2/20**

**discounts to be deducted from final payment*

Trip Cancellation & Interruption Insurance available.
Ask us for details or see our website.

Wed., March 25: Oglesby, IL Utopia Tours is taking you down south for some sun and fun! Venturing through Nashville to New Orleans, then back home through Natchez, Vicksburg, Memphis & Branson. Today we travel to **Oglesby, IL**, with meal and comfort stops along the way as we get to know our fellow travel companions.

Thurs., March 26: Nashville, TN (B, D) Today we travel through Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky, on our way to **Nashville, TN**, known as *MUSIC CITY, USA*. Upon arrival we will check into our lodging. This evening we board the **General Jackson Showboat**, with **dinner and entertainment** included as we cruise on down the Cumberland River. Then return to our hotel for the night.



Fri., March 27: New Orleans, LA (B) A driving day takes us to the "Big Easy," **New Orleans, LA**, is our destination today. We will check into our lodging for a **2-night stay** with a free evening tonight to explore **Bourbon Street and Jackson Square**, and enjoy a meal in one of their many fine restaurants.

Sat., March 28: New Orleans, LA (B, D) **New Orleans** is a place like no other in the United States, and is where you can find history, fine foods, and great architecture. A **local guide** will join us for a **city tour** which will include seeing the Garden District and beautiful homes and other sights as the guide expertly shares the atmosphere of the New Orleans style. After the tour we go to the **Jackson Square** area, where General Jackson sits forever on his bronze horse. After the tour enjoy lunch and some free time to visit the New Orleans Aquarium, see the D-Day Museum, and just stroll the streets of the French Quarter and Bourbon Street. Be sure to try a beignet (pronounced ben-yay) while here. Tonight relax during our 2-hour **Dinner Jazz Cruise** aboard the **Steamboat Natchez** paddlewheel boat. Enjoy a buffet-style meal and live music while you savor the beauty and romance of New Orleans as we cruise down the Mississippi.



Sun, March 29: Natchez, MS (B, L) Leaving New Orleans we will go to Vacherie, LA, and then on to the **Oak Alley Plantation** home. Oak Alley is known for its 300-year old Oak Trees and is known as the "Grande Dame of the River Road." We will **tour the Big House and historic grounds**, followed by a delicious **included lunch**. Then on to **Natchez, MS**, for the night.

(B=Breakfast; L=Lunch; D=Dinner included that day)

Mon., March 30: Vicksburg, MS (B, L) **Natchez, MS**, is a river port city, first known for cotton growing and later for the discovery of oil. The word Antebellum means "before the Civil War." The Spring Pilgrimage is going on while we are in Natchez. A **local guide** will take us to an **Antebellum home and garden** here in Natchez this morning. **Lunch is included at the Carriage House**. Then head to **Vicksburg, MS**, where upon arrival we will tour **Vicksburg National Military Park, Cemetery, and Visitor's Center**. This is a **self-guided 16-mile tour** that parallels Union and Confederate siege lines. After the tour we will check into our lodging, and enjoy an evening on our own here in **Vicksburg, MS**.



Tues., March 31: Memphis, TN (B) From Vicksburg we continue enjoying that southern hospitality as we travel to **Memphis, TN-Home of the Blues**, located on the Mississippi River. Here we will go to the legendary **Graceland**, Elvis Presley's mansion, to see the exuberant life-style of the "King of Rock 'n Roll." Graceland has recently gone through a massive \$137 million expansion and now has an entertainment complex with new exhibits, museums, and performance space behind Graceland Plaza. We've included a **tour** of the **Graceland Mansion and Elvis' airplanes**. The Mansion tour includes his living room, his parents' room, the kitchen, TV room, pool room, the famous Jungle Room, his father's office, the newly-enhanced Trophy Building, the Racquetball Building, and the Meditation Garden. Then step aboard his customized **airplanes** to see how he traveled in luxury including gold-plated seatbelts and leather-covered tables. We then check into our lodging, before going to **Beale Street** for a meal on your own.



Wed., April 1: Branson, MO (B, D) Departing Memphis we will head Northwest through Arkansas to **Branson, MO**, with a lunch stop along the way. In Branson we will stop at the **Curling Vine Winery** before checking into our hotel. This evening **dinner** is included prior to a fun Branson **show** (tba).

Thurs., April 2: Des Moines, IA (B, D) We roll on through the Missouri countryside and make our way to **Des Moines, IA**, for the night. After the complimentary **Kick Back** meal, the rest of the evening is yours to enjoy on your own or with your fellow traveling companions.

Fri., April 3: Home (B) Returning home today, making comfort and meal stops along the way. We'll arrive early evening and bring you to your drop-off points. Thank you for traveling with Utopia Tours.

Utopia Tours & Alex Travel

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TO SIGN-UP:

•Visit us at our office •Call us •Use form on our website •Use form from office

DEPOSIT: \$200 p.p. due upon sign-up.
FINAL PAYMENT: Due by 2/12/20.

Payment by cash or check is preferred.
VISA, MASTERCARD, DISCOVER accepted.
DISCOUNTS: U-Save Coupons, Early Bird Discounts, etc., are to be deducted from final payment, not your deposit.

PICK-UPS AND DROP-OFFS are in: Fargo / F-M Visitors Center; Fergus Falls / Wal-Mart; Alexandria / Perkins; St Cloud / Country Inn & Suites (on Park Ave). You can leave your car at these locations for the duration of your tour. Other pick-ups may be available depending on route of tour.

SEE POLICY SHEET FOR MORE INFO.

TOUR INCLUDES: See "Price Includes" Section. All sightseeing admissions, transportation, transfers, guide fees, a Utopia Tours tour director, events included in tour itinerary, lodging, baggage handling (for one piece of luggage per person), taxes, tips for services included in tour, meals mentioned in "Price Includes" section of itinerary. **NOT INCLUDED:** Tips for meals or services not included in tour price, Tour Director and Tour Driver tips.

PACKING: Dress for comfort! Layered clothing is the way to go! **TOUR BUS:** The tour bus will have a restroom in the back of the bus. Most buses have WiFi capabilities (limited in Canada & Alaska). Some buses may have plug-ins for your electronics.

MOTORCOACH SEATING: There are no assigned or reserved seats.* It is common policy on motorcoach tours to rotate seats during tours. For the comfort and courtesy of all passengers, it is required that everyone participate in seat rotation.* (*unless we've been contacted by you for medical reasons) **BREAKS:** On driving days, we stop every few hours for coffee and lunch breaks. This is a great time to stretch a little, use restroom facilities, take a smoke break, and mingle with the other passengers.

UTOPIA TOURS reserves the right to make changes or alterations in the printed itinerary, dates, routings, or included features prior to or during the tour as may be necessary for the smooth and efficient operation of the tour without prior notice and assumes no responsibility for delays and/or expenses due to such modification. We will make every effort to fulfill special meal and rooms requests, but do not assume responsibility or liability if request isn't fulfilled.

RESPONSIBILITY: Utopia Tours is not responsible for any loss or damage of personal property or for injuries, expenses or damages whatsoever incurred or claimed by any tour member. Once our activities have ended for the day and we are at our lodging, as well as any time you have exited the bus during the tour day, you are on your own and Utopia Tours is not liable for your activities and/or any accident/incident that may occur. Please use your best judgment when crossing streets/roads and be careful for uneven or slippery sidewalks. Your safety is important to us!

MORE INFORMATION will be mailed out to you approximately 10 days prior to departure. This letter will include a tour brochure, hotel list, your pick-up and drop-off times/location, luggage tags, and more. Name tags will be in the tour packet you receive when you board the bus.

CANCELLATIONS & REFUND POLICY...

Cancel by..... Refund
Prior to Final Payment Due Date.....100%
After final payment due date & up to
7 business days prior to departure.....75%*
*LESS non-recoverable fees (ex tickets/hotel)
After 7 business days prior to depart.....0%

OPTIONAL TRIP CANCELLATION & INTERRUPTION INSURANCE... We offer Travel Guard insurance. Insurance premium is based on tour cost and your age at time of purchase. You can enroll through our website, www.utopiatours.com, or we can mail you the enrollment forms and coverage plans. **Purchase your plan within 15 days of paying deposit to qualify for the pre-existing condition waiver on the Silver & Gold plans.** Basic Insurance is also available. Price based on tour cost and your age at time of purchase.