

# UTOPIA TOURS

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## SOUTHERN CAJUN

Nashville, TN (2 nts) • New Orleans, LA (2 nts) • Natchez, MS • Memphis, TN

Sept. 15-25, 2021 11 Days



### PRICE INCLUDES:

- Motorcoach Transportation
- Hotel Accommodations
- Utopia Tours Tour Director
- Baggage Handling (1 bag p.p.)
- Oglesby, IL
- Nashville, TN (2 nights)
  - Guided City Tour
  - Parthenon, Ryman Auditorium
  - General Jackson Showboat with Lunch & Entertainment
  - Opryland Hotel Visit
  - Opry Mills Shopping Center
  - Grand Ole Opry Show
- New Orleans, LA (2 nights)
  - Bourbon Street & Jackson Square
  - Guided City Tour
  - New Orleans Steamboat Co.
  - Jazz Sunday Brunch 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
  - Curling Vine Winery Tour & Tasting
  - College of the Ozarks
  - Dinner
  - JESUS at Sight & Sound Theatre
  - Clay Cooper Show
- Bass Pro Outdoor World
- Kansas City, MO
- Breakfasts tba / 5 Meals

**Wed., Sept. 15: 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., Sept. 16: Nashville, TN** 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 for a **two-night stay**. The evening is yours to enjoy at the hotel, or explore Nashville on your own!

**Fri., Sept. 17: Nashville, TN (L)** This morning a **local guide** will join our group for a **city tour of Nashville**, including seeing the *Parthenon*, a replica of the Parthenon in Athens, Greece. Plus see the *State Capitol*. Then close by we will stop at the *Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park* and see the *World War II Memorial* honoring over 5700 Tennesseans who made the ultimate sacrifice. Plus we will **tour the Ryman Auditorium**, the original Grand Ole Opry Theatre started in 1943. Later this morning we will board the **General Jackson Showboat for a Lunch cruise and entertainment** in this two story Victorian Theatre as we cruise along the Cumberland River. A highlight of our stay in Nashville. Then return to our hotel for the night. After the cruise, we will **visit the beautiful Opryland Resort** which has 9-acres of indoor gardens and waterfalls, dining areas, shops and more to explore! The **Opry Mills Shopping Center** is next to stroll through and have dinner at one of their restaurants. Tonight, we spend our last evening in Nashville at the **Grand Ole Opry Show**. The Opry is a radio show that has been entertaining audiences for over 90 years and is the show that made country music famous with its stars, superstars and legends all live on WSM Radio.

**Sat., Sept. 18: New Orleans, LA** A driving day takes us to the "Big Easy," **New Orleans, LA**, is our destination today. We will check into our lodging for a **two-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.

**Sun., Sept. 19: New Orleans, LA (L)** 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. Then relax during our two-hour **Jazz Brunch Cruise** aboard the steamboat paddlewheel boat. Enjoy a buffet-style brunch and entertainment while you savor the beauty and romance of New Orleans as we journey down the Mississippi. *cont...*

B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner included that day

**Price per person/Room Occ: Double Occ-\$2,060; Triple Occ-\$2,030; Quad Occ-\$2,000; Single Occ-\$2,490**  
Deposit Per Person: \$100 due upon sign-up. Final balance due by: Aug. 4, 2021 Payments by Cash or Check only.  
Trip Cancellation & Interruption Insurance information is available on our website for more details & pricing.

## STATES VISITED ON THIS TOUR: MN-WI-IL-KY-TN-AL-MS-LA-AR-MO-IA

*Sun., Sept. 19 continued...* After the cruise enjoy 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.

**Mon., Sept. 20: Natchez, MS (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.

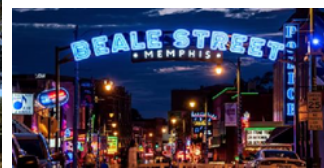
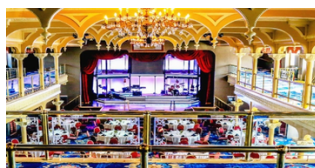
**Tues., Sept. 21: Vicksburg, MS (L)** **Natchez, MS**, is a river port city, first known for cotton growing and later for the discovery of oil. The word Antebellum means "before the Civil War." A **local guide** will take us to an **Antebellum home and garden** here in Natchez this morning. **Lunch 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**.

**Wed., Sept. 22: Memphis, TN** 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.

**Thurs., Sept. 23: Branson, MO (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. After time here, we head out to tour the **College of the Ozarks** to learn more about this college known as "Hard Work U." The tour includes Williams Memorial Chapel, Greenhouses, Mill, and the Fruitcake and Jelly Kitchen. This evening **dinner is included** prior to going to **Sight & Sound Theatre** for the show **JESUS**. From the bustling streets of Jerusalem to the raging Sea of Galilee, JESUS is an action-packed musical stage adventure for the whole family! Experience the greatest rescue story of all time as it comes to life on stage with massive sets, special effects, and live animals in this original stage production.

**Fri., Sept. 24: Kansas City, MO** Wake up and get rolling at the **Clay Cooper's Country Express morning show**. His show has something for everyone with great visual effects and a variety of music-old & new country, current hits, gospel, patriotic and rock N roll. Clay and his gang guarantee a family-friendly show great for all ages! We roll on through the Missouri countryside and make our way to **Kansas City, MO**, for the night. The rest of the evening is yours to enjoy on your own or with your fellow traveling companions.

**Sat., Sept. 25: Home** 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.



Payments by cash or check only (cc's not accepted at this time). Cancellation penalties apply if you cancel after 8/4/21. If Utopia Tours cancels tour payments are fully refundable. See Policy Sheet for more information. Price includes transportation, Utopia Tours tour director, baggage handling (1 p.p.), meals & attractions as noted in Includes section. Travel Guard Trip Cancellation Insurance is available. \*Information (dates, inclusions, prices, etc) subject to change without notice. Pick-ups available along tour route. CDC guidelines will be followed.