

Sterling Travel with Jill Aikin



From Blue Ridges to Blue Grass

featuring the Biltmore, Opryland and the Great Smoky Mountains

Tour Dates: May 17 - 25, 2025



From Blue Ridges to Blue Grass



DAY 1 Arrive in Georgia: Arrive in Atlanta, Georgia today and transfer to the hotel. Meet your Tour Manager in the hotel lobby for a welcome dinner at 6:00 p.m. **Meal: D**

DAY 2 Atlanta Sightseeing and Mary Mac's: A local guide conducts a narrated panoramic tour of Atlanta, often called "The Big Peach." See the Georgia State Capitol, Centennial Olympic Park, World of Coca-Cola and the CNN Center. A stop is made at the Martin Luther King Jr. Historical Site before coming to a local favorite, Mary Mac's Tea Room for lunch featuring some down-home southern cooking. Then, sit back and relax as you enjoy the scenery en route to North Carolina. **Meals: B, L**

DAY 3 Biltmore Estate and Great Smoky Mountains National Park: The Biltmore Estate is America's largest home set on 8,000 acres of Blue Ridge Mountain beauty. This 250-room home was built by George Vanderbilt and features magnificent art, antiques and architecture. Enjoy an included lunch at the Estate. This afternoon the breathtaking beauty of the Great Smoky Mountains comes into view as you motorcoach through Great Smoky Mountain National Park. On the Tennessee side of the park sits Gatlinburg. Experience the history, beauty and nostalgia of this small town with its many galleries, unique craft shops and restaurants. **Meals: B, L**

DAY 4 Titanic Museum and Dolly Parton's Stampede: Begin the day at the world's largest museum attraction, the Titanic Museum. This unforgettable hands-on experience features over 400 artifacts from the doomed vessel. Then, visit the new "Island in Pigeon Forge," the region's big and beautiful walkable shopping and entertainment complex. Tonight, enjoy

great food and fun at *Dolly Parton's Stampede*. Delight in a show featuring thirty-two magnificent horses and top-notch riders performing daring feats of trick riding in a Patriotic Grand Finale. **Meals: B, D**

DAY 5 Kentucky Horse Park: At the Kentucky Horse Park take a comprehensive look at horse history and culture from around the world in the International Museum of the Horse. Meet Thoroughbred legends at the Hall of Champions, walk through the barns to meet former police horses and see the blacksmith facility. Enjoy an included lunch before moving on to Lexington. **Meals: B, L**

DAY 6 Shaker Village and Bourbon Distillery: Today, visit Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, once the third largest Shaker community in the nation. Learn the remarkable story of the Shakers through their iconic architecture, skilled craftsmanship, 34 surviving buildings and the farm. Later, stop at a local distillery. Here, take a guided tour to learn the ins and outs of whiskey-making complete with a tasting of their finely crafted spirits. **Meals: B, D**

DAY 7 Blue Grass Parkway and My Old Kentucky Home State Park: Departing Lexington, travel west along the famed Blue Grass Parkway to Bardstown. Visit My Old Kentucky Home State Park including the 200-year-old mansion and plantation of the Rowan family. Tour the mansion, hear the history of Stephen Foster's ballad and learn how to make biscuits in a live demonstration in the carriage house, complete with home-made jams. Later, arrive at the Gaylord Opryland Resort. **Meal: B**



DAY 8 Country Music Hall of Fame and the Grand Ole Opry: A local guide joins you today for a narrated tour of Tennessee’s “Music City,” Nashville. See famed Music Row, with its recording studios, Broadway, with its Honky Tonks and even a full scale replica of the Parthenon. You even tour the historic Ryman Auditorium where many great artists have performed. At the Country Music Hall of Fame, visit one of the world’s largest museums and research centers dedicated to the preservation and interpretation of American Country Music. Tonight, enjoy dinner at the Opry Backstage Grill before taking your reserved seats to the granddaddy of all country music shows, the Grand Ole Opry. This is truly a night to remember.

Meals: B, D

DAY 9 Return Home: After breakfast a group transfer takes you to the Nashville International Airport for flights home departing after 11:00 a.m. **Meal: B**



Tour Highlights

- 15 Meals: 8 breakfasts, 3 lunches and 4 dinners
- Round trip airport transfers
- Panoramic tour of Atlanta featuring the Georgia State Capitol, Centennial Olympic Park
- Enjoy lunch at Mary Mac’s Tea Room for delicious southern cooking
- Visit the Biltmore Estate, America’s largest home, and have an included lunch at the Estate
- Enjoy the breathtaking beauty of Great Smoky Mountains National Park and visit Gatlinburg
- Experience the *Titanic* Museum, the world’s largest museum attraction
- Enjoy great food and fun at Dolly Parton’s Stampede, featuring top-notch riders and the patriotic Grand Finale
- Visit the Kentucky Horse Park to see their horse barns and enjoy an included lunch
- Tour Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill, once the third largest Shaker community in the nation
- Stop at a local distillery for a tour and tasting
- Visit My Old Kentucky Home State Park with a mansion tour and biscuit-making demonstration
- Spend two nights in Nashville at the impressive Gaylord Opryland Resort
- Take a guided tour of “Music City” including the historic Ryman Auditorium
- Reserved seats to the famed Grand Ole Opry

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Spend two nights in Nashville

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

- Day 1** – Atlanta Airport Marriott, Atlanta, Georgia
- Day 2** – Hampton Inn, Asheville, North Carolina
- Days 3 and 4** – Park Vista Hotel, Gatlinburg, Tennessee
- Days 5 and 6** – Embassy Suites, Lexington, Kentucky
- Days 7 and 8** – Gaylord Opryland Resort, Nashville, Tennessee

Rooms for the night before and after the tour are available. Cost for a room in Atlanta is \$309 and in Nashville is \$369, tax and breakfast included.

Travelers Protection Plan (TPP) – \$349 per person

This nonrefundable fee waives all cancellation fees when we are notified of cancellation one day before the tour departs. If you must leave the tour early due to personal illness, illness or death of a member of your immediate family, TPP guarantees full refund for any unused services after the departure of the tour. Other benefits include medical expenses for illness and injury, emergency transportation, 24 hour hot line, and lost or stolen baggage assistance. Return air transportation is included ONLY if your air tickets were provided by Mayflower Cruises & Tours. If you purchase the optional Travelers Protection Plan (TPP), you will be refunded all payments, including deposit amount, less the TPP premium amount.

Cancellation Charges Without Traveler's Protection Plan (TPP)

- 61 days or more: Deposit Amount
- 60 to 31 days prior: 20% of tour cost
- 30 to 15 days prior: 30% of tour cost
- 14 to 1 day prior: 40% of tour cost
- Day of departure or early departure from tour: 100% of tour cost
- No refund on unused portions of the tour

Exclusions: Mayflower Cruises & Tours reserves the right to alter its refund and cancellation policy when a substantial amount of cancellation or postponement of travel is attributable to: conditions resulting from an act of God, natural or man-made disaster, fire, government action, civil disorder, war, hostilities between nations, or unavailability of transportation through no fault of Mayflower Cruises & Tours.

Tour Dates

Tour Dates	Per Person Twin	Single Room add
May 17 - 25, 2025	\$3,599	\$1,289

2 for 1 airfare offered if booked by May 17, 2024.

Full roundtrip air out of DEN is \$850 per person.

TOUR ACTIVITY LEVEL



FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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