



# America's Music Cities

featuring Nashville, Memphis and New Orleans

Tour Dates: September 26 - October 3, 2025



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**DAY 1 Arrive in Nashville, Tennessee:** Arrive in Nashville, Music City USA and transfer to the glorious Gaylord Opryland Resort. Get to know the property on your own before meeting your traveling companions and Tour Manager in the lobby at 6:00 p.m. for a welcome dinner at the resort. **Meal: D**

**DAY 2 Nashville's Country Music Hall of Fame and Grand Ole Opry:** Begin your musical adventure with a narrated driving tour of Nashville. See the Honkey Tonks, Music Row, the historic Ryman Auditorium and even a full-scale replica of the Parthenon. Then, visit the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. Called the "Smithsonian of Country Music" because of its collection of artists' artifacts, photographs, recorded sound and vintage video, the museum is highlighted by its core exhibit *Sing Me Back Home: A Journey Through Country Music*. After time to freshen up at the hotel you have reserved seats at the Granddaddy of Country shows, the Grand Ole Opry. **Meal: B**

**DAY 3 Studio B and The Memphis Sound:** Get that Nashville feel at historic RCA Studio B. Once the recording home of popular music titans such as Elvis Presley, Chet Atkins and the Everly Brothers, it was here the "Nashville Sound" was born in the 1960's and helped establish Nashville as an international recording center. Depart for Memphis where your first stop is at the Stax Museum of American Soul. The museum traces the roots of "Soulsville" the neighborhood once called home by the likes of Aretha Franklin, Memphis Slim and Booker T Jones. **Meal: B**

**DAY 4 Elvis Presley's Graceland Mansion and Estate:** Today is devoted to Elvis Presley's *Graceland*. You will tour the mansion, the heart of the 14-acre estate and see the living

rooms, music room and "jungle" den. You will also see the meditation garden where "The King" is laid to rest. Also tour Elvis' two custom airplanes, the Car Museum, The Entertainer Career Showcase Museum as well as the new state-of-the-art Visitor Entertainment Complex. Truly a day of musical history to remember. Later, visit Sun Studio, known as "The Birthplace of Rock'n'Roll", as musical legends from the 50s began here. Imagine standing on the very same spot where Elvis was first recorded. Then, enjoy some delicious Memphis cooking at Central BBQ. **Meals: B, D**

**DAY 5 Delta Blues Museum, Morgan Freeman's Ground Zero and B.B. King:** Travel south to the town of Clarksdale, located at the intersection of Highways 61 and 49 and known as "The Crossroads." Clarksdale's roots with the Blues culture dates back to the 1920s. At the Delta Blues Museum, learn how the Blues was born and grew up in the area thanks to musicians like Muddy Waters, John Lee Hooker, Sam Cooke and Ike Turner. It is dedicated to exploring the history and heritage of the unique American musical art form of the Blues. Enjoy an included lunch at the Morgan Freeman-owned Ground Zero Blues Club, established in 2001 to celebrate the area's rich Blues heritage. At the B.B. King Museum trace the roots of Blues music from the cotton fields and juke joints through the life of the Blues' foremost ambassador, Riley B.B. King. **Meals: B, L**

**DAY 6 Civil War Memories:** This morning a licensed park guide leads you on a narrated tour of Vicksburg National Military Park. Learn about civilian life and military operations in the defense of Vicksburg in the spring and summer of 1863. Continue south for a stop at majestic Oak Alley Plantation. This impressive "Big House" sits on twenty-five acres of history and



Ground Zero Blues Club

romance. Enjoy a tasty Mint Julep and take in the immense “alley” of 300-year-old live oak trees. Later, arrive in New Orleans for a two-night stay. **Meal: B**

**DAY 7 New Orleans Sightseeing and Jazz Dinner Cruise:** Begin the day with a narrated tour of New Orleans. See the sights you’ve heard about for years such as the historic French Quarter, beautiful Garden District, colorful River Walk along the Mississippi and famous Bourbon Street. Enjoy free time on your own in the “Quarter” for lunch or maybe some beignets and coffee at Café du Monde before taking to the water for an exciting dinner cruise aboard the paddlewheeler *Creole Queen*. Enjoy the sounds of traditional New Orleans Jazz music while dining on regional cuisine as it sails along the Mississippi River. **Meals: B, D**

**DAY 8 Travel Home:** Following breakfast, a group transfer to the New Orleans International Airport is available for flights out after 11:00 a.m. **Meal: B**



Visit the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum



## Tour Highlights

- 11 Meals: 7 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 3 dinners
- Round trip airport transfers
- Spend two nights at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel and enjoy a sightseeing tour of Nashville’s Honky Tonks and Music Row
- Visit the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, the “Smithsonian of County Music”
- Reserved seats to the Granddaddy of Country shows, the Grand Ole Opry
- Tour historic RCA Studio B, the recording home of musicians Elvis Presley and Chet Atkins
- In Memphis, visit the Stax Museum of American Soul and Sun Studio, known as “The Birthplace of Rock’n’Roll”
- Spend the day at Elvis Presley’s Graceland and tour the mansion, the meditation garden, his custom airplanes and Car Museum
- Visit the Delta Blues Museum and have lunch at the Ground Zero Blues Club
- Tour the B.B. King Museum and trace the roots of the Blues through the life of the man himself
- Take a narrated tour of Vicksburg National Military Park with a licensed guide
- Tour the majestic Oak Alley Plantation
- Narrated tour of New Orleans to see the historic French Quarter, Garden District and Bourbon Street
- New Orleans Jazz dinner cruise on the Mississippi River

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Tour the majestic Oak Alley Plantation

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

**Days 1 and 2** – Gaylord Opryland Resort, Nashville, TN

**Day 3 and 4** – The Guest House at Graceland, Memphis, TN

**Day 5** – Courtyard By Marriott, Vicksburg, MS

**Days 6 and 7** – Hampton Inn & Suites Downtown, New Orleans, LA

Rooms for the night before and after the tour are available. Cost for a room in Nashville is \$359, and in New Orleans is \$269, tax and breakfast included.

Tour Departure	Per Person Twin	Single Room add
September 26, 2025	\$3,882	\$1,149

**Pricing includes land, air from Harrisburg International airport and transfers to and from Harrisburg with 10 or more travelers.**

### 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.

(a) The State Employees Recreation Association, its officers, directors, representatives and members, expressly disclaims all responsibility or liability of any nature whatsoever for loss, damage or injury to property or to the person due to any cause whatsoever, occurring during or attributable to the tour, or tours, described herein and purchaser/participant by his or her subscription to or participation in the travel opportunity, does release SERA from such liability or responsibility. Without limiting the foregoing, SERA is not and shall not become liable or responsible for accidents, loss detention, annoyance, delays and expenses arising from quarantine, strikes, force majeure, failure of any means of conveyance to arrive or depart as scheduled, disturbances, government restrictions or regulations, discontinuances or change in transit or hotel accommodations and/or services and other causes over which they have no control. The passage contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser and/or participants of this tour. SERA is not responsible, and the Purchaser and/or participant waives all claim against SERA for all of the aforesaid conditions as well as loss or damage resulting from delays, cancellations or substitutions of equipment, financial conditions, or any act, omission, negligence, or any other faults by the travel agent, carriers, hotel or any other transportation or service providers or companies, their agents, servants, employees and subcontractors or other causes. In the event that, in the opinion of SERA, it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort and/or well being of the passengers, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary of this tour, including the airline and type of equipment, accommodations and/or service utilized, SERA reserves the right to do so at its sole discretion and without notice. SERA is a non-profit organization, comprised of volunteers, for the benefit of all Commonwealth employees, active or retired, their relatives and friends. It is solely responsible for its own affairs and completely independent of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania State Government.

(b) Assistance: Tour participants requiring assistance or accommodation for disabilities should contact the travel agency to discuss your specific requirements and what accommodation is possible.

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFORMATION CONTACT:

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