

# Great Day! Scheduled Tour Summary (Rev 9/7/2022)

**BEST OF THE GULF COAST**

**SUN-MON MARCH 5-13, 2023**

**Departures, as applic: Beachwood/Orange, Independence, Parma/Cleve.West, Middleburg Hts, Mansfield, Grove City.**

The coastal states of the United States all have a shoreline on the Gulf of Mexico and we will be visiting three of the five on this tour. . . Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. To visit the fourth state, please join us on our Texas Tour that offers both Texas and Louisiana. This tour has been expanded over our previous packages and has two additional days in an area typically enjoying temperatures in the low 70s this time of year which should be most appreciated based on the Ohio temperatures experienced during March. Most importantly, we have extended the number of days in this “Best of the Gulf Coast Tour” to make it even more relaxing, more inclusive and even more interesting with 20 Meals included this year, so there is less that you will have to purchase.

This tour includes great places that you may still have to discover . . . New Orleans, Louisiana; Biloxi, Mississippi; Mobile & Montgomery, Alabama; Franklin & Nashville, Tennessee; and Bowling Green & Newport, Kentucky. There is something for everyone in these exciting new tour destinations.

Sunday We will be enjoying the sights along the way as we travel to the Southeastern portion of the country, arriving in Franklin where a relaxing meal and cocktails await us.

Monday After breakfast we will continue into New Orleans, known as the “*Big Easy*”. This part of the tour has been expanded to allow three nights to enjoy so much of what this fascinating city has to offer. Breakfast and dinner with cocktails are included each day at our hotel plus we will be enjoying a spectacular Jazz Brunch, unique venues and other places along Royal Street and Bourbon Street, just across Canal Street from our conveniently-located hotel. Not far from our hotel, one street named Rue Royale during the time that the French occupied this area, is one of the original streets, dating from the early 18th Century, and is known today for its antique shops and art galleries. It is located about a block from Bourbon Street. The nightlife is legendary in the French Quarter so feel free to enjoy it at your leisure.

For those wanting to “get into the mood”, there will be time to start your evening at Pat O’Brien’s, one of the French Quarter’s favorite “establishments”. It’s like an old-fashioned club with its mirrored bar backs, ornate ironwork and over 500 beer steins hanging from the ceiling. Our favorite is to follow the slate walkway to the Patio, its most popular bar.

**GREAT DAY! TOURS & CHARTER BUS SERVICE . . . (440) 526-5350 . . . (800) 362-4905**

All tour details are anticipated at the time that the Scheduled Tour Brochure was prepared and specific stops and/or other inclusions are subject to change or elimination without notice. Tours typically depart between 6:30 AM and 8 AM with the exact time shown on the itinerary you will receive approximately one to two weeks prior to the tour departure. Most tours return about 8 PM to 10 PM, although this may vary.

The appeal of this place is evident with its open air to the New Orleans sky and glass and iron tables set among lush foliage. It has been said that the Patio exudes the feeling of “Southern Living at its best”, quite appropriate for our “Best of the Gulf Tour”. At the center stands the landmark “*Flaming Fountain*”, designed to resemble a champagne glass. Its copper fountain hosts a brilliant flame amid streams of water. It is a fabulous setting to enjoy one of their famous “*Hurricanes*” that most everyone enjoys.

Three Nights in New Orleans . . . Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday There will be plenty of inclusions for you while we are in New Orleans, with all of its activities, including Harrah’s New Orleans Casino. This tour includes an experience that should be most memorable as we enter The Court of Two Sisters. It is more than a restaurant as it is “a legend”, and part of all our tours to the city. We will be entering through the Charm Gates to enjoy their renowned Jazz Brunch. During the next two days we will be visiting the Mardi Gras Museum and the National WW II Museum, with experiences and exhibits that were created to cover the “epic & global scale of the war that changed the world”.

During our visit to the French Market, there will be time to perhaps purchase beignets or café au lait at this New Orleans tradition. Just in case you did not already know, an oh-so-delicious beignet is a smaller version of a donut, however the inside of it is a little more “puffy” with a soft middle and is sprinkled with confectioners’ sugar. Enjoy this pastry with some Café Au Lait, another New Orleans specialty.



Of course, we will be touring the area with our Guide, seeing some of the historic churches, the above-ground “reusable” plots in the cemeteries, hearing of Voodoo in its history and seeing other points of interest as we learn the differences between the Cajuns and the Creoles, all of whom left their mark on this colorful area. Of course, food is what made the French Quarter over the years and we will be enjoying some of it during our Wednesday evening dinner!

Thursday has us traveling into Biloxi. While many visitors appreciate its beaches and casinos, the city is home to one of the first cast-iron lighthouses built in the South; the Biloxi Lighthouse is one of the city's most revered landmarks, dating back to 1848. Upon our arrival in Biloxi we will be enjoying an early lunch at a popular restaurant. Following lunch there will be two choices to select from:



- *Several hours of gaming at the beautiful Beau Rivage Resort & Casino with its MGM Rewards. Currently this casino offers complimentary beverages to all guests playing on the gaming floor and at video poker bars (always subject to change, of course).*
- *Or, if you prefer, we will be visiting Beauvoir, the Jefferson Davis Home and Presidential Library that is now a Mississippi Historic Landmark.*

Following our visit, we will continue on to beautiful Mobile in time for our third meal of the day, a casual dinner and the cocktails that have been included this evening at the hotel. Possibly you'll be ready to enjoy a dip in the outdoor swimming pool & hot tub this evening, weather-permitting.

Friday After breakfast, we will be touring Mobile, Alabama. This colorful coastal city has a lot to see and do, with a vibrant 300-year history with lots of stories to tell and long-standing traditions celebrated on a regular basis. Once called "*the Paris of the South*", Mobile has long been the cultural center of the Gulf Coast and was actually the location of the very first Mardi Gras in the South. We will be touring the area and stepping aboard the *U.S.S. Alabama*, anchored in the harbor of Battleship Memorial Park. We've also included the Aircraft Pavilion where you will be seeing airplanes from all wars on display and then seeing the U.S.S. Drum, a submarine. It is anticipated that our second of three meals today will be a luncheon served in the Ward Room of the battleship.

Saturday Our tour destination today will be Montgomery, Alabama, with stops along the way as we travel northward from Mobile. Our first stop this morning will be at a courthouse built in the 1930s and was the model for the courtroom settings in "*To Kill A Mockingbird*" starring Gregory Peck. It remains one of the most recognized courtrooms in America due to the popularity of the film version of the book.



After we depart, with a lunch stop along the way, we will be arriving in Montgomery, the capital of Alabama. Here we will be learning part of the city's history at the Troy University's Museum with its Rosa Parks story and memorabilia, including the 1955 Bus Boycott in the city. It is anticipated that we will be having a musical cruise this evening.

Sunday Following a leisurely breakfast we will be traveling to the United States Space & Rocket Center. This is a Smithsonian Affiliate and the Official Visitors Center for NASA's Marshall Space Flight Center. They have one of the largest collections of space memorabilia in the world. This evening we will be having dinner and entertainment at Ole Red, created by Blake Shelton and Ryman Hospitality in Downtown Nashville. Sit back and enjoy yourself at this popular destination in Music City.

Monday After breakfast we will depart, making an early stop in Bowling Green at the National Corvette Museum. Enjoy these beautiful American-made sports cars and, perhaps, grab a cup of java at the Corvette Café. While we have been traveling through the South on this tour, we will be enjoying our mid-day dinner at a restaurant that represents "southern", but from Germany this time. Bon Appetit!



GREAT DAY! TOURS KNOWS THE SOUTH

## **BEST OF THE GULF COAST – MARCH 2023**

**20 meals are included in this expanded tour**

**\$2680 per person in a double**

**\$2640 per person in a triple**

**\$2600 per person in a quad**

**\$3539 per person in a single**

**Tour will be limited to one coach;  
we recommend booking early**

..

**Deposit to book, \$100 per person; we accept  
all major credit cards and checks.**

**Tours can now be booked online, 24 hours  
a day with a credit card.**