Itinerary

America's Music Cities featuring New Orleans, Memphis & Nashville

Jul 9, 2019 - Jul 16, 2019

Pre Night: Gaylord Opryland Resort

Gaylord Opryland Resort invites you to experience the energy and excitement of Music City. On the banks of the Cumberland River, Gaylord Opryland Resort is centrally located and close to everything. You’ll be amazed at the nine acres of indoor gardens, cascading waterfalls and an indoor river with its own Delta flatboat. Within this lush landscape, you'll discover fine dining and casual restaurants, unique shopping experiences, and a 20,000-square-foot resort spa and fitness center. This spectacular resort is the flagship property of the Gaylord Hotels family. It features 2,881 stylish guest rooms, each featuring high-speed wireless Internet access and two phones, including one cordless.

Day 1: Nashville, Tennessee - Tour Begins

Journey to the “Music Capital of the World,” Nashville!

Hotel
Gaylord Opryland Resort
Nashville

Culinary
Dinner

Weather
High 32°
Low 21°
Rain 3°

Day 2: Nashville

Your day begins with a tour of the historic RCA Studio B for an insider’s look at Nashville’s oldest remaining recording studio where Elvis Presley, Dolly Parton and Charlie Pride once recorded some of their classic hits. Learn how each artist recorded their chart-topping music in this famous studio – you may even have the opportunity to record your own hit! Then, explore the Country Music Hall of Fame, the largest museum of popular music in the world. The museum's vast collections of memorabilia, costumes, recordings and instruments are artfully presented in cutting-edge exhibits relaying the colourful histories of country music and its artists. Later, discover the flavour of the region at a family-owned distillery when you tour the facility and taste its Tennessee whiskey. This evening, take your reserved seat at the renowned Grand Ole Opry.* What began as a building where a local radio broadcast show aired once a week in 1925 has grown to become an entertainment complex that attracts music fans from all over the world.

Hotel
Gaylord Opryland Resort
Nashville

Culinary
Breakfast

Weather
High 32°
Low 21°
Rain 3°

Day 3: Nashville - Memphis

Day 4: Memphis

Day 5: Memphis - New Orleans, Louisiana

Day 6: New Orleans

Day 7: New Orleans
Your day begins with a tour of the historic Ryman Auditorium,** the original home of the Grand Ole Opry. Journey along Music Highway to Memphis, the birthplace of the Blues, Rock ‘n’ Roll and Soul. We’ll make a stop at the West Delta Heritage Centre to discover the roots of the country blues sound that originated in West Tennessee. The Queen of Rock, Tina Turner, was born here in Brownsville so it’s only fitting that there’s an exhibit dedicated to her. Enjoy Southern hospitality at your hotel just steps away from the iconic Graceland.

**Day 4: Memphis**

This morning, put on your blue suede shoes and get ready to visit Graceland, the palatial home of the King himself, Elvis Presley. Enter Elvis' 14-acre estate and visit his home, original business office, trophy building with exhibits depicting Elvis’ life at Graceland, racquetball building, and the Meditation Garden, where Elvis and members of his family have been laid to rest. Then, head out on a one-of-a-kind tour of the city of Memphis. You may be tempted to sing along as local musicians board the coach to tell the stories of Memphis’ musical heritage and its rich history. The remainder of your day is free to enjoy this city’s vast musical offerings. You may wish to spend more time at Graceland*** or join an optional Memphis Musical History Tour with dinner.

**Day 5: Memphis - New Orleans, Louisiana**

Today we travel to the "Jazz Capital of the World" – New Orleans! This soulful city abounds with rich history, mouthwatering Cajun and Creole cuisine, and an incomparable soundtrack.

**Day 6: Choose French Quarter Walking Tour or Motorcoach Tour of New Orleans**

It’s your choice! Embark on a walking tour of New Orleans’ famous French Quarter where you'll see the majestic St. Louis Cathedral, one of the city’s most recognizable landmarks. Continue to the bustling French Marketplace where you’ll explore Pirates Alley and view the Cabildo, the Presbytere and the Pontalba -OR- set out on a panoramic motorcoach tour of New Orleans with a local guide that begins along historic Esplanade Avenue and rolls on to see St. Louis Cemetery #3, which opened in 1854 and holds some of the most elaborate crypts found in the city’s cemeteries. Relax during a drive along the shoreline of Lake Pontchartrain. This romantic road eventually leads to St. Charles Avenue, whisking you past gorgeous mansions and two world-famous universities, Loyola and Tulane. Whichever you choose, you'll stop to taste a true New Orleans favourite – beignets at the famed Café Du Monde. Tonight, enjoy dinner on your own before meeting your Tour Manager and fellow travel companions at Maison Bourbon, a live jazz club in the French Quarter.

**Day 7: French Quarter**

Journey through Louisiana’s swamp on a cruise**** narrated by the captain himself. Learn about the history and ecology of this fascinating ecosystem whilst keeping an eye out for wildlife including bald eagles, herons, turtles and alligators! Then, celebrate the festive side of New Orleans at Mardi Gras World, the working warehouse where artists create the spectacular floats for the famous parades. You’ll even get to indulge in a tasting of king cake. Tonight, enjoy dinner at the Court of Two Sisters in the French Quarter.

**Day 8: New Orleans - Tour Ends**
Post Night: Sheraton New Orleans

Experience the heart and soul of the city when you stay at the Sheraton New Orleans. The many amenities ensure a comfortable stay. It is just steps away from the French Quarter and many restaurants. Nearby, explore Royal Street, Jackson Square and the French Market. Feel the excitement of New Orleans, and at the end of the day, return to your comfortable room to unwind.