

Great Smoky Mountains, Biltmore Estate, Dollywood & Grand Ole Opry Nashville, TN



9 days - 8 nights departing Friday May 25th 2012

A superb tour as we travel to Kentucky, North Carolina, the Great Smoky Mountains and Tennessee. We encompass legendary history with such places as Churchill Downs, Renfro Valley and the 8,000 acre Biltmore Estate. You will find scenic beauty which is hard to comprehend in the awesome Smoky Mountains. There is entertainment galore at Dollywood, including some of the world's best entertainment, plus art, dancing, music and food.

The tour culminates in Nashville with a visit to the Grand Ole Opry, Country Music Capital of the World.

Travel Itinerary

Day 1: Fly from Rapid City to Indianapolis, IN

Today we meet at Rapid City Regional Airport for our flight to Indianapolis, IN. On arrival, we are met in the baggage hall by our driver and transferred to our hotel.

Overnight Indianapolis, IN - Supper included

Day 2: Indianapolis to Renfro Valley (234 miles)

After breakfast we depart for Renfro Valley. Renfro Valley is known as "Kentucky's Country Music Capital," a title the little town can easily lay claim to. This evening, it's time for the Renfro Valley Barn Dance ... The show that started it all... traditional country, Bluegrass & Comedy.

Overnight Renfro Valley, KY – Breakfast & Supper included

Day 3: Renfro Valley, KY to Inn on Biltmore Estate, Asheville NC (235 miles)

After an early breakfast it's time to partake in the "Sunday Mornin' Gatherin'" a non denominational service which is broadcast on more than 200 radio stations in the United States and Canada. Directly after the service we leave Renfro Valley behind and head for North Carolina and the amazing 8,000 acre Biltmore Estate. Here we are inspired by the relaxed elegance of George and Edith Vanderbilt's 250-room family home and country retreat in Asheville, NC. Discover original art from masters such as Renoir, magnificent 16th-century tapestries, Napoleon's chess set, a library with 10,000 volumes, a Banquet Hall with a 70-foot ceiling, 65 fireplaces, an indoor pool, bowling alley, and priceless antiques. This French Renaissance chateau remains America's largest privately owned home.

Overnight at the Inn on Biltmore Estate, NC – Breakfast Included

**Day 4: Asheville, NC to Pigeon Forge (93 miles scenic drive)
(via The Great Smoky Mountains)**

Enjoy the early signs of spring as we travel through the Smoky Mountains. Ridge upon ridge of forest straddles the border between North Carolina and Tennessee in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. World renowned for its diversity of plant and animal life, the beauty of its ancient mountains and the quality of its remnants of Southern Appalachian mountain culture. Our home for the next 3 nights is the incredible Inn at Christmas Place. Here you will be dazzled by their year-round Christmas décor. This evening, enjoy a delicious served dinner at Connor's followed by Country Tonite, the hottest, foot stompin', knee slappin' country show in the USA!

Overnight Inn at Christmas Place, Pigeon Forge, TN – Breakfast & Supper included

Day 5: Pigeon Forge / Gatlinburg

Jump start your morning with a variety show featuring Patty Waszak, a high energy, heart warming variety show featuring a wide variety of music including big band favorites, polkas, 50s and 60s rock 'n' roll, patriotic songs and originals. This one woman show will amaze you, playing 30 different musical instruments. Afterwards there's plenty of time to explore the many shops & sights of Gatlinburg before supper & show.

Overnight Inn at Christmas Place, Pigeon Forge, TN – Breakfast & Supper included

Day 6: Pigeon Forge & Dollywood

Today prepare to be entertained by all that Dollywood offers. Take in this great venue at your own pace. Tonight a four-course feast with friendly rivalry between the North and South at the Dixie Stampede dinner show.

Overnight Inn at Christmas Place, Pigeon Forge, TN – Breakfast & Supper included

Day 7: Pigeon Forge to Nashville, TN (215 miles)

A bountiful breakfast this morning and then it's time to head for Nashville... en route we will make appropriate stops for rest breaks and lunch. We arrive into Nashville early afternoon and after checking into our hotel, you have plenty of time to explore Opryland...just an amazing place. Your afternoon and evening is yours to do as you please.

Overnight Opryland, Nashville, TN – Breakfast included

Day 8: Nashville – General Jackson Showboat & The Grand Ole Opry

Breakfast on your own this morning so you can do as you please. Please be ready to depart the hotel at 10.30am for our short drive to the world's grandest showboat... a delicious lunch and world-class entertainment and, all while we're cruising the majestic Cumberland River. After lunch we return to Opry Mills Outlet Mall...shopping exercise to work off the lunch. This evening we're off to the Grand Ole Opry... Far and away the most venerated institution in all of country music, the WSM Grand Ole Opry is not only a cultural treasure, but a vital part of America's rich musical tapestry. In fact, recounting the story of the Grand Ole Opry is almost like telling the history of country music itself.

After the show, we return to our hotel. Overnight Opryland, TN – Breakfast & Lunch included

Day 9: Apr Nashville to Louisville, KY / Home

Alas, after breakfast it's time to leave Nashville behind and head to Louisville, KY. Our visit to Churchill Downs is first on our list and we experience "Backyard Tour" approximately 1 ½ hour duration. After lunch it's time to go to the airport and catch our flight home.

Breakfast Included



Itinerary at a glance

Price: \$2,495 per person based on double occupancy

Single: add \$695

Starts: Friday May 25th 2012

Ends: Saturday June 2nd 2012

What's included?

- Round trip air from Rapid city to Indianapolis & return from Louisville, KY
- 8 night's accommodations
- Breakfast each day – 1 Lunch - 5 Suppers
- Churchill Downs – Home to the Kentucky Derby
- Renfro Valley Barn Dance Show
- Renfro Valley Gatherin'
- The Biltmore Estate
- Tour through the Great Smoky Mountains
- General Jackson Showboat (Lunch Cruise on the Cumberland River)
- Grand Ole Opry
- All entrance fees
- All baggage handling & taxes
- Fully escorted



This is a sample itinerary and attractions / places could be re-ordered upon finalizing the itinerary

How to book

- Deposit due of \$500 per person - Balance due by 1st February 2012 (or at time of booking if after this date)

What you'll need

- Passport is not required for this tour

Weather

Weather in this area is usually pleasant at this time of the year, but please check weather.com for further information.

Travel Advice

Please visit the travel advice section of this site for further information and government advisories and warnings.



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