

GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS

Louisville, Renfro Valley, Pigeon Forge & Nashville, TN



11 days / 10 nights departing Wednesday October 11th 2023

A superb tour as we fly from Rapid City and most other airports in the USA. We encompass legendary history with such places as Churchill Downs and the Louisville Slugger Factory and Museum. Renfro Valley, Kentucky's Country Music Capital. You will find scenic beauty which is hard to comprehend in the awesome Smoky Mountains followed by Pigeon Forge and the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville, TN . There is entertainment galore including Renfro Valley and Country Tonite. Let's not forget a Paddlewheel boat ride on the Cumberland River and of course a visit to the Grand Ole Opry. Lot's to see and lots to do on this wonderful road trip.

**AN AMAZING SMALL GROUP ROAD TRIP FROM THE BLACK HILLS OF SOUTH DAKOTA
IN OUR 12 PASSENGER MERCEDES SPRINTER VEHICLE**

Travel Itinerary

Day 1: Rapid City and most other USA airports to Louisville, KY.

Today you depart from your home airport for your flight to Louisville, KY. On arrival you will be met in the baggage area for your flight and transferred to your hotel for overnight.

Overnight Louisville, KY– No meals included

Day 2: Louisville, KY

After breakfast we begin to explore Louisville including the Kentucky Derby Museum followed by the Louisville Slugger Museum. After our day of touring we return to the hotel for overnight.

Overnight Louisville, KY – Breakfast included

Day 3: Louisville to Renfro Valley, KY – 130 miles

After breakfast we leave Louisville behind and head to Renfro Valley, Kentucky's Country Music Capital. After checking in at our hotel we have time to refresh before our supper. After our meal it's time for some good old Kentucky entertainment.

Overnight Renfro Valley area, KY – Breakfast & Supper included

Day 4: Renfro Valley, KY to Cherokee, NC.

After an early breakfast it's time to leave for North Carolina and the small town of Cherokee... Cherokee is bordered by two national parks and best-known for the North Carolina half of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. But Cherokee is also the southern gateway to the Blue Ridge Parkway National Park.

Overnight Cherokee, NC – Breakfast Included

Day 5: Cherokee, NC to Pigeon Forge via the Great Smoky Mountains.

Enjoy the magnificent scenery 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. Arriving at Pigeon Forge late afternoon. This evening we enjoy a delicious supper followed by Country Tonite, the hottest, foot stompin', knee slappin' country show in the USA!

Overnight Pigeon Forge, TN – Breakfast & Supper included

Day 6: Pigeon Forge, TN and exploring Cades Cove.

Today we step back in time and explore Cades Cove. For hundreds of years Cherokee Indians hunted in Cades Cove but archeologists have found no evidence of major settlements. The first Europeans settled in the cove sometime between 1818 and 1821. By 1830 the population of the area had already swelled to 271. Cades Cove offers the widest variety of historic buildings of any area in the national park. Scattered along the loop road are three churches, a working grist mill, barns, log houses, and many other faithfully restored eighteenth and nineteenth century structures. Afterwards we have time to explore the many shops & sights of Gatlinburg before enjoying the Dolly Parton's Dixie Stampede supper & show. a four-course feast with friendly rivalry between the North and South at the Dixie Stampede dinner show.

Overnight Pigeon Forge, TN – Breakfast & Supper included

Day 7: Pigeon Forge, TN to Nashville, TN & The Grand Ole Opry – 210 miles

A bountiful breakfast this morning and then it's time to head for Nashville... We will make appropriate stops for rest breaks and lunch. We arrive into Nashville early afternoon and check into our hotel. Tonight, it's time for 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 Area, TN – Breakfast included

Day 8: Nashville, TN – The General Jackson Showboat & Exploring Opryland.

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 the cruise we head to Opryland with time to explore this amazing facility.

Overnight Opryland Area, Nashville, TN – Breakfast and Lunch included

Day 9: Nashville, TN to St Louis, MO – Gateway Arch – to Bridgeton, MO - 320 miles

Today we say goodbye to Nashville and make our way to St Louis, MO making a stop at the famous Gateway Arch. The Gateway Arch is a 630-foot (192 m) monument in St. Louis in the state of Missouri. Clad in stainless steel and built in the form of a weighted catenary arch it is the world's tallest arch the tallest man-made monument in the Western Hemisphere, built as a monument to the westward expansion of the United States and dedicated to "the American people". We continue our journey to our hotel (25 miles west) for overnight.

Overnight Bridgeton, MO – Breakfast included

Day 10: Bridgeton, MO to Council Bluffs, IA – 443 miles

Continuing westwards, we head for Council Bluffs, IA. Our route takes us around Kansas City and then north to Council Bluffs and our overnight stay at one of the large casinos... win big!!!

Overnight Council Bluffs, IA – Breakfast included

Day 11: Council Bluffs, IA to Black Hills and Rapid City, SD – 529 miles

Our final day as we head back to Rapid City and the Black Hills of South Dakota. Comfort breaks and meal stops will be made as we travel I-29 and I-90 on our way home.

Itinerary at a glance

Price: \$4,295 per person based on double occupancy

Single: add \$1.250

Starts: Wednesday 11th October 2023

Ends: Saturday 21st October 2023

What's included?

- Round trip transportation from Rapid City & 10 night's accommodations
- Breakfast each day – 1 Lunch – 3 Suppers
- Churchill Downs – Home to the Kentucky Derby plus Louisville Slugger Museum
- Renfro Valley, KY with Show (TBA)
- Tour through the Great Smoky Mountains
- Country Tonite Show, General Jackson Showboat Cruise
- Grand Ole Opry Show
- All entrance fees, baggage handling and taxes. Fully escorted.

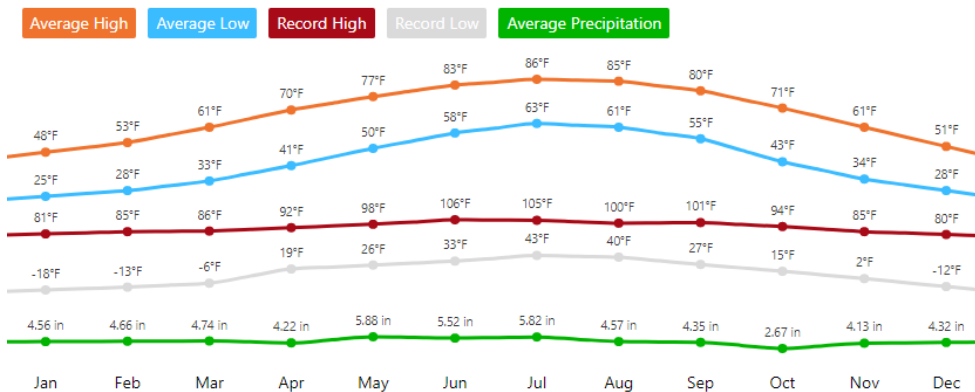
How to book

- Deposit due of \$1,000 per person
- Balance due by August 15th 2023 (or at time of booking is after this date)

What you'll need

- Passport is not required for this tour, however a Picture ID is always recommended
- A Camera for the amazing sights

Weather



July is on average the **WARMEST** month.

January is on average the **COOLEST** month.



1-888-788-6777

abstravelgroup.com

ABS Travel Group | 945 Enchantment Road, Rapid City, South Dakota, USA

1-888-788-6777 | 1-605-791-2520

Fax 605-791-2618