

Southern Belles & Whistles Itinerary

DAY 1, Saturday, October 12, 2019

You will be met at the Charlotte Douglas International Airport, then proceed immediately to Asheville, NC. Marvel at the stunning fall colors of the Blue Ridge Mountains along the way. Upon arrival, embark on an awe-inspiring tour of the Biltmore Estate, America's largest privately-owned home at 178,926 square feet. Built for George Vanderbilt in 1895, and still owned by his descendants, it remains one of the most prominent examples of Gilded Age Mansions. The Estate Tour ends with a complimentary tasting of some of Biltmore's most celebrated wines. Conclude the day with a welcome dinner at one of Asheville's favorite local restaurants. Evening arrival at our hotel in Columbia, SC.

DAY 2, Sunday, October 13, 2019

After a good night's rest and breakfast at the hotel, depart for Charleston, SC, one of the most beautiful and historic cities in the South. It features stately homes and lovely gardens, magnificent buildings, and majestic churches. Upon arrival, meet your local guide for an informative city tour. Discover the history behind some of Charleston's most elegant antebellum homes. Learn about the sacrifice and tragedy endured by the North and South. You'll be immersed in the conflict that defined our nation. Remainder of the day is at leisure to explore the wonderful sights of this historic port city.

DAY 3, Monday, October 14, 2019

After breakfast, join the optional tour to the Magnolia Plantation & Gardens, Charleston's most visited plantation. After lunch on your own, we visit some of the most notorious locations where *The Notebook* movie was filmed. Then embark on a scenic Charleston harbor cruise and visit to Fort Sumter, also known as *The Battery*, the site upon which the shots that started the American Civil War were fired on April 12, 1861. In the evening, consider a carriage ride, colonial style through Charleston's quaint historic district where you'll learn more about Charleston's rich history against the sounds of hoofbeats.

DAY 4, Tuesday, October 15, 2019

After breakfast, we depart for another gorgeous and historic city in the Deep South, Savannah. Upon arrival, we'll take a stroll through Forsyth Park. Dating back to the 1840s, this park occupies 30 acres and features the iconic fountain and wonderful walking trails. Then enjoy an included lunch at the *Pirate House Restaurant*, one of Savannah's most haunted restaurants. Next we visit Savannah's City Market. Opened in 1733, this 4 block open-air market is filled with shops, bistros and galleries. Evening is at leisure or dare to join other brave soles to experience the darker side of America's most haunted city on the optional Ghost Tour.

DAY 5, Wednesday, October 16, 2019

After breakfast you will meet your local guide for a tour of the city with one of the largest restored National Historic Landmark Districts in the nation. The Historic District has over 270 years of rich history with its restored 18th and 19th century buildings, and the waterfront's former cotton warehouses are now restaurants, hotels and shops. This beautiful city eloquently displays exquisite ironwork, ancient cobblestones, splendid mansions and picturesque cottages. Evening is at leisure or join the eco-friendly *Slow Ride Pub Crawl*, a 2-hour adventure where you'll check out Savannah's most classic watering holes. Bring your to-go cup back to the bike and enjoy your adult beverage as you pedal to the next destination. A trained, licensed driver will assure you safe travels! (Vehicle limited to 15 passengers – sign ups taken on first come, first served basis).

DAY 6, Thursday, October 17, 2019

DAY 4 - Following breakfast, check out of our hotel. Spend the morning further exploring Savannah's Historic District or pick up some souvenirs in Savannah's River Street District. Conclude your Southern Belles & Whistles tour with an authentic down-home Southern Feast at celebrity chef Paula Deen's famed restaurant, *The Lady & Sons*. You'll then be transported back to the Charlotte Douglas International Airport for your flight home.

For more information or to book this tour, call 248-310-3747