



Gladstone Parks & Recreation

50+ Travel

Music Cities

Memphis & Nashville

March 22-27, 2021

Day 1: Monday, March 22nd

Memphis, Tennessee is your destination today. Memphis is a pilgrimage for those wanting to visit the birthplace of the blues, of soul and of rock 'n' roll. On Beale Street, W.C. Handy put down on paper the first written blues music. Elvis, Roy Orbison, Jerry Lee Lewis and Johnny Cash all recorded at the historic Sun Records, which is now a museum. Graceland, the second most-visited home in America, welcomes visitors from around the world who yearn for a peek into the life of "the King." Beyond the music, Tennessee's largest city also offers much more. Did you know that Memphis has more sunny days each year than Miami? Your home for the next 3 nights is the Guest House at Graceland.

Day 2: Tuesday, March 23rd

You will explore Elvis Presley's home, **Graceland Mansion**, and immerse yourself in his life and legacy at Elvis Presley's Memphis Entertainment Complex. Graceland is so much more than a Mansion. It was the private retreat of the King of rock 'n' roll. It was where his family grew up, spent their time together and enjoyed life. The tour of Graceland Mansion includes the living room, his parents' bedroom, the kitchen, TV room, pool room, the famous Jungle Room, his father's office, the Trophy Building, the Racquetball Building –restored to how it looked in 1977, and Meditation Garden. Step aboard Elvis' customized airplanes to see how he traveled in luxury. The Lisa Marie includes a living room, conference room, private bedroom and features gold-plated seatbelts, leather-covered tables, and 24-karat gold-flecked sinks. Plus, you can take a glimpse at Elvis' smaller Lockheed Jetstar, the Hound Dog II. Walk among some of Elvis' favorite automobiles, including his iconic Pink Cadillac, Stutz Blackhawk, 1956 Cadillac Eldorado, Dino Ferrari, Mercedes Benz limousine, Rolls Royce sedans and more. Immerse yourself in Elvis' incredible career through hundreds of artifacts and photos from significant events in his life, as you tour the extensive Graceland Archives, including Elvis' amazing collection of gold and platinum records, his stunning jumpsuits, and other clothing and memorabilia from his movies. Later you will enjoy a guided tour of Memphis and a visit to **Sun Studios**, known as "The Birthplace of Rock 'n' Roll". It is the discovery location of musical legends and genres of the 50's from B.B. King and Elvis Presley to Johnny Cash and Jerry Lee Lewis; from Blues and Gospel to Country and Rock'n' roll. You will witness the **Peabody Duck March** at the famous Peabody Hotel. Since the 1930s, every day at 11:00 a.m., the Peabody Ducks are escorted from their penthouse home, on the Rooftop, to the lobby via elevator. The ducks, accompanied by the King Cotton March by John Philip Sousa, then proceed across a red carpet to the hotel fountain. The ducks are then ceremoniously led back to their penthouse at 5:00 p.m. You will enjoy time on your own on Beale Street, one of the most iconic streets in America. Three blocks of nightclubs, restaurants and shops in the heart of downtown Memphis. The Beale Street Entertainment District is a melting pot of delta blues, jazz, rock 'n' roll, R&B and gospel. Dinner is included this evening at the original **BB King's Blues Club** on Beale Street. (*Breakfast and dinner are included today*).

Day 3: Wednesday, March 24th

You will start your day with a visit to the **National Civil Rights Museum**, located at the former Lorraine Motel, where civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968. Through interactive exhibits, films, oral histories and interactive media, the museum offers visitors a chance to walk through history and learn more about a tumultuous and inspiring period of change. You will stop at **Slave Haven Underground Railroad Museum**. When you enter the white clapboard house you will see displays of ads, auctions and artifacts that help tell the story of slavery and the Underground Railroad. The house has 19th century furnishings but its main feature is the secret cellar and trap doors that offered refuge to runaway slaves. This dark cellar was their home for days as they sat silently waiting for boats that would take them to other way stations upriver on their way to freedom in the northern states. After stepping down into the cellar and kneeling on the brick floor of this cramped room, you definitely get a deeper understanding of the slaves' plight. You will visit **Stax Records Museum**, where you'll start your museum tour in the true birthplace of soul music – a modest country church. Just as Stax's music found its roots in the sounds of Southern gospel music, the museum opens in a real, circa-1906 Mississippi Delta church that has been carefully reassembled inside of the museum building. Behold Isaac Hayes' glittering custom Cadillac Eldorado, and see the hall of records where the walls are lined with floor-to-ceiling cases containing all of the albums and singles released by Stax and its subsidiary labels from 1957 – 1975. See the album art and hear the classics. Lunch is included today at a popular Memphis BBQ joint. *(Breakfast and lunch are included today).*

Day 4: Thursday, March 25th

This morning you will travel to Music City - Nashville, Tennessee where your first stop will be the **Country Music Hall of Fame Museum**, the definitive home of American music, safeguarding more than 2.5 million priceless artifacts, including countless recordings and photographs, numerous stage costumes, musical instruments, and more. You will also visit Historic **RCA Studio B** -- once the recording home of popular music titans such as Elvis Presley, Chet Atkins, Eddy Arnold, and The Everly Brothers. That evening you will enjoy dinner and live entertainment at the **Wildhorse Saloon**, Nashville's premier line dancing venue! *(Breakfast and dinner are included today).*

Day 5: Friday, March 26th

This morning you will learn all about Nashville when you're joined by a knowledgeable step-on-guide. You will drive through historic downtown Nashville, Music Row, Honky Tonk Row, Bicentennial Park, the State Capitol, Centennial Park, the Parthenon, and more. You will tour the **Tennessee State Capitol**, a National Historic Landmark. Later visit historic **Ryman Auditorium**. While famously known as the home of the Grand Ole Opry from 1943 to 1974, there is far more to the story of Music City's most recognizable icon. You'll experience a backstage tour and discover what makes the Ryman the "Soul of Nashville." That evening you'll experience the thrill of a live show at the **Grand Ole Opry**. *(Breakfast and dinner are included today).*

Day 6: Saturday, March 27th

Today you journey back to Gladstone with fond memories of a wonderful trip. *(Breakfast is included today).*

Per Person Tour Price: \$1590.00 Double
 \$2090.00 Single

Price includes motorcoach transportation, hotel accommodations, tours, nine meals and driver's gratuity. A deposit of \$100.00 per person will hold space with final payment due January 8th.

Cancellation policy: A full refund will be issued in the event of a trip cancellation due to insufficient enrollment. Refunds are available up to the final payment. After that time, a full refund cannot be guaranteed. It will be at the discretion of the hotels, restaurants and attractions. A \$5.00 processing fee will be withheld for any refund checks issued.

For reservations or further information, please contact:

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