

Sample of the South

Spotlighting Mississippi

April 3 - 9, 2009
(7 days - 6 nights)



Departing Abilene, Big Spring, Midland and San Angelo

Fri, April 3 Shreveport, LA

With excitement in the air we board our motorcoach, getting

acquainted with fellow travelers as we begin our tour to Mississippi with other attractions en route. After stopping for lunch in the Metroplex of Fort Worth and Dallas we continue across East Texas and into the Pelican State of Louisiana.

Sat, April 4

After a good night's rest in Shreveport we turn to the south. By noon we will be arriving in Lafayette, in the heart of Cajun Country and the cultural center of Louisiana's heritage. The city was named after Marquis de La Fayette, a Frenchman who believed so strongly in liberty that he volunteered and fought alongside American patriots in the American Revolution. After lunch we will stop at the Jean Lafitte Acadian Cultural Center, a division of the National Park Service. The film and exhibits depict the story of the Acadians who settled the prairies, bayous and marshes of Southern Louisiana. Dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant known for its Cajun cuisine and toe-tapping Cajun and Zydeco music. You will be saying "laissez les bons temps rouler" (let the good times roll).

Sun, April 5

Today we continue to New Orleans where we tour with a local guide aboard our motorcoach. Enjoy visits to the French Quarter, Jackson Square and the Garden District. Stop at one of the above-ground cemeteries to learn about the necessity of this burial procedure. This afternoon we continue to Biloxi, MS located on the Gulf Coast. Our home for the next 2 nights is the beautiful Beau Rivage Hotel, the premiere vacation resort and casino in Biloxi. You may wish to try your luck with gaming or shop, relax at the spa or take in a show.

Biloxi, MS

Mon, April 6

We make the short drive this morning to Theodore, AL to see Bellingrath Gardens. Encompassing 65 landscaped acres in the midst of a 905-acre semi-tropical rain forest, Bellingrath Gardens is in full bloom year-round. The gardens were first opened to the public by Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bellingrath in 1932. Returning to Biloxi this afternoon visit the Biloxi Lighthouse and Katrina Tree Sculptures. Trees damaged by the hurricane have been turned into art by chain-saw artist, Dayton Scoggins, and wood sculptor, Marlin Miller.

Biloxi, MS



Tue, April 7

Before departing the Gulf Coast we will learn about the shrimp business on an excursion aboard a comfortable, enclosed boat in the shallow, protected waters near the harbor. The net will catch any and all sea creatures, ranging from shrimp, blue crabs, flounder, stingray and other species of local marine life. The entire catch will be identified by the captain. This afternoon we route thru the middle of Mississippi to the historic town of Vicksburg, situated high on the bluffs of the mighty Mississippi River. "Authentic southern cooking" will be the menu for dinner tonight at Walnut Hills Round Table Restaurant, having gained attention from articles written in Southern Living Magazine.

Vicksburg, MS

Bilbrey Tours, Inc.
3262 South 27th Street
Abilene, Texas 79605

(325) 692-1308
1-888-692-1308
www.bilbreytours.com

Wed, April 8

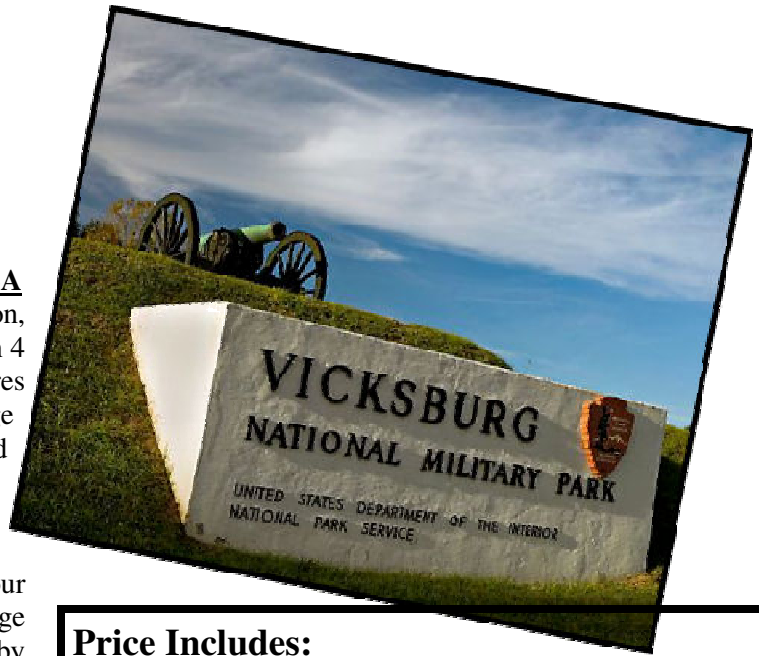
Shreveport, LA

Tour Linden Plantation Gardens, an 1820's plantation, founded by the Vick family and passed down through 4 generations to the present owners. It consists of 8-acres of formal and informal gardens, including a large native garden nestled amidst century old cedars. The home contains original antiques plus unique family pieces and documents reflect life during the occupation by Union soldiers. With a local guide aboard our motorcoach we tour Vicksburg National Military Park. The military siege in 1863 can be visualized and understood by following the 16-mile driving tour. More than 1,260 memorials, monuments and statues honor those who participated in the Vicksburg campaign.

Thu, April 9

Return home

This morning as we board the motorcoach, we realize our "Sample of the South" tour is coming to a close but we will long remember the memories shared by all and the new friendships we have made. Lunch will again be in the Metroplex of Fort Worth-Dallas before returning to West Texas.



Highlights Include:

- 2- nights at luxurious Beau Rivage Resort and Casino (Biloxi, MS)
- Tour Bellingrath Gardens and Home
- New Orleans City Tour
- French Quarter
- Vicksburg National Military Park
- Biloxi Lighthouse
- Linden Plantation Gardens
- Shrimp Boat Excursion
- Jean Lafitte Acadian Cultural Center
- Katrina Tree Sculptures

Price Includes:

- Deluxe motorcoach transportation from: **Abilene, Big Spring, Midland and San Angelo**
- 6-nights accommodations
- Baggage handling for one piece of luggage
- Admissions to included attractions as per itinerary
- Meals: 4 continental breakfasts and 2 breakfasts
- 2 lunches and 3 dinners
- Gratuities for motorcoach driver and local guides

**Cost per person: \$1229 (2 people per room)
\$1495 (1 person per room)**

**\$50 deposit + \$89 insurance (optional)
due upon booking**

Final payment due February 20

Travel Protection Insurance is available at a cost of \$89 per person. A complete outline of coverage is available upon request. Insurance is optional and may only be purchased with initial deposit. We strongly urge you to purchase this insurance to protect yourself in the event of a **medically related cancellation. All cancellations must be reported to Bilbrey Tours, Inc. within 72 hours of the problem causing the need to cancel. All claims must be completed by attending physician.**

Luggage tags and a detailed itinerary will be provided 2 weeks prior to tour.

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