



SWEET CAROLINA

MAY 13-21, 2024

See stunning vistas and late-spring flowers dotting the Appalachian foothills aboard the Blue Ridge Scenic Railway. Estates like the Biltmore House & Gardens, Bellingrath Home and the Hermitage Mansion will leave you inspired!

1 // Tyler, TX Our first day on the road takes us to Tyler, Texas. We will view the largest public collection of roses in the United States at the **Tyler Rose Garden**. Tonight, **dinner** is included.

2 // Vicksburg, MS Start the day by exploring Vicksburg. This Mississippi River town sits on the border of two states, and was a strategic necessity for both sides fighting the Civil War. Visit the **Vicksburg Battlefield** to learn about this pivotal battle and the South's surrender here in 1863.

3 // Mobile, AL Stroll the spectacular springtime gardens and tour the **Bellingrath Home**, lauded as one of Alabama's most beautiful antebellum estates this morning. Lunch is served at the estate. Dive into history with a tour of the **USS Alabama Battleship Memorial Park**. Explore the WWII warship that led the American fleet into Tokyo Bay in 1945, and learn about her remarkable, albeit brief, career.

4 // Atlanta, GA This morning our journey takes us to Georgia's bustling state capital. We will stop along the way for a **guided tour of the Hills & Dales Estate** in LaGrange, GA. The estate was

completed in 1916 and the 13,000 square foot home was designed to flow gracefully into its gardens. These gardens are widely considered to be among the best preserved 19th century gardens in the country. A **lunch** will be provided as we enjoy the sites and smells and stroll the well-trodden paths.

5 // Asheville, NC Drive to the Blue Ridge Mountain retreat town of **Asheville, North Carolina** this morning. A small town that has attracted visionaries, poets and explorers, Asheville thrives amidst its beautiful landscape. Join the many generations who have taken the nostalgic journey through the charming Appalachian foothills of North Georgia aboard the **Blue Ridge Scenic Railway**. During the trip, you'll have time to visit the small southern sister towns of McCaysville, Georgia and Copperhill, Tennessee. Explore delightful eateries, antique and specialty shops and art galleries before boarding the train for the return. Later, take in the scenery as we drive along **Blue Ridge Parkway**, a ribbon of road that winds through the scenic Smoky Mountains, with breathtaking views of vistas.

6 // Asheville, NC America's largest home, the **Biltmore Estate**, is a true wonder of architecture and hospitality. Explore the 8000-acre estate built by George Vanderbilt in 1895, and soak in the amazing sights of artwork, architecture and nature from the Gilded Age. The lush and beautiful reflecting ponds of the Italian Gardens are a fitting entry into a stunning world of garden paths. Next, head to charming **Antler Hill Village** for shopping and lunch on your own. A delicious **dinner** is included this evening.

7 // Nashville, TN Walk through history with a visit to **The Hermitage Mansion**, President Andrew Jackson's gracious home. Explore

Departs: Wichita, OKC, Tulsa

Included Meals:

- 8 Breakfasts
- 3 Lunches
- 4 Dinners

Activity Level

\$2349 Double **\$2189 Triple**
\$2039 Quad **\$2949 Single**

\$100 Non-Refundable Deposit Per Person
Optional Travel Protection Available
Final Payment Due 60 days before departure

Cancellation Policy B

the lush gardens and tour the mansion which contains hundreds of the Jackson family's original belongings. **Lunch** is included. Welcome to Music City U.S.A.! Get a behind-the-scenes look at country music's most famous show, the **Grand Ole Opry**. During this exclusive **Backstage Tour** you'll walk in the footsteps of country music superstars to get an intimate look at the people, places and stories behind the show that made country music famous. Tonight, Nashville comes alive as we celebrate country music at an unforgettable **dinner show at Nashville Nightlife Theatre**.

8 // Little Rock, AR Tour the exquisite home and gardens at **The Edgemont House**. Gather inspiration as we visit the personal home of Chris H. Olsen, nationally known home and garden guru, author and TV personality. Feast on a delicious **dinner** following the tour.

9 // Home Travel home today after a unique adventure filled with magnificent mountains and mansions.

