

# **BLOSSOMS & BEIGNETS**

Capture the essence of Dixie on this exciting tour sure to put a spring in your step. Our itinerary is designed to indulge the taste buds, with spectacular cuisine at every stop. Plus enjoy two nights in magical New Orleans!

1 // Little Rock, AR Our long-awaited journey finally gets underway today.

2 // Canton, MS With a natural playground surrounding Little Rock, we'll make a stop at a famous place with a beautiful scenery. Visit The Old Mill, which is known for the opening scene in the movie, "Gone With The Wind", made in 1939. Then, explore the Clinton Presidential Library and Museum, exploring the life of our 42nd President and the First Family. Besides the archival collection, research facilities and exhibits, the museum includes replicas of the Oval Office and the Cabinet Room.

3 // Covington, LA Start out today with a tour of the historic Madison County Courthouse, once the very center and glory of small town Canton, Mississippi. Then, get up close and personal with those famous Louisiana alligators! At Insta-Gator Ranch, get to know hatchlings of less than one foot as well as the older, bigger, guys, learning about their life cycle and their unique anatomy from trained experts. Next, we will travel to the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain, across from New Orleans, for dinner at Benedict's Plantation, one of the most iconic restaurants in the region.

4 // New Orleans, LA Son of a gun, we'll have some fun on the bayou! This morning, join an experienced guide on a boat tour of Honey Island Swamp, one of the most pristine swamps in the country. Enjoy a delicious southern lunch. Blues, crawfish, the French Quarter, cemeteries and a basilica...get a feel for the Big Easy on our New Orleans city tour this afternoon, which ends with the city's signature confection, beignets. **Dinner** is included tonight before we begin our two-night stay in New Orleans.

5 // New Orleans, LA The cuisine of Louisiana is famous all on it's own! Today we'll learn a bit about what makes it so special at the New Orleans School of Cooking. After our cooking class, we will of course get to enjoy lunch with a Louisiana flair. The National WWII Museum's exhibits are a blend of personal accounts, artifacts, documents, photographs and original film footage. The stories of the dozens of amphibious landings and the thousands of men and women who made Allied victory in World War II possible are told through three floors of exhibit space. This afternoon, elevate your senses 34 stories up from the city's only 360° indoor and outdoor observation deck. From history-rich urban architecture to the wetlands and waterways surrounding us, the Vue Orleans observation deck delivers the best views in town. Tonight you'll be able to explore the French Quarter on your own during free time.

6 // Lafayette, LA Drive west to mysterious Jefferson Island. Its fascinating and tragic history adds to the charm of the exquisite mansion and surroundings, named Rip Van Winkle Gardens. Enjoy lunch with a fantastic view of the grounds, then continue to another salt dome island, Avery Island, home to Tabasco Sauce and, consequently, Jungle Gardens. Created by one of the company's sons, the gardens are home to a wide array of animals and plants in surprising combinations. Alligators, deer and raccoons reside near azaleas, camellias and papyrus as well as the signature snowy egrets which started the preserve in the first place. The island's main resident, the Tabasco Sauce Factory, is ours to explore on a guided tour later this afternoon. Stop at the jewel in the crown of New Iberia, Shadows on the Teche. This antebellum mansion beckons another era. where the moss on the trees softens the pace and the atmosphere.

## MAY 12-19, 2025

Departs: Wichita, OKC, Tulsa

#### **Included Meals:**

- 7 Breakfasts
- 3 Lunches
- 2 Dinners

### Active Activity Level \$1999 Double \$1779 Quad

#### \$1859 Triple **\$2499 Single**

Pricing is Per Person

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

#### **Cancellation Policy B**

7 // Dallas, TX This afternoon we will visit the gorgeous Dallas Arboretum. You'll be overwhelmed by the intoxicating aromas, colorful gardens, and beautiful pathways that are spread across the 66-acre property!

8 // Home Our spring splurge ends, and summer begins on a sweet note after treats for all the senses.

