

# TRI-STATE TRAVEL

## Southern Porches

Featuring Charleston & Beaufort, SC -- Savannah & Jekyll Island, GA  
October 30-November 8, 2020

Boarding in Davenport & Dubuque, Iowa and Moline & Galena, Illinois  
Partnering with Plus 55 Club

**TO MAKE A RESERVATION, PLEASE CONTACT US AT 1-800-779-4869**

### **TOUR HIGHLIGHTS:**

- ❖ 20 Meals: 9 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 7 Dinners
- ❖ Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation with full time Tour Director
- ❖ One Way Coach Class Airfare – Jacksonville, FL to Chicago O’Hare
- ❖ Charleston, SC Touring
- ❖ Edmondston-Alston House
- ❖ Fort Sumter
- ❖ Middleton Place Plantation
- ❖ Beaufort, SC Touring
- ❖ Savannah, GA Touring
- ❖ Tybee Island Touring
- ❖ Jekyll Island

### **Your Tour Price:**

\$3,999.00 per person – 2 to a room

\$4,999.00 per person – single

**Your Tour Includes:** 9 Nights’ Accommodations, Admissions per the itinerary, Luggage Handling for One Suitcase Not to Exceed 50 Lbs., Taxes and Gratuities on Included Accommodations, Attractions, Meals, and Step-on Guides

**Not Included:** Travel Protection Plan, Gratuities to Tri-State Travel Tour Director and Motorcoach Driver, or Items of a Personal Nature



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## **Day #1 - Friday, October 30, 2020**

On our way!! A deluxe motorcoach meets you at the designated TST departure point. Soon you are traveling through Indiana on your way to Cincinnati for our first overnight. Dinner is included at the Hofbrahaus Newport in the Levee area of Northern Kentucky. Experience hearty German fare and staff in traditional garb in a sprawling indoor/outdoor space. Then it is time to check into our hotel. **(D)**

## **Day #2 - Saturday, October 31, 2020**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel prior to checking out. Sit back and relax as we make our way to South Carolina. Lunch is on your own prior to checking into our Simpsonville, SC hotel. Dinner this evening is included. **(BD)**

## **Day #3 - Sunday, November 1, 2020**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel prior to checking out. Late morning finds us in Charleston, SC. Enjoy free time and lunch on your own at City Market spanning four blocks and home to more than 300 vibrant entrepreneurs. Sweet grass basket weavers can be seen in every building, along with local artists, jewelry, tapestry, souvenirs, church dolls, afghans, rugs, rice, beans and sauces, local candies and cookies, and much more. Mid afternoon finds us taking a horse drawn carriage ride through historic Charleston. Rich in over 300 years of history, Charleston is one of the most beautifully preserved historic and architectural treasures in the nation. Significant and lovely structures, beautiful gardens, and centuries-old homes grace the narrow streets. Church bells toll the hour as history unfolds around each and every corner. Next, we visit the Edmondston-Alston House, a historic, Federal-style home showcasing architecture, furnishings and family artifacts. It has magnificent views of Charleston Harbor. Wine is served on the second-floor piazza porch prior to our included dinner at the Charleston Crab House. Enjoy fresh seafood with amazing water views of Wappoo Creek and Bridge. We check into our hotel and the balance of the evening is at your leisure. **(BD)**

## **Day #4 - Monday, November 2, 2020**

Breakfast is at the hotel prior to checking out. Arrive at Fort Sumter, which is only accessible by boat, to spend approximately an hour on the grounds of this historic monument, which is where the Civil War began. Decades of growing political tension around the issue of slavery between North and South had erupted in civil war on April 12, 1861 when Confederate artillery opened fire on this Federal fort in Charleston Harbor. We return to the mainland to find an included lunch waiting for us at Drayton Hall Rudi's Café, located in the new visitor center. Drayton Hall embodies a world where dances took place in the upper Great Hall and where guests withdrew into smaller chambers for cards and conversation after dinner.

Experience the interactive, educational Drayton Hall Port to Plantation presentation: Slavery and the Making of Early Lowcountry Economy, involving African-American history, historical interpreters and research. This 30-minute interpretive program explores the economic ramification of slavery at Drayton Hall and throughout the Carolina

Lowcountry – a history with which Charleston still grapples with today. This is an important glimpse into the past; discover the many ways in which enslaved workers literally and figuratively built the Lowcountry economy. We continue our



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travels as we make our way to Middleton Place Plantation. This plantation is one of the oldest and finest landscaped gardens in America. It is a National Historic Landmark and a carefully preserved 18th-century plantation that has survived revolution, Civil War, and earthquake. Sweeping views, intimate garden rooms, and ornamental waters highlight the garden. We depart for Beaufort. Enjoy a Wine Welcome Reception at historic Rhett House in Downtown Beaufort. You will be greeted with a glass of wine, light hors d'oeuvres, and great company for an enjoyable southern social. Dinner will follow at Q on Bay for sliders, sandwiches, Southern BBQ, beer & wine, served in a classic space with river views to watch the sunset. After dinner we check into our Beaufort, SC overnight accommodations. **(BLD)**



## **Day # 5 - Tuesday, November 3, 2020**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. Our local guide joins us at our Beaufort hotel and then we're off to Catch the Spirit of the Islands onboard our Convertible Sprinters with 360-degree unobstructed panoramic views. Travel the beaches and backroads inaccessible on a full-sized motorcoach while we discover what makes this area so unique. Roll back the retractable roof once we pull off the main roads. Enjoy the beach as the beach should be enjoyed! Smell the earthy marsh and salty tidal air, soak in the sunlight, and enjoy the fresh air breezes. This morning we "Journey from Slavery to Freedom" catching the spirit of island life and its unique history and heritage. See the Plantation House from the impressive Avenue of Oaks. Next, we are off to do a little beachcombing at an undisturbed and beautiful barrier Island. See the lighthouses, learn its history and climb, if you dare! Walk the beach while learning about the unique eco-systems of this area, an Audubon and turtle preserve. Explore this Island that was the location of the Viet Nam Beach Scene where Forrest Gump carried Bubba to safety. Lunch is a Low Country Shrimp Boil, AKA Frogmore Stew, served at the Sea Island Center where we will "Hear the Rest of the Story" from a local storyteller and historical interpreter. Time to visit the Shrimp Docks, where your shrimp was harvested for our Low Country Boil today! Get a close-up experience of low country life and the history of shrimping on the island. Visit the docks and learn the history, heritage and traditions of the commercial shrimping in the low country. See the boats and docks where Forrest Gump was depicted. On the journey back to the hotel, time permitting, we will stop at a local farm market for a chance to purchase and take back some homemade culinary delights such as WEE Gumbo or pick a watermelon to enjoy at the hotel this evening. Dinner and reception are included at Anchorage 1770 Historic waterfront boutique Antebellum Inn. **(BLD)**

## **Day # 6 - Wednesday, November 4, 2020**

Breakfast is served at the hotel prior to checking out. What better way to experience and learn about Beaufort's history than via a horse drawn carriage ride? You will see Hollywood movie sets, gorgeous gardens, ancient churches and many Civil War era Antebellum homes. Time to relax in the balmy breeze on Captain Dick's Beaufort River Tour & Dolphin Watch. The Captain and First Mate leads our tour amidst the ecology of the Salt Marsh which includes dolphins, osprey and more! Enjoy lunch on own with free time in downtown Beaufort to shop the unique and independent boutiques, artisan shops and restaurants located here. Beaufort has a very comfortable



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and walkable downtown with no chain retail shops or restaurants. We depart for Savannah and check into our hotel. **(B)**



## **Day # 7 - Thursday, November 5, 2020**

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel. After a short journey we once again leave our motorcoach behind and board our convertible mini bus to enjoy a unique tour of Savannah. Enjoy expansive 360-degree panoramic views from this vehicle with a fully retractable glass top. See Historic steeples, Spanish moss and Georgia sunshine as we enjoy a 90-minute driving tour of the Historic District before we venture off to discover the best of the Low Country! Next, visit a 100-year old Gullah

Geechee Community quietly isolated on the banks of Moon River (Yes, THAT Moon River!), and learn about the unique aspects of their oyster and crab aquaculture practiced for over a century. A BBQ lunch is served by the regional cook off BBQ Master! Today we'll see one of the largest rows of Live Oaks and Spanish moss in the U.S. Colonial interpreters will tell the story of the Estate of Noble Jones (1702-1775). Try your hand at Cricket on the original grass Cricket lawn located here. While the sun sets from a porch nestled in the heart of Sandfly enjoy oyster appetizers. We move inside for window view seating and a dinner of locally sources fresh seafood. Return to hotel. **(BLD)**

## **Day # 8 - Friday, November 6, 2020**

Prior to check out, enjoy breakfast. We depart the hotel with our local step on guide who will share with us the history of Tybee Island. Our first visit is at Fort Pulaski National Monument on Cockspur Island, where in 1862 during the American Civil War, the Union Army successfully tested rifled cannon in combat and the success of which rendered brick fortifications obsolete. The Confederate garrison inside the fort was compelled to surrender in this siege. Tybee Island Light Station and Museum is a still-functioning 18<sup>th</sup>-century lighthouse that has been rebuilt many times. Cockspur Island Lighthouse is the smallest one in Georgia and ceased operation as an active beacon in 1909. It has been relit since 2007 for historical rather than navigational purpose. Visit the Tybee Island Marine Science Center and enjoy Whale Tales. Momma right whales and their babies spend the winter off Georgia's coast. Join us to learn about the amazing lives of marine mammals, specifically right whales: we'll discuss their anatomy, adaptations, life cycle, and current conservation efforts for this endangered species. Then we'll head down to the Coastal Georgia Gallery to check out the right whale exhibit and then to the pier for



dolphin watching. Enjoy lunch on your own on Tybee Island. We return to Savannah and you have the afternoon

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free to shop or visit one of the amazing historic homes. Late afternoon we depart Savannah and make our way to Jekyll Island where we check into the Jekyll Island Club. Since 1888 iconic families like the Vanderbilt's, Morgan's, Pulitzers, and Rockefellers were members of the Jekyll Island Club. They came for the winters by private rail cars and luxurious yachts. Jekyll Island has plenty to explore. Nature lovers and photo buffs find rare birds, sea turtle sanctuaries, and the remote beauty of Driftwood Beach. Historians devour the stories and architecture. Enjoy dinner included at Jekyll Island Club Resort. **(BD)**

## **Day # 9 - Saturday, November 7, 2020**

After an included breakfast we arrive at the Jekyll Island Museum and take a tram ride through the islands 240-acre Jekyll Island Club National Historic Landmark District, getting a glimpse of the past viewing historic Victorian cottages that accommodated the Clubs elite members. At the turn of the century, tycoons, politicians, and socialites flocked to Jekyll Island to revel in their own luxury and America's burgeoning wealth. Our historic Georgia Club was



described in the February 1904 issue of Munsey's Magazine as "the richest, the most exclusive, the most inaccessible club in the world." We continue on to Horton House, a historic site originally constructed in 1743 by Major William Horton, a top military aide to General James Oglethorpe. Horton also brewed beer in Georgia's first brewery. Enjoy a picnic box lunch at Clam Creek Picnic Area. Stop at Driftwood Beach and see beautiful driftwood and trees that resemble a scene from another world. Our last attraction today is the Georgia State Sea Turtle Center, an educational center devoted to the study, care & rehabilitation of sea turtles & their environment. Return to the Resort with a free evening and dinner on own. **(BL)**

## **Day # 10 - Sunday, November 8, 2020**

One last breakfast and then we depart for the Jacksonville, Florida Airport and our flight home. A Tri-State Travel motorcoach is waiting to return us to our original departure point. **(B)**