TRI-STATE TRAVEL

The Ultimate Florida Road Trip

17 Days February 11-27, 2025

What a getaway! This is the Ultimate Florida Road Trip filled with beautiful beaches, unique wildlife and stunning islands. You start in the northeast corner follow the Atlantic Coast south to Miami, cross the Everglades, then follow the Gulf Coast north. It's once around Florida tour at a leisurely pace without amusement parks. Gather your traveling friends and let us show you Florida.

Tour Highlights: *

- Nashville Troubadour Sightseeing Tour
- Rock City Gardens Tour w/Lunch
- Savannah's River Street
- Guided Tour of Amelia Island & Free Time on Fernandina Beach
- Kingsley Plantation Tour
- Guided Tour of St. Augustine & Black Raven Pirate Cruise
- Fountain of Youth
- Kennedy Space Center
- Little Havana Art Tour
- Biscayne Bay & Millionaire's Row Cruise
- Everglades Tram Tour
- Conch Train Tour & Free Day in Key West
- Ernest Hemingway Home & Museum
- Mallory Square Sunset Celebration
- Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre
- Edison & Ford Winter Estates
- Coastal Sealife & Dolphin Cruise
- Tour of the Sunken Gardens & Sun Harvest Citrus
- Tour & Tasting at Florida Orange Grove Winery
- Clearwater Beach Dinner Cruise
- Silver Springs Boat Ride
- 16 Nights First Class Lodging
- 16 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches & 9 Additional Dinners
- Taxes and Gratuities on Included Accommodations, Attractions, and Meals
- Luggage Handling *
- Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation
- Full Time Tour Director



\$6,369 DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

\$5,899 TRIPLE...\$5,859 QUAD...\$8,729 SINGLE

\$750 per person deposit due with reservation Final Payment due December 1, 2024

Travel Insurance is available

and strongly recommended. (see page 3 for details)

For Additional Information Or To Make A Reservation Contact: Tri-State Travel 1-800-779-4869

The Ultimate Florida Road Trip

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Day 1 - Indianapolis, IN – Travel today takes you to Indianapolis, IN for the night. Dinner will be on your own this evening.

Day 2 - Nashville Troubadour Tour - Marietta, GA – Today, stop in Nashville, TN for a Troubadour City Tour, a Singer/Song Writer Guided tour that brings new meaning to the phrase "Entertaining Narrative." The tour will include Downtown Nashville's colorful history with drive-bys of the historic Ryman Auditorium, Tootsie's Orchid Lounge, Honky Tonk Row. Hear what it's like trying to break into Nashville's music scene, both the struggles and the victories. End the day in Marietta, GA. Dinner will be on your own. **(B)**



Day 3 - Chattanooga, TN - Rock City Gardens - Macon, GA - This morning, stop in Chattanooga, TN to visit Rock City Gardens. This true marvel of nature, featuring massive rock formations, gardens with over 400 native plant species and a breathtaking 'See 7 States' panoramic view. Enjoy a catered lunch today with

your visit to Rock City Gardens. Travel continues to Macon, GA for the night. Dinner is on your own this evening. **(B,L)**

Day 4 – Savannah, GA – Free Time on River Street – Amelia Island, FL – Today features a stop in Savannah, GA for free time and lunch on own at River Street. With new buildings nestled next to former cotton warehouses, you'll find over 70 shops, galleries, and restaurants located right on the Savannah River. End the day in beautiful Amelia Island, FL for an overnight stay. Unwind on the white-powder sands of Amelia Island, where palm trees and stunning ocean views frame one of Florida's most relaxing vacation spots. Tonight, dinner is included at a local restaurant. (**B,D**)

Day 5 - Guided Tour of Amelia Island - Fernandina Beach – **Kingsley Plantation – St. Augustine, FL -** After breakfast, meet your local guide for a tour of Amelia Island. With 13 miles of beautiful beaches, abundant native wildlife, and pristine waters, this barrier island has long been a beloved destination for visitors and residents alike. Enjoy a tour through the historic downtown covering the history of the buildings, homes, and a historical exploration of the area. Enjoy free time at Fernandina Beach for lunch and shopping on own.

Departing Amelia Island this afternoon, stop in Jacksonville, FL to tour Kingsley Plantation, located on Fort George Island. Anna Kingsley was the first black woman in Florida to own three plantations and her own slaves. This is a must hear story. End the day in St. Augustine, FL for a two-night stay at a Historic District hotel. Dinner is included this evening at a local restaurant. **(B,D)**

Day 6 - St. Augustine Guided Tour – Black Raven Pirate Cruise – Fountain of Youth - This morning, meet your local guide for a tour of St. Augustine, the nation's oldest city and discover more than four centuries of history. Afterwards, you have time for lunch on own and shopping in the Historic District.



Next, you take a ride on the Black Raven Pirate Ship. This is a oneof-a-kind live pirate show full of music, thrills and entertainment! Participate in the adventure, sing along with the crew, and find your inner pirate while you see the beautiful sights of the Matanzas River. Then the last attraction of the afternoon is Ponce De Leon's Fountain of Youth (c.a.1513.) You will discover it as an Archaeological Park and you will learn of that first encounter in 1513 between the Spanish and the Indians. Your tour guide will also show you the original spring and you will have a chance to drink from just as thousands before you have. End the day with dinner at the Raintree Restaurant. After dinner, entertainment will be included at available. **(B,D)**

Day 7 - Titusville, FL - Kennedy Space Center -

After breakfast travel to Cape Canaveral and visit the Kennedy Space Center. The John F. Kennedy Space Center is one of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration field centers. Since December 1968, Kennedy Space Center has been NASA's primary launch center of human



spaceflight. Launch operations for the Apollo, Skylab and Space Shuttle programs were carried out from Kennedy Space Center Launch Complex 39 and managed by KSC. Then check into your Titusville, FL hotel for the night. Dinner tonight is at a local restaurant. **(B,D)**

Day 8 – Miami, FL - Biscayne Bay Cruise - Cuban Dinner – After breakfast, travel continues to Miami, FL. On arrival this afternoon, enjoy a sightseeing cruise of Biscayne Bay. You will have the best views of the Downtown Miami skyline, the Port of Miami, Fisher Island, Miami Beach and Millionaire's Row - the homes of the rich and famous. Then check into your waterfront Miami Beach hotel for a two night stay. Tonight, dinner is included at a local Cuban restaurant. **(B,D)**



Day 9 - Little Havana Art Tour - Everglades Tram Tour - The morning begins with a guided walking tour of Little Havana that will immerse you in Calle Ocho's history. Stop and learn about locations such as: Domino Park, a Cigar Shop, the Cuban Memory Plaza, Bay of Pigs Monument, "Walkway of the Stars", and Tower Theater. There

are also shops, restaurants, a little market, and art galleries to explore.

A boxed lunch will be provided today. The afternoon features a twohour Everglades Tram Tour through the Shark Valley section of Everglades National Park. Shark Valley naturalists escort this tour, and are fully prepared to make your journey a memorable one.

Besides giving insight into the ecosystem as a whole, your naturalist will also help to point out some of the "hidden" aspects of the Everglades that help to make this a world-renowned-wetlands. The open vehicles used on this tram tours allow visitors to view wildlife within the sawgrass prairies on either side of the tram. Returning to Miami, enjoy a free evening and dinner on own. **(B,L)**

Day 10 – Key West, FL - Conch Train Tour & Two-Day Pass – Mallory Square Celebration – Depart Miami this morning, traveling through the Florida Keys to Key West, FL. On arrival, enjoy free time for lunch on own and shopping in Mallory Square. This afternoon, enjoy a ride on the Conch Tour Train. Your private Key West tour guide will lead you through the picturesque streets as they reveal the treasures that have and still do make Key West the magical island basking in the Caribbean sun. You will also have a two day train pass to use doing your time in Key West.



Then check into your Key West Hotel for a twonight stay. Enjoy the Mallory Square Sunset Celebration, a nightly arts festival at Mallory Square Dock in Key West. See arts and crafts exhibitors, psychics, street performers, and food carts. Each night around two hours before sunset, masses of people flock to the water's edge to

experience a multicultural happening and to watch the sun sink into the Gulf of Mexico. Dinner is included this evening at a local restaurant. **(B,D)**

Day 11 - Ernest Hemingway Home & Museum – Free Afternoon & Evening - This morning, visit the Ernest Hemingway Home & Museum. Nestled in the heart of Old Town Key West, this unique property was home to one of America's most honored and respected authors. Wander through the lush grounds and enjoy the whimsy of



the more than sixty cats that live here. The rest of the day is at your leisure to explore Key West on your own. Dinner is on your own this evening. **(B)**

Day 12 - Fort Myers, FL - Sun Harvest Citrus – Broadway Palm Dinner Theater – Depart Key West this morning for Fort Myers, FL. Featured today is a visit to Sun Harvest Citrus. For over 30 years they have been a must stop for locals and tourists alike. Known for their juicy hand picked citrus, the fresh squeezed juices along with gourmet foods, tropical wines and famous soft serve ice cream it will be sure to please.

Check into your Fort Myers hotel for a two-night stay. Tonight, enjoy dinner and a show at the Broadway Palms Dinner Theatre, one of the longest running dinner theaters in Florida. (2025 schedule has not been released yet) **(B,D)**



Day 13 - Tour Edison & Ford Winter Estates – Coastal Sealife & Dolphin Cruise - Begin your day with a visit to the Edison Ford Winter Estates and discover the genius of two American innovators, Thomas Edison and Henry Ford. There are many different options to explore, with nine historic buildings, acres of lush gardens, Edison's

original botanic research laboratory and the 15,000-square-foot museum filled with hundreds of inventions and artifacts, special exhibit galleries and documentaries about the famous inventors. Lunch is included today at a local restaurant.

This evening, enjoy a Sunset Dolphin Cruise. Delight in a 90 minute scenic journey in to the Gulf of Mexico stopping for dolphins, bird rookeries and other wildlife along the way. Learn about the green flash that sometimes is seen at sunset, This cruise is laid back and a great way to end your day. Dinner is included this evening at the Snug Harbor Restaurant. **(B,L,D)**

Day 14 – St. Petersburg, FL – The Sunken Gardens – Florida Orange Groves Winery –

Clearwater Dinner Cruise - This morning, travel to St. Petersburg, FL where you tour the Sunken Gardens, a botanical paradise in the midst of a bustling city. As St. Petersburg's oldest living museum, this 100 year old garden is home to



some of the oldest tropical plants in the region. Explore cascading waterfalls, beautiful demonstration gardens, more than 50,000 tropical plants and flowers.

The afternoon features a tour and tasting at the Florida Orange Grove Winery. It is Florida's original tropical fruit winery, producing over 43 different varieties of tropical wines. With unique options such as Key Lime, Hurricane White Sangria and Mango Momma, you'll be relieved to sip on wine that actually tastes good!

Then check into your St. Petersburg, FL hotel for the night. This evening, take a Clearwater Beach Dinner Cruise. Enjoy a great dinner, live entertainment and dancing with some of the best waterfront views in all of Clearwater Beach. **(B,D)**

Day 15 – Silver Springs Boat Ride – Macon,

GA - Depart St. Petersburg this morning and stop in Silver Springs, FL for a ride on the world famous Glass Bottom Boats at Silver Springs State Park. Get a unique view of the underwater beauty and history of Silver Springs. Knowledgeable captains give a tour of the springs that fill the



Silver River. Glass panels built into the deck of each boat create a perfect window to reveal the one-of-a-kind artifacts and antiquities hidden below the surface of the crystal clear waters.

Travel continues this afternoon to Macon, GA where you enjoy an overnight stay at a local hotel and dinner at a local restaurant. **(B,D)**

Day 16– Paducah, KY – Travel today takes you to Paducah, KY for a night at the Drury Inn. Dinner is on your own this evening, but you can take advantage of the hotel's 5:30 Kickback featuring a rotating menu of hot foods and cold beverages. **(B)**

Day 17 - Depart for Home - After breakfast, depart for home. (B)

* Tri-State Travel cannot guarantee round trip hotel luggage handling due to hotel staff shortages.

The Travel Protection Plan: is not included but is available and strongly recommended. Premium is non-refundable unless the entire tour cancels. We offer a travel protection plan through Trip Mate Travel Insurance/a division of United States Fire Insurance Company Eatontown, NJ. Any surcharges and/or tax increases received from suppliers for this package (Airlines, Cruise Companies, Hotels, etc.) may result in an increase in the per person price of your tour package.

For those individuals who may have purchased the Travel Protection Plan, this may also result in an increase in your Travel Protection Plan Premium. Please refer to <u>www.tripmate.com/Plan</u> **TPD013** for information regarding detailed coverages and limitations to the insurance policy. Waiver of Pre-Existing Condition Exclusion. The exclusion for pre-Existing conditions will be waived provided (a) your payment for this plan is received within seven days of the date your initial payment or deposit for your trip is received; and (b) You are not disabled from travel at the time your plan payment is paid.

- * Tri-State Travel reserves the right to change any arrangements listed in this itinerary. Should conditions necessitate changes: substitution of equal value or cancellations of the arrangements may occur.
- * Tri-State Travel reserves the right to add any fuel surcharges that we receive from all our vendors ie: airlines, cruise lines, motorcoach companies, etc. Additional costs may be added any time prior to travel.
- * The Plan Cost includes the plan premium and a fee for noninsurance assistance services. You may obtain information on the plan fees by emailing <u>assistancefees@tripmate.com</u>.