



THE AMERICAN QUEEN™

# LUXURY ON THE MISSISSIPPI

New Orleans • The American Queen • Oak Alley • St. Francisville • Natchez • Helena • Memphis • The City of New Orleans

Luxury travel on the **American Queen™**. From the glistening woodwork, fresh flowers and antiques, you'll experience the opulence of the American Victorian era.

In colorful and fun-filled **New Orleans**, you'll be staying in a first-class French Quarter hotel, tour its major attractions and have time to wander the famous French Quarter on your own. Discover great shops and galleries plus exquisite dining and Dixieland jazz spots.

Located in the Saint James Parish, **Oak Alley** combines architectural splendor and the natural wonder of its 300-year-old oak trees.

Day 1-2..... Chicago to New Orleans  
 Day 3..... Embarkation  
 Day 4..... Oak Alley, LA  
 Day 5..... St. Francisville, LA  
 Day 6..... Natchez, Mississippi

**St. Francisville** is a quaint town with over 140 buildings on the National Register including beautiful plantation homes.

Step into the plantation lifestyle of the Antebellum South in **Natchez**.

Billed the Red Carpet City of the South, **Vicksburg** is home of the Vicksburg National Military Park.

Visit Elvis Presley's **Graceland** and the **Peabody Hotel** (famous for the Peabody ducks) in Memphis.

Day 7..... Vicksburg, Mississippi  
 Days 8-9 ..... Steamboating  
 Day 10..... Memphis / En Route  
 Day 11..... En Route to Chicago

# TOUR DATE(S):

2017

Sat., Mar. 18 to Tues., Mar. 28

# TOUR PRICE:

*All prices are per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.*

**\$3,995 - 11 Days**

Ship upgrades:

Cabin: D + \$1,140; \$2,280 single  
C + \$1,650; \$3,300 single  
B + \$1,905; \$3,810 single  
A + \$1,950; \$3,900 single  
AA + \$2,000; \$4,000 single  
AAA + 2,200; \$4,400 single

Train upgrade: Roomette + \$295  
Bedroom + \$445

**SINGLE \$5,745**

Train upgrade: Roomette + \$590  
See above for ship upgrades.

**FLY OPTION** - Fly to New Orleans and return from Memphis. 9 Days

Price: \$3,695

Single \$5,445

America by Rail will be happy to arrange your flights. Airfare is not included in above price.

## YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:

- Round-trip transportation by Amtrak rail and connecting motorcoach.
- Inside cabin aboard the American Queen™ for seven nights.
- Reclining coach seat on Amtrak for two nights.
- 26 meals.
- Sightseeing tours at each destination.
- Baggage handling, taxes, tips.
- Services of a professional America by Rail Tour Director.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING THIS TOUR:

Final payment for this tour will be December 12, 2016. Cruise cancellation policy is applicable.

## LUXURY ON THE MISSISSIPPI

### Day 1: Depart Chicago

**L**uxury on the Mississippi tour members meet their Tour Director in Chicago's Union Station throughout the afternoon.

At approximately 7:30 p.m., we'll board the Amtrak train made famous in the song, The City of New Orleans, departing at 8:05 p.m. Relax in your comfortable reclining coach seat with leg rest. Roomettes or Bedrooms are available at an additional cost. All dining car meals are included, beginning with dinner tonight. You can enjoy the evening getting to know your fellow travelers. **D**

### Day 2: New Orleans

We'll be rolling through the Mississippi Delta area this morning. We're scheduled to arrive in the Crescent City at 3:32 p.m.

Upon arrival we will begin a two-and-a-half-hour sightseeing tour of the Greater New Orleans area. The tour will include the St. Louis Cemetery III where the above ground burial system will be explained; beautiful City Park; the Lakefront area; the uptown section with its antebellum and new homes; Tulane University; Audubon Park; and the French Market.

Our home in New Orleans is either the Hilton New Orleans Riverside or the Westin New Orleans Canal Place.

You're in one of the most interesting cities in the world. Take full advantage of all there is to see, to do and to taste!

**B & L**

### Day 3: New Orleans / Embark

Enjoy the sights and sounds of New Orleans today. This afternoon, you will board the beautiful American Queen, your home for the next seven days. The American Queen is a gracious and elegant triumph of American ingenuity. Although filled with today's modern amenities, her rooms and accommodations display all the opulence of the American Victorian era. Glistening woodwork, fresh flowers and antiques adorn her interior spaces. Outside, lacy filigree evokes memories of the many stately river steamers that preceded her and so inspired her designers.

While onboard, you can select a volume from the vast collection in the Mark Twain Gallery, the boat's library. Or enjoy a sing-along in the Main Deck Lounge and then tap your toes to a lavish show in the two-deck-tall Grand Saloon, the most elegant showplace on the river.

Combining the best of the old and the new, this beautiful lady of the river epitomizes the grace and grandeur that has made steamboating a cherished American tradition for more than two centuries.



OAK ALLEY PLANTATION



THE PARLOUR

The festivities will kick off with a Welcome Aboard Dinner. **B & D**

### Day 4: Oak Alley, LA

Located in the Saint James Parish, Oak Alley is a much-photographed plantation that combines architectural splendor and the natural wonder of its 300-year-old oak trees. Spend time strolling beneath the canopy of these trees and learn about the rich history and culture of this southern estate.

A tour of the plantation is included. **B, L & D**

### Day 5: St. Francisville, LA

This quaint town located on the bluffs of the Mississippi River is your window to the past. With over 140 buildings on the National Register, beautiful plantation homes nestled in the rolling countryside and bustling Main Street shops, you'll find plenty to keep you on the go in St. Francisville.

A hop-on, hop-off tour is included. **B, L & D**

### Day 6: Natchez, MS

Step into the plantation lifestyle of the Antebellum South in Natchez, site of numerous restored mansions. Visit historic Jefferson College, or just amble down the Natchez Trace.

A hop-on, hop-off tour is included. **B, L & D**

### Day 7: Vicksburg, MS

Billed as the "Red Carpet City of the South," the Southern hospitality is alive and well and awaiting your arrival.

Discover a unique blend of old and new in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Take in the diversity from Vicksburg National Military Park to the Waterways Experiment Station. A hop-on, hop-off tour is included. **B, L & D**

### Day 8 & 9: Steamboating

Settle into a rocking chair and just let the scenery glide by. Or join in the fun of numerous onboard activities. Your full day of leisurely steamboating on the river sets the tone for an unforgettable vacation. **B, L & D**

### Day 10: Memphis / En Route

This morning we'll disembark the steamship and embark on a tour of this dynamic city of 700,000. We'll

travel by Mud Island, the Pyramid, the Danny Thomas ALSAC Pavilion, Sun Studios and the Martin Luther King assassination site.

We'll visit downtown and the Peabody Hotel where the famous Peabody ducks will arrive at their daytime fountain from their home on the hotel's upper floor.

This afternoon we'll arrive at Elvis Presley's Graceland. Our Platinum Tour package includes the mansion tour as well as self-guided tours the Elvis Automobile Museum and a memorabilia museum called "Sincerely Elvis."

We'll spend the evening on Beale Street. Dinner at Kings Palace is included.

Later this evening we'll transfer to the Amtrak Station for the overnight trip back to Chicago on the City of New Orleans. Relax in your comfortable reclining coach seat or optional private sleeping room. **B & D**

### Day 11: En Route to Chicago

Following a full-course dining car breakfast, we'll arrive in Chicago's Union Station at 9:00 a.m. Tour members will depart for home destinations throughout the day.

Those returning to Eastern home cities will have time to take a Gray Line sightseeing tour, to shop or to visit some of Chicago's major attractions. **B**



VICKSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

# The American Queen Steamboat Distinctions

- The only authentic overnight paddlewheel steamboat in America.
- The acclaimed cuisine of famed American chef Regina Charboneau.
- The only steamboat with multiple, specialty dining options, all at no additional charge.
- Complimentary bottled water and soft drinks throughout your voyage.
- Gracious, friendly service from a professionally trained all-American staff.
- The warm and inviting ambiance of an Antebellum mansion.
- Public rooms and accommodations are decorated with Victorian charm and carefully selected antiques.
- Elegant-casual attire throughout your voyage — no formal wear required.
- Daily lectures by the Riverlorian, our onboard river historian.
- Professional showboat-style entertainment nightly. Nightly dancing to swing and big band music.
- Enthralling calliope concerts and a chance for guests to play!
- Exciting shore excursions provide an in-depth immersion into the history, culture and cuisine of America’s heartland.

## Dining Options Venue:

Early Riser Coffee and Beignets.....	Front Porch of America
Buffet Breakfast.....	Grand Saloon
Traditional Breakfast Service.....	J.M. White Dining Room
Buffet Luncheon .....	Grand Saloon
Traditional Luncheon .....	J.M. White Dining Room
Alfresco Lunch.....	River Grill
Traditional Dinner.....	J.M. White Dining Room
Alfresco Dinner .....	River Grill
24-Hour Dining Service .....	Front Porch of America
Afternoon Ice Cream and Cookies .....	Front Porch of America
Traditional Po’boy Sandwiches .....	River Grill
Elegant Southern Tea.....	Main Deck Lounge
Pre-Dinner Canapés and Hors d’ Oeuvres.....	Main Deck Lounge and Engine Room Bar
Moonlight Supper .....	Engine Room Bar

## SUITE AND STATEROOM CATEGORIES

- E** ..... Inside Cabin
- D** ..... Deluxe outside stateroom with bay window - Cabin Deck
- C** ..... Outside stateroom with open veranda - Observation Deck or Texas Deck
- B** ..... Outside stateroom with open veranda - Observation Deck
- A** ..... Deluxe outside stateroom with private veranda - Texas Deck
- AA** ..... Superior outside stateroom with open veranda - Promenade Deck or Observation Deck

# GENERAL INFORMATION RAIL/SAIL TOURS

## REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT:

A deposit of \$500 per person is due at time of reservation, \$100 of which is non-refundable. Final payment is due 90 days prior to departure.

## TOUR CANCELLATIONS:

For cancellations received within 90 days of departure the following per person penalty applies:

- 76-90 days prior to departure:  
25% of total tour cost.
- 61-75 days prior to departure:  
50% of total tour cost.
- 31-60 days prior to departure:  
75% of total tour cost.
- 30 days or less prior to departure through duration of the tour: 100% of total tour cost.

The total tour cost includes tour price, add-ons and upgrades.

Air cancellations after ticketing are subject to the carrier's policy.

Refunds will be made approximately 30 days after the conclusion of the tour.

Payment / cancellation exceptions are noted on tours. All pricing is per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.

## TOUR PRICE INCLUDES:

### TRANSPORTATION

Rail transportation over the tour route and motorcoach, van, or other modes of transportation where specified in the tour.

### TRAIN ACCOMMODATIONS

All tours except those categorized as Coach Class include private Roomette on Amtrak overnight trains and Bedrooms (double occupancy) or Roomettes (single occupancy) on VIA Rail Canada overnight trains. Bedrooms on Amtrak are available at an additional cost. Reclining coach seats are included on U.S. and Canadian trains used only during the daytime except for those categorized as Coach Class. Coach Class tours include reclining coach seats with leg rests on Amtrak trains. Meals on the trains are included for those traveling Coach Class on the North American tours as indicated in the itinerary.

### CRUISE ACCOMMODATIONS

Rail / Sail tours include inside staterooms (double occupancy) on cruise ships. Upgraded staterooms may be available at an additional cost.

### HOTELS

Accommodations are based on two persons sharing a room. Two-bedded rooms are provided in most instances. However, sometimes their availability is limited. If a two-bedded room is required, please notify America by Rail at time of registration.

America by Rail reserves the right to substitute hotels for those named in any tour description, when necessary. Every effort is made to have hotel rooms available for occupancy upon arrival. There may be instances when rooms are not available until later.

### SINGLE ROOMS

Single rooms at hotels and Amtrak Roomettes on a single basis are available at a single cost.

### SIGHTSEEING / ADMISSIONS

Sightseeing, as outlined in the itineraries, will be provided by motorcoaches in most instances. Admission fees are included as specified. Sightseeing tour arrangements may be altered if required.

### MEALS

All included meals are listed in the tour itinerary. Persons requiring a special diet must inform America by Rail at the time of registration. Not all restaurants / trains will be able to honor special requests. Due to events beyond our control, trains are sometimes delayed and supplies may become limited. If you have special dietary requirements, please make sure you have a sufficient supply of nourishment to meet your dietary needs.

In the itineraries, the meals are listed at the end of each day using CB for Continental breakfast, B for breakfast, L for lunch, and D for dinner.

## BAGGAGE

For your convenience and to expedite movement, baggage handling is limited to one suitcase per person. Transfer and portage of one suitcase per person is included at overnight stopovers. On most tours the one suitcase per person is handled by America by Rail and is checked through to the next destination. An overnight bag is used while en route. America by Rail is not responsible for loss or damage to your baggage or for any lost, stolen or destroyed item. Specified transfers between rail stations and hotels are included.

## TOUR DIRECTORS

Services of a qualified America by Rail Tour Director are included for all matters pertaining to the tour. Tour Directors will meet all tour members at the origination city.

## TIPS AND TAXES

All gratuities to hotel staff (except to chambermaids), sightseeing guides and drivers are included. Gratuities for sleeping car attendants and meals aboard the train are included. Gratuities for meals specified in the tour itinerary are included on escorted portions of the tour. Gratuities for cruise ship stateroom stewards and dining waitstaff are included.

## TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE:

Transportation and tips between your home city and the official origination city; charges for excess baggage; health, accident or baggage insurance; tips to chambermaids and for personal services; items of a personal nature such as laundry; meals, except those specified as included; gratuities for special services; charges for room service, and alcoholic beverages with included meals.

Gratuities for the America by Rail Tour Directors are at your discretion; \$3-\$10 per person per day is the industry standard. They should be extended on an individual basis, not as a group.

## RAIL SCHEDULES:

The routing and features described in tour descriptions may be altered to adjust to rail schedules in effect at the time of the tour. America by Rail reserves the right to substitute motorcoach or air travel for unavailable rail schedules, misconnections, delays or other causes.

## TRAVEL DOCUMENTS :

A valid passport will be required for any trip crossing international borders. i.e. into or out of the United States. At time of reservation we will need your date of birth; gender, passport number, passport expiration date and issuing country.

## HEALTH, MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL:

America by Rail will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. Any type of disability requiring special provisions must be reported to America by Rail at the time of registration. America by Rail is not required to provide participants with personal devices, such as wheelchairs or individually prescribed devices such as prescription eyeglasses, or to provide services of a personal nature including assistance in eating, toileting or dressing. Accordingly, all participants are responsible to participate without assistance of the America by Rail Tour Director or other attendant. Tour Directors are prohibited from providing physical assistance or accommodations (beyond normal civil courtesies, such as holding doors open for passing). It is recommended that participants requiring assistance, including those requiring the use of a mobility device, be accompanied by a travel companion who will be responsible to provide required assistance. Participants will be asked to submit a confidential medical form for each tour. Those travelling with oxygen are required to advise America by Rail at least two weeks prior to departure. Amtrak requires all equipment, including oxygen concentrators, must be able to operate a minimum of four hours without available onboard electrical power (in the event of a power disruption onboard). Oxygen equipment must be

Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) or Factory Mutual (FM) listed. The total weight of all tanks may not exceed 120 lbs. Within this limit, no more than 2 tanks 50 lb each, or no more than 6 tanks 20 lbs each

## SMOKING:

Smoking is not permitted on America by Rail motorcoaches. Those who smoke may do so at any of the frequent stops we make. All Amtrak and VIA Rail trains are entirely smoke-free. If time is available at station stops, it will be announced by the conductor. Cruise ships policies vary from line to line, but all have designated areas to accommodate smokers.

## PLEASE NOTE:

America by Rail reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to accept or retain any individuals as members of the tour. The acceptance of any service provided as part of an America by Rail tour, or any ticket or voucher, shall be deemed to be acceptance of and consent to these conditions.

All rates published herein are in U.S. dollars and based on tariffs and exchange rates in effect on the printing date of the tour brochure. Prices and arrangements are subject to change without notice.

No persons, other than a representative of America by Rail, authorized by a document in writing, may vary, add or waive any term or condition set forth in the preceding provisions.

A \$50 per person fee will be assessed for each itinerary alteration requested after final arrangements are confirmed. It is our company policy to issue a tour roster to all tour participants containing all tour participants' names and addresses. If you do not want your address included, you must let us know at time of reservation.

Times, schedules, entertainment and activities are subject to change without notice.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING FUEL SUPPLEMENT:

Please be advised America by Rail reserves the right to apply a fuel supplement for all guests should the price of oil warrant it.

## RESPONSIBILITY CLAUSE:

America by Rail acts only in the capacity as an agent for the owners and contractors providing means of transportation, hotel or other services. All tour services, tickets and vouchers are subject to any and all terms and conditions under which such means of transportation, hotel or other services are offered or provided. America by Rail shall not be or become liable or responsible in any way whatsoever, for any loss, injury or damage from acts of God, sickness, theft, weather, strikes, war, or quarantine however caused or arising.

America by Rail reserves the right to cancel a tour in the event tour participation does not meet minimum requirements.

America by Rail shall not be obligated to honor any booking resulting from, nor shall be responsible or liable whatsoever in connection with, misprints or errors of any kind, whether in brochures, advertisements, on the Internet, during the booking process or otherwise, that result in traveler being undercharged for the tour. America by Rail reserves the right, prior to departure, to collect the correct fare or cancel the booking and refund any payment made by traveler.

## AMTRAK STATEMENT:

The National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) is not to be held responsible for any act, omissions, or event during the time passengers are not on board their trains or conveyance. The passenger contract in use of the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) and purchaser of these tours and / or passenger. All conditions are subject to the laws of the District of Columbia, U.S.A. America by Rail® is the registered trademark of America by Rail, Inc.