



Photo © Courtesy of Graceland

GRACELAND

MUSICAL AMERICA

Branson • Memphis • Nashville

Enjoy three spectacular shows in **Branson** including **The Oak Ridge Boys**. They will perform their major country hits and a their own brand of rock, blues, and gospel.

Our sightseeing tour of **Memphis** includes Mud Island, Sun Studios, and the Martin Luther King assassination site.

Enjoy an evening on **Beale Street** including a BBQ dinner at the famous **Kings Palace** .

Tour **Elvis Presley's Graceland** including the mansion, Elvis Automobile Museum, and a memorabilia museum, "Sincerely Elvis".

Stay two nights at the famous **Gaylord Opryland Hotel**. The hotel includes several acres of stunning indoor landscapes and atriums.

Visit the **Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville**. It is a tribute to Country Music and the artists who have made it great.

Enjoy a performance at the famed **Grand Ole Opry**.

Days 1-2 Chicago to Branson

Day 3 Branson

Day 4 En Route / Memphis

Day 5 Memphis

Day 6 Nashville

Days 7-8 En Route Chicago

TOUR DATE(S):**2018**

Mon., April 23 to Mon., April 30

TOUR PRICE:*All prices are per person / double occupancy unless otherwise stated.***\$2,295 - 8 Days****SINGLE \$2,895****YOUR TRIP INCLUDES:**

- Round-trip transportation by rail and deluxe motorcoach.
- First-class hotel accommodations for seven nights.
- 13 meals.
- Sightseeing tours and admission to included functions including three shows in Branson.
- Baggage handling, taxes, tips.
- Services of a professional America by Rail Tour Director.

AMERICA BY RAIL WILL BE HAPPY TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR YOUR CONNECTING TRANSPORTATION TO CHICAGO AND BACK BY RAIL OR AIR.

Day 1: Depart Chicago

Musical America tour members will meet their Tour Director in Chicago's Union Station.

You will board the Texas Eagle for its 1:45 p.m. departure for St. Louis.

Sit back and relax in your reclining coach seat. You may want to visit the Sightseer Lounge car for some refreshments and good conversation with fellow tour members.

Dinner in the diner is an option or for lighter fare you can visit the lower level of the Sightseer Lounge car. Arrival into St. Louis is scheduled for 7:21 p.m.

Upon arrival we'll transfer to the Drury Plaza Hotel at the Arch, our home for the night.

Day 2: Branson

Enjoy a Drury QuikStart® breakfast in our hotel this morning.

This morning we'll visit the world famous 630-foot high Gateway Arch. Options include: a trip to the top of the Arch and a 45-minute film chronicling the history of the Old West.

We'll board our deluxe motorcoach for Branson. We will stop for an "on-your-own" lunch en route.

This afternoon we'll arrive at the attractive, full service Radisson Hotel, our comfortable home for the next two nights in Branson. The Radisson is convenient to theatres, shopping, and attractions.

Following an included dinner in our hotel we'll transfer to the Welk Resort for the 8:00 p.m. show, Million Dollar Quartet.

Inspired by the true story when on December 4, 1956, a twist of fate brought together the four, future music legends Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis and Carl Perkins for one unforgettable night.

Featuring the greatest rock 'n' roll, gospel, R&B and country hits from these music legends, including "Blue Suede



Shoes," "Fever," "Sixteen Tons," "Who Do You Love?," "Great Balls of Fire," "Ghost Riders" and "Whole Lotta' Shakin' Goin' On."

Following the show we will return to our hotel. **CB & D**

Day 3: Branson

A full breakfast in our hotel is included this morning.

Following breakfast we'll embark on a three-hour sightseeing tour of Branson and the scenic Ozark countryside. You'll enjoy an "on-your-own" lunch at Mel's Hard Luck Diner at Branson's Grand Village where you'll be entertained by your talented wait staff vocalists.

We will transfer to the Andy Williams Theater in time for the 2:00 p.m. Moon River and Me show.

"Moon River & Me" celebrates the legendary and beloved crooner, Andy Williams; a heartfelt tribute to the man



and his music! Starring the delightful Jimmy Osmond (of the Osmond Brothers), this live stage production honors the late singer, actor and passionate collector of art. The multi Emmy Award-winning Andy Williams was famous for songs like Somewhere, My Love, Moon River and Most Wonderful Time of the Year.

We will return to the hotel after the show. You will have time to relax before we depart for dinner at the Grand Country Buffet.

Following dinner you will enjoy a performance by one of America's most popular groups, the Oak Ridge Boys. One of the longest-running groups in country music, they bring a lot of country and a little bit of rock, blues and gospel to Branson.

The Boys have ten Gold Albums, two Platinum, and one Double Platinum album as well as 25 No. 1 hits including: "Elvira," "American Made," "Bobbie Sue," "Thank God for Kids" and "Y'all Come Back Saloon." **B & D**

Day 4: En Route to Memphis

Following breakfast we'll board our motorcoach and head southeast to Memphis.

We will stop en route for an "on-your-own" lunch.

Before dinner, we'll check into the Hampton Inn & Suites, located a block from Beale Street.

We'll spend the evening on Beale Street, beginning with a BBQ dinner at the King's Palace (included).

Following dinner, there will be free time to experience some of the great entertainment of this world-renowned music hot spot. **B & D**

Day 5: Memphis

Following a Continental breakfast at our hotel we'll board our deluxe motorcoach for Elvis Presley's Graceland.

The Elvis Experience Tour includes self guided tours of the mansion, the Elvis Automobile Museum and a memorabilia museum called "Sincerely Elvis."

Following an "on-your-own" lunch, we'll board our deluxe motorcoach and head east through the beautiful hills of



OPRYLAND HOTEL

Tennessee. An included dinner stop will be made at the Opry Backstage Grill.

Our home for the next two nights will be the famous Gaylord Opryland Hotel. After you settle in, you'll want to experience the opulence of this world-class resort.

The hotel features stunning indoor landscaping across several sprawling atriums that make this hotel America's largest non-casino resort! **CB & D**

Day 6: Nashville

This morning we'll visit the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. This 37-million-dollar facility is a beautiful tribute to Country Music and the artists who have made it great. Enjoy an "on-your-own" lunch at the Museum's popular Two Twenty Two Grill.

Following lunch we'll embark on a sightseeing tour including historic downtown, Fort Nashborough, the state capitol, the Parthenon and homes of the stars.

We will conclude the day with an evening performance at the famous Grand Ole Opry. **B**

Day 7: En Route

This morning we'll enjoy a brunch cruise aboard the General Jackson Showboat while being entertained by a musical review.

Following brunch, we'll board our deluxe motorcoach and travel to Indianapolis. An included dinner stop will be made.

Upon arrival we will check into the Hampton Inn Downtown Indianapolis, our home for the night. **B, L & D**

Day 8: En Route to Chicago

This morning we'll transfer to the Indianapolis Amtrak station where, at 6:00 a.m., we'll board the Cardinal for Chicago. We'll get a to-go breakfast from the hotel. On the train snacks and beverages are available in the diner/lounge.

Our arrival into Chicago's Union Station is scheduled for 10:05 a.m.

Travelers will continue to home destinations. **CB**



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GENERAL INFORMATION

REGISTRATION AND DEPOSIT:

A deposit of \$200 per person, of which \$100 per person is non-refundable, is required to finalize registration. The balance is due 75 days prior to departure. If payments are not received by the due date(s) specified, reservations may be cancelled without notice.

TOUR CANCELLATIONS:

If cancellation is received by America by Rail more than 75 days prior to departure, \$100 of your deposit will be retained. For cancellations received within 75 days of departure, the following per person cancellation fees apply:

- 46-75 days prior to departure: 25% of total tour cost.
- 15-45 days prior to departure: 50% of total tour cost.
- 14 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.

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.

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.

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