## Carolina/Opryland Christmas December 1-12, 2020

Discover the 12 Days of Christmas with Southern Charm!

**Day 1:** We're off and on our way to a fabulous adventure! Our first day is a travel day with comfort stops and lunch along the way to our first overnight in Peoria, IL. Once we arrive, check-in and have a chance to relax, we'll head over to an (included) dinner at everyone's favorite, Cracker Barrel to get to know our new friends and traveling companions.



**Day 2:** After our (included) Breakfast, we hit the road to Louisville, KY to take in the Kentucky Derby Museum, one of the premiere attractions in the Louisville region, celebrating the tradition, history, hospitality and pride of the world-renowned event that is the Kentucky Derby. Each year, the museum welcomes over 230,000 visitors and you can enjoy two floors of family-friendly interactive exhibits, a 30-minute guided historic walking tour at Churchill Downs Racetrack, and get your heart racing and emotions soring when watching the museum's signature movie, "The Greatest

Race" on a 360<sup>°</sup>, 4K high resolution screen. After our visit we'll check into our accommodations for the evening and have a little time to relax before we go to the Derby (included) Dinner Playhouse.

**Day 3:** An (included) Breakfast begins our day as we travel to Berea, KY to visit the Kentucky Artisan Center in the 25,000 sq. foot Kentucky Arts Center where you can shop for Kentucky crafts, fine art, and explore special exhibits and events. We're back on route to Charlotte, NC to visit the Billy Graham Library and Museum. Discover the life and legacy of Billy Graham's journey from a humble farm boy to an international ambassador of God's love, the barn-shaped building is situated on 20 landscaped acres, only miles from where Billy Graham grew up. After our visit we'll check into our accommodations and share an (included) dinner together.



**Day 4:** We start our day with an (included) breakfast and then pick up a step-on guide to give us a city tour of Charlotte. Learn about the history of this gleaming, modern city and see many different types of architecture from modern skyscrapers to Victorian and early 19<sup>th</sup> century homes set along beautiful tree lined streets. Our guide is a native to the city and will inform you about each area of the city including interesting facts and history.



After our tour, we'll head to Myrtle Beach, SC and check into our accommodations for the next three nights. We'll have an (included) dinner at the Original Benjamin's Seafood Calabash before seeing the Carolina Opry Christmas Special. A holiday tradition for over 30 years, the long-standing Opry favorite offers an unforgettable holiday experience for the whole family. Featuring time-honored traditions, dance routines, award-winning vocalists and musicians, more than 35 Christmas trees, 75 wreaths, snow and more, the show continues to live up to its "Top attraction in Myrtle Beach" title each year, according to CNBC.

**Day 5:** After an (included) breakfast we'll head out to the Alabama Theatre matinee performance. We'll celebrate the season with this award-winning production, the South's Grandest Christmas Show! Year after year, this production amazes audiences with an incredible combination of talent, scenery, and special effects that will put anyone in the holiday spirit. This show is sure





to instill the true meaning of Christmas with its combination of traditional Christmas classics and contemporary holiday favorites.

Are you getting hungry? We'll treat you to an upscale American steak & seafood restaurant in a formal setting built out over the water at Chestnut Hill. After dinner we're headed to Fantasy Harbor to see Christmas on Ice featuring a sensational cast of world Champion Ice Skaters, fantastic singers, a 50ft real ice stage and the highest kicking chorus girls this side of the North Pole! You'll be enthralled as the skaters take to the stage performing their spectacular skating routines to the most loved holiday songs of all time.

**Day 6:** Begin your day with an (included) breakfast before we enjoy a bit of holiday splendor this afternoon at Ripley's Aquarium Teas and Trees. This Festival of Trees event includes more than 55 Christmas Trees decorated for every state in the United States plus trees that are themed for the venue. The entire aquarium transforms into a Winter Wonderland with lights, bows and beautifully decorated trees all set surrounding the awesome aquatic backdrop. Here we will also enjoy a delightful (included) lunch.





Tonight, we'll celebrate all of the things that make the holidays special as the Mystical Christmas Spirit takes Captain Scrooge on a journey through time and space to find the meaning of Christmas. Cheer along as giant Christmas toys come to life and perform amazing acrobatics high above the lagoon. You'll laugh at the comical castaway and their sea lion companion and gaze in awe and wonder at a live Nativity featuring three wise men on camels and an angel with a special message for landlubbers and pirates alike. You will also be thrilled by an epic battle between the Crimson and Emerald pirates as they compete for the coveted Christmas treasure on land, on deck, in water and high above two full-sized pirate

ships, all while, enjoying a four-course holiday feast!

**Day 7:** After our (included) breakfast our bags our packed and we're headed to Charleston, SC. Today we'll have some free time to explore the city before we clippity-clop our way back to Colonial times in a horse-drawn carriage tour and see 300 years of history, including antebellum mansions, churches, and gardens. Our guide will inform and entertain you with historical facts, lore, and humor and cover more than 2.5 miles and 30 blocks of historic Charleston. We'll check into our hotel this afternoon to relax before we go to a local landmark in downtown to enjoy an



(included) dinner at Hyman's Seafood Restaurant. You won't be leaving hungry with its comfortable menu of seafood and the owner's will treat you like VIP customers.



**Day 8:** Another (included) breakfast awaits before heading to Ashville, NC to the magical and exquisite Bilmore Estate, America's largest private home. This grand estate was built by George Vanderbilt between the years 1889-1895. It is easy to see why he loved this area so much that he decided this was where he wanted to live. This magnificent mansion has 250 rooms filled with treasures collected from all over the world and everyone will have a head phone to guide them through the rooms. Wrap yourself in the scent of fresh evergreens as you admire holiday décor featuring wreaths, garlands, and the sparkle of thousands of

ornaments on more than 55 glorious Christmas trees throughout. Tonight, we will relax in the comfort of our hotel and you can venture out to dinner on your own to one of many restaurants in the surrounding area.



**Day 9:** Rise and shine because the journey continues after an (included) breakfast. We're headed to Nashville, TN to the majestic and luxurious Gaylord Opryland Resort where we will be surrounded by 9 acres of indoor gardens, a winding river, pathways and sparkling waterfalls where you can unwind, explore, shop, dine and be entertained to your hearts content for the next 2 nights. You'll marvel at more than 3 million holiday lights and acres of magnificent decorations, plus spectacular holiday activities that are sure to get you in the spirit of the season and create lasting memories. You'll enjoy the evening to relax and take

in all of amenities this hotel has to offer.

**Day 10:** An (included) breakfast awaits as you spend the day in the comforts of the resort. Experience a whimsical winter wonderland at "ICE" featuring larger-than-life, three-dimensional ice monuments, and colorful ice sculptures crafted by artisans from China, from 1.5 million pounds of ice at our Hotel or take a stroll on the river on a delta flatboat. This evening at our Hotel, we will enjoy reserved seating at Grammy Award-winning Country superstar Tracy Adkins Christmas (included) dinner show. We will be entertained with Christmas standards, Celtic classics, and a few of his favorite things. This will truly be a delightful experience and a holiday to remember.

**Day 11:** We say goodbye to Nashville, TN after an (included) breakfast and make our way to St. Louis, MO with comfort stops and lunch along the way. We'll visit the tallest man-made monument in the Western Hemisphere, and Missouri's tallest accessible building, the iconic Gateway Arch! After our stop we'll head Bettendorf, IA for our final overnight at the Riverside Casino.



**Day 12:** Enjoy an (included) breakfast before we head home with memories of our fabulous Southern Style Christmas. One final stop brings us to everyone's favorite Russell Stover's to satisfy your sweet tooth or to get that last-minute Christmas gift before we get home!

## Highlights Include:

Motor Coach Transportation, 11 Nights Lodging, Luggage Handling, Kentucky Derby Museum, Derby Dinner Playhouse, Kentucky Artisan Center, Billy Graham Museum, Carolina Opry, Pawley's Island, Alabama Theatre, Christmas on Ice, Ripley's Teas & Trees, Pirate Voyage Dinner Show, City Tour of Charlotte, Biltmore Estate, Carriage tour of Charleston, Gaylord Opryland Resort (2 Overnights), Tickets to Ice Exhibit, Tickets to ride the Flat Boats, Trace Adkins Christmas Show, St. Louis Arch, Riverside Casino and 20 Meals



Deposit of \$200 Per Person by August 1, 2020 Reserve your Spot !

Final Payment Due Oct 1, 2020 Personally Hosted Together By: Patty Chmielewski & Michael Bell

rs.com

Take your next vacation with us! 12) 740-6330