

SHOW BOAT ON THE MISSISSIPPI WITH NEW YORK



 | *Travel*

Mississippi Show Boat
paddle steamer cruise,
New Orleans, Houston, Memphis
and New York
06 - 26 MAY 2019

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Remember Scarlett O' Hara, complete with crinoline, sweeping down a Southern mansion staircase in *Gone with the Wind*? And do you remember *Show Boat* and the chorus singing *Ol' Man River*? Well that river was the great Mississippi.

Experience the Exceptional...

- Luxury small-ship music cruise where our ship guides are also our musicians, providing us with an in depth history of the area and excellent music.
- Escorted by celebrity fiddler Marian Burns and Karl Perigo, who present music throughout the trip.
- Our musical journey takes us through lively Bourbon St in New Orleans, home of jazz and blues; Memphis, home of Elvis; and New York, home of Broadway, neon lights and great shopping!
- And our paddle steamer journey on a Show Boat 'look alike' which allows us a glimpse at the past with mansions, historic towns and insights into the Civil War.
- Hold onto your hat, Marian and your hair, Karl because Mississippi here we come!



PLACES WE STAY

The Roosevelt New Orleans Hotel is a historical Waldorf Astoria hotel, filled with luxurious Southern hospitality and is only a short walk to the French Quarter.

The Guest House at Graceland, Memphis is an extraordinary hotel in the heart of Elvis Presley's Graceland! Located just steps away from the iconic Graceland Mansion, The Guest House at Graceland welcomes music fans, Graceland guests, Memphis visitors and groups from around the world with luxurious amenities and royal treatment that would make the King proud.

America, our Mississippi paddle steamer is one of the finest paddle wheelers ever built. After launching in 2016, it introduces luxury never seen before on the Mississippi. *America* embodies a casual ambiance and relaxed atmosphere while providing panoramic views of the passing scenery. With only 185 guests, it is small ship cruising at its best.

Renaissance New York Times Square Hotel is a luxury hotel rising 26 stories above Times Square ensuring we are close to Broadway theatres and the unmissable Times Square.



HOUSTON (2 nights)

- Fairfield Inn and Suites Marriott

The largest city in Texas, Houston, is famous for the Space Center as well as housing the world-renowned Houston Grand Opera, which hasn't yet released its dates for 2019.

Highlights include:

- Morning tour of Houston city.
- Space Center Houston tour, including NASA Johnson Space Center for a behind the scene look at real space exploration, plus many exhibits, films, live shows, artifact galleries, Independence Plaza, NASA Tram and more!
- Welcome dinner and music from Karl and Marian.

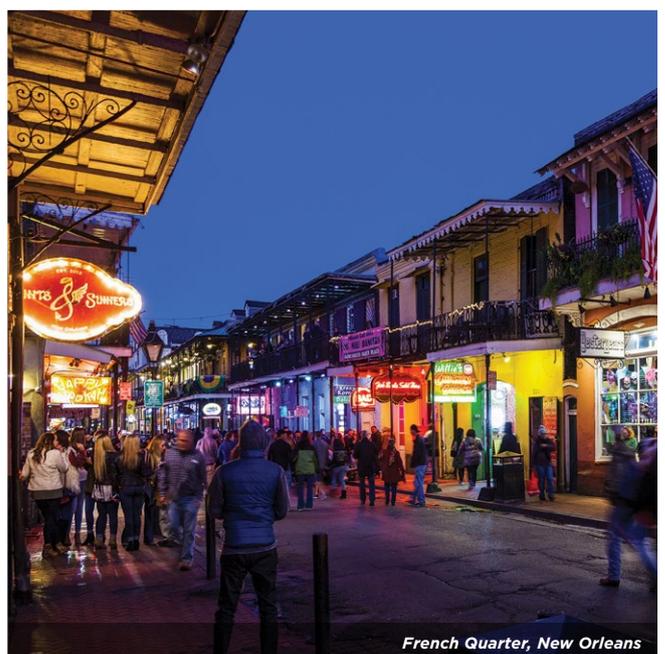
NEW ORLEANS (3 nights)

- New Orleans Roosevelt Hotel

New Orleans is a Louisiana city on the Mississippi River, near the Gulf of Mexico. Nicknamed the "Big Easy," it's known for its round-the-clock nightlife, vibrant live-music scene and unique and spicy cuisine which reflects its history as a melting pot of French, African and American cultures.

Highlights include:

- Following our flight from Houston, we are taken to mule drawn Royal Carriages for a special tour of New Orleans.
- Discover the history and mystery of French Quarter, also known as the Vieux Carré.
- See prominent landmarks such as the St. Louis Cathedral, French Market, Spanish Cabildo, Pontalba Buildings, Place d'Armes, etc.
- Learn about important events such as the Great Fire of 1788 and Battle of New Orleans.
- Admire the architecture of Creole Esplanade, Old Slave Quarters, French coffee houses, Spanish patios and ironwork balconies.
- Rest of afternoon free to settle in.
- Dinner at Arnaud's Jazz Bistro, where we enjoy Dixieland Jazz and classic Creole cuisine in this lively setting with windows overlooking Bourbon Street.



- Enjoy a Cajun Pride Swamp Tour in a privately owned swamp with native Cajun Captains showing off the primitive beauty of the moss-draped cypress trees, the American Alligator and abundant wildlife.
- Guided tour of Laura Plantation, a historical sugar plantation which was built upon slavery.
- Bourbon Street, hear the music and soak up the atmosphere.
- Full free day to explore at leisure.
- Evening drink at Fountain Lounge followed by dinner.

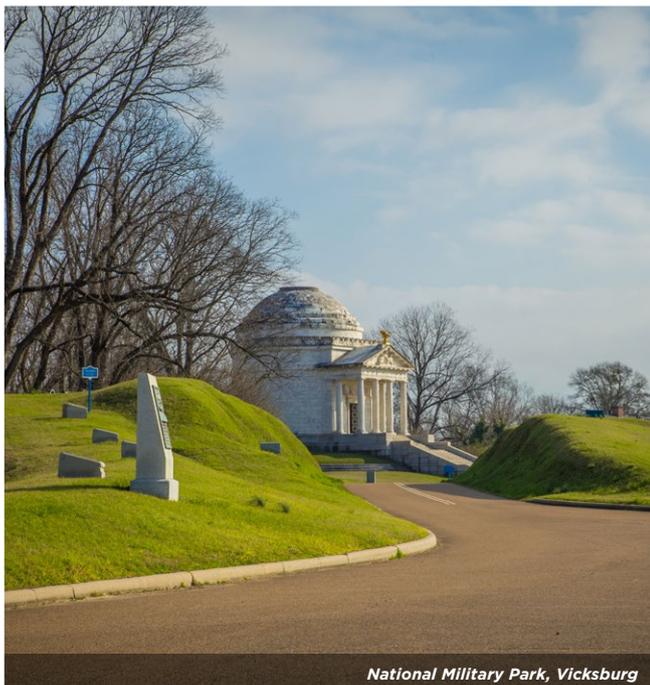
LOWER MISSISSIPPI RIVER CRUISE ON PADDLE STEAMER AMERICA (7 days)

Welcome aboard our specially formatted music cruise inspired by famous musicians like Louis Armstrong and Jelly Roll Morton.

Every day, musicians will join us on board or on our shore excursions. As music is synonymous with the Mississippi River, the highly acclaimed onboard performers will also entertain us throughout the voyage.

We enjoy customised excursions from iconic ports in Oak Alley and Natchez where we discover the classic antebellum homes and renowned plantations.

We delve into the history of the Civil War in Vicksburg as an American Cruise Line historian leads us through the National Military Park commemorating the campaign, siege, and defence of the city.



National Military Park, Vicksburg

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA

We begin our journey in the vibrant city of New Orleans, also known as the Big Easy, where art and culture abound. The open-air artist colony proudly displays local works on the iron fence in Jackson Square, while the city's 45 museums carefully preserve its rich history.

OAK ALLEY, LOUISIANA

Once serving as an antebellum sugar cane homestead, Oak Alley Plantation is named after its most distinguishing feature, a row of 300-year-old oak trees. This leafy canopy forms a path leading to the Mississippi River. Restored to its 19th-century grandeur, this classic Greek Revival antebellum mansion is simply breathtaking.

Shore Excursion: The famous ancient oaks bordering the path to the mansion are our first sight upon stepping ashore. The perfectly aligned 300 year old trees form a canopy which set a particularly grand entrance for our arrival. Southern belles enjoying the shade of the leafy canopy greet us on arrival and are our guides for the day. In small groups, we wander through the antebellum plantation's many stately rooms and learn why it has earned the name "Grande Dame of the Great River Road." After the tour, we are invited to a special gathering with mint juleps on the west lawn before a visit to their popular gift shop which is known for their world-famous pralines.



Oak Alley Plantation

BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge features all the history and wonder you would expect in a state capital, but with an added down-home flavour that makes it truly unique.

Shore Excursion: The local expert guides will take us on a tour of the city's most famous attractions including the Old and New State Capitals and the interactive Louisiana State Museum.

ST. FRANCISVILLE, LOUISIANA

This southern town charms with simple pleasures and unique treasures. Located on the bluffs of the Mississippi River, St. Francisville has been called "one of the 200 most beautiful small towns in America." Take a stroll through its historic center where two centuries of architecture and lifestyle are on display. Enjoy visits to restored antebellum mansions including Rosedown.

Shore Excursion: Rosedown Plantation, with its flowered path lined with towering oaks towards the Main House. We are greeted by our lively resident expert, Tammie Miller. Tammie delves deep into the family history of Daniel and Martha Turnbull and how their experiences helped shape the Main House into a home. There will be time after the tour to explore the grounds or relax in a rocking chair on the front porch with cold refreshments and some of Tammie's freshly made cookies.



NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI

Celebrating its 300th year, Natchez is a city full of history and Southern hospitality.

Shore Excursion: A guided exploration of this fascinating area with visits to its gardens, historic homes and museums. While here, we are treated to a special concert in the music room of the J.N. Stone House.

VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI

The city of Vicksburg served as a pivotal turning point during the American Civil War. Our informative historian leads us through the National Military Park, commemorating the campaign, siege, and defense of Vicksburg. Our expert guides and park rangers will take you to battlefields, the U.S.S. Cairo gunboat and the most significant historic places.

DAY OF RIVER CRUISING

Enjoy the warmth of the Mississippi River sun as we cruise from Vicksburg to Memphis. Relax in one of the many spacious lounges or catch gentle breezes on the sun deck.



MEMPHIS (2 nights)

- The Guest House at Graceland

Welcome to Memphis! Home to the Blues, BBQ, Beale Street and, of course, the King of "Rock 'n' Roll" - Elvis Presley. This amazing city is the perfect place to end our Mississippi River Voyage.

Highlights include:

- The Guest House at Graceland is just steps away from the music world's most important and beloved landmark. A perfect blend of style and Southern hospitality, The Guest House is a whole new way to experience Memphis — the Birthplace of Rock 'n' Roll and Home of the Blues.
- Graceland Mansion, the Jungle room homage to Elvis' love of Hawaii, the Trophy Building with hundreds of awards and accolades, the Meditation Garden which is The King's final resting place.
- Discover iconic Beale Street, with time for your own lunch.
- A driving tour of Memphis with iconic landmarks such as Sun Studio, National Civil Rights Museum and more.
- Gibson Guitar Factory tour.
- Free time to wander at leisure.
- Evening dinner and show at B.B. Kings.



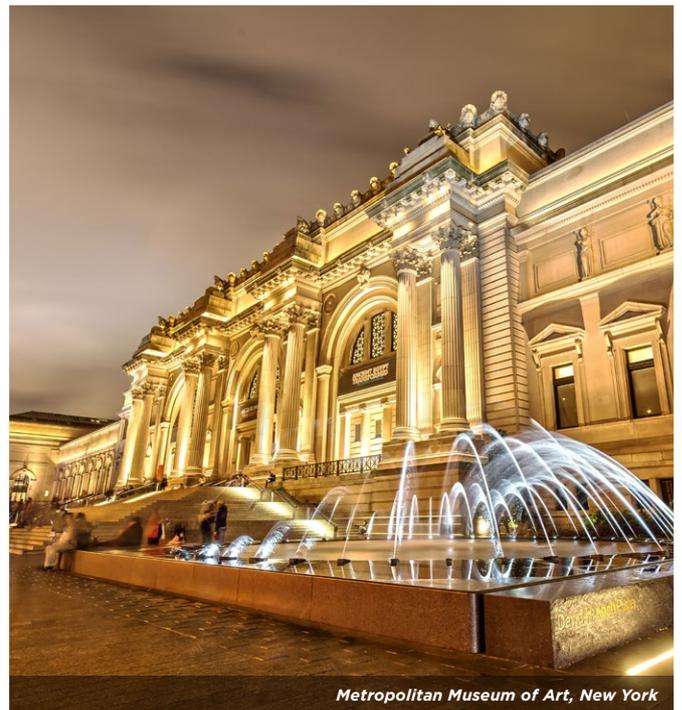
NEW YORK (4 nights)

- Renaissance Times Square Hotel

New York City wears many crowns, trendsetter, epicenter of the arts, dining and shopping capital. This iconic city, the city that never sleeps, is truly unforgettable.

Highlights include:

- City tour which will take us to some of the major sights of the city including Midtown Manhattan, 42nd Street, Times Square, the Empire State Building, Madison Square Garden, the world's most famous arena, Greenwich Village, the Bowery, Soho, Little Italy, Chinatown, and Ground Zero, where the World Trade Center Towers once stood.
- Visit the Metropolitan Museum of Art which has launched a complete reconstruction of its four-block-long plaza along Fifth Avenue—one of New York City's iconic spaces, housing a huge array of art.
- Join us for dinner and a Broadway show (included, but exact show to be confirmed).
- Free time for your own tours of New York. You'll have plenty of time for shopping, sightseeing or attending Broadway shows or the Opera (not included, but the office can help with booking).
- Final night dinner and music from Karl and Marian.
- Fly to Houston and then on to Auckland.





\$19,730 *per person
twin share*

Single Room supplement add \$5,260

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Initial Deposit on booking **\$2,000**

Second Deposit due 31 October 2018 **\$4,000**

Final Balance due 09 January 2019
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THIS TRIP INCLUDES:

- Return airfares on Air New Zealand (and partner airlines)-Auckland - Houston // Houston - New Orleans // Memphis - New York // New York - Houston - Auckland including all taxes.
- 20-day tour of Southern USA and New York, escorted by Marian Burns and Karl Perigo.
- 7-day luxury cruise on the *America* paddle steamer on the lower Mississippi, including all shore excursions.
- Accomodation features boutique hotels in Houston (2 nights), Memphis (2 nights), New Orleans (3 nights) and New York (4 nights).
- Numerous special music highlights including Broadway show, blues concert, jazz concert, dinner and concert in New Orleans, Show Boat cruise of entertainment every night on board, visit to Elvis' house at Graceland and private concerts presented by your tour escorts Marian and Karl.
- Numerous other trip highlights such as Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, horse-drawn carriage tour of New Orleans, Space Center, Houston, drink at Fountain Lounge, visit several opulent Southern Mansions, learn about the rich history of the South: the Civil War and slavery including the Freedom Train.
- Numerous tours included: city tours of Houston, Memphis, New Orleans, New York, plus all shore excursions
- All entrance, tours and activities are included as listed in itinerary.
- All taxes and tips are included.
- All breakfasts, 9 lunches and 13 dinners included, many with music!
- Escorted by Karl Perigo and Marian Burns.

MODERATE WALKING TOUR

This tour requires a better level of fitness with no wheelchairs or walkers. Generally, there may be times when we can't get the coach close.

We also will have much longer flights and long walks through airports.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- All trips are subject to change but any changes will be of equal or greater value.
- Deposits refundable until final payment date minus any costs incurred, or an administration fee of up to \$150.
- Travellers need to be independently mobile and fit to travel.
- Travellers are required to obtain comprehensive travel insurance for all international trips.
- Please refer to terms & conditions on our booking form.



operatunity

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