



- The Crossroads, Clarksdale
Photo from: Visit Mississippi



Deep South Music & Nature

14 Day Itinerary

Locations: Mississippi, Tennessee & Louisiana

Airport: New Orleans (MSY)

DAY 1 & 2

Arrive in New Orleans, LA

The heart and soul of the Crescent City is the **French Quarter**. Enjoy its decorative balconied-buildings, antique shops, great restaurants and jazz clubs. Ride the famed streetcars and see the charming **Garden District**.

DAY 3 & 4

New Orleans to Coastal Mississippi – 90 miles

Enjoy two days of relaxation along the **Mississippi Gulf Coast**, which combines small-town friendliness, antique shops, history and **coastal cuisine** with **casino gaming** and entertainment, golf courses and 26 miles of **white sandy beaches**.

DAY 5

Coastal Mississippi to Jackson – 157 miles

Drive north to Jackson, Mississippi's capital city. Take a driving tour of Jackson and see locations from the Oscar-winning movie, *The Help*. Be sure to visit the two Mississippi museums, the **Mississippi Civil Rights Museum** and **Museum of Mississippi History**.

DAY 6

Jackson to Tupelo – 195 miles

Travel the scenic **Natchez Trace Parkway**, a historic trail originally 'traced out' by buffalo and later used as a trading route to Tupelo, where a must-see is the humble two-room birthplace of Elvis and the **Elvis Presley Museum**.

DAY 7

Tupelo to Memphis – 110 miles

Follow in the footsteps of the Presley family to Memphis, home of the blues and birthplace of rock 'n' roll. Visit **Graceland**, Elvis' beloved mansion, see his two private jets and the fantastic Automobile Museum. Don't miss **Sun Studio**, **Stax** and the **Rock 'n' Soul Museum**. Dance the night away on historic **Beale Street**.

DAY 8

Memphis to Clarksdale – 76 miles

Follow the **Mississippi Blues Trail** south along **Highway 61** into the **Mississippi Delta**, the birthplace of the blues. Finish the day at the **Delta Blues Museum** in Clarksdale, where across the street actor Morgan Freeman owns **Ground Zero Blues Club**.

DAY 9

Clarksdale to Cleveland – 37 miles

The **GRAMMY Museum of Mississippi** awaits in Cleveland! Continue your Delta journey by exploring this hip town rich in heritage, culture, and personality. Be sure to visit **Dockery Farms** and one of Cleveland's fresh restaurants like **Delta Meat Market**.

DAY 10

Cleveland to Greenwood – 46 miles

Experience the **B.B. King Museum** in **Indianola** and the nearby restored and vibrant downtown of **Greenwood**, home to the boutique **Alluvian Hotel** and the **Viking Cookery School**.

DAY 11

Greenwood to Vicksburg – 100 miles

Learn about the battle of Vicksburg, the turning point in the Civil War, as you tour the vast **Vicksburg Military Park**. Then visit Vicksburg's Old Court House Museum or **Coca-Cola Museum** or relax on the porch of a charming B&B mansion.

DAY 12 & 13

Vicksburg to Natchez – 72 miles

Travel rural Mississippi and see the quaint town of **Port Gibson** en route to Natchez, the oldest permanent settlement on the **Mississippi River**. Enjoy a walking tour of some of the 500 antebellum (pre-Civil War) structures. Watch the sunset over **Ol' Man River** and sample Natchez-under-the-Hill, once known for its saloons and gambling.

Take a horse-drawn carriage ride through downtown Natchez and slip back in time to the elegance of the 'Old South' as you tour the beautiful historic homes.

DAY 14

Natchez to New Orleans – 176 miles

Follow the **Great River Road** through Louisiana's **Plantation Country** and **Baton Rouge** as you travel back to New Orleans for your return flight home. Depart from the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport (MSY).

Please get in touch if you want to speak to one of our Mississippi State experts - we're here to help!

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Mississippi Civil Rights Museum, Jackson
Photo from: Visit Mississippi



U.S. Civil Rights

10 Day Itinerary

Locations: Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi, & Alabama

Airport: Atlanta (ATL)

DAY 1 & 2

Arrive in Atlanta, GA

Visit the birth home of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. where he spent his formative years. The **National Center for Civil and Human Rights** is a multicultural center which highlights the Civil Rights and the modern human rights movement.

DAY 3 & 4

Clinton to Nashville, TN (175 miles/282 ki)

Visit the **Civil Rights Room at the Nashville Public Library** and learn the story of Nashville's sit-in movement that served as a model for later demonstrations in the South. Then, walk to the Fifth Avenue Historic District, the location of a number of successful sit-ins, including Woolworth on 5th. Today **Woolworth on 5th** is a locally-owned restaurant and entertainment venue serving up authentic soul food with a side of history.

While in town, experience the new **National Museum of African American Music** and Nashville's live music scene at the **Grand Ole Opry, Ryman Auditorium**, famous honky tonks on lower Broadway .

DAY 5 & 6

Nashville to Memphis, TN (210 miles/338 ki)

Memphis holds an important place in the history of the Civil Rights Movement. The evening before Dr. Martin Luther King's death, he delivered his "I've Been to the Mountaintop" speech at the **Mason Temple Church of God in Christ**, a speech that addressed the possibility of his death but reaffirmed his fearlessness in the face of the opposition.

Spend the afternoon at the **National Civil Rights Museum**, housed in the Lorraine Motel that was the location of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. assassination. The museum is a collection of artifacts and historic information that were significant in the struggle for Civil Rights.

Memphis is home of the blues and features several music history sites including **Stax Museum of American Soul Music**, that tells the story of creatives who made music together regardless of skin color; **Beale Street** is one of the most iconic streets in America. It began as a thriving area for commerce, musicians, African American owned businesses and was home to Ida B. Wells' anti-segregationist newspaper.

DAY 7

Memphis to Jackson, MS (210 miles/338 ki)

Explore the **Mississippi Civil Rights Museum** which covers the entire Civil Rights Movement, with particular attention given to the murders of Civil Rights activist Medgar Evers and teenager Emmett Till.

DAY 8

Jackson to the Mississippi Delta (99 miles/159 ki)

Follow the **Mississippi Freedom Trail** through the Mississippi Delta to visit Civil Rights markers in Clarksdale, Greenwood, Cleveland, and Greenville. For a complete list of Mississippi Freedom Trail markers, visit <https://www.mississippimarkers.com/civil-rights.html>.

DAY 9

Mississippi Delta to Selma, AL (240 miles/386 ki)

The **National Voting Rights and Museum** displays items and stories relating to the voting rights campaign, from the beginning of the marches to the end of the fight. The Lowdens Interpretive Center is dedicated to those who peacefully marched from Selma to Montgomery to gain the right to vote.

DAY 10

Return to Atlanta for departure (210 miles/337 ki)



Fannie Lou Hamer Freedom Trail Marker, Ruleville. Photo: Visit Mississippi

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The Square, Oxford
Photo from: Visit Mississippi



Music & Mountains

14 Day Itinerary

Locations: Tennessee, Mississippi & Alabama

Airport: Nashville (BNA)

DAY 1 & 2

Arrive in Nashville, TN

Take in a show and a backstage tour at the **Ryman Auditorium** and the **Grand Ole Opry**, the world's longest running live radio show. Learn about the influence of Nashville's music scene on the world at the **Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum** and **Historic RCA Studio B**. Visit the new **National Museum of African American Music**. Explore the "**Honky Tonk Highway**" on lower Broadway.

DAY 3

Nashville to Knoxville, TN - 180 miles

Head for Knoxville but make time for a **Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary** tour in Petros or the **Museum of Appalachia** in Norris. Lunch at Volunteer Landing on the Tennessee River and stroll the **Cradle of Country Music** tour around the Old City of Knoxville.

DAY 4 – 6

Knoxville to the Great Smoky Mountains (TN) – 40 miles

Continue the Sevierville, Pigeon Forge and Gatlinburg, all nestled in the foothills of the **Great Smoky Mountains**, America's most visited national park. Activities include hiking, horseback riding or touring by **Pink Jeep**. Visit Dolly Parton's celebrated country music and entertainment theme park, **Dollywood**, and literally shop 'til you drop at the 200+ factory outlet shops in Pigeon Forge and Sevierville. Don't leave without sampling some Tennessee Moonshine.

DAY 7

Pigeon Forge to Chattanooga, TN - 160 miles

Drive along the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains to Chattanooga and visit the **Tennessee Aquarium**. Spend time exploring **Lookout Mountain**: ride the **Incline Railway**, visit **Point Park**, **Ruby Falls** and **Rock City Gardens**.

DAY 8

Chattanooga to Birmingham, AL – 149 miles

The **Alabama Jazz Hall of Fame** is in downtown Birmingham and offers tours and the nearby **Carver Theatre** where jazz legends such as Duke Ellington and Lionel Hampton once played, and local jazz artists and live comedy can often be heard.

DAY 9

Birmingham to Muscle Shoals, AL – 113 miles

Visit The Shoals, the four musical cities in northwest Alabama (Florence, Tuscumbia, Sheffield and Muscle Shoals)

where superstars such as The Rolling Stones, Paul Simon, Rod Stewart and Aretha Franklin made this area the '**Hit Capital of the World**' in the 1960s and 1970s.

DAY 10

Muscle Shoals to Tupelo, MS - 67 miles

Drive the back roads of Tennessee to the scenic **Natchez Trace Parkway** and Tupelo where you can visit the humble two-room birthplace of Elvis and the **Elvis Presley Museum**.

DAY 11

Tupelo to Oxford, MS - 47 miles

Oxford is the **home of Nobel Prize-winner William Faulkner** and the historic **University of Mississippi**, known as Ole Miss. Its town square is alive with shops, restaurants, bars and galleries.

DAY 12 & 13

Oxford to Memphis, TN - 75 miles

Drive across north Mississippi to Memphis, home of the blues and birthplace of rock'n'roll. Visit **Graceland**, Elvis' beloved mansion, and the fantastic **Edge Motor Museum**. Don't miss **Sun Studio**, **Stax** and **Memphis's Rock'n'Soul Museum**. Take in live music on legendary **Beale Street**.

DAY 14

Memphis to Nashville - 210 miles

Enjoy breakfast at the historic **Arcade** then tour the **National Civil Rights Museum** before heading back to Nashville. Make a stop at the **Tina Turner Museum at Flagg Grove School** in Brownsville, part of the **West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center** (no admission fee). Depart from the Nashville International Airport (BNA)



Elvis Presley's Birthplace, Tupelo. Photo: Visit Mississippi

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Sunset on the Mississippi River, Natchez
Photo from: Visit Mississippi



Deep South Along the River

14 Day Itinerary

Locations: Louisiana & Mississippi

Airport: New Orleans (MSY)

DAY 1 - 4

New Orleans to New Iberia – 133 miles

New Orleans, founded in 1718, is famous for its live music, delicious cuisine, **Mardi Gras**, tax free shopping, historic districts, museums, parties, parades and festivals! For a taste of Cajun cuisine, stop in **Houma** for traditional blackened redfish and shrimp étouffée. Drive on to **New Iberia** and learn about plantation life before visiting the world famous **Tabasco® Sauce Factory** on Avery Island where you can see how the pepper sauce is made as you tour the factory.

DAY 5

New Iberia to Lafayette – 22 miles

Lafayette, 'Capital of French Louisiana', is home to the fascinating living museums, **Acadian Village** and **Vermilionville**. Learn more about the history of the Acadians and see how the Cajuns lived, listen to their music and sample traditional cuisine. Visit the quaint towns, like **St. Martinville**, that surround Lafayette and add flavour to the gumbo that is Louisiana.

DAY 6

Lafayette to Lake Charles – 72 miles

Lake Charles is home to 'Louisiana's Outback', is rich in both history and scenery with a thriving arts community, riverboat gaming and miles of scenic byways. Experience the breathtaking views by driving the **Creole Nature Trail National Scenic Byway**.

DAY 7

Lake Charles to Natchitoches – 152 miles

Visit Alexandria's historic **Loyd Hall Plantation** and download the *12 Years A Slave* app to learn about this fascinating part of the state's history. The beautiful historic town of **Natchitoches**, founded in 1714, is the oldest settlement in Louisiana, full of boutique shops, restaurants, 38 historic B&Bs and home to famous meat pies. Take a walking tour of the old Creole townhouses, a guided tour of film sites and the internationally-acclaimed architecture of the new **Louisiana Sports Hall of Fame**.

DAY 8

Natchitoches to Vicksburg – 100 miles

Visit Louisiana's third largest city, **Shreveport**, known as 'Sportman's Paradise' through its outdoor recreational areas for fishing, swimming and camping.

Learn about the battle of **Vicksburg**, turning point in the Civil War, as you tour the vast **Military Park**. Then visit Vicksburg's Old Court House Museum, Coca-Cola Museum or relax on the **Mississippi River**.

DAY 9 - 10

Vicksburg to Natchez – 70 miles

Discover rural Mississippi's warm hospitality in the quaint and historic town of Port Gibson en route to **Natchez**. With over 500 exquisite antebellum homes you can encounter first-hand the elegance and charm of the 'Old South' with a B&B experience. A must-do are the horse-drawn carriage tours of these magnificent historic structures. Sample bars, restaurants, gift shops, and casino gaming, along with the **Grand Village of the Natchez Indians** showcasing the culture of this once-great Native American civilization.

DAY 11

Natchez to Baton Rouge – 92 miles

Louisiana's capital city **Baton Rouge** has an abundance of attractions, including an art-deco Capitol building, a wonderful State Museum, a lively music scene, dining, and tax-free shopping malls.

DAY 12 - 14

Baton Rouge Along the River to New Orleans – 80 miles

The **Great River Road** has a stunning collection of Louisiana's historic plantation homes, each telling a unique story reflecting the heritage and colourful history of plantation culture, the perfect place for touring. Arrive in New Orleans for flight home.

If you'd like to know more about Louisiana, please do get in touch with our State experts!



Vicksburg National Military Park, Vicksburg. Photo: Visit Mississippi

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Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum, Biloxi
Photo from: Visit Mississippi



Deep South Coasts & History

14 Day Itinerary

Locations: Alabama, Mississippi & Louisiana

Airport: New Orleans (MSY) and Memphis (MEM)

DAY 1 & 2

Arrive in New Orleans, LA

Start your adventure in **New Orleans**. Explore **Bourbon Street** nightlife, **Mardi Gras World**, a swamp tour and the **World War II Museum**.

DAY 3

New Orleans to Coastal Mississippi – 90 miles

Enjoy two days of relaxation along the **Mississippi Gulf Coast**, which combines small-town friendliness, antique shops, history and **coastal cuisine** with **casino gaming** and entertainment, golf courses and 26 miles of **white sandy beaches**.

DAY 4

Coastal Mississippi to Gulf Shores –

Relax and enjoy the coastal towns of **Gulf Shores and Orange Beach** with their 32 miles of soft white sand and sparkling emerald waters. Cast your line for deep sea adventure on a charter fishing trip, take a dolphin watching cruise or visit one of the classic beach bars like **The Hangout** or **Flora-Bama**.

DAY 5 & 6

Gulf Shores to Mobile– 60 miles

Founded in 1702 as the original capital of the Louisiana Territory and nestled along the beautiful Gulf of Mexico, few American cities boast a history as rich as that of **Mobile**. Explore the mighty battleship, **USS Alabama**, that won nine battle stars during World War II, and see more than 25 other pieces of military craft. Make time for the 65-acre **Bellingrath Gardens** with its 15-room museum home and bayou boardwalk and take a river cruise on the Southern Belle. Interact with hundreds of hands-on science exhibits and take in larger-than-life IMAX films at the **Gulf Coast Exploreum**.

DAY 7 & 8

Mobile to Montgomery – 188 miles

On your way to Montgomery you can stop by **Monroeville**, home of Harper Lee and *To Kill A Mockingbird*. Located on the Alabama River, Montgomery is the birthplace of both the **Civil War** and the **Civil Rights movement**. Walk this authentic southern city and visit the **Alabama State Capitol** and the Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. preached. The **Hank Williams Museum** and the **Rosa Parks Museum** are also downtown, as well as the **Alley Entertainment District**.

DAY 9 & 10

Montgomery to Birmingham – 90 miles

Birmingham, Alabama's largest city, boasts Jazz and dance clubs, theatre and fine dining. Visit the **Civil Rights Institute**, Kelly Ingram Park and 16th Street Baptist Church to learn about the city's civil rights struggles. Birmingham is also home of America's largest collection of motorcycles on display at **Barber Vintage Motorcycle Museum**.

DAY 11

Birmingham to Huntsville – 102 miles

Huntsville is home of the **U.S. Space and Rocket Center**, the world's largest space attraction, and America's largest seasonal butterfly house at the **botanical gardens**. Located at the base of some of the most beautiful mountains in North Alabama, Huntsville offers visitors outdoor activities, such as hiking, biking, horseback riding and fishing along the **Tennessee River**.

DAY 12

Huntsville to Muscle Shoals – 69 miles

Day 12 is all about **musical heritage**... The small Alabama northwest adjacent towns of Florence, Tuscumbia, Sheffield and Muscle Shoals are the southernmost leg of a not-to-be-missed **music Road Trip triangle** that includes Memphis and Nashville. The 'Father of the Blues' W.C.Handy was born in Florence where the annual **Handy Music Festival** is held each summer. Tour **FAME recording studio** in Muscle Shoals where international superstars like Aretha Franklin, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Percy Sledge and the Rolling Stones recorded great hits.

DAY 13

Muscle Shoals to Corinth – 80 miles

Head west to **Tupelo** and visit **Elvis' birthplace**, before continuing to **Corinth** where cultural heritage sites abound. It is home to four museums, a National Park Service Civil War Interpretive Center, pristine Civil War earthworks, historic neighbourhoods and much more.

DAY 14

Arrive in Memphis for your flight home – 151 miles

If you would like some help / advice about touring Alabama, please do get in touch with our Alabama experts: alabama@deep-south-usa.com.

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MILEAGE CHART

KEY:	TUPELO	SHREVEPORT	PAIDUCAH	NEW ORLEANS	NATCHITOCHE	NATCHEZ	NASHVILLE	MUSCLE SHOALS	MONTEOMERY	MOBILE	MISSISSIPPI DELTA	MEMPHIS	LOUISVILLE	LEXINGTON	LAFAYETTE	KNOXVILLE	JACKSON	GULF COAST	COVINGTON	CHATTANOOGA	BRISTOL	BIRMINGHAM	BATON ROUGE	ATLANTA
Colour block = road colour route																								
ASHLAND	577	969	379	985	1045	851	378	462	663	831	668	590	164	164	1028	296	799	896	205	408	207	557	970	526
ATLANTA	279	120	381	469	591	480	248	259	185	328	388	383	420	175	587	175	120	381	175	175	118	343	120	587
BATON ROUGE	363	282	580	110	85	206	US61	562	448	364	199	US61	308	381	761	847	110	611	193	152	928	579	804	430
BIRMINGHAM	122	120	360	350	471	337	165	131	165	165	258	246	122	165	244	366	433	490	261	120	348	462	159	368
BRISTOL	492	831	424	724	845	713	292	390	455	620	583	502	363	285	864	113	405	716	366	223				
CHATTANOOGA	247	599	124	159	489	620	483	124	169	234	400	357	320	307	175	280	639	175	112	384	475	175	258	
COVINGTON	483	915	312	804	889	757	272	296	352	725	562	480	171	175	81	943	175	250	482	840				
GULF COAST	339	434	563	110	85	358	243	518	424	228	110	45	449	694	772	212	609	167						
JACKSON	NTP	120	220	455	155	194	NTP	102	379	257	248	229	158	155	209	547	625	253	500					
KNOXVILLE	379	718	317	611	734	602	160	180	279	354	522	470	140	392	250	175	172	671						
LAFAYETTE	423	640	380	110	149	146	151	622	508	424	259	368	441	821	907									
LEXINGTON	453	845	294	783	859	727	254	849	526	694	542	464	164	74										
LOUISVILLE	375	767	216	705	781	649	165	176	371	165	165	165	140	392	250	175	172	671						
MEMPHIS	122	108	429	208	155	395	443	US61	160	212	151	337	382	US61	78									
MISSISSIPPI DELTA	110	290	286	US61	308	349	217	290	195	339	384													
MOBILE	US45	224	449	US45	408	150	405	290	165	453	359	165	168											
MONTGOMERY	229	468	422	318	482	350	285	224																
MUSCLE SHOALS	85	477	202	400	491	359	126																	
NASHVILLE	NTP	199	591	124	157	542	605	NTP	873															
NATCHEZ	NTP	274	206	503	US61	171	132																	
NATCHITOCHE	406	149	74	435	284																			
NEW ORLEANS	341	362	603																					
PADUCAH	US45	224	637																					
SHREVEPORT	392																							



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