



9-Day U.S. Mid-South Mississippi Tour (Chicago Airport Pick Up)

Tour Code: APIT9

Departure Date : Tuesday (2019 April - December)

Extra Dates (2019): 1/1, 1/15, 1/29, 2/12, 2/26, 3/12, 3/26

Price List

1st & 2nd Person	3rd Person	4th Person	Single
\$1058/person	\$295	\$725	\$1587

Departure & Return Information:

Departure Date (Airport Pick-up)	Airport Drop-off Note	End Day
Tuesday	Houston: IAH & HOU Flight after 18:30PM	Wednesday

- Complementary airport pick-up is provided 9:00AM - 9:00PM at O'Hare Airport. You may have to wait for other guests.
- No complementary pick-up service at Midway International Airport.
- Paid 24-hour pick-up and drop-off service is also available for \$120 for first two persons with \$10 for each additional person.
- **Free Drop-off Service at Houston Chinatown & Crowne Plaza Near Sugar Land.**

Itinerary Highlights

- I. Oak Alley Plantation, Swamp Tour, Garden District, National World War II Museum and Mississippi Steamed Jazz Cruise, fully discover is amazing city New Orleans In-Depth sightseeing within most of attractions.
- II. Get to know why Everything is bigger in Texas or Texas size.
- III. Chances to see NBA games in Houston Dallas and San Antonio.

Visiting: Chicago, Houston, Austin, Memphis, San Louis, San Antonio, New Orleans.

Itinerary

Day 1

Hometown-Chicago (Night Tour)

Hotel : Best Western Plus O'Hare International South Hotel or equivalent

The day-one itinerary is for reference only; the schedule is subject to change upon your arrival.

Fly from home to Chicago. For passengers arriving with domestic flights, please wait at Baggage Claim area; for passengers taking International flight, please wait at the Exit doors after retrieving your luggage. Tour guide will lead you to the meeting point.

For those guests who arrive at O'Hare meeting point before 3:00pm, you will receive an additional gift - free transportation to the Fashion Outlets of Chicago which features many shopping and dining options, there's no complementary airport pickup and shopping option for Midway Airport arrival.

For passengers who arrive before 5:00pm, you are invited to join the night tour of Chicago at \$25 per person. (*To arrange the night tour, it requires at least 4 guests enrolled.)

Chicago Night Tour

Starting from the Crown Fountain at **Millennium Park**, we will set off for Michigan Avenue where you can have a wonderful view of the Magnificent Mile in the night and take a walk alongside the Chicago River. The last stop will be the **Michigan Lakeside** with the panoramic view of the world-class city skyline of Chicago.

Day 2

Chicago City Tour

Hotel : Best Western Plus O'Hare International South Hotel or equivalent

This tour will show you the best of Chicago in one day. This is a world's top architecture city with bold architectures. Great attractions like Millennium Park, you will see **Cloud Gate**, Clarence Buckingham Memorial Fountain. Stroll around the Navy Pier. You will also take an exclusive tour of the Chicago Theatre. Another stop is Michigan Avenue, the Magnificent Mile, where the Art Institute of Chicago, Grant Park, the historical **Chicago Water Tower**, shopping malls and boutique stores are located. To have the best view of this famous city, you will go up to the **360 CHICAGO**, offer the most breathtaking views of downtown Chicago, the lakefront and four neighboring states: Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin.

Itinerary:

Millennium Park & Cloud Gate (20 mins) → Grant Park (10 mins) → Chicago Theatre (Optional, 60 mins) → The Art Institute of Chicago (Optional, 120 mins) → Chicago Water Tower (15 mins) → Michigan Avenue (30 mins) → Chicago architecture cruise (Optional, 75 mins) → 360 Chicago (Glass Observation Deck Included, 75 mins)

We also pass by: Clarence Buckingham Memorial Fountain, Navy Pier, the corn-cob shaped Marina City buildings, Trump Tower, Willis Tower

Special notes: Chicago architecture cruise will be closed in winter.

Millennium Park

Three square blocks of open lakefront complete with a Ferris Wheel, outdoor music pavilion and ice-skating rink; expected to become one of the city's most popular sites.

Grant Park

Grant Park is a large urban park in the city's central business district. It was renamed in 1901 to honor US President Ulysses S. Grant. The park contains performance venues, gardens, art work, sporting, and harbor facilities. It hosts public gatherings and several large annual events and is popularly referred to as "Chicago's front yard".

Chicago Theater

In the busy Loop area of Chicago is the city's namesake theater with its iconic marquee, which has become an unofficial symbol of the city. It hosts performances of all kinds, including drama, comedy, dance, and more.

The Art Institute of Chicago

The Art Institute is the 2nd-largest art museum in the US after the Met in New York. It houses pieces by renowned painters such as Van Gogh, Monet, and Cezanne, as well as an extensive collection of African-American art.

Michigan Avenue

Michigan Avenue is a street well known to Chicago natives as well as tourists to the city. Michigan Avenue also is the main commercial street of Streeterville. It includes all of the Historic Michigan Boulevard District and most of the Michigan–Wacker Historic District, including the scenic urban space anchored by the Michigan Avenue Bridge.

360 Chicago (incl. Tilt)

This observation deck sits atop the John Hancock Tower in Chicago, providing exquisite aerial views of the city's skyline that you can't get anywhere else. The new LIFT feature extends out above the city below for an exhilarating experience.

Chicago Cruise

The Architectural Cruise of Chicago is a perfect way to view one of America's most formidable cities, all from the comfort of a boat leisurely sailing down the Chicago River, either during the day or at twilight.

Day 3

Springfield – St. Louis

Hotel : Comfort Inn Festus or equivalent

First, we will go south to Springfield, hometown of Abraham Lincoln and see his former home where Lincoln lived in for 17 years. Right behind his residence, there is the State Capitol of Illinois. Then we will head for St. Louis, the largest metropolitan area of East Missouri, which is well known for being the beginning point of the Westward Movement visiting its Gateway Arch and Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis.

Itinerary:

Chicago → Springfield → Lincoln Home National Historic Site (Outside Visit) → Old Illinois State Capitol (Outside Visit) → St. Louis → Gateway Arch (30 mins) → Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis (20 mins)

Lincoln Home National Historic Site

This historic location, a house and the surrounding four blocks, was the home of President Abraham Lincoln from 1844 to 1861, when he left for the White House in Washington. Lincoln's home has proved irresistible to visitors since it first opened to the public in 1887 and beautifully restored to its 1860 appearance.

Old Illinois State Capitol

This historic site served as the state capitol building for the state of Illinois from 1840 to 1876, built in the Greek Revival Style. Both Abraham Lincoln and Barack Obama announced their candidacy for president here.

Gateway Arch

This iconic stainless-steel monument in St. Louis is the tallest arch in the world. It was built as a homage to the westward expansion of the United States and sits on the site of St. Louis' founding. The monument opened to the public on June 10, 1967. And it has become to the well-known landmark building since then. The visit to the Gateway Arch is an experience that never fails to inspire.

Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis

Located in the central West End of St. Louis, this Roman Catholic cathedral was designed in a mix of Neo-Byzantine and Romanesque Revival architectural styles. It was consecrated on June 29, 1926. Installation of mosaics in the interior began in 1912 and completed in 1988, the mosaics collectively contain 41.5 million glass tesserae pieces in more than 7,000 colors. Covering 83,000 square feet (7,700 m²), it is the largest mosaic collection in the world outside Russia.

Day 4

Memphis - Jackson

Hotel : Ramada Pearl/Jackson Airport or equivalent

After going across Mississippi River, the second time during this tour, we reach Memphis, the biggest city of Tennessee, the land of music. Memphis is a city of reminiscence. We will visit Graceland, the mansion home of Elvis Presley, commonly regarded as “the King of Rock and Roll”, “the most significant cultural icon of the 20th century”. Elvis’ hit songs can be heard everywhere in Graceland to pay homage to this beloved superstar. Later, go to the hotel near Jackson.

Itinerary:

Memphis → Graceland (Optional, 120 mins)

Graceland

This massive, opulent mansion in Memphis, Tennessee was the home of Elvis Presley. It is a National Historic Landmark and today serves as a museum. Guests can visit the site of Elvis' grave and tour the thirteen-acre estate.

Day 5

Oak Alley Plantation - New Orleans (Night Tour)

Hotel : [Wingate by Wyndham Slidell/New Orleans East Area](#) or equivalent

When we reach Oak Alley Plantation, a U.S. National Historic Landmark located at the west suburban of New Orleans. We will also have a swamp tour, a fun adventurous yet safe boat ride that showcases the unique eco system of New Orleans region. You'll have opportunities to see alligators, snakes, turtles, egrets, herons, ibis and many other species as well as many strange looking plants living in the swamp. After going to the hotel, it is recommended to take an optional New Orleans night city tour.

Itinerary:

Oak Alley Plantation (Optional, 90 mins) → Swamp Tour (Optional, 90 mins) → New Orleans Night Tour (Optional, 180 mins)

New Orleans Night Tour:

New Orleans is a city with rich French and Spanish heritage. In between corners of every old French style townhouse, you may find a live jazz performance; every narrow block you turn to, there might be an oyster cocktail bar. It feels like many festivals are going on simultaneously. The night is long, and the nightlife is on.

Oak Alley Plantation

Oak Alley Plantation is a U.S. National Historic Landmark located at the west suburban of New Orleans, our attention, right away, would be attracted to the astonishing beauty that the plantation presents. Visitors may even feel that they were taken into the scene of "Gone with Wind". The master's big house is contrasting with the slave quarter nearby. Two rows of 300-years-old oak trees are not only concealing the amazing quarter-mile-long garden road, but also the bitterness of the south had borne after Civil War. The natural environment of New Orleans is as distinctive as its local culture.

Swamp Tour

A fun adventurous yet safe boat ride that showcases the unique eco system of New Orleans region. You'll have opportunities to see alligators, snakes, turtles, egrets, herons, ibis and many other species as well as many strange looking plants living in the swamp. It is like entering a land of unknown. The natural disaster

remains of Hurricane Katrina of ten years ago can still be seen. It is so fascinating of the untouched swamp wildness of the pristine beauty.

Day 6 WWII Museum-Mississippi Steamboat Cruise-Houston

Hotel : Crowne Plaza Near Sugar Land or equivalent

First thing in the morning we are going to visit the National WWII Museum, formerly known as the D-day Museum, a military history museum emphasizes the American experience in World War II. Around noon we will take you to the Mississippi Steamed Jazz Cruise. The cruise from the heart of the French Quarter shows you why the city was founded on the beautiful crescent of the lower Mississippi River. The live Jazz performance on the steamboat will make you an unforgettable trip.

Itinerary:

The National WWII Museum (Optional, 90 mins) →Jazz Steamboat Mississippi (Optional, 120 mins)
→ Huston

The National WWII Museum

The National WWII Museum, formerly known as the D-Day Museum, is a military history museum located in the Central Business District of New Orleans, Louisiana, on Andrew Higgins Drive between Camp Street and Magazine Street. The museum focuses on the contribution made by the United States to Allied victory in World War II.

Jazz Steamboat Mississippi

The two-hour cruise from the heart of the French Quarter shows you why the city was founded on the beautiful crescent of the lower Mississippi River. New Orleans is well-known as the birthplace of jazz. The live Jazz performance on the steamboat will make you an unforgettable trip.

Day 7 Austin-San Antonio (Night Tour)

Hotel : Best Western Plus Fiesta San Antonio/Wyndham or equivalent

We will arrive at the Capital city of Texas: Austin. Guests will have a chance to go inside for the **State Capitol**, contains the offices and chambers of the Texas Legislature and the Office of the Governor. Next,

we will visit **Texas Military Forces**, a museum about the history of Texas' militia, volunteer forces and Texas Military Forces from 1823 to the present. . At night, you may choose to join our **Night Tour** in San Antonio.

Itinerary:

Austin→ Texas State Capitol (Inside visit · 60 mins) → University of Texas at Austin (tour on bus, 20 mins) → Texas Military Forces Museum (60 mins, will not visit if it closed) → Natural Bridge Caverns → St. Antonio Night Tour (Optional, 160 mins)

St. Antonio Night Tour

We will take you to see the tower of Friendship, tower of Americas, the river walk cruise for night view. Ernie Pyle once described the River Walk as “The American Venice” and it’s easy to see why. If you tried to imagine a place where the sights, sounds and flavors of Native America, Old Mexico and the Wild West blend effortlessly with the hustle and bustle of a modern city, it would probably look a lot like the San Antonio

Special Notes:

1. If Texas State Capitol is closed, we only visit outside.
2. Texas Military Forces Museum is closed on every Monday, will not visit if closed.

Texas State Capitol

Situated in downtown Austin, Texas' capitol building was completed in 1888 in an Italian Renaissance Revival style. Covering over 51 acres, it was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1970.

University of Texas at Austin

The University of Texas at Austin, informally UT Austin, UT, University of Texas, or Texas in sports contexts, is a public research university and the flagship institution of the University of Texas System.

Texas Military Forces Museum

The museum is located in historic building 6, which was originally built in 1918 as a mess hall. The indoor area of the museum has 45,000 square foot and exhibits memorabilia, photographs, dioramas, uniforms, weapons, vehicles and other military accessories used from 1825 to the present.

Natural Bridge Caverns

The Natural Bridge Caverns are the largest known commercial caverns in the U.S. state of Texas. The caverns feature several unique speleothems and other geological formations. The temperature inside the cave is 21 degrees Celsius (70°F) year-round and the humidity rate is a constant 99 percent. The caverns are still very active and considered living. Due to the porosity of the limestone, rainwater travels downwards through the layers of rock, where it dissolves out calcite, a weak mineral that makes up all the speleothems at Natural Bridge Caverns. After exiting the limestone, water enters the caverns where it flows and drips constantly throughout, causing the formations to retain a waxy luster that can be seen in few caverns.

Day 8

San Antonio –Houston

Hotel : Crowne Plaza Near Sugar Land or equivalent

In the morning, we will go to the **Alamo** Mission. Next, **the Buckhorn Museum** features wildlife from all over the world; including fish from the seven seas, animals from every continent and strange animal oddity which have been collected for over 100 years! Later on, we will visit Historic market Square and Tower of the Americas.

Itinerary:

The Alamo (60 mins) → The Buckhorn Saloon and Texas Ranger Museum (Optional, 60 mins) → Historic Market Square (60 mins) → Tower of the Americas (Optional, 60 mins)

The Alamo

The Alamo, originally a Roman Catholic mission, was the site of a famous historic battle in 1836 in which the Mexican army laid siege to the building that was defended by a small group of Texans.

Buckhorn Saloon& Texas Ranger Museum

Located right in the heart of downtown San Antonio, we are two blocks from the Alamo and one block from the Riverwalk. For over 131 years, The Buckhorn Saloon has been known as a gathering place for good conversation, great food and spectacular wildlife exhibits. Today, the saloon houses a Café, Gift Shop, Shooting Gallery and our two museums, the Buckhorn Museum and the Texas Ranger Museum.

Historic Market Place

Enjoy the sights and flavors of old Mexico at Historic Market Square, a favorite of locals and tourists for generations. Explore over 100 locally owned shops and stalls, all at a festive indoor mall famously

described as the largest Mexican market outside Mexico. Find authentic Talavera pottery, exotic curios and handcrafted works of art. Stay for the gourmet Mexican cuisine at Mi Tierra and La Margarita, or kick back at the Farmers Market Food Court and enjoy the show on the stage.

Tower of Americas

The Tower of the Americas is a 750-foot (230-meter) observation tower-restaurant located in the HemisFair Park on the southeastern portion of Downtown San Antonio, Texas, United States. The tower was designed by San Antonio architect O'Neil Ford and was built as the theme structure of the 1968 World's Fair, HemisFair '68.

Day 9

Houston – Home

First, we will stop by **Toyota Center**, an indoor arena famous of the Houston Rockets. And then head to Rice University. Later, we will go for the **Houston Museum of Natural Science**. The museum complex consists of a central facility with four floors of natural science halls and exhibits, the Burke Baker Planetarium, the Cockrell Butterfly Center, and the Wortham Giant Screen Theatre. In the afternoon, you won't want to miss George Ranch Historic Park.

Itinerary:

Toyota Center (Outside Visit, 20 mins) → Rice University (40 mins) → Hermann Park (20 mins) → Houston Museum of Natural Science (Optional, 150 mins) → George Ranch Historic Park (Optional, 120 mins)

Toyota Center

Toyota Center is an indoor arena located in downtown Houston, Texas. It is named after the Japanese automobile manufacturer Toyota. The arena is home to the Houston Rockets of the National Basketball Association, and the former home of the Houston Aeros of the American Hockey League.

Rice University

William Marsh Rice University, commonly known as Rice University, is a private research university located on a 300-acre (121 ha) campus in Houston, Texas, United States. The university is situated near the Houston Museum District and is adjacent to the Texas Medical Center.

Hermann Park

One of Houston's oldest public parks, Hermann Park was first envisioned as part of a comprehensive urban planning effort by the city of Houston in the early 1910s. Following the recommendation of a 1913 report which identified the then-rural area between Main Street and Brays Bayou as ideal for a large urban park, real estate investor and entrepreneur George H. Hermann, who owned most of the area and served on the city's parks board, bequeathed his estate to Houston for use as a public green space in 1914.

Houston Museum of Natural Science

Founded in 1909, the HMNS is one of the top 5 most popular museums in the United States based on its large number of special or great exhibits. In addition to its exhibits, its complex consists of a central facility with four floors of natural science halls, the Burke Baker Planetarium, the Cockrell Butterfly Center, and the Wortham Giant Screen Theatre.

George Ranch Historic Park

The George Ranch Historical Park is an internationally-recognized living history site that authentically preserves and interprets the four-generational storyline of a remarkable Texas family beginning in 1824 and spanning more than 100 years. Just 30 miles southwest of downtown Houston, the Park is located on a 20,000-acre+ working ranch featuring historic homes, costumed interpreters and livestock. The Park aims to educate people of all ages about Texas history and the region's unique heritage through programming that connects and inspires learners of all ages.

Special Remarks

Scenic Spots Notes:

1. Itinerary will be subject to traffic and weather. The sequence of the attractions might be changed according to actual and practical situation for better service.
2. In case of attraction closures (due to holidays or construction etc.), tour guide may make some necessary changes to the itinerary accordingly.
3. This tour doesn't accept any City Pass or your own tickets for the attractions. Guests must purchase admission tickets from tour guides.

Refund Policy:

1. If the weather condition, war, general strikes and other unforeseen circumstances interrupt the journey, our company reserve the right to rearrange the journey without refunding the tour fee.
2. If visitors cannot join the tour because of personal reason, the fee for hotels and transportation is not refundable.

Tour fee notes:

1. Tour fee only includes transportation & hotel.

2. Tour fee excludes the meals, attractions tickets, service fee (\$10/person/day), and any private expenses (such as hotel telephone charges, laundry etc.).

Attraction Admission List

Attraction Admission List	Adult	Senior (65+)	Child (3-12)
Chicago			
Chicago Night Tour (Minimum 4 Passengers)	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$15.00
360 Chicago (incl. Tilt)	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$21.00
Chicago Cruise	\$39.00	\$35.00	\$18.00
The Art Institute of Chicago	\$25.00	\$25.00	FREE (under 14)
Chicago Theater	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$10.00
Memphis			
Graceland (Elvis Presley Mansion)	\$40.00	\$36 (62+)	\$19.00 (7-12) FREE (under 6)
New Orleans			
Oak Alley Plantation	\$25.00	\$23.00	\$7.00(6-12) \$10.00(13-18)
Swamp Tour	\$27.00	\$27.00	\$16(4-12)
New Orleans Night Tour	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$15.00
National World War II Museum	\$28.00	\$24.00	\$18.00(6-12)
Jazz Steamboat Mississippi (Including Lunch)	\$46.00	\$46.00	\$23.00(6-12) \$9.50(2-5)
San Antonio			
Night Tour (Including Riverwalk Cruise)	\$35.00	\$30.00	\$25.00 (2-11)
Natural Bridge Caverns	\$23.50	\$23.50	\$15.25
Tower Of Americas	\$13.00	\$11.00	\$10.00(4-12)
Buckhorn Saloon& Texas Ranger Museum	\$22.00	\$22.00	\$17.00(3-12)
Houston			
Houston Museum of Natural Science	\$25	\$15(62+)	\$15 (3-11)
George Ranch Historical Park	\$15	\$12	\$10 (4-12)

*Price and schedule are subject to seasonal change without notice