

# The American South

*Nashville to New Orleans*

April 6 - 15, 2019

Registration Opens  
Monday, April 30, 2018

- \* Walk-in registration begins at 8:30 a.m.
- \* Telephone registration begins at 9:00 a.m.



Osher Lifelong Learning Institute



SAGINAW VALLEY  
STATE UNIVERSITY

## Travel along the Mississippi River to see the best of the South

Experience the diverse landscapes, welcoming people, and robust flavors of the deep south. Discover the musical meccas of Memphis and Nashville, which offer up bluesy roots, country rhythms, unique cultures and mouth watering cuisines. Uncover Civil War history in Vicksburg and admire the antebellum architecture in Natchez. Then end your stay in colorful New Orleans, which bursts with culture & cuisine, around the clock!

### Pre-Trip Dinner at SVSU

We will offer a pre-trip dinner about two weeks prior to departure. This is a great opportunity for you to meet OLLI members that you will be traveling with. You will receive your travel documents, enjoy a nice meal, and we will go over trip logistics.

### Travel Providers

This educational travel experience is offered by the SVSU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute in conjunction with Go Ahead Tours. Founded in 1990, Go Ahead Tours offers over 85 itineraries to 60 countries across the globe. They are part of Education First, the world's largest private education company whose mission is "to break down the barriers of language, culture, and geography that divide us." Go Ahead was the travel provider for our Tuscany, Canadian Rockies, Charleston to Savannah, Germany, Spain, Iceland, and Ontario to Quebec trips.

### About Our Lodging

We will stay in first class accommodations hand-picked to ensure quality and comfort.

#### Three Ways to Register:

- Walk-in registrations\* should go to C111  
*\*This is the preferred method of registration for anyone wanting to register for this trip.*
- Call 989-964-4475
- Mail form with payment to:  
OLLI of SVSU  
Curtiss 111  
7400 Bay Road  
University Center, MI 48710



### This Ten - Day Trip Includes:

- Round-trip air transportation from Detroit, and ground transportation from SVSU to the Detroit airport and from DTW back to SVSU on the return.
- Nine nights lodging in hand picked hotels
- Nine breakfasts daily, and 5 dinners with beer or wine.
- Guided sightseeing tours with expert tour director & local guides as outlined in brochure. Tour highlights include: Country Music Hall of Fame, the National Civil Rights Museum, Graceland Mansion, Sun Studio, Vicksburg National Military Park, Antebellum Natchez, the French Quarter, and St. Louis Cemetery.
- A home hosted dinner in Natchez, Mississippi with piano music, wine, and a four-course traditional southern meal created by one of the top-ranked female chefs in America.
- Pre-trip dinner at SVSU approximately two weeks prior to departure.
- Post-trip gathering to share photos and memories approximately two weeks following the trip





## Trip Itinerary

### ■ Day 1: Saturday, April 6 (Nashville)

Welcome to Nashville! Transfer from the airport, get settled into your hotel and enjoy free time to explore on your own. This evening we'll gather for a welcome dinner. (D)

### ■ Day 2: Sunday, April 7 (Nashville)

After breakfast we'll set out on a guided tour of "Music City." Our guide will take us by the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, the Ryman Auditorium, and the Johnny Cash Museum. We'll stop at Bicentennial Capitol Mall State Park to see the Tennessee State Capitol building and enter President Andrew Jackson's Hermitage mansion. Learn why Nashville has earned a title as one of the world's most important recording centers as you immerse yourself in the city's impressive musical heritage. Then we'll step inside the Country Music Hall of Fame for a self-guided tour. Here, you'll learn more about the illustrious careers and fascinating lives of the Hall of Fame's inductees. This evening we'll attend a performance at The Grand Ole Opry House. *Please note: The show may be at the Grand Ole Opry House or at the Ryman Auditorium depending on the day of the week and show schedule.* (B)

### ■ Day 3: Monday, April 8 (Transfer to Memphis)

Following breakfast this morning we'll travel to Memphis, Tennessee. Upon arrival, we'll visit the National Civil Rights Museum. (B, D)

### ■ Day 4: Tuesday, April 9 (Memphis)

Today we'll get to know Memphis with our tour director. A city that's known for its rich cultural and musical heritage, from the blues to rock'n'roll. We'll venture by the Orpheum Theatre, Elmwood Cemetery and stop by the Peabody Hotel and Beale Street. After lunch on your own we'll visit Graceland Mansion, and explore the home and recording studio of the American musical legend Elvis Presley! We'll also visit the automobile museum to see some of his favorite cars and motorcycles, and then tour nearby Sun Studio, a U.S. National Historic Landmark, where Elvis recorded hits including "That's All Right." Dinner will be on your own this evening. (B)

### ■ Day 5: Wednesday, April 10 (Natchez)

After breakfast today we'll travel from Memphis to Natchez, Mississippi, and on the way we'll stop for a guided tour of Vicksburg. We'll also visit Vicksburg National Military Park, site of the Battle of Vicksburg, see the Shirley house and the Vicksburg National Monument. A special evening is planned for this evening beginning with a visit to the Joe Stone home where you'll listen to him play the piano as you sip a glass of wine and explore this unique and ornate house. Then we'll head to another nearby residence and enjoy a traditional, four-course southern meal created by Esther Carpenter, one of the top-ranked female chefs in America. (B, D)

### ■ Day 6: Thursday, April 11 (Transfer to New Orleans)

Following breakfast we'll set out to explore Natchez with our tour director, before we head to New Orleans. Natchez has been voted one of the most beautiful cities in America! We'll see many preserved antebellum buildings along our way to visit the Melrose historic mansion. Then we'll continue on to Baton Rouge, Louisiana's capital city. A local guide will introduce us to life as it was in the lower Mississippi River Valley during the 18th and 19th centuries at the LSU Rural Life Museum. We'll also pass by the Old State Capital, the Louisiana State Capital building, and the Old Governor's Mansion before we leave town on our way to New Orleans. Dinner will be on your own this evening in New Orleans. (B)

### ■ Day 7: Friday, April 12 (New Orleans)

We'll experience the unique history and vibrant Creole culture of New Orleans on a guided tour this morning following breakfast. We'll visit the Garden District, see historic mansions and stately homes and visit the Saint Louis Cemetery. We'll also see the Prebytere and 1850 House; two of the Louisiana State Museums, walk through the French Quarter and finish the tour at Café du Monde, where we'll sample a famous beignet. Enjoy lunch on your own and a free afternoon at leisure, or add the optional Louisiana Bayou Tour this afternoon. *Additional information about this option will be available at a later date.* Venture out this evening with other OLLI friends to enjoy the sights, sounds, and cuisine of New Orleans.\* (B)

\* We have scheduled our trip to be in New Orleans during the **French Quarter Festival!** The festival annually features more than twenty music stages in the French Quarter throughout the three-day weekend. Music lovers will find traditional and contemporary jazz, Latin, rhythm and blues, Cajun and zydeco, New Orleans funk, classical, swing, rock, international and the many diverse sounds that are part of this city's rich cultural gumbo. Look for more than 100 of New Orleans' favorite musical performers to entertain - with a variety of other New Orleans legends and international all-stars.



## Trip Itinerary

### ■ Day 8: Saturday, April 13 *(New Orleans)*

After breakfast spend the morning and afternoon at leisure. Late afternoon we'll enjoy a New Orleans cooking demonstration and dinner at the New Orleans School of Cooking. The flavorful food in New Orleans reflects the area's multicultural roots and on this evening's excursion, we'll learn how to make some of the city's signature Cajun dishes. Named after French-speaking Acadian people who migrated to southern Louisiana, Cajun cuisine is based on fresh, locally sourced ingredients. Head to a nearby restaurant and enjoy a cooking demonstration led by a local chef. You'll learn how to make traditional Cajun appetizers, entrees, and a dessert, then sit down to enjoy an included dinner. (B,D)

### ■ Day 9: Sunday, April 14 *(New Orleans)*

Today, following breakfast we'll travel outside of New Orleans to learn about the many different cultures and historic events that have come to define the American South. First, we'll visit the Oak Alley Plantation, a former working plantation named for the grand row of oak trees that predate the home's existence. There, you'll learn about plantation life and visit exhibits dedicated to the history of Louisiana's slave trade and the Civil War. Then, we'll visit Laura Plantation, a restored Creole plantation on the Mississippi, before returning to New Orleans. This evening we'll celebrate our trip with a farewell dinner. (B,D)

### ■ Day 10: Monday, April 15

Today we leave New Orleans to travel home. After breakfast we will transfer to the airport for our flight home. We will be transferred from Detroit to SVSU by motorcoach (B)

## Information and Reservations

Call the SVSU-OLLI at (989) 964-4475 or come in the OLLI office C-111, for further information or to Make your deposit. Registration for trip begins on:

**Monday, April 30, 2018**

**Walk-in registration begins at 8:30 a.m.**

**Telephone registration begins at 9:00 a.m.**

## General Information

### Tour Activity Level

This tour requires average physical activity. You should be in good health, able to climb stairs and walk reasonable distances, walking up to two hours per day, possibly over uneven ground and cobblestone streets. Travelers should be healthy enough to participate in all included walks without assistance. Adding optional excursions may increase the total amount of walking on your tour. You should feel comfortable managing your own baggage at all times. If you have any mobility concerns or physical restrictions, please contact our OLLI office for additional information.

### Trip Insurance

Go Ahead's Travel Safe trip insurance can be included in the price of this trip and must be paid at the time of deposit upon registration. The "Trip protection" package has pre-existing condition coverage. Details about the travel protection package terms and conditions can be found on their website at: [goahead-tours.com/about/travel-protection](http://goahead-tours.com/about/travel-protection). If you choose not to include Go Ahead's travel protection plan, you must provide our office with a copy of an alternate form of purchased travel insurance for this trip. Travel insurance is required. Please note that insurance fees are never refundable.

### Cancellation

All cancellations must be made in writing to the OLLI office and a cancellation fee of \$50 will be charged. Go Ahead's cancellation policies will prevail.

### Air Details

Our package includes round-trip air from Detroit, air taxes and fees/surcharges. Specific flight information will be provided at a later date. If our flight is scheduled early, we may stay the night prior to departure in Detroit. If this is the case, there will be an added cost per person and these details will be forwarded to you closer to departure.

### Weather Projection

Daytime temperatures should range between 50-80 degrees in these region during this time of the year.

### Waitlist

Our office will maintain a wait-list if this trip fills to capacity.

The American South: Nashville to New Orleans  
**Registration - Passenger #1**

Title: Mr./Ms./Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M/F

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(as it appears on your drivers license)*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**Trip Cost:**

The cost of the following excursions have already been included in your trip cost:

- Country Music Hall of Fame
- Grand Ole Opry
- Graceland & Sun Studio
- Home hosted dinner in Natchez
- French Quarter Festival
- New Orleans Cooking Demonstration

- \$4627 SVSU-OLLI Members\*** (double occupancy)  
*\*This cost includes trip protection insurance of \$399*
- \$4657 Non - Members\*** (double occupancy)  
*\*This cost includes trip protection insurance of \$399 and an OLLI membership, expiring 8/31/2018*
- \$5567 SVSU-OLLI Single\*** (limited singles available)  
*\*This cost includes trip protection insurance of \$409 and \$920 single Supplement fee*
- \$5567 Non-Member Single\*** (limited singles available)  
*\*This cost includes trip protection insurance of \$409, \$920 single Supplement fee, and an OLLI membership, expiring 8/31/2018*

**Insurance:** \$ 399\* Double (per person) /\$ 409\* Single

*\* This fee has been included in your cost. If you choose not to include Go Ahead's travel protection plan, you must provide our office with a copy of an alternate form of purchased travel insurance for this trip. Insurance is required. Please note that insurance fees are not refundable.*

**Deposit & Payment Method:**

- \$849 SVSU-OLLI Members *(includes insurance)*
- \$879 Non-Members *(includes insurance & membership)*
- \$859 SVSU-OLLI Members-Single *(includes insurance)*
- \$889 Non- Members/Single *(includes insurance & membership)*

Check (payable to SVSU) Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card:  MasterCard  Visa  Discover  American Express

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be using any Go Ahead travel vouchers? \_\_\_\_\_

**\* The final balance is due by December 3, 2018**

The American South: Nashville to New Orleans  
**Registration - Passenger #2**

Title: Mr./Ms./Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: M/F

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(as it appears on your drivers license)*

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

**Trip Cost:**

The cost of the following excursions have already been included in your trip cost:

- Country Music Hall of Fame
- Grand Ole Opry
- Graceland & Sun Studio
- Home hosted dinner in Natchez
- French Quarter Festival
- New Orleans Cooking Demonstration

- \$4627 SVSU-OLLI Members\*** (double occupancy)  
*\*This cost includes trip protection insurance of \$399*
- \$4657 Non - Members\*** (double occupancy)  
*\*This cost includes trip protection insurance of \$399 and an OLLI membership, expiring 8/31/2018*
- \$5567 SVSU-OLLI Single\*** (limited singles available)  
*\*This cost includes trip protection insurance of \$409 and \$920 single Supplement fee*
- \$5567 Non-Member Single\*** (limited singles available)  
*\*This cost includes trip protection insurance of \$409, \$920 single Supplement fee, and an OLLI membership, expiring 8/31/2018*

**Insurance:** \$ 399\* Double (per person) /\$ 409\* Single

*\* This fee has been included in your cost. If you choose not to include Go Ahead's travel protection plan, you must provide our office with a copy of an alternate form of purchased travel insurance for this trip. Insurance is required. Please note that insurance fees are not refundable.*

**Deposit & Payment Method:**

- \$849 SVSU-OLLI Members *(includes insurance)*
- \$879 Non-Members *(includes insurance & membership)*
- \$859 SVSU-OLLI Members-Single *(includes insurance)*
- \$889 Non- Members/Single *(includes insurance & membership)*

Check (payable to SVSU) Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card:  MasterCard  Visa  Discover  American Express

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Will you be using any Go Ahead travel vouchers? \_\_\_\_\_

**\* The final balance is due by December 3, 2018**