

Memphis thorough Mississippi Itinerary

<u>Day 1</u>

Depart Memphis for Tupelo (travel time: approx 1.5 hours)

Arrive in Tupelo. Visit <u>Elvis Presley Birthplace and Museum</u> and <u>Tupelo</u> Hardware Store.

Travel to Oxford (travel time: approx. 1 hour)

Dinner, live music and overnight on Historic Town Square

Day 2

Driving tour of Oxford, including <u>University of Mississippi</u> campus, <u>James</u> Meredith Civil Rights Monument and William Faulker's Rowan Oak

Depart Oxford for Clarksdale (travel time: approx. 1 hour)

Lunch and tour of Clarksdale, including <u>Delta Blues Museum</u>, <u>Crossroads</u>, and <u>Mississippi Blues Trail</u> markers.

Depart Clarksdale for Indianola (travel time: approx 1 hour)

Arrive in Indianola. Visit BB King Museum and Delta Interpretive Center.

Depart Indianola for Greenwood (travel time: approx 30 minutes)

Arrive in Greenwood for "Cooking to the Blues" Viking Cooking School class Overnight in Greenwood

Day 3

Driving tour of Greenwood, including <u>Robert Johnson gravesite</u> and <u>Mississippi Blues Trail</u> sites

Depart Greenwood for Vicksburg (travel time: approx 2 hours)

Arrive in Vicksburg. Visit historic homes, <u>Vicksburg National Military Park</u> and get a great look at the Mississippi River

Dinner and overnight in antebellum home in Vicksburg

Day 4

Depart Vicksburg for Natchez (travel time: approx 1.5 hours)

Tour of Natchez including antebellum homes, <u>Natchez-Under-the-Hill</u> and Natchez Pilgrimage Tours

Dinner and overnight in Natchez at one of the many historic bed and breakfasts

Day 5 (Times to be determined based on attractions selected)

Have a leisurely breakfast in Natchez and depart for Mississippi Gulf Coast (travel time: approx 4 hrs)

Enjoy an excursion aboard the <u>Biloxi Shrimp Trip</u>. For 90 minutes, enjoy tales of shrimping, fishing and Biloxi history.

Cross the street to see the <u>Hurricane Katrina Memorial</u> built by *Extreme Makeover: Home Edition* on the Biloxi Town Green.

Spend some time at the Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art to experience the creations of George Ohr, our very own "Mad Potter". You can try your hand at some pottery creations of your own or watch an artist at work at the potter's wheel. Don't miss the Pleasant Reed Interpretive Center on the property of the new Ohr-O'Keefe Museum site, a replica of the original house that former slave Pleasant Reed built in 1887. This home exemplifies not only architectural but historical significance to the coast.

Cruise the coastal highway to discover our new <u>tree sculptures</u>, created by regional woodcarvers. Trees destroyed by the hurricane have been given new life as works of art.

f you're more of a history buff (or want to be one), visit the Maritime & Seafood Industry Museum, where the Coast's maritime history and heritage are brought to life. Or stop by Beauvoir, home of Jefferson Davis, the last president of the Confederate States of America. After dark enjoy the shows, entertainers and gaming at one of our Vegas style coastal casinos.

Day 6

Travel east to <u>Historic Downtown Ocean Springs</u>. Spend the morning visiting the many boutiques, galleries and restaurants of this quaint artisan town. Don't miss a visit to the <u>Walter Anderson Museum of Art</u> to enjoy the distinctive works of this renowned artist.

If the waters of the Gulf of Mexico are beckoning to you, relax on a sail aboard the <u>Biloxi Schooners</u>, replicas of the oyster schooners used from the late 1800's to the early 1900's. Venture out to the Gulf of Mexico with <u>Ship Island Excursions</u> aboard the *Pan American Clipper*. Docked at the Gulfport Harbor, watch for dolphins while you cruise to Ship Island, home of Ft. Massachusetts and some of our most beautiful beaches.

Day 7

Spend the day in the <u>Bay St. Louis</u>. After a beautiful Gulf View drive west, you will cross the Bay of St. Louis into a shopping and dining paradise. Mississippi's West Coast is home to more than 200 resident artists who create fine and folk pieces exhibited in galleries that will take your breath away. Visit <u>St. Rose de Lima</u>, an African American based Catholic Church which holds a truly magnificent surprise! While riding through this historic town, you will see quaint shotgun homes dressed in pastels and gingerbread trim, and see firsthand their post-Katrina rebirth. The historic <u>L & N Train Depot</u>, home to Mardi Gras Museum and folk artist Alice Moseley Museum, is a convenient rest and information stop. Shop, shop, shop in designer boutiques, galleries, specialty and garden shops, book stores and bakeries. Dining is a treat at the local coffee shops and eateries.

If you're intrigued by outer space, blast off to <u>INFINITY Science Center</u> and discover why America comes to NASA's Stennis Space Center prior to going into space. Before you begin your journey into space, you will be taken to the Launch Pad to prepare for your mission then on to a narrated tour through

the nation's largest rocket test complex where space shuttles' main engines are tested. At INFINITY Science Center, you will see exciting displays, exhibits, and unique presentations designed to educate and entertain.

There's plenty of casting and chipping to be found on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

<u>Charter fishing</u> captains stand ready to take you out into the Gulf of Mexico for some of the finest fishing you can enjoy.

Challenge yourself for a round or two at our premiere <u>golf courses</u>, created by some of the hottest designers: Tom Fazio, Jerry Pate, Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer and more.

<u>Gulfport Premium Outlets</u>, <u>Crossroads Mall</u> or <u>Edgewater Mall</u> are your destinations, if you shop like a pro. There are also many quaint boutiques and gift stores all over the coast featuring local art and gifts, along with great fashion and styles.

Day 8

Depart for New Orleans (travel time: approx 1 hr)