

Gems of the South

Charleston, Savannah, and St. Augustine

APRIL 14-20, 2023





FRIDAY, APRIL 14 (EVENING RECEPTION)

Today our flight takes us to **Charleston, South Carolina**. Founded in 1670, the port city of Charleston is renowned for its Civil War history, splendid antebellum architecture, lovely neighborhood gardens, cobblestone streets and beautiful water views from its Battery promenade. Upon arrival we will check into the **Embassy Suites Hotel Historic District** for three nights. The hotel is a grand restoration of the original Citadel Military College. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Buildings and is within walking distance of many of the wonderful attractions that Charleston has to offer.

This evening, enjoy the hotel's evening reception with your fellow travelling companions. Complimentary drinks, snacks and light appetizers are served in the lobby bar. The rest of the evening is free for you to explore beautiful Charleston.

SATURDAY, APRIL 15 (BREAKFAST, EVENING RECEPTION, DINNER)

This morning we will have a comprehensive **guided city tour** of lovely **Charleston**. There is no better time to visit than April when the colorful azaleas are blooming. We will see the gracious southern homes, gardens, and parks, and take a tour of the **Edmondston-Alston House**, one of the oldest houses along the High Battery. You will see a fine collection of furniture, silver, and decorative arts, largely original to those who owned the house, and are a reminder of the rich, complex history of Charleston in the 19th century.

Next, take time to shop and have lunch at the **Charleston City Market**, one of the nation's oldest public markets and the cultural heart of Charleston. Spend some time browsing through the 300 vendors that create a fun and exciting shopping and dining atmosphere. There are a wide variety of iconic, rare, and unexpected items to be found like the handmade sweetgrass baskets made by hand by the Gullah women.

This afternoon we will visit **Boone Hall Plantation and Gardens**, a National Historic Site, founded in 1681, that interprets both colonial and slave life on a 738-acre estate. Enter by way of an impressive live oak alley and be welcomed by a costumed guide on the colonnaded portico. Walk through the public rooms of this colonial-revival style mansion built in 1936 with brick manufactured on the plantation. Our guide will introduce us to the families who lived here and describe the home's antique

furnishings. Then wander down one of the few remaining slave streets in America and see the cabins where the skilled and house slaves lived and where you might catch a live presentation on Gullah culture.



We will return to the hotel to refresh and take advantage of the complimentary evening reception before joining your new friends for dinner in one of Charleston's most famous restaurants, **Hyman's Seafood**. Find out for yourself why Southern Living Magazine's Reader's Poll has voted Hyman's #1 in the Southeast for nine years running!

SUNDAY, APRIL 16 (BREAKFAST, DINNER CRUISE)

This morning, we leave on a day trip to explore **Brookgreen Gardens**, the floral jewel of South Carolina's coast. Registered as a National Historic Landmark, these stunning gardens are home to the largest collection of spectacular American figurative sculptures in the country. We will stroll with a guide through the **Huntington Sculpture Garden** and learn about founder Anna Hyatt Huntington and the natural and artistic beauty of one of America's premier gardens.

Enjoy lunch and shopping at the **Island Shops at Downtown Pawleys Island**. Stroll around the quaint outdoor setting which offers a truly vibrant collection of shops, galleries, retail venues and more. Have lunch at one of the many restaurants that offer Lowcountry inspired dishes to fine dining. No visit is complete, without a stop at the Original Hammock Shop.

This evening we board the *Spirit of Carolina* for a wonderful **sunset dinner cruise** in beautiful Charleston Harbor. Be entertained by local live artists and enjoy a delicious dinner as you pass by Fort Sumter, along the Battery and underneath Ravenel Bridge. The sunsets can be amazing!

MONDAY, APRIL 17 (BREAKFAST, BOX LUNCH, DINNER)

This morning, we bid Charleston a fond farewell. Our first stop today will be at Magnolia Plantation and Gardens, selected as one of "America's Most Beautiful Gardens" (*Travel + Leisure Magazine*)! Founded in 1676 by the Drayton family, Magnolia Plantation has survived the centuries and witnessed the history of our nation unfold before it from the American Revolution through the Civil War and beyond. Experience history and wildlife on a tram tour of the plantation's wetlands, lakes, forests, and marshes. We will also experience *From Slavery to Freedom: The Magnolia Cabin Project Tour*. These former slave dwellings now serve as the focal point for an award-winning 45-minute program in African American history. No visit to Magnolia can be complete without an understanding of the families who have lived here—first as enslaved workers, and then as paid garden staff—throughout Magnolia's 350-year history.





Pick up your box lunch in the picnic area and enjoy it before we depart for **Savannah**, **Georgia**. This historic, coastal city is known for its manicured parks, horse-drawn carriages, and fabulous antebellum architecture. Its cobblestone streets, beautiful city squares and Spanish moss-covered live oaks make this charming city unlike any other. Upon arrival we will transfer to the **Hampton Inn** for two nights. This lovely hotel is perfectly situated in the heart of Savannah's historic district. After getting settled in your rooms, take time to walk along the riverfront or through Reynolds Square to begin taking in the wonderful ambiance of the city. We gather again this evening to dine together at a local restaurant.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18 (BREAKFAST, DINNER)

This morning, we will take a **combination driving and walking tour** with a costumed guide who will share with us the history of beautiful **Savannah**, the first planned city in the United States. The 19th century neighborhoods boast homes featuring gingerbread trim, stained glass windows and imaginative detailing. Even more remarkable are the town's 22 squares, all peaceful and beautifully landscaped. See **Forsyth Park** with its iconic fountain and the **Cathedral of St. John the Baptist**, an elegantly restored architectural masterpiece.

After our tour, you will have plenty of time to discover, **City Market**, the art and soul of Savannah. Explore boutique art galleries that highlight up and coming artists. Browse through quaint gift shops and choose from a large variety of restaurants for lunch. Look for eateries that serve low-country cuisine and select a meal that features bounty from the area's rich estuary system including fresh fish, shrimp, crab, and oysters. Southern-style fried chicken is also, a favorite in Savannah. This evening our group will dine at the popular **Pirates' House**, the most historic spot in Georgia. The Herb House, erected in 1734, located inside the Pirates' House, is said to be the oldest house in Georgia



Photo credit FloridasHistoricCoast.com

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19 (BREAKFAST, LUNCH)

After breakfast, we are on our way to **Jekyll Island, GA** one of the Golden Isles of Georgia's barrier islands. On a guided trolley tour, we will learn why Jekyll Island is renowned for its landmark Historic District, termed the "Millionaire's Village." Jekyll Island is a Georgia State Park and maintains a strict conservation clause which dictates that 65% of the island always remain natural and wild. We will have lunch at the elegant **Jekyll Island Club**. Founded in 1888, this award-winning resort boasts old-world charm.

After lunch we will make our way to historic **St. Augustine**, **FL**, which was founded in 1565 by Spanish explorers. After checking into the **Holiday Inn St. Augustine** for one night, you will have the rest of the afternoon and evening to explore the nation's oldest city. St. Augustine has an array of restaurants and attractions to visit. Stroll along the brick-lined streets and delight in the city's European flavor, with centuries-old buildings, horse-drawn carriages, and hidden courtyards. Our nation's oldest city is also a destination for amazing food and unique restaurants that you cannot find anywhere else. There is a wide variety of cuisine to choose from including seafood, Caribbean, and Spanish specialties.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20 (BREAKFAST)

This morning we will explore over 450 years of history on a **Trolley Tour of St. Augustine**. Founded in 1565 by Don Pedro Menendez de Aviles of Spain, St. Augustine is the longest continually inhabited European-founded city in the United States. After the tour, we say goodbye to this city rich in history and culture and head for the Jacksonville airport to catch our flight home. We will be taking with us fond memories of the time we spent on the beautiful Southeast Coast in the spring!

Tour Cost per person: Double: \$3,898 Single: \$4,828



Gems of the South

Charleston, Savannah, and St. Augustine APRIL 14 - 20, 2023



TRAVEL DOCUMENTS: All passengers must carry a valid driver's license or passport, per TSA requirements.

CANCELLATION POLICY: All payments are fully refundable for cancellations received by January 4, 2023. Although every effort will be made to refund passenger payments, cancellations received after this date will be subject to the penalties imposed by our suppliers including, but not exclusive to, the airline used to purchase non-refundable air tickets, as well as a \$150 cancellation fee. It is highly suggested that all travelers help protect their vacation investment by purchasing an optional travel protection plan, which is being offered separately by Destinations With Nadine, Inc. Should the passenger purchase travel protection and need to cancel after January 4, 2023, a travel protection claim must be filed.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS BY CRUISES AND TOURS WORLDWIDE, ST. LOUIS, MO AND DESTINATIONS WITH NADINE, INC. MUNDELEIN, IL

Cruises and Tours Worldwide and Destinations With Nadine, Inc. act only as an intermediaries and agents in handling travel arrangements that are actually provided by other suppliers. These agencies, therefore, shall not be responsible for breach of contract or any careless actions or omissions on the part of such suppliers, which result in any loss, damage, delay or injury to tour participants. Cruises and Tours Worldwide and Destinations With Nadine, Inc. may not be held responsible for losses or expenses due to sickness, lack of appropriate medical facilities or practitioners, public health issues, quarantine, weather, strikes, political instability, government restrictions, theft or other criminal acts, war, terrorism or acts of God. Cruises and Tours Worldwide and Destinations With Nadine, Inc. retain the right to substitute accommodations or services of comparable quality if the advertised services become unavailable. Cruises and Tours Worldwide and Destinations With Nadine, Inc. reserve the right to cancel this tour if the minimum number of tour participants is not met. The published price of this tour is based on rates available at the time of booking. Cruises and Tours Worldwide and Destinations With Nadine, Inc. reserve the right to increase the cost of the tour, at any time, in the unlikely event that our tour suppliers impose price increases such as, but not limited to, fuel surcharges. Proof of such rate adjustments from our suppliers will be provided.

INCLUDED

ROUND TRIP LOCAL AIRPORT TRANSFERS
FROM LIBERTYVILLE

ROUND TRIP AIRFARE

SIX NIGHTS HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

SIX BREAKFASTS, TWO MANAGER'S RECEPTIONS, TWO LUNCHES & FOUR DINNERS

ALL ACTIVITIES AND ADMISSIONS AS LISTED

BAGGAGE HANDLING AT HOTELS

ALL TOUR RELATED TAXES AND GRATUITIES

SERVICES OF A DESTINATIONS WITH NADINE, INC.
REPRESENTATIVE

SERVICES OF A CRUISES AND TOURS WORLDWIDE TOUR MANAGER

NOT INCLUDED

AIRLINE BAGGAGE FEES

OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION

<u>TRAVEL PROTECTION:</u> An optional travel protection plan (highly recommended) is available. *Please contact Nadine for more information*.



RESERVATIONS

Please complete a reservation form and mail it with your \$100 per person deposit plus travel protection premium, if desired, to:

Destinations With Nadine, Inc.

Attn: Nadine Mihaljevic P.O. Box 304, Mundelein, IL 60060 Phone: (847) 902-8064

Email: DestinationsWithNadine@gmail.com

Please make checks payable to

Destinations With Nadine, Inc.

Tour Activity Level: Easy 1 2(3)4 5 Active