



Great American Steamboat Company
New Orleans to Memphis
April 20-28, 2017



The Elegant American Queen!

Join your friends at H2U for a wonderful 9 day journey that travels the Lower Mississippi River and visit historic towns in Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas. Your journey onboard the new American Queen starts in New Orleans, LA and ends in their homeport, Memphis, TN. Your fly from Ft. Lauderdale to New Orleans, then fly back from Memphis.

Day 1: Fly from Ft. Lauderdale to New Orleans, check into your hotel.

Included in your voyage is a one-night luxury hotel stay. Arriving the day before your voyage begins, you are able to relax, have dinner (on own) and get a full night's sleep. No worries about "missing the boat!" Tomorrow, you will board the *American Queen*.

Day 2: New Orleans, LA - Depart on the "Mighty Mississippi."

Enjoy the sights and sounds of New Orleans today. This afternoon, you will board the *American Queen* to begin your voyage. Kick off the festivities with a Welcome Aboard Dinner.

Day 3: Oak Alley, LA - Arrival: 8:00 a.m. — Departure: 1:00 p.m.

Located in the Saint James Parish, Oak Alley is a much-photographed plantation that combines architectural splendor and the natural wonder of its 300-year-old oak trees. Spend time strolling beneath the canopy of these trees, and learn about the rich history and culture of this southern estate.

Hop-On, Hop-Off Tour: Disembark from the American Queen and walk across the street to enjoy the beauty and dream of Oak Alley's rich past. Located on the Mississippi River between the historic Louisiana cities of New Orleans and Baton Rouge, Oak Alley Plantation has been called the "Grande Dame of the Great River Road". Nowhere else in the south will you find such a spectacular setting! The 19 quarter-mile canopy of giant live oak trees, believed to be nearly 300 years old, forms an impressive avenue leading to the classic Greek revival style antebellum home. The setting will remind you of the movie "Gone with the Wind" and makes you feel like you are on a Hollywood movie set. Oak Alley's adaptive restoration in 1925 by her new owners, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Stewart, was the first example of antebellum restoration along the River Road. Through the years, Oak Alley was the scene of many events affecting those who had given her a second chance at survival in the struggle against time and the elements.

Day 4: St. Francisville, LA - Arrival: 8:00 a.m. — Departure: 1:00 p.m.

This quaint town located on the bluffs of the Mississippi River is your window to the past. With over 140 buildings on the National Register, beautiful plantation homes nestled in the rolling countryside, and bustling Main Street shops, you'll find plenty to keep you on the go in St. Francisville.

Hop-On, Hop-Off Tour: As you board your deluxe hop-on hop-off Steamcoach, you will turn onto Royal Street where



you may want to stop off at Grandmother's Buttons, a Victorian button museum and jewelry boutique, or the West Florida Republic Park. Visit the Old Market Hall, where you will see art, jewelry, handmade items and music albums. When you reach Commerce Street, there are several places for lunch, snacks, spirits, coffee and ice cream. Once you are refreshed, hop back on the Steamcoach which will take you up to the Spring Creek Shopping Center. Finally, you will visit the West Feliciana Historical Society Museum on Ferdinand Street and the Grace Episcopal Church.

Day 5: Natchez, MS - Arrival: 8:00 a.m. — Departure: 5:00 p.m.

Step into the plantation lifestyle of the antebellum south in Natchez, site of numerous restored mansions. Visit historic Jefferson College, or just amble down the Natchez Trace. **Hop-On Hop-Off Tour:** Natchez is the center of the Antebellum South. From Spring Pilgrimage to Christmas, there's no shortage of excitement in this small town as you tour the antebellum mansions, drink in the history and enjoy the evening entertainment. Stop at the Natchez Visitors Center to peruse the gift shop and bookstore, or view exhibits and films illustrating the rich history of Natchez. Take a narrated tour of Longwood and Stanton Hall. Stanton Hall was built in 1857 and is considered the grandest of the Natchez mansions. Longwood, built in 1861, is the largest octagonal house in the United States, standing six stories high and topped with a 25-foot finial. Also on our route is Twin Oaks, the antebellum mansion of Regina Charboneau, the Chef de Cuisine of the American Queen.

Day 6: Vicksburg, MS - Arrival: 8:00 a.m. — Departure: 1:00 p.m.

Discover a unique blend of old and new in Vicksburg, Mississippi. Take in the diversity from Vicksburg National Military Park to the Waterways Experiment Station. Billed as the "Red Carpet City of the South," Southern hospitality is alive and well and awaiting your arrival. **Hop-On Hop-Off Tour:** Board your hop-on hop-off Steamcoach for a narrated tour experience of Vicksburg, Mississippi, a city bursting at the seams with local culture, character, art, entertainment and outdoor adventure. The Red Carpet City of the South, Vicksburg perfectly blends Southern culture and heritage with exciting modern-day attractions. Your deluxe teamcoach will first take you through Vicksburg's shopping district. You will stop at The Church of the Holy Trinity, a place of spiritual refreshment to Vicksburg for more than 125 years. Two blocks from the church you will find the Southern Cultural Heritage Center. Your next stop is the Vicksburg Battlefield Visitor's Center. As you return to the downtown area, continue to the Old Courthouse Museum, which showcases thousands of artifacts from pre-Colombian times to Civil War implements, and visit the Levee St. Museum. Finally, stop at Washington Street for more shopping, or discover other interesting museums including the Biedenharn Coca-Cola Museum and Yesterday's Children Antique Doll and Toy Museum.

Day 7: Steamboating Settle into a rocking chair and just let the scenery glide by. Or join in the fun of our numerous onboard activities. Your full day of leisurely steamboating on the river sets the tone for an unforgettable vacation.

Day 8: Helena, AR - Arrival: 8:00 a.m. — Departure: 1:00 p.m.

Let gospel voices lift your heart, hear soulful Delta blues, and sample King biscuits and sausage during an eventful day. **Hop-On Hop-Off Tour:** Hop aboard your deluxe Steamcoach and begin an adventure by visiting the Cherry Street Historic District. Many of the exteriors were used in the 2005 Johnny Cash biopic Walk the Line. Along the way you'll find a number of treasures including the famous theatre from the movie Walk the Line, the Malco Theater; boutiques such as the Delta Gypsy Caravan; the Cotton and Kudzu Mall; the Handworks Boutique which was featured on "ABC World News Tonight"; and the Gist Music Company whose rare collectibles will transport you back in time.

Discover historic downtown Helena with two museum sites that preserve and present the heritage of the 27-county region of eastern Arkansas at the **Delta Cultural Center**. If you are into the Blues, **Bubba's Blues Corner** offers the best selection of hard-to-find Blues music in the nation. Next is Biscuit Row, a future development project trying to rehabilitate several buildings at this gritty intersection that was once the home of the Blues in Helena. Our next stop is the Helena Museum and its eclectic collection of artifacts from prehistoric times through the Civil War and on to the present. Then, connect to two pieces of Civil War History at the magnificently restored **Moore-Hornor House** and the nearly full-size replica of the **Union's Fort Curtis** rebuilt just a short distance from where it originally stood. Our final stop highlights some of the most beautiful historic architecture in the region, the **Pillow Thompson House**, a late 19th century mansion that serves as the location for many weddings, parties, and other special events.

Day 9: Disembark in Memphis, TN - Fly home to Ft. Lauderdale.

Bid your fellow steamboaters a fond farewell after breakfast and travel home with your Friends from h2u.

View the cruise at, www.americanqueensteamboatcompany.com

Cruise Fare

- \$ 2,895.00 Category I ~ Inside Cabins, Note: Some have upper and lower berths
\$ 3,195.00 Category H ~ Inside Cabin, 2 lower beds
\$ 3,995.00 Category E ~ Deluxe Cabin with Veranda, French doors that open onto the promenade deck

Airfare is extra and is approximately \$ 400.00 per person Ft. Lauderdale/New Orleans and Memphis/Ft. Lauderdale and is purchased separately.

** NOTE: Save \$350.00 Per Person if reservation made before August 31, 2016*

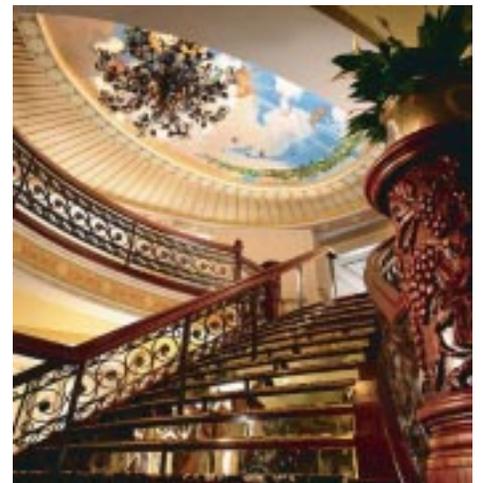
INCLUDED IN FARE:

- * 7 Day river cruise aboard the American Queen
- * Port Charges and taxes
- * One (1) night hotel accommodations in New Orleans, breakfast, taxes, portage
- * Transfers in New Orleans airport to hotel and from hotel to pier and transfer in Memphis from pier to airport
- * Shipboard Gratuities
- * Complimentary shore excursions in every port as per itinerary
- * Complimentary wine and beer with dinner
- * Complimentary cappuccino, espresso, specialty coffees, bottled water and soft drinks on ship
- * Multiple specialty dining options, at no additional charge
- * Casual elegance, no formal wear required (Jacket for Men at Captains Dinner)
- * Daily lectures by the Riverlorian, our onboard historian
- * Professional showboat-style entertainment and dancing nightly
- * The only authentic steam-powered overnight paddlewheel riverboat in America
- * Group Travel Insurance

NOT INCLUDED

Airfare, approximately \$ 400.00 per person. (As of August 2016) Drinks, meals and tours other than those included. Gift Shop, Internet, Spa fees. Items of a personal nature.

RESERVATION FORM REQUIRED ALONG WITH H2U MEMBERSHIP



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