



Credit River PROBUS Club & Tour Design presents



# New Orleans To Memphis & Nashville

**NOVEMBER 17 - 28, 2018**

Featuring Special Holiday Cruise on The American Queen



Thanksgiving Festival on the Lower Mississippi

## HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR TOUR

We spend seven nights aboard the largest steamboat ever built, the grand *American Queen*, a gracious and elegant triumph of American ingenuity. Travelling the Lower Mississippi is an experience like no other. Our selected on board experts bring the history and culture of this region to life with award winning enrichment programs. Combining the best of the old and the new, this beautiful lady of the river epitomizes the grace and grandeur that has made river cruising a cherished American tradition. As music is synonymous with the Mississippi River, the acclaimed on board performers will entertain you throughout the voyage. Enjoy an exceptional *Thanksgiving Dinner and Celebration* on board.

Two nights in *New Orleans* at the waterfront *Hilton Hotel Riverside New Orleans*. Here we enjoy great food, see interesting architecture and listen to some scary ghost tales.

Walk in the footsteps of the King of Rock'n'Roll at Elvis Presley's home, the *Graceland Mansion*, in Memphis, Tennessee and then spend two nights in Nashville at the *Gaylord Opryland Hotel*. We have such memorable touring Nashville topped off with show at the *Grand Ole Opry*.



Tour Map

## ITINERARY

### DAY 1 / SATURDAY, NOV 17, 2018: NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA (D)

AC Flight 7723 Departing at 8:00 am and arriving New Orleans at 9:40 am

Our 12 day adventure begins as we gather at Pearson International Airport for our non-stop flight from Toronto to New Orleans. Our deluxe coach and guide will meet us on arrival. We are going to experience the highlights of New Orleans from the comfort of our coach on this 2.5 hour tour which includes the bustling French Quarter and the opulent Garden District. Absorb the sights and sounds of the city where Spanish, French, Creole and American styles commingle in an enchanting setting. Next we visit a historical cemetery and pass homes of former kings and queens of Mardi Gras. We will be travelling through three centuries of historical New Orleans culture and history with our knowledgeable guide. We have time for a leisurely lunch at our home for the next two nights, the Hilton Hotel Riverside New Orleans. We are across the road from Harrah's Casino, attached to the Outlet Collection at Riverside and just a few blocks from the French Quarter. Relax and unwind this afternoon before our welcome dinner at the hotel.

*Accommodation: Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel (2 nights)*

### DAY 2 / SUNDAY, NOV 18, 2018: NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA (B,L)

Breakfast at leisure this morning followed by a walking tour of the French Quarter. Famous for its beads and beers on Bourbon Street, the reality of the Vieux Carre far surpasses its Mardi-Gras reputation. We will split into smaller groups so that we can wander the historic streets and alleys of the Old District, passing by the street theatre, peeking into historic churches, discovering hidden courtyards, all while entertaining you with stories of authors, artists, priests and pirates. Sights we will cover on this walking tour include Jackson Square, St. Louis Cathedral, The Cabildo, Presbytere, Pirates Alley, William Faulkner House, Tennessee Williams House, Bourbon Street, Lafitte's Blacksmith Shop and much more. A light lunch will be included today after our tour. Remainder of the day is free to browse the shops and enjoy our downtown location.





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### DAY 3 / MONDAY, NOV 19, 2018: NEW ORLEANS – EMBARKATION (B,D)

Today is the big day! Spend your last day here in the city of New Orleans before embarking on an unforgettable journey! Breakfast at hotel this morning followed by cruise check-in at the Hospitality Desk located in your hotel lobby. In the afternoon, you will be transferred to the pier to board the vessel, and wave “Au Revoir” to New Orleans as we set off on an incredible adventure up the Mighty Mississippi!

*Accommodation: onboard American Queen (7 nights)*

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### DAY 4 / TUESDAY, NOV 20, 2018: NOTTOWAY, LOUISIANA (B,L,D)

Nottoway is the South’s largest, most glorious remaining Antebellum mansion with a rich history dating back to 1859. In a fabulous location along the great River Road overlooking the grand Mississippi River, this “White Castle” of the South transports visitors back to an era of glory and grandeur. Set amongst a natural backdrop of vibrant gardens and two hundred-year-old oak trees, Nottoway Plantation captivates all with a brilliant blend of true Southern hospitality, history and mystery. Enjoy an included tour of Nottoway Plantation, the South’s largest remaining antebellum mansion. This stunning historical plantation lies between Baton Rouge and New Orleans and offers a view of a truly grand plantation. The mansion flaunts three-floors, 64-bedrooms, and displays an incredible 22 white square columns which contribute to its’ nickname — “The White Castle of Louisiana.” The most popular room among guests is the White Ballroom, which is painted entirely in white and displays elaborate gold décor throughout. Rooms are trimmed in custom plaster frieze made from Spanish moss, clay, plaster, and mud and are all original to the house. And as if that weren’t enough, this immaculate mansion was constructed with 365 openings — one for each day of the year. Enjoy a guided walking tour of an American Castle as we explore within the pristine walls of Nottoway followed by a stroll through the lush grounds and gardens.



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### DAY 5 / WEDNESDAY, NOV 21, 2018: ST. FRANCISVILLE, LOUISIANA (B,L,D)

Established in 1809, St. Francisville is the oldest town in the Florida Parishes. Below where St. Francisville is located currently, was a settlement called Bayou Sara in the 1790’s. When this settlement was destroyed by flooding and fires, many of the structures and artifacts were hauled up the bluff into St. Francisville, where they are still standing. The town is referred to as “two miles long and two yards wide,” but that definitely doesn’t mean they have nothing to offer! Stop in at one of the unique shops, historical homes, beautiful churches, or breathtaking parks and you will agree with that! Spanish moss trees grow throughout the town, which creates a beautiful southern comfort to the atmosphere. You might choose to stroll down Royal Street, shop at Grandmother’s Buttons – a unique boutique that offers jewelry made out of 100 year old buttons, or visit Harrington Gallery. Perhaps you would enjoy a visit to the Grace Episcopal Church. Originally built in 1827, this restored Gothic structure is one of the oldest Protestant churches in Louisiana. Learn about its significance during the Civil War and its’ historical Civil War cemetery. An interesting stop.

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### DAY 6 / THURSDAY, NOV 22, 2018: NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI (B,L,D)

**EXCEPTIONAL THANKSGIVING DINNER ON BOARD TONIGHT!**

This charming river town was first inhabited by Natchez Indians and French explorers who shared the land. It was founded in 1716, making it the oldest city on the Mississippi. The city is known for its elegance, hospitality, and impressive preservation of history – found on every street corner throughout Natchez. Guests enjoy the unique shops, restaurants, museums, and historical homes located in Natchez, all of which contribute to Hugh Bayless' book, "The 100 Best Towns in America." You might like to visit the William Johnson House Museum. An incredible, historic 3-story brick house constructed after the 1840 Natchez tornado. William Johnson was known as the "Barber of Natchez"; he began as a slave and gained his freedom at age eleven. After his freedom, he began to work his way up in society, eventually becoming almost fully accepted within society. As the town barber, Johnson documented stories and gossip of many residents in his diary of over 16 years.



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#### **DAY 7 / FRIDAY, NOV 23, 2018: VICKSBURG, MISSISSIPPI** (B,L,D)

Vicksburg perfectly blends Southern culture and heritage with exciting modern-day attractions. Described as the "Key to the South" by Abraham Lincoln, this southern town carries a history unlike any other Civil War city. Vicksburg was founded in 1811 and grew as a vital river port city. It was a major component to the Civil War and carries much of the history within the town. Today, Vicksburg is a popular spot for tourists to learn about the battles of the city, taste the cuisine, visit the many museums, and pick out the perfect souvenir. Here you find the Church of the Holy Trinity, housing six Tiffany stained-glass windows, The Anchuca Mansion, The Old Court House Museum, Yesterday's Child and Doll Museum and Blendemhan Coca-Cola Museum, located in an authentic candy store and soda fountain setting. For some of the men, you might like to see the Lower Mississippi River Museum or the Old Depot Museum with the world's largest collection of ship models and riverboat models with Mississippi names.

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#### **DAY 8 / SATURDAY, NOV 24, 2018: GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI** (B,L,D)

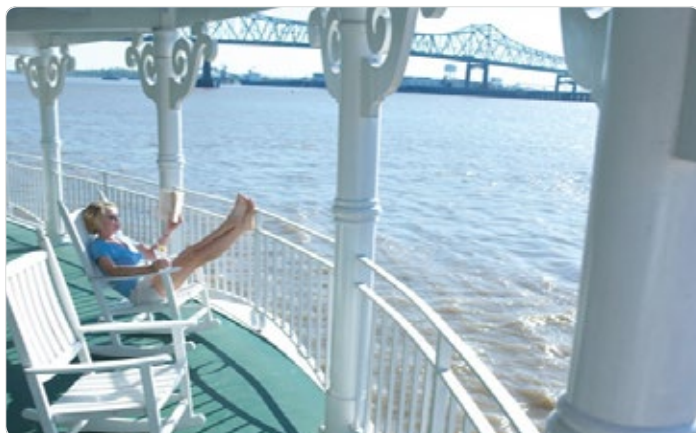
Greenville is at the very heart and soul of Mississippi Delta. Located on the banks of Lake Fergusson, Greenville is a short drive to Indianola, the birthplace of B.B. King and many other blues singers, so naturally Greenville has its fair share of Blues integrated into its culture. Many authors and writers were born or reside in the small town of Greenville; local legend says that the Greenville water grows writers. The author of the Muppets actually got started here along with a long list of other impressive, renowned writers! This beautiful town is sure to win your heart with its southern charm and soul. One unique attraction here is the E. E. Bass Cultural Arts Centre, home of the oldest functioning Armitage carousel. This carousel was created in 1901 and is the oldest fully functioning Armitage carousel today. Mississippi at that time was still very segregated, many people approached the owner about having separate nights for carousel rides, but the owner refused. He wished for everyone to ride together. Take a ride on this miraculous machine, hear the whistle blow and travel back in time.

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#### **DAY 9 / SUNDAY, NOV 25, 2018: ALL DAY RIVER CRUISING** (B,L,D)

There is always plenty to do between dawn and dusk on the river and today is the perfect day to enjoy the many public spaces and activities that are available to you onboard. Consider booking an indulgent, stress-relieving massage in the American Queen's spa. Browse The Emporium gift shop for that perfect keepsake or take the time to mingle with fellow guests.





## DAY 10 / MONDAY, NOV 26, 2018: DISEMBARKATION – MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE – NASHVILLE (B,D)

One last breakfast onboard, then farewell to your boat as you disembark in the morning. Experience the town that “The King” called home on a guided journey through Memphis! Put on your blue suede shoes and board our private motor coach as it departs towards Memphis’ most iconic attraction, The Graceland Mansion. Upon entering The Graceland Mansion, the presence of Elvis can still be felt within the walls as you walk through the very same rooms as he did after a long day’s performance. At The Graceland Mansion discover distinctly “Elvis” rooms such as the famous “Jungle Room,” homage to “The King’s” love for Hawaii featuring green shaggy carpets, exotically carved woodwork, and a Polynesian feel. View “Vernon’s Office,” where Elvis’ father, Vernon Presley, managed his career, as well as the Trophy Building and Racquetball Building where you will find hundreds of awards and accolades received throughout his career in addition to those awarded posthumously. Pay your respects to Elvis and his contributions to American music and entertainment, knowing his legacy resonates throughout the world and spans multiple generations. We have time for lunch on your own. We then join our coach once again as we travel across to Nashville and the Gaylord Opryland Hotel, our hotel for the next two nights. Time to freshen up before our dinner in the hotel and then we join our coach for the amazing Christmas Light Tour of Nashville. The Nashville area is home to some of the grandest light displays in the mid-south. Opryland itself is home to over 2 million lights.

*Accommodation: Gaylord Opryland Hotel (2 nights)*



## DAY 11 / TUESDAY, NOV 27, 2018: NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE (B,L)

Breakfast gives us a good start to this full day of sightseeing in the “The Birthplace of Country Music”. Get an educational and entertaining live narrative from our experienced guide while rolling past famous landmarks locations like historic Riverfront Park, The Tennessee State Capitol and Centennial Park, home to the statue of Athena and the Parthenon. Dig deep into the city’s country roots with a visit to Ryman Auditorium, the historic home of the Grand Ole Opry. Built in 1892 (and initially serving as a tabernacle) it was used for the Opry broadcasts from 1943 until 1974. After the Opry moved to a larger venue, the Ryman sat largely unused until it was reopened as a performance hall and museum in 1994. Today, the Ryman is a popular live performance venue as well as a National Historic Landmark. Sample Nashville’s favorite signature dishes



as we have southern roasted barbeque chicken for our “farewell lunch” today. We return to our hotel to get ready for our final evening, a must-attend event while in “Music City” – The Grand Ole Opry. Originally a radio broadcast, the Opry is the longest running radio program in history. Dedicated to honoring country music, the event showcases different artists each night to perform songs in genres including country, bluegrass, folk, comedy, and gospel. The Opry is regularly listened to by millions of internet and radio users and visited by thousands of people from around the world. A fitting end to a remarkable day!



### **DAY 12 / WEDNESDAY, NOV 28, 2018: DEPART NASHVILLE (B)**

AC Flight 7332 Departing Nashville at 5:30 pm - Arriving Toronto 8:23 pm

Another great feature of our tour, a free morning and some of the afternoon to enjoy this fabulous city. We depart mid-afternoon for our transfer to the airport for a nonstop flight back to Toronto. A fabulous group that has created so many remarkable memories!

### **END OF TOUR**

### **AMERICAN QUEEN DECKPLAN**



Cat. C



Cat. E



## SUITE AND STATEROOM CATEGORIES

**OS** Owner's Suites with Exclusive Veranda

**LS** Luxury Suites with Private or Open Veranda

**FS** Family Suites with Open Veranda

**AAA** Suites with Open Veranda

**AA** Superior Outside Staterooms with Open Veranda

**A** Deluxe Outside Staterooms with Private Veranda

**B** Outside Staterooms with Open Veranda

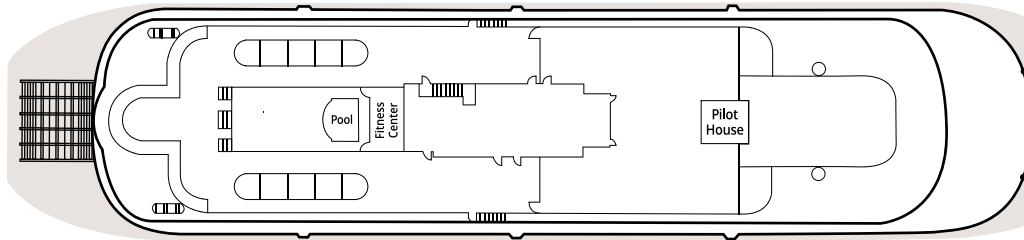
**C** Outside Staterooms with Open Veranda

**D** Deluxe Outside Staterooms with Bay Window

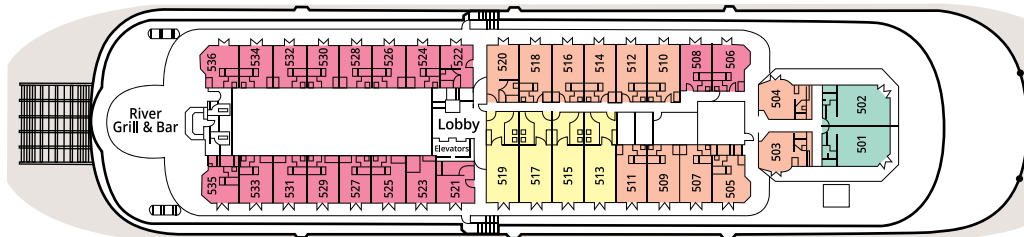
**E** Inside Staterooms

**SO** Single Outside Staterooms with Open Veranda

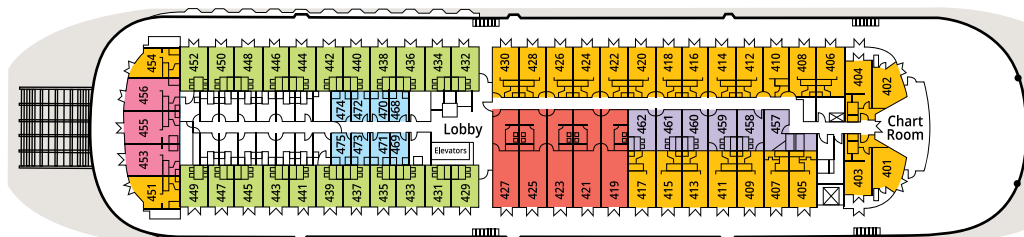
**SI** Single Inside Staterooms



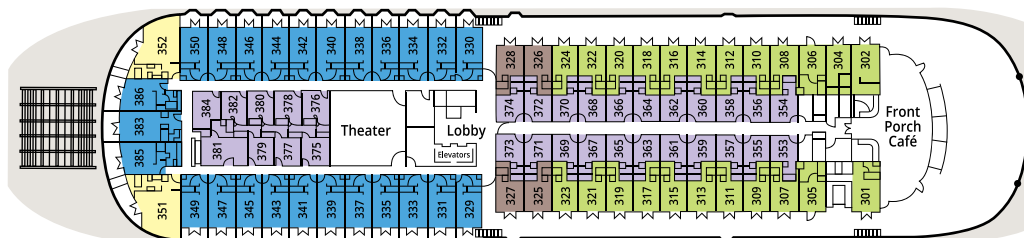
Deck 6 - Sun Deck



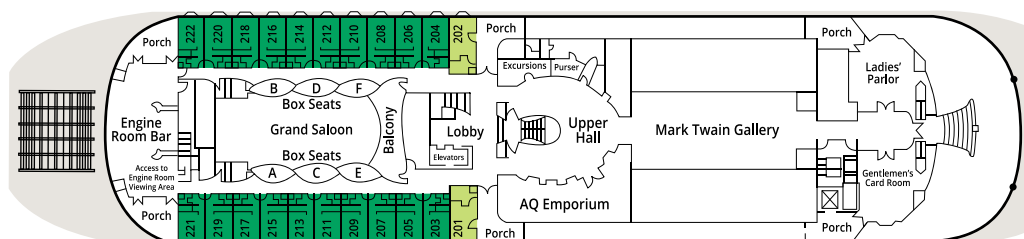
Deck 5 - Promenade Deck



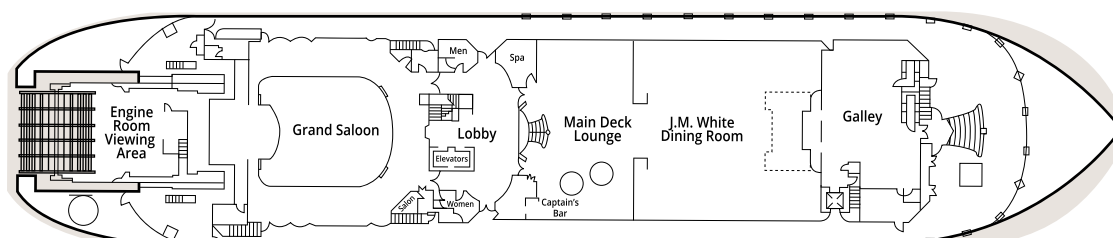
Deck 4 - Observation Deck



Deck 3 - Texas Deck



Deck 2 - Cabin Deck



Deck 1 - Main Deck

## PACKAGE RATE PER PERSON, CANADIAN DOLLARS

CABIN CATEGORY	CABIN SQUARE FOOTAGE	CABIN DESCRIPTION	TWIN OCCUPANCY	SINGLE OCCUPANCY
AA	210 sq. ft.	Superior outside staterooms with open veranda	CAD \$8,690	CAD \$13,990
A	190 sq. ft. plus 40 sq. ft. veranda	Deluxe outside staterooms with private veranda	CAD \$8,390	CAD \$13,490
B	190 – 205 sq. ft.	Outside staterooms with open veranda	CAD \$8,190	CAD \$13,090
C	140 – 160 sq. ft.	Outside staterooms with open veranda	CAD \$7,890	CAD \$12,690
D	190 sq. ft.	Deluxe outside staterooms with bay window	CAD \$7,490	CAD \$11,890
E	132 – 140 sq. ft.	Inside staterooms	CAD \$5,590	CAD \$7,990

### INCLUSIONS

- Roundtrip Air Canada flights from Toronto to New Orleans and Nashville to Toronto
- Home pickup and drop off (within GTA area)
- 2 nights hotel accommodation in New Orleans with daily breakfast
- 2 nights hotel accommodation in Nashville with daily breakfast and resort fee included
- 2 dinners at hotel and 2 lunches at local restaurant
- Porterage at hotel (1 piece per person)
- Land transfers and tours as per itinerary
- 7 nights cruise accommodation and all port taxes included
- Hop-On Hop-Off cruise shore excursions in each port of call (except Premium Shore Excursions)
- All onboard meals, and wine and beer with dinner
- Cappuccino, espresso, specialty coffees, tea, bottled water and soft drinks throughout the cruise voyage
- All gratuities

### EXCLUSIONS

- Airport departure taxes. Currently \$170 per person
- Meals not included in the itinerary
- Optional travel insurance

### AIR CREDIT

If you wish to arrange your own air from Toronto to New Orleans and from Nashville to Toronto, an air credit of CAD\$600 per person will be deducted from the package rate, and the airport taxes are not applicable. Please contact us for air deviation or business class upgrade.

### SPECIAL NOTES

Names provided at the time of booking MUST match your passport exactly. You must have a passport valid for 6 months after your return date from Nashville. If you wish to purchase optional travel insurance from us, it must be purchased from us prior to final payment date. Please contact Nancy for a quotation.

### DEPOSIT AND PAYMENT

At time of booking:  
\$750 per person  
Second deposit:  
\$1,000 per person due Feb 09, 2018  
Third deposit:  
\$1,000 per person due May 11, 2018  
Final payment:  
remaining balance due Aug 10, 2018

### CANCELLATION TERMS

Between time of booking & Feb 08, 2018:  
\$500 per person  
Between Feb 09 & May 10, 2018:  
\$1,750 per person  
Between May 11 & Aug 09, 2018:  
\$2,750 per person  
Between Aug 10, 2018 & date of departure:  
100% of total cost



### TOUR DESIGN

1211 Denison Street,  
Unit 26, Markham, ON.  
Canada L3R 4B3  
TICO registration #50014865

Program designed in conjunction with Rick Palmer from the Credit River PROBUS Club.  
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To book this program, please complete the booking form and email, mail or fax to Nancy Liu at Tour Design.

Contact Person: **NANCY LIU** Toll Free: 1-888-923-9183 | Fax: (905) 258 7779 | Email: [nliu@glpworldwide.com](mailto:nliu@glpworldwide.com)