

NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
2019 CONVENTION
April 29 – May 3, 2019
Beau Rivage Resort, Biloxi, Mississippi
TOUR INFORMATION

Monday, April 29, 2019

Tour A. “The Beauty of Bellingrath” - \$110.00

Bus 1 – leaves hotel at 8:30, returns at 4:30

Bus 2 - leaves hotel at 9:00, returns at 5:00

Guided tours of 2 historical homes in Mobile, the Richards DAR house and the Conde-Charlotte House, start our trip to southwest Alabama. Lunch will be served at Bellingrath Gardens followed by viewing of the 65 acres of floral splendor and of the grand estate there.

Tour B. “The Special Crosby Arboretum” - \$65.00

Bus leaves hotel at 9:30, returns at 4:00

The Crosby Arboretum is the premier native plant conservatory in the Southeast. It has become a resource for education in the region and in the world. It provides for the protection of the region’s biological diversity as well as a place for the public’s enjoyment of plant species native to the Pearl River Drainage Basin of southern Mississippi. A box lunch and beverage is included.

Tour C. “Science and Space Enthusiasts” Stennis Space Center - \$50.00

Bus leaves hotel at 1:00, returns at 5:00

You will tour the Infinity Science Center, which is the place to explore the depths of the ocean and the farthest reaches of space! The tour includes museum galleries, live presentations, and a guided tour through the well-known Stennis Space Center. There are also boardwalks and observation decks where you can enjoy the wildlife and flora of the beautiful Mississippi marshlands!

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Tour D. “The Grand Old Mississippi Coast” - \$85.00

Bus leaves hotel at 8:15, returns at 3:30

This tour includes stops at 4 special homes that have survived the hurricanes though the years! Three are in the beautiful enclave of Pass Christian, while the other is Beauvoir, the historic post war home of Jefferson Davis. Varina Davis’s beloved gardens have been recently restored by the Gulf Coast Council of Garden Clubs, Inc., and by community assistance. The McElroy and the Nicaud Homes on Scenic Drive are wonderful examples of the graciousness of Mississippi coastal living! Lunch will be served at Oak Crest Mansion, which has an interesting history of its own!

Tour E. “All Things Biloxi Tour” - \$50.00

Bus leaves hotel at 8:45 and returns at 12:00

The Seafood and Maritime Museum will be the first stop where a guide will introduce you to the maritime history and heritage of the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Also, you will tour the 1400 square foot Hurricane Museum, a museum within a museum! Next, you will visit the museum of the “Mad Potter of Biloxi”. George Ohr’s creative pottery, as well viewing rotating exhibits, will fascinate you! The last stop will be visit to St. Michael’s Catholic Church also known as The Church of the Fisherman. One of the few beachfront structures that was left after Hurricane Katrina, the church’s unique architecture and stained glass will leave you speechless.

Tour F. “Dolphins, Anyone?” - \$45.00

Bus leaves hotel at 9:15 and returns at 12:00

The Institute for Marine Mammal Studies in Gulfport is the only facility of its kind in the Mississippi-Alabama-Louisiana region that works to rescue and rehabilitate dolphins and other marine mammals. You will enjoy a hands-on experience through the Dolphin Encounter Program and experience various sea creatures in the new touch pools.

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Tour G. “New Orleans Tour & WWII Museum” - \$110.00

Bus leaves hotel at 8:00, returns at 5:00

A guided tour of a “haunted” cemetery in New Orleans starts off this tour. The rest of the day will be spent touring the National World War II museum at your leisure. The museum, ranked the #1 museum in New Orleans, brings history to life with moving personal stories and interactive displays. Lunch will be on your own at one of the two restaurants on the grounds of the museum. Included in your tour price is admission to the acclaimed 4-D movie, “Beyond All Boundaries”.

Tour H. “Moss Point - Local Color” - \$65.00

Bus leaves hotel at 2:15, returns at 5:15

This trip takes you out in the swamp of the Pascagoula River with Bennie McCoy, a doctorate level marine biologist, who will teach you about all things swamp and marsh.....and hopefully, you’ll see a few gators! We will then visit the adjacent Pascagoula River Audubon Center which serves as a demonstration site for environmentally-friendly landscaping and a portal to nature-based programming for all ages.

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Tour I. “The World of Walter Anderson” - \$40.00

Bus leaves hotel at 2:15, returns at 5:15

The quaint town of Ocean Springs is just across the bridge from Biloxi and welcomes tourists and shoppers alike! The first stop is the famous Walter Anderson Museum of Art, where you will be treated to a guided tour of the intriguing work of the world-renowned artist. Adjacent to the facility is the Ocean Springs Community Center. Here you will view the fabulous Walter Anderson wall murals which are valued at 40 million dollars! Once you have finished, you will have time to shop, sip coffee or indulge in a pastry while enjoying the beautiful tree lined beauty of downtown.