

## Discover the Wonders of Jhe Biltmore & Asheville, NC September 19 - 23, 2022 5 days/4 nights Mon-Fri

Located in the Blue Ridge Mountains, Asheville is home to spectacular scenery, historic estates & architecture such as The Biltmore Estate & Dome-topped Basilica of Saint Lawrence. The Biltmore Estate is a 250 room castle built between 1889 & 1895 by George Vanderbilt on 8000 acres & is the largest privately owned house in the US. Home to artwork by masters like Renoir, it is one of the most prominent examples of a Gilded Age Mansion.

DAY 1: Motorcoach to Hartford/Bradley for our roundtrip flights to Charlotte. Travel to Asheville for a three night stay at the Village Hotel on Biltmore Estate, right on the Biltmore Campus. Welcome Dinner awaits. D

DAY 2: After breakfast, we are off to explore this wonderful town on our **Asheville by Foot Tour**. We will have a leisurely paced tour using state of the art headsets. We will see the **Masonic Temple, City Hall, Courthouse, Thomas Wolfe Memorial** and more of this great town. Tour ends with time on own for lunch at Grove Arcade before heading over to the magnificent **Basilica of Saint Lawrence** for our tour. See the largest free standing elliptical dome in North America. Freshen up before heading to the **Blue Ridge Mountain Opry Dinner**. Enjoy a 'Bluegrass & BBQ' dinner & show. **B, D** 

<u>DAY 3:</u> Today we explore **The Biltmore Estate** with all its breathtaking beauty. Your visit will include a self-guided tour of this grand mansion & gardens. Explore the artwork and décor then stroll some of the acres of formal and informal gardens. See the ancient trees that comprised America's first managed forest. Time on own at Antler Village that connects the estate's present and past. It has places for lunch, shopping, historic exhibits & relaxing. Tour & tasting at the Winery will follow. Dinner is included tonight. B, D

DAY 4: After breakfast we'll check out & explore the **Blue Ridge Parkway.** The drive will reveal stunning vistas, mountain views & landscape. Stop at the visitors center to learn about this 469 mile parkway. Continue to the **Folk Art Center**, a museum of Appalachian Arts & Crafts. Lunch stop at the picturesque town of **Black Mountain** & enjoy the Black Mountain Bistro. Off to Charlotte where we'll stay at the **Embassy Suites Uptown** for our last night. Dinner included. **B**, L, D

DAY 5: After breakfast, we check out for our last stop, the **NASCAR Hall of Fame.** Guided tour of this shrine to the history & heritage of NASCAR. Boxed lunch at the café is included. Back to the airport for our return flight with memories of this beautiful part of our country. **B**, **L** 

## COST: \$2425 pp double

Based on current airfares and schedules, not guaranteed until ticketed Based on a minimum of 25 passengers

Includes: Roundtrip motorcoach to Hartford/Bradley Airport, Roundtrip air flights from Hartford/Bradley Airport, 4 nights hotel accommodations, 10 Meals: 4 Breakfasts, 2 lunches, 4 dinners, Sightseeing & admissions per itinerary, Friendship Tours Escort, Driver & Tour Director Gratuity <u>DEPOSIT:</u> \$500 per person with reservation to secure your space. Space is subject to availability at the time of reservation.

FINAL PAYMENT: due by June 2, 2022

FOR RESERVATIONS: Call Barbara at Friendship Tours to check availability and to make a reservation. 860-243-1630 or 800-243-1630

<u>CANCELLATION POLICY</u>: If a passenger cancels from deposit to June 2, 2022 fee of \$300.00 pp; June 3, 2022 to July 7, 2022 fee of \$1,200.00 pp; no refunds if canceled after July 8, 2022. All cancellation are plus any non-refundable air fees.

<u>Trip Protection Coverage</u> is strongly recommended. Aon Affinity administers the NTA Travel Protection plan designed specifically for members of the National Tour Association. The Pre-existing medical condition exclusion can be waived by purchasing the Enhanced Plan within 14 days of your deposit or initial payment. Purchase of the plan within this time period also provides eligibility for the Financial Insolvency benefit. Traveling companions / roommates are required to take the same plan (Basic or Enhanced) in order to be properly covered. Premium is non-refundable once paid. Three ways to enroll:

- 1. Website: <u>https://nta.aontravelprotect.com</u> Tour Operator Location #076068. You can also view plan details on this site.
- 2. Call Aon 1-800-388-1470. Tour Operator Location #076068. Customer service agents can also answer questions about each plan.
- 3. Call Friendship Tours / The Ship Shop 860-243-1630 or 800-243-1630

<u>Trip Protection Coverage</u> with CANCEL FOR ANY REASON coverage is available through Travel Insured International when purchased within 14 days of your initial deposit—ask Friendship Tours / The Ship Shop for more information

This package is subject to our full terms and conditions which can be found on our website at <u>https://www.friendshiptours.net/tour-policies</u>. Paper copies are available upon request. By signing up to participate in the tour, you are agreeing to be bound to these terms and conditions. Therefore, you must read the terms and conditions in their entirety. By signing up for the tour, making a payment and continuing to use our services, you are agreeing to be bound by the Terms and Conditions. Should you disagree with any of the terms you must speak with us before signing up for a tour.

