**Gone with the Wind**

14 Day Escorted Tour

**TOUR HIGHLIGHTS**

- Atlanta • Charleston • Savannah • Tallahassee • New Orleans • Natchez • Memphis • Nashville • Atlanta

**TOUR FEATURES**

- Welcome reception to meet with your ATI Tour Director and fellow travelers
- Meet & Greet at the airport by an ATI representative
- Visit Jonesboro, the official Gone with the Wind town.
- Tour both the “Road to Tara” museum and Stately Oaks Plantation, the inspiration for the film.
- Comprehensive city tour of Atlanta
- Guided walking tour of historic Charleston
- Travel to Beaufort, the site of the filming of Forest Gump
- Trolley Tour of Savannah
- Tour a famous Antebellum home in Natchez
- City tour of Memphis including the Lorraine Hotel, site of the MLK assassination as well as Beale Street, famous for the blues
- Visit downtown Nashville and the famous honky tonks

**ITINERARY**

**Day 1: UK – Atlanta**

Fly from the UK to Atlanta. Arrive at Atlanta International Airport where you will meet your ATI tour director who will assist you with pre-arranged seat-in transfer to your hotel. ATI welcome reception in the evening. **Accommodation stay – 2 Nights in Atlanta.**

**Day 2: Atlanta**

This morning, enjoy a city tour of Atlanta and learn about one of its most famous residents, Margaret Mitchell. In 1936, Mitchell published the book “Gone with the Wind”. It depicted the life of the daughter of a plantation owner and follows her life through the Civil War and Reconstruction. The story takes place in Atlanta and south of Atlanta in a small town named Jonesboro. This afternoon, you will visit the Road to Tara Museum and Stately Oaks Plantation which was the inspiration for Tara. You will have the opportunity to see memorabilia from the movie including costumes worn by the stars Clark Gable and Vivien Leigh. In the evening, enjoy a welcome reception which will give you the opportunity to meet your fellow travelers.

**Day 3: Atlanta – Augusta – Charleston (Approximately 315 miles)**

Leave Atlanta today and head west to Augusta. Augusta is the second oldest city in Georgia and is home to the prestigious Masters golf tournament. In the afternoon, we will arrive in historic Charleston. You will have time to stroll down the cobblestone walkways and admire the fine architecture. In the evening, you may want to enjoy a romantic carriage ride or a sunset cruise* (optional). **Accommodation stay – 2 Nights in Charleston.**

**Day 4: Charleston**

Enjoy a locally guided tour of Charleston and spend the afternoon at leisure. Walk the streets of Charleston’s preserved historic district, the best protected in the nation. Natural disasters, the Revolutionary War, and the Civil War all took their toll on this beautiful city, yet it stands out as a historic gem of the South. You may wish to participate in an optional excursion to historic Boone Hall Plantation* with its famous Avenue of Oaks. The property has appeared in numerous movies, among them "North and South".

**Day 5: Charleston – Antebellum Plantation – Savannah (Approximately 117 miles)**

Today, your road leads you further south to Savannah. En route stop on Port Royal Island and see Beaufort, South Carolina’s second oldest city. Its impressive Antebellum architecture has been the backdrop to a number of Hollywood movies, including "Forrest Gump". After lunch continue on to Savannah, once the world’s largest cotton port. When cotton was king, Savannah controlled the prices of the world cotton market at her cotton exchange. Founder James Oglethorpe laid out the city squares. The Civil War destroyed a large portion of Georgia, but Savannah was spared. Numerous buildings around the tree-shaded squares are hundreds of years old; many of them are very well preserved and some remain open to the public. You will enjoy a historical guided tour (included) to learn more about the fascinating history of the Antebellum residences. The old cotton warehouses that line the river are now converted into shops and little restaurants, frequented by locals and tourist alike. **Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Savannah.**
Day 6: Savannah – St. Augustine- Tallahassee (Approximately 315 miles)
Leave Savannah with its Antebellum homes and head on, driving south along the coast of Georgia. The cities you will pass are as rich with history as they are full of charm. In the afternoon you will enter the Sunshine State of Florida. Enjoy a stop in the charming city of St. Augustine, founded in 1565 by Spanish explorers. It is the oldest continuously occupied European established city & port within the continental U.S. In the evening arrive in Florida’s state Capital, Tallahassee. Tallahassee is one of the nation’s smaller and quieter capitals with oak lined streets and soft hills surrounding the city. Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Tallahassee.

Day 7: Tallahassee – Pensacola – Gulf of Mexico – New Orleans (Approximately 400 miles)
Travel along Florida’s panhandle to Pensacola, one of Florida’s most important vacation destinations. Pensacola was founded in 1599 and the area is known for its miles of Gulf shoreline, many of which are preserved as state and federal parks. Next stop is Mobile, Alabama. Founded in 1702, Mobile rapidly became one of the most important ports along the Gulf Coast. In the evening, arrive in New Orleans, a city immersed in Creole culture. The city today is a unique blend of Spanish, French, Caribbean, African and Anglo–Saxon influences. This is obvious in the food, architecture and of course, the music. Experience this melting pot aboard a Riverboat Dinner Cruise* (optional) and enjoy the rhythms of a Dixieland jazz band. Accommodation stay – 2 Nights in New Orleans.

Day 8: New Orleans
The day is yours to explore the charm and excitement of one of America’s most unique cities and for you to take in the French flavor & grandeur of New Orleans. May we suggest starting the day with a visit to a working plantation* (optional). Explore the French Quarter with its trademark wrought iron balconies overlooking the narrow cobblestone streets.

Day 9: New Orleans – Baton Rouge – Natchez (Approximately 172 miles)
This morning, we will travel to the capitol of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, and conduct a brief city tour. From there, we will travel via the historic Natchez Trace Parkway to Natchez. The parkway is a 444-mile drive through exceptional scenery and years of Native American and European history. Natchez is the oldest European settlement on the Mississippi River. Before the Civil War, wealthy plantation owners from Louisiana built magnificent Antebellum homes here because the area was considered safer from flooding. This afternoon, we will visit one of the homes and learn about the wealth of these 19th century millionaires. Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Natchez.

Day 10: Natchez – Mississippi River Valley – Memphis (Approximately 325 miles)
Leave Natchez and drive on to Memphis, home of ‘Sun Records’. As a large river port, it was one of the most important links in the cotton trade before the Civil War. Memphis is also known as the “home of the blues.” A brief city tour will take you to the city’s liveliest street, Beale Street, where the blues and other types of music are played nightly in almost a dozen clubs. Travel along historic Front Street, known as Cotton Row in the days when cotton traders and merchants conducted business here. Of course, no visit to Memphis would be complete without a visit to Graceland, the home of Elvis Presley* (optional). Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Memphis.

Day 11: Memphis – Nashville (Approximately 213 miles)
Continue on to Nashville, known as the capital of country music. The city earned its title with the very first airing of the WSM Barn Dance radio program, the forerunner of the Grand Ole Opry. The newly renovated Ryman Auditorium in downtown Nashville, once home of the Grand Ole Opry, the studios near Music Row, and Opryland itself attest to Nashville’s reputation as the most important city in country music. Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Nashville.

Day 12: Nashville- Chattanooga – Atlanta (Approximately 267 miles)
Leaving Music City, we head to Chattanooga, home to the famous Choo Choo and which has received national recognition for the renaissance of its beautiful downtown and redevelopment of its riverfront. In the afternoon, our trails lead us back to Atlanta where our tour comes to an end. Accommodation stay – 1 Night in Atlanta.

Days 13-14: Atlanta – UK
Depart for Atlanta Airport where we will transfer you by Supershuttle to the Airport for your flight back to the UK. Arrive into the UK on day 14

Exclusive to Virgin Holidays:

- Complimentary Virgin Holidays tour kit
- Graceland Tour

Meals: This tour is based on a Room only basis

*Denotes local charge – Optional trips and excursions listed on the itinerary are bookable and payable locally.

All hotels & locations are subject to change based on availability, final hotel list will be confirmed 25 days before departure.

This is a set tour itinerary, if you have booked any pre/post or optional tour arrangements please refer to your separate vouchers and final documents.
TOUR NOTES

For current departure dates and prices please check our website

Passenger Service Assistance Toll-Free Number
In the event that your Tour Director is not available or in any emergency, please feel free to contact our Field Operations Department in Los Angeles by dialing toll free: 1 (800)-800-8942

Pre/Post Tour information
If you would like to extend your trip or make the tour part of a longer holiday, we can easily add on a pre or post night stays for you. Our Sales Team will work with you to arrange the best connecting flights and book any additional hotel stays. Simply tell us what you’d like and we can arrange it.

Time difference
GMT - 5 hours Atlanta, Charleston & St. Augustine
GMT – 6 hours New Orleans, Memphis and Nashville

Tour inclusions
■ International flight in economy class, including all UK and overseas airport taxes and applicable fuel surcharges
■ Meet & Greet at the airport
■ Pre-arranged (seat-in) airport transfers
■ Private air conditioned motorcoach transportation throughout
■ Accommodation and sightseeing as listed above
■ Service of an English Speaking guide.

Tour exclusions
■ Flight upgrades and airport transfers in the UK
■ Insurance
■ Items of a personal nature such as drinks, laundry, tips & gratuities, video camera fees at monuments
■ The required ESTA application
■ Anything not detailed on the itinerary.

Dining inclusions
■ Room Only

Included activities
Tours listed in the itinerary.

Optionals
Tours will be listed in the itinerary. Should you choose to participate in an additional excursion, payment to the tour director can be made with cash, traveller’s cheques, or credit card. We encourage you to request and save your receipt. Please note that optional tours cannot be booked in advance, as many require a minimum number of passengers in order to operate.

PLEASE NOTE: Optional list is based on 2016 list and will be revised in April 2017 for final selections. Final selection may change.

■ Boone Hall Plantation and Gardens
■ New Orleans Dinner Cruise
■ New Orleans By Day Swamp Tour and Jazz Lunch
■ The Glenfield Plantation
■ Graceland Platinum Tour
■ Nashville Country Hall of Fame and RCA Studio B

Accommodation
Accommodation in the itinerary will be a mix of “V” rated properties based on availability. Please note some tours are up to 3 weeks in duration and there may be some nights when staying in remote locations e.g. the National Parks, when the ‘V’ rating may vary. Hotels are subject to change up until 30 days prior to departure, but you will be advised of any changes.

U.S. Occupancy
It is important to keep in mind that in U. S. hotels, rooms that have been booked for two people may contain one or two beds, of varying sizes. Normally, hotel rooms contain one Queen / King Size bed, or two Double beds. A room with two Double beds is considered suitable for three or four occupants. Unlike other areas of the world, it is extremely rare to find a “triple” room, or a room containing three beds. Oftentimes, hotels are able to provide an additional “roll-away” bed (for a nominal nightly fee, to be paid on an individual basis by the passenger directly to the hotel.) Please be aware that such extra beds are not available in the National Parks, in some older hotels, and in areas where fire regulations place strict restrictions on the number of guests and/or beds in a room. While requests can certainly be made ahead of time, and while every effort will be made to secure a room that meets your specific bedding needs, ATI cannot guarantee bedding arrangements at any given hotel, as these arrangements lie wholly within the discretion of each hotel.

Journey times
Please note due to long distances covered on some of the tours, there will be some days when the majority of the day will be spent on the coach, so just sit back and enjoy the view.

Group size
Maximum approximately 56 passengers (full coach).

Language
Departs will operate as multilingual (English and Dutch spoken).

Visa requirements
It’s mandatory for everyone travelling to or transferring through the US, under the Visa Waiver Program, to obtain approval to travel no later than 72 hours prior to travel by completing an online process ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA) scheme.
Failure to obtain an ESTA could result in the passenger being denied boarding by the airline.
The cost of an ESTA is currently approx $14 per person and can be obtained by visiting https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov. Once completed & approved, the ESTA application is valid for two years and allows multiple visits without the need to reapply – simply update your details on the same website. Travelers can apply for an ESTA even if they have no firm plans to travel to the US.
If you need any further information on the ESTA or you have any other visa queries, then try the Visit USA Website at www.visitsusa.org.uk where further information on the scheme and up to date fee can also be found. The ESTA is very similar to the automated visa that you purchase to enter Australia and is completely paperless

Currency
The official unit of currency in the US is the US dollar and Canada is CAD. Optional excursions will need to be paid locally by cash to the tour guide. Major credit cards and debit cards will be accepted within the US.

Electricity
If you bring any electrical appliance to the USA, you may need an adaptor to fit the US electrical receptacles. You may also need a converter to change the voltage from 110 volts to 220 volts.

Tipping
Tipping is a big part of the USA’s service economy and their taxation system, all visitors should understand that this is a part of the local culture; please see below a list of useful suggestions for tipping:

■ Waiters/Waitresses: 15% - 20% for average - good service, more for exceptional service.
■ Bartenders: $1 - $2 a round - or - 15% to 20% of the tab, with a minimum of 50 cents per soft drink, $1 per alcoholic drink.
■ Room Service: 15% - 20%
■ Taxi driver: Varies depending on locality. Assume 15% will be enough; an extra $1 to $2 for help with bags.

Tools and Tips
For more information on the ESTA scheme, all visitors should understand that this is a part of the local culture; please see below a list of useful suggestions for tipping:

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Terms and Conditions
For full details on our Terms and Conditions please visit our website: www.atitravel.com

NOTES

- The required ESTA application
- Airport transfers
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- Items of a personal nature such as drinks, laundry, tips & gratuities, video camera fees at monuments
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- Anything not detailed on the itinerary.

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Hotel doorman: $1 per bag for help with luggage; $1 per person for hailing a cab.
Tour guide: $5 per person, per day in your party.

What to pack
- Due to space limitations, only one piece of checked luggage is allowed per person. Subject to availability, an additional piece of luggage may be accommodated, for a fee of $7 per day per piece. This will be paid direct
- Lightweight, cotton clothes. Smart casual is acceptable in hotels
- A light sweater or fleece for early mornings and evenings and air-conditioning can be cool in restaurants
- Layers
- Comfortable, enclosed and sturdy footwear
- Casual clothing and sandals for dinner and relaxing at your hotel
- Sun cream, sunglasses and hat
- Camera and/or video camera with spare batteries and memory cards
- Swimwear for an occasional swim
- Binoculars
- Mosquito repellent and spray
- Handy wipes, antiseptic hand gel and bottled water where possible
- Low denominations of USD—handy for ad-hoc tipping

What to expect
We recommend you are of a reasonable fitness as touring often involves long walks and uneven surfaces; this tour is not suitable for those who require special assistance.

Recommended vaccinations
We advise you to discuss your individual requirements for the USA with your GP at least 6–8 weeks prior to travel.

Tour joining instructions
HOTEL ARRIVAL & TOUR COMMENCEMENT:
You will be met by an American Tours International (ATI) representative at the exit of the terminal (after you pick up your luggage and go through Immigration and customs). The ATI Representative will be standing next to the Virgin Holidays representative. The ATI representative will take you to the seat-in airport transfer and they will wait with you until you get on the shuttle and answer any questions you may have.

Below please find the relevant information about the hotel and the shuttle in case you need it.

Airport Transfer
Upon arrival, follow signs to Ground Transportation and locate the Green Zone area numbered 3–4 which is located outside at the end of the South Terminal. Go to the curb booth where vehicles are staged and pick-up your boarding passes. When exchanging your voucher, please inform the agent if you require a one-way or a roundtrip boarding pass and the name of the hotel where you are staying. The Shuttle departs every 15 minutes from the Airport. Hours of operation are between 6:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m. midnight. Please call supplier at (877)799-5282 a minimum of 24 hours prior to arrival to reconfirm your transfer.

Day 1 (Saturday): Upon arrival, passengers should check-in at the front desk of their Atlanta hotel and identify themselves as participants of ATI’s Gone with the Wind escorted tour. Passengers are welcome to stop by the ATI Hospitality Desk between the hours of 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm to meet the ATI Tour Director.

Day 2 (Sunday): ATI’s Atlanta City Tour departs at 8:30 am. Passengers should meet ATI’s Tour Director in the lobby of their hotel at 8:15 am.

Day 3 (Monday): ATI’s Gone With The Wind Motorcoach Tour departs for Charleston at 8:00 am. Passengers should meet ATI’s Tour Director in the lobby of their hotel with their luggage at 7:30 am.

TOUR CONCLUSION:
Day 13 (Thursday): ATI’s Gone with the Wind Motorcoach Tour concludes upon arrival at their hotel in Atlanta at approximately 6:00 pm. Virgin Holiday passengers get to enjoy an extra night in Atlanta.