# **Great Smoky Mountains 3-Day Tour**

**Tour Code: SM3** 

**Departure day:** Every Saturday (4/1/2018-11/30/2018)

Price list: Buy 2 get 1 free. Standard price per person is based on double-bed room.

| 1st and 2nd Person | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Person | 4 <sup>th</sup> Person | Single |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------|
| \$223              | \$0                    | \$183                  | \$335  |

## **Itinerary Feature:**

- 1. Cold air rushing out of a limestone sinkhole atop a big hill west of Luray--Luray Caverns.
- 2. Skyline Drive of beautiful scenic view--Shenandoah National Park.
- 3. Natural Bridge, which was President's resort.
- 4. "Gilded Age" Biltmore Estate, the biggest private estate in North America.
- 5. The Great Smoky Mountains National Park and Blue Ridge.

Visiting: Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee

# **Departure & Return Information:**

| Location         | Address   | Departure Time |
|------------------|---|----------------|
| Rockville, MD    | 460 Hungerford Drive Rockville, MD 20850 (Maxim Supermarket)              | 7:00AM         |
| Washington D.C.  | 610 F street NW, Washington D.C. DC20004<br>(Shakespeare Theatre Company) | 7:45AM         |
| Falls Church, VA | 7801 Leesburg Pike Falls Church, VA 22043 (Westin Hotel Falls Church, VA) | 8:30AM         |

(The sequence of returning to the locations will be arranged by the tour guide of the day according to local traffic.)

## **Itinerary**

## Day 1: Home - Luray Caverns - Skyline Drive in Shenandoah

We will depart in the morning for Virginia. Upon our arrival in this scenic state, we will head to Virginia's beautiful Shenandoah Valley to visit **Luray Caverns** (120 minutes), which perhaps are best known caverns for the Great Stalactite Organ. The Great Stalactite Organ is the world's largest musical

instrument. It literally makes stalactites sing by gently tapping them throughout three acres of the caverns. It's a musical masterpiece that can't be found anywhere else in the world. In the afternoon we will enter the Shenandoah national park to take the beautiful skyline drive (120minutes). On the winding drive way on the mountains we will stop at the overlooks to observe the beautiful Shenandoah valleys. We will also take an easy walk on one of the trails among the mountains. A wonderful scenic tour is a must-do in the state of Virginia.

Hotel: Comfort inn/Days inn/Holiday inn Johnson City TN or equivalent

### Day 2: Biltmore Estate – Smoky Mountain/Blue Ridge Mountains

We arrive early in the morning at Biltmore Estate (180 minutes) in North Carolina, a French Renaissance-style house which was built by George Vanderbilt II. The estate covers 8,000 acres to be considered as the largest private home and a symbol of the American Gilded Age (1870s-1900). Driving through the lush green ground, you will be amazed by the beauty of the the breathtaking trees in America's first managed forest, as well as the vineyards and farms raising livestock or tending crops. Biltmore's landscape is like a wonderland to make you leave the hustle and bustles behind. Standing on the promenade, you can overlook the Great Smoky Mountains National Park not far from Biltmore Garden. Moreover, you can stroll around the manicured Italian Garden. With a slightest tipsy feeling, we will continue to Tennessee with a trip to the Great Smoky Mountains where we will learn more about the music heritage of Tennessee. We will drive through the Great Smoky Mountains. This 522,000-acre national park straddles the border of North Carolina and Tennessee. It's a most-visited national park in the United States and a UNESCO World Heritage site, which is renowned for its diversity of plant and animal life and natural beauty of landscapes. Open areas in the park offer some best opportunities to see wildlife, for example black bear, elk, white-tail deer, as well as over 1,500 kinds of wildflowers. Step onto a tramway and enjoy the scenery up to the hill. We will drive to the highest point in The Great Smoky Mountains, at 6,643feet, Clingmans Dome (60 minutes). It is the highest point in Tennessee, and the third highest mountain east of the Mississippi. Walking along the Clingmans Dome trail, feels like walk into the cloud, at the observation tower on the summit offers spectacular 360 views of the Smokies. After that, we will reach the Newfound Gap (20 minutes) we can enjoy the beautiful scene of the great mountains located right at the border between Tennessee and North Carolina.

Tennessee's most famous family resort, where visitors can participate in a western horse dinner show (at your own expense) - **Dixie Stampede** (90 minutes). Dine in a dinner theatre where you can watch a brilliant show with 32 horses and a cast of top-notch riders plus a mouth-watering four-course feast complete with a delicious dessert! They will thrill you with daring feats of trick riding and competition, pitting North against South in a friendly and fun rivalry. You will also enjoy music, dancing, special effects and family friendly comedy along the way. After dinner we will check in the hotel.

Hotel: Comfort inn/La Quinta inn Pigeon Forge TN or equivalent

## **Day 3: Natural Bridge – Home (Washington D.C)**

In the afternoon, we will reach the **Natural Bridge** (60 minutes)- referenced in "Moby Dick" and called by Thomas Jefferson "the most sublime of nature's works". The rock arch has a 90-foot span. Virginia's Natural Bridge (located in an eponymous town) has been fascinating travelers for hundreds of years.

## **Terms & Conditions**

#### **Scenic Spots Notes:**

- (1) Itinerary will be subject to traffic and weather. The sequence of the attractions might be changed according to actual and practical situation for better service.
- (2) In case of attraction closures (due to holidays or construction etc.), tour guide may make some necessary changes to the itinerary accordingly.
- (3) This tour doesn't accept any City Pass or your own tickets for the attractions. Guests must purchase admission tickets from tour guides.

#### **Refund Policy:**

- (1) If the weather condition, war, general strikes and other unforeseen circumstances interrupt the journey, our company reserve the right to rearrange the journey without refunding the tour fee.
- (2) If visitors cannot join the tour because of personal reason, the fee for hotels and transportation is not refundable.

**Tour fee exclude:** the meals, attractions tickets, service fee (\$10 per person per day), and any private costs (such as hotel telephone charges, laundry etc.).

| OPTIONAL TOURS AND<br>ADMISSION FEES | Adult   | Senior (65+) | Children (3-12) |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--------------|-----------------|
| Luray Caverns                        | \$28.00 | \$25.00      | \$15.00         |
| Skyline Drive National Park (This    | \$15.00 | \$15.00      | \$10.00         |
| is a must join tour, non-optional)   |         |              |                 |
| Natural Bridge State Park            | \$8.00  | \$8.00       | \$6.00 (6-12)   |
| Biltmore Estate                      | \$69.55 | \$69.55      | \$34.77(10-16)  |
| Dixie Stampede                       | \$66.84 | \$66.84      | \$41.46         |

<sup>\*</sup>Price and schedule are subject to seasonal change without notice.