

Monday, September 30

This morning we depart from WSCC and head to Kentucky. Along the way, we will take comfort stops as well as a break for lunch (at your expense) before arriving at the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park in Hodgensville, KY. On February 12, 1809, Abraham Lincoln was born in a one-room log cabin, similar to the authentic 19th-century cabin preserved here. The cornerstone of the Abraham Lincoln Birthplace Memorial Building at the park was laid by President Theodore Roosevelt in 1909 and dedicated by President William Howard Taft in 1911. The neo-classical edifice features 16 windows, 16 rosettes on the ceiling, and 16 fence poles, representing Lincoln's being the 16th president. The building's 56 steps represent President Lincoln's age at the time of his assassination. After this tour, we head to Bardstown and check in at the Laquinta Inn. This evening, dinner will be at the Old Talbott Inn. The Old Talbott was built in 1779 and has been called the oldest western stagecoach stop in America. It was a haven of hospitality to those sturdy pioneers who carved an empire out of the threatening wilderness. The Tavern is located at the crossroads of the young west, where the Post roads, North, East, South, and West met, which caused every stagecoach to stop at its door. Here the grateful passenger found cheer and warmth, while horses were changed for the long trip ahead. Through the welcoming portals of the Old Tavern, there passed a long procession of statesmen, solders, adventures, artist, and rulers. Dinner choices this evening include Bourbon Walnut Chicken, Kentucky Hot Brown or Country Fried Steak. All meals include a salad, tea or water, and Tavern Pie for dessert. (D)

Tuesday, October 1

After breakfast at the hotel, we set off on a tour of the local area. With an atmosphere that seems to have magically leapt from the paintings of Norman Rockwell and the pages of Mark Twain, see for yourself why Bardstown was declared *The Most Beautiful Small Town in America* by Rand McNally and *USA Today*. Settled in 1780, Bardstown is Kentucky's second-oldest city. Throughout Nelson County, there are more than 300 buildings on the National Register of Historic Places, with nearly 200 of them located in the historic downtown district. Stops this morning include My Old Kentucky Home State Park, the farm that inspired the imagery in Stephen Collins Foster's famous song, *My Old Kentucky Home, Good-Night!*, Civil War Museum, the Women's Museum of the Civil War, Old Bardstown Village and the General Hal Moore Military Museum. Time for lunch (at your expense) and shopping will be allowed in downtown Bardstown. After lunch, we travel to the Shaker Village of Pleasant Hill for a guided tour. This is a landmark destination that shares 3,000 acres of discovery in the spirit of the Kentucky Shakers. With 34 original Shaker structures, the site is home to the country's largest private collection of original 19th century buildings and is the largest National Historic Landmark in Kentucky. Shaker Village is also home to a remarkable story, as the Shakers are recognized for their iconic architecture, skilled craftsmanship and profound spirituality. Dinner this evening will be at the Beaumont Inn, which from 1845 until 1916, was the location of a college for young women. The building was first known as the Greenville Institute, later as Daughters College and lastly Beaumont College. Menu choices include the Classic Beaumont Dinner (fried chicken and country ham), Herb Encrusted Pork Loin, or Grilled Ribeye Steak. Meals come with salad, sides, and dessert. (B, D)

Wednesday, October 2

After breakfast at the hotel, we depart for Paducah for a visit to the National Quilt Museum, an art museum that exhibits fiber art and quilting from around the world. Lunch today will be a Doe's Eat Place. After lunch we take a guided tour of Paducah, founded in 1827 by William Clark of Lewis & Clark fame. Paducah's origins and prosperity can be attributed to its strategic location at the confluence of the Ohio and Tennessee rivers. We will be treated to interesting historical facts, landmarks, neighborhoods and see wall-to-wall life-sized floodwall murals throughout the city depicting pivotal moments in the city's history. This afternoon we visit Hancock Fabrics, a 60,000 square foot store offering the world's largest retail selection of premium cotton fabrics for quilting, home decor, and sewing. For those not interested in fabric, you can stroll or relax along the riverfront. Our hotel for the evening will be the Holiday Inn directly on the riverfront. Your evening will be free time for dinner, shopping, site-seeing or resting. (B, L)

Thursday, October 3

After breakfast, we begin the journey home. Along the way we will stop at the Casey Jones Village and Museum in Jackson, TN. The museum is dedicated to the railway engineer who gave his life to save his train passengers. Lunch today will be a Southern buffet at the Dixie Café located in the Old Country Store in the Village. After lunch we will head home and enjoy the autumn beauty along country roads. (B, L)





- 2 Nights in Bardstown, KY
- 1 Night in Paducah, KY
- Abraham Lincoln Birthplace National Historical Park
- Dinner at the Old Talbott Inn
- My Old Kentucky Home State Park
- Tour of Bardstown, KY
- Women's Museum of the Civil War
- Old Bardstown Village
- Shaker Village at Pleasant Hill
- Dinner at the Beaumont Inn
- National Quilt Museum
- Lunch at Doe's Eat Place
- Tour of Paducah and it's famous murals
- Shopping at Hancock Fabrics in Paducah
- Casey Jones Village and Museum
- Lunch at the Dixie Café

7 meals, 3 night's accommodations, transportation, baggage handling, admission to venues listed, tour director, taxes and most gratuities included So many wonderful things await on this adventure. With over 300 buildings on the National Register of Historic Buildings, you will see why Bardstown was voted the *Most Beautiful Small Town in America*. We will stand where a President was born, eat in a stagecoach tavern established in 1779, and visit civil war museums. My Old Kentucky Home and the Shaker Village will be beautiful dressed in autumn splendor. Quilts, murals, delicious meals and fabric shopping all await us in Paducah! And what trip would be complete without an unusual stop like the Casey Jones Museum and the Old Country Store!

For more information:

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