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SMOKY MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS

November 2 - 9, 2024

Experience a **SMOKY MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS** with American Tours! We are going into the heart of the Smokies to **PIGEON FORGE, GATLINBURG, and ASHVILLE**. Christmas Spirit will abound as we enjoy **DOLLY PARTON'S STAMPEDE DINNER SHOW, PATTY WASZAK MORNING VARIETY SHOW, DOLLYWOOD'S SMOKY MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL, GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAIN TOUR (w/ Local Step-on Guide), COUNTRY TONITE THEATER CHRISTMAS SHOW, a visit to the BUSH'S BEAN VISITOR CENTER, and a CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVENING at the BILTMORE ESTATE HOUSE**. There is even more this year!! On the way home, we have added in overnight stops in **NASHVILLE and MEMPHIS!** Be amazed as **CHRISTMAS** comes to life before your very eyes. It will be **8 Twinkling Days, Guaranteed!**

Day 1 – November 2, 2024: Tyler to Jackson (TN)

Our journey today will take us across the great State of Arkansas, up into Tennessee, ending our day in **JACKSON!** Along with our leg stretches and lunch in Benton, AR., we will arrive at our hotel in Jackson in time for you to freshen up before we enjoy a nice dinner at one of Jackson, TN finest.

HOTEL: Comfort Suites, Jackson (TN)

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner

Day 2 – November 3, 2024: Jackson to Ashville (NC)

Today, we continue our journey into **TENNESSEE** passing through **MEMPHIS, NASHVILLE, and KNOXVILLE**. As we arrive in **PIGEON FORGE**, we will enjoy a visit to **SMOKY MOUNTAIN KNIFE WORKS**. This is our “token stop” for the men on the tour. Located at the gateway of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Smoky Mountain Knife Works is the “World’s largest knife showplace.” More than 1.5 million guests visit this 108,000 square-foot knife showroom in Sevierville, TN. It houses a massive collection of museum-quality cutlery memorabilia, artifacts, and mounts – as well as just about every kind of knife and outdoor equipment you can imagine. After checking into our hotel and freshening up, we set out for a dinner and show at **DOLLY PARTON'S STAMPEDE DINNER SHOW**. This experience features friendly competition, thrilling horse-riding stunts, spectacular special effects, phenomenal music productions, plus a mouthwatering four-course feast that ends with a delicious dessert.

HOTEL: Fairfield Inn & Suites, Pigeon Forge (TN)

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 3 – November 4, 2024: Pigeon Forge Area

Today begins with admission to the **PATTY WASZAK MORNING VARIETY SHOW**. Patty Waszak is a high energy, heart-warming variety show featuring a wide variety of music including big band favorites, polkas, 50s and 60s rock 'n' roll, country music, 70s disco, show tunes, patriotic, hits of the 80s, 90s, current hits ethnic melodies, audience participation, sing-along, and music trivia. Midday, we visit **THE ISLAND IN PIGEON FORGE**

for lunch on your own while exploring the many shops and attractions it has to offer. The Island is consistently featured in national news as a top destination and it's easy to see why. With over 70 shops, restaurants, rides, and experiences, the Island is a must-stop destination for any group visiting the Pigeon Forge area. Tonight includes admission to **DOLLYWOOD** for the **SMOKY MOUNTAIN CHRISTMAS FESTIVAL**, where we will explore a winter wonderland adorned with more than 6 million twinkling lights and dozens of towering Christmas trees that add a cheerful shimmer to our award-winning rides and attractions like Big Bear Mountain. Embrace this special time of year with all your senses as you discover festive flavors, heartwarming holiday shows, and seasonal shopping tucked into the beauty of the Great Smoky Mountains. Experience why there's no place like Dollywood at Christmas time.

HOTEL: Fairfield Inn & Suites, Pigeon Forge (TN)

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 4 – November 5, 2024: Pigeon Forge, Great Smoky Mountain (w/ Step-on Guide), & Gatlinburg Area

Today, we enjoy a **SCENIC TOUR (w/ a local Step-on Guide)** of the **GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS**. Along the way, we will stop in **GATLINBURG** for lunch with ample time for shopping at near by stores. Tonight, enjoy **RESERVED SEATING** at the **COUNTRY TONITE THEATER CHRISTMAS SHOW**. The magic of Christmas abounds as the talented renditions of Christmas favorites combined with beautiful choreography, brightly decorated holiday sets and colorful costumes bring the enchantment of Christmas to the Country Tonite Theater Stage. The popular cast covers several holiday classics for a nostalgic, spirited holiday celebration that will be enjoyed by our entire group. You will also find a few special guest performers during Christmas productions that you certainly will not see any other time of the year, Frosty the Snowman, Santa Claus, and everyone's favorite ballerina in the dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy. Toys will also come alive in the magical story "Where are you Christmas." Afterwards, we will enjoy dinner at one of Pigeon Forge's finest – **BULLFISH GRILL!** No bull, simply great food. Voted Pigeon Forge's Best Restaurant!

HOTEL: Fairfield Inn & Suites, Pigeon Forge (TN)

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast & Dinner

Day 5 – November 6, 2024: Pigeon Forge to Ashville (NC)

This morning, we head up into the foothills of the **GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS** to visit the **BUSH's BEANS VISITOR CENTER**, housed in the family's original General Store which dates to 1897. There is so much to see and do at Bush's Visitor Center! See the Bush's Theater, featuring Jay Bush and his dog Duke. Take a walk through a giant can of Bush's Baked Beans, showing the bean's journey from beginning to end. Have your picture made with Duke. Learn about the original canning process in 1908. View how Bush Brothers & Co have changed with the times for their customers and their community. We will enjoy a delicious lunch at the **BUSH FAMILY CAFÉ**. Sit down and relax and enjoy a variety of homemade dishes. Southern specialties and even bean desserts! In our Old-Fashioned General Store, you can buy goodies, gifts, souvenirs and Bush's products. This afternoon, we will make our way to **ASHVILLE (NC)** in time to check into our hotel and freshen up before setting out for tonight's excitement, **CHRISTMAS at the BILTMORE ESTATE**, where American's Largest Home, Antler Hill Village, and the entire estate are at their most enchanting. Flickering candlelight, glowing fireplaces, and live music invite you to imagine yourself a guest at the first Vanderbilt family Christmas in 1895. A majestic Norway spruce and pathway luminaries welcome you. Inside, thousands of ornaments reflect the soft glow of candles, fireplaces, and twinkle lights. The magic continues in **ANTLER HILL VILLAGE**, which is festooned with glittering lights, ornaments, and displays. Dinner tonight will be in the **STABLE CAFÉ** on the grounds of the Biltmore Estate. After dinner, we will enjoy a **CANDLELIGHT TOUR** (audio Guided) of the **BILTMORE HOUSE**, decorated for the **CHRISTMAS SEASON**.

HOTEL: Hampton Inn & Suites, Ashville (NC)

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner

Day 6 – November 7, 2024: Ashville to Nashville (TN)

What an exciting time we have had in Pigeon Forge and Ashville. Today, we begin our journey home. But wait, we still have more fun planned. Today, we make our way to **NASHVILLE**, known as the home of country music. We will arrive at our Nashville hotel in time for a short nap. Take the time to get re-energized because tonight, we have **RESERVED SEATING** at the world-famous **GRAND OLE OPRY**.

HOTEL: Drury Inn & Suites, Nashville (TN)

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner

Day 7 – November 8, 2024: Nashville to Memphis (TN)

We begin our day with a **BACKSTAGE TOUR** of the **OPRY HOUSE**, the place where artists and performers gather, and a place many call home. We will get an intimate look at the people, places, and stories behind the show that made country music famous. Departing Nashville, we make our way to **MEMPHIS, TN**; known for its' influential strains of blues, soul and rock 'n' roll. We will arrive in time for a **BACKBEAT MEMPHIS CITY TOUR** along with a local Step-on Guide. This is a city tour like no other!! This evening, we will walk in the shoes of Elvis Presley, B.B. King, and Johnny Cash as we tour the legendary Memphis Studio ... **SUN STUDIO**. Man, the musical history we have experienced today!

HOTEL: Drury Inn & Suites, Memphis (TN)

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, Lunch, & Dinner

Day 8 – November 9, 2024: Memphis to Tyler (TX)

Well, we are full of Christmas Spirit to take home with us, so we'll head back to Texas, but WOW, we've had a great time in **PIGEON FORGE, GATLINBURG, ASHVILLE, NASHVILLE** and **MEMPHIS**! Today, is an excellent time to share addresses and phone numbers with newly made friends and plan your next adventure with **AMERICAN TOURS**! With lunch and stretch breaks, we should arrive in Tyler around 5:00 PM, give or take a bit!

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast & Lunch