

# THE TRAVEL CLUB

## *Pre-Departure Itinerary* **Charleston, Savannah & the Golden Isles** *Saturday, April 14 – Friday, April 20, 2012*

Experience the South's legendary charm on this history-rich trip through South Carolina and Georgia!

### **Includes**

- Round-trip regularly scheduled flights from Boston to Charleston and Jacksonville to Boston
- Six nights' hotel accommodations: Three nights Charleston, two nights Savannah one night Jekyll Island
- Eleven meals: six breakfasts, two dinners
- Round-trip, airport/hotel transfers  
Sightseeing and touring

### **Optionals**

Charleston- Southern Plantation Visit and Dinner  
Savannah- Southern Dinner & Music evening  
Savannah- 2 night post-tour extension \$299 pp/do

### **Rates**

**\$1,499** per person double occupancy  
**\$1,999** single reservations  
Add \$76 for air taxes and fees. Per person deposit is \$500

### **Highlights**

- Locally-guided **Charleston tour** featuring the Old Citadel, The Battery, Rainbow Row, Charleston Museum and City Market
- **Free time** to explore Charleston independently
- **Visit to Beaufort on Port Royal Island** where you'll see the waterfront and historic homes and St. Helena Island
- Private, guided **trolley tour of Savannah**, including Forsyth Park, River Street, the Cotton Exchange and the Colonial Park Cemetery
- **Free time** to explore Savannah independently
- **Tour of St. Simons Island**, including the light house and Fort Fred
- **Visit to Jekyll Island**

## **DAILY ITINERARY**

### **Day 1 - Charleston, South Carolina**

Arrive in Charleston, South Carolina, and check into your hotel. The rest of the day is free for you to relax or begin acquainting yourself with the city of Charleston. Meet your fellow travelers at this evening's Welcome Dinner. **Included meals: dinner**

### **Day 2 - Charleston, South Carolina**

An expert local guide leads this morning's sightseeing tour of Charleston, known as the Holy City for its history of religious tolerance. Today, the city is an exuberant blend of Spanish, British, French and Gullah influences, and on your tour you'll see many landmarks, including the Old Citadel, the College of Charleston, the Four Corners of Law, the Battery, Rainbow Row, Charleston Museum, the Old Exchange Building and City Market, where you can buy sweetgrass baskets to take home. **Included meals: breakfast**

### Day 3 - Charleston, South Carolina

After a free morning in Charleston, opt to travel outside the city this afternoon on an optional excursion to Boone Hall Plantation, one of the oldest working plantations in the South. As you drive down its oak-lined lane with heavy branches laden with Spanish moss overhead, you'll feel as if you've been transported back to the 1800s. On your tour through the plantation, you'll learn about the day to day life of those who ran the plantation as well as their history. This excursion also includes dinner at another nearby local plantation before returning to Charleston later tonight. ***Included meals: breakfast***



#### **\$90 USD Southern Plantation & Dinner**

Venture to Boone Hall Plantation to immerse yourself in stories of history. You'll tour the home and its grounds, including the gardens. Then travel to Middleton Place Plantation to take in the day-to-day duties of the oldest still-working plantation in the country.

***Please note: This excursion requires advanced reservations and payment 30 days prior to departure.***

### Day 4 - Savannah, Georgia

Say goodbye to Charleston this morning as you travel to the charming city of Beaufort on Port Royal Island. Your Tour Director will introduce you to the scenic waterfront, historic homes and quaint shops of this National Historic Landmark. Enjoy free time for lunch before continuing on to St. Helena Island. Here, you'll visit the Penn Center, one of the country's first schools for freed slaves, and learn about the sea islands' Gullah-Geechee culture. Arrive in Savannah later this afternoon. ***Included meals: breakfast*** ***Included entrances: The Penn Center***

### Day 5 - Savannah, Georgia

On February 12, 1733, when James Oglethorpe and 114 colonists from Gravesend, England, arrived at Yamacraw Bluff on the Savannah River to found the 13th colony, Georgia, Oglethorpe laid down only four rules: no slaves, no Roman Catholics, no strong drink and no lawyers. The city of also became America's first "planned city," designed by Oglethorpe into blocks of lots centered around a grid of 24 public squares, 21 of which still exist today. Over the centuries, Savannah found prosperity in the form of rice and cotton (Eli Whitney's invention of the cotton gin effectively reversed the ruling on slave ownership), and faced hardship during the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. Today, you'll experience the city's storied past as you enjoy a private guided tour through the city. Highlights include such landmarks as Forsyth Park, River Street, the Waving Girl, the Cotton Exchange and Colonial Park Cemetery. The afternoon is free for you to explore the city on your own, perhaps visiting the locations described in the book, *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*. This evening, you might opt to enjoy a truly Southern evening of local cuisine and music. ***Included meals: breakfast***

#### **\$80 USD Southern Dinner & Music**

Enjoy the melodies of the South, as well as comedy and dancing at the Savannah theater. You'll dine on a truly Southern feast.

***Please note: This excursion requires advanced reservations and payment 30 days prior to departure.***

### Day 6 - Jekyll Island

The largest of Georgia's Golden Isles, St. Simons Island is a resort island with a traditional southern charm. Your Tour Director will lead you on a tour of the island, including the island's lighthouse, Fort Frederica National Monument, the military headquarters of the Province of Georgia during the early colonial period, and Christ Episcopal Church, built in 1820 and almost destroyed by occupying Union

troops during the Civil War. As you tour the island with your Tour Director, you might even hear a ghost story or two based on the island's many documented hauntings, such as the doomed ghostpirates that sail the creeks and inlets of St. Simons Island on their ghost ships. Later today, you'll reach Jekyll Island, another of Georgia's Golden Isles. Famous for its white sand beaches and its pleasant climate, the island is most renowned for its Jekyll Island Club, a place where some of America's most elite families, tycoons, politicians and socialites—such as the Morgans, Rockefellers and Vanderbilts—vacationed. Tonight, join your group for a fond Farewell Dinner, where you can reminisce about your southern explorations. ***Included meals: breakfast, dinner***

### **Day 7 - Savannah, Georgia**

Begin your return journey home. ***Included meals: breakfast***

### **Extend Your Stay**

**Add 2 nights in Savannah for only \$299 USD (Single room: add \$160 USD)**

Savannah is the embodiment of soft Southern charm. The city's leafy parks, antebellum architecture and leisurely way of life have captivated visitors since the city's founding in 1733. Extend your time in the South with two nights in this historic gem.

***Proof of Citizenship*** is required for all trips outside the United States. U.S. citizens require a valid Passport for travel with at least 6 months' validity. Passports are the responsibility of each traveler.

**PLEASE NOTE:** *This pre-departure itinerary is designed to give you an idea of how this itinerary is structured.* We reserve the right to make any changes to your final itinerary if deemed necessary, at any time prior to departure.

**PLEASE NOTE:** *This is not your final itinerary. You will receive final documents (itinerary, tickets (if applicable), etc.) approximately 2–3 weeks prior to departure. Although we try our best to ensure that information is accurate at the time of publication, we are not responsible for any error, omission, misprint or liability that results from the use (or misuse) of this information.*