

## River Cruises - USA



### Explore the South's Heritage: A Scenic Mississippi River Journey

8 Days | 7 Nights

New Orleans, LA

Tour Operates: March to December 2025

DM-RCMSYHISMISRC

**This tour is not customizable.**

Embark on a journey through the soul of the American South with a fully escorted Mississippi River cruise. Start in lively New Orleans, where jazz and culture thrive, then explore historic gems like Oak Alley and Houmas House. As you sail the majestic river, discover the rich history of Baton Rouge, Vicksburg, and the charm of St. Francisville. Each day combines scenic beauty and cultural depth, all with the ease of a well-planned itinerary.

**Secure your place on this unforgettable journey today!**



#### Highlights

- Begin in the heart of New Orleans, a city alive with jazz, culture, and culinary delights.
- Enjoy a serene cruise along the Mississippi, taking in beautiful landscapes and engaging entertainment.
- Discover the timeless allure of Oak Alley and the grandeur of Houmas House, embracing Southern history.
- Explore Baton Rouge's heritage, from the historic Old State Capitol to its vibrant downtown.
- Visit Natchez's grand estates and Vicksburg's pivotal Civil War sites, deepening your historical insight.
- Wrap up your adventure in New Orleans, with memories of the river's majestic journey.

**Join us on this extraordinary Mississippi River cruise—book your journey today!**

**For enquiries & bookings, please contact us at**

Email: [sales@starsandmaple.com](mailto:sales@starsandmaple.com)

Phone: +1 (647) 794-4040

Toll Free: +1 (877) 292-8528

[www.starsandmaple.com](http://www.starsandmaple.com)

#### Includes:

- ✓ 7-night's accommodation on the ship
- ✓ A selection of shore excursions
- ✓ Dining services, snacks, and complimentary cocktail parties.
- ✓ Onboard entertainment
- ✓ Gratuities aboard the ship.
- ✓ Taxes.

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### Map



Map Link – [https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1rztNnw5yQL31NBPC7Dz0W\\_Uut0NcUI&usp=sharing](https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1rztNnw5yQL31NBPC7Dz0W_Uut0NcUI&usp=sharing)

### Day 1 – Arrive at New Orleans, LA.

The journey begins in the heart of New Orleans, a city celebrated for its lively music scene, vibrant nightlife, and mouthwatering cuisine. Guests check into a well-appointed hotel, ready to immerse themselves in the city's unique charm. From strolling through tree-lined streets to enjoying a nostalgic carriage ride in the French Quarter or exploring the deeply moving National World War II Museum, the day is packed with enriching experiences. The following morning, a hassle-free transition from hotel to cruise ship awaits, with luggage effortlessly transferred, ensuring a relaxed and enjoyable start to the river journey. Enjoy your trip!

### Day 2 – Discover the Mississippi: A Day of Scenic Cruising and Historic Southern Melodies.

#### Highlights

- Enjoy a warm greeting at the reception, setting a friendly tone for your day.

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- Delight in the picturesque views as the ship glides along the Mississippi River.
- Bond with other travelers, creating lasting memories together.
- Be entertained by performances that celebrate the vibrant culture of the Mississippi.

As guests step aboard the ship, they are greeted with warm smiles at the Welcome Reception, creating an inviting start to their journey. The majestic Mississippi River, rich in history, stretches out before them as the ship begins its serene cruise. The afternoon promises to be unforgettable, with lively performances that bring the river's musical heritage to life, captivating every traveller and making the experience deeply enjoyable for all ages.

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### Day 3 – Step Into Southern Splendor: Experience Oak Alley’s Oaks and Houmas House’s Sugar Palace.

#### Highlights

- Step back in time at Oak Alley, where centuries-old oak trees create a breathtaking path to a historic mansion.
- Explore the rich heritage of the South as you walk through this living museum of architecture and agriculture.
- Experience the elegance of Houmas House, a stunning estate from the sugar cane era.
- Wander through beautiful gardens and learn the fascinating stories of those who once called this place home.

As the journey continues along the Mississippi River, guests are welcomed to explore the enchanting Oak Alley and Houmas House, two of Louisiana's most iconic landmarks. Oak Alley captivates with its grand avenue of ancient oak trees, leading to a historic mansion that offers a glimpse into the South's rich past. At Houmas House, known as "The Sugar Palace," visitors are immersed in the opulence of the 19th century, surrounded by stunning gardens and the stories of those who lived and worked there. These experiences not only showcase the architectural splendour but also connect guests with the deep history of Louisiana's river road estates.

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### Day 4 – Explore Baton Rouge’s Heritage: Historic Landmarks and Scenic Swamp Adventures Await.

#### Highlights

- Step into the rich history of Baton Rouge, a city named for its iconic "red stick" landmark.
- Explore the Old State Capitol, where Governor Huey P. Long's story comes to life.
- Admire the grandeur of the 1932 State Capitol, a striking building of granite and marble.
- Wander through the lively downtown, enjoying its art, architecture, and scenic beauty.

In Baton Rouge, the capital of Louisiana, history and culture intertwine in a city named after an ancient "red stick" landmark. Guests will explore the legacy of Governor Huey P. Long at the Old State Capitol Museum, followed by a visit to the majestic 1932 State Capitol building. As they stroll through the vibrant downtown, the city's rich art, architecture, and natural beauty come to life. For an added adventure, a narrated boat tour through a Louisiana swamp offers a closer look at the region's unique landscape.

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### Day 5 – Experience Southern Beauty: Natchez’s Grand Homes and Vicksburg’s Rich History.

#### Highlights

- Wander through Natchez’s historic 19th-century homes, preserved to showcase the elegance of pre-war Southern architecture.
- Experience Southern hospitality while touring a working cotton estate and historic townhouses.
- Admire panoramic views from the bluff, where Natchez meets the Mississippi River.
- In Vicksburg, connect with American history through guided tours of the National Military Park, focusing on key Civil War events.

Natchez offers a step back in time, where elegant homes stand proudly above the Mississippi River, preserving the South's rich architectural heritage. Guests will love touring these historic residences, exploring a working cotton estate, and soaking in the scenic views from the bluff. In Vicksburg, history unfolds at the Vicksburg National Military Park. The guided tours bring to life the crucial Civil War battle that shaped American history, all set against the stunning backdrop of the Mississippi River.

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### Day 6 – Explore St. Francisville: Timeless Beauty and Scenic Views from the River’s High Banks.

#### Highlights

- Explore St. Francisville’s rich history, once a thriving cotton port with stunning views from high riverbanks.
- Wander through the Historic District, where grand mansions tell the story of the town’s elegant past.
- Discover charming boutique stores nestled among historic Southern architecture.
- Experience the beauty of towering oaks draped in Spanish moss, capturing the timeless charm of the South.

In St. Francisville, a town with a storied past, visitors are treated to stunning views from high riverbanks. This former cotton port, rich in history, offers a perfect blend of beauty and heritage. Exploring the Historic District reveals stately mansions and boutique stores, all set against a backdrop of towering oaks draped in Spanish moss. The scene encapsulates the essence of the South, providing a picturesque and memorable experience for all who visit.

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### Day 7 – Immerse in New Orleans: Jazz, Creole Cuisine, and Unforgettable History Await.

#### Highlights

- Experience the lively spirit of New Orleans, a city where jazz music fills the streets with energy and soul.
- Wander the French Quarter, discovering its beautiful balconies and inviting courtyards perfect for a relaxing break.
- Savor the flavors of New Orleans, from sweet beignets to delicious gumbo and po' boys.
- Visit the National WWII Museum, where the past comes alive in the heart of this vibrant city.

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The magic of New Orleans lies in its vibrant blend of music, history, and culinary delights. As jazz fills the air, the French Quarter reveals its charm through inviting balconies and quaint courtyards. Visitors can enjoy the iconic beignets at Café du Monde, savor the depth of Creole flavors, and explore the powerful exhibits at the National WWII Museum. Each experience in New Orleans is crafted to leave a lasting impression, making it a destination that resonates long after the visit ends.

### Day 8 – Farewell to the River: End Your Journey with Jazz and Memories in New Orleans.

As the journey ends, guests disembark in a city where jazz is not just heard but lived. After eight days of cruising the historic Mississippi River, travellers carry with them cherished memories and a profound appreciation for the river's rich history. The Mighty Mississippi and its serene landscapes offer a quiet, heartfelt goodbye, leaving a lasting impression and a deep connection to this remarkable experience.

*End of your Historic Mississippi River Cruise Tour.*

### Sailing Dates

2025
Mar 10, Mar 16, Mar 22, Mar 29
Apr 04, Apr 10, Apr 16, Apr 22, Apr 28
May 04, May 10, May 16, May 22, May 28.
Jul 01
Oct 10, Oct 16, Oct 22, Oct 28.
Nov 03, Nov 09, Nov 15, Nov 17, Nov 23, Nov 28.
Dec 04, Dec 10, Dec 16.

### Exclusions

- × Airfare. Offered as a supplement on request.
- × Meals outside of the cruise.
- × Travel Insurance is strongly recommended to all travelers. Travel Agents, please note - If your client chooses to decline your offer to sell them Travel Insurance, you must secure a signed Liability Waiver, as required by the TICO, the Provincial Travel Regulatory Authorities of Ontario, Canada. Stars & Maple Holidays sells Travel Insurance to residents of Ontario who

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are Canadian citizens or landed immigrants (Permanent Residence Card Holders) only. Non-Canadians and non-residents of Ontario or international clients must purchase Travel Insurance in their respective province, state, or country of residence.

- × Visa and Documentation Fees.
- × Any personal expenses.
- × Gratuities for Guides (expected).
- × Fares do not include all shore excursions.

**American Riverboat:** Experience luxury like never before aboard the American Riverboat.

Each spacious stateroom offers all the comforts of a modern hotel, featuring full-size bathrooms, private balconies, and expansive picture windows for breathtaking views. With interior entrances and floor-to-ceiling glass doors, guests can enjoy uninterrupted panoramas from the privacy of their rooms.

The riverboat's stunning four-story glass atrium and diverse dining options, both indoors and outdoors, promise memorable culinary experiences. Stay active in the state-of-the-art fitness center or unwind in one of the multiple lounges. The crowning jewel is our top deck Skywalk, providing an unmatched vantage point for soaking in the majestic river vistas.

**Classic Paddlewheelers:** Step back in time aboard our Classic Paddlewheelers, where nostalgic charm meets modern comfort. These beautifully designed riverboats offer the largest staterooms in the industry, each with a private balcony for unparalleled views of the scenic river landscapes. After a day of discovery, unwind in one of the spacious lounges or savor regionally inspired dishes in our elegant, glass-enclosed restaurant. Enjoy the stunning vistas from multiple observation decks, or stay active in the onboard fitness center, all while relishing a truly unique river cruising experience.

### Deposit & Payment Policy

On trips of 9 nights or less - A deposit of \$600.00 per person is required to confirm any reservation

On trips of 10 nights or more - A deposit of \$1000.00 per person is required to confirm any reservation

Final payment is due 90 days prior to the sailing date.

Any reservation made within 90 days of the departure date must be accompanied by full payment and is subject to Cancellation Terms.

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### Change & Cancellation Policy

Up to 91 days – 100% refundable

90 – 46 days – 50% refundable

45 – sailing date – Nil refund

Cancellation Administrative Charge of \$500.00 per person will be applied to all refunds in the table above.

You may request changing your cruise itinerary or departure date up to 91 days before the scheduled sailing. Cruises may not be changed within 90 days of sailing. All changes will incur a \$250 per person administrative fee and will be subject to fare increases - if applicable.

In the case of Non-performance of Cruises: If the Cruise Lines, cancels your cruise, or delays your cruise for more than 3 calendar days, and you do not accept an alternative cruise or choose not to travel on a delayed cruise, you are entitled to a refund of cruise fare and charges for accommodations, services and facilities (including port fees, taxes and other ancillary charges paid to the carrier relation to your cruise) for the cancelled or delayed cruise.

### FAQ

- **How many guests does the cruise ship accommodate?** The Cruise Lines' ships are small and intimate and only carry between 90 and 180 guests.
- **Is your cruise all-inclusive?** It includes all shipboard meals, entertainment, tips and gratuities, alcohol, and other port charges and fees in the price of the cruise. Many shore excursions are also included in the cost of the cruise.
- **Are all meals included?** Your cruise is all-inclusive including all meals and snacks, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages from soft drinks and water to coffee and tea.
- **Are excursions included in the cruise fare?** The cruise has three categories of excursions: Featured, Premium, and Signature. Featured excursions are included in your cruise fare and there is at least one included in each port of call on cruises on the Mississippi River, Columbia & Snake Rivers, and in Alaska. Premium excursions typically cost between \$10 and \$99 per person, and Signature excursions are exclusive experiences for only very small groups of guests. These can be fishing charters, flight-seeing tours, and kayaking excursions, or farm-to-table culinary experiences, and are \$100 or more.
- **What should I pack for my cruise?** It is recommended that you wear casual sportswear during the day including comfortable walking shoes, windbreaker, hat, sunscreen, rainwear and umbrella, and a jacket or sweater for cool evenings. Casual country club attire is recommended in the evenings and for dinner. Staterooms are 110-volt household current and offer USB ports. Please remember to bring your own phone charger and photo identification.
- **Is there a dress code requirement?** Casual resort attire is recommended both on the ship and ashore. For dinner, men's clothing might include a sports shirt and slacks, with a sports coat or sweater.

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Women can wear dress, or a top and slacks. We ask that you dress appropriately as if you were going out for a nice dinner.

- **Is there a luggage limit?** There is no restriction placed on luggage. However, it is recommended that you bring as few bags as necessary. Suitcases less than 10 inches high may be stowed under your bed.
- **When should I plan to arrive for boarding?** Cruises depart at 2:00 p.m. or earlier if all guests have arrived. Guests may board between 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Guests are recommended to arrive no later than 12:30 p.m. Crew members will carry your luggage to your stateroom.
- **How early can I disembark the ship?** On most cruises, the ship arrives at the port of disembarkation the evening before the last day of the cruise. The morning of disembarkation, breakfast is provided, and guests may stay on board until 8:30 a.m.
- **What amenities are available in the staterooms?** Your cruise staterooms, most at more than 300 square feet, are by far the largest in their class. The majority of staterooms have spacious private balconies and feature a roomy private hotel-like bath and a large, opening picture window, allowing you spectacular up-close views of landscape, ports, river and sea. Each stateroom is tastefully designed with your comfort and convenience in mind and includes the following amenities: Twin or King-sized bed, twice-daily stateroom service, individual climate control system, spacious closet and four-drawer dresser, dual night tables, alarm clock, writing desk & stationery, remote-controlled satellite TV, USB ports and mini-refrigerator, in-room single serve coffee brewer (with coffee and tea pods), shampoo, conditioner, body wash, hand soap and hair dryer (with grab rails in every bathroom).
- **Is there cellular service on board?** Cell phones can be utilized on board, but service is not always available and can be spotty depending on weather and location and can also vary depending on your service provider.
- **Is there TV and Internet on board?** All ships are equipped with satellite TV. TV service can be intermittent, particularly in remote areas. Internet Wi-Fi service on all ships is powered by Star link.
- **Are the ships accessible for those with disabilities?** The cruise company is committed to providing guests with a safe, secure, and comfortable cruising experience. Please see Vessel Accessibility under General Information for more information.
- **Is there an elevator on board?** The ships are also equipped with an elevator for ease of movement between passenger decks.
- **Can you smoke aboard the ship?** Smoking is only allowed in designated areas on the ships. Please note that smoking is strictly prohibited in staterooms and on private balconies.
- **What is dining like aboard the ships?** Your cruise offers open seating at every meal in the spacious dining room, a great time to share your experiences with companions and build new friendships. Carefully selected fresh seafood, meats, and produce are often purchased in the regions we visit, allowing your chef to highlight the cuisine with local flavor.



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You are also provided with complimentary wine and beer during lunch and dinner service. A complimentary cocktail hour with full bar is hosted each evening before dinner. Soft drinks, coffee/tea, water, and snacks are available 24 hours a day.

- **Can you accommodate special dietary requests?** The cruise company will work to cater to any special dietary needs you may have. Submit your special dietary requirements within the Guest Information Form found in your personalized online cruise portal. Refrigeration is available to store insulin or other medications requiring protection.
- **What common spaces are on board?** Your cruise features various oversized lounges aboard each of its ships, including internet stations and a well-stocked library. Many decks are available to guests, including a lounge deck and observation deck. Binoculars, guides, and additional reading materials are available throughout the ships.
- **Is there fitness equipment on board?** Yes, your cruise features new state-of-the-art fitness equipment in a designated exercise area aboard every ship. For exact details on the equipment available on your ship, please call your Cruise Specialist.
- **What onshore excursions are offered and how do I sign up?** Each of our small ships provides a genuine and customized exploration of areas inaccessible to large ships and crowds, allowing us to explore small towns in the most meaningful way possible. There are typically two to four excursion options at each cruise port that cater to a range of different interests and activity levels. Excursions range from educational experiences in partnership with local museums to active adventures that include ATV rides and kayaking. Every excursion is led by a local guide and accompanied by professional team member who is always available to assist.

We have taken steps to make the sign-up process as simple as possible. Guests receive a link to a personalized online cruise portal 90 days prior to embarkation date. There, guests can access valuable documents and information about their cruise. 60 days prior to embarkation, guests may pre-reserve their shore excursions in their personalized online cruise portal.

- **What entertainment options are on board?** To further enhance your cruising experience, your cruise has various forms of entertainment from onboard entertainers to local experts and historians with knowledge of American history, ecology, and the local culture. There are activities, lectures, presentations, and discussions that bring each region to life. Depending on the itinerary, onboard activities include Art Classes, App-titude Classes (Tech Made Easy), Cooking Demonstrations, Fitness, Trivia and more.
- **If a medical emergency or incident happens, how quickly can we get ER care and to a local medical facility?** The cruise company has relationships with law enforcement agencies, local transportation companies, and medical service providers that put emergency services within close reach of our ships, whether underway or in port. Our health and safety protocols combined with our state and local

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partnerships enable us to provide safe travel experiences in more than 35 states across America. Our fleet of domestic ships travel U.S. waterways and only visit U.S. ports with ready access to medical and emergency services. We do not leave sight of land and do not clear customs or immigrate into the U.S. to dock our ships.

- **What medical care does the Cruise Line have on board?** Each ship carries a first responder and has defibrillators and oxygen. These individuals can identify and stabilize a situation for transport ashore. If medical treatment beyond the capability of the crew is required, shipboard personnel will arrange transportation and remain in contact with the patient.
- **Is there a ship cleaning policy?** The cruise company cleans staterooms daily and has regular sanitation schedules for all common spaces, with particular emphasis on high-touch areas. Hand sanitizer is available in multiple areas throughout the ship and at the gangway. Cleaning and sanitation policies are designed to limit the spread of germs. Masks and gloves are available to guests and crew upon request.
- **Is there Vessel Accessibility?** The Cruise Lines small vessels are designed to accommodate all guests while meeting United States Coast Guard construction standards. We strongly encourage guests to inform their Cruise Specialist of specific travel requirements and if they may require an accessible stateroom or other accommodation. Specific accessibility requests must be made at time of booking. Guests may inform their Cruise Specialist at the time of booking if they are traveling with any mobility equipment to ensure we can provide a stateroom that best accommodates their specific need. Advance notification allows for the crew to prepare for guests' arrival.

All vessels in the Cruise Lines fleet have designated accessible staterooms available. These rooms are based on need and are booked on a "first come, first served" basis. American Riverboats, Patriot Class, Coastal Cats, and Constellation Class vessels are equipped with two modern elevators that can accommodate mobility devices. The Cruise Lines vessels are designed to operate on shallow waters and dock at small facilities. The crew is trained in the use of boarding transfer chairs and guests are transferred from the dock to the vessel in the transfer chair.

Passengers must bring and be solely responsible for any necessary items related to all medical conditions or mobility challenges. Guests who are unable to care for their basic needs (e.g. dressing, eating, moving from wheelchair to seating and/or from seating to wheelchair or standing and attending safety drills) must have a capable traveling companion.

Note: The Cruise Line does not guarantee departure point, termination point or any intermediate stop. Itineraries, schedules, routes, ships, and staterooms are always subject to change at any time without notice due to weather conditions, availability of docks, shoaling, river conditions, operation of locks, mechanicals, or any other reason. The times and dates of departure and arrival are also subject to change. Some Intracoastal Waterway cruises may travel coastwise at times. The Mississippi River

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between St. Paul and St. Louis has particularly fickle river conditions which may require itinerary modification.

**For More Information on this Tour Package, Operating Dates & Tariffs,**

Contact our Destination Specialist @

Email: [sales@starsandmaple.com](mailto:sales@starsandmaple.com)

Phone: +1 (416) 425 8001 extn 1

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