Great Day! Scheduled Tour Summary

MEMPHIS, TUPELO AND MUSCLE SHOALS WITH ELVIS' GRACELAND & HOMETOWN, THE BLUES & THE HELEN KELLER HOMESTEAD SUN-THUR SEPT 28-OCT 2, 2025

Departures, as applic: Beachwood/Orange, Independence, No. Olmsted, Middleburg Hts, Medina, Mansfield, Grove City.

This tour was introduced last year and it certainly was an immediate hit . . . and should be more so in 2025 since it has been expanded to include features such as meals you order off the menu. Even more time is provided in Memphis to experience the music made popular by B.B. King at the Blues Club he founded on Beale Street.

One theme that we will be following will be the rise of Elvis Aaron Presley, *The King of Rock and Roll*". Born in 1935 to Vernon and Gladys Presley in Tupelo, Mississippi, we will be visiting the modest two-room "shotgun style" house that the family lived in during those



early days. After a lunch at the home site, we will visit the church that Elvis was first exposed to the Gospel music that influenced his musical style.

We have arranged for you to be guests at Tupelo Hardware where his Mother had taken her son to buy him a gun but, as they were going in, Elvis saw a guitar in the window that he wanted much more than a rifle . . . and did his life ever change from that point on! Before we depart we will be seeing the Elvis Homecoming Statue.

In 1953 Elvis, at the age of eighteen, walked into the Sun Records Studio and, for \$4, recorded the song "My Happiness" as a gift for his mother. A year later, he began his record career at the very same Studio. In 1955, Elvis bought a pink Cadillac and, two years later, purchased Graceland so that his parents could have the home that they deserved.

Best of all, the "Elvis Experience" portion of this tour includes even more time during the afternoon at Elvis's Graceland Mansion and the exhibits in the Visitor Center in Memphis – this should be one of a number of great attractions for you, especially if Graceland has been on your "bucket list" of places that have a special meaning to you. Elvis and his family members are now at rest on this property.

Our adventure continues at "Ivy Green", in Tuscumbia, which was the home of Helen Keller, known as a symbol of courage in the face of overwhelming issues. Helen was just 19 months old when a high fever left her both deaf and blind.

MUSCLE SHOALS

Over the years, her teacher, Anne Sullivan, taught her both braille, finger spelling and, eventually, how to speak. You will be hearing some most-interesting stories of her life as we tour the homestead.

We have also included a destination whose notoriety dates back to 1961, leading to the "Muscle Shoals Sound". The town, nestled along the Tennessee River, was recognized for some of the earlier performers who recorded here. Although Elvis Presley did not record any records in Muscle Shoals, it did



contribute to the success of many singers in the 1970s: including Wilson Pickett, Bob Seger, Joe Cocker and Aretha Franklin.

Another of our nine meals will be at a historic tavern that boasts the country's oldest Bourbon Bar in a village made famous by Stephen Foster; here, again, you will be able to select your dinner from their expansive menu. Admissions are included at Bowling Green's Historic Rail Park & Museum with trains, cars and memorabilia. Before enjoying an upscale Closing Luncheon, we will be visiting a factory that manufactures baseball bats that are used across the country!

MEMPHIS, GRACELAND, TUPELO & MUSCLE SHOALS -- SEPT-OCT 2025 Package includes 9 meals

\$1384 per person in a double \$1364 per person in a triple \$1344 per person in a quad \$1677 per person in single

Deposit to book, \$100 per person; we accept all major credit cards and checks.

Tours can now be booked online, 24 hours a day with a credit card.

GREAT DAY! TOURS & CHARTER BUS SERVICE . . . (440) 526-5350 . . . (800) 362-4905 All trip details are anticipated at the time that the Scheduled Tour Brochure was prepared and specific stops and/or other inclusions are subject to change or elimination without notice. Tours typically depart at times about 6:30 to 7:30 AM and returns about 7 to 8:30 PM.