



Backstage Pass to Nashville

September 2 - 8, 2024 (7 days)

NASHVILLE!

That dynamic, magical place, famously known as **Music City USA**.
 Behind-The-Scenes. Inside Scoop. Backstage.
 Whatever you want to call it, we'll experience it the way you've always wanted to.
 Three full days of Musical Memories!



RCA Studio B - Jim Reeves' final recording sessions

MAP AT A GLANCE



Nashville
 Franklin

FALL
 60

HIGHLIGHTS

- * The Jason Coleman Show (private)
- * Kevin Williams Exclusive Inside Tour of Nashville
- * Ryman Auditorium Backstage Tour
- * Historic RCA Studio B Private Session
- * Broadway Honky-Tonks (on own)
- * Country Music Hall of Fame
- * Belle Meade Plantation & Winery Tour
- * Belle Meade Private Lunch
- * Backstage Tour Grand Ole Opry
- * Dinner at Opry Backstage Grille
- * Grand Ole Opry Country Classics Show
- * Johnny Cash/Patsy Cline Museum
- * General Jackson Showboat Lunch Cruise featuring Tennessee Legends Show
- * Gaylord Opryland Shopping
- * Mike Huckabee Show – Live TV Taping
- * Private Meet & Greet with Governor Huckabee
- * Mark Twain Riverboat Dinner Cruise
- * 4 Nights at Drury Plaza Hotel – Franklin





Day 1 - Home to Normal, IL

Welcome aboard! Our journey begins with a travel day into Illinois.

Included Meals: Dinner
Hotel: The Chateau Hotel

Day 2 - Normal to Franklin, TN

We travel through southern Illinois and western Kentucky into the beautiful hill country of middle Tennessee to our lovely Drury Plaza in Franklin, TN just south of Nashville. Enjoy the convenience of great food & beverage at the Drury Kickback right at our hotel. Our Nashville Backstage gets off to a fabulous start with The Jason Coleman Show right at the hotel in a private room!

Included Meals: Breakfast, Drury Kickback
Hotel: Drury Plaza (4 Nights)

Day 3 - Nashville Itinerary

- Hot breakfast at Drury
- Kevin Williams Welcome to Nashville
- Kevin Williams Inside Tour of Nashville featuring many celebrities' homes, Music Row, city highlights, The Parthenon, & Universities
- Lunch at Assembly Hall on Broadway
- Ryman Auditorium Backstage Tour with Kevin's inside stories
- Historic RCA Studio B Private Tour
- Dinner on own at one of Broadway Honky-Tonks and/or Drury Kickback

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Drury Kickback

Day 4 - Nashville Itinerary

- Hot breakfast at Drury
- Country Music Hall of Fame
- Lunch at Belle Meade Mansion
- Belle Meade Plantation & Winery Tour
- Grand Ole Opry Backstage Tour
- Opry Backstage Grille - Dinner
- Country Classics Show at Grand Ole Opry

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5 - Nashville Itinerary

- Hot breakfast at Drury
- Johnny Cash & Patsy Cline Museum
- General Jackson Showboat Lunch Cruise – Tennessee Legends Show
- Gaylord Opryland Venues Shopping
- Huckabee TV Show Live Taping
- Meet & Greet with Governor Huckabee

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 6 - Nashville to Hannibal, MO

- Hot Breakfast at Drury
- Travel day to Hannibal
- Mark Twain Riverboat Dinner Cruise

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner
Hotel: Best Western On The River

Day 7 - Hannibal to Home

- Breakfast at hotel
- Travel through Iowa to Minnesota with musical memories of our Backstage Pass to Nashville!

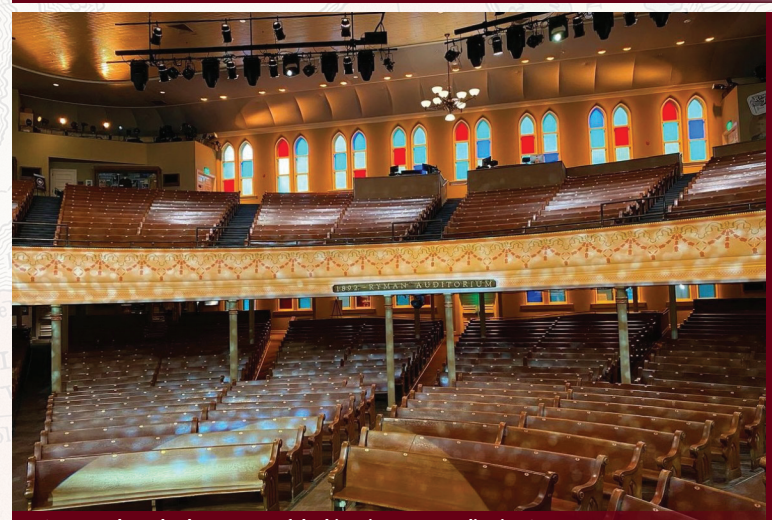
Included Meals: Breakfast

"R&J has a special way of showing the beauty of God's country! They make it fun and entertaining by providing history and culture on each trip we take. R&J gives you a 'wow' feeling with the attractions provided on each trip.

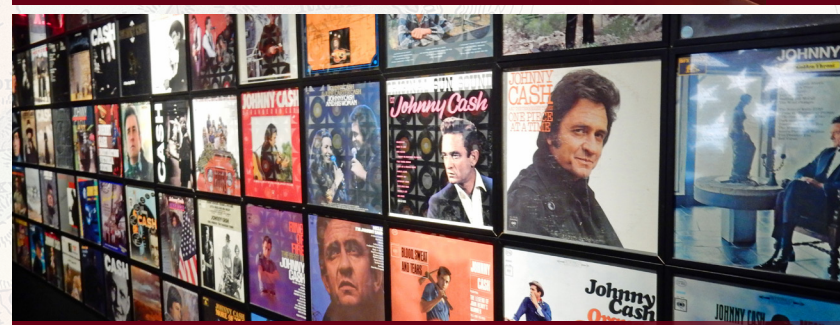
R&J is #1, the only company we will travel with."
Steve & Gail Scholl - Cottage Grove, MN



Experience a live TV taping as well as a Meet & Greet with Governor Huckabee!



We're treated to a backstage tour of the historic Ryman Auditorium!



Johnny Cash Museum

Our visit to the Belle Meade Mansion includes a plantation & winery tour plus lunch!



JASON COLEMAN

Jason is the grandson of legendary country recording artist Floyd Cramer. Floyd is generally considered by most as the "Father of The Nashville Sound." From a young age, it was evident that Jason had inherited his grandfather's "slip note" touch at the piano. Jason's keen ability to play music by ear, led to a childhood spent arranging his own renditions of the songs he loved, just as his granddad did throughout his storied career. Jason grew up performing with Floyd at his concerts around the country and on National TV. He made his Grand Ole Opry debut at age 17 and two years later was given the honor of playing for the Medallion Ceremony recognizing Floyd's induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame. He has spent his career in the studio and on stage, producing a collection of his own piano albums and touring around the world in concerts that pay tribute to his grandfather's enduring legacy and signature piano style. He hosts The Jason Coleman Show on You Tube as well as a weekly show on WSM, the most famous country music station in the world. We are privileged to have Jason share a private concert for our group right at our hotel!

KEVIN WILLIAMS

Kevin is a master guitarist, studio recording artist, comedian, and speaker, whose 35-year career in music is full of milestones. He is probably most well known and recognized as the guitarist, band leader, and funny guy with Bill & Gloria Gaither, The Gaither Vocal Band and the hugely popular "Gaither Homecoming Concerts and TV Series." In Nashville's music scene, he is noted as a "First Call Session Musician." As a session guitarist, Kevin's touch has been heard on countless songs by major Christian and Country artists. He has played on over 2,600 recording projects, including over 120 gold and platinum albums. He has performed and recorded countless times at The Ryman Auditorium and The Grand Ole Opry. Kevin will be our host and guide for a day, giving us an exclusive inside tour of the Nashville scene!

RYMAN AUDITORIUM

The Ryman is a historic 2,362-seat live-performance venue in the downtown core of Nashville. A National Historic Landmark, and the former home of the Grand Ole Opry from 1943 to 1974, it is one of the most influential and revered concert halls in the world. The Ryman was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1971 and was later designated as a National Historic Landmark in 2001, for its pivotal role in the popularization of country music. A storied stage for Rock & Roll artists for decades, the Ryman was named a Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Landmark in 2022. Originally built to be a church, it is affectionately called "The Mother Church of Country Music."

RCA STUDIO B

RCA Studio B is a music recording studio built in 1956 in Nashville. The studio became known in the 1960's for being an essential factor to the development of the musical production style and sound engineering technique known as the "Nashville Sound." In the two decades the studio was in operation, Studio B produced 60% of the country music's chart hits. The studio was created by RCA Victor executive Steve Sholes and the iconic guitarist Chet Atkins. In 1956, in this studio, Chet Atkins produced a session with Elvis Presley, during which he recorded the song "Heartbreak Hotel," that would become his first gold record and launched his legendary career. Elvis recorded more than 200 songs here. The list of famous artists that have recorded here is mind-boggling! In 1960, Floyd Cramer recorded his own original piano hit "Last Date" in Studio B. The piano he recorded on is still in the Studio and we get to see it!

BROADWAY

Broadway is a main avenue in downtown Nashville's entertainment district, renowned for Honky Tonks, live country music, restaurants, dessert spots, shopping, and tourist attractions.

COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME

Located in downtown Nashville, the HOF is one of the world's largest museums dedicated to the celebration, preservation and interpretation of American music. For an artist in the country music field, induction into the CMHOF is the highest honor that can be attained. The very first inductees in 1962 were Hank Williams, Jimmie Rodgers, Fred Rose, and Roy Acuff.

BELLE MEADE PLANTATION & WINERY

Belle Meade introduces itself as a "Sanctuary of Southern Hospitality." This historic plantation, originating in 1807, has a rich and storied history. Today, Belle Meade's grounds cover 30 acres featuring 12 buildings including the original 1790's log cabin. Focal point of the complex is the Greek-Revival style mansion – its original sections were constructed in the 1820's. From the complimentary wine tastings, on-site shopping and delightful dining, Belle Meade offers guests to be immersed in Tennessee history and hospitality. We will enjoy a tour, wine tasting and lunch at Meat & Three in the Visitor's Center.

GRAND OLE OPRY BACKSTAGE TOUR

Take it all in...the sights, the sounds, and the stories that only happen backstage, before the magic happens on stage. Hang out behind-the-scenes with stories about the Opry and country music greats, complete with exclusive photos from the Opry's biggest moments. See the Artist Entrance where stars walk into the world famous Opry House every night. Backstage!!!



Elvis Presley recording at RCA Studio B



We will LOVE Kevin Williams!



A fantastic cruise, show & lunch await aboard the General Jackson



Country Music Hall of Fame



Belle Meade 1888 Carriage



The Parthenon

GRAND OLE OPRY & Country Classics Show

The "Opry", as it's known, is a weekly live country music radio and television show broadcasted from the Opry House located on the banks of the Cumberland River in east Nashville. It started in 1925 and is the longest running radio show in US history. It was broadcast by WSW Radio Station. It moved to its former famous home, the Ryman Auditorium in 1943 and then to its present venue, The Opry House in 1974. It is the ultimate honor for any music star to have performed at The Opry. We are privileged to attend the Thursday Country Classics Show where we have the opportunity to enjoy some of the "Back in The Day Greats" of country music.

JOHNNY CASH MUSEUM

Located in downtown Nashville, the museum is named the #1 Music Museum in America by USA Today and the #1 Music Museum in the World by National Geographic Traveler! The Museum graphically relates the life and musical journey of June and Johnny Cash. Opening in 2013, it honors the life and music of the country music superstar often referred to as the "Man In Black."

PATSY CLINE MUSEUM

Though she left the world tragically at the age of 30 in 1963, Patsy Cline made an indelible mark on the music scene and remains one of the biggest names in Country Music history. The museum celebrates the life of the legendary singer and features hundreds of artifacts, personal belongings, videos and much, much more.

GENERAL JACKSON SHOWBOAT

The General Jackson is a riverboat designed to recreate the showboats that cruised the rivers of America in the 19th century. It is one of the largest and most elegant showboats ever launched. The lunch cruise features some of the finest southern-style cuisine you've experienced. The show, Tennessee Legends, is lively and entertaining. The Nashville musicians are incredible! You'll love it!

GAYLORD OPRYLAND RESORT HOTEL

Featuring nine acres of airy indoor garden atriums with walking trails, indoor rivers & waterfalls, tropical foliage, numerous restaurants, bars, bakery & coffee shops, unique shops, and boutiques.

THE HUCKABEE SHOW

We will attend a taping of a live television show at the Huckabee Theater in the TBN Studios located in Hendersonville, TN. This show will be aired around the world on the following (Saturday) evening. The show is hosted and produced by Governor Mike Huckabee. It is a variety/talk show format featuring famous politicians and entertainers, musicians, comedians, magicians & jugglers. A featured, well-known Nashville star is usually part of the experience. An anchor of the show is the live music by Trey Corley & The Music City Connection Band, made up of outstanding studio artists from Nashville. Following the show we have arranged for a Meet & Greet with Governor Huckabee himself!

MARK TWAIN RIVERBOAT DINNER CRUISE

We enjoy a relaxing, entertaining, and delightful evening dinner cruise on the Mighty Mississippi aboard the enchanting Mark Twain Paddleboat. Hannibal is Samuel Clemens, aka Mark Twain's, hometown. Great food and live music sets the mood as we witness first hand what inspired the writer to give us the compelling characters of Tom Sawyer and Huck Finn.

Jason Coleman



Time will be given to explore Gaylord Opryland's incredible atrium



Experience a backstage tour plus a country show at the Grand Ole Opry!



Ryman Auditorium - this famous landmark was originally built as a church in 1892



Mark Twain Riverboat

Backstage Pass
to Nashville

2024 DATES & PRICES

DATES:	September 2 - 8, 2024 (7 Days)	
PRICE PER PERSON:	\$2,379 Double \$2,249 Triple	\$2,849 Single \$2,189 Quad
PRICE INCLUDES:	12 Meals & 2 Kickbacks, Activities & Hotels as stated, Luxury Motorcoach	
DEPOSIT DUE PER PERSON:	\$100 deposit per person at time of reservation. Full payment due 30 days prior to departure.	
OPTIONAL TRAVEL PROTECTION P/P:	\$149 Double per person	\$177 Single
TRAVEL BUCKS:	\$35 per person on future travel with R&J	
TOUR PACE:	Moderate Walking (See page 13 for description)	

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1-800-758-6877 or www.rjtoursonline.com

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