

# SAVANNAH & CHARLESTON

March 7, 2018 - 10 Days



a world to experience



## Fares Per Person:

**\$4875** double/twin

**\$5835** single

**\$4580** triple



- > Tour is exempt from GST.
- > **Early Bookers:** \$250 discount on first 12 seats; \$125 next 8
- > **Experience Points:** Earn 105 points from this tour.  
Redeem **105 points** if you book by **January 3**.

## Includes

- Coach transportation to Seattle and return
- 9 nights accommodation and hotel taxes
- Flight from Seattle to Atlanta, Georgia, and return from Jacksonville, Florida
- Current air taxes and security fees
- Guide for 7 days in Georgia & South Carolina
- Sightseeing tour of Atlanta
- Martha Mitchell House
- CNN Studio Tour
- Magnolia Plantation house and gardens tour
- Sightseeing tour of Charleston
- The Citadel and The Battery
- Charleston Tea Plantation with local guide
- Dinner cruise in Charleston Harbor
- Carriage tour of Beaufort historic district
- Cruise on Savannah River
- Trolley tour of Savannah historic district
- Hop on hop off ticket for Savannah
- Shrimp boat excursion at St. Simons Island
- Tram tour of Jekyll Island with 2 cottages
- Gratuities for USA guides and drivers
- Knowledgeable tour director
- Luggage handling at hotels
- **16 meals:** 9 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 6 dinners

## The Charms of the South

Discover waterfront cities, a bygone era of plantations, 19<sup>th</sup> century mansions, and antebellum culture on this guided tour to Charleston, Savannah, and Georgia's Golden Isles. Visit the home of Margaret Mitchell, author of *Gone with the Wind*, see how the news is delivered at CNN Studios, explore history in Charleston, admire Magnolia Plantation and Gardens, do a tasting at North America's only tea plantation, cruise Charleston's Harbor, ride a trolley through Savannah's historic district, and savour a special low country dinner party. The Golden Isles will delight with gorgeous marsh views, St. Simons Island Pier Village, shrimp boating, and a night's stay at the renowned Jekyll Island Club, once the domain of Rockefellers and Vanderbilts. Beautiful magnolias, live oaks draped with Spanish moss, and the clip, clop of horse-drawn carriages will entice you to slow your pace, sip a mint julep, and utter greetings like "hey y'all!"

Kamloops > 250-374-0831  
Kelowna > 250-762-3435  
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Penticton > 250-493-1255  
Vernon > 250-545-9197  
Toll Free > 800-667-9552



## Itinerary

### Wednesday, March 7:

Meals: L

We cross the USA border at Sumas and travel through Seattle to Renton where we stay overnight at the Quality Inn near the airport.

### Thursday, March 8:

Meals: B

We fly from Seattle to Atlanta (final flight schedule available later). **Welcome to Georgia!** Our coach meets us at the airport. We stay two nights at the Drury Inn.

### Friday, March 9:

Meals: B,D

A local guide shows us the sights of Atlanta, including the **Margaret Mitchell House** where she wrote her famous novel, *Gone with the Wind*. The **CNN Studio Tour** offers an exciting way to discover how a newsroom operates. Watch behind-the-scenes action of the newsroom, see what it takes to put a news broadcast together, and learn how the weather map works. Dinner is at Pittypat's Porch where we get our first taste of southern comfort food in an old-fashioned dining room that likens to the antebellum days.

### Saturday, March 10:

Meals: B,D

We head to the coast of South Carolina to visit **Charleston** which came to be known as "The Holy City" due to the religious freedom several hundred years ago. In the early days, the church steeples towering over the skyline were a vital landmark to guide ship captains into Charleston, one of the most important harbours on the eastern seaboard. This afternoon, we go to **Magnolia Plantation** which was settled in 1676 and is still in the same family 15 generations later. We enjoy a tram tour through the splendid gardens which opened to visitors in 1870, followed by a guided home tour. The Hampton Inn Historic District in the heart of Charleston is our lodging for two nights.

### Sunday, March 11:

Meals: B,D

A local guide conducts a Charleston city tour. See centuries old cobblestone streets, historic homes, the **antebellum mansions** along the Battery, and the Military College of South Carolina (also called The Citadel) while hearing stories about the Holy City. Discover sweet grass baskets, try a benne, pick up a souvenir, or stroll the streets around the Charleston Historic Market during free time midday. This afternoon is just your cup of tea as we depart for the only **tea plantation** in the USA.

Learn about the Bigelow family and view acres and acres of breathtaking *Camellia Sinensis* tea plants as far as the eye can see. Learn how tea is made during an informative factory tour, take a trolley ride through the tea fields, and help yourself to all the iced tea you wish. Unique dining awaits this evening on the **Spirit of Carolina dinner cruise** offering gourmet cuisine, live entertainment, and wonderful views of Charleston's Harbor.

### Monday, March 12:

Meals: B,D

We journey south along the coast to **Beaufort**, "Queen of the Carolina Sea Islands," where we admire the timeless architecture of its National Historic Landmark District during a guided horse-drawn carriage tour. There is time to wander through the quaint shops. Back in Georgia, we arrive in **Savannah**, one of the first planned cities of the USA which remains very close to its original plan. Relive a bygone era on board the *Georgia Queen*, hearing the captain's intriguing tales as we cruise the Savannah River. We stay two nights in the historic district at the Staybridge Suites.

### Tuesday, March 13:

Meals: B,D

Savannah is the oldest city in Georgia, founded in 1733. It was a strategic port during the American Revolution and the Civil War, and is still an important Atlantic Coast port. During a guided trolley tour, we see Savannah's 22 historic squares and hear about its storied past. Highlights include such landmarks as Forsyth Park, River Street, the Waving Girl statue, the Cotton Exchange, and Colonial Park Cemetery. Explore at your leisure this afternoon with hop on/off trolley privileges. We top off the day with a special **low country dinner party**.

### Wednesday, March 14:

Meals: B,D

We drive to Georgia's Golden Isles and for a visit to **St. Simons Island**. Marvel at the expansive marshlands, centuries old live oaks dripping with Spanish moss, and the charming beach village overlooking the Brunswick River. You may want to try some sweet Georgia shrimp at one of the cafes in the village. This afternoon, we enjoy a hands-on experience on board the **Lady Jane Shrimping Boat** which introduces us to the sea life of the intercoastal waterway. Then we cross bridges and causeways to Jekyll Island. In 1886, 53

prominent wealthy Americans bought the island for \$125,000 and turned it into an exclusive private winter retreat called the **Jekyll Island Club**. Among the best-known members were Marshall Field, John Pierpont Morgan, Joseph Pulitzer, William Vanderbilt, and William Rockefeller. The Club operated until 1942, then was purchased by the Georgia government to create a park. We stay overnight at the Jekyll Island Club Hotel, so you can relive these gilded years among the ranks of the rich and famous. A "Farewell to Georgia" dinner is included in the Club's dining room.

**Thursday, March 15:**

Meals: B

We visit the fascinating and aptly named Driftwood Beach lined with driftwood trees, many still upright. We step into the past again during a tram tour of Jekyll Island's historic district including entry into two heritage buildings or mansion-like cottages. It is an hour's drive to **Jacksonville, Florida**, where we board our flight to Seattle. We stay at the Quality Inn in Renton.

**Friday, March 16:**

Meals: B

Stops are made at Bellis Fair Mall and the Duty Free store, then we cross the border at Sumas and travel the Coquihalla Highway home.

## Tour Policies

**Payments:** A deposit of \$400 per person is requested at the time of booking and the balance is due January 3, 2018.

**Discounts:** Early bookers receive \$250 discount on first 12 seats and \$125 on next 8 seats for booking early with deposit. The discount is not offered after January 3.

**Cancellation Policy:** Up to December 4, 2017, your tour payments will be refunded less an administrative charge of \$50 per person. From December 4, 2017, to January 3, 2018, the cancellation charge is \$300 per person. From January 4 to February 2, the cancellation charge is 50% of the tour fare. After February 2, there is no refund.

**Fare Changes:** Changes to currency exchange rates and taxes, and surcharges from the airline and other tour suppliers can occur at any time and are beyond the control of Wells Gray Tours, therefore Wells Gray Tours reserves the right to increase fares due to such changes up until departure.

**Airline luggage fee:** Please note that this fee of US\$25 each way is not included as it must be paid individually at the airport.

**Travel Insurance:** A Comprehensive Insurance policy is available through Wells Gray Tours and coverage is provided by Travel Guard. Policies purchased at deposit include a waiver of the pre-existing condition clause for medical and cancellation claims, otherwise policies can be purchased no later than at final payment. Please contact us for details.

**Photo Credit:** Georgia Queen, Savannah

 **Activity Level:** Moderate activity including walking tours of historic homes and gardens which usually require some stairs and standing. There are three boat excursions which may have steep gangways to access the vessel, depending on tides. Cities such as Charleston and Savannah have historic districts where coaches are restricted, so walking tours are offered which may be on cobblestone streets or uneven sidewalks. There can be longer walks in Seattle, Atlanta, and Jacksonville airports; please request a cart or wheelchair in advance if this could be an issue for you. If you are not able to participate in Activity Level 2, Wells Gray Tours recommends that you bring a companion to assist you. The tour director, drivers and local guides have many responsibilities, so please do not expect them, or your fellow travellers, to provide ongoing assistance.

**e-points:** This tour earns 105 e-points. Each time you travel on a Wells Gray tour, you earn Experience Points, or e-points. One e-point equals \$1. Redeem your points on select tours or accumulate enough points to earn a free tour! Redemptions offered until January 3, 2018.

**Consumer Protection BC Licences:** Kamloops 178, Vernon 655, Kelowna 588, Penticton 924