

# 

VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

## **SAVANNAH & CHARLESTON**

## Southern Hospitality in the Low Country

#### APRIL 8 to 13, 2018

Drink in the atmosphere of the Old South when you visit Savannah and Charleston. Wrapped in the trappings of long storied histories these two cities are showcases of Southern culture and charm. Start in Savannah, where Spanish moss laden trees arch over the pediments of remarkably preserved antebellum Georgian mansions. Venture to Charleston, the sparking point for the the Civil War. Wander through narrow cobbled lanes, past colonial churches, public buildings, and historic mansions built by the merchants that founded this elegant city. The scent of Charleston in spring bloom fills your senses while the taste of the Lowcountry fills your palate.



#### **YOUR ITINERARY**

#### DAY 1~ SAVANNAH BRICE HOTEL. (D)

Arrive today in the charming and historic city of Savannah. Settle into your hotel, located within the beautifully preserved antebellum area of Reynolds Square. Tonight, enjoy a welcome dinner at The Olde Pink House, an 18<sup>th</sup> century culinary landmark in Savannah.

#### DAY 2 ~ SAVANNAH BRICE HOTEL. (B,D)

Let the misty past of Savannah overtake you on a guided tour of the city. In the morning, immerse yourself in Savannah's Historical District, taking in some of its famous squares and cemeteries as you wind your way toward the City Market, where you will enjoy lunch on your own. You will have time at leisure to visit the Jepson Center, one of three museum sites comprising the Telfair Museums. Visit the Owens-Thomas House, arguably the most popular house in Savannah. This evening, enjoy dinner at Paula Deen's signature restaurant, The Lady and Sons, which showcases her interpretation of Southern comfort food. Afterwards, face the unknown on a ghost tour of what is considered to be "America's Most Haunted City".

#### DAY 3 ~ BONAVENTURE CEMETERY/ CHARLESTON

#### THE FRANCIS MARION HOTEL. (B)

Begin your day early with a visit to the iconic Southern Bonaventure Cemetery, replete with oak trees dripping with Spanish moss and the weathered headstones. Leave Savannah behind and drive a short two hours through the lush Lowcountry, passing tidal rivers, marshes, and rolling fields. Arrive in Charleston, located on a peninsula that separates the Ashley and the Cooper Rivers. Visit one of the oldest public markets in America, featuring tasty local treats and Charleston's iconic and exquisitely-woven sweetgrass baskets, crafted by Gullah artisans. Along Market Street, you'll find an array of local arts, crafts, and edible delights including a local favorite: pecan praline. Your home in Charleston will be the sumptuous Francis Marion Hotel, located at the intersection of King and Calhoun Streets on Marion's Square. The Marion puts you in the heart of the revitalized Upper King Street, which features an extensive selection of award winning restaurants. Explore the grounds of the nearby College of Charleston, the 10th oldest university in the United States whose founders include signers of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. For dinner, try the She Crab Soup at the incomparable Poogan's Perch or any one of the other excellent dining establishments in historic Charleston such as Halls Chophouse, The Ordinary, or The MacIntosh. For a more casual option, you'll find oysters and martinis at 39 Rue de Jean or delicious fried pickles at Virginia's on King.



The famous Pineapple Fountain in Charleston Waterfront Park

## DAY 4 ~ CHARLESTON ~ GIBBES ART MUSEUM & NATHANIEL-RUSSEL HOUSE MUSEUM THE FRANCIS MARION HOTEL. (B,D)

Charleston was founded as Charles Town in 1670. Enjoy a tour of the antebellum mansions, cobbled lanes, and extensive flower gardens, as well as an impressive number of churches, built in a variety of architectural styles for a number of Christian denominations. Continue to one of Charleston's most important institutions, the Gibbes Art Museum, which houses an extensive collection of paintings, sculpture and decorative arts from the Charleston Renaissance. Head downtown, an area defined by the impacts of its history and visit the townhouse of Charleston merchant Nathaniel Russell. The house is known for its circular dining room and a magnificent self-supporting spiral staircase. Walk to the intersection of Broad and East Bay Street where the Old Exchange Building and the Provost Dungeon still proudly stand. These historic buildings are a testament to the importance of trade in the founding of Charleston. Excavations related to the renovation of the Dungeon have uncovered the original fortifications of Charles Town which helped to protect the fledgling settlement from pirates. End your day dining in a Victorian townhouse and enjoy traditional Southern cooking.

### DAY 5 ~ CHARLESTON ~ DRAYTON HALL MUSEUM

#### THE FRANCIS MARION HOTEL. (B,L,D)

Drive to Drayton Hall, an 18th-century plantation located directly across the Ashley River from North Charleston. It has survived and has been virtually untouched for three centuries despite earthquakes, hurricanes, and war. To give visitors a better feel of 18th century America, this site has been left in its original state, unrestored. After lunch venture off the peninsula and along the Ashley River to Middleton Place Plantation, with 65 spectacular acres of landscaped gardens. Tour the museum home and the stable yards before you return to Charleston. Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner at the Swamp Fox, conveniently located within the Francis Marion.

#### DAY 6 ~ CHARLESTON (B)

Enjoy breakfast and then transfer to the airport for your flight home. Take with you the feeling of the moist Low Country air on your skin, the smell of moss and roses, and the salty wisps of sea fed breezes.



Lecture room at the Old Exchange Building in Charleston



Statue and monuments in the Bonaventure Cemetary

#### **OPTIONAL POST-EXTENSION TO ASHEVILLE**



From the height of Lowcountry sophistication, journey to the Southern hinterlands in the clutch of the Blue Ridge Mountains and to Asheville. Where Charleston and Savannah preserve the traditionalism of the Old South, Asheville represents its progressive, creative spirit with its

performing arts venues and vibrant music scene. Here enjoy regional barbecue and fine craft beer. Visit the Biltmore mansion, Thomas Wolf Memorial, and the Basilica of St. Lawrence. End with a walking food tour of Asheville and discover incredible sights and tastes with Asheville's ultimate foodies!



A picturesque, ivy-covered historic neighborhood in Charleston

#### **YOUR JOURNEY COSTS**

APRIL 8 TO 13, 2018 PRICES PER PERSON:

- \$3,495 land only, double occupancy.
- \$1,095 single supplement.

#### **YOUR EXTENSION COSTS**

RETURNS APRIL 16, 2018 PRICES PER PERSON:

- \$1,995 land only, double occupancy.
- \$495 single supplement.

#### **YOUR JOURNEY INCLUDES**

- Superior accommodation at hotels as indicated in the itinerary.
- All meals as specified in itinerary.
- Services of driver/guide throughout the tour.
- Guided Walking Tour of Savannah
- Entrance to Jepson Center and Owens-Thomas House Museum
- Haunted Walking Tour of Savannah
- Guided Tour to Bonaventure Cemetary
- Guided Walking Tour of Charleston

- Entrance Gibbes Art Museum
- Entrance Nathaniel-Russel House
- Entrance Old Exchange and Provost Dungeon
- Entrance to Drayton Hall
- Entrance to Middleton Place
- Group escort with 15 travelers.
- All park and admission fees.
- All applicable hotel and lodge taxes and gratuities for baggage handling.



A hot bowl of traditional She Crab soup

"I'm going away... perhaps to Charleston, where there's a little bit of grace and charm left in the world..."

— Rhett Butler

Gone With the Wind



#### Your Leader



Dr. Susan J. Rawles Associate Curator, American Painting and Decorative Art

Dr. Rawles has been with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts since 1995, serving previously as

Assistant Curator of American Decorative Art and Research Associate for the American Department. A specialist in American material culture of the colonial and revolutionary periods, Rawles has written and lectured on topics ranging from colonial portraiture to period interiors. Part of the 2010 reinstallation team for VMFA's American art galleries, she co-authored the accompanying publication, American Art at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts.

## For More Information or Reservations, Please Contact Kathy Pluas at Classic Escapes 800.627.1244

kathyp@classicescapes.com

#### **CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL**

**HOW TO BOOK:** Fill out and sign the enclosed reservation form and send it, along with the relevant deposit to: Classic Escapes Inc. 58-25 Queens Blvd., Woodside NY, 11377. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form and deposit, we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. You may consider your booking confirmed when you receive a confirmation notice and invoice from us.

**RATES:** Rates are based on the minimum number of guests outlined in this document, plus airfare costs, currency exchange rates and other factors and are subject to change. We do reserve the right to assess a surcharge if the minimum is not met, or if increases are forced upon us by airlines or other partners or because of changes in currency exchange rates.

**INSURANCE:** It is a condition of booking, that the sole responsibility lies with the guest to ensure that they carry the correct comprehensive travel and medical insurance to cover themselves, as well as any dependents/traveling companions for the duration of their trip. Classic Escapes, including their representatives, employees and agents will take no responsibility for any costs, losses incurred or suffered by the guest, or guest's dependents or traveling companions.

Please visit the website to enroll – http://www.travelguard.com/classicescapes/. For any questions you may have on insurance, contact Travel Guard at 1-866-385-4839 and refer to ARC #71298.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:** Neither Classic Escapes (the Company) nor any person or agent acting for, through or on behalf of the Company shall be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever arising from any cause whatsoever and without restricting the generality of the aforegoing shall particularly not be responsible for

loss or damage arising from any errors or omissions contained in its brochure or other literature, loss or damage caused by delays, sickness, theft, injury or death. In addition the Company shall have the right at any time at its discretion to cancel any trip or the remainder thereof or make any alteration in route, accommodation, price or other details and, in the event of any trip being rendered impossible, illegal or inadvisable by weather, strike, war, government or interference or any other cause whatsoever, the extra expenses incurred as a result thereof shall be the responsibility of the passenger. The Company may at its discretion and without liability or cost to itself at any time cancel or terminate the guest's booking and in particular without limiting the generality of the aforegoing it shall be entitled to do so in the event of the illness or the illegal or incompatible behavior of the guest, who shall in such circumstances not be entitled to any refund. The person making any booking will, by the making of such booking, warrant that he or she has authority to enter into a contract on behalf of the other person included in such a booking and in the event of the failure of any or all of the other persons so included to make payment, the person making the booking shall by his/her signature thereof assume personal liability for the total price of all bookings made by him/her.

CANCELLATIONS: Cancellations are only effective on receipt of written notification: The following per person fees are applicable on this tour:

• January 3, 2018, \$300 per person administrative

- January 3, 2018, \$300 per person administrative fee.
- January 4 to January 23, 2018, deposit is forfeited.
- January 24 to February 2, 2018, 50% of tour cost.
- After February 2, 2018, no refund is due.



The aristorcatic grounds of Drayton Hall



Alfred Hutty's Magnolia Gardens in the Gibbes Art Museum



#### RESERVATION FORM: (Please Print)

#### TOUR CODE: 18NAM0408/VMFA

Enclosed is my deposit for \$(\$750 per person, plus \$250 for the extension) to holdplace(s) on An Antebellum Adventure to Savannah and Charleston departing on <b>April 8, 2018.</b> Cost is \$3,495 per person, double occupancy, land only.
Final payment due date is January 3, 2018. All final payments are required to be made by check or money order only.
Please charge my deposit to my credit card: ☐MasterCard ☐Visa ☐Discover ☐American Express
Name on Card
NAME (as it appears on passport): 🗆 Mr. 🗆 Mrs. 🗆 Ms
Date of Birth (M/D/Y)/
NAME (as it appears on passport): □ Mr. □ Mrs. □ Ms.
Date of Birth (M/D/Y)/
NAME FOR NAME BADGE IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE: 1)
2)
STREET ADDRESS:
CITY:STATE:ZIP:
PHONE NUMBERS: HOME: ( ) OFFICE: ( )
MOBILE: ( ) FAX: ( )
EMAIL ADDRESS:
☐ The two of us above are sharing a room and, where possible, would like a room with: ☐ ONE ☐ TWO Beds (Make one selection only)
□ I am sharing with(form sent separatel
□ I need assistance in securing a roommate. I understand if the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts or the tour operator cannot locate one for me by final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single supplement amount.  I prefer to share with: □Smoker □Non-smoker
□ I desire single accommodations, if available, and will pay the single supplement additional cost: □\$1,095 for the main program □\$495 for post extension to Asheville
□ I desire to participate in the optional extension (s) □\$1,995 for post extension to Asheville post-extension
WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN TRAVEL INSURANCE. RESERVATIONS ARE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO TOUR CONDITIONS AND WILL BE CONFIRMED ONLY IF ACCOMPANIED BY COMPLETED FORM SIGNED BY THE TOUR PARTICIPANT(S).
I/WE HAVE READ THE CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL ON THIS BROCHURE AND UNDERSTAND AND AGREE TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS STATED HEREIN:
SIGNATURE:DATE:
SIGNATURE:DATE:

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO CLASSIC ESCAPES AND SEND TO:

PHOTO CREDITS: Classic Escapes; © Gibbes Art Museum; © Cucumber Images | Fotolia.com; © markvandyke | Fotolia.com; © Henryk Sadura | Fotolia.com; © AStargirl | Fotolia.com; © Sepavo | Dreamstime.com; © Thecrossroads | Dreamstime.com; © Katherine Davis Gothel | Dreamstime.com; © Mel Potographic | Dreamstime.com; © Alex Grichenko | Dreamstime.com; © Ggoodrow | Dreamstime.com. Classic Escapes protects our planet.

