TREASURES OF THE MISSISSIPPI

A journey along the Mississippi from Memphis to New Orleans aboard the **American Heritage**

18th to 28th November 2022

NOBLE CALEDONIA

Longwood Historic House, Mississippi

This is a marvellous opportunity to join us on board one of the greatest stern paddle wheelers ever to grace the Mississippi River. We have chartered the 'American Heritage' which embodies the spirit of traditional Mississippi River cruising and the grandeur of riverboats of the past while still offering all the comforts and amenities of modern day cruising.

Meaning the 'Father of Waters', the mighty Mississippi River is one of North America's greatest natural wonders. Winding boldly through the heartland of America, the river has played a pivotal role as a route for trade and travel. Connecting peoples, places and cultures, it created a rich history integral to the fabric of America. Travelling in style and navigating the waters between Memphis and New Orleans we will follow in the wake of pioneers, Native Americans and fur-trading French. During the Civil War the Mississippi River was an invasion route for Union Armies and during this historic journey we will pass the scenes of many important battles when the North and South were at war, each armed with conflicting visions of what was worth fighting for. In turn, we will learn and celebrate much of the local musical styles that were transported across the globe and have made this particular area so well associated with blues, gospel and jazz. From quaint and slow-paced towns such as Natchez, to the carnival atmosphere of New Orleans, our journey will ensure the traveller is given a true taste of this region's most marked and engaging displays.

Alligator

OUR VIEW

"Our charter of the American Heritage sees us cruise the Lower Mississippi from Memphis to New Orleans. The majority of the ship's cabins include a balcony, while every cabin aboard the vessel is surprisingly large for her 150 passenger capacity. The public rooms are comfortably fitted out and there is ample deck space from which to watch the ever changing vistas along the river banks. Traditions are maintained and Guest Speakers and entertainers bring the history of this magnificent river alive. The ship boasts a large, central paddle wheel astern, but these days the majority of the ship's power is delivered by its ultra-modern Z-Drives which make her highly manoeuvrable. As the ship makes its leisurely way south, it is still possible to see wrecks on the shoals and sandbanks of Mississippi steamboats from the golden age. Indeed, as the Captain helpfully leaves river charts out on the desk in the chart room on board, it is possible to see where you may see your next wreck. Some have even been discovered buried in mud underneath fields close by – this demonstrates the river's many changes of course over the years – where the steamboat foundered over a hundred years ago may by now be some way distant from the 21st century course of the river. If you do take a cruise aboard this amazing reconstruction of a Mississippi river boat, I hope you enjoy the experience as much as I did and that you are transported back too, as I was, to those pioneering days on this most magnificent of rivers."
Mike Deegan – Fleet Operations Manager

Memphis

St Francisville

New Orleans

ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore the history, music, food and culture of the region.
- Visit a number of cotton plantations and gins, entirely unique to this region of the world.
- Experience a swamp tour and search for alligators and other native wildlife.
- Take in arguably the two most influential cities in the 'Deep South', Memphis and New Orleans.
- Enjoy talks by Guest Speakers and musical performances on board.

THE ITINERARY

Day 1 London to Memphis, Tennessee, USA. Fly by scheduled indirect flight. On arrival transfer to your centrally located hotel for an overnight stay. This evening is at leisure for you to relax and explore independently.

Day 2 Memphis. After breakfast, we transfer to the American Heritage moored in the city, visiting Memphis' most prominent sites en route. Enjoy a welcome drink on board followed by lunch, before setting sail along the mighty Mississippi to our first scheduled port of call, Vicksburg.

Day 3 Vicksburg. This afternoon we arrive in Vicksburg, which, with sweeping views of the Mississippi River, blends Southern culture and heritage along with hallowed stories of Civil War battles. After a tour of the National Military Park we will enjoy Southern hospitality in its most authentic form in a city bursting at the seams with history at some of its most poignant turns, art at its most creative angles and food at its finest flavours. We will moor overnight in Vicksburg.

Day 4 Vicksburg to Natchez. After a morning at leisure in Vicksburg, we will set sail to Natchez and enjoy a relaxing afternoon on board sailing along the mighty Mississippi.

Day 5 Natchez, Mississippi. Sitting high on a bluff above the mighty Mississippi River, Natchez is a city of some 300 years in the making. It appears frozen in time with perfectly preserved homes and buildings reminding us of days gone by. Our morning tour will show us the city, which has over a thousand of its historic structures listed in the National Register of Historic Places, and includes a stop at Longwood, one of the elegant houses that grace the historic district. After lunch we enjoy a tour to Frogmore Plantation, home to a rare antique steam gin and the only completely computerised gin in the nation.

Day 6 St Francisville to Baton Rouge, Louisiana. This morning we arrive in what has been described as "one of the 200 most beautiful small towns in America" meandering through St Francisville's historic centre with its two centuries of architecture and lifestyle. Nearby plantations will beckon you back to a time when coquettish southern belles and their chivalrous suitors sipped mint juleps on the shady porches of grand estates. Returning to the vessel we will continue sailing until later this afternoon when we will arrive into Louisiana's capital city of Baton Rouge. Moor overnight.

Day 7 Baton Rouge. Baton Rouge is affectionately referred to as The Red Stick and remains one of the best known towns of America's Deep South. Of course, no exploration of this region would be complete without a tour of one of its swamps and, during our morning excursion we will head out in search of alligators, hawks, egrets and herons, all the while enjoying the richness of life that the backwater swamps provide. The remainder of the day will be at leisure to explore Baton Rouge with its fascinating State Museum and New State Capitol or relax on board.

Day 8 Oak Alley to New Orleans. Often referred to as the Grande Dame of the Great River Road, Oak Alley's entrance encompasses a quarter-mile canopy of giant oak trees forming an impressive avenue that leads us to this classic Greek revival style antebellum home. The imposing mansion has been restored to its 19th century glory as a noble tribute to those who left an indelible mark on this rich river region. Guides in period clothing will give us a tour of the Big House before some time at leisure to explore the magnificent grounds. Upon returning to the vessel we will sail to New Orleans arriving in the early evening for an overnight stay.

Vicksburg

Mississippi River, Louisiana

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Great Egret

New Orleans streetcar

Day 9 New Orleans. Disembark after breakfast. Enjoy a guided tour of the city taking in the charming cobblestone streets of the French Quarter, Jackson Square and St. Louis Cathedral. Following lunch in a local restaurant, we will transfer to our hotel for an overnight stay. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 10 New Orleans to London. After breakfast transfer to the airport for your return scheduled indirect flight to London.

Day 11 London. Arrive into London this morning.

PRICES PER PERSON
Based on double occupancy

SPECIAL OFFER – SAVE £300 PER PERSON FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

Cat	Brochure Price	Special Offer Price
Cat A	£6395	£6095
Cat AAL	£6895	£6595
Cat AAC	£7395	£7095
Cat AAM	£7895	£7595
Owner's Suite	£8395	£8095
Single/Window	£6595	£6295
Single/Balcony	£7395	£7095

PRICE INCLUDES: Economy class scheduled air travel • Overnight hotel accommodation in Memphis & New Orleans with breakfast • Seven nights aboard the American Heritage on full board basis • Wine, beer and soft drinks served with lunch and dinner on board • Shore excursions • Onboard speaker • Noble Caledonia onboard team • Gratuities • Transfers • Port & airport taxes.
Not Included: Travel insurance, American visa/visa waiver, dinner on days 1 & 9.
NB: *Excursions, sailing schedule and events ashore are subject to change. Water levels may affect itinerary.*

POST-CRUISE NEW ORLEANS EXTENSION
27th to 30th November 2022

If you would like to spend some more time in vibrant New Orleans we are offering a two night extension staying at a centrally located hotel. We are including a three day 'Jazzy Pass' which allows unlimited downtown travel by local bus, streetcar, paratransit or ferry and a two day 'City Pass' allowing entry to over 25 attractions and places of interest. Whether you want to visit the museums, listen to jazz or to simply immerse yourself in the atmosphere of this melting-pot of a city these passes will allow you to explore independently and with ease.

THE ITINERARY

Days 1 & 2 New Orleans, USA. Enjoy two full days in New Orleans exploring at leisure with use of your 'Jazzy Pass' and 'City Pass'.
Day 3 New Orleans to London. Transfer to the airport for your return scheduled indirect flight to London.
Day 4 London. Arrive this morning.

PRICES PER PERSON
Based on double occupancy

Twin: **£795** Single: **£1095**

Price Includes: Two nights hotel accommodation in New Orleans with breakfast • New Orleans Jazzy Pass • New Orleans City Pass • Transfer from hotel to airport • Noble Caledonia Tour Manager.
Not Included: Travel insurance, American visa/visa waiver.

AMERICAN HERITAGE

Sky Lounge

Suite

Sky Lounge Deck Area

The American Heritage (formerly known as the Queen of the Mississippi) was launched in 2015 and refurbished in 2022. Accommodating 150 passengers, the vessel brings a new high standard to America's most iconic river. Beneath her gleaming woodwork and brass fixtures is a framework of modern cruise ship technology that provides passengers with comfortable surroundings and personalised service whilst cruising the Mississippi. The American Heritage features an authentic paddlewheel, offers spacious staterooms and provides more space per passenger than many other river cruise ships operating on the Mississippi.

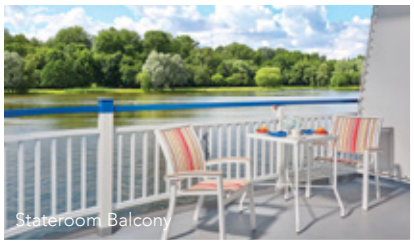
Your Cabin

The majority of staterooms and suites feature a private balcony allowing you to experience breathtaking scenery from the privacy of your stateroom as the American Heritage sails along the majestic Mississippi. All cabins offer interior entrances which means that every stateroom has a private view. In-room facilities include phones for complimentary room service, complimentary Wi-Fi, Satellite TV and DVD player and gourmet coffee brewers.

Your Space

The Sun Deck provides a pleasant environment to relax and enjoy the stunning views with deck furniture in shaded areas. There is also a putting green. Relax with a book in one of the six lounges including the paddlewheel lounge or in the chart room. The vessel is spacious enough to allow for both quiet relaxation and socialising with your fellow travellers. Throughout the day beverages, snacks and pastries are available in the 4th deck Lounge and High Tea is served in the afternoon. There is a lift to all decks.

Stateroom


Stateroom Balcony

Restaurant

Magnolia Lounge

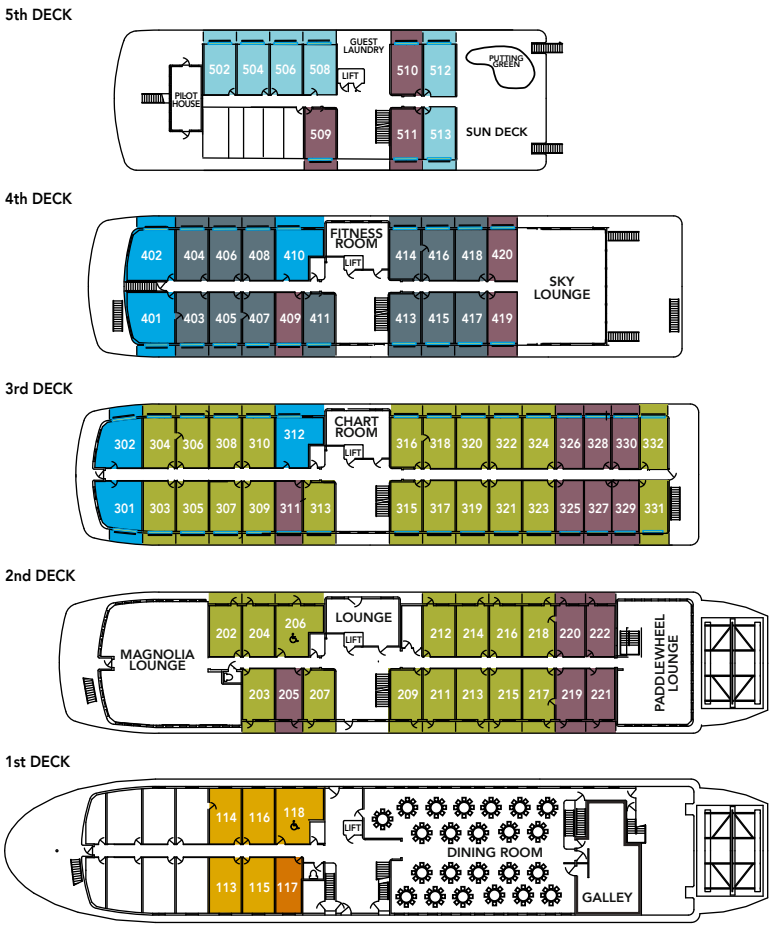
Your Dining

The Dining Room comfortably seats all passengers in one sitting and you are free to sit where you choose. The glass enclosed dining room provides an amazing panoramic view to the passing scenery. In keeping with the atmosphere throughout the ship, dining is a casual affair with a smart-casual dress code. Menus are inspired by regional and local specialties, using only the freshest ingredients and prepared by the highly trained chefs. Complimentary wine and beer is served with lunch and dinner. You can choose to enjoy breakfast by room service on your balcony and High Tea is served daily in the 4th deck Lounge. Each evening before dinner there will be a complimentary cocktail hour.

Life On Board

The onboard crew are American and offer an exceptional and personalised service. A typical day will include an informal breakfast with your fellow guests followed by time cruising and an exploration ashore with experienced guides. In addition to nightly entertainment, the onboard local experts and historians will enhance your knowledge of the places you are visiting. Through informal lectures, open discussions and activities, they will bring the local history, nature and culture alive with their knowledge and passion for American heritage. There will also be a Noble Caledonia team travelling on board with you.

DECK PLAN



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All special offers are subject to availability. Our current booking conditions apply to all reservations and are available on request.
Cover image: Longwood Historic House, Mississippi.