

Insight Vacations
CAJUN COUNTRY ESCAPE

Departures Dec 2020 – Mar 2021



A unique blend of culture, scenery and Southern hospitality awaits you on this incredible journey to vibrant cities and countryside gems. Dive into Acadian heritage and hear about the incredible musical and culinary legacy from the locals. Explore the natural wonders and ecology of the vast wetlands. Stay at the luxurious inn at the historic Houmas house, one of the South's best-preserved mansions. Your backyard bucket-list just got a bit longer!

This trip is part of Insight Vacations' Domestic Escapes, a selection of local journeys that featured a max of 22 guests, staggered seating on the coach and the potential to have a double seat if travelling solo. Insight Vacations has new measures in place to allow for comfortable physical distancing all while guests explore close to home.

DAY 1 - Arrive In New Orleans

Welcome to the Big Easy! New Orleans is a wonderful blend of southern hospitality, Anglo-French culture, incredible cuisine and a lively music scene. Transfers from Louis Armstrong New Orleans Airport take you to your city center hotel. Explore the heart of the city on your own or relax at your hotel before joining your Travel Director and new friends for a Welcome Dinner.



Included Meals: Welcome Dinner in New Orleans
Accommodation: Kimpton Hotel Fontenot

DAY 2 - New Orleans Sightseeing & Eco Tour

Delve deep into the heart of New Orleans on a sightseeing tour with a Local Expert. Discover the main landmarks, fascinating history and hidden treasures of this remarkably diverse city, from the tree-lined streets and plantation-style mansions of the Garden



District to the musical Tremé neighborhood and well-preserved French Quarter. An immersive eco excursion shows you the rich tapestry of land, people and culture that thrives on the river. Discover the importance of the Mississippi River and the role it has played in the city's economic and cultural legacy. Drop by a James Beard award-winning restaurant for lip-smacking snacks that will tempt you into a return visit. You have a free evening so you can dive into the

foodie scene at your leisure.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 3 - New Orleans To Lafayette

A vestige of the Catholic influence of the early French and Spanish colonists, Louisiana is divided into 64 parishes in the way that many other states are divided into counties. Today you'll depart the Parish of Orleans for the Parish of Lafayette. As you say goodbye to New Orleans, take in views of Lake Pontchartrain and the vast Mississippi River. Your scenic drive takes you to the one and only Tabasco



Factory on Avery Island, where you'll get to know the history and production of the famous condiment. If you're a fan of spicy Cajun dishes, why not dive into the classic Southern comfort food served at their restaurant? After lunch on your own, your explorations continue, with a visit to Jefferson Island for a glimpse into the life of 19th



century American actor Joseph Jefferson, who famously portrayed Rip Van Winkle on stage and in silent film. Tour his Victorian-style mansion and surrounding Rip Van Winkle gardens, including a 550-year-old oak tree that President Grover Cleveland once slept under. Afterwards, arrive in Lafayette and visit the Acadian Cultural Center. Your Local Expert, a park ranger from the National Park Service, will guide you through the fascinating history, culture, plight and prosperity of the Acadian people.

This evening, enjoy a delicious dinner with traditional local food and music.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Lafayette

DAY 4 -Martin Accordions & Crawfish Farm Visit



Today you'll dive into two important building blocks of local culture – music and seafood. Start the day with a visit to the Acadian Cultural Center. Your Local Expert, a park ranger from the National Park Service, will guide you through the fascinating history, culture, plight and prosperity of the Acadian people. Visit Martin Accordions, where you'll learn about the history and craftsmanship behind the instrument and its influence in Cajun and zydeco music. A private music performance will get your toes tapping. Your musical morning transcends into a special seafood experience with a visit to a crawfish farm. Join a Local Expert on a boat to experience firsthand how these crustaceans are caught. You'll know why Louisiana is called the Crawfish Capital of the World when you lunch on a traditional Cajun crawfish boil here. Return to your hotel and explore the city on your own, with an evening at leisure. Included Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 5 - Lafayette To Baton Rouge & The Inn At Houmas House

After a hearty breakfast, depart Lafayette for an excursion into the vast, beautiful wetlands of the Atchafalaya Basin, composed of marshes and swamps. You'll venture out on a swamp tour to explore a diverse ecosystem of moss-draped cypress trees, birds and perhaps even an alligator! After your swamp adventure, we'll be callin' Baton Rouge in the afternoon. Here in the state capital, enjoy lunch on your own and visit Louisiana's Old State Capitol, a National Historic Landmark overlooking the Mississippi River in downtown. Learn about the state's rich history and the impact people can have on the democracy. Your afternoon will bring you to your idyllic hotel, The Inn at Houmas. An ancient oak alley leads you to this beautiful estate, where quaint cottages lie in lush gardens bounded by the mighty Mississippi. The rest of your evening is at leisure. Included Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: The Inn at Houmas House

DAY 6 - Tours Of Houmas House Plantation

Embark on a trip back in time during your tour of Houmas House Plantation and Gardens. Alongside your Local Expert, gain insights into what life on a sugarcane plantation may have been like. After your tour, you have time to



explore. Take a stroll down one of the many garden paths, visit the new Steamboat museum or check out their rarest artifact, a pre-Civil War submarine. Tonight, dine in casual elegance within the historic mansion itself during your Celebration Dinner. Toast to a wonderful journey with newfound friends as you taste traditional Louisiana cuisine and sip on delicious wine as the sun dips below the tremendous Mississippi.

Included Meals: Breakfast, Celebration Dinner

DAY 7 - Depart New Orleans

It's time to say 'au revoir' to this special part of America. After breakfast, airport transfers depart for Louis Armstrong New Orleans Airport.

Included Meals

Breakfast

Top Rated Highlights-

NEW ORLEANS:

Discover the main landmarks, fascinating history and hidden treasures of New Orleans on a sightseeing tour with a Local Expert, from the treelined streets and plantation-style mansions of the Garden District to the vibrant and musical Tremé neighborhood.

AVERY ISLAND:

Your scenic drive takes you to the one and only Tabasco Factory, where you'll get to know about the history and production of the famous condiment. If you're a fan of spicy Cajun dishes, why not dive into the classic Southern comfort food served at their restaurant?

JEFFERSON ISLAND:

Visit Jefferson Island for a glimpse into the life of 19th century American actor Joseph Jefferson, who famously portrayed Rip Van Winkle on stage and in silent film. Tour his Victorian-style mansion and surrounding Rip Van Winkle gardens, including a 550-year-old oak tree that President Grover Cleveland once slept under.

LAFAYETTE:

Visit the Acadian Cultural Center. Your Local Expert, a park ranger from the National Park Service, will guide you through the fascinating history, culture, plight and prosperity of the Acadian people.

ATCHAFALAYA BASIN:

Explore the vast, beautiful wetlands of the Atchafalaya Basin, composed of marshes and swamps. You'll venture out on a swamp tour to explore a diverse ecosystem of moss-draped cypress trees, birds and perhaps even an alligator!

BATON ROUGE:

Visit Louisiana's Old State Capitol, a National Historic Landmark overlooking the Mississippi River in downtown. Learn about the state's rich history and the impact people can have on the democracy.

What's Included:

Enhanced our existing hygiene protocols to align with the latest guidance following COVID-19.

All Travel Directors and Drivers have been trained by our fully qualified Training Manager in well-being and hygiene protocols.

Travel Directors are also trained to react and activate protocol should any unexpected issues arise on the trip.

Physical distancing measures have been implemented on our customized luxury coaches with staggered/alternate seating for a maximum of 22 guests.

Solo travelers will be assigned double seats.

Hand sanitizer is freely available on board for our guests to use throughout the day.

Departure dates:

December 13-19, 2020

January 3-9, 2021

February 21-27, 2021

March 14-20, 2021