

# SPRINGTIME IN THE SOUTH

## FEATURING CALLAWAY & BELLINGRATH GARDENS

Registered State of Florida as Seller of Travel #ST12255

### Travel Is Fun Tours

919 Tyrone Boulevard ([WWW.TIFTOURS.COM](http://WWW.TIFTOURS.COM))

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### March 31 – April 4, 2019 5 Days

**Includes: 9 Meals (4B, 1L & 4D), with 2 nights at the Mobile Alabama Drury Inn. Tour Mobile and visit the “Mobile Carnival Museum” where you will discover the birthplace of Mardi Gras. One night at Callaway Gardens Mountain Creek Inn with guided tour of the Gardens and Dinner and Breakfast here is included! A visit to Plains Georgia, home of former President Jimmy Carter, with a stop at the General Store and The Jimmy Carter National Historic Site. One night at the Valdosta Georgia Drury Inn and a stop at the Russell Stover Candy Outlet!**

**Day One & Two** – Our travels begin with **Mobile, Alabama** as today’s destination. We will see the scenic countryside while traveling along Florida’s panhandle. Our home for the night is the **Drury Inn**. Drury Inns are offering their guests an incredible array of amenities including: arrival refreshments, complimentary in-room coffee, deluxe continental breakfast (hot & cold), free long-distance calls (60 minutes per room, per night) also, evening beverages and the **FREE 5:30 KICKBACK!** from 5:30 – 7:00 PM. Drury has increased their evening food offerings to always include salad and baked potato bar, nacho bar, snack mix, chips, carrots, celery and dip. There will also be items such as broccoli cheddar soup, macaroni and cheese, breaded chicken strips, boneless buffalo-style chicken wings, and chili-dogs offered on a rotating basis. We will call this our “Drury Dinner”. The delicious, very deluxe continental breakfast Drury has always offered includes eggs, sausage, self-serve waffle maker, yogurt, fresh fruit, juices, milk & cereal, bagels, biscuits and gravy and more. Enjoy the hotel this evening, maybe take a swim in the indoor/outdoor pool.

**Day Two** -After a great Drury Inn breakfast, we will tour **Mobile**. Mobile is located at the junction of the Mobile River and Mobile Bay on the northern Gulf of Mexico, the city is the only seaport in Alabama. As one of the Gulf Coast's cultural centers, Mobile has several art museums, a symphony orchestra, a professional opera, a professional ballet company, and a large concentration of historic architecture. There are also 45 public parks within the city, sure to provide a variety of lovely views of **spring blossoms**. While touring Mobile this morning, we will visit the **Mobile Carnival Museum - discover the birthplace of Mardi Gras!** Here, you’ll immerse yourself in the rich history and traditions of carnival. See firsthand the intricate designs and artistry of majestic crowns, scepters and robes of Mardi Gras monarchs. Discover the art of costume design and float construction. View videos of past parades and witness the pomp and pageantry! On display, you’ll find floats and masks and photographs dating all the way back to 1886! You’ll long remember this gem of a museum. Then, this afternoon, we visit **Bellingrath Gardens**. The property on which the gardens would eventually be constructed were purchased in 1917 as a fishing camp by Walter Bellingrath, president of the local Coca Cola bottling plant. Mrs. Bellingrath began developing the gardens with architect George Bigelow Rogers in 1927.



The home was completed in 1935 and encompasses 10,500 square feet. Bellingrath's award-winning **Rose Garden** is among the many highlights of the season. You'll also enjoy a wealth of Angelonia, Begonias, Cape Daisies Delphinium, Dianthus Easter Lilies Fuchsia Hydrangeas, Marguerite Daisies, Pentas, Petunias, Sunpatiens and Verbenia. Our tour will include the Garden and Home Tour as well as an included lunch! Then, we'll return to our Drury Inn for evening relaxation and the popular **5:30 Kickback®** for this evening's Food and Drinks.



**Day Three** – Today, after your **Drury Inn breakfast**, we will continue our Springtime in the South adventure as we make our way to **Callaway Gardens!** Soon after our mid-day arrival we will enjoy a complete tour of the gardens with a step-on guide. You'll see many fantastic attractions on the guided tour including: the **Ida Cason Callaway Memorial Chapel**, the **Cecil B. Day Butterfly Center** featuring the award winning film "Wings of Wonder", the Callaway Brothers Azalea Bowl (a 40 acre garden) featuring 900 native azaleas and 4000 cultivated azaleas representing over 100 varieties, **Overlook Garden**, the **Virginia Hand Callaway Discovery Center** (the center has many purposes) housing an education wing, lecture hall, museum/exhibit hall, The Discovery Gift Shop and Café. Wait, there's more – the **Sibley Horticultural Center** (a one of a kind garden/greenhouse) you'll be fascinated by the five acres of native and exotic plants within the tropical conservatory, rock wall garden, sculpture garden, fern grotto, and a 22-foot indoor waterfall! Our accommodations for the night are on-site at the **Mountain Creek Inn** and a delicious dinner and breakfast buffet are both included.

**Day Four** – Enjoy the delicious buffet breakfast and the lovely surroundings of **Callaway Gardens** this morning. We will depart just after lunch for the short ride to **Plains Georgia**. While in Plains we'll visit **The Jimmy Carter National Historic Site**. Located in Plains, Georgia, it preserves sites associated with James Earl "Jimmy" Carter, Jr., 39th President of the United States. These include his residence, boyhood farm, school, and the town railroad depot, which served as his campaign headquarters during the 1976 election. My goodness, how things have changed! What a quaint town, we'll also visit the **General Store**. The tour continues and our home for the night is the **Drury Inn in Valdosta Georgia**. All the same great amenities as listed in Day One are included here as well.



**Day Five** – After our included, Drury breakfast, we will begin our journey home. After our scenic ride, with appropriate stops, we arrive back into St. Petersburg with our gorgeous variety of memories of **Springtime in the South**. Thank you for choosing Travel Is Fun Tours!

**COST:** \$649 per person twin, Or \$845 per person single

Travel insurance is offered through our office at \$44 twin or \$52 single.

Please pay deposit of \$100 to secure a seat, balance due 2/11/2019

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