

Missouri Retired Teachers Association presents...

Nashville & the Smoky Mountains Holiday

December 8 – 15, 2025



©Bob Schatz/Nashville Convention & Visitors Corp.

Book Now
& Save
\$200
Per Person



ORG. 1960

MISSOURI RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
AND PUBLIC SCHOOL PERSONNEL

For more information contact
Paige Holtmeyer
Missouri Retired Teachers Association
(573) 634-4300
travel@mrta.org

collette



8 Days • 11 Meals: 7 Breakfasts, 4 Dinners

HIGHLIGHTS... Grand Ole Opry Show, Historic RCA Studio B, Country Music Hall of Fame, Gaylord Opryland Resort Dinner & Holiday Show, Dollywood, Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Asheville, Biltmore Estate

ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

- Days 1 – 3 Gaylord Opryland Resort, Nashville, Tennessee
Days 4, 5 Hilton Garden Inn Gatlinburg, Gatlinburg, Tennessee
Days 6, 7 Cambria Hotel Downtown Asheville, Asheville, North Carolina

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Monday, December 8, 2025 Nashville, Tennessee Step back in time on a holiday getaway that opens in the “Music Capital of the World” – Nashville – and the glorious Gaylord Opryland Resort. This impressive property is a year-round wonderland, but during the holidays, it truly sparkles even brighter! (D)

Day 2: Tuesday, December 9, 2025 Nashville A local guide will share the history and lore of Music City during a sightseeing tour where you will view the State Capitol, Music Row and the Parthenon — a full replica of the Athenian original! Later this evening, take your reserved seat at the renowned Grand Ole Opry.* What began as a building where a local radio broadcast show aired once a week in 1925 has grown to become an entertainment complex that attracts music fans from all over the world. (B)

Day 3: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 Nashville Today, a tour of RCA Studio B gives you an insider’s look at Nashville’s oldest remaining recording studio, where Elvis Presley, Dolly Parton and Charlie Pride once recorded some of their classic hits. Learn how each artist recorded their chart-topping music in this famous studio – you may even have the opportunity to record your own hit! Later, explore the Country Music Hall of Fame, the largest museum of popular music in the world. The museum’s vast collections of memorabilia, costumes, recordings and instruments are artfully presented in cutting-edge exhibits relaying the vibrant history of country music and its artists. This evening, gather for a spectacular dinner and holiday show at the Gaylord Opryland Resort. Then, **it’s your choice!** Embark on a cozy horse-drawn carriage ride **-OR-** take in your resort’s amazing lights and holiday décor on a relaxing indoor river cruise. (B, D)

Day 4: Thursday, December 11, 2025 Nashville - Gatlinburg This morning we travel east to Gatlinburg, a lively mountain resort, the gateway to the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, and your home for a two-night stay. Tonight, it’s a Smoky Mountains Christmas at Dollywood in Pigeon Forge. Spectacular light displays and a lineup of shows celebrating the spirit of the holiday season make this a night to remember. (B)

Day 5: Friday, December 12, 2025 Gatlinburg - Great Smoky Mountains National Park - Gatlinburg Begin your day with a local guide leading an expedition into the most visited national park in the United States. Great Smoky Mountains National Park** is a UNESCO World Heritage site. The park contains one of the most diverse ecosystems on earth and the largest deciduous forest in the eastern United States. Explore the park, stopping at various lookouts on our way to Newfound Gap, which boasts views of both sides of the Smoky Mountains – those in Tennessee and North Carolina. Afterwards, enjoy a tour and tasting at the Ole Smoky Moonshine Distillery. This evening, dinner is included at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 6: Saturday, December 13, 2025 Gatlinburg - Asheville, North Carolina Depart for Asheville, North Carolina, our Blue Ridge Mountains home for two nights. The afternoon and evening are yours to explore a city known for craft breweries, chocolate, and farm to table cuisine. You’ll find that Asheville sparkles during the holiday season! (B)

Day 7: Sunday, December 14, 2025 Asheville Back in 1895, George Vanderbilt II decided to build himself a “little mountain escape” in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. The result was the impressive and decadent grandeur of the Biltmore Estate. Today, tour the sprawling mansion and the manicured grounds and experience what it was like to be a wealthy tycoon in the Gilded Age of America. Tonight, enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. (B, D)

Day 8: Monday, December 15, 2025 Asheville - Charlotte - Tour Ends Today your tour comes to an end. As you venture home, take the holiday spirit and the warmth of America’s Southeast with you. (B)



Book Now & Save \$200 Per Person:

Double \$4,229; **Double \$4,029***
 Single \$5,129; **Single \$4,929;**
 Triple \$4,179 **Triple \$3,979**

For bookings made after Jun 08, 2025 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Lambert St Louis Intl, Kansas City Intl Airport or Springfield Branson Regional Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$429 per person

* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from STL

IMPORTANT CONDITIONS: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. (See registration form for consent.)

Important Tour Information:

Book Now rates valid until Jun 08, 2025, valid on air inclusive packages only.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 2. This means you like a balanced approach to travel. Walking two to three miles over the course of a day is no problem for you. You can handle a variety of terrains, from cobblestone streets to moderate hills with relative ease and without assistance. You can climb two flights of stairs with ease. Expect some full days balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. You can handle altitudes up to 6,000 feet. While this level is appropriate for travelers that require mobility assistance devices, there could be times when you may have to sit out on some of the included activities.

Travel with an average of 37 people (maximum of 44).

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

*The Grand Ole Opry may move to the Ryman Auditorium during the months of November and December and throughout the year during special events.

**Your tour of Smoky Mountain National Park will be replaced by another tour if weather prevents entrance into the park.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of purchasing these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Due to tour scheduling, flights into Nashville must arrive no later than 6:00 p.m. and return flights should not be scheduled prior to 12:00 p.m.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

Travel Requirements:

IDENTIFICATION

Travel within USA

For travel completed by May 6, 2025, all airlines will ask for identification when you check in. It is recommended that you carry a passport if you have one. A driver's license (with a photo I.D.) is also acceptable for domestic flights.

Effective for travel May 7, 2025 forward, the REAL ID Act standards for identification while travelling will be in effect. This means a standard

Experience It! Holidays at The Gaylor Opryland Resort

Step into Gaylor Opryland Resort's winter wonderland and immerse yourself in the magic of the holidays. It is truly a feast for the eyes! Look upon colossal Christmas trees placed throughout the resort and decorated by an array of celebrities and famous country artists. Feel like a child again as you delight in larger-than-life toy soldiers and a variety of colorful decorations that adorn this already enchanting resort. See the magical display of lights throughout the grounds of the resort lit by a staggering 2 million lights. Browse the dozens of merchants showcasing a variety of crafts. Pause for a while at a café for a cup of hot chocolate and take in the captivating scenery including a full-size ice rink!

For more information visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1323901>



TRAVEL DATE: 12/08/2025 TERRITORY: MA
RES#: 1323901

Nashville & the Smoky Mountains Holiday
featuring Gatlinburg & Asheville

For Internal Use Only

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of June 01, 2025 are based upon availability. Final payment due by September 09, 2025. Deposits are refundable up until June 08, 2025.

YOUR INFORMATION:

Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.

IMPORTANT: In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel <passport/driver's license> including middle names or suffixes <Jr, Sr>.

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

Nickname: _____ Gender: () Male () Female Date of Birth: month _____ day _____ year _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____ Cell: () _____ Email Address: _____

Should you become ill or injured, whom should we contact (not traveling with you): _____ Phone: () _____

ROOMING WITH: Check if address is the same as Passenger #1

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____ Suffix: _____

AIR GATEWAY: Departure airport for this tour: _____

Air Seat Request: () Aisle () Window () Next To Traveling Companion

Collette cannot guarantee your seat preference. If you have not purchased air through Collette and wish to purchase transfers, you must transfer at our pre-scheduled times.

Please be advised, when travelling as part of a group, many airlines do not provide seat assignments. Preferred seating may be available for an additional charge.

"Federal law forbids carriage of hazardous materials such as aerosols, fireworks, lithium batteries & flammable liquids aboard the aircraft in your checked or carry-on baggage. A violation can result in 5 years' imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more. Details on prohibited items may be found on TSA's "prohibited items" web page: <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items>."

TRAVEL PROTECTION: () Yes, I wish to purchase travel protection \$429 () No, I decline

If you choose not to purchase Collette's Waiver Insurance Plan, you will incur penalties for changes and cancellations. Travel Protection Payment is due with first deposit. The Waiver Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. (There is coverage under Part B which includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for certain covered reasons. See Part B for details.)

ON TOUR ACTIVITIES: Please choose one of the following on tour activities

Please Choose One: *(subject to availability)*

- () Gaylord Opryland Resort – Standard (included)
- () Gaylord Opryland Resort – Superior (additional charge of \$120.00 double, \$240.00 single required)

Please Choose One:

- () Delta River Flat Boat in Nashville
- () Gaylord Opryland Resort Horse-Drawn Carriage Ride

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Collette



Special Needs Form

Please complete this form, sign and return it to us within 14 days of receipt.

Email: TravelOperations@collette.com

Fax: 401.727.4745

Mail: Collette: Travel Operations
180 Middle Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

TRAVELERS NEEDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

You must report any disability requiring special attention to Collette at the time the reservation is made. *Collette will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of our participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable of and totally responsible for providing the assistance. Neither Collette nor its personnel, nor its suppliers, may physically lift or assist clients into transportation vehicles. If a traveler thinks he or she might need assistance during a trip, he or she should call Collette to determine what assistance might reasonably be given. Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities. Internationally, a great deal of walking may be necessary to fully enjoy the destination. Travelers should be in good health and must be able to walk reasonable distances. In some areas, travelers may be required to walk on uneven ground, cobblestone streets or raised thresholds.

****To request a wheelchair accessible room on a cruise, the traveler or person sharing the room must have a recognized disability that alters a major life function and requires the use of a mobility device and the use of the accessible features provided in the wheelchair accessible stateroom. The cruise company may take appropriate action against someone who has reserved or purchased such a stateroom fraudulently. Action may include but is not limited to removal from the stateroom to a non-accessible accommodation up to denial of boarding.***

Reservation # _____

Name: _____ Male or Female (circle one)

Are you traveling with a wheelchair? Yes No

If you answer "YES"

- Does your wheelchair collapse? Yes No
- Can you stand and climb steps to board the coach without it? Yes No
- Are you capable of lifting your own wheelchair? Yes No

If you are not capable of lifting your own wheelchair who will provide assistance?

This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your wheelchair:

Height _____ Length _____ Width _____

Are you traveling with a walker? Yes No

If you answer "YES"

- Does your walker collapse? Yes No

This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your walker:

Height _____ Length _____
Width _____

Tour Managers and drivers do not provide assistance lifting, pushing or carrying wheelchairs or walkers. Motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.

Are you requesting any hotel room accommodations? Yes No

If "YES" Please indicate if one or more of the following is required in the washroom.

- Walk-in shower Yes No
- Grab bars Yes No
- Raised toilet seat Yes No

Please provide any details in reference to the nature of your request.

Most hotel rooms that can accommodate the request will be equipped with only 1 bed.

Do you understand and accept? Yes No

Collette cannot guarantee the availability of such rooms as many hotels have a limited number of rooms that are equipped with the above accommodations.

Are you traveling with an oxygen tank? Yes No

If you answer “YES”

- You must contact the airline directly to arrange transportation of the oxygen on the plane. Oxygen requests vary by airline and location and can take up to 2 weeks to request.
- You are responsible for supplying your own electrical cords, and converters as needed.

This form must be remitted within 14 days of receipt for any special needs accommodation request.

Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities and motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.

The Americans with Disabilities Act only applies in the United States. Many international destinations cannot accommodate passengers’ requests. Collette will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants, but we cannot guarantee that all requests will be honored on international destinations.

Collette also regrets that it cannot provide individual assistance to a tour member with special needs for walking, dining, or other special personal needs. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable and totally responsible for the assistance.

I have read and understand the above:

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Internal Use Only

Reason: _____

Tour: _____ Reservation # _____

TS/Group: _____

Tour Date: _____