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COMPLETE MISSISSIPPI RIVER EXPERIENCE - 23 DAY RIVER CRUISE

This epic 23-day exploration of America begins in New Orleans and travels north, visiting new ports of call each day before concluding in Minneapolis. Our onboard experts bring the stories of the River to life and provide context to each shore experience we provide along the way.



ITINERARY

Day 1 - New Orleans, LA

Welcome to New Orleans, a city celebrated for its nightlife and

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dynamic live-music scene, where jazz, blues, and zydeco melodies spill from every corner. French, African, and American influences come together to create some of the iconic dishes this city is famous for. As you settle into your hotel, take the opportunity to explore at your own pace. Wander the historic French Quarter, let the aromas of gumbo and beignets guide you, and notice the draping greenery from windowsills, intricate iron balconies, and the pastel-colored facades of the Creole townhouses that line the cobblestone streets.

Day 2 - Day of River Cruising

Board your ship and wave goodbye to New Orleans with a Welcome Reception, a perfect opportunity to meet fellow travelers as you begin the ultimate Mississippi River adventure. As the ship sets off, get ready to see the stunning panoramas that have sparked the imaginations of some of America's most legendary writers, artists, and musicians.

Day 3 - Oak Alley, LA

Once a thriving sugar cane estate, Oak Alley is named for its most striking characteristic: a cathedral of towering oaks, their ancient limbs arching softly to form a verdant canopy that leads like a green-veiled aisle along the river. At its heart stands the mansion, a testament to Greek Revival elegance, its columns holding the sky, a beacon of time held in white marble. This grand edifice, restored to its nineteenth-century glory, stands as a solemn yet striking guardian of history, breathtaking in its stoic beauty.

Day 4 - Houmas House, LA

Houmas House Estate stands as an emblem of southern elegance amid the Louisiana countryside, its historical roots intertwined with sugar cane cultivation. Encircled by ancient oaks and meticulously tended gardens, the mansion showcases classic architecture, featuring grand staircases and opulent rooms that hint at what life was like for the Southern elite. Often referred to as "The Sugar Palace," this estate displays a lavish array of blooms and greenery, creating an inviting atmosphere for visitors to explore its beauty.

Day 5 - Baton Rouge, LA

Originally named for a 'red stick' marker used by Native Americans, this city now serves as the historic capital of Louisiana. Baton Rouge reverberates with the stories of its most notable figures, particularly the bold Governor and Senator Huey P. Long. His political and architectural legacies are enshrined at the Old State Capitol Museum, housed in a majestic Gothic-style castle from 1852, and the towering 34-story State Capitol, a masterpiece of Depression-era art deco architecture made from Louisiana limestone and adorned with marble.

Take a walk through the heart of Baton Rouge's downtown, where contemporary art installations stand in contrast to classical revival and modernist facades. For an immersive natural encounter, step aboard a boat for a guided excursion through the dense, waterlogged ecosystems of the nearby swamps, home to alligators and cypress trees draped in Spanish moss.

Day 6 - St. Francisville, LA

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St. Francisville, Louisiana offers a glimpse into the quaint charm of small-town America wrapped in Southern Gothic intrigue. This historic town is celebrated for its beautifully preserved historic homes like the Myrtles, reputed to be one of America's most haunted houses, and the graceful Rosedown, standing out amidst 28 acres of gardens.

Visit the enchanting Historic District, where opulent mansions and eclectic boutiques wait, and take in the captivating contrast of cottonwood trees giving way to regal oaks dripping in Spanish moss.

[Day 7 - Natchez, MS](#)

In the heart of Natchez, where the mighty river bends and twists, stand grand homes that gleam with the opulence of ages past. From the moment the French built a fort here in 1716, amidst the communities of the Natchez Indians, this town began to grow into a wealthy river town.

Behold, the legacy of the 1800s planters, who sculpted their dreams into reality with mansions. Unscathed by Civil War strife, Natchez stands as a unique sanctuary. In the labyrinthine streets, where time itself seems to slow, encounter the fabled Under-The-Hill Saloon, a relic of days long gone but never forgotten.

[Day 8 - Vicksburg, MS](#)

In the heart of Mississippi lies Vicksburg, a crucible of fate

during the Civil War. Dubbed "The Gibraltar of the West," its strategic importance was clear to President Lincoln. The National Military Park tells the tale of valor and sacrifice that shaped this nation. Along the floodwall, murals recount Vicksburg's legends, each stroke a brushstroke upon memory's canvas. In the shadow of Vicksburg's towering history, feel the weight of the past, a testament to the enduring legacy of a nation forged in the fires of conflict.

[Day 9 - Greenville, MS](#)

Dubbed the Heart and Soul of the Mississippi Delta, Greenville offers a glimpse into traditional southern living. Explore historic landmarks such as Cotton Row, Mount Holly Plantation, and the Weatherbee House. Experience the essence of the state's largest city as you journey through its storied past. As the sun sets over Lake Ferguson, feel Greenville's timeless allure envelop you, inviting you to become part of its ever-unfolding story.

[Day 10 - Tunica, MS](#)

In the embrace of the Delta, Tunica, reveals itself as a living testament to history and charm. Its Main Street, frozen in time, boasts buildings that have been engrained in the landscape since the turn of the century, each a stalwart witness to bygone days. Stroll through unique boutiques and antique shops, keeping the past alive. Be captivated by the fully restored courthouse, a symbol of justice, and pay homage at the Tunica Veterans Memorial in Rivergate Park, honoring the valor of generations. Tunica extends a warm welcome to you to

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experience southern hospitality, a timeless port town awaiting exploration.

Day 11 - Memphis, TN

Welcome to Memphis, where history beats to its own drum. Wander through Beale Street, where the strums and songs of legendary musicians still linger. Taste the city's renowned BBQ, a mouthwatering delight dripping in sweetness. Explore historic sites that commemorate the Civil War and Civil Rights Movement, and indulge in crispy fried catfish, a southern classic that can't be missed.

Discover the birthplace of rock 'n' roll at Sun Studio, where Elvis Presley recorded his earliest hits, and feel the rhythm and blues that define the city's soul. Finally, unwind aboard your ship at Beale Street Landing, serenaded by local musicians under the stars as you reflect on the day's adventures. Welcome to Memphis - where every moment is a melody waiting to be heard.

Day 12 - Cape Girardeau, MO

Cape Girardeau, is truly a hidden gem along the river. Brimming with history, charm, and you can't forget that unmistakable Midwestern flair. This port has a story to tell, and you can learn all about it as you walk through a series of murals that detail the highs and lows of this small city's history. Wander through its quaint streets, pop into quirky shops, and walk train tracks that signal Cape Girardeau's trading influence. At this port, you can get even closer to the waters you've been sailing.

The Old Bridge Overlook - an iconic spot offers views that will steal your breath away, as the mighty Mississippi meanders lazily below. Step back in time at the Cape River Heritage Museum, where history comes alive through immersive exhibits and fascinating tales.

Day 13 - Day of River Cruising

Today isn't just about reaching our destination; it's about embracing the journey itself, especially as we sail along this renowned waterway. Take a moment to head up to the sun deck to view the untouched landscapes and charming little towns hidden along the banks. Keep your eyes out for the magnificent wildlife that calls this majestic river home.

As we cruise along, our onboard expert will treat you to fascinating tales of the native wildlife that inhabit these waters. Today is a day to slow down, to appreciate the beauty that surrounds you, and to let the rhythm of the river soothe your soul.

Day 14 - St. Louis, MO

As we approach this iconic destination, behold the skyline of St. Louis coming into view against the horizon, a testament to its rich history and energy.

As we cruise closer, take in the sights of this Midwestern metropolis, from its towering arch that pierces the sky to the

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charming neighborhoods that keep this city moving. Don't miss out on the regional culinary delights here: gooey butter cake and toasted ravioli.

While we glide along the river, listen as our onboard expert shares St. Louis's storied past, from its role in shaping the nation's history to its vibrant cultural scene. Or perhaps, find a spot on the deck to take in the warm sun and marvel at the beauty of the Mississippi rolling by.

[Day 15 - Day of River Cruising](#)

As we sail towards the historic city of Hannibal, embrace the beauty of the heartland unfolding before you. Whether you prefer to mingle with fellow guests in one of our lounges, lose yourself in the pages of a captivating book on your private balcony, or join in on one of the many onboard activities, there's something for everyone to enjoy. Don't miss cocktail hour to share stories with your fellow travelers before sitting down for a dinner carefully curated to represent the river.

[Day 16 - Hannibal, MO](#)

This charming slice of Americana is situated along the river's shoreline. Here, cobblestone streets relive Mark Twain's boyhood escapades, establishing itself as a literary legacy. Quaint Victorian homes stand sentinel over the riverbanks, their colorful facades reflecting the vibrant character of this historic town. The lives of Twain's beloved characters, Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn, seem to come through the streets, inspiring adventure. From the iconic white picket fence of the Mark Twain Boyhood Home to the quaint charm of the Becky Thatcher House, each corner of Hannibal is adorned with stories waiting

to be discovered.

[Day 17 - Day of River Cruising](#)

Settle into one of our spacious lounges aboard the riverboat, where you can lose yourself in the pages of a captivating book as we continue from Hannibal to Muscatine. Alternatively, find tranquility on the sun deck or your private balcony, where you can relax and immerse yourself in the passing landscapes. Let the calm rock of the river carry you on a journey of serenity and discovery, as each bend reveals a new vista to behold. Whether you're seeking solitude or companionship, there's no better place to unwind and savor the beauty of the heartland than aboard our riverboat.

[Day 18 - Muscatine, IA](#)

Along the meandering banks, Muscatine, stands as a testament to both the tranquility of nature and the resilience of its people. Here, the river's gentle currents carry the voices of the past and the present. In the heart of the city, the Pearl Button Museum pays homage to Muscatine's unique history, while Pine Creek Grist Mill stands as a sentinel to the community's enduring spirit. Wander through quaint streets adorned with historic architecture, where each building tells a tale of days gone by. As the sun dips below the horizon, painting the sky with hues of orange and gold, Muscatine's timeless allure casts a spell, enchanting all who have the pleasure of experiencing its beauty.

[Day 19 - Dubuque, IA](#)

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Dubuque proudly boasts its status as one of the oldest settlements west of the Mighty Mississippi, flourishing with a history as rich as the currents that flow by its shores. Experience the world's shortest and steepest scenic railway with a ride on the Fenelon Place Elevator, offering sweeping views of the city and river below.

See the colorful Victorian mansions that dot the landscape, each one a testament to Dubuque's storied past and architectural wonder. And no visit to Dubuque would be complete without exploring the wonders of the National Mississippi River Museum & Aquarium, where the river's vibrant ecosystem comes to life in immersive exhibits and interactive displays.

[Day 20 - Day of River Cruising](#)

As you sail from Dubuque to Winona, notice the beauty of the Midwestern shoreline from your private balcony. Let the river inspire you, surrounded by charming towns and serene landscapes. Feel the gentle motion of the water as it guides your journey along this historic route. This experience is not just a voyage, but a moment to stop and look around.

[Day 21 - Winona, MN](#)

Among the rolling bluffs, Winona, Minnesota, exudes a quiet grace. Its quaint streets, lined with Victorian-era architecture, stand as a testament to a bygone era, while the river's gentle

currents weave tales of time immemorial. Winona's artistic soul shines through in its vibrant cultural scene. Explore the city's history at the Minnesota Marine Art Museum, where masterpieces inspired by the river's majestic beauty come to life. Or, wander through rolling fields of prairie flowers. As the sun sets over the horizon, casting a golden glow over the bluffs and river below, Winona's timeless charm stays with all who wander its scenic shores.

[Day 22 - Red Wing, MN](#)

Overlooking the northern riverbanks, Red Wing has been a muse for craftsmen and artisans for over 150 years. Its beauty, with its extending cliffs and sweeping river views, has inspired countless works of art and creativity. Experience the city's vibrant cultural scene at the historic Sheldon Performing Arts Theatre, where world-class performances await. Or, immerse yourself in the natural escape of one of Red Wing's 38 parks, each offering its own unique charm, from the tranquil riverside trails of Colvill Park to the thick greenery of Barn Bluff. Whether you're seeking artistic inspiration or outdoor adventure, Red Wing invites you to discover the magic that has captivated hearts for generations.

[Day 23 - St. Paul, MN](#)

Concluding your riverboat adventure on the Mighty Mississippi in St. Paul promises excitement and exploration. History buffs can delve into the past with a walking excursion along Summit Avenue, showcasing stunning historic mansions from the late 1800s. Take it slow at enchanting art galleries, world-class museums, and captivating stage performances that St. Paul has

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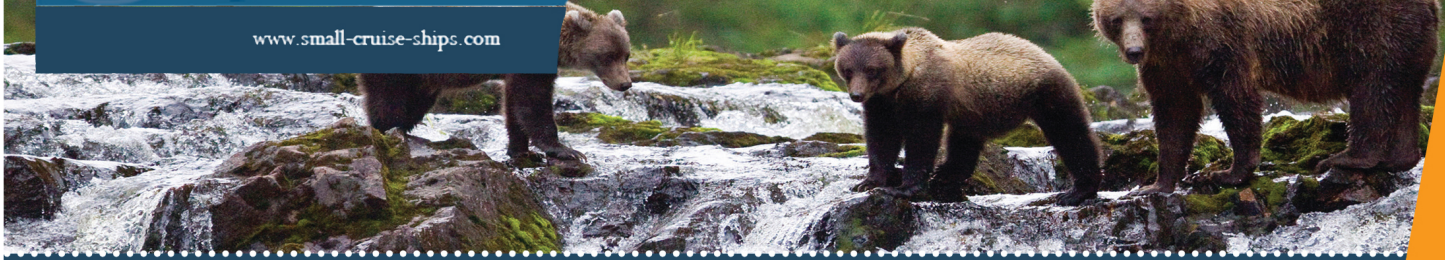
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to offer, igniting your imagination at every turn. As the day winds down, don't miss the opportunity to visit Mounds Park, where a breathtaking panoramic view of the city awaits, providing the perfect finale to your unforgettable journey.

We've made it. The end of this Mississippi odyssey. And what an adventure it has been. From the sounds of Memphis to the metaphors forged in Hannibal, you've seen it all. As you head home, American Cruise Lines extends a warm gratitude for exploring with us. We hope to see you on the river soon.

Please note:

Itineraries are subject to change.



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YOUR SHIP: AMERICAN CONSTELLATION

YOUR SHIP:	American Constellation
VESSEL TYPE:	Coastal Cruise Ship
LENGTH:	
PASSENGER CAPACITY:	163
BUILT/REFURBISHED:	2017

views, Twice daily stateroom service, Putting green on the top deck, Laundry facilities, Individual climate control, Evening entertainment focuses on music and history, Brand new ship, Breakfast room service, Built in the USA, All american crew, Complimentary cocktail hour each evening, Onboard historians and naturalists, Culinary program featuring locally sourced ingredients, Personalized service, Open

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picture window

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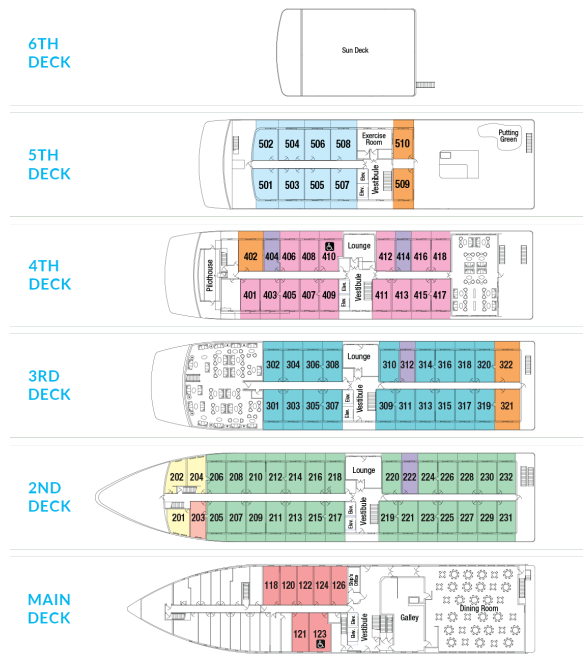
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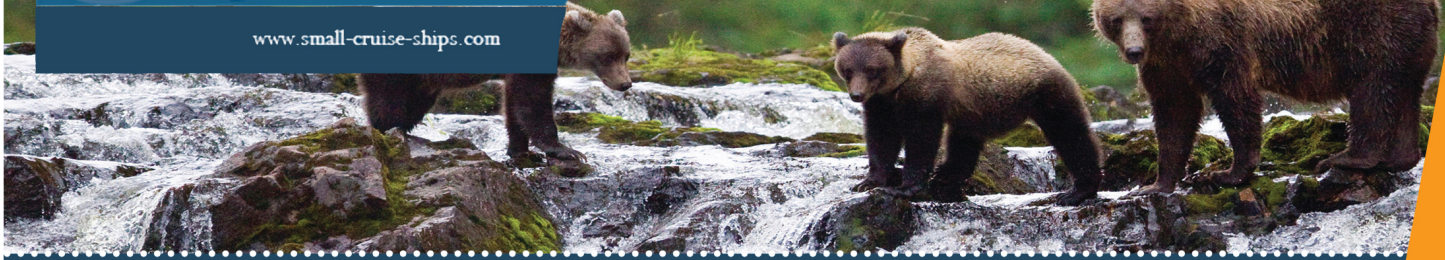
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