BLOSSOMS OF THE SOUTH,

HISTORIC MACON, GEORGIA AQUARIUM, WORLD OF COCA COLA, HAY HOUSE DINNER & MORE!!!

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Travel Is Fun Tours

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March 26-30, 2025 5 DAYS

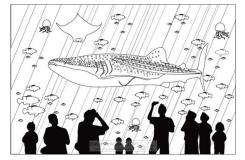
<u>Includes</u>: 8 Meals (4B, 4D), 2 nt. stay (Hilton Garden Inn) in Macon during Cherry Blossom Festival with 100 times more Cherry Blossom trees than Washington DC!, with guided tour and dinner visit to the Hay House, Two Drury Nights, Drury Atlanta Airport & Drury Valdosta. Each area we visit will be in full bloom with flowers indigenous to that region. Plus, a day at the Georgia Aquarium & World of Coca Cola and much much more!

<u>Day One</u> – On this first day together, we travel to the <u>Drury Inn Atlanta Airport Location</u>, a smoke-free property. This is to be our home for one night, with full **breakfast included** in the morning. 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 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. After the Drury Dinner we'll take an evening driving tour of Downtown Atlanta to take in the lights & a short stop at the fabulous **Marriott Marquis** with its 52 story Atrium as seen in film and television and drop by the Pulse Bar for a quick cocktail if you wish before heading back for a good night's rest.

<u>Day Two</u> – After our delicious, included breakfast, we will be checking out and on to a Day of Adventure – We will have the morning and early afternoon to explore the **Georgia Aquarium** and it's next door attraction **The World of Coca Cola**! The **GA Aquarium** exhibits hundreds of species and thousands of animals across its seven major galleries, all of which reside in more than 11 million gallons of water. The Georgia Aquarium is the largest aquarium in the United States and the sixth largest in the world! Come visit the only Whale sharks on display in the world! The **World of Coca Cola Museum** is just blocks away



from where John Pemberton created the original Coca-Cola formula. The 20-acre complex exhibits about the **secret formula** of Coca-Cola, a **3D movie** where an intrepid scientist and his assistant set out to find the secret for themselves and allows visitors to taste **60 different flavors from around the world**. It also houses a fully functional bottling line that produces 8-ounce bottles of Coca-Cola for distribution to its guests. This afternoon we will depart for Macon!

Our home for the next two nights will be the delightful **Hilton Garden Inn** Located within walking distance from **Mercer University** on the Mercer University Campus. Downtown Macon is just a 10-minute drive. Enjoy

included breakfast at the Garden Grille & Bar, our outdoor pool, and our fitness center featuring a Peloton® Bike with toe cages. WIFI's on us. After we check in, we will enjoy a delicious, included dinner at the nearby **Hay House** known as **"The Palace of the South"**. This historic residence was built 155 years ago atop Coleman Hill in downtown Macon. The 18,000 square-foot, 24 room home designed by the New York architect T. Thomas and Son has four levels and is crowned by a three-story cupola.

Commissioned by imaginative owners and constructed by the most skillful workers of the time, its technological amenities were unsurpassed in the mid-nineteenth century: hot and cold running water, central heat, a speaker-tube system connecting 15 rooms, a French lift equivalent to today's elevator, in-house kitchen, and an elaborate ventilation system. The ongoing restoration of the **Hay House** is a labor of love by The Georgia Trust, who received the home in 1977. The work is always done with care to maintain the home's historic integrity. We will have a delicious and memorable dinner followed by a special tour featuring the Hay Houses Secret rooms & passageways! After dinner we'll take a scenic route back to the hotel to enjoy Macon!

<u>Day Three</u> – We'll start with a delicious Included Breakfast then we board our coach for a guided tour of Macon. Our knowledgeable local guide will make sure we see plenty of beautiful cherry blossoms while learning about this historic Southern city. The tour will also include the Cherry Blossom Riding Trail where the highest concentration of Macon's Yoshino Cherry Trees are found. Enjoy

the magnificent beauty of over 300,000 flowering trees during the **Pinkest Party on Earth!** We will have free time to explore the **Cherry Blossom Festival** in Downtown Macon & maybe see the Wiener Dog Races, Trash Can Trot & Bed Races! After a day of sights & adventure it's back to the Hilton. For a quick rest break. Dinner tonight will again be a fantastic catered dinner – tonight at the historic **Macon Grand Opera House!** The **Grand Opera House** – originally The Academy of Music was constructed in 1884 with the largest stage in the southeastern United States and seating for 2,418. The Grand has hosted many famous visitors: Charlie Chaplin, Will Rogers, George Burns and Gracie Allen, Lionel Barrymore, Ethel Barrymore, Bob Hope, Harry Houdini, the Allman Brothers Band, and Ray Charles. After dinner it's back to the Hilton for a good night's sleep

<u>Day Four</u> – After our full, hot breakfast we will take some time to enjoy the beautiful scenery of Macon in full bloom! Next Stop Tifton for a late lunch. You'll have your choice of a Golden Corral, Southern Buffet or several other restaurants. After Lunch we will get a shopping stop at a Travel Is Fun Favorite – Adcock Pecans! Finally, we will head to Valdosta, GA for a good night's rest at the Drury Inn Valdosta. Enjoy your 5:30 Kickback and reminisce with your new friends about all the wonderful things you've seen!!!

<u>Day Five</u> - After our included, hot breakfast, we will begin our journey home. Stops will include Cracker Barrel for lunch (on your own) and Russel Stover Candy Outlet. After our scenic ride, with appropriate stops, we arrive back in St. Petersburg with our gorgeous memories of the many **Blossoms of the South.** Thank you for traveling with Travel Is Fun Tours!

COST: \$1099 per person twin, Or \$1429 per person single Please pay deposit of \$100 to secure a seat, balance due 2-2-25

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