

# FLORIDA PANHANDLE, RAY CHARLES, FLORIDA CAPITAL, PAYNES PRAIRIE & MORE!!!

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## Travel Is Fun Tours

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

St. Petersburg FL 33710 (727) 347-1600



**MAY 5-8, 2024 4 DAYS**

**Includes: 7 Meals (3B, 1L, 3D), 2 nights at the Brand New Drury Plaza Tallahassee, 1 Night at the Drury Gainesville, Visits to Ray Charles boyhood home & monument, Step on Guide in Tallahassee, Morning at Goodwood Museum & Gardens, Time at the Florida State Capital, The Fabulous Tallahassee Automobile Museum, a tour of the San Luis Apalachee Mission, Florida State Seminoles campus tour, Paynes Prairie to visit the wildlife & more!!!**

**Day One** – Our Morning departure from St Petersburg & Seminole will have us cruising along I-275 towards our lunch stop in Lake City. We will dine at the delicious Ole Times Country Buffet in Lake City. (included) – After lunch we will motor to the town of Greenville Florida. Greenville Florida was once home to one of Florida’s most gifted musicians, Ray Charles! First we’ll stop by a lovely bronze monument to Ray with time for pictures followed by a tour of Ray’s boyhood home! Finally, we’ll arrive at our home for the next two nights. The brand-new Drury Plaza Tallahassee! The

Drury Plaza locations are more upscale in their décor with features like an on-site restaurant and lounge. You will find comfort in your well-appointed Drury Hotel Room, which will include free Wi-Fi, TV, microwave, refrigerator, iron/ironing board and hair dryer. A delicious, hot buffet breakfast is included each morning at our hotel, as well as a casual dinner buffet and beverages (cocktails, beer, wine, soda, juice) at 5:30 Kickback, what a convenience. The indoor/outdoor pool and whirlpool is just one more treat to enjoy during your stay. Since today is Cinco De Mayo Travel Is Fun will be supplementing the usual 5:30 kickback with some fun surprises!



**Day Two** – After our buffet breakfast at our hotel we will start the day off in the hands of one of Tallahassee’s best step-on guides! We will get a great 90-minute historic and current events tour of our state’s beautiful capital ending at Goodwood Museum and Gardens. In 1824, in appreciation of the enormous service rendered to this country by the Marquis de Lafayette during the Revolutionary War, Congress voted to grant him a full township in the Florida Territory. This tract was called the Lafayette Land Grant and encompassed over 23,000 acres. While the Marquis never came to visit his property, he designated an agent to sell parcels of it on his behalf. The 2,400 acres upon which Goodwood Plantation was sited was purchased by Hardy Croom from the Lafayette Grant in 1834. Goodwood Plantation (also known as Old Croom Mansion) was a medium-sized cotton plantation of about 1,675 acres (7 km<sup>2</sup>) in central Leon County, Florida. The plantation was added to the U.S. National Register of Historic Places on June 30, 1972.

The plantation home is now a historic house museum known as Goodwood Museum & Gardens that features original family furniture, porcelain, textiles, glassware, art, and personal effects. The rooms have been decorated to appear in the years surrounding World War I. After visiting Goodwood we will go to the State Capital



Building for lunch (on your own) in the Capital cafeteria with time to explore the old Capital museum. Our last stop for the day is the fascinating Tallahassee Automobile Museum. The Tallahassee Automobile Museum is home to one of the nation's largest collections, connecting people with history since 1996. But antique cars are only the beginning. Come discover for yourself what TAM is all about! Finally, after our day of adventure we will return to our Drury Plaza in time for our 5:30 kickback!

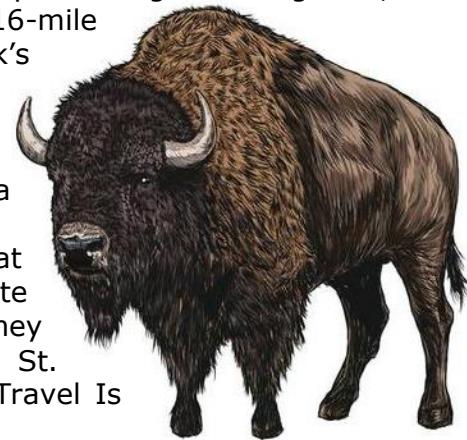
**Day Three** – After another excellent buffet breakfast and loading our bags we say farewell to the Tallahassee Drury Plaza and visit our next destination, the historic Mission San Luis. A visit to Mission San Luis transports you to year 1703. Your destination is a community where Apalachee Indians and newcomers from Spain lived together. Hear the ring of the blacksmith's hammer, smell traditional foods being cooked over an open fire, and walk the plaza where the Apalachees played their traditional ball games. Experience the largest historic-period Indian building found in the Southeast and greet the friar at the church. Learn about a soldier's life at the fort and explore 300-year-old artifacts excavated onsite. Or just enjoy the beautiful outdoor setting with a nature walk. Come escape to another time and share the spirit of Mission San Luis with friends and family!



After a lunch stop, we will get to see Florida State University. Home of the FSU Seminoles! Chartered in 1851, it is located on Florida's oldest continuous site of higher education. Florida State University comprises 16 separate colleges and more than 110 centers, facilities, labs, and institutes that offer more than 360 programs of study, including professional school programs. We will have an official step on guide to show us the amazing historic campus! After the tour we will head to the Drury Gainesville in time for our 5:30 kickback & a good night's rest!

**Day Four** – After our included, hot breakfast, we will visit breathtaking Paynes Prairie Preserve State Park. Paynes Prairie is unique in many ways. Nowhere else in Florida can visitors experience wild-roaming bison and horses. Nearly 300 species of birds also frequent the park along with alligators, deer and many other animals. The park's eight trails, including the 16-mile paved Gainesville-Hawthorne State Trail, allow one to explore the park's interior and observe wildlife, while a 50-foot-high observation tower provides for panoramic views. Fishing and canoeing on Lake Wauburg are popular along with a shaded campground. During a visit to Paynes Prairie, one can easily understand why Seminole Indians once occupied a village along this vast savannah.

After our nature stop, we will move along to Ocala for a lunch stop at Cracker Barrel (on your own), followed by a rest stop at everybody's favorite – the Wildwood Russell Stover Candy Outlet! Finally, we begin our journey home. After our scenic ride, with appropriate stops, we arrive back in St. Petersburg with our gorgeous memories. Thank you for traveling with Travel Is Fun Tours!



**COST:** \$699 per person twin, Or \$879 per person single  
Please pay deposit of \$100 to secure a seat, balance due 3-27-24

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**NO SMOKING ON THE MOTORCOACH**