

Ocala Horse Country, Botanical Gardens and Butterfly Rainforest

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Travel Is Fun Tours



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2 DAYS November 11 & 12, 2019

Includes: A One-night stay at **The Drury Inn**, Gainesville with the **5:30 Kickback** featuring free food and drinks (beer, wine & mixed drinks) as well as a hot breakfast buffet in the morning. A visit to **Kanapaha Botanical Gardens in Gainesville & Florida Museum of Natural History with Butterfly Rainforest!** A guided tour of **Ocala Horse Country** with several stops including **The Florida Thoroughbred Breeders' & Owners' Association** and **Pleasant Acres Stallions**. Also, a stop at a favorite of many, The **Russell Stover Candy Outlet** with its **Ice Cream Counter**.

Day One - On our first morning together we will travel to **Gainesville FL** making a stop for lunch, (on your own) along the way. Our first attraction of the trip is **Kanapaha Botanical Gardens in Gainesville**. You'll feel immersed in the beautiful Specialty Gardens with rare and unusual plants from around the world. In addition to butterfly, hummingbird, herb, bamboo and rock gardens the grounds feature an arboretum, a labyrinth, a vinery, palm hammock and hardwood forest. You'll enjoy viewing the thoughtfully arranged plants and flowers as you traverse the walkways with benches, gazebos and other rest stations liberally spaced throughout. We will have tour guides for our group which will allow for questions and assistance. You'll also find an exceptional gift shop offering a varied and unusual array of items including original art and treasures from the natural world. Our next stop is the **FL Museum of Natural History with Butterfly Rainforest**. Located on the **University of Florida** campus in Gainesville, this is one of the nation's top five natural history museums. You'll enjoy the many fascinating exhibits at your own pace. Exhibits include a full-scale North Florida limestone cave replica and mammoth and mastodon skeletons standing more than 12 feet tall. Then, the *Butterfly Rainforest* is a can't-miss living exhibit with waterfalls, lush tropical foliage and hundreds of free-flying **butterflies and birds** from around the world along with an assortment of other animals including **turtles and fish** to experience firsthand. You'll also find a variety of indoor butterfly exhibits. After our time at the Museum we will check in to the **Drury Inn Gainesville** for a one-night stay. 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”. Tour members also receive a “drink” card which can be used for free beer, wine or mixed drinks (limits apply). The delicious, very deluxe continental **breakfast buffet** Drury has always offered includes eggs, sausage, self-serve waffle maker, yogurt, fresh fruit, juices, milk & cereal, bagels, biscuits and gravy and more.

Day Two – Today, after enjoying the hot breakfast buffet at Drury Inn, we pay a visit to **Ocala** to enjoy a tour of **Horse Country with a local, professional step-on guide**. Here, we’ll have an insider’s look at the world of top-earning Thoroughbred Stallions at **Pleasant Acres Stallions**, a beautiful 400-acre property, located just outside of Ocala. Nestled among lush pasture land and majestic Live Oaks, this award-winning facility was ranked third in the nation for leading breeders in 2009. After the ranch, we’ll visit the **Florida Thoroughbred Breeders’ & Owners’ Association** to see the **Museum and Gallery**. According to a national horse census survey, the county has more horses and ponies than any other in the United States. In addition, the area is one of the top thoroughbred breeding regions in the world and number 2 in the U.S. The limestone rich soil and springs aquifers create strong horses. We will make an afternoon stop for lunch (on your own)4, and later, a stop at **The Russell Stover Outlet** Afterward, we’ll head back to St. Petersburg/Seminole and our homes. Thank you for choosing **Travel Is Fun Tours!**

Don’t miss your opportunity for breathtaking sightseeing at three great locations at a fantastic price!

COST: \$221 Per Person Twin, \$265 Per Person Single!

Travel protection available at \$25 per person Twin or \$25 per person single occupancy. Deposit of \$50 per person holds your space, balance due Oct. 1, 2019. Remaining space will continue to be offered as available.



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