



# Florida Winter Get-a-Way

February 16 – 26, 2027

11 Days / 10 Nights

## Day #1 – Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>:

- 6:30 AM** Depart Peoria from Peoria Charter, 2600 NE Adams Street  
**6:55 AM** Depart Morton from WalMart, 155 E Courtland Street (behind Culvers)  
**7:30 AM** Depart Normal from Schnuck's off Raab Road, 1750 Bradford Lane  
**8:30 AM** Depart Urbana from Peoria Charter, 1910 N Federal Drive traveling to Franklin, Tennessee where we'll overnight. We'll make rest & meal stops along the way as needed.  
**6:00 PM** Approximate arrival time in Franklin at our hotel for the night. Dinner is on your own tonight.

## Day #2 – Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>:

**Breakfast\*** is included this morning before we depart for Panama City Beach, Florida! We'll make rest & meal stops along the way as needed. **Note: Don't**



**forget to set your watches ahead an hour to the Eastern Time Zone.** We've got great accommodations for you just steps away from the white sand and sparkling waters of the Gulf. This evening we'll enjoy the **Todd Heredeen Theatre\*** for a performance. This show brings Branson style family friendly entertainment to beautiful Panama City Beach. **Dinner\*** is included tonight.

## Day #3 – Thursday, February 18<sup>th</sup>:

**Breakfast\*** is included this morning and then we're off to Pensacola, Florida to see the **Blue Angels Practice Session\***. This is a flight demonstration where the U.S. Navy's elite jets rehearse their precision routine over NAS Pensacola. The practice features tight formations, high-speed passes, rolls, and dramatic climbs by F/A-18 Aircraft. (Subject to change based on 2027 Flight Show Schedules). Next, we'll visit the **National Naval Aviation Museum\***. Here you'll learn the history from retired military volunteers who have been there and done that! Share the excitement of Naval Aviation's rich history and see more than 150 beautifully restored aircraft representing Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard Aviation. (A

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Real ID or valid passport is required for entry). After the museum, we're off to the **Magic of Flight Film\***. Fly with the Blues and experience the thrill of cruising the skies at Mach speed. Featuring cutting edge aerial photography, this is the story of human potential and the importance of training & performance. Our evening ends with **Dinner\*** at Jimmy Buffet's Margaritaville.

#### **Day #4 – Friday, February 19<sup>th</sup>:**

**Breakfast\*** is included today and then we'll enjoy some leisure time in Panama City Beach before heading to Pier Park for shopping & lunch on your own. This afternoon we'll enjoy the **Sea Dragon Pirate Cruise\***. Enjoy an exciting and scenic 2-hour Pirate activity cruise that includes dolphin sightings, great music, and non-stop pirate activities. Before we head back to the hotel, we'll enjoy a



**Wine Tasting at Duplin Winery\***. You'll sample at least 8 preselected Duplin wines while one of the associates will walk through the flavors and history of each wine. This evening you'll enjoy the **Pirate Voyage Dinner & Show\***. This is an action-packed adventure in the Florida panhandle. Join Captain Blackbeard and his quartermaster, Calico Jack as they lead the Crimson and Sapphire crews in a battle on land, on deck, in water, and high above their full-sized pirate ships in an indoor hideaway lagoon.

#### **Day #5 – Saturday, February 20<sup>th</sup>:**

**Breakfast\*** is included this morning before we check out and depart for Fort Myers, Florida. We'll make rest & meal stops along the way as needed. We'll check into our hotel for the night and then enjoy a delicious **Dinner\*** at a local restaurant.

#### **Day #6 – Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>:**

**Breakfast\*** is included this morning here at the hotel. Then we're off for the **Dolphin Watch & Wildlife Cruise\***. This is a 90-minute cruise with narration on board from volunteers from the Sanibel & Captiva Conservation Foundation. There is nothing more exciting than watching dolphins jump in the wake of the ship. You'll also spot many of the birds that make Southwest Florida so special and learn about the unique ecosystem off Sanibel. We'll then have "free time" in the Downtown River District of Fort Myers for lunch & shopping on your own. Afternoon finds us at the **Edison & Ford Winter Estates for a tour\***. Here there are 20-acres of historical buildings, historic gardens, the Edison Botanic Research Lab and the Edison Ford Museum. The newly restored buildings include the Edison Main House, Guest House, and Caretaker's House as well as the Ford House. Our evening ends with a **Murder Mystery Dinner Train\***. How are you at solving murder mysteries? Try your hand tonight and join the fun and become a Super Sleuth as you try to solve Who Dunit? (Subject to availability & 2027 Schedule).

### **Day #7 – Monday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

**Breakfast\*** is included before we check out and make our way towards Tampa, Florida. Along the way we'll enjoy a stop at the **John & Mabel Ringling Museum of Art\***. Visit their home & gardens – Ca'D'Zan with its view of the Gulf of Mexico: The home of the circus king and his wife, a couple from humble mid-western origins, Ca'D'Zan stands as a testament to the American Dream of the Roaring Twenties. Next, we'll travel to Apollo Beach to visit **Tampa's Electric's Manatee Viewing Center\***. There is a lot to see and do! You can wander along boardwalks overlooking the warm-water area where manatees gather; visit a newly remodeled education center to learn about the plant-eating, warm-blooded "gentle giants"; and even get a bite to eat at the Southshore Cafe (on your own). We'll then check into our Tampa area hotel for the next 2 nights. Dinner is on your own tonight.



### **Day #8 – Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>:**

**Breakfast\*** is included today before we head to Tarpon Springs, Florida for a **Sponge Diving Exhibition Cruise\***. As you travel on the Anclote River, your Captain relates the history of the area sponge diving industry, providing a hands-on display of the various types of sponges and their uses. After the sponge diving cruise, spend some time for lunch on your own and shopping at the Sponge Docks. This afternoon we'll visit the **Tarpon Springs Heritage Museum\***. The museum is located at the heart of Tarpon Springs, in Shady Craig Park overlooking Spring Bayou. The serene waters of the Bayou attracted the town's very first settlers, and many wealthy northerners of the late 19<sup>th</sup> century later built their winter homes on this "Golden Crescent". Still very much a town landmark, the bayou is the site of the annual Greek Orthodox Epiphany celebration and cross-diving ceremony, and the winter home of numerous manatees. Our evening ends with a **Dinner Cruise\*** aboard the Yacht Starship. Take in spectacular views of downtown Tampa while enjoying a delicious meal. After dinner, let the music carry you to the open-air deck to dance.

### **Day #9 – Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>:**

**Breakfast\*** is included before we check out and depart for Atlanta, Georgia – our next overnight stop. We'll make rest & meal stops along the way as needed. Dinner is on your own tonight.

**Day #10 – Thursday, February 25<sup>th</sup>:**

**Breakfast\*** is included this morning before we check out and make our way to our next overnight stop in Mt. Vernon, Illinois. **Note: *Don't forget to set your watches back an hour as we enter Illinois and the Central Time Zone.*** Dinner is on your own tonight.

**Day #11 – Friday, February 26<sup>th</sup>:**

**Breakfast\*** is included this morning before we check out and depart for home making rest and meal stops along the way as needed.

**11:30 AM** Approximate return time to Urbana.

**12:30 PM** Approximate return time to Normal.

**1:15 PM** Approximate return time to Morton.

**1:45 PM** Approximate return time to Peoria.

**Cost Per Person:**

**Single: \$4185.00 Double: \$3345.00 Triple: \$3115.00 Quad: \$2885.00**

**Tour Includes: Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation, Professional Driver & Tour Hosts, Hotel Accommodations, All Attractions & Meals in bold print and marked with an asterisk\*.**

**If you feel the Driver & Tour Hosts have done a good job, it is appropriate & appreciated if you tip them. We suggest \$4 per customer per day for the Driver and \$4 per customer per day for the Tour Hosts on this trip.**

**Hotels:**

**To be announced at a later date**

