

## **FOLLOW THE PRESIDENTS TOUR**

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*This tour, in addition to driving through the beautiful states of Virginia and Pennsylvania, touches on the lives of twelve Presidents: George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, James Monroe, William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, James Buchanan, Benjamin Harrison, William Howard Taft, Woodrow Wilson, and Dwight D. Eisenhower*

### **DAY ONE**

Mid morning arrival at one of Washington, D.C.'s airports where you will be met your Group Tour Company escort/guide and motorcoach. Both will be for your exclusive use during the next six days.

First stop is at Mount Vernon, plantation home of George and Martha Washington. Following lunch at Mount Vernon Inn, continue onto Fredericksburg, VA for a brief stop at James Monroe Museum and Memorial Library. The law office of James Monroe has been converted into a Presidential Museum containing many possessions of our fifth President, his wife and children. You will see court costumes, French furniture, objects from the Monroe White House and the desk on which the Monroe Doctrine was signed. Continue onto Richmond, VA for hotel check in. [lunch included]

### **DAY TWO**

After breakfast at hotel and check out, visit the Virginia State Capital building which was designed by Thomas Jefferson. In the Old Hall, Aaron Burr was tried for treason in 1807 and Robert E. Lee received his commission as commander of the Virginia troops at the beginning of the Civil War. Next, visit the White House of the Confederacy where President Jefferson Davis and his family lived during the Civil War. Enjoy a gourmet box lunch during your drive to Berkeley Plantation, site of the first official Thanksgiving, birthplace of Benjamin Harrison, a signer of the Declaration of Independence and William Henry Harrison, our 9<sup>th</sup> President. Then it's on to Sherwood Forest Plantation, the only house in Virginia owned by two Presidents, John Tyler and William Henry Harrison. Sherwood Forest Plantation is open only by special appointment. Built in 1730, it is the longest frame house in America with magnificent original furnishings. Drive to Charlottesville this evening for hotel check in. [box lunch included]

### **DAY THREE**

First this morning, visit Monticello, the mountaintop home of Thomas Jefferson from 1770 until his death on July 4, 1826. Monticello, perhaps better than any other home in the country, reflects the personality and genius of the owner-designer who was our third president.

Enjoy lunch at Historic Michie Tavern, an 18<sup>th</sup>-century tavern once owned by Patrick Henry's father and still a stop for weary travelers. This afternoon, visit Ash Lawn-Highland, a 535 acre estate personally selected by Jefferson for his friend James Monroe, our fifth president. Next stop at University of Virginia founded and designed by Jefferson. Of special note is the Rotunda. [lunch included]

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### **DAY FOUR**

Following hotel check out, drive to Orange, VA (approximately 45 minutes) for a visit to Montpelier nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains. This lifelong home of James Madison was recently restored to better reflect the time when James Madison and his family resided there. Then continue south to Staunton, VA (approximately 1 ½ hours drive) the birthplace of Woodrow Wilson. The Woodrow Wilson Presidential Library and Museum includes Wilson's birthplace manse, the Museum and the Victorian-style historic garden. Wilson was born on December 28, 1856 in this house built by the Presbyterians as a manse for their ministers.

Late afternoon drive to Gettysburg, PA (approximately 3 hours) for hotel check in. Your drive will be along the Shenandoah Valley.

[no meals included]

### **DAY FIVE**

First stop this morning is at Eisenhower National Historic Site, the only home ever owned by President Eisenhower. The farm served the President as a weekend retreat and a meeting place for world leaders. Enjoy lunch and free time to explore Gettysburg before driving to Lancaster, PA (approximately 1 ½ hours) to visit Wheatland. James Buchanan, the 15<sup>th</sup> president, purchased this large Federal style house and its 22 acres of land in 1848. Following this visit, travel to Philadelphia (approximately 1 ½ hours) for hotel check in.

[no meals included]

### **DAY SIX**

Following hotel check out, visit the site of The President's House, home to George Washington and John Adams. This was the "White House" from 1790-1800 while the capital city was being built in Washington, D.C. Next visit Independent Hall and the Liberty Bell. Depart for home from Philadelphia International Airport.

[no meals included]