

TAMPA CITY TOUR and The American Victory Ship and Lunch Thursday – October 7, 2010

Return to the Victorian era as you stroll through the lavishly furnished rooms of the H.B. Plant Museum located on the University of Tampa Campus in the former Tampa Bay Hotel built in 1891 as a palatial resort. This elegant structure stands on 150 acres of lush tropical grounds overlooking the Hillsborough River. The Hotel was built and furnished by railroad tycoon Henry Bradford Plant recapturing an aura for an opulent Victorian winter resort. This magnificent structure, with its eye catching silver minarets, was modeled after the Alhambra Palace in Granada Spain, and is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Visit Historic Ybor City where the heart of the Latin Community evolved. Vicente Martinez Ybor and other Havana cigar makers brought their factories and a new culture to Tampa and called itself "the Cigar Capital of the World." Tour the old Ferlita Bakery, once a major source of the community's daily bread. Now converted to the Ybor City State Museum, the museum represents the story of immigrant families making their way in a new land. Visit an authentically renovated cigar worker's house with furnishings dating from the turn of the century. Enjoy lunch at a Cuban Restaurant in Ybor City.

Other highlights include a drive along Bayshore Boulevard where lovely upscale homes overlook the Bay, and the waterfront area -- home to the Tampa Convention Center, Forum, Cruise Terminals, Shoppes at Channelside, the Florida Aquarium and Harbour Island.

We will round out the tour in Channelside with a visit to the American Victory Ship. This stop features popular American Victory Restoration Tours and allows visitors to view firsthand the on-going work to restore this icon of America's merchant maritime might, a functioning, 1940s-era merchant cargo vessel which served during World War II and the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Visitors experience virtually the entire ship, including cavernous three level cargo holds, radio and gyro rooms, hospital, galley, weaponry, reefers, steering stations, flying bridge, signaling equipment, wheelhouse, officer and crew messes, engine room, crew cabins, chartroom, lifeboats and cargo equipment. The developing museum contains photographs of the American Victory and other period merchant ships, U.S. Merchant Marine uniforms, medals and documents, personal recollections of life at sea as well as navigational equipment, hands-on displays and weaponry.

INCLUSIONS: Deluxe Motor Coach, Destination Tampa Bay Guide, Admissions to H.B. Plant Museum, Ybor State Museum, the American Victory Ship, lunch, all taxes and gratuities for included items.

PRICE: \$57.00 per person based on a minimum of 35 participants per bus (7 hours)

ST. PETERSBURG CITY TOUR with the Armed Forces Military Museum and Lunch Friday – October 8, 2010

Start this trip with a visit to the The Armed Forces Military Museum where you will experience a unique plunge into the fight for freedom through the eyes of American heroes. You will walk through a WWI trench to the flight deck of the Japanese aircraft carrier, Akagi. As you enjoy displays on the WWII attack on Pearl Harbor, you will be immersed in sound and sight with film clips from the movie "Bora! Bora!" And you will be able to explore a variety of exhibits that cover the South Pacific, D-Day landings, Third Reich, Korean War and 8063rd M.A.S.H. all while being enhanced with simulations of smoke, sounds of airplanes and tanks,

and other special effects. Exhibits are continually being expanded and always offer visitors a new experience.

As we are enroute to St Petersburg, you will driven by the Admiral Farragut Academy which was founded in 1933 on the banks of the Toms River in Pine Beach, New Jersey, Admiral Farragut Academy was and still is a college-preparatory, military style school. The Academy is named after Admiral David Glasgow Farragut, the first U.S. Naval officer to rise to that rank. Over the Academy's first twelve years, it became so popular that a second campus was purchased in 1945 on the shores of Boca Ciega Bay in St. Petersburg, Florida. Seventy-five years later it is this southern campus that continues the traditions established in 1933.

St. Petersburg once declared "America's healthiest place to live" is the home of numerous treasures both historic and artistic. St. Petersburg holds a Guinness World Book record of 768 days of consecutive sunshine. The city, named after St. Petersburg Russia developed as a major resort area of the state. Attractions vary from The Pier, the most recognizable landmark on the west coast, to the many cultural experiences

This tour includes a stop at The Pier, with so much to do and see: Galleries, specialty shops, boutiques and more. Enter The Pier's fascinating inverted – pyramid design, and see giant tubes bubbling with the wonders of the sea. Sparkling Florida water surrounds the Pier – take it all in from the top-floor observation deck: the sailboats and ships heading out to sea, the unique and panoramic look at the City of St. Petersburg.

INCLUSIONS: Deluxe Motor Coach, Destination Tampa Bay Guide, Admission to the Armed Forces Military Museum, Lunch at the Madeira Beach American Legion Post, Sightseeing, all taxes, and gratuities.

PRICE: \$56.00 per person based on a minimum of 35 participants per bus (8 hours)

Royal Tea and Hyde Park Shopping, Saturday – October 9, 2010

We will visit the quiet and quaint Emma Rose Tea Room and Gift Shoppe. Relax and enjoy a fine tea, especially brewed for each group. The High Tea finger sandwiches and pastries complete a refreshing light midday meal. The gift selection is quite unique.

The Royal Tea (High Tea)

Endless pot of loose tea, your choice

Freshly baked scones with sweet cream and preserves

Assorted finger sandwiches

Delectable sweets and tea breads

A variety of savories and seasonal fresh fruits

The food is made from scratch daily to insure the highest quality – the scones are the best you may ever taste. Customers from England tell us they are the best. Our pastries are to die for as we use pastry chef, Joe Higgins who is renown throughout the area.

Some time will be allotted for shopping at Hyde Park Village before returning to the hotel. Just a few of the shops are Williams-Sonoma, Ann Taylor, Crabtree & Evelyn, Tommy Bahama, Anthropologie, and Restoration Hardware.

INCLUSIONS: Deluxe Motor Coach, Destination Tampa Bay Guide, High Tea, Shopping time, all taxes, and gratuities.

PRICE: \$45.00 per person based on a minimum of 25 participants per bus (5 hours)