



LOUDOUN COUNTY SENIOR TRIPS PROGRAM



The Kentucky Experience

5 Nights – 6 Days
May 4-9, 2024

Day One, Saturday, May 4, 2024

Depart the Loudoun Senior Center at Cascades for White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia. Arrive at The Greenbrier Resort for an included, delicious luncheon. The Greenbrier's stately grandeur is unmistakable –sprawling Georgian architecture, meticulously manicured gardens, ballrooms, sweeping staircases, and lavishly distinctive décor draping every surface. After lunch, depart on foot for a **Bunker Tour at The Greenbrier Resort**, a “must-see experience” taking guests behind the scenes to walk through a fascinating period in the resort's history. Carved deep into the mountainside beneath the West Virginia Wing of the resort, is an emergency Cold War fallout shelter. Once a top-secret U.S. government relocation facility for Congress, The Bunker is now open to anyone interested in reliving a legendary piece of The Greenbrier history. This afternoon, explore **Tamarack Marketplace**, an iconic road stop for all who travel I-77 through Beckley, West Virginia. The peaked red roof building is eye-catching to say the least, but it's the mission, the artistry, and Appalachian pride that has made Tamarack Marketplace what it is today. The products of more than 2,800 artists and artisans from all fifty-five counties are sold at the regional showcase that make it evident there is no lack of talent in the Mountain State. However, it is more than a shopping experience and art gallery. It's a local social hub featuring artist demonstrations, Hands On classes, and Appalachian cuisine at its restaurant with indoor, to-go and al fresco dining options. Enjoy **Dinner included** while visiting the Marketplace. Check-in this evening at the **Hampton Inn Beckley** and relax for the evening. (Meals: L, D)

Day Two, Sunday, May 5, 2024

At the hotel this morning, enjoy **breakfast included** prior to **checking out**. Depart with catered **Boxed Lunches** to enjoy enroute. Arrive in **Georgetown, Kentucky**, and delight in a **Guided Tour at Old Friends Farm** where guests will have the pleasure of meeting 10-15 retirees including 1997 Kentucky Derby winner *Silver Charm*. On this tour you will spend most of your time out of the coach visiting Old Friends, to see retired champion Thoroughbreds and Keeneland Farm, home to the planet's most expensive horse auctions. Afterwards, embark on a **Tram Tour of Louisville Mega Cavern**. Once an urban legend, Mega Caverns is now a reality. This man-made cavern was once a limestone pit mine that eventually lost mineral rights. For the past 50 years this space has served many purposes, most notably, the largest civil defense shelter to be used in the event of a nuclear disaster during the Cuban Missile Crisis. Now, years later, this mine has been turned into a one-of-a-kind attraction. Check-in at the **Springhill Suites Louisville Downtown** and freshen up for dinner this evening at a local favorite restaurant. (Meals: B, L, D)

Day Three, Monday, May 6, 2024

Enjoy **breakfast** at your hotel before departing for a **Walking Tour of Churchill Downs**. Experience the rich history of Churchill Downs Racetrack and learn about legendary Derby winners like Aristides and Secretariat as you visit the famous Paddock and Grandstand. You'll make a stop Railside at the track while your Guide shares stories of the early days of the Kentucky Derby, through its transformation, and into the iconic event it is today. After your guided tour, see **The Greatest Race Film**, the Museum's epic 18-minute film that puts you at the center of the Kentucky Derby experience. It is projected larger-than-life in one of the world's only 360° theatres using the highest quality laser projection available today. The movie will send your heart racing and emotions soaring. **Lunch is included at the Derby Café Express.**

Day Three, Monday, May 6, 2024 – continued...

After lunch visit the Kentucky Derby Museum When you visit the Kentucky Derby Museum you will find yourself immersed in the next best thing to actually being at the Derby! Our exhibits will take you through the journey from the birth of the foal to the winner's circle. Depart for an exciting **Evan Williams Experience**. The tour features an operating Artisanal Distillery where you will not only learn the process for making Bourbon, but you will see it being made right before your eyes. The tour also includes a **premium Bourbon tasting** and concludes in our gift shop where you can take home an array of signature items including a personalized bottle of Evan Williams or a barrel-proof Whiskey jug. Return to your hotel for a free evening and **dinner on your own at 4th Street Live**. You'll have a wide range of dining options at the 350,000-square-foot entertainment and retail complex which frequently features live music. Retire to your room at your leisure tonight. (Meals: B, L)

Day Four, Tuesday, May 7, 2024

Enjoy **breakfast included** at the hotel this morning. Embark with your **Louisville Guide** for a **Louisville Delights Tour via motor-coach**. Visit **The Historic Old Louisville Neighborhood and Visitors Center** located in Central Park. Explore the **Frazier History Museum** and come face-to-face with some of the people and stories that changed the world forever. At the Frazier Museum, history comes to life every day through ever-changing and interactive temporary exhibits, as well as fascinating and one-of-a-kind permanent galleries. Experience the one-of-a-kind Frazier Museum Collection, featuring American and international artifacts. Enjoy **lunch on own** in downtown Louisville. After lunch, visit **Michter's Fort Nelson Distillery** for a guided tour. Here, you will learn about all the extra steps Michter's takes throughout the whiskey production process to pursue their goal of producing the greatest American whiskey, from barreling at a lower entry proof, to toasting barrels before charring, and heat cycling their warehouses. Your tour will conclude with a **guided tasting of five Michter's expressions**. Stop by the hotel to rest and freshen up for the evening. Tonight, visit the **Derby Dinner Playhouse** for dinner and a live performance. This evening's show: **Footloose the Musical!** The explosive movie musical with dynamic new songs and your favorite powerhouse hits! This musical celebrates the exhilaration of youth, the wisdom of listening to one another, and the power of forgiveness. Upon conclusion, return to the hotel for the evening. (Meals: B, D)

Day Five, Wednesday, May 8, 2024

Enjoy **breakfast included** at the hotel this morning, prior to **checking-out**. Stop to explore the **Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory** located on the famous, "Museum Row". The museum highlights the story of Louisville Slugger baseball bats in baseball and in American history. Depart for **Huntington, West Virginia** with a stop along the way for lunch on own. Upon arrival to the area, visit **Marshall University** and take a **"We Are Marshall" Tour**. Marshall University's football team, coaches, and boosters passed away in a tragic plane crash on November 14, 1970. This story is the basis for the movie, *"We Are Marshall"* starring Matthew McConaughey and Matthew Fox. Visit Marshall University's Campus, the Memorial Fountain, Spring Hill Cemetery, and filming locations with your **Step-On Tour Guide**. Enjoy **dinner included** this evening at **Marshall Hall of Fame Café**, a local sports bar and grill adorned with lots of Marshall memorabilia and offering hand crafted American fare & drinks. Check-in to the **Hampton Inn Huntington University** hotel and rest for the evening. (Meals: B, D)

Day Six, Thursday, May 9, 2024

Enjoy **breakfast included** at the hotel this morning, prior to **checking-out**. Depart for a tour of the **Blenko Glass Visitor Center**. For over 100 years, Blenko has maintained the tradition of hand making glassware in the United States. Don't forget to stop by their outstanding gift shop! Enjoy a **Farewell Lunch** at **The Smokehouse at Blackwater Falls**, located the Blackwater Falls State Park. After lunch, head over to the **Blackwater Falls Boardwalk** and embark on a stroll amongst the beauty all around. You will enjoy beautiful views of Blackwater Falls from the boardwalk overlook at the end of this short trail. Generally considered an easy route, this 0.2-mile out-and-back trail takes an average of 4 minutes to complete. Board the Coach and depart for home. (Meals: B, L)

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY: \$ 1968 Member / \$ 2013 Non-Member
SINGLE OCCUPANCY: \$ 2428 Member / \$ 2473 Non-Member
Trip # 946628 Payable in 4 Installments

Tour Includes:

- Round-trip transportation to and from the Cascades Senior Center,
- Five (5) Nights' Hotel Accommodation + baggage handling,
- 5 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 4 Dinners,
- 2 Distillery Tour & Tastings,
- Admissions and guide services as stated in the Itinerary.
- **Gratuity for driver & guide service(s)**

Fees are non-refundable, although a refund minus a 25% administrative fee may be issued if seat is resold. Purchase of Travel Insurance is highly recommended.

Contact: Terry Fleming (571)-258-3050 or Sonya Haynes (571)258-3051