

CARSON TOURS

Ph 780-986-7766
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Dear Traveler:

Welcome to Carson Tours. We bring you carefree tours in Alberta's most luxurious 2008 Setra motor coach, "The Alberta Clipper", combining professional service with a personal touch.



On most tours, Mike, your guide and driver is able to show you nifty little places that will make your travel memories even more special! With your tour family, you'll see new places, meet new faces and share new experiences. You'll return home with photos, memories, and lots of stories to share with those who will wish they'd come along.

Please note that we have updated and improved our schedules to make your vacations even more enjoyable.

LOUISIANA / TEXAS

Departure: March 12, 2010

Return: April 02, 2010

Fares:

\$3,289 Cad Double \$3,249 Cad Triple
\$3,229 Cad Quad \$4,288 Cad Single

Pay 90 days or more in advance and receive a 5% discount

Final payment due 45 days prior to departure

22 Days of Fun, Excitement and Memories!

Carson Tours Ltd.

7 Camelot Avenue, Leduc, Alberta, Canada, T9E 4M4

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ITINERARY:

Day 1: Our adventure begins as we leave Edmonton! Watch for antelope and coyotes as we leave the trees of northern Alberta and head south and east into Saskatchewan. We'll spend our first night at Swift Current, Saskatchewan.



Day 2: We leave Swift Current bright and early, proceeding through Canada's prairies and grain belt into the United States. The night will be spent in Bismarck, North Dakota.



Day 3: We drive across the flat prairies of the Dakotas to Sioux Falls, South Dakota. En route, we'll visit the Corn Palace at Mitchell, South Dakota, Corn Capitol of the world.

Day 4: Our journey to Kansas City includes stops at the Pattee Museum, the Pony Express Office & Jessie James House.

Day 5: After a visit to Precious Moments, we'll continue to Little Rock. Our journey takes us through the beautiful southwest Missouri and

Northern Arkansas countryside. This wooded area is studded with marble and sandstone outcroppings. Our sleep will be in Little Rock.



Day 6: Traveling through the Arkansas countryside, we enter the heart of Cajun country in western Louisiana. We see rice fields and Crawdad farms alongside the impenetrable watery bayous with their luxurious growth and habitat for wildlife. We'll pass through the state capital, Baton Rouge, and spend two unforgettable nights in Gretna!



Day 7: A marvellous day awaits us. Memorable! Exciting! These are the only words to describe New Orleans – the "Big Easy" as it is affectionately known. A guided tour includes the world famous French Quarter, modern New Orleans with its impressive skyline, stately homes, Jackson Square and more! In the afternoon we take a narrated cruise on the Sternwheeler Natchez, and learn more about the French Quarter on a guided walking tour. You will then have an opportunity to explore this area independently before returning to the hotel. Make sure you wear good walking shoes!

Day 8: This incredible day begins with a drive along the west bank of the Mississippi River where we see ships sailing past, under and above us! Yes, the ships are really above the road! Only the levee prevents the Mississippi River from cascading onto the road! We visit a beautiful old

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plantation manor on the banks of the Mighty Mississippi River, then enjoy a seafood lunch - included in your tour. On our way to Houma, you'll experience a Cajun Country swamp tour, viewing incredible wildlife and vegetation.

Day 9: We will spend our day learning about the Cajun culture and way of life. We will travel into bayou communities - Cajun and Indian Villages where locals are still earning a living from land and sea.

We visit a net shop and discover how shrimp nets work. We will experience a demonstration by a local net maker to see how nets are made and how they work. There is so much to see and do! Supper will be a delightful experience at Twelve Oaks Plantation where we will learn even more about Plantation life. We will return to Houma for our second night.



Day 10: Spice up your day with a visit to the Tabasco Factory. We



will also visit an old but functional rice mill. In the heyday of the Old South, as slaves laboured under the hot sun, fortunes were made in cotton and cane. Along the Mississippi Delta some of the most impressive mansions in America stand as testaments to the vast wealth and widespread suffering of a long vanquished era. We will step back in time with a visit to the splendid "Shadows on the Tech", a southern plantation house. Set among towering Live Oak trees draped with Spanish moss swaying in the breeze, you can almost hear the sounds of plantation life from this beautiful antebellum home adjacent to the Bayou Teche. We will also visit

Evangeline's Oak, where Longfellow relates the tearful meeting of Evangeline and her beloved. The night will be serene in Lafayette.

Day 11: We will leave grand old Louisiana behind and start a new adventure in the Republic of Texas! As we enter the dynamic capitol of Houston, you will be surprised at the great amount of water in east Texas. In the afternoon, we will go high tech with a visit to MCC, (Mission Control Centre) at Johnson Space Centre. From the second the solid rocket boosters (SRBs) ignite and lift off, to the moment the landing gear wheels stop rolling at the end of a mission, the MCC is the hub of communications and support for the shuttle. We also visit the historic San Jacinto Monument. Built 100 years after the battle it honours, the 570-foot San Jacinto Monument stands in the Guinness Book of World Records as the tallest monument column in the world. We can all have big dreams in Texas as we sleep two nights in Webster, Texas.



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Day 12: Today, we will head to Galveston, a small romantic island tucked deep within the heart of south Texas possessing all the charm of a small southern town and just 40 minutes south of the fourth largest city in the United States. Two and a half miles wide, Galveston offers thirty two miles of relaxing beaches, superb restaurants, top resort hotels, marvellous downtown shopping, numerous antique stores, incredible art galleries, fabulous entertainment and one of the largest and well-preserved concentrations of Victorian architecture in the country. We'll visit Galveston's grandest and best-known building, the Bishop's Palace. You'll have an opportunity to explore the downtown area, which offers an intriguing selection of shops, restaurants, galleries, and museums. On the morning of September 13, 2008, the



eye of Hurricane Ike approached the Texas coast near Galveston Bay, making landfall at 2:10 a.m. CDT over the east end of Galveston Island. The Island has seen its share of calamities, yet the worst natural disaster in U.S. history could not erase the tranquility of a Galveston sunset.



Day 13: Leaving Webster, our travel takes us southward to visit the winter home of the Whooping Cranes at the Aransas Wildlife Refuge. Bring your binoculars. There are hundreds of wildlife species here. We may even see a wild boar! Then on to the prettiest city on Texas' Gulf coast, Corpus Christi. We will spend the next two beautiful nights in Corpus Christi.

Day 14: The day begins in this beautiful Gulf city with a self-guided tour of the aircraft carrier, U.S.S. Lexington, reportedly sunk no less than four times by the Japanese. You will see lots of crab boats since crabbing is a major industry here. We will do a tour of Mustang Island, one of the barrier islands that ring the Gulf and we will be able to stroll on the beach. We may even see a dolphin! Your afternoon is free to do some exploring or simply relax.

Day 15: A visit to the King Ranch will start our day. This 825,000-acre cattle ranch is the largest privately owned ranch in the world. This part of Texas is very arid and fresh water is generally in very short supply. However, artesian wells on the ranch provide ample sustenance for the famous Santa Gertrudis cattle developed on the ranch. This afternoon we travel to San Antonio for 2 magical nights.



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Day 16: “Deep within its heart lies the Alamo, the rose of old San Antone” so says the words to the old song. And this best describes this lovely mission city with its tantalizing Mexican heritage. You will fall in love with this place! This morning we will do a city tour including a visit to an historic Spanish mission. In the afternoon we can shop at the Mexican market, visit the Alamo and perhaps view the IMAX film presentation of the famous Battle of the Alamo. This evening you can stroll the riverbank, listen to the music and soak up the culture of this great old city!



Day 17: Leaving San Antonio, we soon enter West Texas, famous for its cattle ranches, rustlers, gun-fighters and frontier justice. We spend the day traveling through the grasslands, and enter New Mexico. We will spend the night at Carlsbad.



Day 18: The day begins with a visit you’ll never forget; the world famous Carlsbad Caverns. These caves are as long as football fields. Wear your jacket. We then proceed northward to the highest and most unique state capitol in the United States, Santa Fe.

Day 19: We visit the fascinating town of Taos. Native People live in the nearby Pueblo much as they have done for over 1000 years. In the 18th century, Plains and Pueblo Indians, local Hispanic villagers, and mountain men gathered in Taos regularly to trade everything from buffalo hides and horses to vegetables, tools, and guns. Today, people come to buy a wide realm of goods - from fine South-western art and traditional native crafts, to ceramics, leather goods, jewellery, and imports from all over the world. We enter Colorado traveling north through the Raton Pass.

Day 20: Departing Denver, look for cowboys and cattle herds as we enter ranch country. We’ll bed down in Sheridan, Wyoming.

Day 21: Experience the defeat of Custer’s Last Stand, and the solemn atmosphere of the Little Big Horn Battlefield, as we continue to Great Falls, Montana.

Day 22: With a stop at Duty Free in Sweetgrass Montana, our last chance at a U.S. bargain, we’re homeward bound to Edmonton.



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Included in your holiday is first class transportation in Alberta's most luxurious motor coach; standard accommodation and taxes at all hotels; baggage handling (one piece per person), and 22 full days of fun and fond memories. We hope you will decide to join us for this exciting and memorable tour of Louisiana & Texas.

We look forward to offering you luxury!

Questions? Please feel free to call us!

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Welcome Aboard, Luxury Awaits You!

TRAVEL NOTES

To help you enjoy a safe and relaxing holiday, we remind you of the following:

- The medical information and liability waiver must be completed to assist you in the event of an emergency. Bring this form when first boarding the coach.
- Canadian citizens require a passport to enter the United States at land and marine ports of entry as of June 1, 2009.
- See www.pptc.gc.ca for additional updated passport information.
- We clearly tag your baggage for easy handling and identification. In order to accommodate all passengers, we ask that you restrict luggage to one large suitcase (for hotel staff to handle) and one carry on bag (that is your responsibility) per person.
- In order to keep the coach clean and neat, and for your comfort, we ask that you refrain from eating and drinking (except water!) on the coach. Our frequent stops (every 2-3 hours) allow plenty of opportunity for filling our tummies.
- If you are diabetic, or have a medical condition that requires food more often, let us know. We'll be pleased to meet your needs.
- While your rooms, tours and special events are included, in order to accommodate the variety of individual tastes, meals are your responsibility. We endeavour to arrange suitable eating establishments en route – enjoy!
- If you have questions or concerns, please let us know at once. We look forward to making your holiday a memorable experience.
- Trip cancellation and medical insurance are available, call for details.
- Don't forget your camera!

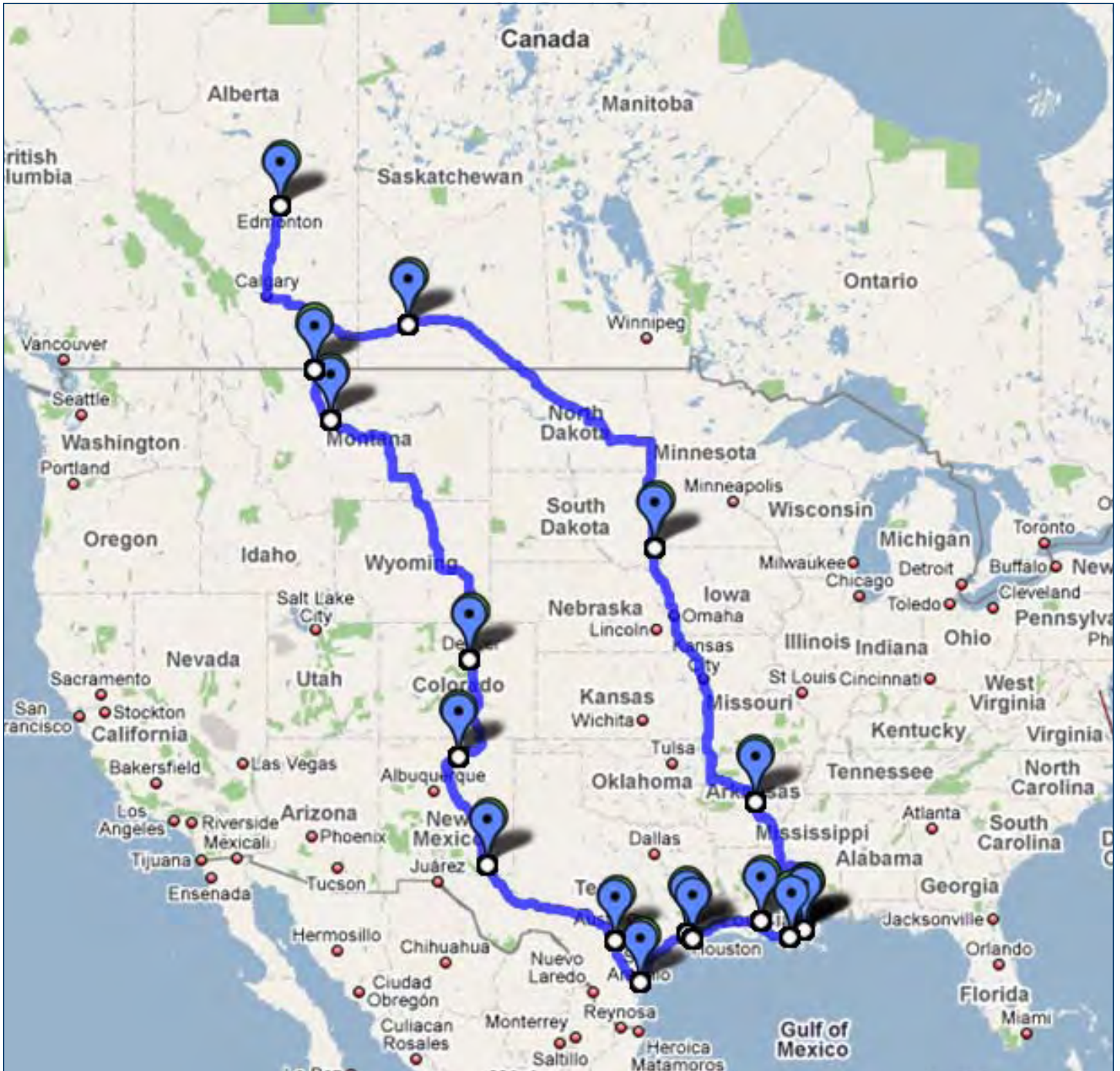


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ROUTE MAP



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