



EASTCOAST USA – FROM FLORIDA TO NEW YORK

This proposal of an ambitious round-trip for choirs along the Eastern Coast of the USA shows the competence of music & friends to combine qualified sightseeing with exiting concert venues.

DAY 1 ARRIVAL IN FLORIDA

Depart Europe on a flight bound for Miami, Florida, United States. Select meals, snacks and refreshments will be served on the flight. Upon arrival in Miami, your tour escort will greet your choir at the airport.

Together, board your waiting motor coach and transfer to the centrally located hotel. Settle in and refresh before joining your tour escort on an Orientation Walk to get a feel for the local ambiance.

A special Welcome Dinner will be planned for your choir at the hotel or local restaurant.

DAY 2 MIAMI

Enjoy breakfast in the hotel dining room before meeting your local guide for a city tour of Miami. Miami is famous for its impressive South Beach in nearby Miami Beach, and a fun and



lively night life. There are numerous dining places and night clubs as well as lively, outgoing, smiling faces at every corner. For the daytime there are malls, flea markets, and museums to visit.

Start your tour with a walk through the Mildred and Claude Pepper Bayfront Park, and if you look south of the park and you'll see the Hotel Inter-Continental Miami, which displays The Spindle, a huge sculpture by Henry Moore, in its lobby. View the Freedom Tower, an important milepost in the history of Cuban immigration now being renovated as a Cuban museum. You'll also

see the Miami Herald building and the rapidly rising performing-arts center. Next, see the Miami-Dade Cultural Center, which contains the city's main art museum, historical museum, and library. See the Dade County Courthouse, whose pinnacle is accented by circling vultures and stop in at the Gusman Center for the Performing Arts, a beautiful movie palace that now serves as downtown Miami's concert hall.

The rest of the day is free to enjoy on your own. Your local guide and tour escort can suggest restaurants for lunch and dinner.

DAY 3 MIAMI CONCERT

After breakfast in the hotel dining room, the morning is free to explore Miami on your own. Spend time shopping at the Bayside Marketplace and Loehmann's Fashion Island, or exploring the unique Art Deco Historic District.

Return to the hotel with time to prepare for your upcoming concert. Your choir will perform a concert in a historic Miami venue for a local audience*.

Dinner can be arranged for your choir upon request.

DAY 4 ORLANDO CONCERT



After breakfast, check out of your hotel and depart for Orlando (approximately 3 hours and 30 minutes via motorcoach). Upon arrival, check into your hotel.

Today, your choir will visit Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom! Enter a world of fantasy, adventure, and make believe in this exciting world. Meet Mickey and all of his friends in this theme park where magic comes alive! Your choir may have the opportunity to perform a concert* at one of the exciting venues in Disney World!

In the afternoon, some choir members may choose to remain in Disney World for the day. MGM Studios, home of The Twilight Zone Tower of Terror, and the Epcot Center with its World Showcase, featuring a number of countries, are

both exciting destinations. Other members can visit the specialty district in Orlando known as The Church Street Station and Marketplace. Take time in small groups to explore restaurants for lunch. Afterwards, enjoy watching the street performers in action, browse the unique shops and visit the old-fashioned arcade. Orlando also offers shoppers many choices ranging from the Belz Factory Outlet World and Belz Designer Outlet Center, to the Kissimmee Manufacturer's Outlet and the Mercado Mediterranean Shopping Village. This evening, dinner will be arranged for your choir.

DAY 5

CHARLESTON, SC



Enjoy breakfast, then depart for Charleston, South Carolina stopping for rest breaks as needed (approximate travel time 6 hours). Founded in 1670, Charleston was once the most important seaport in North America. The wealth generated by trans-Atlantic trade was reflected in the opulent architecture that arose here. Although trade routes have long since shifted, Charleston has maintained its sense of importance and historical tradition. Today, it proudly boasts 73 buildings from the pre-Revolutionary War era, along with 136 buildings from

the late 18th century and more than 600 from the Ante-bellum period. Moreover, the city's many historic churches, 181 in all, have earned Charleston the nickname "the holy city". Many of these buildings have been carefully preserved or restored, lending Charleston an historic charm that is almost unparalleled today.

Upon arrival in Charleston, check into your hotel. Following some time to relax and refresh, join your tour escort on an Orientation Walk to view the area surrounding the hotel. Your tour escort can suggest restaurants for dinner on your own.

DAY 6

CHARLESTON, SC

CONCERT

In the morning, have breakfast before you meet your local guide and embark on a tour of the city. Visit Battery and White Point Gardens. Located at the confluence of the Ashley and Cooper Rivers, these lovely gardens offer a stunning view of Charleston Harbor and Fort Sumter in the distance. Next visit the First Baptist Church in the city center. Although it was founded in Maine in 1682, the First Baptist Church moved to Charleston in 1696. In 1822, the original meetinghouse was replaced with a Greek revival styled edifice designed by Robert Mills, the first American-trained architect. Also see The Citadel, from which the first shots of the Civil War were fired. Founded in 1842, the Citadel is one of the last two state military colleges in the country. Rainbow Row is a collection of historic 18th century homes whose colors mirror those of the rainbow. End your tour at Cabbage Row. Now an area of fine homes and specialty shops, Cabbage Row was once an area where vendors peddled produce along the roadside. It was the inspiration for America's first opera, Porgy and Bess.



Following the city tour, enjoy some free time for lunch. In the afternoon, your choir will depart for the Magnolia Plantation and Gardens. Founded in 1676 by the Drayton family, Magnolia



Plantation has survived for centuries and witnessed the history of our nation unfold before it from the American Revolution through the Civil War and all the years following. It is the oldest public gardens in America, having opened its doors to visitors in 1872 to view the thousands of beautiful flowers and plants in its famous gardens. Enjoy a thirty minute guided tour of the Plantation House, which will give history of plantation life and the Drayton family ownership, still

current through twelve generations since 1676. Your choir may have the opportunity to perform a concert* this afternoon for the other visitors of the plantation.

In the evening, dinner will be arranged for your choir.

DAY 7

WASHINGTON, DC

After breakfast in the hotel dining room, check out of the hotel and depart for Washington, DC (approximately 8 hours and 30 minutes via motor coach). There will be multiple stops made along the way for food and to stretch your legs.

Upon arrival, check into your hotel and take some time to relax and refresh before departing on an Orientation Walk of the surrounding area with your tour escort.

The remainder of the day is free for you to explore Washington, DC on your own or with your tour escort.

Dinner is on your own this evening.

DAY 8

WASHINGTON, DC



Following breakfast in the hotel, meet your local guide for a guided tour of Washington, DC. Pass by the U.S. Capitol, which has been the seat of the United States Congress since 1800. Thomas Jefferson was the first president to be inaugurated here, as he was in the Senate Chamber in 1801. Next view the White House, which has been the official residence of the president since November 1, 1800, when the second chief executive, John Adams, moved into the unfinished building. Continue on your tour with a visit to the towering Washington Monument, which stands just over 555 feet high, making it the tallest masonry structure in the world. Though the cornerstone was laid in 1848, it took four decades to complete the monument. Next, visit the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, perhaps the most moving monument in the city. It is dedicated to the 58,156 Americans who

died in the Vietnam War. The monument's design is simple: a broad V constructed of black marble on which the names of the dead are inscribed. Finally, see the Lincoln and Jefferson Memorials, towering statues made of marble, which stand as tributes to our former presidents. Along the way also see the Library of Congress, the Supreme Court and Embassy Row.

In the afternoon, depart for the White House, the home of the American President, where your choir will embark on a guided tour. The highlights of the White House tour include the Gold and White East Room, where the president entertains visiting heads of state and has also been the site of a few weddings for presidential daughters. See the Oval Blue Room, which is decorated in the French Empire style chosen by James Monroe in 1817. President Grover Cleveland was the only president to be married in the White House and the ceremony took place in this room. The State Dining Room is a superb setting for state dinners and luncheons.



Dinner will be arranged for your choir this evening.

DAY 9

WASHINGTON, DC

CONCERT



Following breakfast in the hotel dining room, depart for a local venue, such as at the Post Office Pavilion, to perform a concert*.

In the afternoon, visit the Smithsonian Museums, where your choir will have the chance to spend time viewing the wide selection of museums. The Smithsonian is the world's largest collection of museums and galleries spread out along the mall. You may choose to visit several of the 19 museums, 9 of which are located on the Mall. Perhaps visit the National Air and Space Museum, which traces the history of aviation or the

National Museum of Natural History, where over 118 million items are on display from the fields of anthropology and natural history. Or opt to visit the Freer Art Gallery, which contains over 9,000 pieces of American and Asian art on public display. Examples include Japanese and Chinese sculpture, Iranian manuscripts and miniatures as well as South Asian paintings.

Dinner is on your own this evening.

DAY 10

CAMDEN, NJ

CONCERT

Following breakfast in the hotel, check out of your hotel and depart for Camden, NJ (approximately 3 hours and 45 minutes via motor coach).

In the early afternoon, arrive in a local school in Camden to perform a friendship concert*. There will be time following the concert to socialize with the host choir.

Following the concert, depart for New York City (approximately 1 hours and 45 minutes via motor coach). Upon arrival in New York City, transfer to your hotel and check in. Dinner will be arranged for your choir this evening.

DAY 11

NEW YORK CITY

Enjoy breakfast in the hotel dining room before meeting your local New York guide for a city tour of the "Big Apple". See the Lincoln Center for Performing Arts, one of New York's finest performing arts institutions. Occupying an eight-block area, the complex can seat nearly 15,000 spectators for events such as opera, ballet and film. Journey down Wall Street, probably the most famous 1/3-mile in the world. This stretch was once full of bustling traders congregated along the sidewalks conducting business. Around the corner on Broad Street is the New York Stock Exchange, which is where all of the chaotic stock trading takes place today. See New York's famous, colorful Chinatown neighborhood. The narrow streets with oriental shops and restaurants seem like a city within the city of New York. In contrast to Chinatown is cosmopolitan Greenwich Village. By day the village is full of casual strollers and by night the cafes and pubs come alive with artists, intellectuals and students. Pass by Central Park, a green oasis in the center of New York's concrete jungle. The park covers 840 acres and offers landscaped gardens, as well as many opportunities for recreational sports. The heart of New York City is most certainly in Times Square. See the famous location of the greatest annual New Year's party in the United States. View the Statue of Liberty, the symbol of America's freedom and liberty given the United States as a gift by the French government.



Next, catch the ferry to the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island. Take the Staten Island Ferry to the Statue of Liberty and have the opportunity to walk the grounds around the famous statue. Poised at the entrance of the harbor, the statue of lady liberty holding her upraised torch is the symbol for freedom and justice for all. It was the first sight for many immigrants landing on US shores from Europe in 19th and early 20th century. Continue on to Ellis Island, a 27.5-acre patch that once served as a major point of entry for millions of immigrants. At one time nearly 2,000 immigrants a day were processed on this

island. Many were allowed to pass through, but some were turned away due to health reasons or lack of money. Take some time to stroll through the museum and retrace the history surrounding Ellis Island.

In the evening, enjoy dinner on your own.

DAY 12

NEW YORK CITY

CONCERT

Following breakfast in the hotel, depart for the Metropolitan Museum of Art, which presents magnificent collections from prehistory to the 20th century. Your choir will have an hour long guided tour of the museum.

In the afternoon, transfer to a local church to perform a concert*. Following the concert, the rest of the afternoon is free to explore New York City on your own. The evening will be open for an optional group trip to a Broadway show or a possible excursion to Yankee Stadium to see a Baseball game.

DAY 13

NEW YORK CITY

Enjoy breakfast in the hotel. Today is free for you to spend time pursuing individual interests in New York.

Some may choose to visit the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, a six-story corkscrew museum that winds visitors past a variety of modern art pieces with a permanent collection comprised of more than twenty of Pablo Picasso's works. There is also The Museum of Modern



Art whose four-story structure is built around a sculpture garden and houses Van Gogh's Starry Night and Matisse's Dance. The superstars of American art are also displayed here, including Andy Warhol and Jackson Pollock.

Other can optionally take a tour of the famous NBC Studios at Rockefeller Center. Learn about the history of television broadcasting in the United States and visit the sets of such famous shows as the Saturday Night Live. Or, take a backstage tour of Radio City Music Hall, one of New York's historic theaters. Learn about the theater's history and how they prepare for a large show such as a performance by the Rockettes.

In the evening, a festive Farewell Dinner is arranged for your choir at a restaurant serving local specialties. There will be ample opportunity to recount the highlights of your tour

DAY 14

DEPARTURE

After breakfast, check out of the hotel and depart for the New York Airport and your return flight to Europe.

*All concert opportunities proposed in this itinerary are pending final confirmation and availability at time of booking. Your group's final program will be determined by confirmed times and locations for concerts, workshops, lectures and other activities. Although your choir's exact itinerary will vary to accommodate performance schedules, the same type of concerts, activities and caliber of venue will be included in your choir's final concert tour program!

Your Tour Includes:

♪ Accommodation

13 nights in hotels of the superior mid class (3-star superior), central located, and accommodation in double and included all service fees and taxes. Overnights in: Miami (3x), Orlando (1x), Charleston, SC (2x), Washington DC (3x), New York City (4x).

♪ Transport

All transfers and transport as mentioned in a modern climate controlled motor coach with a professional driver.

♪ Meals

Breakfast served daily in the hotel restaurant. Five 3-course dinners as follows:

Miami: Welcome Dinner in a local restaurant

Orlando: Dinner in a local restaurant

Charleston: Dinner in a local restaurant

Washington: Dinner in a local restaurant

New York City: Festive farewell dinner in a local restaurant

♪ Performance opportunities

Seven performance opportunities, as mentioned in the program, pending availability and acceptance:

Concert at a historical place in Miami

Concert in Disney World in Orlando

Concert in the Magnolia Plantation or similar in Charleston

Concert in the Post Office Pavilion or similar in Washington

Friendship concert Camden

Concert in a church in New York City

♪ Tour escort

A full-time tour escort in English or on request another language to accompany your choir from arrival to departure.

♪ Local guides

Sightseeing tours with local English-speaking guides as described in the itinerary:

Miami: Guided City Tour of Miami

Charleston: Guided City Tour of Charleston

Guided Tour of Magnolia Plantation and Gardens

Washington, DC: Guided City Tour of Washington



New York City: Guided Tour of the White House
Guided City Tour of NYC
Guided Tour of the Metropolitan Museum of Art

♪ Entrance fees

The following entrance fees are included:

Orlando: Magic Kingdom in Walt Disney World
Charleston: Magnolia Plantation and Gardens
Washington, DC: White House
New York City: Ellis Island and Statue of Liberty
Metropolitan Museum of Art

♪ Additional materials

Each member of your group will receive a customized handbook including detailed hourly tour itinerary with regional and travel information.

♪ Complimentary places

1 complimentary land package covering services listed above and based on double occupancy, for a minimum of 30 paying travelers.

Ground package price:

Depending on the number of the travellers and the exchange rate €/ \$ the package price for the above package is between about € 1.900 (with 50 travellers) and € 2.200 (with 30 travellers). Supplement single room accommodation about € 1.000,-. Basis of the prices is the main season from June to September.

Not included in package price:

- ♪ Flights Europe – USA – Europe
- ♪ Costs for visa and travel documents
- ♪ Beverages during the meals
- ♪ Meals, if not mentioned in the itinerary
- ♪ Entrance fees and transport, if not mentioned in the itinerary
- ♪ Tips for guides and drivers
- ♪ Travel insurances

Flight prices:

Beside the national carriers, some of the no-frills companies are offering low rates to the US, f.e. at www.continental.com.

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Organizer: music&friends™ by buchmann touristic & consulting, Sandstr. 1 b, D-53757 Sankt Augustin, Phone +49-2241-204691, Fax +49-2241-21894, info@wbuchmann.de, www.musicandfriends.net