

Brainerd High School Band

National Festival of the States Concert Series in New Orleans, Louisiana

March 11-15, 2019 (4 nights / 5 days)

Day 1 Monday, March 11th New Orleans (D)

Depart from Minneapolis via airline scheduled airline service
Afternoon arrival in New Orleans, where you will meet your MCI Tour Managers who will remain with you throughout the tour
Lunch, on own
Enjoy a comprehensive guided tour of New Orleans including the French Quarter, Frenchman Street, Jackson Square with its St. Louis Cathedral, Royal Street Promenade, Washington Artillery Park and other famous NOLA' sites
Check-in to your hotel with free-time to relax and freshen up
Evening dinner/dancing included at Mulates – New Orleans Original Cajun Restaurant
Enjoy live Cajun music and dancing at Mulates
Return to the hotel for overnight

Day 2 Tuesday, March 12th (B,D)

Breakfast included at the hotel
Clinic at Loyola University as part of the National Festival of the States (or similar, pending confirmation)
Enjoy a Louis Armstrong tour. This walking tour takes visitors on the important historic sites related to Louis Armstrong's life in New Orleans. The tour begins in the French Quarter and includes historic sites where he stayed and played as an adult. It continues to the Storyville/Basin Street area where he worked as a youth, and then continues to the "back o town" section of the Central Business District where he grew up
Lunch, on own
Afternoon free with your tour manager and motorcoach for sightseeing and shopping
Evening dinner and dancing river cruise on the Paddle wheeler "Creole Queen", featuring a concert performance by the Brainerd High School Jazz Ensemble
Return to your hotel for overnight

Day 3 Wednesday, March 13th (B,D)

Breakfast included at the hotel
Performance as part of the National Festival of the States Concert Series
Lunch, on own
Attend a private Jazz Concert at Preservation Hall. Enjoy a Private Concert, Q & A and meet-'n-greet for the Brainerd High School band program with the Preservation Hall Jazz Ensemble. Established in 1961 to honor one of America's truest art forms - Traditional New Orleans Jazz, this hall and the jazz musicians who perform here serve as a cornerstone of New Orleans music and culture.



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Evening dinner included at a local restaurant
Return to the hotel for overnight

Day 4 Thursday, March 14th (B,D)

Depart your hotel

Breakfast this morning will be a Jazz Brunch at Court of Two Sisters. Enjoy a sumptuous buffet of traditional food and New Orleans specialties, while dining in the lovely French Quarter with entertainment from the Jazz Trio

Leave New Orleans and travel to Cajun country and the cypress swamps that surround the city. Here you will Board a comfortable, sightseeing boat to explore the swamp. As your knowledgeable guide, alligator hunter and fur trapper leads you down the Bayou on our swampland adventure, marvel at the swamp's natural beauty. See alligators, egrets and other abundant wildlife as we'll explore Louisiana's wilderness paradise

Return to New Orleans for a late afternoon lunch, on own

Additional time for sightseeing and shopping, or afternoon at leisure

Dinner included at a local restaurant

Return to hotel for overnight

Day 5 Friday, March 15th (B)

Breakfast at the hotel

Hotel check-out and load motorcoaches

Depart your hotel

Visit and Tour and National WWII Museum. The National WWII Museum tells the story of the American experience in the war that changed the world — why it was fought, how it was won, and what it means today — so that all generations will understand the price of freedom and be inspired by what they learn. "Beyond All Boundaries" is included in your museum entrance. See this 4D cinematic experience, narrated and executive produced by Tom Hanks.

Lunch, on own

Afternoon transfer to the New Orleans airport for your return flight home

Evening arrival in Minneapolis

This is a very flexible itinerary. Except for confirmed appointments and performances, the places of interest and the sequence of sightseeing might be changed if necessary or desirable. In the event of an unavoidable conflict in the performance and the sightseeing schedule, the concert schedule will prevail, and it may be necessary to exclude some sightseeing activities.

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