



The “Crooked Road” of Country Music!

*A Trips Exclusive Foot-Stompin’, Toe-Tappin’ Musical Journey
 Through the Birthplaces of American Country and Bluegrass Music*

North Carolina — Virginia — Tennessee — Kentucky

October 27 - November 2, 2022 7 days — 6 nights

Your enchanted TRIPS’ autumn adventure along the scenic Crooked Road Trail immerses you deeply within the very heart and home of the greatest indigenous music that our American culture has ever produced!

Winding through the rugged Appalachian Mountains from the Blue Ridge to the Coalfields region, the Crooked Road Heritage Music Trail follows old Route 58, connecting the most celebrated music venues of the region such as the Blue Ridge Music Center, Birthplace of Country Music Alliance, and the Carter Family Fold. The traditional bluegrass, country and mountain music we hear today was passed down from generations, and lives on thanks to the abundance of local musicians and instrument makers along the Crooked Road.

Homegrown festivals, weekly concerts, live radio shows, and informal jam sessions abound throughout the Trail, and a wealth of authentically handcrafted woodwork, weaving, and pottery are also found in its country stores and workshops.

Our richly melodic and atmospheric Crooked Trail tour is guaranteed to deliver to you a spectacular sensory feast beyond all others!

Itinerary

October 27, 2022 - “Mayberry” Welcome Dinner in NC!

Depart for **Charlotte, NC**, today where on arrival you’ll be met and assisted by your TRIPS representative. You’ll then travel to **Mount Airy**, the actual town that became the model for fictional **Mayberry on the classic “Andy Griffith Show”!** After checking in to your hotel, you’ll enjoy a delicious **Welcome to Mayberry Dinner** at the **Old North State Winery**, followed by a **special Bluegrass music and dance show** at the historic **Earle Theatre** afterward.

Overnight: Mount Airy, NC - Holiday Inn Express & Suites (D)

October 28, 2022 - Andy’s Mount Airy & Blue Ridge Music!

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel, then set off on a tour to examine **everyday life in Mount Airy** and its **“Mayberry State of Mind.”** Along the way you’ll see the Andy Griffith Museum, the beloved Andy and Opie Statue, and several other familiar sights related to the TV series. After your lunch stop at historic diner **Snappy Lunch**, you’ll depart for the quaint country music town of Galax, VA, to explore the **Blue Ridge Music Center**, a performing venue, museum, and visitor center, featuring **free mid-day mountain music**. You can even bring your own instrument and join in on the Pickin’ Porch! You’ll also enjoy a **flatfoot dancing workshop**. On your guided tour of Galax, you’ll visit **Barr’s Fiddle Shop**, where the sounds of banjos, guitars, mandolins and fiddles spill out onto the beautiful downtown streets. The walls are lined with these handmade instruments the Barrs have made for over 35 years, and anyone is welcome to come in and “pick and grin.” After checking into your hotel, tonight’s dinner is at **Galax Smokehouse**, a popular laid-back barbecue joint. Then you’re in for a special treat at the **Rex Theater**, where every Friday night from its

stage, WBRF-FM sends out 100,000 watts of live old time and bluegrass music into five states and around the globe via the internet, in their show **“Blue Ridge Backroads Live”!**

Overnight: Galax, VA - Hampton Inn (B/L/D)

October 29, 2022 - Bristol’s Birthplace of Country Music!

After breakfast, you’ll travel to **Bristol, VA** with some free time to explore and enjoy lunch on your own. State Street boasts a unique atmosphere blending two states into a single “state” of mind, as the **state line between Virginia and Tennessee runs right down the main street of Bristol’s historic downtown**. Here you’ll find plenty of options for shopping and dining. You’ll visit the **Birthplace of Country Music Museum**, a Smithsonian affiliate dedicated to the telling of just one story, an event Johnny Cash called **“The Big Bang of Country Music.”** In 1927, a portable recording device was carried into a Bristol hat factory and local musicians were invited to record the music of the Appalachians, including the **legendary Carter Family** and **Jimmie Rodgers**. These were among the first country artists ever recorded, and because of these pioneering **“Bristol Sessions,”** this region’s rich music legacy still sings loud and proud today at the Museum. Later, you’ll check in to your hotel and enjoy dinner at **J. Frank’s Restaurant**, set in a beautifully restored 1850 Victorian home. Tonight, you’ll attend the **Carter Family Fold Saturday Night Jam Bouree** back at the Museum, an exuberant live musical experience where you might even get to test out your newly learned **Flat Footing dance** skills!

Overnight: Bristol, VA - Hilton Garden Inn (B/D)

October 30, 2022 - Bristol Speedway / Charming Abingdon!

Following your hotel breakfast, you'll take a high-velocity tour of the **Bristol Motor Speedway**, known as the "**Last Great Colosseum**" and home to some of the top NASCAR racing in the world, where you'll get to do a lap on the high-banked track known as "**The World's Fastest Half-Mile**"! You'll also see the speedway's Pit Road and the iconic Bristol Dragway known as "Thunder Valley." Your lunch today is in **Abingdon, VA**, the oldest town west of the Blue Ridge Mountains that combines Southern charm and modern elegance, at the lovely **Martha Washington Inn**, built in 1832 as a private home by a Virginia General. You'll then enjoy a matinee show nearby at the historic **Barter Theater** before traveling back to **Bristol**. Tonight's special dinner will be kept a delightful surprise that's certain to be a memorable highlight of your tour!
Overnight: Bristol, VA - Hilton Garden Inn (B/L/D)

October 31, 2022 - Hatfields, McCoy's & Mountain Music!
After your hotel breakfast, you'll head out to the **Ralph Stanley Museum and Traditional Mountain Music Center** in Clintwood, VA, providing a truly unique museum experience for music lovers. Here you can take an **interactive musical journey** through the career of Dr. Ralph Stanley and the colorful history of traditional mountain music right here where it all started - in the beautiful mountains of southwest Virginia. Continue on to lovely downtown **Pikeville, KY**, to enjoy lunch on your own. Afterward, your **Hatfield & McCoy Tour** examines the long-feuding families of the Hatfields and McCoy's, and their leaders. Despite enduring media depictions, both clans were honest, hard-working and proud, moving into the wilderness of Kentucky and what's now West Virginia, and cultivating thousands of acres of land. Then you'll enjoy a tasting and tour at **Dueling Barrels Brewery and Distillery**, nestled deep in the Appalachian foothills of Eastern Kentucky, whose handcrafted beverages raise a toast to the proud spirit of the mountains and the passionate people who shaped the region. Its founders immigrated to

Kentucky from Ireland, developing a special kinship with the mountains, craftsmanship and hardworking people of Appalachia. Following check-in, you'll enjoy tonight's dinner in your hotel's rooftop banquet room with **live local country music entertainment!**
Overnight: Pikeville, KY - Hilton Garden Inn (B/D)
November 1, 2022 - Coal Miner's Daughter / Bluegrass History!
After breakfast, you'll visit **Butcher Holler, the birthplace of Loretta Lynn!** See the humble cabin that shaped her into the "Coal Miner's Daughter," and stand on the porch where Loretta and her sister Crystal Gayle sang and honed their skills before becoming two of country music's greatest stars. Enjoy today's **homemade Coal-Miner's Sack Lunch**, and stop at **Webb's Grocery**, an old-time general store where you're welcome to stock up on snacks, drinks, and Loretta Lynn memorabilia. Continue on to **Winchester, KY** to visit the **Bluegrass Heritage Museum**, which brings the history of the area to life through several eras, ranging from the Eskippakithiki Indian Village (a branch of the Shawnee), to Daniel Boone and his settlement of Boonesboro, to the modern day. Exhibits here detail the museum's former use as a medical clinic, local agricultural and military history, with collections of quilts and antique telephones. Journey ahead to **Lexington, KY**, and check in to your hotel in time for its evening cocktail reception, then enjoy dinner on your own at one of the many inviting restaurants nearby.
Overnight: Lexington, KY - Embassy Suites Lexington Green (B/L)
October 2, 2022 - Horse Farm & Crooked Road Farewell!
Following breakfast today, you'll travel out to **Old Friends Farm**, where your guide will lead a delightful walking tour on which you'll meet about a dozen **thoroughbred retirees of horse racing**, including 1997 Kentucky Derby winner Silver Charm! Afterward you'll depart to the Lexington airport for your homeward flight. **Happy memories of your enchanting "Crooked Road" of Country Music Tour will surely stay with you forever!** (B)

*Please note that itineraries are subject to change.

Inclusions

- Roundtrip airport transfers including gratuities
- Roundtrip airfare to Charlotte, NC and from Kentucky (from certain major cities, please inquire about yours; checked baggage fees are not included)
- 6 nights lodging in North Carolina, Virginia and Kentucky
- Breakfast daily
- 3 lunches and 5 dinners, plus **5 nights of lively local music/dance shows!**
- All sightseeing and admissions as listed in the detailed itinerary, including Blue Ridge Music Center and Backroads Live show, Birthplace of Country Music Museum and Carter Fold Saturday Night Jam Bouree performance, Bristol Motor Speedway, Ralph Stanley Music Center, and more!
- Private, deluxe motor coach throughout your tour
- Tour Guide/Director throughout your tour
- TRIPS ticket wallet and luggage tags
- Portage of 1 suitcase per person.
- All government taxes and fees

The "Crooked Road" of
Country Music!

\$4,298.00
per person | double occupancy
Single supplement \$798.00



Trip cancellation/interruption Travel Protection is available and recommended.

Check with your club representative for details.

Call today to reserve your space!!!

CST # 2057913-10

Reservations for "**The 'Crooked Road' of Country Music**" are accepted on a first come/first served basis.

An initial **\$650.00** deposit is required to hold space on this tour.

This deposit is fully refundable up to July 19, 2022. **Final payment is due in the TRIPS office on or before July 19, 2022.**

Therefore, please make sure that payment is submitted to your club director at least 10 days prior to this date.

100% non-refundable as of July 19, 2022.

Prosperity Bank Travel Club

Make checks payable to **Prosperity Bank**
101 South Main Street Victoria, TX 77901
Jeannine Adams / Doris Brown / Ryan Saski
(361) 572-6504 / (361) 572-6566 / (361) 574-8431



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