



Jimmy The Cricket Tours



Mr. Jimmy the Cricket is yet again partnering with the Senior Activity Center of Smyrna for another memorable experience about which he is so very excited: **The Grandeur of Columbus, Mississippi.** The dates are November 30 - December 4, 2026 and Cricket says if you went on the Natchez trip, you will adore this trip just as well. **Double occupancy price is \$2,099 and the single supplement is an additional \$375.**

Tour includes:

- * Four nights of lodging in the Hyatt Place Hotel with a hot and cold breakfast daily to fuel us.
- * Transportation via luxury motorcoach including reclining seats with ports and plugs for electronics, Wifi, bathroom, all the bells and whistles. And, best of all, a good safe and fun driver which is a major part of the experience!
- * All meals—and those who know, know! This ain't slick chicken and canned green beans! Cricket feeds everyone and feeds them well. Many of the meals are in private homes or at least top-rated restaurants—one is even at a church!
- *We will have a guided tour of Columbus with local color who will give us not only history but behind-the-scene tales and downright gossip. Inquiring minds always want to know...

We will enjoy our welcome dinner at the General Stephen D Lee House. This will be a catered meal and the entire event is hosted by volunteers who club together to raise money for this historic place. The second floor contains a grand museum filled with all kinds of fascinating antiques and documents.



We will visit The Tennessee Williams home and hear the fascinating back story of one of the greatest playwrights who ever lived. Our lunch is served at the lovely St. Paul's Episcopal Church where we will tour the magnificent edifice and see the remarkable stained glass including Tiffany. The Ladies of the Church host a luncheon every year on May 8 with an interesting story as to why. They have agreed to replicate this for us to enjoy in their beautiful Parish Hall.



We will tour the W—formerly the College for Women where Eudora Welty earned her degree among other notable Southern ladies. We will tour the magnificent cemetery and hear tales from the crypts of so many amazing characters.



An afternoon tour of White Arches will showcase the antebellum splendor for which this town is noted. Moreover, our hosts will be the owners—Dick and JoAnne Leike who were the founders of Crye-Leike Realty. They have agreed to host us for wine and cheese and engage us in Southern hospitality and you will be dazzled by the millions of dollars worth of priceless antiques.

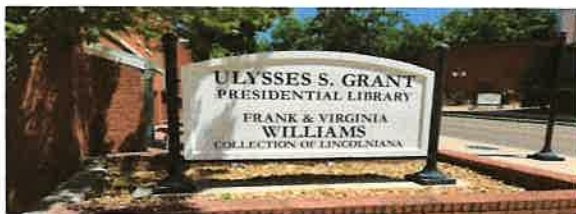


A tour of Joe Beckett's private 1820s home which is undergoing a transformation currently. We will see what the mansions of those days were like compared to the King Cotton mansions that replaced them a few decades following. This guy is a character and this will be another exclusive offering.

An exclusive cocktail tour of Rosedale with the owners and talk about grandeur—this is a private home with period room settings done to perfection and still stands on dozens of acres on the edge of town. A beautiful cupola is the crown for this Italianate villa. You truly will not believe folks are still living this life!



We will visit the U.S. Grant Presidential Library and see 15,000 linear feet of the man, the General and the President, as well as hear the fascinating tale as to why this is here in Mississippi! Moreover, this museum also boasts the largest collection of Lincoln memorabilia in the world. We will enjoy lunch in the cafeteria of Mississippi State as long as you're a bulldog fan!



Time for shopping in the downtown historic district from bakeries and boutiques to coffee shops and an art gallery---there is something for everyone. There are many glorious churches to choose from but an organ concert at The Catholic Church will be a nice addition to our day.



We will visit West Point just a short drive to the country to see one of the most famous antebellum homes in America. It has been for decades in the hands of the Snow family who were friends of the Cricket's! So in keeping with tradition, the new owners have graciously agreed to open up this private octagonal-shaped mansion filled with grand antiques for a party for us. You will have a major drop in blood pressure being this far out in the country and on this much acreage! Then we follow with a magnificent meal at the renowned Anthony's in town.



Our farewell supper will be a progressive dinner as never before: appetizers and aperitifs at River View (both a National Register and Historic Landmark designated site) followed by supper at White Hall with both descendants of the original builder as well as the current owners all hosting us for this private affair, and ending at Shadowlawn for champagne, coffee and dessert. We will be rock stars!



Our ride home will include a stop in Decatur, Alabama with lunch at Big Bob Gibson's famous BBQ with time for shopping on Bank Street and a tour of the tiny hamlet called Mooresville (where Huckleberry Finn was filmed) and the entire town is historic!

