

Be part of John Howie's and Travelrite's outstanding 2019

MUSIC TOUR OF **AMERICA**

★ with **Craig Giles** ★

Visiting Dallas-Fort Worth; Lafayette, New Orleans,
Greenville, Memphis, Branson, Nashville, Pigeon Forge,
Roanoke, Washington D.C., Allentown, New York

September 22 - October 16, 2019



TRAVELRITE
INTERNATIONAL



Please
BOOK EARLY
to avoid
disappointment



MUSIC TOUR OF AMERICA

★ with Craig Giles ★

Craig Giles is one of Australia's most popular entertainers. His rich singing voice, dynamic stage presence, and friendly personality have earned him a place as one of the top artists in Australian country music, rock 'n' roll, and rockabilly. He is well known for his outstanding Elvis Presley and Johnny Cash tribute shows. Craig has toured extensively, performing in thousands of places in Australia & NZ, plus performances in Memphis, Tupelo and Savannah, in the U.S. He has many successful albums, hit singles, and music industry awards to his credit. Craig is looking forward to sharing his passion for music with you, on the 2019 Music Tour of America. www.craigiles.com



Itinerary

Day 1 Sunday September 22, 2019

Dallas

Depart Australia on Qantas flight, arriving Dallas, Texas, same day. Visit Sixth Floor Museum, the book depository from which John F. Kennedy was assassinated. *Overnight:* Hotel Indigo, Dallas.

Day 2 Monday September 23, 2019

Dallas / Fort Worth

Enjoy a sightseeing coach tour of Dallas, with local guide. Then travel to Fort Worth, affectionately known as 'Cowtown'. Explore the Stockyards National Historic District. See the Old West come alive as you watch a colourful longhorn cattle drive. Return to Dallas. *Evening:* Commencement of Tour dinner. Craig Giles will sing a few songs! (B,D).

Day 3 Tuesday September 24, 2019

Lafayette

Travel to Lafayette, in the western Louisiana swamp country. *Evening:* Enjoy dinner & live music at Cajun restaurant/dance hall. Craig Giles will do a few songs with the Cajun band, if possible. *Overnight:* Springhill Suites, Lafayette. (B,D)

Day 4 Wednesday September 25, 2019

New Orleans

Morning: Travel to town of Breaux Bridge, in the heart of Cajun country. Enjoy a swamp tour, by boat. See amazing wildlife (alligators, turtles, birdlife) and distinctive swamp vegetation. *Afternoon:* Visit antebellum homestead, Laura Plantation, including original slave quarters. Continue on to New Orleans, birthplace of jazz. *Evening:* Enjoy a Creole meal in an excellent New Orleans restaurant. Then explore the French Quarter, including Bourbon Street and its many live music venues (optional). *Overnight:* Wyndham French Quarter Hotel (B,D).

Day 5 Thursday September 26, 2019

New Orleans

Morning: Coach tour of New Orleans with local guide. Visit an above ground cemetery, see the mansions on St Charles Ave, and visit areas ravaged by Hurricane Katrina. See street performers Hack Bartholomew and Doreen

Kitchens (the 'Clarinet Queen'), if available. *Afternoon:* Free time. *Evening:* Enjoy cruise, dinner & jazz music aboard a majestic Mississippi paddle-wheeler. (B,D)



Day 6 Friday September 27, 2019

Greenville

Morning: Visit the Mardi Gras and Hurricane Katrina exhibitions, at the Louisiana State Museum. Then depart New Orleans & travel north, to Greenville, in the heart of the Mississippi Delta. Greenville is famous for its cotton plantations and its blues music heritage. *Evening:* Explore the historic strip of blues clubs on Greenville's Nelson Street. *Overnight:* Hotel TBC (to be confirmed) (B)

Day 7 Saturday September 28, 2019

Memphis

Morning: Travel to Memphis, home of the blues and birthplace of rock 'n' roll. On the way visit the Delta Blues Museum, in Clarksdale. *Afternoon:* In Memphis, visit Graceland, Elvis Presley's famous mansion. *Evening:* Visit colourful Beale Street, including live music venues, such as B.B. King's Blues Club & the Rum Boogie Café (all venues optional). *Overnight:* Holiday Inn Downtown Memphis. (B)

Day 8 Sunday September 29, 2019

Memphis

Morning: Visit Sun Studio (famous recording studio where Elvis, Johnny Cash, & others recorded). Then attend Al Green's colourful gospel music church service. Craig Giles will do a song or two, if possible. *Afternoon:* Visit the National Civil Rights Museum (the motel – now museum – where Dr. Martin Luther King Jr was assassinated). *Evening:* Dinner at an outstanding Memphis restaurant, then visit Beale Street. (B,D)

Day 9 Monday September 30, 2019

Branson

Travel through Arkansas, and the picturesque Ozark Mountains, to Branson, Missouri. Branson is famous for its many live music 'theaters', operated by entertainers like The Duttons, the Sons of the Pioneers, and Mickey Gilley. *Evening:* Attend a show in one of Branson's music theaters. *Overnight:* Dutton Inn. (B)



Day 10 Tuesday October 1, 2019**Branson**

A free day for you to take in some of Branson's many attractions. You may wish to attend morning and afternoon theater shows, or perhaps visit Old Branson Town (Branson's charming old downtown shopping centre). *Evening:* Attend a show of your choice. All shows & activities during our stay in Branson, except for tomorrow's visit to Silver Dollar City, are optional. (B)

Day 11 Wednesday October 2, 2019**Branson**

Today we visit Branson's Silver Dollar City theme park. The theme park showcases traditional crafts & has live music venues featuring outstanding live music. The National Crafts & Cowboy Festival should be happening when we are there. *Evening:* Visit a Branson show of your choice. (B)

Day 12 Thursday October 3, 2019**Nashville**

Travel to Nashville, home of country music. On the way visit Cairo, an intriguing 'ghost town', in southern Illinois, near where the Mississippi & Ohio rivers meet. *Evening:* Attend the outstanding Opry Country Classics show, in Nashville's legendary Ryman Auditorium. *Overnight:* Embassy Suites Hotel, Nashville. (B,D)

Day 13 Friday October 4, 2019**Nashville**

Morning: Sightseeing coach tour of Nashville, with local guide. Includes visit to exclusive residential area (see homes of the rich & famous). *Early afternoon:* Free time. Then, visit the excellent Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum. *Evening:* Explore Nashville's outstanding honky tonks (live music bars), in the 'Broadway' district' (e.g., Tootsie's Orchid Lounge), or perhaps visit The Station Inn (famous bluegrass venue). (B)

Day 14 Saturday October 5, 2019**Nashville**

Morning: Visit the graves of Johnny Cash & June Carter Cash. Then visit the amazing Gaylord Opryland Hotel, featuring 9 acres of beautiful indoor gardens. Also visit Opry Mills Shopping Mall (excellent shopping & food court). *Afternoon:* Visit the Johnny Cash Museum (if you would prefer to visit the Patsy Cline Museum or the George Jones Museum instead, please advise John Howie). *Mid Afternoon:* Free time. *Evening:* Attend Grand Ole Opry show, featuring country music's biggest stars. (B)

**Day 15** Sunday October 6, 2019**Pigeon Forge**

Travel to Pigeon Forge, eastern Tennessee. On the way enjoy a guided tour of Jack Daniel's Distillery, in Lynchburg. Stop in Chattanooga for lunch. Continue on to Pigeon Forge which, like Branson, has an outstanding music-related theme park (Dollywood) and numerous live music theaters. *Evening:* Enjoy an informal music session with Craig Giles and John Howie. Bring your instruments & voices and join in. *Overnight:* Best Western Plaza Inn. (B,L)

Day 16 Monday October 7, 2019**Pigeon Forge**

Visit the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The trees are a blaze of colour at this time of the year (Autumn in the US). Then visit Dollywood, including Dolly Parton's excellent Chasing Rainbows Museum and fabulous live music shows. Dollywood's Southern Gospel & Harvest Festival should be in progress, so we should hear some outstanding gospel quartets. *Evening:* Attend Dolly Parton's spectacular live show, Dixie Stampede. Fabulous dinner and show, including great horse riding, buffalo or longhorn cattle, etc. (Note: Dolly Parton doesn't appear in this show.) (B,D)

Day 17 Tuesday October 8, 2019**Roanoke**

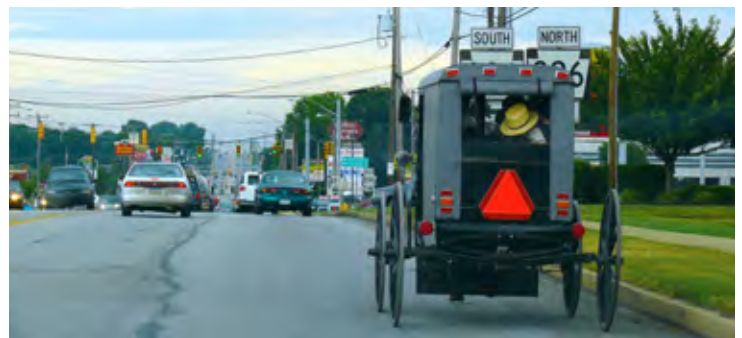
Today is the first of two days where we will be travelling through the beautiful Blue Ridge Mountains / Shenandoah Valley region of Virginia. This region has a rich folk music heritage. *Afternoon:* In the town of Floyd, Virginia, visit the Floyd Country Store... a wonderful general store (over 100 years-old), dedicated to the preservation and promotion of local old-time, bluegrass and gospel music. *Evening:* Attend an 'early American' bluegrass 'session' in the city of Roanoke, Virginia (approx. 12 - 15 musicians). *Overnight:* Holiday Inn Express, Roanoke. (B)

**Day 18** Wednesday October 9, 2019**Washington D.C.**

Today we drive from Roanoke to Washington D.C. We will stop in the historic town of Lexington. Visit the impressive Virginia Military Institute and the prestigious Washington and Lee University. *Late Afternoon:* Arrive in Washington D.C. *Evening:* Tonight we will explore D.C.'s live music venues (optional). *Overnight:* Holiday Inn Central White House. (B)

Day 19 Thursday October 10, 2019**Washington D.C.**

Morning: Sightseeing coach tour of Washington D.C. with local guide. Visit Arlington National Cemetery (see President Kennedy's grave) and the Lincoln Memorial. See the White House, the Washington Monument, the Capitol and many other famous landmarks. *Afternoon:* Free time. You may wish to join John Howie on a visit to some of the Smithsonian museums, including the Air and Space Museum and the National Museum of American History (see the original Star-Spangled Banner). *Evening:* Visit one of Washington D.C.'s interesting nightlife precincts: e.g. Georgetown. You may like to visit Blues Alley, a supper club in Georgetown, for excellent live jazz (optional). (B)

**Day 20** Friday October 11, 2019**Allentown**

Today we travel through Pennsylvania, towards New York. Enjoy guided tour of Gettysburg National Military Park (site of Civil War's Battle of Gettysburg). Continue on to Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, home of the Amish people. Many of these people wear plain clothing and travel in horse-drawn buggies. Coach tour of the Amish region with local guide. Have lunch with an Amish family in an Amish farmhouse. Also visit an Amish farmers' market. Continue on to the city of Allentown, Pennsylvania, about 85 miles from New York. *Overnight:* Holiday Inn Express Allentown. (B,L)

Day 21 Saturday October 12, 2019**New York**

Morning: Sightseeing coach tour of New York with local guide. Visit midtown area, Central Park, Harlem, Wall Street financial district, and Ground Zero (World Trade Center site). *Afternoon:* Free time. You may like to visit the Empire State Building (optional). *Evening:* Attend a Broadway musical or theatre production of your choice (optional). *Overnight:* Hotel Edison, New York. (B)

Day 22 Sunday October 13, 2019**New York**

Morning: Attend a colourful New York church service, featuring outstanding live gospel music. Then enjoy a cruise on New York Harbor, aboard the Staten Island Ferry. See the Statue of Liberty. *Afternoon:* Free time. John Howie will take those interested for a walk on the Brooklyn Bridge (great views of the N.Y. skyline from the bridge). Alternatively, you may like to go shopping. New York is a shoppers' paradise. *Evening:* Visit Manhattan's Greenwich Village area. In the 50s, 60s & 70s musicians like Bob Dylan, Peter, Paul & Mary, & Joan Baez used to perform in 'the Village'. Today Greenwich Village still has lots of good live music venues. We will have our End-of-Tour Dinner in 'the Village' before taking in some live music. (B,D)

Day 23 Monday October 14, 2019**Depart New York**

Free time for shopping and packing. *Mid Afternoon:* Transfer to airport, to commence return trip to Australia. (B)

Day 24 Tuesday October 15, 2019**In flight****Day 25** Wednesday October 16, 2019**Arrive Australia**

Arrive back in Australia and the tour concludes.

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September 22 – October 16, 2019

Tour Price

The tour price	\$ 11,150 pp, twin-share
Air taxes as of 30/8/18	\$ 220
Total tour price	\$ 11,370 pp, twin-share
Single supplement	\$ 2450

Included in the tour price :

- Return economy-class airfare to USA flying Qantas Airways (ex Sydney/Melbourne/Brisbane). Economy-class air travel within the USA.
- 22 nights' accommodation in centrally located first-class and moderate first-class hotels, with private facilities, on twin-share basis. Hotel taxes and service charges.
- Breakfast daily (mixture of Continental & Full breakfasts); 8 dinners; 2 lunches.
- Entry to all sightseeing attractions mentioned in the itinerary, unless marked 'optional'.
- Sightseeing tours with local guides, in Dallas, New Orleans, Nashville & New York.
- Admission to all music concerts/events mentioned in the itinerary, unless marked 'optional'. Lots of live music in the 'honky tonks' & other informal music venues in places like New Orleans, Memphis & Nashville. Admission to these informal venues is mostly free, though occasionally there may be a small cover charge. Also, many other informal (often impromptu) music performances, involving Craig Giles and John Howie, during the tour!
- Transport by first-class chartered coaches throughout. All airport/hotel transfers.
- Porterage of 1 piece of luggage per person.
- Tour escorted throughout by well-known Australian entertainer, Craig Giles.
- Tour managed throughout by John Howie, of The Howie Brothers, including the organisation of almost nightly excursions to hear the best of American music.
- You can extend your stay in America at no additional airfare cost (air taxes may be additional). Please check with us for optional tours, car hire, hotels, bed & breakfasts, etc.
- Cost of New York subway (underground train) tickets, up to \$15 US.
- \$10 US, per person, included towards cost of live music in Greenwich Village, New York.

Please Note: If any of the musical entertainment in the itinerary is unavailable, we will make every effort to replace that entertainment with similar performers/events.

General information and booking conditions

International touring can involve a considerable amount of walking and stair climbing in the places visited and it is important that all tour participants have a level of physical fitness that allows them to take part in this activity without the need of assistance from others.

Tour Operator. Travelrite International Pty Ltd. A.C.N. 005 817 0781 (Travelrite International) is the tour operator. Tour Costs. The tour's costs are based on transport, accommodation costs and entrance costs at 1 September 2018. Travelrite reserves the right to alter the costs if any of these factors change, giving any passenger that has booked the right to withdraw with full refund of monies paid or modify arrangements. No alterations to costings will be made within 60 days prior to departure.

Deposits and Payments. A deposit of \$500 per passenger is required at the time of booking. Full payment will be required 60 days prior to departure. A 1.5% administration fee will be charged on payment by Visa, Mastercard and Amex Cards.

Cancellations. Cancellations within 60 days of departure will result in the loss of all monies paid. Cancellation outside 60 days from departure will result in a cancellation fee of \$500 per person. Travel insurance is recommended to cover the costs of cancellation fees due to illness, death in family, etc.

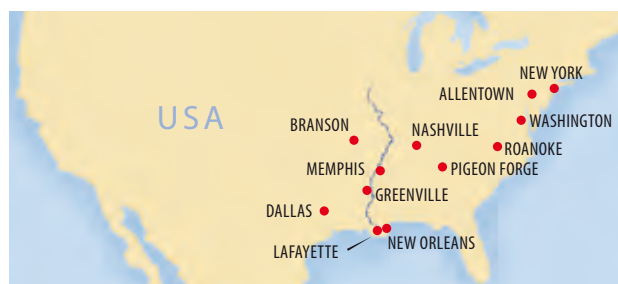
Changes to the Tour Itinerary. Travelrite International reserves the right to make changes to the tour itinerary to fit in with operational requirements. Any changes to the itinerary will be replaced with similar arrangements with an equal or greater value.

Minimum Tour Numbers. The tour has been costed on the basis of a minimum number of passengers having booked 60 days prior to departure. Travelrite reserves the right to cancel the tour, giving a full refund of all monies

paid or offer arrangements to proceed with the tour at a modified cost if the minimum number is not achieved.

Baggage. All passengers qualify for 1 piece free baggage allowance. Refunds. The tour is based on arrangements which do not allow for any refunds in respect to sightseeing, accommodation, meals or other services not utilised after the tour has commenced.

Responsibility. Travelrite International Pty Ltd. (Licence number 30858) is the tour organiser. Travelrite International acts only as agents in making of arrangements with carriers, hoteliers and others for the tour. As a result we cannot accept liability for any act or omission whatsoever, whether negligent or otherwise of those carriers, hoteliers or other persons providing services in connection with the tour over whom we have no direct or exclusive control. We do not accept responsibility for any injury, damage, loss, delay, change of schedule or any other events which are beyond our direct control, such as, but not limited to, war, flood, fire, civil disturbance, acts of God, acts of government, or any other authorities, terrorism, accidents to or failure of machinery or equipment, or industrial action. The passage contract in use by the carriers concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies or firms and the purchasers of these tours and the passengers. Baggage is at own risk throughout the tour. The contract shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Victoria, Australia and any legal action must be taken in the State of Victoria.



Not included in the price:

- Insurance. Travel insurance is strongly recommended.
- All items of personal nature, such as drinks, room service, laundry and phone calls.
- Meals & drinks, unless specified in itinerary. Breakfasts, lunches, dinners, & afternoon teas that are 'included' are marked B, L, D in the itinerary.
- Entry to concerts/entertainment, other than those listed as included. Entry to any other musical entertainment to be paid direct. Some entertainment venues, in places such as Beale Street (Memphis), 'Broadway' district (Nashville), and the French Quarter (New Orleans) have a modest cover charge, but many have free admission.
- International airport and departure taxes above the rate quoted.
- Domestic flight connections to and from departure city.



John Howie

John Howie will be the tour leader/manager. Since 1995 John has led many successful music tours of Ireland, Scotland, Europe, the U.S., New Zealand and the Australian outback. He has also led many successful music cruises. John is a musician and former secondary school music teacher. He and his twin brother, Graeme, perform as The Howie Brothers, one of Australia's leading country music / easy listening / vocal harmony acts.



How to Book: Bookings can be made by completing a booking form and sending it with a deposit of \$500 per person to:

Travelrite International Pty Ltd
182 Canterbury Road
Heathmont, Victoria 3135

Further information can be obtained by telephoning

Toll Free: 1800 033 436

Phone: (03) 9729 8722

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Email: heathmont@travelrite.com.au

www.travelrite.com.au

www.musicstours.com.au

About Travelrite International: Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a well-established travel company which has been operating in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne for more than 32 years. It has two fully accredited IATA and ATAS (No.A10538) offices – Heathmont and Balwyn. As such, it directly represents the major airlines of the world and all major domestic and international tour and transport operators. Travelrite International Pty Ltd is a full member of the Australian Federation of Travel Agents – AFTA.