

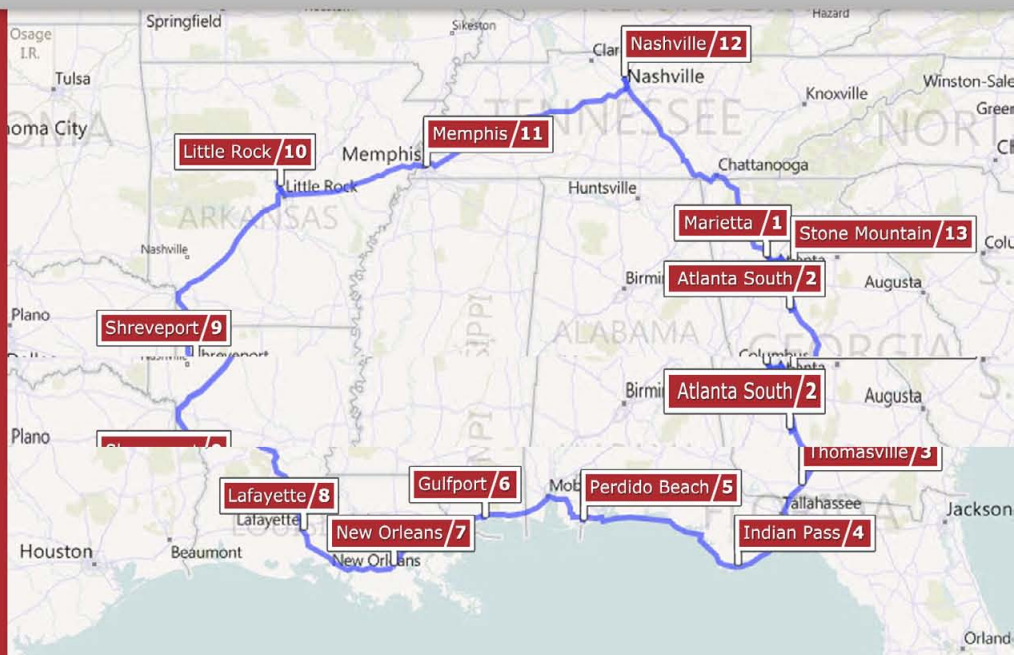
# SOUTHERN MUSIC AND HEROES

## Summary

- 🕒 Timescale: 13 DAYS
- 🚐 Total Distance: 2100 miles
- 🚩 Start: Atlanta
- 🚩 End: Atlanta

In just over 2,000 miles you will see Atlanta, antebellum homes and the

ride, play the casinos on the Mississippi coast and get really jazzed up in New Orleans. Take a swamp tour, go to the zoo and follow the trails of both Elvis and Bill



### DAY 1 - MARIETTA TO ATLANTA SOUTH 42 miles – 1 hour

Pick up your motorhome in the El Monte RV depot Marietta, a suburb of Atlanta, and drive just a short distance to your first campground, the Atlanta South RV Resort. ([www.atlantasouthrvresort.com](http://www.atlantasouthrvresort.com)) Here you will get used to how your motorhome hooks up to electricity and water. Have a relaxing evening in this lovely location.

### DAY 2 - ATLANTA SOUTH TO THOMASVILLE 224 miles – 4-5 hours

After an hour and just 62 miles into the drive you will arrive at Tobesofkee Recreation Area ([www.co.bibb.ga.us](http://www.co.bibb.ga.us)) - near Macon. You can enjoy fishing, camping, boating, tennis and swimming from one of three white sand beaches. In the afternoon you will continue your drive for a further 160 miles. Consider staying for a night or two at Sugar Mill RV Park ([www.sugarmillpark.com](http://www.sugarmillpark.com)), our suggested campground just north of Thomasville.



### DAY 3 - THOMASVILLE TO INDIAN PASS 134 miles – 3 hours

This morning enjoy a visit to Pebble Hill Plantation ([www.exploregeorgia.org](http://www.exploregeorgia.org)). The drive is less than 10 miles. This stately home stands amid the magnolias and long leaf pines of southwest Georgia. Pebble Hill covers 3,000 acres and dates back to 1825. The main house furnishings include prime antiques, Audubon prints, and a wealth of sporting art.

Next head south, dropping in to see Florida's State capital, Tallahassee, before driving the eastern edge of Apalachicola National Forest to today's suggested campground, Indian Pass Camp ([www.indianpasscamp.com](http://www.indianpasscamp.com)). Situated at the far western end of Apalachicola Bay, the campsite lies in the midst of a beautiful, deeply fertile area, full of unspoiled beaches and rich estuaries. There are no high rises in Indian Pass - just wonderful beaches, oysters and sunsets.

### DAY 4 - INDIAN PASS TO PERDIDO BEACH 210 miles – 4 hours

It's all about the views! The Gulf coast beaches of Florida's Forgotten coast ([www.visitgulf.com](http://www.visitgulf.com)). Follow it around St Joseph's Bay and stop at the local town, Port St Joe, for breakfast. Continue on Highway 98 all the way to Pensacola, following the gulf and through towns and hamlets - Mexico Beach, Panama City Beach, Santa Rosa, Destin and

Fort Walton Beach. Cross the channel to Pensacola and on to tonight's suggested campground, Playa del Rio on Perdido Beach ([www.playadelrio.com](http://www.playadelrio.com)).



### DAY 5 - PERDIDO BEACH TO GULFPORT 116 miles – 3 hours

Excitement to start the day: a trip on the Mobile Bay Ferry, which we suggest you book in advance from Fort Morgan to Dauphine Island ([www.mobilebayferry.com](http://www.mobilebayferry.com)). Mid channel you will cross from Florida to Alabama - and after you arrive on Dauphine Island, in just 90 minutes you should be at tonight's suggested campground, Gulf Haven ([www.gulfhavencampground.com](http://www.gulfhavencampground.com)) located near the Casinos, the Beach and Shopping.

### DAY 6 - GULFPORT TO NEW ORLEANS 80 miles – 1 hour 30 minutes

A highlight of this trip is your stay in New Orleans, and where better than the French Quarter RV Resort ([www.fqrv.com](http://www.fqrv.com)). We don't need to say much about this amazing city, which has in recent years seen such devastation, yet has recovered so amazingly due to the resilience of its people. More about things to do on ([www.neworleansonline.com](http://www.neworleansonline.com)).

## DAY 7 - NEW ORLEANS TO LAFAYETTE

**160 miles – 3 hours**

Just over 90 miles to Baton Rouge, State Capitol of Louisiana. Visit Baton Rouge Zoo ([www.brzoo.org](http://www.brzoo.org)) where conservation is paramount. Another 70 miles and you will arrive at our suggested campground – the KOA at Lafayette. ([www.koa.com](http://www.koa.com)). Not well known to international travellers, Lafayette has lots to offer including their scenic byways programme.

([www.lafayettettravel.com](http://www.lafayettettravel.com)). You've heard of the swamps and wildlife along the Mississippi river? Why not take a tour? A specialist is Atchafalaya Experience ([www.theatchafalayaexperience.com](http://www.theatchafalayaexperience.com)) who accommodate photographers, birders and lovers of nature who want to see Louisiana's answer to the Grand Canyon, the Atchafalaya. North America's largest river swamp ranks among the top ten wilderness areas in the United States.

## DAY 8 - LAFAYETTE TO SHREVEPORT

**217 miles – 4 hours**

Head for Shreveport ([www.shreveport.com](http://www.shreveport.com)) for a little bit of Elvis history. He got his start here on the stage of the Shreveport Municipal Auditorium, performing for the Louisiana Hayride radio show on October 16, 1954. Now a National Historic Site containing the Stage of Stars Museum at 705 Elvis Presley Avenue, the Auditorium honours famous music legends like Elvis, Hank Williams and Johnny Cash. On December 15, 1956, immediately after he left the Auditorium's stage at the end of his "farewell to Shreveport" concert, the famous sentence "Elvis has left the building" was coined. Suggested campground tonight is Tall Pines RV Park ([www.tallpinesrvpark.com](http://www.tallpinesrvpark.com)) voted one of the top 100 Good Sam Parks for 2010! And that's out of 1600 Good Sam parks!



## DAY 9 - SHREVEPORT TO LITTLE ROCK

**217 miles – 4 hours**

Cross into Arkansas and touch the Texas border: you'll even cross into Texas if you stop for a while at Texarkana. Head for the State Capital where the 45th US



President was Governor before moving to the White House. Bill Clinton's birthplace is at Hope, just up the road from Texarkana and well worth a visit on the way to Little Rock. We suggest the KOA Campground ([www.koa.com](http://www.koa.com)). Plan to stay a couple of nights so you have time to see the Clinton Presidential Center just ten minutes from the campground. If you fancy a boogie, River Market District for Live Music is the place ([www.littlerock.com](http://www.littlerock.com)).

## DAY 10 - LITTLE ROCK TO MEMPHIS

**140 miles – 2-3 hours**

You've seen where his career kicked off in Shreveport; now head for what became Elvis' hometown as well as a great place to visit. ([www.cityofmemphis.org](http://www.cityofmemphis.org)) Since you will be visiting Graceland, the campground next door, right by Heartbreak Hotel is convenient and comfortable. ([www.elvis.com](http://www.elvis.com)) Elvis became the most celebrated entertainer in the world; visit his Car Museum and "Access Elvis"; see his costumes and go through the Lisa Marie and Hound Dog Airplanes.

## DAY 11 - MEMPHIS TO NASHVILLE

**248 miles – 4-5 hours**

Keep your feet tapping to the rhythm at the home of country music, Nashville, Tennessee. ([www.visitmusiccity.com](http://www.visitmusiccity.com)) Don't hang about – just get on the road to our suggested campground, the KOA in Nashville ([www.koa.com](http://www.koa.com)) ideally placed in music city. The on-site tour desk staff will

help with tickets to the Grand Ole Opry as well as with shuttles to-and-from local attractions. They'll book sightseeing tours leaving right from the campground – including to the homes of many country music stars.



## DAY 12 - NASHVILLE TO STONE MOUNTAIN

**270 miles – 4-5 hours**

Check out Stone Mountain's website and understand why we're suggesting this area for your last night. ([www.stonemountainpark.com](http://www.stonemountainpark.com)). The mountain displays the largest bas relief carving in the world and honours three important names in the Confederate States of America: Stonewall Jackson, Jefferson Davis and, of course, Robert E. Lee. Suggested campground ([www.stonemountainpark.com](http://www.stonemountainpark.com)) is just a stone's throw from your vehicle's return location in Marietta.

## DAY 13 - RETURNING YOUR MOTORHOME

**33 miles – 45 minutes**

A short drive today, and time to fill up with petrol before returning to the El Monte RV location in Marietta by 11am.