

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Opening Ceremony of The National Cherry Blossom Festival  
Washington DC  
March 24 – 26, 2012**

<b>SINGLE</b>	<b>DOUBLE</b>	<b>TRIPLE</b>	<b>QUAD</b>
<b>\$615</b>	<b>\$470</b>	<b>\$460P</b>	<b>\$445 PP</b>
<b>OPTIONAL TOUR INSURANCE RATES</b>			
<b>\$40</b>	<b>\$28</b>	<b>\$28</b>	<b>\$28</b>



**EXPERIENCE THE STORY OF HOW THE GIFT OF THE TREES HAS DEVELOPED INTO THE NATION'S GREATEST SPRINGTIME CELEBRATION, AS TOLD THROUGH A SERIES OF TRADITIONAL AND CONTEMPORARY PERFORMANCES SEEN FROM OUR EXCLUSIVE PREMIUM RESERVED SEATS.**

**ENJOY A GRAND FINALE "PINK PARTY" BLOSSOM CRUISE ON THE ODYSSEY! LITERALLY, GET YOUR BLOOM ON! THE BEST TWO PINK OUTFITS WILL WIN A FABULOUS OVERNIGHT PACKAGE FOR TWO INCLUDING TWO NIGHTS IN NYC AT A MARRIOTT HOTEL, DINNER FOR TWO AT FAMOUS CARMINE'S IN NYC, TWO BROADWAY TICKETS, AND A DINNER CRUISE FOR TWO ON THE BATEAUX.**

**Day One, Saturday, March 24, 2012**

- 5:00 AM Facility (gate and building) accessible.
- 6:00 AM Board Shafer's Motorcoach at our 500 North Street Facility.
- 6:30 AM Depart for Washington DC. We will make rest area/fast food stops as needed.
  
- 11:00am ETA to Washington DC. Meet our GUIDE at the James A. Garfield statue at the foot of Capitol Hill (west front—facing the National Mall).
- Noon Arrive at the NEW Capitol Visitor Center on Capitol Hill.  
*Security check points are located at the front of the building and groups will be subject to high security procedures.*
  - The **Capitol Visitor Center** welcomes visitors to the seat of American government. At nearly 580,000 square feet, the CVC is the largest project in the Capitol's 215-year history and is approximately three quarters the size of the Capitol itself. The entire facility is located underground on the east side of the Capitol so as not to detract from the appearance of the Capitol. Enjoy **lunch on own** at the **Capitol Visitor Center Cafeteria**.
  - **The United States Capitol** The most recognized symbol of democratic government in the world, the U.S. Capitol has housed Congress since 1800 and is one of the most imposing public buildings in the world. The Capitol is where Congress meets to write the laws of our nation, and where presidents are inaugurated. Its ceilings are decorated with historic images, and its halls are lined with statuary and paintings representing great events and people in the nation's history. **Note: Stop for a photo opportunity and narrative tour of the outside only.**
  - Visit the **United States Library of Congress**. *Explore. Discover. Be Inspired!*  
Established as an act of Congress in 1800, The Library of Congress is the largest national library in the world with more than 100 million items in three buildings. The original Library of Congress Building (now called the Thomas Jefferson Building) is perhaps Washington's most richly ornamented building. **DID YOU KNOW?** **The library has more than 650 miles of bookshelves, and more than 138 million objects in 470 different languages.**
    - **NEW The Library of Congress Experience**. Pick up your **Passport to Knowledge** at the front desk upon arrival. Interactive technologies make the Library of Congress and its collections more

dynamic and accessible than ever. This Library of Congress Experience offers “hands-on” interaction with rare cultural treasures in ways that inspire and engage. Highlights on display include Exploring the Early Americas, Waldeemuller 1507 Map known as “America’s Birth Certificate”, Minerva-The Goddess of Wisdom, Creating the United States, Thomas Jefferson’s Library, Bob Hope and American Variety, and the History of the Library of Congress.

**If for any reason an inside tour is not available or the wait in line is extremely long our guide will conduct a tour outside the buildings.**

- Visit of the **Supreme Court Building** Within the walls of this white marble monument the third branch of government exercises its mandate to protect and interpret the spirit of the Constitution. **If for any reason an inside tour is not available or the wait in line is extremely long our guide will conduct a tour outside the buildings.**

4:00pm Stop for a **photo opportunity** of **The White House**.

5:00pm Stop at **The United States Air Force Memorial** built on a hillside in Arlington, Virginia overlooking the **Pentagon**. The memorial is bold and graceful and truly representational of the Air Force. Central to the design are three stainless steel spires which soar skyward. The highest of the spires ascends 270' above the 3-acre elevated promontory site. Other key elements of the Memorial include a bronze Honor Guard, inscription walls, and an open glass Chamber of Contemplation, all landscaped to create a park.

- You can see the **Pentagon** from the Air Force Memorial. The Pentagon is the world’s largest office building. With over 17 miles of hallways and a telephone system that rivals many of the world’s smaller cities, the pentagon is an engineering masterpiece and headquarters of the United States Department of Defense. On September 11, 2001 the Pentagon was a target by terrorist in an attack against The United States.

- Visit the **NEW September 11, 2001 Memorial at the Pentagon**. One hundred eighty four lives were lost in a single moment at the Pentagon – one hundred eighty four individuals forever linked through the horrific events that unfolded that day. Thousands of others lost their lives and suffered injury while millions wept.

7:00pm Enjoy **dinner** this evening at **King Street Blues**. Dinner begins with the *Best Small Salad in Town*. Mixed Greens with Fresh Chopped Veggies, Tomatoes, Croutons and Original Tomato Ranch Dressing. Served with Cornbread. Entrée choices are:

- (1) *Margarita Chicken*, 2 Grilled Boneless Breasts Marinated in Citrus and Southwest Spices. Served with Red Rice & Gravy, and Fresh Vegetables;
- (2) *Ultra Famous BBQ Ribs*, Pork Back Ribs House-smoked and Mopped with Mahogany BBQ Sauce. Served with Coleslaw, Cool Beans, and Cornbread;
- (3) *Pork Loin* with maple mustard glaze. Served with Garlic Mashed Potatoes and Fresh Vegetables.

Chef’s choice of *dessert*. Soda, Lemonade, or Iced Tea included. **GUIDE DROPS** after checking group in to dinner.

8:15pm Depart.

8:45pm **Check in** to the **SpringHill Suites Alexandria Tech Center**. **Baggage handling** included.

## **Day Two, Sunday, March 25, 2012**

7:30am Enjoy **breakfast** at the hotel this morning.

8:30am Depart.

9:00am Meet our **GUIDE** at the **entrance** of **The White House Visitor Center** and depart for a tour of the following:

- Stop at the **National World War II Memorial**. This *newest memorial* honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the U.S. during World War II, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions who supported the war effort from home. Symbolic of the defining event of the 20th Century, the memorial is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people to the common defense of the nation and to the broader causes of peace and freedom from tyranny throughout the world.
- Stop at **The Vietnam Veterans Memorial**. This privately funded memorial has drawn millions who have come to touch the over 50,000 names, make pencil rubbings and leave flowers, letters, flags and personal mementos.
- Stop at **The Lincoln Memorial**, overlooking the Reflecting Pool, was patterned on a classic Greek temple. Inside, inscriptions from his Gettysburg Address and Second Inaugural Address flank the 19-foot marble statue of our 16th President.
- Stop at **The Korean War Veterans Memorial**. The triangular field contains nineteen ground troopers, clad in foul weather ponchos, fully equipped for battle. Representing those who supported the ground troops are hundreds of faces etched on a polished granite wall.
- Stroll along *Tidal Basin* for a **photo opportunity** of the **cherry blossoms (pending bloom time)**. The original 3,000 Cherry Trees were a gift from the city of Tokyo to the people of Washington, DC in 1912.
- Stop at the **Jefferson Memorial**. The 19-foot statue of the third president stands beneath a rotunda inscribed with passages from the Declaration of Independence and Jefferson’s other famous writings.

- Stop at the *new* **Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial**. The long awaited memorial utilizes landscape elements to powerfully convey three fundamental and recurring themes of Dr. King's life: justice, democracy and hope. The memorial is a quiet and receptive space, yet at the same time, powerful and emotionally evocative, reflecting the spirit of the message Dr. King delivered and the role he played in society. The King Memorial is intended to be personally transformative for visitors, building a sense of commitment to the promise of positive change and active citizenship.
- Stop at the **Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial**. This memorial to FDR combines sculpture, water and natural landscape to forge a dramatic setting for recounting the events and terms of office of the nation's 32nd President. The FDR is unique among the memorials of Washington, DC. Its shade trees, waterfalls, statuary and quiet alcoves create the feeling of a secluded garden rather than an imposing structure. The memorial is divided into four outdoor galleries, or rooms, one for each of FDR's terms in office. Water cascades and quiet pools are present throughout.

1:00pm Visit the **Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History**. Enjoy **lunch on your own** in the museum's **cafeteria** while visiting.

**The Smithsonian Institution's security policy is: All bags, purses, attaches, shopping bags satchels, suitcases, etc. will be hand searched. To expedite this please bring only a small purse or fanny pack. DO NOT bring daypacks, backpacks, or luggage in to the museums. Most locker rooms have been closed. DO NOT bring sharp items into the museums, such as knives (including pocket), screwdrivers, corkscrews, scissors, nail files, etc.**

- **National Museum of American History**. The new central atrium with skylights dramatically opening the building. A grand staircase connects the 1<sup>st</sup> and second floors. Galleries with over 3 million objects including new galleries and exhibitions never displayed before. A special state-of-the-art gallery displaying the original **Star Spangled Banner**.

- This very popular collection tops the list of must-sees for any visitor with a taste for true Americana. See the flag that inspired the Star Spangled Banner, Dorothy's Ruby Red Slippers, First Ladies' inaugural gowns, quilts, cars, locomotives, and much, much more.

3:00pm Meet the motorcoach on the **National Mall entrance** of **The National Museum of American History** and depart.

3:30pm Take your **PREMIUM VIEW RESERVED SEATS** at the **NATIONAL CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL OPENING CEREMONY**.

4:00pm Enjoy the ceremony welcoming springtime to Washington, DC at the **Walter E. Washington Convention Center**. The main stage lineup will include renowned American and international artists, uniting for one momentous production. The Opening Ceremony will incorporate a wide spectrum of talent and genres interwoven telling the story of the gift of the cherry trees from the Empire of Japan and how it has developed into the Nation's Greatest Springtime Celebration. (15 Minute walk to Dinner)

6:45pm Enjoy **dinner served family style** at **Carmines** in Penn Quarter, Washington, D.C. Our **Dinner Menu #1** includes: Stuffed Mushrooms, Mixed Green Salad, Clams in White Sauce, Vegetarian Marinara, Chicken Marsala & Mushrooms, and Salmon Oreganato. Dessert sampler for the table. Included ice tea and coffee.

8:45pm Depart.

9:15pm Arrive at the hotel for the night.

### Day Three, Monday, March 26, 2012

7:00am Enjoy **breakfast** at the hotel this morning prior to **checking out**. **Baggage** handling included.

8:00am Depart.

8:30am Meet our **GUIDE** at the **Visitor's Center of Arlington National Cemetery**. No land in American is more sacred than this square mile. It is America's shrine to valor and sacrifice. This is the final resting place for President John F. Kennedy, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Robert F. Kennedy, Edward Moore (Ted) Kennedy, Audie Murphy, prizefighter Joe Louis, and thousands of soldiers from every major U.S. war. The Cemetery is the former plantation and home of Civil War General Robert E. Lee. Arlington House, Space Shuttle Challenger Astronauts' Memorial, and Monuments to nearly every major sacrifice that affected our country are located within these 612 acres. The Tomb of the Unknowns speaks of a nation's debt to the many whose ultimate sacrifice helped make a nation free. Arlington averages 27 funerals a day. The crews, service members, and groundskeepers follow an elaborate choreography to ensure that each funeral feels like it is the only one taking place.

- Stop at the **Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima Statue)**. One of the largest bronze statues ever cast depicts the American Flag being raised on Mount Suribachi during World War II and commemorates all Marines who have died in battle since 1775. The views of Washington from this memorial are spectacular.

11:30am Board the **Odyssey III Cruise Ship**.

Noon Enjoy a **GRAND FINALE CHERRY BLOSSOM CRUISE**, a **"PINK PARTY"** on the *Potomac* onboard the **ODYSSEY III CRUISE SHIP**. **SIGNATURE PINK DRINK** will be included for each **GUEST INCLUDING A KEEPSAKE GLASS! Get Your Bloom On!...** and **WEAR PINK** today to help make our luncheon cruise especially festive. The **BEST PINK COSTUME** will **WIN AN OVERNIGHT PACKAGE FOR TWO\* (2) TO**

**NEW YORK CITY** staying in a **MARRIOTT BRAND HOTEL** with **TICKETS TO A BROADWAY SHOW**. Includes **DINNER FOR TWO (2) AT CARMINE'S OF NEW YORK CITY** and a **CRUISE ON THE BATEAUX NEW YORK**. **Other great prizes for runners up!**

❖ **PLUS each guest will receive a commemorative 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY PROFESSIONAL PHOTO and PIN!**

2:00pm **Return to dockside** and depart for home. Rest area/fast food stop enroute

8:30 pm Approximate Return to Endicott

**THIS PACKAGE INCLUDES:** 2 nights accommodation, baggage handling, 2 deluxe continental breakfasts, 1 Cherry Blossom Lunch Cruise & Pink Party, 2 dinners, CB Festival Opening Ceremony, admissions and guide service as stated in the itinerary, taxes and gratuity,

Driver's gratuity is not included.

## *Shafer's Tour & Charter*

Shafer's Tours reserves the right to make changes and/or substitutions as may be necessary to maintain the quality of your tour.

**Bonus is at the discretion of the casino and is subject to change without notice.**

## General Information

**Seating: Shafer's Tours does not assign seats.** The posted boarding order is arranged in the order you signed up for the tour. When called to board, you choose from the remaining seats. Please be courteous to your fellow travelers and remember that they would like, as you do, to sit together with others in their party. Your seat is then kept for the remainder of the trip, so that everyone can make his or her space comfortable.

**Departures:** Our tours depart from our 500 North Street, Endicott terminal. Please park your vehicles carefully, as Shafer's Tours is not responsible for damage to your vehicle. Arrangements can be made, based on the routes traveled, for other pick up point, however seats will not be reserved for passengers boarding at alternate locations.

**Escorts:** Shafer's Tours are unescorted, unless otherwise noted. Our professional drivers will guide you through your trip; we do this to control costs.

**Reservations:** We recommend making reservations for trips well in advance. Please note that our trip prices are based on the number of sign ups our Vendor's require; that is how we are able to offer the great discounts! If the number is not met the trip may have to be cancelled.

**Payments:** Visa, MasterCard and Discover are accepted. If paying by check, make payable to: Shafer's Tour & Charter and mail to 500 North Street, Endicott, NY 13760. There is a minimum \$35 fee for returned checks. Day trips costing less than \$100 must be paid in full to reserve your seat. Day trips over \$100 can be held with a 50% deposit, with the balance paid 14 days before the trip. Multi-day trips require a \$100.00 deposit per person. Monthly payments are then made with the balance paid 30 days prior to the trip.

**Refunds:** Should Shafer's cancel a trip due to lack of reservations, your money will be promptly returned. Shafer Tours cannot be responsible, however, for any costs such as those occurring due to missed reservations with theater or sporting events tickets that you may have purchased on your own or that were purchased by Shafer's on your behalf. There are no refunds or exchanges on Broadway Shows, Radio City Music Hall or Madison Square Garden or any other events that we are unable to attend due to acts of God; weather, traffic, war, terrorism, strikes, etc., beyond the control of Shafer Tours.

**Cancellations:** Customer cancellations for one-day tours are non-refundable unless we can sell your seat or you can find someone to take your reservation. \*Multi-day tours cancelled by customers 45-60 days prior to the trip will be assessed a \$50.00 fee plus any non-refundable money paid out on your behalf. \*Multi-day tours cancelled by customers 14-44 days prior to the trip will be assessed 40% plus any non-refundable money paid out on your behalf. \*Multi-day tours cancelled by customers 1-14 days prior to the trip are non refundable, unless we can sell your seat. **Smoking:** State and Federal law prohibits smoking on the motor coaches. Shafer Tours drivers will make a quick rest stop (built into your travel time) so everyone can be comfortable and enjoy the trip.

**Baggage:** On any of our multi-day tours everyone is allowed one large suitcase and one carry on. (a small cooler is considered a carry-on)

**Gratuities:** Motor coach driver and step on guide gratuities are not included in the cost of our tours.

**Special Needs:** Please let us know when you make your reservation if you have special mobility or dietary needs. Hotels and attractions in our tours will make every effort to see that you are accommodated.

**Departures:** We are unable to wait for any passengers who are not at the scheduled pick-up point on any Shafer Tour, which is why we request passengers to be at pick up locations 15 minutes prior to departure.

**Bonus Bucks:** All of our tours have drawings for \$10.00 "Bonus Bucks"! They are good toward any Shafer Tour!

**Group Leaders:** If you have a small group and cannot fill a bus, call regarding our "Incentive" for 15 or more people signing up for our tours.

**Itinerary changes:** Shafer Tours reserves the right to make changes or substitutions as may be necessary to maintain the quality of your tour. All times listed in itineraries are approximate, and subject to change based on traffic/weather or other conditions.

**Emergencies:** A 24-hour phone number is available in case of an emergency 800~287~8986.