



A Big Taste of Texas

The Pioneer Woman (Ree Drummond), Magnolia Market @ Silo's (Chip @ Joanna Gaines) Dallas, Ft. Worth, Waco, San Antonio, Houston
April 5th - 14th, 2021

Day 1: Travel day to Joplin, Mo. **Day 2: PAWHUSKA, OK • THE PIONEER WOMAN MERCANTILE:** We spend the day today in the home town of the Pioneer Woman, Ree Drummond. First we start off with a tour of Osage and a visit out to The Lodge on the Drummond Ranch. The Lodge is their family guest house and also serves as the production location for Ree's Food Network show! (If The Pioneer Woman is taping for TV, we will not be able to visit the lodge.) We will have lunch on our own and then spend the afternoon shopping at The Pioneer Woman's Mercantile. "The Merc" has gorgeous goods, comfort foods, fresh-made pastries, delicious coffee, and plenty of fun to dish out. Tonight we have an included dinner at The Mercantile. **Day 3: DALLAS, TX • DALLAS ARBORETUM & BOTANICAL GARDENS:** Today we travel south into the heart of Texas. The Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden is a world-class, 66-acre urban oasis featuring 19 finely manicured gardens. Take a stroll through one of the most beautiful outdoor attractions featuring spectacular display gardens that showcase incredible seasonal flowers, ornamental shrubs, trees and plant collections in a serene setting on White Rock Lake. **Day 4:** This morning we do a city tour of Dallas where we stop at **Pioneer Plaza** to see the larger-than-life bronze cattle drive. Then visit the **Sixth Floor Museum** which displays an interesting exhibition on the life, death, and legacy of President Kennedy. It is here, in the former Texas School Book Depository, that Lee Harvey Oswald supposedly fired his fatal shots. This afternoon we arrive in Fort Worth. It's apparent the Old West is thriving in the **Stockyards National Historic District**. See a real Texas Longhorn cattle drive down Exchange Avenue and enjoy the authenticity of the Stockyards. **Day 5: WACO GUIDED TOUR • MAGNOLIA MARKET AT THE SILOS • DR. PEPPER MUSEUM:** This morning we head to Waco, TX, the Hometown of Chip & Joanna Gaines. We start our day with a guided tour of Waco, stopping at all the familiar spots from their HGTV's Fixer Upper show. We will see some of their fixer upper homes, visit Jimmy Don's Metal Works and stop by Harp Design Wood Shop. After the tour, we will have free time to have lunch on your own and shopping at Magnolia Market & Silos. Located just a few blocks from the Magnolia Market, the Dr. Pepper Museum is housed in a historic three story bottling plant. We will take a guided tour of the original bottling facility, and sample some hand-made Dr. Pepper from their old fashioned soda fountain. **Day 6:** This morning we visit the **Texas Ranger Museum**. Here we will find out about these famous lawmen who have been called one of the most effective investigative law enforcement agencies in the world. We then head south to Fredericksburg and visit The National Museum of the Pacific War, the only institution in the continental United States dedicated exclusively to telling the story of the Pacific Theater Battles of World War II. Hopefully time will allow us to visit Lyndon Johnson National Historic Park and Luckenbach, TX. **Day 7: SAN ANTONIO / ALAMO / RIVER WALK.** San Antonio is the 7th largest city in the United States and is one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas. We'll understand why when we get a glimpse of this beautiful and unique city as we explore with a guide and enjoy this stately old city. Highlights of the day include a visit to The Alamo, established in 1718 as the city's first mission and called the "Cradle of Texas Liberty." Stops at the Mission San Jose and San Fernando Cathedral will show the influence of the missions. We visit the Institute of Texas Culture, which emphasizes the contributions of the 26 ethnic groups that helped settle Texas. This evening enjoy a relaxing boat ride on the San Antonio River. Visit the Paseo Del Rio or River Walk where shops, restaurants, boutiques, and vendors line the banks of the river. **Day 8:** Today we start back east with a stop in Houston to visit this historic and lovely city. A local guide will give us a tour of this cosmopolitan city with its parks and residential areas lined with big live oak trees and beautiful homes. Then we drive to Cajun Country, Lafayette, Louisiana. Tonight enjoy a Cajun Dinner and entertainment. **Day 9:** This morning we enjoy a special treat as we tour **Martin Accordions** to see how they are made. Junior Martin and family custom craft fine diatonic accordions used by professionals and amateurs around the world. Enjoy the demonstration of authentic music played on these fine Cajun squeezeboxes. We continue to make our way toward home as we travel to Alabama. **Day 10:** While on our way home we make a stop in Birmingham to visit the **Barber Museum** with its creative architecture and great attention to detail, the museum is home to over 1,600 motorcycles that span over 100 years of production. More than 950 bikes can be seen on any given day, and 200 different manufacturers from 20 countries are represented in the collection—from Harley-Davidson, Honda, and Indian—to Showa, DSK, and Cagiva. The museum also features the world's most extensive Lotus collection, anchored by the Lotus 21. The museum also displays rare racecars, including the 1964 Ferrari F-158, in which John Surtees won the 1964 Formula 1 Driver's World Championship. We arrive home this evening with new friends and many memories of a fantastic tour with Koinonia. **Tour Cost: \$1995 Includes, Lodging, Admissions, Guides, motor-coach Transportation, 6 group meals plus breakfast when provided @ hotels. Single Supplement \$625.**

