

# TENNESSEE

## BOOTS ON THE GROUND: COUNTRY MUSIC & CULTURAL MEANING



March 19-28, 2027 (10 days | 20 guests) with Associate Professor of Music Mark Laver



Sun Studio, Memphis

©scratsmacker

A Grinnellian Adventure: Travel with Grinnell College faculty, alumni, family & friends.

## GRINNELL COLLEGE FACULTY LEADER



**Dr. Mark Laver**, an Associate Professor of Music at Grinnell College, is a pathbreaking and versatile saxophonist, educator, and scholar. As a jazz musician and creative improviser, Laver

has performed with premier international artists including Lee Konitz, Seamus Blake, Kurt Elling, Eddie Prévost, Hugh Fraser, Dong-Won Kim, NEXUS, William Parker, Nicole Mitchell, Walter Thompson, Anat Cohen, Antonio Sanchez, Ellen Fullman, and Phil Nimmons. As a classical saxophonist, he has been a featured soloist with the Kingston Symphony Orchestra, the Guelph Symphony Orchestra, the Royal Conservatory Orchestra, and the Central Iowa Symphony Orchestra. Laver's lengthy discography includes recordings with celebrated Canadian independent acts The Minotaurs, MuskoX, The See Through Trio, Steamboat, and Feuermusik, and with his own group, The Earthtones, as well as with U.S. artists including the Iowa band, Pink Neighbor.

Laver is also a widely published author. His book, *Jazz Sells: Music, Marketing, and Meaning* (Routledge, 2015), explores the use of jazz music in advertising, and his co-edited collection of essays, *Beyond the Classroom: Improvisation and Music Education* (Routledge, 2016, with Ajay Heble), offers compelling new perspectives on the revolutionary potential of improvisation pedagogy. Laver's current book project is a biography of iconic Canadian jazz composer, clarinetist, and educator, Phil Nimmons. His work has been featured or profiled in *The Washington Post*, *Salon*, *Ms. Magazine*, *Fortune*, *Times for Higher Education*, *The Des Moines Register*, *Yahoo Entertainment*, *USA Today College*, *BBC Radio 4*, and *CNN.com*. Laver is an alumnus of the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto (2011), and of the Banff International Workshop in Jazz and Creative Music (2005).



©coyot

Dear Grinnell College alumni and friends,

I invite you to join Dr. Mark Laver, Associate Professor of Music, as we put our *Boots on the Ground* and explore the origins, culture, and influence of country music during this unique, 10-day program in Tennessee, focusing our time in Memphis and Nashville, including one day in Mississippi.

Our country music adventure is filled with special guests such as **Landon Fishburne**, Nashville-based guitarist and songwriter, who will join us for the entirety of the program, and we have the honor of having **Charlie Musselwhite**, an American blues harmonica player, join us for an intimate musical session at the **B.B. King Museum** in Indianola, Mississippi. A music-themed visit to Tennessee wouldn't be complete without experiencing **Beale Street, Sun Studio, Stax Museum of American Soul Music, Country Music Hall of Fame, Historic RCA Studio B, and the Country Music Association**. We will also have plenty of opportunities to see **live music**, gain **behind-the-scenes** access, and participate in informal **talks with industry insiders**.

Dr. Laver best sums up the adventure that awaits us: "*Country music is one of the most polarizing genres on the U.S. popular music landscape. People either love it or hate it, but seldom are they indifferent to it. We can often learn the most from the music that engenders the most intense emotional and aesthetic responses - not only about the music, but also about social and cultural worlds that emerge around it. Country music teaches us about race, class, gender, sexuality, politics, and authenticity. Plus, it's a kind of learning that invites us to sing, dance, listen, and generally have a great time as we visit concert halls, juke joints, museums, recording studios, apparel shops, and more!*"

Whether you are experiencing country music and Tennessee for the first time or revisiting it with us through a new lens, it is sure to be a special program you won't want to miss! Space is limited to 20 guests, so please reserve your spot immediately by contacting Eos Study Tours, the specialty tour operator who has worked closely with Professor Laver in designing this program. Email [grinnell@studytours.org](mailto:grinnell@studytours.org) or call toll-free (800) 856-8951.

Sincerely,

Jayn Bailey Chaney '05

Assistant Vice President of Alumni and Donor Relations

# SPECIAL GUIDE



**Landon Fishburne** is a Nashville-based guitarist/songwriter originally from Charlottesville, Virginia. Playing violin at an early age, Landon soon became interested in learning the guitar and studied under renowned harp guitarist Stephen Bennett. Landon has been influenced by and has studied a wide range of musical stylings, including blues, jazz, bluegrass, alt-country, classical, Gypsy jazz, folk, chicken pickin', rhythm and blues, soul, rock n' roll, Celtic, and slide. Since moving to Nashville, Landon has performed and toured with an assortment of notable national touring acts, including Ashley McBryde, Chris Young, Delta Rae, Hannah Blaylock, Lauren Mascitti, Sunny Sweeney, Three Times a Lady Trio, Brenneley Brown, Mary Sarah, Janelle Arthur, Dean Alexander, Courtney Cole, and Nick Hagelin, among others. In addition, Landon has had the privilege of performing with several renowned musical artists through the years, such as Jo Dee Messina, Jamie O'Neal, Ty Herndon, Mike Gordon (Phish), Marc Ford (Black Crowes), Mike Farris, DJ Logic, KT Tunstall, Nick Forster (Hot Rize), and Peter Dinklage (Peter, Paul, and Mary). His travels have put him on stages opening for Rascal Flatts, Kenny Chesney, Sam Bush Band, Miranda Lambert, Emmitt-Nershi Band, Tim O'Brien, Gary Allan, and Hank Williams, Jr. Notable performances include appearances at CMA Festival in Nashville, the Grand Ole Opry, Miranda Lambert's 2015 "Certified Platinum Tour," Stagecoach Festival, Calgary Folk Festival, TEDx, Country Thunder Festival, The Festie Experience, The Bluebird Cafe, The Station Inn in Nashville, on Food Networks "Emeril Live," for President Obama at his 2012 campaign rally in Charlottesville, VA, and as part of the nationally broadcast radio show, *Etown*, recorded at Boulder Theater in Boulder, CO. He will be accompanying our journey under the role "Industry Insider."



©BEmmerling

Beale Street, Memphis

*"We are the same. There is no difference anywhere in the world. People are people. They laugh, cry, feel, and love, and music seems to be the common denomination that brings us all together. Music cuts through all boundaries and goes right to the soul."*

- Willie Nelson

## ITINERARY

B= Breakfast • L= Lunch • D= Dinner

### **Friday, March 19, 2027: Arrive Memphis, TENNESSEE | Welcome dinner**

Arrive at Memphis International Airport (MEM) and make your way to *The Central Station Memphis* hotel to check-in no later than 5:00 p.m. (check-in begins at 3:00 p.m.). We gather at 6:30 p.m. for a welcome dinner and an introduction to the program. *Four nights at the 4-star [The Central Station Memphis](#) hotel.* (D)

### **Saturday, March 20: Indianola, MISSISSIPPI: B.B. King Museum | Clarksdale: Live music | Memphis, TENNESSEE**

After breakfast, we drive south to Indianola, Mississippi, part of the Mississippi Delta region known as the "birthplace of American Music," and visit the B.B. King Museum. We step into their programming studio to learn about their music education work, and experience a special intimate musical session with blues legend Charlie Musselwhite, an American blues harmonica player and bandleader. We will even learn some notes on the harmonica. This evening, we enjoy live music at Ground Zero Blues Club in Clarksdale, MS, a club with "an anything-goes juke vibe." (The club is co-owned by acclaimed actor Morgan Freeman.) Dinner is on your own at Ground Zero Blues Club before we drive back to Memphis. (B,L)

### **Sunday, March 21: Memphis: Beale Street, Sun Studio, Edge Motor Museum, Hernando's Hide-A-Way**

This morning, we take a music-themed history tour of Memphis. On our tour, we walk down Beale Street, one of the most iconic streets in America, a



Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, Nashville

## SPECIAL GUEST



**Charlie Musselwhite** is a master of American blues whose remarkable career spans more than five decades. Born in Mississippi and shaped by the vibrant music scenes of Memphis and Chicago, he came of age during the 1960s blues revival and recorded the landmark album *Stand Back!* at just 22. After moving to San Francisco, he became a vital presence in the city's counterculture. Having performed alongside legends such as Muddy Waters and John Lee Hooker, Musselwhite remains an influential artist whose expressive voice and harmonica continue to define the genre today.

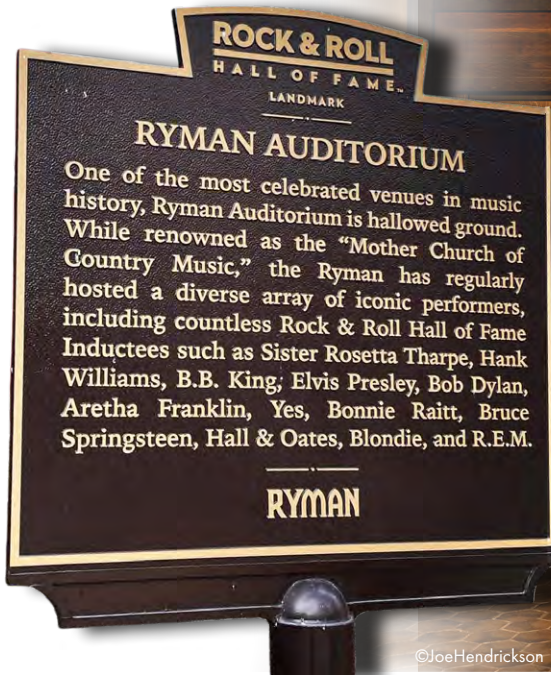
designated National Historic Landmark, a music mecca since the 1860s, and a center of African American culture, commerce, Civil Rights, and activism. Next, we step into Sun Studio, known worldwide as “The Birthplace of Rock ‘n’ Roll” and the location where musical legends B.B. King, Elvis Presley, and Johnny Cash were discovered. After visiting Edge Motor Museum and seeing the classic cars that shaped the era, we enjoy a late lunch at Hernando’s Hide-A-Way, a historical music landmark where Elvis once played and which Jerry Lee Lewis called his “office,” and a music joint that celebrates rockabilly and honky tonk music. While enjoying lunch, we test our luck with a special game of bingo and listen to live music. Dinner and the evening are on your own. (B,L)

### **Monday, March 22: Memphis: National Civil Rights Museum, Stax Museum of American Soul Music, Beale Street: Live blues music**

After breakfast at the hotel, we visit the National Civil Rights Museum for a self-guided tour of one of the nation’s premier heritage and cultural museums, located at the former Lorraine Motel where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s life was taken, and learn how history connects to social impact and influences society, i.e., music. After an independent lunch, we visit the Stax Museum of American Soul Music, the first and only museum dedicated to telling the story of soul music. At its height, Stax Records worked with Otis Redding, Sam and Dave, Isaac Hayes, and many other well-known musicians. We end the day with dinner and live blues music on Beale Street. (B,D)

### **Tuesday, March 23: West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center | Nashville: Johnny Cash Museum, The Listening Room Café**

This morning we depart Memphis for Nashville, stopping along the way at the West Tennessee Delta Heritage Center, home to the world’s only Tina Turner Museum, located inside her childhood school. After lunch, we continue to Nashville and visit the Johnny Cash Museum for a self-guided tour of “America’s #1 music museum.” After checking into our hotel, we



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GRAND OLE OPRY HOUSE



Ryman Auditorium, Grand Ole Opry

gather for dinner and a show at The Listening Room Café, first established in 2006 as a local venue for singer-songwriters to share their stories and perform. *Five nights at the 4-star [Placemakr](#) hotel.* (B,L,D)

**Wednesday, March 24: Nashville: mtheory, Ryman Auditorium, Music Row**

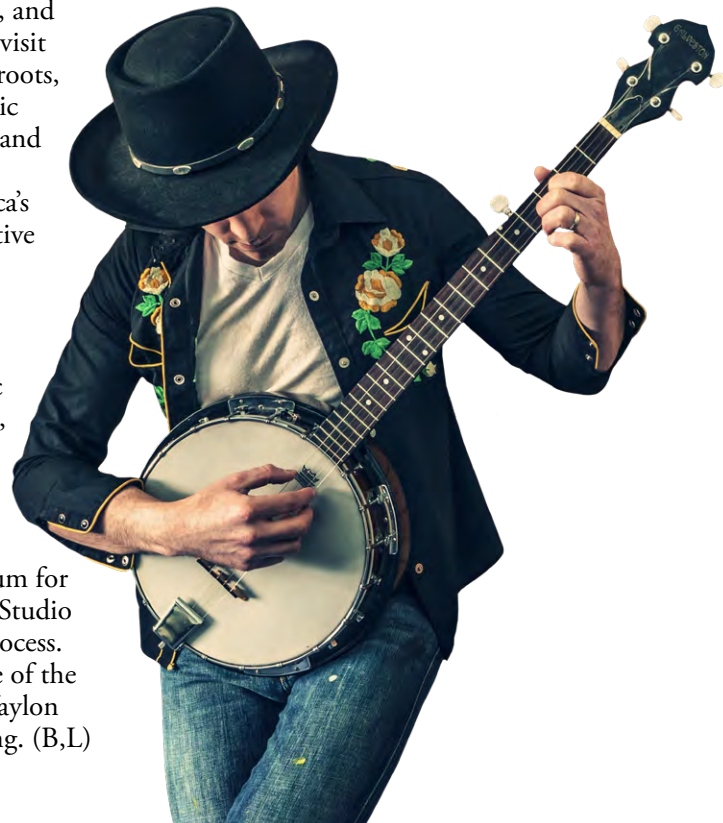
We begin our day with a behind-the-scenes look at the music industry with representatives from mtheory, an artist development, marketing, strategy, and operations infrastructure company. We dive into what managers, labels, and strategists do, including how artists choose their paths. After lunch, we visit Ryman Auditorium, a world-renowned concert hall with deep musical roots, and the former home of the Grand Ole Opry, where we walk the historic halls where legends have performed, including walking across the stage and viewing the dressing rooms. Next, we take a musical and historical tour of Nashville, taking time to explore Music Row, headquarters of America's country music industry, representing decades of music history and creative energy. This evening we gather for dinner. (B,L,D)

**Thursday, March 25: Nashville: Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum**

Today is dedicated to exploring various parts of the vast Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. First we visit some of the Museum galleries, where the story of country music is told from its 19<sup>th</sup>-century roots to modern times through galleries of instruments, stage wear, and more. Also visit Hatch Show Print, located inside the Hall of Fame and Museum, a working letterpress print shop that has been creating vibrant music posters since 1879, serving as a leading advertising medium for southern entertainment. After lunch, we visit the Museum's Education Studio for a private, hands-on session where we learn about the songwriting process. Lastly, we tour the Museum's nearby Historic RCA Studio B, birthplace of the "Nashville Sound," where greats like Elvis Presley, Dolly Parton, and Waylon Jennings recorded some of their hits. Dinner is on your own this evening. (B,L)

*"The Blues?  
It's the mother of American music.  
That's what it is - the source."*

- B.B. King



**Friday, March 26: Nashville: African American Music Museum, Nearest Green Distillery**

After breakfast, we visit the African American Music Museum and learn how African Americans created, influenced, and inspired many music genres, such as country music. After an independent lunch at Nashville's popular Assembly Food Hall, we look at how whiskey played a role in the music scene with a tour of Nearest Green Distillery, where we learn the story behind Uncle Nearest, the first known African American master distiller. A whiskey tasting is included for those who would like to try an award-winning whiskey. This evening we gather for dinner. (B,D)

**Saturday, March 27: Nashville: Country Music Association (CMA), PM at leisure | Farewell dinner**

After breakfast, we meet with representatives of the Country Music Association and learn about their work expanding Country Music around the world. We will have a private talk with a member of the CMA Foundation, which aims to improve and sustain music education programs across the United States. After lunch and the afternoon at leisure, we gather this evening for a celebratory farewell dinner with music. (B,D)

**Sunday, March 28: Fly home**

Make your way to Nashville International Airport (BNA) for flights homeward. (B)



A car owned by Webb Pierce, one of country music's "flashiest figures," is on display at The Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville. The vehicle interior was inlaid with more than a thousand silver dollars, and features a miniature saddle between the bucket seats.

*"Music does a lot of things for a lot of people. It's transporting, for sure. It can take you right back, years back, to the very moment certain things happened in your life. It's uplifting, it's encouraging, it's strengthening."*

- Aretha Franklin



## WHAT TO EXPECT



**LIGHT:** This tour requires a basic level of fitness.

All participants are expected to be physically active and not be an impediment to others on excursions, and to enjoy traveling as part of a group.

All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host state laws. Any participant showing signs of illness will be asked to wear a mask when in close proximity to others. If the tour manager decides that a participant cannot visit a site safely or in a timely manner, their judgment will be final. Where possible, an alternate activity may be suggested; additional costs may apply. If you have any questions about your ability to participate, we suggest that you visit your personal physician with this brochure in hand and discuss whether or not this program is appropriate for you.

In this region in March we can expect mild temperatures with an average daytime temperature from the high 50s to high 60s. Participants should be prepared in case of rain.

*Complete pre-departure details will be sent to participants.*



Beale Street musician



©LThompson



© Bjertvedt



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## Tour Prices Per Person (9 nights)

Double Occupancy (17-20 participants) .....	\$8,595
Double Occupancy (12-16 participants) .....	\$9,695
Single Supplement.....	\$495

*Single room supplement will be charged when requested or required (limited availability).  
With fewer than 12 participants, a small group surcharge may be applied.*

## Prices Include:

- **Grinnell College faculty leader Mark Laver, an expert tour manager, and local guides**
- **Nine nights' accommodations** in two well-located, 4-star hotels
- **Delicious meals:** Breakfast daily, 5 lunches, and 6 dinners (including welcome and farewell dinners) that include 2 glasses of wine, beer, or soft drink, per person; all meals include water, coffee/tea where available
- **Ground transportation via private, air-conditioned vehicle** and public transportation when possible
- **Tickets and entrance fees for excursions** as listed in the itinerary
- **All gratuities** for the tour manager, local guides, drivers, and waitstaff for included meals
- Parking fares, highway tolls, and local taxes
- **Comprehensive pre-departure information**, including a suggested reading/media guide, travel guide, and packing list

## Flights & Transfers

Airfare from/to home is not included. Airport arrival transfers from Memphis International Airport (MEM) and for departure from Nashville International Airport (BNA) will be independent to/from our conveniently located hotels. Once you have received your final payment invoice, you should book your flights. If you are considering booking non-refundable airline tickets before this time, please contact the Eos Study Tours office first. Valerie Wilson Travel, Inc. can assist with flight arrangements for this tour. You may contact them directly at 866-200-6172 or email [studytours@vwti.com](mailto:studytours@vwti.com). Alternatively, you are welcome to book your flights independently or through your preferred travel agent. Your flight itinerary must be provided to Eos Study Tours prior to departure. *We do not accept any liability for cancellation penalties related to airline tickets.*

Photos (above, from left): William C. Handy monument "Father of the Blues" in Handy Park, Memphis; National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel, Memphis; guitar at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, Nashville

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**Prices Do Not Include:** Airfare from/to home; airport arrival or departure transfers; passport fees; all airport fees and departure taxes; cost of personal, trip cancellation, and baggage insurance; transportation of excess baggage; baggage handling; meals and alcoholic or other beverages other than those listed; all items of a personal nature such as medical expenses, laundry, taxi, room service, telephone/fax/Wi-Fi charges; optional excursions or deviations from scheduled tour; and other items not listed as included.

**Payments:** A deposit of \$1,500 per person is required to reserve your space on the tour and is payable by Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or check made payable to "Eos GRN-Tennessee3/27." Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure (December 14, 2026) and must be by check, ACH transfer, or wire transfer only; credit cards are not accepted for final payment. By submitting your deposit, you are bound by the terms and conditions delineated throughout this brochure or elsewhere published.

**Participant Cancellation Fees:** All requests by participants for cancellations must be received in writing by Eos Study Tours. The following cancellation terms will apply based on when the cancellation is received:

- On or before September 20, 2026: Deposit is refunded less a cancellation fee of \$500 per person.
- September 21 - December 13, 2026: Forfeit the full deposit of \$1,500 per person.
- December 14, 2026 - January 2, 2027: Cancellation fee equal to 50% of the tour cost.
- On or after January 3, 2027: No refund.

*For this and other reasons, participants are strongly encouraged to purchase trip cancellation insurance. Information will be provided with confirmation of receipt of your deposit.*

**Note:** Prices are based on rates in effect at the time of publication and are subject to change prior to departure. Substantial changes in the price of fuel, services, and labor may increase the cost of arrangements significantly, and we reserve the right to alter our prices.

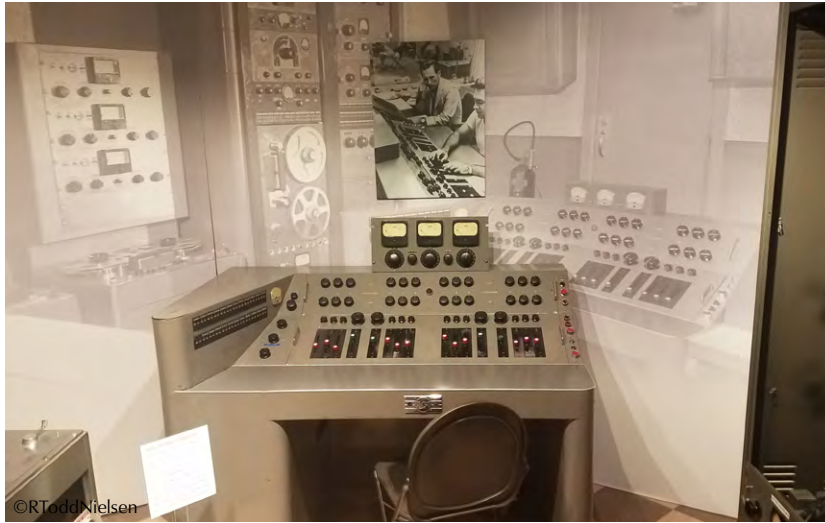
Prices, itinerary, accommodations, and leader are subject to change. Prices quoted are based on group participation and no refunds will be made for any part of the program in which you choose not to participate. It is understood that refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for whatever reason.

Due to space limitations, this is abbreviated information. Complete terms and conditions are available upon confirmation or upon request.



For questions, and to reserve your space, contact Eos Study Tours:  
800-856-8951 | [grinnell@studytours.org](mailto:grinnell@studytours.org) | PO Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608  
WEBSITE: [alumni.grinnell.edu/events/grinnellian-adventures-home](http://alumni.grinnell.edu/events/grinnellian-adventures-home)





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Recording console from 1957-1965 at the Historic RCA Studio B which was used to record and mix thousands of sessions including Elvis Presley's "It's Now or Never," and Roy Orbison's "Only the Lonely."

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March 19-28, 2027 (10 days | 20 guests)  
with Associate Professor of Music Mark Laver

A Grinnellian Adventure: Travel with Grinnell College faculty, alumni, family & friends.



**Grinnell  
College**

To fill out an online reservation form, [click here](#). Or, print and mail or fax this form to the address below.



———— RESERVATION FORM ————  
**TENNESSEE BOOTS ON THE GROUND:  
COUNTRY MUSIC & CULTURAL MEANING**

March 19-28, 2027 (10 days | 20 guests)  
with Associate Professor of Music Mark Laver

To hold your reservation for seven days while this form and your deposit are in the mail, please contact us at (800) 856-8951 or [grinnell@studytours.org](mailto:grinnell@studytours.org).

Participant Name 1 \_\_\_\_\_ Grinnell College Class of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears on passport)

Participant Name 2 \_\_\_\_\_ Grinnell College Class of: \_\_\_\_\_  
(as it appears on passport)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email(s) \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_

I/We have read the 'What to Expect' section and am/are physically able to participate fully in the program.

Are you traveling with any other parties on this program? Yes, \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this tour?  eNewsletter  mailing  website  friends/family  other \_\_\_\_\_

ACCOMMODATIONS:

(Accommodation preferences are not guaranteed.)

Double (one bed)  Twin (two beds)  Single

I will be sharing with: \_\_\_\_\_  Share - please assign a roommate (not guaranteed).  
 Please share my contact information with potential roommate(s).

RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENT:

A deposit of \$1,500 per person is required to confirm a reservation. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure.  
Please note that credit cards are not accepted for final payment. All prices and payments are in U.S. dollars.

DEPOSIT TYPE (PLEASE CHECK ONE):

Check payable to: Eos GRN-Tennessee3/27  Visa  Master Card  American Express  Already paid by phone

CC# \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ 3- or 4-Digit Code \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this reservation form, choose/enclose your method of deposit, and sign the release statement below.  
Submit via email, mail, or fax to:



**Eos Study Tours - P.O. Box 938, Walpole, NH 03608-0938**  
Fax: 603-756-2922 • Email: [grinnell@studytours.org](mailto:grinnell@studytours.org)

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and agree to all Terms and Conditions delineated throughout.

Signature (participant #1) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (participant #2) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## **TERMS AND CONDITIONS, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, AND DISPUTE RESOLUTION AGREEMENT**

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Grinnell College and its agent, Eos Study Tours, and its and their employees, shareholders, subsidiaries, affiliates, officers, directors or trustees, successors, and assigns (hereinafter "Sponsors"), and the tour operator and/or its agents (collectively "Sponsors/Operator") do not own or operate any entity which is to or does provide goods or services for your trip including, for example, lodging facilities; airline, vessel, or other transportation companies; guides or guide services; local ground operators; providers or organizers of optional excursions; food service or entertainment providers; etc. All such persons and entities are independent contractors. As a result, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for any negligent or willful act or failure to act of any such person or of any other third party. In addition and without limitation, Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay, or damage to person or property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from, but not limited to, acts of force majeure; acts of God; acts of government; acts of war or civil unrest, insurrection, or revolt; bites from or attacks by animals, insects, or pests; strikes or other labor activities; criminal or terrorist activities of any kind or the threat thereof; sickness, illness, epidemics, pandemics, or the threat thereof; the lack of availability of or access to medical attention or the quality thereof; overbooking or downgrading of accommodations; mechanical or other failure of airplanes, vessels, or other means of transportation; or for any failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart timely or safely. In addition, Sponsors/Operator are not liable for their own negligence, and participant assumes all risk thereof. **CHANGES IN ITINERARY OR FEATURES:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to change the itinerary or trip features at any time and for any reason, with or without notice, and Sponsors/Operator shall not be liable for any loss of any kind as a result of any such changes. Sponsors/Operator are not required to cancel any trip for any reason including, without limitation, United States Department of State, World Health Organization, or other Warnings or Advisories of any kind. Sponsors/Operator are not responsible for penalties assessed by air carriers resulting from operational and/or itinerary changes, even if Sponsors/Operator make the flight arrangements or cancel the trip. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to substitute hotels or attractions of a similar category for those listed in this brochure. **LUGGAGE:** Luggage allowance policies are set by the airlines and may change without prior notice. **PHYSICAL ACCESSIBILITY:** All programs require physical independence and mobility. Any physical or mental condition that may require special medical attention or physical assistance must be reported in writing when you make your reservation. Participants must be able to embark or disembark transportation vehicles, stand for extended periods, climb stairs, and step over raised thresholds all without assistance. All participants will be required to follow safety/sanitization protocols set forth by Sponsors/Operator, local staff, and host country laws, and any participant who refuses to follow protocols may be asked to leave the program with no refunds provided. **REFUNDS:** Prices quoted are based on group participation. No refunds will be made for any part of the program in which a participant chooses not to participate. Refunds cannot be made to participants who do not complete the tour for any reason, nor to participants whose entry into any country or aboard any transportation vehicle, including airplanes and cruise ships, is delayed or denied. **TOUR CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS:** Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to cancel this tour prior to departure, in which case payment will be refunded without further obligation on our part unless trip cancellation, itinerary changes, and/or delays are mandated by causes beyond our control, in which case the participant shall have the option of accepting in lieu of the original tour such rescheduled tour or other substituted tour(s) as may be offered by Sponsors/Operator, or else receiving a refund of as much of such advance tour expenditures as Sponsors/Operator are able to recover on the participant's behalf from carriers, third-party tour vendors, etc. Sponsors/Operator, however, shall not have any obligation or liability to the participant beyond the foregoing. **TRIP INSURANCE:** Sponsors/Operator strongly recommend that participants purchase trip cancellation insurance. In the event that you must cancel your participation, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. Trip cancellation insurance is available through

Sponsors/Operator and others and covers certain expenses in conjunction with cancellation due to illness or accident and damaged or lost luggage. Sponsors/Operator will send participants an application upon receipt of their reservation. **PRICES:** Prices quoted are based on fares in effect at the time of publication and are subject to changes at any time. On all programs, even after full payment, Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to increase the tour price in the event of cost increases due to changes in supplier costs, tax increases, currency fluctuations, or fuel and energy surcharges, and all such increases are to be paid to Sponsors/Operator upon notice to the participant. **FORUM AND METHODOLOGY FOR DISPUTE RESOLUTION:** Any dispute or claim which refers or relates to this contract, any literature related to the trip, or the trip itself shall be litigated solely and exclusively in and for courts in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive and procedural New Hampshire law, and for this limited purpose, the parties agree to exclusive venue and personal jurisdiction therein. At the participant's option, however, in lieu of litigation, Sponsors/Operator will agree to dispute resolution in Keene, New Hampshire, subject to substantive, but not procedural, New Hampshire law, pursuant to the then existing commercial rules of the American Arbitration Association. In any such arbitration, the arbitrator, and not any federal, state, or local court or agency, shall have exclusive authority to resolve any dispute relating to the interpretation, applicability, enforceability, conscionability, or formation of this contract, including but not limited to any claim that all or any part of this contract is void or voidable. **U.S. STATE DEPARTMENT & CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL:** Both the Centers for Disease Control and U.S. State Department publish and update important country-specific information for travelers. We strongly recommend that you review them. They can presently be found at: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices> and <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings.html>. **ASSUMPTION OF RISK:** Participants agree to fully accept all known and unknown risks, including the potential risk of exposure to respiratory illnesses or other illnesses, viruses, diseases, or conditions. Participants understand and agree to hold Sponsors/Operator, their officers, vendors and suppliers harmless and not liable for any real or perceived symptoms of any disease, virus, illness, or condition, nor for exacerbating any existing symptoms of any illness, virus, disease or condition, quarantine requirements, disability, and other short-term and long-term health effects, including death. **MISCELLANEOUS:** Participants should not purchase airline tickets prior to receiving their final payment invoice so as to avoid airline cancellation penalties if a tour is canceled or otherwise modified subsequent to the participant's purchase of those tickets. Baggage and personal effects are at all times the sole responsibility of the participant. If weather, flight schedules, or other uncontrollable factors, such as those related to customs and immigration, require you to spend (an) additional night(s), you will be responsible for your own hotel, transfer, and meal costs. Baggage is entirely at owner's risk. Sponsors/Operator reserve the right to decline to accept or retain any participant at any time. The right is reserved to decline to accept as a participant, or remove from a trip, without refund, any person it judges to be incapable of meeting the rigors and requirements of participating in the activities, or who is abusive to other trip participants, leaders, or third parties, or who is determined to detract from the enjoyment of the trip by others. Specific room assignments are within the sole discretion of the hotel. **APPEARING IN PHOTOS:** Photos from Grinnell College trips may be posted on photo-sharing web sites or on social networking sites. Your likeness may appear in some photos or videos, posted either by other travelers or tour lecturers/guides, and the circulation of the materials could be worldwide. Trip photos may also be selected to appear in future Grinnell College tour promotions; no compensation is available for appearing in a trip photo used for promotional purposes. **ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRACT:** By forwarding of deposit, the participant certifies that he/she agrees with these terms and conditions, and accepts the terms contained in these Terms and Conditions, Release of Liability, Assumption of Risk and Dispute Resolution Agreement. The participant affirms that he/she has not received or relied upon any oral representation of Sponsors/Operator as a basis for executing this Release.