

The Tennessee T's Spring Tour 2017
The Natchez Trace Parkway (May 12 – May 21)
Hosted by Mark and Paula Gember

Mark and I have taken hundreds of road trips over the last 30 years, and the Natchez Trace is by far one of our all-time favorites. The Trace became part of the National Park System in 1938, is designated a National Scenic By-way and All-American Road, and one of America's 10 best biking roads. The Trace stretches 444 miles and encompasses 10,000 years of North American history, linking Natchez with Nashville and some of the most beautiful terrain in the states of Mississippi, Alabama and Tennessee.

In 1801 the Trace was designated a national postal road for mail delivery between Nashville and Natchez. General Andrew Jackson, Jefferson Davis, James Audubon, Meriwether Lewis (who died on the Trace in 1809), and Ulysses S. Grant are among the famous Americans to have traveled the Natchez Trace.

Several months ago, we learned that **the Tennessee T's was the first Model T club to tour the Natchez Trace**. The annual tour started and ended in Nashville, Tennessee. As we understand it, the last time the club ran the Trace was nearly a decade ago. Mark and I wanted *to bring the Natchez Trace tour back to the Tennessee T's!*

Since so many club members work full-time or go to school, we challenged ourselves to set up this tour so that it could be enjoyed, all or in part, by as many members as possible. We chose Tupelo for the starting point since it is roughly the halfway point on the Trace, and established three route options to choose from:

- The 6-day South Route runs down to Natchez, spends a day in Vicksburg and then runs back to Tupelo
Refer to the colored schedule on the calendar
- The 3-day North Route runs up and over to Waynesboro, TN, then up to Nashville and back to Tupelo
Refer to the colored schedule on the calendar
- The 9-day Full Route is a combination of the 6-day South Route followed by the 3-day North Route
Refer to the colored schedule on the calendar

No matter which option you choose, *everyone will be running the same route on the same day.*

The Parkway is a paved, well-maintained two lane. The 50 mph max speed limit keeps modern traffic to a minimum. There are more than 100 points of interest and exhibits along the Trace, making it an easy self-guided route. Since there are no modern amenities on the Trace, our tour book provides detailed directions to and from hotel destinations, lunch stops, and midpoint gas stations.

You can check out the following web sites for videos and more details about the Natchez Trace Parkway:
www.natcheztracetravel.com www.nps.gov/natr/index.htm www.scenictrace.com/about-the-trace/

We have included the following tour information on the next few pages:

- Calendar showing the dates of the tour and how the three tour options overlap
- Brief description of daily highlights for each of the three tour options
- Registration form
- Car Safety Checklist form
- Hotel Contact Information list

We hope you can join us...on the Trace!
Mark and Paula Gember
markpaulagember@aol.com

UN MAY 7	MON MAY 8	TUE MAY 9	WED MAY 10	THU MAY 11	FRI MAY 12	SAT MAY 13
***** TENNESSEE T'S SPRING TOUR 2017 NATCHEZ TRACE *****					FULL TRACE (ARRIVAL) Arrive at Tupelo, MS Trailer remains here until end of the tour. <i>Fairfield Inn & Suites</i>	FULL TRACE (D-1) ~168 miles Run Trace south from Tupelo to Jackson, MS <i>Cabot Lodge Hotel</i>
					SOUTH TRACE (ARRIVAL) Arrive at Tupelo, MS Trailer remains here until end of the tour. <i>Fairfield Inn & Suites</i>	SOUTH TRACE (D-1) ~168 miles Run Trace south from Tupelo to Jackson, MS <i>Cabot Lodge Hotel</i>
SUN MAY 14	MON MAY 15	TUE MAY 16	WED MAY 17	THU MAY 18	FRI MAY 19	SAT MAY 20
FULL TRACE (D-2) ~109 miles Run Trace south from Jackson to Natchez. Cross river to Vidalia, LA hotel <i>Comfort Suites</i>	FULL TRACE (D-3) ~127 miles Run on and off Trace north from Natchez to Vicksburg <i>Comfort Suites</i>	FULL TRACE (D-4) ~10-15 miles Full day in Vicksburg <i>Comfort Suites</i>	FULL TRACE (D-5) ~76 miles Run Vicksburg east back to Trace then north back to Jackson, MS <i>Cabot Lodge Hotel</i>	FULL TRACE (D-6) ~168 miles Run Trace north from Jackson back to Tupelo <i>Fairfield Inn & Suites</i>	FULL TRACE (D-7) ~111 miles Run Trace ½ way to Nashville from Tupelo to Waynesboro, TN <i>Hurricane Inn Hotel</i>	FULL TRACE (D-8) ~93 miles Return to Trace from Waynesboro TN and run 2 nd ½ north to Nashville <i>Hampton Inn Bellevue</i>
SOUTH TRACE (D-2) ~109 miles Run Trace south from Jackson to Natchez. Cross river to Vidalia, LA. Hotel <i>Comfort Suites</i>	SOUTH TRACE (D-3) ~127 miles Run on and off Trace north from Natchez to Vicksburg <i>Comfort Suites</i>	SOUTH TRACE (D-4) ~10-15 miles Full day in Vicksburg <i>Comfort Suites</i>	SOUTH TRACE (D-5) ~76 miles Run Vicksburg east back to Trace then north back to Jackson, MS <i>Cabot Lodge Hotel</i>	SOUTH TRACE (D-6) ~168 miles Run Trace north from Jackson back to Tupelo <i>Fairfield Inn & Suites</i>	SOUTH TRACE (DEPARTURE) Load trailer Check out of hotel	
				NORTH TRACE (ARRIVAL) Arrive at Tupelo, MS Trailer remains here until end of the tour. <i>Fairfield Inn & Suites</i>	NORTH TRACE (D-1) ~111 miles Run Trace ½ way to Nashville from Tupelo to Waynesboro, TN <i>Hurricane Inn Hotel</i>	NORTH TRACE (D-2) ~93 miles Return to Trace from Waynesboro TN and run 2 nd ½ north to Nashville <i>Microtel Inn & Suites</i>
SUN MAY 21	MON MAY 22	TUE MAY 23	WED MAY 24	THU MAY 25	FRI MAY 26	SAT MAY 27
FULL TRACE (D-9) ~184 miles on Trace Run Trace south from Nashville to Tupelo, MS <i>Fairfield Inn & Suites</i>	FULL TRACE (DEPARTURE) Load trailer Check out of hotel					
NORTH TRACE (D-3) ~184 miles on Trace Run Trace south from Nashville to Tupelo, MS <i>Fairfield Inn & Suites</i>	NORTH TRACE (DEPARTURE) Load trailer Check out of hotel					

The 9-day Full Trace Route (runs Saturday, May 13 through Sunday, May 21)

- **Friday, May 12 (arrival day)** – Unload trailers and hotel check-in. Take a short drive to the Natchez Trace Parkway Visitor Center before 5pm to learn about the history of the Trace.
Trailers are parked less than < ½ mile from the hotel and will remain here until the end of the tour.
Cars for the 6-day South Trace will also be arriving at the hotel.
- **Saturday, May 13 (Day 1)** – South from Tupelo to Jackson. Lunch stop in Kosciusko, MS, birthplace of Oprah Winfrey. Route highlights: Chickasaw Village Site; Tockshish (midway point on the early 1800's postal route); Owl Creek Mounds (early Indian); and Old Trace (two sections of original trace).
Cars running the South Trace will also be on this route.
- **Sunday, May 14 (Day 2)** – South from Jackson to Natchez/Vidalia, LA. Lunch stop at all you can eat fried chicken buffet in Lorman. Route highlights: Magnum Mound (Indian mound); Sunken Trace (short trail through a deeply eroded section); Mount Locust (restored plantation & historic stand).
Cars running the South Trace will also be on this route.
- **Monday, May 15 (Day 3)** – North from Vidalia back through Natchez, then along four off-trace routes to Vicksburg. Route highlights: Emerald Mound (built between 1200 and 1730); 1790's church, cemetery, several antebellum homes; Windsor Ruins; Port Gibson; picnic lunch at Grand Gulf Military Park.
Cars running the South Trace will also be on this route.
- **Tuesday, May 16 (Day 4)** – Full Day in Vicksburg. Old Depot Museum (diorama of battlefield); Coca Cola museum, riverfront murals; Vicksburg National Battlefield and Cemetery; Cairo Museum (showcases an ironclad Civil War gunboat that was raised from the muddy Mississippi River bottom in the 1960's.)
Cars running the South Trace will also be on this route.
- **Wednesday, May 17 (Day 5)** – Short travel day. Morning in Vicksburg, then north back to hotel in Jackson. Late day gathering at the Old Trace Park near Ross Barrett Reservoir for a picnic or manifold cooker meal. Visit Mississippi Craft Center/Quilt Museum across from the Old Trace Park entrance.
Cars running the South Trace will also be on this route.
- **Thursday, May 18 (Day 6)** – Leave Jackson and head north back to Tupelo. Lunch at Council House Café, (circa 1820's). Trace highlights: Cypress Swamp; Jeff Bisby (one of Mississippi's highest points, 603 ft); Old Trace; Bynum Mounds (built 1,800-2,500 yrs ago); Tupelo National Battlefield.
Cars running the South Trace will be at hotel for the night and head home tomorrow.
Cars for the 3-day North Trace will be arriving at the hotel.
- **Friday, May 19 (Day 7)** – Highlights: Confederate Gravesites; Old Trace; Pharr Mounds; Tenn-Tom Waterway; Bear Creek Mound; Colbert Ferry; and Sunken Trace. Staying at hotel in Waynesboro, TN.
Cars running the North Trace will also be on this route.
- **Saturday, May 20 (Day 8)** – Leave Waynesboro and return to the Trace, continuing north to hotel in Nashville. Lunch stop in Leiper's Fork. Route highlights: Old Trace Drive; Tobacco Farm; Gordon House (circa 1818); War of 1812 Memorial (soldiers marched here); and Birdsong Hollow (Double Arch Bridge).
Cars running the North Trace will also be on this route.
- **Sunday, May 21 (Day 9)** – Longest day of entire tour. You can revisit some of your favorite sites as we make our way south, or forego the sites and drive straight through to the hotel in Tupelo.
Cars running the North Trace will also be on this route.
- **Monday, May 22 (departure day)** – hotel checkout and load trailer.

The 6-day South Trace Route (runs Saturday, May 13 through Thursday, May 18)

- **Friday, May 12 (arrival day)** – Unload trailers and hotel check-in. Take a short drive to the Natchez Trace Parkway Visitor Center before 5pm to learn about the history of the Trace.
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Cars running the Full Trace will also be on this route.
Cars running the 3-day North Trace Route arrive in Tupelo.
- **Friday, May 19 (departure day)** – hotel checkout and load trailer

The 3-day North Trace Route (runs Friday, May 19 through Sunday, May 21)

- **Thursday, May 18 (arrival day)** – Unload trailers and hotel check-in. Take a short drive to the Natchez Trace Parkway Visitor Center before 5pm to learn about the history of the Trace.
Trailers are parked less than < ½ mile from hotel and will remain here until the end of the tour.
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Cars running the Full Trace will also be on this route.
- **Saturday, May 20 (Day 2)** – Leave Waynesboro and return to the Trace, continuing north to hotel in Nashville. Lunch stop in Leiper's Fork. Route highlights: Old Trace Drive; Tobacco Farm; Gordon House (circa 1818); War of 1812 Memorial (soldiers marched here); and Birdsong Hollow (Double Arch Bridge).
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- **Monday, May 22 (departure day)** – hotel checkout and load trailer.

HOTEL CONTACT INFORMATION

For South Trace (route runs May 13 - May 18) book hotels for nights #1 through #7
For North Trace (route runs May 19 - May 21) book hotels for nights #7 through #10
For Full Trace (route runs May 13 - May 21) book hotels for nights #1 through #10

>>> CALL THE HOTEL DIRECTLY & BOOK BY PHONE USING THE GROUP CODE "MODEL T" TO GET THE GROUP RATE - WE MAY INCUR A PENALTY FOR < A MINIMUM GROUP SIZE <<<

<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>NIGHT</u>	<u>NIGHT</u>	<u>NIGHT</u>	<u>HOTEL</u> * room rates do not include tax
TUPELO, MS	# 1 FRI May 12	# 7 THU May 18	# 10 SUN May 21	Fairfield Inn & Suites 3070 Tom Watson Drive Saltillo, MS - 38866 (662) 680-6798 Marriott.com/tupfi
\$104 double queen, \$104 single king <i>No fee if cancelled 2 days before arrival</i>				
JACKSON, MS	# 2 SAT May 13	# 6 WED May 17		Cabot Lodge Jackson North 120 Dyess Road Ridgeland, MS - 39157 (601) 957-0757 cabotlodgejacksonnorth.com
\$94 double queen, \$94 single king <i>No fee if cancelled by 4pm the day before arrival</i>				
VIDALIA, LA (NATCHEZ, MS)	# 3 SUN May 14			Comfort Suites 100 Front Street Vidalia, LA - 71373 (318) 336-1655 choic-hotels.com (Note: GPS uses 100 Levee St)
\$100-110 double queen/single king, +\$10 if >2 people <i>No fee if cancelled by 4pm the day of arrival</i>				
VICKSBURG, MS	# 4 MON May 15	# 5 TUE May 16		Comfort Suites 100 Berryman Road Vicksburg, MS - 39180 (601) 638-2290 shshotelus.com
\$96 double queen, \$96 single king, + \$5 ea if >2people <i>No fee if cancelled by 4pm the day of arrival</i>				
WAYNESBORO, TN	# 8 FRI May 19			Hurricane Inn (<i>has only 22 rooms</i>) 550 Old Hwy 64E Waynesboro, TN - 38485 (931) 722-5579 hurricaneinnwaynesboro.com
\$81 double queen, \$81 single king, \$103-king w/whpl <i>No fee if cancelled by 4pm the day before arrival</i> <i>(price for this hotel includes the tax)</i>				
				Bear Inn (<i>use once Hurricane Inn is full</i>) 2250 Billy Nance Hwy. Clifton, TN 38425 (931) 676-5552 bearinnresort.com
\$70 single queen, \$70 double queen <i>No fee if cancelled by 4pm the day before arrival</i>				
NASHVILLE, TN	# 9 SAT May 20			Microtel Inn and Suites 100 Coley Davis Court Nashville, TN - 37221 (615) 662-0004 wyndhamhotels.com/microtel
\$87 single queen, \$96 double queen <i>No fee if cancelled by 4 pm day before arrival</i>				