

Historic South Golden Isles



Featuring
**Charleston &
Savannah** *plus*
other scenic ports!

CRUISE | Aboard the Independence

SPONSORED BY



Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF
The Association of Former Students



Nov. 21-30, 2019



Independence

Small Ship Cruising Done Perfectly™

Travel in style and comfort to exciting ports in the historic South on a sleek coastal cruise ship. Experience gracious service in an intimate atmosphere that includes nightly entertainment and complimentary cocktail hours. Enjoy delicious, locally sourced cuisine, spacious staterooms, elevator access to all decks and complimentary Wi-Fi.

The Independence is equipped with large, roomy staterooms, most featuring a private balcony. With the latest in navigation and safety technology, the ship is fully stabilized, allowing American Cruise Lines to reach even more fascinating destinations in smooth comfort. Complete with an exercise area and putting green, the Independence offers guests a relaxed and casual atmosphere.

Highly personalized service and a relaxed ambience prevail on board the entire modern fleet of ships. The accommodating, all-American crew welcomes you with an unequaled level of attention. Each evening before dinner, enjoy complimentary cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, as you mingle with other passengers to share the adventures of the day. Set your own pace on your vacation and relax in the casual comfort and exceptional care that is the hallmark of cruising with American Cruise Lines.

What Sets American Cruise Lines Apart

Modern Ships

The newest and most environmentally friendly small cruise ships and riverboats in America.

All-American Experience

American-built, flagged and crewed ships.

Spacious Amenities

Large staterooms with interior entrances. Elevator service to all decks. Comfortable lounges and public spaces on board.

Exquisite Cuisine

Delectable cuisine from American Cruise Lines' highly trained chefs. Open seating to dine where you want.

Splendid Vistas

Unobstructed views and breathtaking scenery from the privacy of your stateroom.

Complimentary Experience

Daily cocktail hour, plus complimentary wine and beer with meals.

Gracious Hospitality

Attentive and personalized service, the hallmark of American Cruise Lines.

Education and Entertainment

Historians, naturalists, local experts and performers on every cruise. Lectures ranging from history and ecology to culture and cuisine.



Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF
The Association of Former Students



Howdy, Ags!

Savor a wonderful, carefree journey along the South Carolina and Georgia coastline and experience the South's rich heritage, world-famous hospitality and tantalizing cuisine! You'll sail for seven nights through the scenic Intracoastal Waterway to iconic coastal cities and tranquil islands aboard a first-class ship, plus spend two nights in the heart of lovely Charleston.

Delve into the region's history and natural beauty on engaging elective excursion choices, such as walking tours, carriage and trolley tours, alligator and shrimping tours and more in your ports of call: Beaufort and Hilton Head Island, South Carolina; Savannah, St. Simons Island and Jekyll Island, Georgia; and Amelia Island, Florida. Along the way, you'll feast on the South's tastiest, traditional fare, where the tea is sweet and fresh seafood — shrimp, crab and oysters — reigns supreme!

During your voyage, enjoy attentive, personalized service and an enriching program of lectures and entertainment, as well as daily complimentary cocktail hours and fun Travelers' Corners.

Explore the historic and beautiful South in style and comfort. Space is limited, so make your reservations today!

Gig 'em!

Jennifer Bohac

Jennifer Bohac
Director of Travel
Outreach and Engagement
The Association of Former Students

Marisa Liles

Marisa Liles
Director of Travel - Operations and Customer Service
The Association of Former Students

800-633-7514

AggieNetwork.com/Travel

Moss-draped oaks, Forsyth Park, Savannah





Inspiring Moments

- Watch glorious sunsets over the quiet marshes and serene bays of the **Intracoastal Waterway**.
- Bask in true Southern charm in wonderfully preserved **Charleston**.
- Step back in time along the streets of romantic **Savannah**, amid stately mansions, moss-draped oaks and lush, secluded gardens.
- Marvel at the breathtaking, unspoiled landscapes of the **Golden Isles**, nestled along the Georgia coast.
- Delight in the colorful history, native wildlife and relaxed vibe of Florida's gem, **Amelia Island**.
- Relish the laidback, Lowcountry character of **Beaufort**.
- Socialize and make new friends during fun, casual **Travelers' Corners**.

Above: Waterfront Park, Charleston

Charleston | South Carolina

Experience graceful, welcoming Southern charm in one of the best-preserved cities in the region. Established in 1670, Charleston thrives as a living museum — the scene of Revolutionary War naval battles, legendary pirate tales and Civil War sieges. In its grand historic district, you may feel as though you've journeyed to another era, as horse-drawn carriages amble past handsome mansions and steepled churches on cobblestone streets. And while Charleston has taken care to preserve the past, it's forged a stellar reputation for innovative dining and great culture. Acclaimed for its top-notch restaurant scene, it also hosts the annual Spoleto Festival USA, an internationally renowned performing arts festival. It's no wonder that Charleston regularly ranks as a top favorite U.S. city by readers of *Condé Nast Traveler*!

Beaufort | South Carolina

Located in the heart of the Sea Islands amid the scenic Lowcountry, quaint Beaufort was voted "The South's Best Small Town" in 2017 by readers of *Southern Living*. Its storied history features European explorers, British settlements and Civil War battles. Take in the inviting ambience of its historic center filled with colonial and antebellum homes under the silvery-green canopy of old oak



trees. The Lowcountry's unique character was shaped by a medley of diverse cultures, including Native Americans, planters from Barbados, French settlers and West African and Caribbean slaves. The Gullah people, descendants of the West African slaves, formed communities in the Lowcountry and continue to preserve their culinary heritage and artistic tradition of basket-weaving with sweetgrass.

Hilton Head Island | South Carolina

Kick off your shoes, unwind and feel the sand beneath your feet on this easy-going island retreat! Vacationers cherish the wide, pristine beaches and the bevy of championship golf courses (more than 30!). Its placid marshes, coastal waters and brilliant skies are also teeming with wildlife, including alligators, loggerhead sea turtles, dolphins, manatees, egrets, storks and great blue heron.



Above: Lighthouse, Hilton Head | Inset: Great blue heron

Savannah | Georgia

Full of warm hospitality, Savannah radiates a singular, romantic charm that invites exploration. Founded in 1733, it's a magnet for history and culture seekers, drawn to its dignified homes, houses of worship and famous forts. Meander down streets in the historic and Victorian districts that reveal elegant buildings, smartly accented with ironwork and gingerbread trim. Best of all, the city planners laid out 22 beautiful squares to

anchor the neighborhoods. Shaded by huge live oak trees, each one offers a peaceful oasis to appreciate the city's magical atmosphere. Head to the riverfront in this bustling seaport, and you'll discover old cotton warehouses now converted into trendy restaurants, hip galleries and chic nightspots. With something remarkable around every corner, lovely Savannah remains a must-see (and experience) destination!



Itinerary

- Day 1** Depart gateway city[†] | Arrive in Charleston | Transfer[†] to the Francis Marion Hotel
- Day 2** Charleston
- Day 3** Charleston | Embark the ship
- Day 4** Beaufort
- Day 5** Hilton Head Island
- Day 6** Savannah
- Day 7** Cruising the Georgia coast
- Day 8** St. Simons Island | Jekyll Island
- Day 9** Amelia Island
- Day 10** Jacksonville | Disembark ship | Depart for gateway city[†]

[†]Transfers and flights included for AHI FlexAir participants.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Walking is required on many excursions, and surfaces may be uneven or unpaved.



St. Simons Island | Jekyll Island | Georgia

Encounter the alluring, tranquil landscapes of the Golden Isles, tucked along the Georgia coast. You'll sense a more relaxed pace, as people venture out on foot or on bikes, by horseback or kayak, to embrace the natural beauty that surrounds them. The fascinating history here also proves captivating, from St. Simons Island's 18th-century battlefield to Jekyll Island's past as a private winter getaway for some of America's richest families.

Amelia Island | Florida

On this beguiling island, enjoy all the simple pleasures of a beloved vacation spot, from miles of quartz beaches and rolling sand dunes, to fun outdoor activities and a charming town ideal for strolling and exploring. Fernandina Beach harbors a treasure trove of antique shops, eclectic boutiques, galleries and restaurants, plus blocks of restored, 19th-century buildings.

INCLUDED FEATURES

Accommodations

(with baggage handling)

- **2 nights** in Charleston at the first-class Francis Marion Hotel.
- **7 nights** aboard the first-class Independence.

Transfers

- Deluxe motor coach transfer from your hotel to the ship, plus baggage handling.

Extensive Meal Program

- 9 breakfasts, 8 lunches and 7 dinners, including a Captain's Dinner; complimentary cocktails and hors d'oeuvres before dinner during the cruise; coffee, tea or soft drinks with all meals, plus wine and beer with lunch and dinner during the cruise.

Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- Expert-led **Enrichment programs** enhance your insight into the region.
- **Included and elective excursions** provide additional opportunities to immerse yourself in the local culture, heritage and history.
- Chat and socialize with your fellow guests during casual **Travelers' Corners**.
- Free time to pursue your individual interests.
- Welcome and Farewell Receptions to mingle with fellow travelers.
- Tipping of guides and drivers on included excursions.



FRANCIS MARION HOTEL |
CHARLESTON



Our travel experts have carefully selected this first-class property for its prime location on King Street within walking distance of many attractions. It is ideally situated for exploring Charleston's beautifully preserved landmarks, while providing opportunities to immerse yourself in local life. Of utmost importance is the superior quality of the services, amenities and accommodations, allowing you to enjoy your stay fully.



Rainbow Row, Charleston



Carriage tour, Beaufort



Lowcountry, Beaufort



Dolphin, Hilton Head



Savannah

Exciting Excursions

We've taken special care to plan engaging, customized excursions so that you have a truly memorable experience. You may sign up for most excursions on board. These shore excursions come in three categories:

- Featured** | This excursion is complimentary to all travelers. *(Included)*
- Premium** | These excursions typically cost between \$20 and \$70 per person and can be paid for on board, near the end of your cruise. *(Elective)*
- Signature** | These excursions are limited-availability tours that typically cost over \$70 per person and must be booked before your cruise departs. *(Elective)*

Note: Excursion options are subject to change.

Charleston

Featured | *Charleston Walking Tour.* On a pleasant guided walk, see historic highlights including Catfish Row; the brightly painted Georgian row houses on Rainbow Row; and the picturesque Battery promenade.

Beaufort

Premium | *Lowcountry Heritage Tour.*

Learn about daily life on a plantation as you discover historic Beaufort. Then visit Lady's Island and St. Helena to explore the grounds and main house of a former plantation. Enjoy a special musical performance afterward.

Premium | *Beaufort Carriage Tour.* In a comfy, horse-drawn carriage, take a relaxed ride through the scenic Bay Street area, noted for its antebellum homes, parks and shops.

Hilton Head Island

Premium | *Alligator and Wildlife Tour.*

Cruise through the Sea Pines Resort Forest Preserve, a 600-acre wildlife habitat, to see native plants and animals close up, including the American alligator.

Premium | *Dolphin Cruise.* Observe the playful antics of bottle-nose dolphins and gain insights about these endearing and intelligent creatures from your guide.

Savannah

Premium | *Trolley Tour.* Hop aboard a trolley to discover Savannah's historic and Victorian districts with a guide. See Factor's Walk, the Cotton Exchange, several of the city's pretty squares and more. Afterward, keep riding the trolley and explore on your own.

Premium | *Guided Walking Tour.* Admire legendary landmarks, such as Colonial Park Cemetery, the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist and some of its quiet, leafy squares.

Premium | *Mighty Eighth Air Force Museum.* This interesting museum brings the famed World War II division to life through a splendid collection of aviation artifacts and memorabilia, as well as fully restored aircraft.



Amelia Island

St. Simons Island | Jekyll Island

Premium | *Jekyll Island Tour.* The island's geography has made it an ideal nesting ground for sea turtles. At the Georgia Sea Turtle Center, learn about the life of a sea turtle and watch sick turtles being treated. Later, take a tram tour of the island's historic district, filled with lavish "cottages" owned by wealthy tycoons.

Premium | *St. Simons Island Tour.* On the largest of the Golden Isles, visit historic sites including the Bloody Marsh Battle Site, where British forces defending colonial Georgia defeated Spanish troops in 1742. See Christ Church's exquisite stained-glass windows.

Premium | *Lady Jane Shrimp Boat Tour.* Sail to your captain's favorite shrimping grounds. Watch for wildlife such as dolphins and pelicans, and then try your hand at pulling in a catch!

Amelia Island

Premium | *Historic Walking Tour.* Savor the small-town feel of Fernandina Beach as you stroll past its many colorful Victorian-era homes and churches and learn about its history.

Premium | *Amelia Island River Cruise.* From the water on this leisurely cruise, revel in gorgeous views of Fernandina Beach. See Fort Clinch, the lighthouse and unique marine life.

Signature | *Cumberland Island & Legacy.* Ferry to Georgia's southernmost barrier island, a National Park with unspoiled beaches. Visit the First African Baptist Church and Plum Orchard Mansion, built in 1898.

Reserve your Historic South & Golden Isles cruise today!

Trip #:11-24304W

Send to The Association of Former Students
Attn: Traveling Aggies
505 George Bush Drive
College Station, TX 77840-2918
Phone: 979-845-7514 Fax: 979-845-9263
Toll Free: 800-633-7514



Full Legal Name (exactly as it appears on passport)

Guest 1) Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email:

Guest 2) Title First Middle Last Date of Birth

Email:

Street Address:

City:

State: ZIP:

Home: () Cell: ()

Sharing room with (Form sent separately)

Name(s) you would like on your name badge(s):

(1) (2) Class Year Class Year

I/we authorize you to make my/our reservations as follows:

Cabin category requested: 1st choice 2nd choice

Preferred Bed Type: Twin King

Land | Cruise Program and AHI FlexAir

I/we reserve the Land | Cruise Program and request the AHI FlexAir to Charleston, South Carolina, with a return from Jacksonville, Florida, to depart from:

Departure City

Land | Cruise Program

I/we will make my/our own air arrangements and transfers.

Single Accommodations

I prefer single accommodations at an additional cost (limited availability).
I request assistance in securing a roommate but will accept a single, if one is available at this time, and pay the single supplement. Should a roommate be found, I understand the supplement will no longer apply.

Reservations are subject to availability and are processed on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations to be paid in full by July 24, 2019 (120 days prior to departure). Reservations received after this date must be accompanied by payment in full. Final payment may be made by personal check, MasterCard, Visa, Discover or Amex. Make checks payable to AHI Travel.

AHI Travel has assumed all costs for the printing and distribution of this promotion. This program is exclusively arranged by AHI Travel, 8550 W. Bryn Mawr Ave., Suite 600, Chicago, IL 60631. No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.

Enclosed is a deposit of (\$600/person) to reserve place(s).

Accept my check made payable to AHI Travel.
Charge my: MasterCard Visa Discover Amex

Card #

Expires /

(Signature as it appears on credit card)

Please note: Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out herein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

NOT INCLUDED-Fees for passports and, if applicable, visas; entry/departure fees; personal gratuities; laundry and dry cleaning; excursions, wines, liquors, mineral waters and meals not mentioned in this brochure under included features; travel insurance; airport transfer costs for those not participating in AHI's FlexAir; all items of a strictly personal nature.

MOBILITY AND FITNESS TO TRAVEL-The right is retained to decline, to accept or to retain any person as a member of this trip who, in the opinion of AHI Travel is unfit for travel or whose physical or mental condition may constitute a danger to themselves or to others on the trip, subject only to the requirement that the portion of the total amount paid which corresponds to the unused services and accommodations be refunded. Passengers requiring special assistance, including without limitation those who permanently or periodically use a wheelchair, must be accompanied by someone who is fit and able to assist them, and who will be totally responsible for providing all required assistance.

AIR TRANSPORTATION-The price of air transportation offered by AHI Travel is based on Advance Purchase Excursion fares. After tickets are issued, penalties up to 100% of the ticket price may be levied. If connecting flights are requested, special promotional fares may be used, in which case penalties of as much as 100% may be assessed by the airlines if reservations are changed or canceled after ticketing. After departure, if the reservations are changed, you will be charged the higher, all year Economy class fare. VARIATIONS TO THE GROUP ITINERARY MUST BE REQUESTED NO LATER THAN 60 DAYS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. Passengers who choose to make their own airline reservations independently will be wholly responsible for arrival and departure transfers, and any airline fees or penalties incurred as a result of program cancellation and/or change in travel dates, or airline schedule(s).

BAGGAGE Baggage restrictions vary according to the airline policy and the class of service flown. Details will be provided with your pre-departure information. Baggage allowances are subject to change by the carrier without notice. Excess baggage charges for additional or oversized/overweight pieces are expensive and not included in your trip price; plan your wardrobe accordingly. Transport of baggage and personal effects is at the owner's risk throughout the travel program.

AUTHORITY TO USE IMAGES AND AUDIO RECORDINGS-On occasion, AHI Travel obtains, from its staff, or from trip participants, photographic or video images of passengers and trip activities. By participating in this travel program, you authorize AHI Travel, without providing compensation to you, or obtaining additional approvals from you, to include photographic and video recordings of you, as well as voice recordings included with any videos, in AHI Travel's sales, marketing, advertising, publicity and/or training activities.

RESPONSIBILITY-AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association do not own or operate any entity which provides goods or services for this program, and act only as agents for the independent suppliers of travel conveyance, transport, accommodations or other services. All such persons or entities are independent contractors. As a result, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not liable for any negligence or willful act of any such person or entity or any third person. In addition and without limitation, AHI Travel and the Sponsoring Association are not responsible for any delays, delayed departure or arrival, missed carrier connections, loss, death, damage or injury to person or property or accident, mechanical defect, failure or negligence of any nature howsoever caused in connection with any accommodations, transportation or other services or for any substitution of hotels or of common carrier equipment, with or without notice, or for any additional expenses occasioned thereby. Dates, Program Details and Tour costs, although given in good faith and based on tariffs, exchange rates and other information current at the time of printing, are subject to change at or before the time of departure. No revisions of the printed itinerary or its included features are anticipated; however, the right is reserved to make any changes, with or without notice, that might become necessary, with the mutual understanding that any additional expenses will be paid by the individual passenger. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the owners at all times. If the entire program is canceled for any reason, participants shall have no claim other than for a full refund. By forwarding the deposit, the passenger certifies that he/she has no physical, mental or other condition of disability that would create a hazard for himself/herself or other passengers and accepts the terms of this contract set out herein and in more specific pre-departure passenger information. The airlines and other transportation companies concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event, during the time passengers are not on board their conveyances. The passage contract in use, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the company(ies) and the passenger and/or purchaser of this trip.

CANCELLATION-All cancellations for any reason will be subject to a \$300 per person administrative fee. You may choose, at the time of cancellation, to apply the withheld administrative fee to a future AHI Travel program that will operate in the current calendar year or year following. Cancellation from 210 days to 121 days prior to departure will result in a \$500 fee. Cancellation from 120 to 91 days will result in a forfeiture of 20% of the entire cost of the trip per person; cancellation from 90 days up to the time of departure will result in 100% forfeiture of the entire cost of the trip. TRIP CANCELLATION INSURANCE IS AVAILABLE. AN APPLICATION WILL BE SENT AFTER YOU RESERVE. All cancellations must be submitted in writing to AHI Travel. CANCELLATION OF TRIP OPTIONS-Purchases of optional excursions, trip extensions and additional hotel nights become fully non-refundable 45 days prior to departure. Air transportation and private transfer purchases are subject only to penalties assessed by the airlines and transfer suppliers.

PROGRAM DATES

Nov. 21-30, 2019

LAND | CRUISE PROGRAM

Category-Deck	Special Price
A-Main (Forward)	\$4,695
AAL-2nd (Forward/Aft)	\$5,595
AAC-3rd (Forward/Aft)	\$5,795
Owner's Suite-2nd & 3rd (Forward/Aft)	\$7,295

Owner's Suite, AAC and AAL categories feature a private balcony and window.
Category A features a large picture window.

Port charges are an additional \$250 per person.
All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated).

Single prices are available upon request (limited availability).

Independence



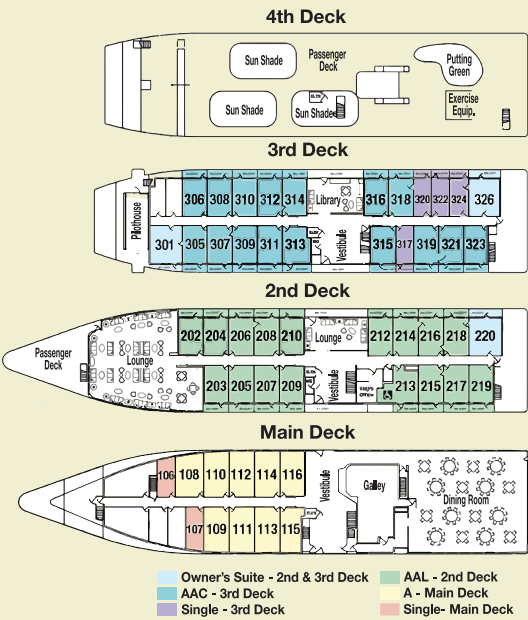
Let us arrange your flights!

✈️ **AHI FlexAir** | Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- **price guarantee** to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase.
- arrival and departure **transfers** on most flights.
- **assistance** in the event of schedule changes or delays.
- flight insurance worth up to \$250,000, subject to policy terms.

Travel stress-free with AHI FlexAir.

Independence





A-Main Deck



AAL-2nd Deck



Owner's Suite



Preparation for dinner



Lounge



Dining room



Carriage ride in Charleston

AHI Travel Expertise

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

Before you go:

- **Travel Consultants** | These experts stand ready to answer your questions about activities, meals, accommodations and more as they guide you through the reservation process.
- **Passenger Service Representative** | Once you have reserved your spot, enjoy personalized assistance from this specialist, your one point of contact who will help you with everything from arranging flights to booking elective activities to fulfilling special requests.
- **Travel Information** | Receive extensive destination information and travel tips compiled by our travel-savvy team to prepare you fully for your journey.

Once you arrive:

On the ground, three layers of top-quality professionals offer their insiders' perspective. From suggesting the best café or pub to sharing a laugh over the stories of the day, our dedicated team takes your adventure to the next level.

- **Travel Director** | Throughout your journey, you will be in the care of a seasoned AHI travel professional who will manage all the logistics, allowing you to relax and simply soak up the ambience. Resourceful, knowledgeable and attentive, your Travel Director helps to ensure you enjoy an unforgettable travel experience.
- **Expert Guides** | Who better to show you around than the people who live there? We've specially selected informed and enthusiastic local professional guides who understand the needs of our educated and curious travelers. Warm and genuine, they're ready to share their passion for the region with you.
- **Lecturers** | Coming from all walks of life, entertaining local lecturers open your eyes to history and current events. The breadth of their knowledge deepens your appreciation for the region and its heritage.



Traveling Aggies

A PROGRAM OF
The Association of Former Students



505 George Bush Drive
College Station, TX 77840-2918

ACSOUTH-19-37

800-633-7514
AggieNetwork.com/Travel



Explore coastal South Carolina and Georgia on this delightful, first-class cruise!

**Please call or refer to our
website for the most current
program information,
discounts and pricing.**

AHI Travel's mission is to deliver
inspirational educational and cultural
travel programs that delight travelers.

With AHI you can rely on:

- Experienced Travel Directors who
attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites.
- Flexibility and
customization.
- Safety and security.



Presorted Std.
U.S. Postage
Paid
AHI Travel