

Missouri Retired Teachers Association presents...

# Celebrating America's 250th Anniversary

September 7 – 15, 2026



Book Now  
& Save  
**\$150**  
Per Person



MISSOURI RETIRED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION  
AND PUBLIC SCHOOL PERSONNEL

For more information contact  
Paige Holtmeyer  
Missouri Retired Teachers Association  
**(573) 634-4300**  
**[travel@mrta.org](mailto:travel@mrta.org)**

**collette**



**9 Days • 12 Meals:** 8 Breakfasts, 1 Lunch, 3 Dinners

**HIGHLIGHTS...** Museum of the American Revolution, West Point Academy, NYC Panoramic Tour, Arlington National Cemetery, U.S. Capitol Building Tour, Lexington & Concord, Liberty Bell

#### ITINERARY AT A GLANCE

- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| Days 1, 2  | Royal Sonesta Hotel Boston, Cambridge, MA                             |
| Days 3, 4  | Sheraton New York Times Square, New York, New York                    |
| Day 5      | Canopy by Hilton Philadelphia Center City, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania |
| Days 6 – 8 | Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington D.C.                                  |

*On some dates alternate hotels may be used.*

#### Day 1: Monday, September 7, 2026 Boston, Massachusetts

Celebrate the marking of America's 250th anniversary with a journey from "the Cradle of the American Revolution" through the historic hubs of New York and Philadelphia and to the nation's capital, Washington, D.C. Arrive in Boston, a city bursting with character and Revolutionary history. As arrival times will be scattered through the afternoon and evening, there are no scheduled activities today.

#### Day 2: Tuesday, September 8, 2026 Boston - Lexington - Concord - Boston

Today, venture to Lexington and Concord. Begin at Lexington Battle Green, where the first shots of the Revolutionary War were fired on April 19, 1775. With your local guide, continue to Concord on a drive that follows the same path that British troops marched that day. Along the road, learn more about Concord's historical significance, a town home to literary figures like Ralph Waldo Emerson, Henry David Thoreau, and Louisa May Alcott. Step inside Wright Tavern in the center of Concord, where the minutemen and militia gathered before battle, and see the Old Hill Burying Ground. Head to the exact spot where the "shot heard 'round the world" was fired – the Old North Bridge. And at Robbins House, explore stories of the home's former inhabitants with notable ties to African American history. This evening, celebrate the start of your journey with a welcome dinner in Boston's famed North End. (B, D)

#### Day 3: Wednesday, September 9, 2026 Boston - West Point, New York - New York City

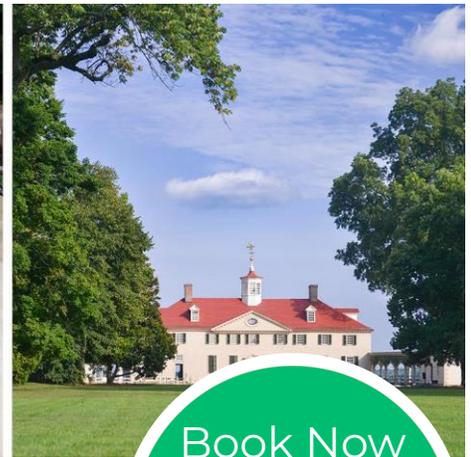
You're off to New York City today. But first, a visit to West Point\* highlights why George Washington considered it the most important military post in America. During your guided tour, learn about the garrisoning of West Point during the Revolutionary War and the present role of the United States Military Academy in training the leaders of tomorrow. Along the way, get a glimpse into the cadet experience at this proud institution and take in the view from Trophy Point overlooking the Hudson River. Then, arrive in New York, New York! Check into your Times Square hotel and feel the bustle of modern-day New York all around you. This evening is yours to enjoy the Big Apple. (B)

#### Day 4: Thursday, September 10, 2026 New York City

Start your morning like a New Yorker with breakfast at a local diner. Then, delve into historic New York on a blended panoramic and walking tour. Glimpse into Central Park, pause beside the poignant 9/11 Memorial, see St. Paul's Chapel, where George Washington prayed following his inauguration, and view Trinity Church, where Alexander Hamilton was laid to rest. Convene for lunch at New York's most historic tavern – a favorite watering hole among several Founding Fathers, where George Washington famously gathered with a group of officers to celebrate after the last British troops left American soil. The rest of the day is yours to spend as you wish. This evening, if you choose to join an optional dinner and show, take a seat at one of Broadway's biggest hits: *Hamilton!*\*\* Experience the revolutionary musical that shines a spotlight on Founding Father, Alexander Hamilton. (B, L)

#### Day 5: Friday, September 11, 2026 New York City - Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

On to Philadelphia! Embark on a tour of the "birthplace of America." Step inside Independence Hall, the location of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the drafting of the Constitution. See an iconic symbol of freedom, the Liberty Bell. Then, enjoy free time for lunch at a local market full of delicious food options, perhaps seeking out a local favorite like the Philly cheesesteak. This afternoon, head to the Museum of the American Revolution, where everything you've retraced on the journey so far comes together. Walk through the interactive exhibits imagining what it felt like to be part of the Revolution. Tonight, dinner is on board the legendary Moshulu, the world's oldest and largest square-rigged sailing vessel still afloat. Docked at Penn's Landing, experience a piece of maritime history on this tall ship turned restaurant. (B, D)



Book Now  
& Save  
**\$150**  
Per Person

## Book Now & Save \$150 Per Person:

Double ~~\$4,979~~; **Double \$4,829\***  
 Single ~~\$6,479~~; **Single \$6,329;**  
 Triple ~~\$4,879~~ **Triple \$4,729**

**For bookings made after Mar 06, 2026 call for rates.**

**Included in Price:** Round Trip Air from Lambert St Louis Intl, Kansas City Intl Airport or Springfield Branson Regional Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers

**Not included in price:** Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$429 per person

\* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package

**IMPORTANT CONDITIONS:** Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by Collette. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. **(See registration form for consent.)**

**Day 6: Saturday, September 12, 2026 Philadelphia - Valley Forge - Washington D.C.** En route to Washington, D.C., make a stop at Valley Forge National Historical Park, the winter encampment of George Washington's Continental Army. Step back in time while visiting Washington's Headquarters with a local park guide. Later, arrive in the United States capital, your home for the next three nights. (B)

**Day 7: Sunday, September 13, 2026 Washington, D.C. - Arlington, VA - Washington D.C.** Set out to see Washington, D.C. Founded in 1790, this vibrant city is known for its political and historical significance, iconic landmarks, and cultural diversity. Today, enter the iconic and storied U.S. Capitol for a guided tour and fascinating look into American history and government. Then, visit Arlington National Cemetery,\*\*\* where over 400,000 service members and notable figures are honored and remembered. Here, a narrated tour takes you to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Kennedy gravesites. A day in the capital brings a deeper connection to America's history, leadership, and progress throughout its 250 years as a nation. (B)

**Day 8: Monday, September 14, 2026 Washington, D.C. - Mount Vernon - Washington, D.C.** This morning, discover the celebrated history of America's capital on a tour around the city. Take in views of the National Mall, White House, and other monuments and

museums. Pause to reflect at the World War II Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the Korean War Memorial. Head to Old Town Alexandria, nestled along the Potomac, and enjoy time to stroll the cobblestone streets on your own during a quick break for lunch. Then, visit Mount Vernon, the beloved home of George Washington, where **it's your choice!** Take a tour of Washington's estate hearing stories from the past about the lives of enslaved people at Mount Vernon **-OR-** about the women of the estate, including Martha Washington. Then, explore the mansion, wander the gardens and grounds, and visit the Washingtons' Tomb. This evening, toast to a fantastic historical journey over a farewell dinner with your fellow travelers. (B, D)

**Day 9: Tuesday, September 15, 2026 Washington, D.C. - Tour Ends** Your tour ends today. (B)

### Experience It! Independence National Historical Park

In Philadelphia, explore the "most historic square mile in America." The Independence National Historical Park is not just a collection of buildings; it represents the founding ideals of the nation and preserves national and international symbols of freedom and democracy. Step inside Independence Hall, a UNESCO World Heritage Site considered to be the birthplace of the nation, as this is where the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution were debated and signed. Today, the Georgian building's Assembly Room reflects its 18th-century appearance with period-appropriate furnishings, making it easy to imagine the foundational events taking place in that very room. Beyond Independence Hall, the park encompasses several other significant sites, including the famous Liberty Bell, a symbol of the abolitionist movement. Connect with America's brave and revolutionary beginnings in Philadelphia.

**For more information visit <https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1323850>**

## Important Tour Information:

**Book Now rates valid until Mar 06, 2026, valid on air inclusive packages only.**

**The overall activity level of this tour is a level 2.** This means you like a balanced approach to travel. Walking two to three miles over the course of a day is no problem for you. You can handle a variety of terrains, from cobblestone streets to moderate hills with relative ease and without assistance. You can climb two flights of stairs with ease. Expect some full days balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. You can handle altitudes up to 6,000 feet. While this level is appropriate for travelers that require mobility assistance devices, there could be times when you may have to sit out on some of the included activities.

### **Travel with an average of 37 people (maximum of 44).**

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

The National Cherry Blossom Festival is planned to coincide as near as possible with the blooming of the trees. "Peak Bloom Date" is defined as the day on which 70 percent of the blossoms of the Yoshino cherry trees are open. The date when the Yoshino cherry blossoms reach peak bloom varies from year-to-year, depending upon weather conditions. The mean date of blooming is April 3, but nature is not always cooperative, and the National Park Service horticulturists cannot make an accurate prediction much more than 10 days prior. The blooming period starts several days before the Peak Bloom Date and can last as long as 14 days; however, frost or high temperatures combined with wind and/or rain can shorten this period.

During the summer months (June-August), be prepared as the weather can reach high temperatures and many of the tour activities are outdoors.

Due to the long distances covered on this tour, most of our touring days will be full, typically departing for the day by 8:30 a.m. and returning by 5:30 p.m. or later in some cases. This means there will also be some long transfer days on the coach, specifically from Boston to New York and from Philadelphia to Washington D.C., both of which will have over 5 hours of driving time with stops in between.

\*West Point is an active-duty military post. All travelers are required to submit accurate ID information by 45 days prior to the start of the tour. Whatever ID is provided to us must also be produced on the day of the tour (no photocopies accepted, no exceptions) and are subject to a West Point security background check. Details that need to be provided are: identification type (ID, license, passport), legal name, country and state information, ID #, gender and date of birth. If, for any reason, you are unable to be cleared for access to the post, you will be notified in advance and will not be able to participate in the West Point Tour. Instead, you will have a self-guided visit and leisure time at the West Point Museum.

If you book this tour closer than 45 days prior to departure, your spot on the tour of West Point cannot be guaranteed, in which case you will have leisure time at the West Point Museum.

\*\*\*During the second week of October, the Army Ten-Miler Race will be taking place with traffic and road closures impacting our route. For any

tour operating during this period, the day and timing of Arlington National Cemetery may change. No itinerary inclusions will be missed.

Washington, D.C. attracts visitors year-round, specifically student groups, which means museums and top sites may be crowded.

On certain dates in June and July, travelers may have the opportunity to attend the Sail250 event. Your schedule of tour activities may be adjusted slightly to include this event; however, experiences at the event cannot be guaranteed.

\*\*Due to limited availability, *Hamilton* tickets are subject to availability. This option must be purchased in advance, at least 130 days prior to departure.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

To complete your tour, we include roundtrip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your own air, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Please be advised many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

### **Travel Requirements:**

#### **IDENTIFICATION**

Travel within USA

For travel completed by May 6, 2025, all airlines will ask for identification when you check in. It is recommended that you carry a passport if you have one. A driver's license (with a photo I.D.) is also acceptable for domestic flights.

Effective for travel May 7, 2025 forward, the REAL ID Act standards for identification while travelling will be in effect. This means a standard issued driver's license used as a form of identification will no longer be accepted for domestic air travel within the United States. Instead, a Real ID compliant form of identification must be presented both at the time of booking air travel with Collette and upon checking in at the airport to board any flight. Any fees associated with changing a reservation resulting from a non-compliant identification will be the responsibility of the guest. For more information on Real ID, please visit the Department of Homeland Security website: <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id>

**A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of February 27, 2026 are based upon availability. Final payment due by June 09, 2026. Deposits are refundable up until March 06, 2026.**

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279

**For important reservation information visit  
<https://gateway.gocollette.com/link/1323850>.  
You can also find this information on your tour documents.**



162 Middle Street  
Pawtucket, RI • 02860  
Phone: 866-757-5203 Fax: 1-401-727-9014

---

BOOKING NUMBER: 1323850  
DEPARTURE DATE: September 7, 2026

TOUR: Celebrating America's 250th Anniversary  
GROUP NAME: Missouri Retired Teachers Association

### Available Options

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

*Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first serve basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change.*

Children under the age of 18 **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

---

### New York, NY

#### Hamilton: Broadway Show & Dinner

**\$270 USD**

Top off your time in New York City by taking your seat at one of Broadway's biggest hits: Hamilton! Experience the revolutionary musical that's a must-see for fans of American history and musical theater alike. With its blend of modern music and diverse casting, the show brings the story of Alexander Hamilton and the American Revolution to life in a fresh and powerful way. Experience dinner and a Broadway show, the quintessential night out in New York City. Don't throw away your shot to experience Hamilton and view history through the lens of this incredible performance. Due to popularity of this show, tickets are subject to availability. Must be purchased at least 130 days prior to departure. Not available for purchase on tour. Booking deadline may be earlier during high season. Minimum of 10 travelers to operate. *Duration: Approximately 4 hours.* Please note a minimum of 10 passengers is required. Transportation is not included.

**For Internal Use Only**

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of February 27, 2026 are based upon availability. Final payment due by June 09, 2026. Deposits are refundable up until March 06, 2026.

**YOUR INFORMATION:**

Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.

**IMPORTANT:** In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the legal name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel <passport/driver's license> including middle names or suffixes <Jr, Sr>.

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_

Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: ( ) Male ( ) Female Date of Birth: month \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_ year \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Should you become ill or injured, whom should we contact (not traveling with you): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**ROOMING WITH:**  Check if address is the same as Passenger #1

First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_

**AIR GATEWAY:** Departure airport for this tour: \_\_\_\_\_

Air Seat Request: ( ) Aisle ( ) Window ( ) Next To Traveling Companion

Collette cannot guarantee your seat preference. If you have not purchased air through Collette and wish to purchase transfers, you must transfer at our pre-scheduled times.

Please be advised, when travelling as part of a group, many airlines do not provide seat assignments. Preferred seating may be available for an additional charge.

"Federal law forbids carriage of hazardous materials such as aerosols, fireworks, lithium batteries & flammable liquids aboard the aircraft in your checked or carry-on baggage. A violation can result in 5 years' imprisonment and penalties of \$250,000 or more. Details on prohibited items may be found on TSA's "prohibited items" web page: <http://www.tsa.gov/traveler-information/prohibited-items>."

**TRAVEL PROTECTION:** ( ) Yes, I wish to purchase travel protection \$429 ( ) No, I decline

If you choose not to purchase Collette's Waiver Insurance Plan, you will incur penalties for changes and cancellations. Travel Protection Payment is due with first deposit. The Waiver Fee does not cover any single supplement charges which arise from an individual's traveling companion electing to cancel for any reason prior to departure. The single supplement will be deducted from the refund of the person who cancels. (There is coverage under Part B which includes a single supplement benefit of \$1,500 for certain covered reasons. See Part B for details.)

**ON TOUR ACTIVITIES: Please choose one of the following on tour activities**

Please Choose One:

( ) The Enslaved People of Mount Vernon

( ) The Women of Mount Vernon

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:** Collette



**TOUR:** Celebrating America's 250th Anniversary  
**GROUP NAME:** Missouri Retired Teachers Association

**DEPARTURE DATE:** Sep 07, 2026  
**BOOKING NUMBER:** 1323850

## AVAILABLE PREPAID OPTIONS

Personalize your tour by adding an optional activity below. Our recommended options have been carefully chosen to help enhance your individual experience. Complete the provided Prepaid Options Form to reserve your options.

Availability is limited and reservations are on a first come, first served basis. Payment must be received no later than 15 days prior to departure. Prices are subject to change. Children under the age of 18 MUST be accompanied by an adult.

**PASSENGERS NAME:** (Please submit a separate form for each passenger)

Salutation: \_\_\_\_\_ First: \_\_\_\_\_ Middle: \_\_\_\_\_ Last: \_\_\_\_\_ Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Mr., Mrs., Rev.) (Please print **EXACTLY** as it appears on the government issued travel identification) (Jr., Sr.)

✓	Option	Price Per Person (USD)
	Hamilton: Broadway Show & Dinner <i>Due to popularity of this show, tickets are subject to availability. Must be purchased at least 130 days prior to departure. Not available for purchase on tour. Booking deadline may be earlier during high season. Minimum of 10 travelers to operate.</i>	270.00



## Special Needs Form

Please complete this form, sign and return it to us within 14 days of receipt.

Email: [TravelOperations@collette.com](mailto:TravelOperations@collette.com)

Fax: 401.727.4745

Mail: Collette: Travel Operations  
180 Middle Street  
Pawtucket, RI 02860

### TRAVELERS NEEDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

You must report any disability requiring special attention to Collette at the time the reservation is made. \*Collette will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of our participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable of and totally responsible for providing the assistance. Neither Collette nor its personnel, nor its suppliers, may physically lift or assist clients into transportation vehicles. If a traveler thinks he or she might need assistance during a trip, he or she should call Collette to determine what assistance might reasonably be given. Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities. Internationally, a great deal of walking may be necessary to fully enjoy the destination. Travelers should be in good health and must be able to walk reasonable distances. In some areas, travelers may be required to walk on uneven ground, cobblestone streets or raised thresholds.

***\*To request a wheelchair accessible room on a cruise, the traveler or person sharing the room must have a recognized disability that alters a major life function and requires the use of a mobility device and the use of the accessible features provided in the wheelchair accessible stateroom. The cruise company may take appropriate action against someone who has reserved or purchased such a stateroom fraudulently. Action may include but is not limited to removal from the stateroom to a non-accessible accommodation up to denial of boarding.***

Reservation # \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Male or Female (circle one)

**Are you traveling with a wheelchair?** Yes No

If you answer "YES"

- Does your wheelchair collapse? Yes No
- Can you stand and climb steps to board the coach without it? Yes No
- Are you capable of lifting your own wheelchair? Yes No

If you are not capable of lifting your own wheelchair who will provide assistance?

---

*This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your wheelchair:*

Height \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_ Width \_\_\_\_\_

**Are you traveling with a walker?** Yes No

If you answer "YES"

- Does your walker collapse? Yes No

*This form cannot be processed without the dimensions of your walker:*

Height \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_  
Width \_\_\_\_\_

*Tour Managers and drivers do not provide assistance lifting, pushing or carrying wheelchairs or walkers. Motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.*

**Are you requesting any hotel room accommodations?** Yes No

If "YES" Please indicate if one or more of the following is required in the washroom.

- Walk-in shower Yes No
- Grab bars Yes No
- Raised toilet seat Yes No

*Please provide any details in reference to the nature of your request.*

---

---

Most hotel rooms that can accommodate the request will be equipped with only 1 bed.

**Do you understand and accept?** Yes No

Collette cannot guarantee the availability of such rooms as many hotels have a limited number of rooms that are equipped with the above accommodations.

**Are you traveling with an oxygen tank?** Yes No

If you answer “YES”

- You must contact the airline directly to arrange transportation of the oxygen on the plane. Oxygen requests vary by airline and location and can take up to 2 weeks to request.
- You are responsible for supplying your own electrical cords, and converters as needed.

This form must be remitted within 14 days of receipt for any special needs accommodation request.

*Collette cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining, or other routine activities and motorized scooters are not permitted on tour.*

The Americans with Disabilities Act only applies in the United States. Many international destinations cannot accommodate passengers’ requests. Collette will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants, but we cannot guarantee that all requests will be honored on international destinations.

Collette also regrets that it cannot provide individual assistance to a tour member with special needs for walking, dining, or other special personal needs. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable and totally responsible for the assistance.

I have read and understand the above:

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Print Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

<p><b>Internal Use Only</b></p> <p>Reason: _____</p> <p>Tour: _____ Reservation # _____</p> <p>TS/Group: _____</p> <p>Tour Date: _____</p>
--