# Brandeis

TRAVELERS

## HISTORY & HARMONY ON THE MISSISSIPPI NEW ORLEANS TO MEMPHIS

Aboard American Heritage

DANIEL BREEN

Associate Professor of the Practice in Legal Studies

September 16 - 24, 2024



Step aboard the American Heritage and be transported to a world where time slows and the melodies of the Mississippi serenade your soul. From the jazz-infused streets of New Orleans to the iconic blues rhythms of Memphis, our intimate riverboat voyage promises more than just a journey -it's a deep dive into the very essence of Southern charm. As you drift along the historic waters, indulge in gourmet culinary delights, uncover tales that shaped a nation, and immerse yourself in the vibrant tapestry of cultures that line the riverbanks. With each bend, discover grand estates echoing stories of yesteryears, sip on mint juleps beneath ancient oaks, and let local guides illuminate the hidden gems of quaint towns. As the sun sets, retreat to the comfort of our modern riverboat, where regional entertainers breathe life into the night.





## Brandeis

#### TRAVELERS



#### **Program Highlights**

- Visit the famed National World War II Museum
- Explore the history, culture, and architecture of New Orleans
- **Delight** in southern cuisine from beignets to mint juleps
- Engage in the architecture along the Mississippi River
- Interact with the wildlife and nature of the Manchac Bayou
- **Discover** the history of Vicksburg and Memphis from Civil War battles to the Civil Rights Movement
- **Enjoy** your journey aboard an authentic paddle wheeler accompanied by Professor Daniel Breen



## Daniel Breen

Associate Professor of the Practice in Legal Studies

Professor Breen grew up in the South and attended law school at the University of Georgia. After practicing law for several years in Atlanta, he completed a doctorate in History at Boston College. He has published articles on the history and politics during the administration of Thomas Jefferson, while maintaining a lively and enduring interest in the American Civil War, stemming from his upbringing in Atlanta (where he lived on a road once used by Union infantry). He is a Professor of the Practice of Legal Studies at Brandeis and has been a faculty member for 17 years. In 2017, he was honored with the Louis D. Brandeis Award for Excellence in Teaching. His current project is a book on the histories behind the major public monuments of Boston.

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TRAVELERS

Dear Alumni and Friends,

I invite you to join us for an iconic American riverboat cruise along the Lower Mississippi River from New Orleans to Memphis. Explore America's rich cultural history and spirit of the South on this 9-day spectacular river sojourn.

Our journey begins in the vibrant city of New Orleans, where you will experience the elegance and charm of the French Quarter, known for its distinctive architecture. Explore Jewish history on a guided heritage walking tour, visit the renowned National World War II Museum, and savor authentic Cajun and Creole cuisine.

Daniel Breen, Associate Professor of the Practice in Legal Studies at Brandeis will lead our tour in partnership with local guides and experts. Professor Breen will enrich and inform the journey with his expertise in American history, civil rights, and the legal history of the US from World War I to the present.

As we cruise northward, each bend in the river will reveal hidden gems and historical treasures. Our first stop includes a visit to Oak Alley Plantation, a sugar plantation that preserves and tells the important story of slavery and emancipation. We then journey to Baton Rouge and embark upon a narrated boat ride of the Manchac Bayou for an up-close and personal wildlife experience.

Next, we sail upriver to St. Francisville, Louisiana, and Natchez, Mississippi, each featuring excursions that boast magnificent mansions and splendid views. In Vicksburg, Mississippi, visit the National Military Park battlefield for a guided tour of this well-known Civil War landmark.

We conclude the journey in Memphis, with its storied history, from the sacred grounds of the Civil Rights Movement to the hallowed halls of Graceland, home to Elvis Presley. Stroll along legendary Beale Street, where music flows from every doorway, and savor the rich flavors and aromas of the city's famous BBQ.

Enjoy accommodations aboard the luxurious American Heritage, a 150-passenger paddle wheeler ship featuring exceptionally large staterooms and well-appointed amenities.

The demand for this iconic American river cruise is high, and space is limited. I encourage you to reserve your space today by calling our tour operator EPIX Travels at (203) 604-1365, book online at <u>brandeis.epixtravels.com</u> or contacting them by email at <u>info@epixtravels.com</u>.

Sincerely,

F. Patricia Fisher Vice President, Alumni Relations Brandeis University

History and Harmony on the Mississippi New Orleans to Memphis with Daniel Breen September 16 - 24, 2024

#### Day 1 - September 16th

New Orleans, Louisiana Arrive in New Orleans this morning. Later in the day, visit the famed National World War II museum before taking in picturesque views of the Garden District. Return to the hotel this afternoon for check-in. Join the group this evening for a welcome reception and dinner at an authentic New Orleans restaurant. (*R*, *D*)

#### Day 2 - September 17th

#### New Orleans, Louisiana



Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before exploring the French Quarter on a guided Jewish cultural walking tour, taking you to the famed Jackson Square, the Holocaust Memorial, Preservation Hall, and the homes of important Jewish residents in the French Quarter. Relax in the early afternoon with coffee and beignets at an iconic establishment, and board the American Heritage this afternoon. (*B*, *L*, *R*, *D*)



#### Day 3 - September 18th

#### Houmas House, Louisiana

Step off your ship docked right at Houmas House and discover the Oak Alley Plantation. Once a sugar plantation, Oak Alley was built by slaves and relied on their labor. Here we will learn about the plantation's history of slavery, stories of individuals and emancipation. As a landscape that speaks truthfully of its past with the parts that remain, it offers visitors time for contemplation and reflection. This evening enjoy a lecture and discussion with your faculty leader. (*B*, *L*, *D*) History and Harmony on the Mississippi New Orleans to Memphis with Daniel Breen September 16 - 24, 2024

#### Day 4 - September 19th

#### Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Enjoy a narrated boat ride in the Manchac Bayou, a privately owned wildlife refuge. Relax in a comfortable, covered boat with walking room and open viewing from any seat. Swamp creatures are unafraid and responsive to our captain's voice. In the safety and comfort of the boat, you can get within a few feet of our "jumping gators." Other animals to be on the lookout for include nutria, ibis, turtles, herons, raccoons, egrets, and more. (*B, L, D*)

#### Day 5 - September 20th

#### St. Francisville, Louisiana

Experience this town's rich history on your own or with various guided excursions. As you explore, discover the Historic District, which boasts magnificent mansions and unique boutique shops, and admire cottonwood trees, which transition to stately oaks adorned with Spanish moss. This evening enjoy a lecture and discussion with your faculty leader. (*B*, *L*, *D*)

#### Day 6 - September 21st

#### Natchez, Mississippi

Explore the Monmouth Historic Inn and Gardens with a historic tour of the house and restored garden. View antiques and original pieces that belonged to the Quitman family while wandering the grounds. Later, enjoy a southern cocktail in the courtyard before returning to the ship. (*B*, *L*, *D*)







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#### Day 7 - September 22nd

Vicksburg, Mississippi

Vicksburg is a place of drama. During the Civil War, the struggle to control Vicksburg proved to be a major turning point. The well-fortified connection between river and rail transportation was known as "The Gibraltar of the West." A narrated exploration of the well-preserved National Military Park battlefield enlivens this powerful story and highlights its significance. (B, L, D)

#### Day 8 - September 23rd

Memphis, Tennessee

Welcome to Memphis, a historic city that rises picturesquely up the hillside from the river, adorned with grand oak trees, lush parks, and historic sites commemorating everything from the Civil War to the Civil Rights Movement. Immerse yourself in its rich musical legacy as you stroll along legendary Beale Street, where music flows from every doorway, and savor the rich flavors and aromas of the city's famous BBQ. (*B, L, D*)

#### Day 9 - September 24th

Memphis, Tennessee Enjoy breakfast on board the ship before beginning your journey home. Reflect upon your adventures and the new friends you made along the way. (B)

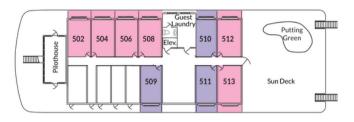




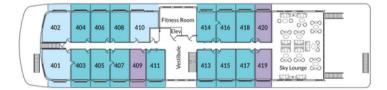


### **AMERICAN HERITAGE**

Sister ship to the 'American Splendor', the American Heritage made its debut in 2015. This paddlewheeler has recreated the grandeur of past riverboats while possessing the latest safety, environmental and construction technologies. The ship has the look of a traditional riverboat along with more amenities, a faster speed, and an unmatched level of comfort. Features include six unique lounges, a library, an elegant dining salon, elevator service to all decks, and exceptionally large staterooms.







Deck 4



Deck 3



Deck 2











Deck 1

## **AMERICAN HERITAGE**

### **RATE PER PERSON**

Category		Double
Α	<b>Owner's Suite</b> Deck 3/4; 445 sq ft. Private balcony	\$11,396
В	<b>Private Balcony Suite</b> Deck 4; 304 sq ft. Private balcony	\$9,640
С	<b>Private Balcony Suite</b> Deck 3; 304 sq ft. Private balcony	\$8,455
D	<b>Private Balcony Suite</b> Deck 2; 304 sq ft. Private balcony	\$7,170
E	<b>Standard Stateroom</b> Deck 1; 290 sq ft. Opening picture window	\$5,995
Category		Single
SA	<b>Private Balcony Suite</b> Deck 2/3/4/5; 230 sq ft. Private balcony	\$8,785
SB	<b>Standard Stateroom</b> Deck 1; 203 sq ft. Opening picture window	\$7,875

Register before March 1, 2024, and receive a \$250 per person discount



To register, visit brandeis.epixtravels.com or email info@epixtravels.com or call 203-604-1365











#### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

#### **Travel Protection:**

Brandeis Travelers partners exclusively with <u>Meyer and Associates</u> to offer trip insurance for our tours. Please inquire about trip insurance options once you've made your reservation to meet any time-sensitive requirements. For more information, please call Meyer and Associates at 800-635-7801 or email <u>info@meyerandassoc.com</u>.

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#### **Cancellations and Refunds:**

Upon payment of the \$1,000 per person deposit, all reservations are subject to the cancellation provisions as stated in the terms and conditions and restated below and by which the passenger agrees to be bound. Cancellations shall not be in effect until they are received in writing. Final payment is due May 3, 2024. Final payment must be made by check, wire transfer, or by credit card. Deposits are refundable (less a \$250 per person administration fee) if written notice of cancellation is received before May 2, 2024. After that, deposits are 100% nonrefundable. After the final payment deadline all payments are 100% nonrefundable.

Refunds cannot be made to passengers who do not complete the tour for any reason at all, and there are no refunds for unused meals, accommodations, or other trip features. EPIX Travels reserves the right, without penalty, to cancel the tour or to require any participant to withdraw from the tour at any time at his/her own expense, when such action is determined by tour staff to be in the best interest of the health, safety, or general welfare of the tour group or the individual participant, and subject only to the requirement that the recoverable portion of the tour price that corresponds to the cost of unused services and accommodations be refunded or credited, if any.

Book Now!

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