Barbeque, Bluegrass, Caves, Corvettes & More

The following is a suggested group tour itinerary. For more tour ideas of each area, visit kentuckytourism.com. Times shown below are Eastern Time.

**Day 1**

4:30 p.m. Arrive in Bowling Green and check into Holiday Inn University Plaza or other Bowling Green area lodging facility.

6:00 p.m. Dinner at Gerard’s 1907 Tavern or other Bowling Green area restaurant.

7:30 p.m. Optional – Downtown Heritage Walk.

**Day 2**

7:00 a.m. Breakfast at your hotel or other Bowling Green area restaurant.

8:00 a.m. Begin tour of Bowling Green area which may include: the Kentucky Museum, which preserves the rich history of the area; Lost River Cave, offering Kentucky’s only underground cave boat tour; the National Corvette Museum, with displays of mint condition and one-of-a-kind Corvettes; the Historic RailPark & Train Museum, which allows you to explore railroad artifacts and the region’s heritage; and others as time allows.

Also in the area (about a 35-45 minute drive from Bowling Green) are: Mammoth Cave National Park, Hidden River Cave and American Cave Museum, Kentucky Down Under Adventure Zoo and Diamond Caverns.

12:00 p.m. Lunch at Chaney’s Dairy Barn or other Bowling Green area restaurant.

1:30 p.m. Depart for Hopkinsville.

2:45 p.m. Tour Hopkinsville area which may include: the Trail of Tears Commemorative Park, a historic park used during the forced removal of the Cherokee people; Casey Jones Distillery, which produces authentic moonshine; Alhambra Theatre, a historic landmark and community performing arts center; and others as time allows.

Also in the area (about a 30-60 minute drive from Hopkinsville) are four state resort parks: Lake Barkley, Kenlake, Kentucky Dam Village and Pennyrile.

5:00 p.m. Check into Hampton Inn & Suites or other Hopkinsville area lodging facility.
5:30 p.m. Dinner at DaVinci at Novadell and the American Steakhouse, Main Street Tavern Restaurant or other Hopkinsville area restaurant.

7:00 p.m. Take in a show at Alhambra Theatre (seasonal, depending on schedule).

The Alhambra Theatre is a 650-seat proscenium theatre offering a variety of performances. This historic landmark was completed in 1928 and re-opened in 1983 as a community performing arts center, managed by the Pennyroyal Arts Council. The theatre completed a major renovation, involving a second story lobby expansion and additional performance space, in 2018 for its 90th anniversary year.

Day 3

7:00 a.m. Breakfast at your hotel or other Hopkinsville area restaurant.

8:00 a.m. Depart for Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area.

As part of America’s great outdoors since 1963, Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area manages over 170,000 acres of forests, wetlands, and open lands on a peninsula between Kentucky and Barkley lakes in Western Kentucky and Tennessee. The family friendly recreation area offers one of the largest blocks of undeveloped forest in the eastern United States. With 300 miles of natural shoreline, lake access provides idyllic settings for camping, picnicking, hiking, fishing, boating, wildlife viewing and water sports.

9:00 a.m. Explore Land Between the Lakes. Tour may include: the Woodlands Nature Station, the Elk & Bison Prairie, the Golden Pond Planetarium and The Homeplace as time allows.

11:30 a.m. Depart for Grand Rivers.

12:00 p.m. Lunch at Patti’s 1880s Settlement or other Grand Rivers area restaurant.

1:30 p.m. Depart for Princeton.

2:00 p.m. Tour Adsmore Museum in Princeton, a living history museum. (Tours change seasonally.)

The Adsmore Museum was originally built in 1857 and purchased by the Smith-Garrett family in 1900. It offers visitors an authentic and interactive opportunity to spend a day in the life of an early 1900s family living in western Kentucky. When John Parker and Nancy (Nannie) Smith purchased the house in 1900, they quickly began to renovate the original property into something extraordinary and ahead of its time. They commissioned several more additions; thus, the brick house came to be known as the Adsmore House.

3:00 p.m. Depart for Henderson.

5:00 p.m. Check into Holiday Inn Express or other Henderson lodging area facility.

6:00 p.m. Dinner at Hometown Roots or other Henderson area restaurant.

7:30 p.m. Optional – Historic Downtown Walking Tour in Henderson.

Day 4

7:00 a.m. Breakfast at hotel or other Henderson area restaurant.
8:00 a.m.  Tour Henderson area which may include: Preston Arts Center, a community performing arts center with a unique lake-side setting; the John James Audubon State Park, which preserves the peaceful woods where the famed naturalist observed the subjects for his paintings and offers a nature center and museum, Ellis Park Race Course, featuring simulcast horse racing year-round and live racing in summer months; and others as time allows.

12:00 p.m.  Depart for Owensboro.

12:30 p.m. Lunch at Moonlite Bar-B-Q Inn or other Owensboro area restaurant.

Moonlite Bar-B-Q Inn is a world-famous restaurant and buffet with homemade sides, burgoo and desserts, plus a full salad bar. What began as a 30 seat roadside restaurant in 1963 is now a 350 seat dine-in or carry-out award-winning restaurant with an extensive catering department. Recognized by Food Network, USA Today, Southern Living, The LA Times, and KY Monthly Magazine as one of the top barbecue spots in the nation, Moonlite Bar-B-Q is one of Kentucky’s most famous traditions.

1:30 p.m. Tour Owensboro area which may include: the Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame and Museum, featuring incredible exhibits in the museum and world-class artists in its 450 seat theater; Green River Distilling Co., home of the most expensive whiskey ever sold, where visitors can taste, see and smell the 10th oldest Kentucky Bourbon Distillery in the world; Western Kentucky Botanical Garden, with over 12 acres of gardens, historic buildings and garden art; the Owensboro Museum of Fine Art, which has historic painted glass windows, multiple bronze sculptures and a rotating array of world-class paintings; the Owensboro Museum of Science & History, which has many hands-on learning adventures including SpeedZeum, a permanent motor sports gallery.

Also in the area (about a 45 minute drive from Owensboro) in Rosine is the birthplace of The Father of Bluegrass Music, Bill Monroe.

5:00 p.m. Check into Holiday Inn Owensboro Riverfront or other Owensboro area lodging facility.

5:30 p.m. Dinner at Colby’s Fine Food & Spirits or other Owensboro area restaurant.

7:00 p.m. Take in a show at the Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame and Museum (seasonal, depending on schedule).

Home to the only bluegrass hall of fame, this brand-new facility hosts world-class bluegrass, newgrass and Americana artists in its 450 seat state-of-the art theater and features incredible exhibits dedicated to the home of bluegrass music.

Day 5

7:30 a.m. Breakfast at hotel, Ole South Barbeque or other Owensboro area restaurant.

8:30 a.m. Depart for home.

Before visiting Kentucky attractions and restaurants, please check businesses’ websites and social channels for the latest COVID-19 information.