SANTA BARBARA MUSEUM OF ART

Behind the Curtain: The Oregon Shakespeare Festival

September 19-23, 2016



"All the world's a stage!" – And nothing illustrates that better than the offerings at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in picturesque Ashland, Oregon. Plot revenge with a Danish prince, witness the downfall of a gluttonous king, discover America through the eyes of Vietnamese immigrants, and follow the aftermath of one of our country's most controversial Supreme Court cases.

Set among the rolling hills of southern Oregon, the award winning Oregon Shakespeare Festival (OSF) is celebrating its 81st year as one of the preeminent repertory theater companies in the United States, showcasing both Shakespearian and contemporary plays (including a world premiere production!).

Here are some comments from travelers from our 2015 Ashland tour:

"Ashland with the SBMA was a peak experience!"

"The perfect way to go to Ashland and OSF - exceptionally organized, entertaining, informative."

"I loved this trip! Day by day, item by item, all good. I'll go next year."

"Enjoyed a unique theater experience by a premier theatrical company and with a great 'cast' of SBMA Art members. Wow!"

Monday, September 19, 2016

Arrive in Ashland in the evening. The suggested flight leaves Santa Barbara at 12:30 pm, stops in San Francisco, and arrives in Medford at 5:49 pm. An airport transfer to Ashland is included for those on the suggested flight.

After check-in at the **Ashland Springs Hotel**, in the heart of downtown Ashland, travelers are invited to gather for a **welcome dinner** at the **Larks Restaurant** located off the hotel lobby.

The town of Ashland sprang up in 1851 after gold was discovered nearby. It continued to grow over the next few decades as businesses were established for those looking to strike it rich.

In 1887 Portland and San Francisco were connected by railroad at Ashland, further infusing the town with visitors. John McLaren, landscape architect of San Francisco's Golden Gate Park, was hired to design Lithia Park in the town's center with plans to make it a mineral springs resort. The resort never materialized, but the park continues to be a central attraction for the town's residents and its guests. However, it was with the start of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival in 1935 by Angus L. Bowmer, and its subsequent growth over the next 80 years, that helped Ashland find its identity on a national level. (Dinner provided)

Tuesday, September 20, 2016

After breakfast, gather in the hotel lobby at 9:30am to head over to the Thomas Theater for a **backstage tour**.

The Ashland Springs Hotel, (four nights) was built in 1925, in the wake of Ashland's postrailroad development. Supporters of the hotel wanted to offer accommodations on the same level of luxury and grandeur found back East. Built in the Gothic and Beaux-Art style, it became a central gathering point people attending the popular Chautauqua **lecture circuit**, featuring speakers such as William Jennings Bryan and Franklin Roosevelt.

Refurbished in 1997, the Ashland Springs Hotel has become a member of the Historic Hotels of America and was placed on the National Register of Historic Places.



Discover what's behind the shows on a walking tour with a company member. Begin with a brief talk about the history of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and the intricacies of operating a theatre in repertory. Tour stops include theatre spaces as well as backstage, the Green Room, and other behind-the-scenes areas.

At 1:00pm, after a quick lunch on your own, we will meet in front of the **Thomas Theatre** for the first of our two Shakespeare plays:

1:30pm – Richard II, by William Shakespeare (Thomas Theatre)

Richard II is dangerously out of touch with his kingdom. He wastes money, raises taxes to support his lavish lifestyle, plays favorites, and cares more about his vanity than the common good. When Henry Bolingbroke—father of the future Henry V—challenges Richard for the throne, it's a fight the king can't win. But in losing his crown he gains far greater things: his humanity and his soul. Shakespeare's luminous, poetic masterpiece is the first of four plays that chronicle the House of Lancaster's rise and the beginning of the Wars of the Roses.

Following the show, an actor will meet with our group to discuss the production and answer any questions you may have.

Then enjoy a few hours of leisure time to freshen up and eat dinner on your own before meeting up at 7:30pm on the Bricks in front of the **Elizabethan Theatre**. One of America's oldest Elizabethan theatres, OSF's outdoor flagship stage is named for a queen and the glorious age in which Shakespeare wrote.

8:00pm - Hamlet, written by William Shakespeare (Elizabethan Theatre)

Devastated by his father's death and disgusted by his mother's hasty marriage to his hated uncle, Denmark's Prince Hamlet has hit the rock bottom of despair. Now the ghost of his father appears, claiming the uncle murdered him—and the spectral accusation torments Hamlet's troubled mind, driving him to avenge a crime that may or may not be a product of his own imagining. Grand in scope, rich in language, this classic story of haunting, both literal and metaphorical, ranks among Shakespeare's masterpieces.

(Breakfast provided)



Wednesday, September 21, 2016



Enjoy a continental breakfast at the hotel before heading out to explore the many shops, restaurants, and art galleries downtown.

Ashland is home to over 30 art galleries featuring dozens of artists, most within walking distance of the hotel. A Gallery Guide courtesy of the Ashland Gallery Association will be provided to each of our travelers as a reference.

After lunch on your own, we will meet up in front of the Thomas Theatre at **1:00pm** for the matinee production of *Vietgone*, *by playwright Qui Nguyen*.

1:30pm - Vietgone, by Qui Nguyen (Thomas Theatre)

The waning days of the Vietnam War, refugees leaving their lives behind— it's the stuff of sobering news stories, right? Not always. In this brash new comedy, three young Vietnamese immigrants make their way through the bewildering landscape of 1970s America, a land filled with incomprehensible language, awkward customs, and a canvas as big as a Hollywood movie. At turns hilarious, profane, exuberant, and unexpectedly touching, *Vietgone* uses audacious dialogue, pop culture and an action-packed road trip to breathe life into the stories of these strangers in a strange land.

Following the show, an actor will meet with our group to discuss the production and answer any questions you may have.

The rest of the afternoon and evening are at leisure to stroll among the lovely streets or explore Lithia Park. In 2014, Lithia Park was designated as one of the top ten Great American Spaces by the American Planning Association. The park follows Ashland Creek through undeveloped woodlands, and also includes a Japanese garden, two duck ponds, a formal rose garden, groves of sycamore trees and a number of secluded spots. (Breakfast provided)

OPTIONAL:

Travelers may choose to purchase tickets to one of the two evening plays: *Timon of Athens* or *The Wiz*.



Thursday, September 22, 2016

This morning you are free to explore Ashland on your own. Various walking tours are available for booking through the concierge desk at the Ashland Springs Hotel.

After lunch on your own, we will meet up in front of the Angus Bowmer Theatre at 1:00pm for the matinee production of *Roe* by playwright Lisa Loomer.

1:30pm - Roe, by Lisa Loomer

The lawyer: a young, brilliant, courageous woman who argued *Roe v. Wade* before the Supreme Court. The plaintiff: a hard-drinking, wild-tempered hippie bartender seeking to end an unwanted pregnancy. As we know, they won the landmark 1973 case that legalized abortion. But what most people don't know is how their divergent journeys after the case reflect the subsequent polarization in American culture. With shocking turns and surprising humor, *Roe* illuminates the difficult choices women make and the passion each side has for its cause. Bill Rauch directs this American Revolutions premiere by Lisa Loomer (*Distracted*).

Following the show, an actor will meet with our group to discuss the production and answer any questions you may have.

We invite you to join us for a **farewell dinner** at **Alchemy Restaurant**, named one of the Top 100 Restaurants for Foodies by OpenTable in 2015. (Breakfast & Dinner provided)

OPTIONAL:

Travelers may choose to purchase tickets to one of evening productions: *The Yeoman of the Guard*, by Gilbert & Sullivan, *Twelfth Night* or *The Winter's Tale* both by William Shakespeare.

Friday, September 23, 2016

Depart on the recommended flight leaving Medford (TBD) (Breakfast provided)



Tour Cost:

Cost: \$1,180 per person (Queen-sized bed only)

Single Supplement: \$390

Museum Donation: \$100 per person

INFORMATION

Phone: (805) 884-6442 Fax: (805) 966-6840

Web: www.sbma.net/travel
Email: dscott@sbma.net/travel

Included:

Accommodations for four nights

- Breakfast daily, two dinners
- Premium tickets to four plays, backstage tour, three post-show discussions with actors
- Airport transfers in Ashland and porter tips for those on the suggested flights

Not included: Flights to Medford; airport transfers from home gateway; airport transfers in Ashland for those not on the suggested flights; tips to porters for those not on the suggested flight; tips to housekeepers; items of a personal nature such as room service, alcoholic beverages, telephone or fax charges, and laundry; cost of personal trip insurance; and items not specifically mentioned as included.

Air Arrangements: Airport transfers in Medford, as well as porter tips, are included for those on these suggested flights. At the time of printing, economy was \$627. Flights are subject to change. If a portion of the tour is missed due to flight delays or cancellations, no refunds will be made. Trip insurance is recommended.

Sept 19 United 5480 SBA to SFO 12:30pm/1:53pm Sept 23 United 5504 MFR to SFO 1:20pm/2:40pm United 5993 SFO to MFR 4:30pm/5:49pm United 5239 SFO to SBA 4:00pm/5:22pm

Activity Level: This tour will require moderate levels of activity that will include walking, some stairs and sitting for long periods of time. The Backstage Tour is a walking tour which includes six flights of stairs. Assistive listening devices are available for performances with advance notice. Weather in Ashland is unpredictable. If it rains during the first hour of a performance in the Allen Elizabethan Theatre, rain vouchers will be given to those who choose to leave and present their ticket stubs to the Box Office during that period. You must be present in the theatre at the beginning of the play to be eligible for a rain voucher. The play continues as long as it is safe for the actors to perform.

Hotel Rooms: Please note that rooms have one queen-sized bed. Very limited upgrade options are available.

Museum Membership: Travel is a benefit of Museum Membership. Non-members will be required to join at the general level (\$60 or \$45 for seniors) or higher and will receive full membership benefits for a year.

There will be no refund for unused portions of the tour. Arrangements, private visits, and tour cost are subject to change. The tour is based on a minimum of 15 participants and a maximum of 20. CST 209026

RESERVATION FORM – OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL

SEND TO: SBMA Travel, 1130 State Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 or FAX TO: (805) 966-6840 or RESERVE BY PHONE: (805) 884-6442

• A check made payable to SBMA is enclosed.

To hold your space on the tour, a \$500 per person deposit is required <u>plus full payment for additional requests such as room upgrade and tickets to optional shows</u>, refundable until January 1, 2016 less a \$300 per person cancellation penalty and any non-recoverable payments for additional requests. Checks and credit cards are accepted for the deposit. Credit cards cannot be accepted for final payment.

Card number		Expires:	
Signature as on card		Security Code	
Travelers using a credit car	d may return this f	orm by fax: (805) 966-6840 or reserve b	y phone: (805)884-6442.
• I/we are not current men	nbers; please add tl	he following for general membership:	• \$60 or • \$45 (senior)
• I will be sharing a room	with	OR • Single Supple	ement
• Please upgrade me/us to all four nights. Availability		e king bed or O two queen beds. The co	ost is \$160 per room, for
Please add the following ac	dditional shows at S	\$75 per ticket:	
Wednesday 9/21 (Even	ing Show): • Time	on of Athens or • The Wiz (musical)	
Number of tick	xets		
Thursday 9/22 (Evening & Sullivan)	g Show): O Twelft	h Night or • Winter's Tale or • Yeon	nan of the Guard (Gilber
Number of tick	xets		
Name(s)			
Address			
Phone	_Fax	E-mail	

A confirmation letter and travel insurance application will be mailed to you upon receipt of your reservation form and deposit.