



Welcome to Day Tripping With ACE

We look forward to having you join us for another exciting session of travel destinations. Outings will be full-day field trips around Northwest, Central, and Southwest Florida.

The charter bus will take us on more distant travels, and the blue Classroom On Wheels school bus will be used for the short trips. Topics will have educational and entertainment value. Reservations are on a first-come basis. Please register before the cut-off dates.

BUS PICK-UP LOCATION

The bus will leave from the Suncoast Technical College campus located at 4748 Beneva Road. Enter the campus off Proctor Road. The bus will be parked in front of the south side of Building 3 (where ACE classes are held).



Cortez Fishing Village

Manatee County, Florida

Date: Tuesday, November 14, 2023

Registration Deadline: Friday, November 10, 2023

Approximate Schedule: 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Board the Classroom on Wheels Bus: 8:00 am

Fee: \$69.00 (Admission included)
(Lunch not included)

The History of the Fishing Industry on Florida's West Coast – Cortez Fishing Village is the last of the historic fishing villages on Florida's Gulf Coast. North Carolina families came in the 1880s with the hope that the mullet and the sweat of their brow would bring a better life. This unique community has survived on hard work, fierce pride, and a plentiful supply of fish. Today with the threat of high-rises on the waterfront and restrictions on fishing, they are determined to stick together, adjust to change, and fight for survival. They share the vision that Cortez will remain a commercial fishing village for another 100 years.

Cortez is also home to FISH (Florida Institute for Saltwater Heritage), a non-profit group set up in 1991 to help preserve the heritage of Florida Gulf Coast fishing communities. The Cortez Commercial Fishing Festival is an annual event

(941) 361-6590

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We will begin the day traveling on the Classroom on Wheels Bus to Cortez where we will visit the Florida Maritime Museum, founded on the importance of the local fishing industry. It is housed in the restored 1912 schoolhouse. We will also visit the Cortez Cultural Center, and then tour the Cortez Village by bus, stopping briefly at the Taylor Beadworks Museum, where we will see the art of traditional boat building and repair. We will finish out the morning with a visit to the U.S. Coast Guard Station in Cortez.

Following a Dutch treat lunch, we will tour the A.P. Bell Fish House with a 4th generation Cortezian, Karen Bell, for a behind the scenes tour of the fish house. We will discover how the fish are caught, what happens to them once they are brought back, and the day-to-day operations.

Peace River Botanical & Sculpture Gardens Daytime & Gardens Aglow Holiday Lights Punta Gorda, FL

Date: Friday, December 15, 2023

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Approximate Schedule: 12:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Board the Charter Bus: 12:30 pm

Fee: \$119.00
(Admission included)
(Dinner not included)

The Peace River Botanical and Sculpture Garden is a unique treasure for the Punta Gorda, Florida community and region. After 15 years of development, it opened to the public in 2017. Roger & Linda Tetrault, founders of the garden, acquired and commissioned the garden's whimsical sculptures during their international travels. The gardens are designed to preserve the natural environment and mangrove marshes along the Peace River.

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Their mission was to provide a natural setting along the Peace River showcasing world-class sculptures and spectacular botanicals to inspire creativity throughout the community.

Old and New – A 50-million-year-old steel palm fossil serves as the inspiration for the garden logo and signature sculpture. The 30 acres of preserved native habitats provide a home to many aquatic and terrestrial species. They are best seen from the boardwalks. Flowering trees and plants will bloom throughout the year amidst the sculptures from across the globe.

We will enjoy the garden during the afternoon daylight. When the garden closes at 4:00 pm, we will reboard our bus for supper. About 6:00 pm we will return to the garden to enjoy their annual event. The garden is decorated with thousands of holiday lights. You can roast s'mores by the fire, enjoy a cup of hot cocoa, sing carols, and even hang out with Santa. You will have time to walk through the garden again to enjoy the lights.

You will want to have lunch before boarding our charter coach bus at 12:30 pm, or bring a snack to eat on the bus. Small snacks such as a granola bar and bottled drink are permitted in the gardens. Dress for the warmer afternoon and the cool night air.



FALL SEMESTER 2023 REGISTRATION BEGINS

PATRONS

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

ALL REGISTRATIONS

Monday, September 11, 2023

Online

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Telephone

941-361-6590

In Person

4748 Beneva Road
Sarasota, FL 34233

We are located on the west end of Building
3 at the Suncoast Technical College.

REFUNDS

Refunds are not offered for
these one day classes!

QUESTIONS?

Contact instructor at
(941) 921-9392 or

BrendaLeeHickman@comcast.net



EXPLORING

Northwest, Central &
Southwest Florida

FALL 2023

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