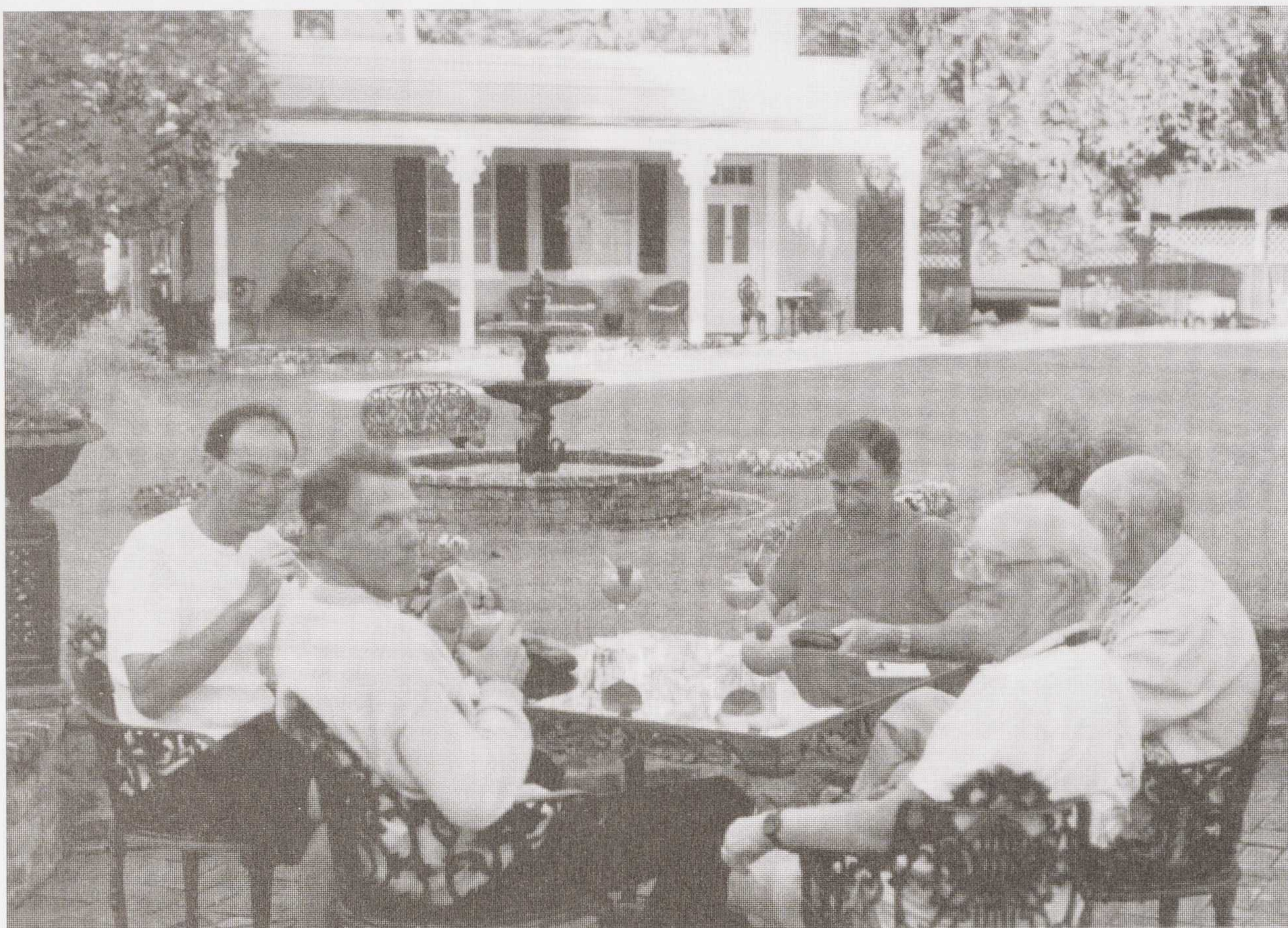




The Natchez Trace

Bike in the historic South

Antebellum mansions and Indian mounds

7 days, \$1195

(Single supplement: \$200)

Begins in Jackson, Miss.; ends in Natchez
(shuttle available back to Jackson)

Apr. 8 to 15, 1998

What's included: Please see page 27. Accommodations are in Civil-War era mansions and comfortable hotels.

No road in America carries as much history as the Natchez Trace. Carved out 8000 years ago by deer, it was later trod by Choctaw Indians, Mississippi boatmen, outlaws, itinerant preachers, and Civil War troops.

Today the gracefully landscaped Trace is a cyclist's paradise. We'll start by retracing the route of a vast Confederate army during the battle of Vicksburg. Then we head to Port Gibson, the town Ulysses S. Grant called "too pretty to burn," and Natchez, a town full of antebellum mansions that still feels much as it did when traders on the Mississippi used it for their base.

- ★ Cycle peacefully past flowering dogwoods, grand magnolia, and sprawling cypresses bearded with Spanish moss.
- ★ Stand atop the nation's second-largest Indian mound.
- ★ Picnic at romantic Windsor Ruins, once the grandest of the southern estates, now reduced to haunting columns, then spend the night on a Civil War-era plantation.
- ★ High on a bluff overlooking the Mississippi, relive the Vicksburg siege that changed the course of the Civil War.
- ★ Sip mint juleps at a grand antebellum mansion, a Civil War cannonball still embedded in its walls.

"I'm not a bike rider, but I loved every mile of The Natchez Trace!"

Steve Lindsay, Waycross, Ga.

Is this the right trip for you? Our typical cycling day is 35-55 miles on flat and gently rolling terrain, making this an ideal trip for the casual cyclist.

