



**National Symphony Orchestra**  
The Kennedy Center

## NSO on Tour: Highlights

**1940:** The Orchestra takes its first ever tour to Mansfield, Ohio. Since 1940, the NSO has toured the U.S. extensively, especially during its next 30 years.

**1941:** The NSO performs at Carnegie Hall for the first time on February 2, 1941.

**1959:** Music Director Howard Mitchell leads the orchestra on its first international tour to South America.

**1967:** The NSO performs in Mexico for the first time in May, and then tours continental Europe for the first time in October, making stops in nine countries, including Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, England, and Spain.

**1980:** The Orchestra tours Asia for the first time, with performances in Japan and South Korea.

**1980:** The Orchestra returns to Argentina, Uruguay, and Brazil for the first time since 1959.

**1990:** The NSO tours the USSR for the first time with Music Director Mstislav Rostropovich, performing an outdoor concert in Moscow's Red Square.

**1992-2011:** The American Residencies program takes the orchestra across the U.S. to perform in 21 states.

**1999:** The Orchestra Tours Asia, visiting China for the first time.

**2017:** The Orchestra returns to Russia to perform during the International Mstislav Rostropovich Festival, as the first American Orchestra to do so.

**2019:** The NSO performs at both Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center with Music Director Gianandrea Noseda, to critical acclaim.

**2020:** The NSO is forced to cancel its first international tour with Music Director Gianandrea Noseda to Japan and China. The tour would have taken the NSO to perform in Japan in Fukui, Sakai, Hiroshima, and Tokyo, and in China in Beijing and Shanghai from March 6-17, 2020.