



The Legacy of the Civil Rights Movement in Montgomery and Selma

The Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s reshaped the history of the United States and the world— leaving a legacy that is both vibrant and inspiring, but also fragile. In Alabama, the cities of Montgomery and Selma were home to some of the great turning points of the multi-year effort. It was in these places that the Movement’s national leadership took shape and tens of thousands of people came together to advance the cause of justice against remarkable odds and violent resistance.

Go beyond the headlines to take a deep dive into history, learning directly from the actual activists and foot soldiers of the struggle whose vivid and compelling stories bring a history of unforgettable tragedy, triumphs and continuing struggles to life.

HIGHLIGHTS & INCLUDED FEATURES

- Visit Selma, in the company of foot soldier and activist T. Dianne Harris. Retrace the footsteps of the 1965 march as you traverse the landmark Edmund Pettus Bridge on foot. Visit the Lowndes Interpretative Center focusing on the Selma to Montgomery March.
- In Montgomery, visit the Southern Poverty Law Center’s Civil Rights Memorial Center and enjoy a private, traditional southern soul food dinner at Montgomery’s historic Bricklayer’s Hall and learn the importance of the songs that united activists of the movement, in a joyful celebration of music.
- Visit the Equal Justice Initiative’s Legacy Sites: The Sculpture Park; Museum: From Slavery to Incarceration, and National Memorial for Peace and Justice—institutions that tell the rich and moving stories of the Civil Rights Movement and of America's history of racial inequality.
- Included Meals: 2 Breakfasts; 1 Lunch; 1 Dinner
- Two nights at Montgomery TBD Hotel

DAY-BY-DAY SCHEDULE

MONDAY, JUNE 2

ARRIVE MONTGOMERY, AL

Independent arrivals in Montgomery, AL. (Uber /Lyft readily available from airport)

Optional Add-On \$148 per person: Join Private Group Transfer from BHM Airport. Depart 4PM. (2 hour transfer)

4:00 PM: Check in available at the hotel. There are many eateries within walking distance of the hotel, for dinner on your own this evening.

Accommodations: TBD Downtown MGM Hotel

Meals Included: NONE

TUESDAY, JUNE 3

MONTGOMERY, AL

After breakfast, depart by private motorcoach to Selma, Alabama. Our first stop will be at the National Park's Lowndes Interpretive Center. Here, through an audio-visual presentation and self-guided exhibits, we'll learn the details of the struggles that culminated in the 54 mile-march from Selma to Montgomery for voting rights.

We continue to Selma, where we meet Dianne Harris, Selma native and former student activist in the Voting Rights march. She'll be our guide through the history and events that took place in Selma. On a drive through Selma's neighborhoods, we'll see First Baptist Church—originally referenced as the First "Colored" Baptist Church that was host to the Dallas County Voters League, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and mass meetings. We'll drive by Brown Chapel, the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference during the 1965 Voting Rights Campaign. Lunch included in Selma.

As we depart Selma, we'll traverse the landmark Edmund Pettus Bridge on foot, retracing the footsteps of voting rights marchers. Crossing the bridge, the weight of history is tangible. Picture the scene marchers found awaiting them on the other side of the bridge on "Bloody Sunday" and acknowledge the fear and courage they had. The late civil rights icon and Georgia congressman John Lewis was there, and described the law enforcement presence that day as a "sea of blue." He was beaten so badly that he suffered a broken skull.

We'll retrace the route of the 54-mile march from Selma to Montgomery. We'll have an overview driving tour of the State Capital, passing Dexter Avenue Memorial Baptist Church, then the Court Square-Dexter Avenue Business District, where human beings were auctioned off during the slave trade, Rosa Parks was arrested, and the telegram calling for the strike on Fort Sumter was issued to trigger the Civil War. From 1850 until the end of the Civil War, Montgomery was the Southern port most active in slave trading.

This evening, we head over to historic Bricklayer's Hall. Built in 1954 by the local African American bricklayers' union, it stands within the Centennial Hill neighborhood, a historically Black neighborhood in Montgomery. From February 1956 until 1960, the Bricklayers Hall housed the headquarters of the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA). The MIA formed on December 5, 1955, four days after activist Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to move from her seat in a racially segregated bus. We'll enjoy a private, casual dinner of traditional southern soul food. Afterwards, we'll join in singing the songs of the civil rights movement with local musicians.

Accommodations: TBD Downtown MGM Hotel

Meals Included: B, L, and D (all meals)

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4

MONTGOMERY, AL

After breakfast, check out of the hotel and depart to the Legacy Sculpture Park, newly opened in 2024, that honors the lives and memories of the 10 million Black people who were enslaved in America and celebrates their courage and resilience.

Visit The Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration for our reserved, timed entrance. The museum is situated on a site in Montgomery steps away from the rail station where tens of thousands of Black people were trafficked during the 19th century and sold at auction into bondage. The self-guided visit through immersive and interactive audio-visual exhibits is at your own pace. When you are ready, lunch is on your own at the museum's Pannie George restaurant.

1:30PM Drive to the powerful National Memorial for Peace and Justice. Created as a somber and meaningful place for people to gather and reflect on America's history of racial inequality, the site memorializes the legacy of enslaved Black people terrorized by lynching.

3:00 PM Motorcoach departs to Tuscaloosa.

5:00 PM Drop off at Conference location.

Meals Included: B (Breakfast)

ACTIVITY LEVEL: Moderate: Walking and standing in museums and outdoors for 45 minutes to 1 hour at a time.

***Please note:** This proposed itinerary is the property of the ACRTA and may not be duplicated or distributed without written permission. All prices are estimated based on preliminary quotes provided by hotel and service providers, prevailing fuel prices in effect as of the date of this proposal and are subject to change. Reservations are subject to the Terms & Conditions of the ACRTA.*

ACCOMMODATIONS

Springhill Suites Downtown Montgomery or Hampton Inn Downtown Montgomery

TRIP PRICE **ESTIMATED** PENDING HOTEL CONFIRMATION

\$1396 per person sharing a double room

Single Supplement: \$298

Based on a minimum of 14 guests

PRICE INCLUDES

- Two nights accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Purified Potable water for you to refill your water bottle, ice tea and coffee/tea with all meals
- Expertly guided sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Local Tour Manager/Guide from the Alabama Civil Rights Tourism Association
- Taxes, service, and portorage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

NOT INCLUDED

airfare; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those detailed in the itinerary; hotel portorage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.