



## *The First Years of the Civil War*

### Commemorating the 150th

#### In the Fields & Towns of Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania

1859 to 1863

Take your clients on an unforgettable journey and experience an event that took place about 150 years ago. **Meet some of the characters** that influence the outbreak of the Civil War such as John Brown. Brown truly believed he was called by God to free the slaves. His plan failed and he was hung. Some say he was a saint and some sinner – your historian will help you decide.

**Stand on the first Battlefield**, Manassas just as the young soldiers did in July of 1861. They all thought war was glamorous and that one battle would decide the differences between the North and the South. Meet these young men who many had never been more than a mile from home as they realized the actuality of war.

**Share in the debates** over the **Emancipation Proclamation** that Lincoln wanted to announce, but needed to wait until a Northern victory. Learn why he announced it after Antietam, which was not clear victory for the North. Discover why he did and what it meant to the South.

Spend an evening in the **medical world** during the Civil War. Be amazed at many medical procedures that were discovered then and are still in use today. Find out what disease killed more men than the war and much more.

**Meet the Shriver's** of Gettysburg a typical family living in a small town. Experience the horror of waking up one morning when both armies were descending on their town. How did they handle it and the aftermath?

Gettysburg, two years after the first battle, was fought by both sides as if it was the last battle. Why? Have **dinner on Spangler's Farm** on the Gettysburg Battlefield (an exclusive to Civil War Tours.net) and **meet Abe Lincoln**. Come to realize what happen there and the importance. Hear from Abe's own lips the Gettysburg Address.

*This is a quick paced tour designed for the group who would like and introduction to the Civil War. It is a nice tour for those who might be thinking of a series. We can lighten it up with dinner theatres, wineries and other attractions for those who prefer a mixture. Our historian Guides will wow your group and will adjust their delivery to the personality and interest of your group.*

All tours are customized to meet your needs and budgets!



## Sample Itinerary



### Day 1 – Gettysburg

- Afternoon** Arrive in Gettysburg  
Check in to local hotel
- Evening** Dinner at a local restaurant meet Mr. and Mrs. Grant

### Day 2 – Harpers Ferry, October 1859 – Antietam, September 1862

- Morning** Depart with guide for Harpers Ferry, and Antietam Battlefield

#### **Harpers Ferry**

Site of the famous John Brown's Raid in 1859, it also changed hands throughout the Civil War. When Lee was preparing to take the war to the north – also known as Lee's first invasion of the north – he sent Stonewall Jackson to capture Harpers Ferry in September of 1862 just prior to the Battle of Antietam.

Learning that the garrison at Harpers Ferry had not retreated after his incursion into Maryland, Lee decided to surround the force and capture it. He divided his army into four columns, three of which converged upon and invested Harpers Ferry. On September 15, after Confederate artillery was placed on the heights overlooking the town, Union commander Col. Miles surrendered the garrison of more than 12,000. Miles was mortally wounded by a last salvo fired from a battery on Loudoun Heights. Jackson took possession of Harpers Ferry, then led most of his soldiers to join with Lee at Sharpsburg. After paroling the prisoners at Harpers Ferry, A.P. Hill's division arrived in time to save Lee's army from near-defeat at Sharpsburg. (Antietam)

- Afternoon** Arrive at Antietam Battlefield view movie and take the guided tour

#### **Antietam**

#### **The Bloodiest One Day Battle in American History**

23,000 soldiers were killed, wounded or missing after twelve hours of savage combat on September 17, 1862. The Battle of Antietam ended the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia's first invasion into the North and led to Abraham Lincoln's issuance of the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation.

- Evening** Check-in to hotel near the Frederick Maryland  
Dinner & evening tour of the **Civil War Medical Museum**

### Day 3 – Leesburg – Manassas

- Morning**  
**Tour Oatlands Plantation**

A stately mansion, beautiful rolling farmland, exquisite gardens, a repository of more than 200 years of American history and culture – all of these can be found at Oatlands Historic House and Gardens near Leesburg, Virginia. Established in the early 19th century by George Carter, Oatlands was a thriving wheat plantation and base for numerous business enterprises until the time of the Civil War. During most of the 20th century Oatlands served as the country estate of Mr. and Mrs. William Corcoran Eustis, affluent Washingtonians with strong ties to the American political arena. Now a National Trust Historic Site and a National Historic Landmark, Oatlands is flourishing with four full seasons of activities.



### Afternoon

View movie – excellent presentation.

Meet your historian for a tour of the Battlefield who will take you to places on the field not normally seen.

**Manassas National Battlefield Park** was established in 1940 to preserve the scene of two major Civil War battles. Located a few miles north of the prized railroad junction of Manassas, Virginia, the peaceful Virginia countryside bore witness to clashes between the armies of the North and South in 1861 and 1862.

Today, more than 5,000 acres comprise the battlefield park, allowing the visitor to explore the historic terrain where men fought and died for their beliefs a century ago.

Return to Gettysburg

### Day 4 – Gettysburg – July 1863

#### Morning

**Guided tour of the Shriver House** – only interpretation of civilians during the battle. – Special tour.

**Tour of David Wills House** – where Abe Lincoln stayed the night before the Gettysburg Address

#### Afternoon

Pick-up guide to tour the battlefield on your coach

Fought over the first three days of July 1863, the Battle of Gettysburg was one of the most critical battles of the Civil War having occurred at a time when the fate of the nation hung in the balance in the summer of 1863. Often referred to as the "High Water Mark of the Confederacy", it was the culmination of the second and most ambitious invasion of the North by General Robert E. Lee and the "Army of Northern Virginia". The "Army of the Potomac", the Union army that had long been the nemesis of Lee, met the Confederate invasion at the crossroads town of Gettysburg and though it was under a new commander, General George Gordon Meade, the northerners fought with a desperation born of defending their home territory. The Union victory at the Battle of Gettysburg resulted in Lee's retreat to Virginia and an end to the hopes of the Confederacy for independence. Optional walk across Picketts Charge.

#### Evening

Dinner at a restaurant or on the Spangler Farm where you will meet General Lewis Addison Armistead

### Day 5 – Gettysburg Address - Head Home

#### Morning

**Breakfast with Abe Lincoln**  
Reciting of the Gettysburg Address  
Head Home

**All-In-One/Civil War Tours.net**

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