Itinerary Planning Tips and Suggested Itineraries

Bringing your group to Gettysburg is simple. Use these tips and suggested itineraries to plan your trip, or contact one of our Receptive companies to help plan your stay.

Welcome to Gettysburg

Itinerary Planning Tips

Is this your group’s first time visiting Gettysburg? Limited on the amount of time you are able to spend in the area?

- Begin your visit getting acquainted with Gettysburg’s battlefield at one of these locations:

  Gettysburg National Military Park Museum & Visitor Center - (approximately 2 hours)
  The featured film “A New Birth of Freedom” will orient your group to the Battle of Gettysburg and the American Civil War. Also see the restored “Battle of Gettysburg” cyclorama painting – the largest painting in the country depicting the third day’s battle. Afterwards, take the group through the museum portion, where the story of the Battle and the war is told through 12 galleries that include artifacts, interactive exhibits and additional films.

  Gettysburg Diorama at the Gettysburg History Center - (approximately 45 minutes)
  See the entire 6,000-acre battlefield in 3-D miniature as you hear the story of the three-day battle and how it progressed. Learn and visualize the battle as it is narrated with light and sound effects.

- Allow time for the group to have lunch on their own, dine in a historic tavern or provide boxed lunches.

Looking to picnic? Head to Gettysburg Recreation Park - home to the Biser Fitness Trail, Walking Path and a skate park, four pavilions, five playing fields including basketball, baseball, soccer, and football, an amphitheater, two shuffle board pads and playgrounds.
After lunch, tour the battlefield with one of our licensed battlefield guides (approximately 2 hours). Guides will step directly onto your motorcoach and direct your driver on where to go. There will be approximately four stops during the tour to get off of the coach and take photos.

Guides can be booked by any of the following attractions:

- GNMP Museum & Visitor Center
- Gettysburg Diorama
- Gettysburg Heritage Center

Experience the civilian side of the story

Shriver House Museum-
(around 90 minutes)
Experience ‘first-hand’ the Confederate occupation as history comes to life through the harrowing story of the Shriver family. Step back in time as you walk through the Shriver’s home which has been restored to its 1860s appearance - from the authentic sharpshooters’ nest in the attic to the Shriver Saloon in the cellar.

Gettysburg Heritage Center
(around 1 hour)
Step back in time to the town of Gettysburg, and learn what the civilians experienced before, during and after the battle! Utilizing various historical documents, artifacts, interactive displays and 3-D photography, learn about ordinary people doing extraordinary things at a difficult time in our nation’s history.

Downtown Walking Tour
(around 1.5-2 hours)
Take a walk with Gettysburg Licensed Town Historian Walking Tours, American Stories Historic Walking Tours or Grave Digger Tours and hear about the civilians’ experiences during and after the battle using historic sites, period photography and first-hand accounts.

Historic Church Walking Tour
(around 2 hours)
Tour eight downtown churches featuring information about the buildings being used as hospitals.

Jennie Wade House
(around 1 hour)
Take a guided tour through the house where the only civilian killed during the Battle died. With minor changes and repairs, the museum remains much as Jennie must have known it in 1863.
Sample Itinerary Ideas

Gettysburg History In a Day- 1 Day

- 10:00a Gettysburg Battlefield Tour with a Licensed Battlefield Guide
- 12:30p Lunch
- 1:30p GNMP Museum & Visitors Center
  - OR - Gettysburg Heritage Center
- 3:15p Learn civilian stories at:
  - Shriner’s House Museum
  - Jennie Wade House Museum
- 5:00p Dinner
- 6:00p Depart

Boy Scout Trip- 3 Days, 2 Nights

Day 1
9:00a GNMP Museum & Visitors Center**
10:30a Battlefield Tour with a Licensed Battlefield Guide
12:45p Lunch
2:00p Eisenhower National Historical Site**
3:30p A Day in the Life of a Soldier- In Their Shoes
5:00p Dinner at Farnsworth House
7:00p Hickory Falls Entertainment Center

Day 2
8:00a Downtown Historic Walking Tour**
10:30a Catoctin Wildlife Preserve & Zoo
12:30p Boxed Lunch
1:30p Boy Scout Trails** (Billy Yank- 10 Miles, approx. 6 hours)
7:30p Dinner
8:15p Ghost Tour
  - OR - Adventure Golf & Ice Cream

Day 3
9:00a Boy Scout Trails** (Jonny Reb- 4 miles, approx. 2.5 hours)
12:00p Lunch
1:45p Soldiers’ National Cemetery**
  - OR - Tour of Ironmasters Mansion/Hiking/Coal Making etc.
3:30p Depart

**Visitors Center, Soldiers’ National Cemetery, Hiking Trails, and Downtown Walking Tour part of the Gettysburg Heritage Trails Badge Program: [http://newbirthoffreedom.org/gettysburg-heritage-trails-program](http://newbirthoffreedom.org/gettysburg-heritage-trails-program)
To extend your visit, plan your trip during the National Apple Harvest Festival, the first 2 weekends in October, Apple Blossom Festival the first weekend in May or Peach Festival in August.
### Get Active in Adams County - 3 Days, 2 Nights

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3:00p</td>
<td>Arrive &amp; Check in</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00p</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30p</td>
<td>Explore Downtown Shops</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00p</td>
<td>Adventure Golf &amp; Ice Cream</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00a</td>
<td>Horseback Battlefield Tour - OR - GettysBike - Bicycle Battlefield Tour</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00a</td>
<td>Tour &amp; Fruit Picking (seasonal) at Hollabaugh Bros. Farm Market</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30p</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:45p</td>
<td>Historic Round Barn &amp; Farm Market</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15p</td>
<td>Town Walking Tour with a Licensed Guide</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00p</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30p</td>
<td>Ghost Tour/Story Telling</td>
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### Day 1

- Horseback Battlefield Tour
- GettysBike - Bicycle Battlefield Tour
- Hollabaugh Bros. Farm Market
- Tour & Fruit Picking (seasonal)
- Town Walking Tour with a Licensed Guide

### Day 2

- Strawberry Hill Nature Center
- Lunch
- Catoctin Wildlife Preserve & Zoo
- Depart

### Day 3

- David Wills House
- Lincoln Train Museum
- National Cemetery
- Depart

### Presidential Status - 2 Days, 1 Night

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00a</td>
<td>GNMP Museum &amp; Visitors Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30a</td>
<td>Eisenhower National Historical Site</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00a</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30p</td>
<td>Hall of Presidents &amp; First Ladies</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00p</td>
<td>Hotel check-in/Downtown Shopping</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00p</td>
<td>Dinner with President &amp; Mrs. Grant</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00p</td>
<td>Movie or Show at Majestic Theatre - OR -</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ghost Tour/Story Telling</td>
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</tbody>
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### Day 1

- GNMP Museum & Visitors Center
- Eisenhower National Historical Site
- Lunch
- Hall of Presidents & First Ladies
- Hotel check-in/Downtown Shopping
- Dinner with President & Mrs. Grant
- Movie or Show at Majestic Theatre

### Day 2

- David Wills House
- Lincoln Train Museum
- National Cemetery
- Depart
## Historical Fun & More! - 3 Days, 2 Nights

### Day 1
- **10:00a**  Catoctin Wildlife Preserve & Zoo
- **12:30p**  Lunch
- **1:45p**  Explore & More Children’s Museum
- **3:00p**  Hotel Check In/Downtown Shopping
- **5:00p**  Dinner with a Living History Character(s)
- **7:00p**  Adventure Golf & Ice Cream

### Day 2
- **9:00a**  Land of Little Horses
- **11:00a**  Gettysburg Heritage Center
- **12:30p**  Lunch
- **1:45p**  A Day in the Life of a Soldier - In Their Shoes
- **3:15p**  Jennie Wade House Museum
- **4:45p**  Mister Ed's Elephant Museum
- **6:00p**  Dinner
- **7:30p**  Ghost Tour/Storytelling

### Day 3
- **8:30a**  Steam into History
- **12:00p**  Lunch
- **1:15p**  Hall of Presidents & First Ladies
- **2:30p**  Shriver's House Museum
- **3:45p**  Lincoln Train Museum
- **5:00p**  Depart

## Faith in Gettysburg - 2 Days, 1 Night

### Day 1
- **9:30a**  National Shrine of Elizabeth Ann Seton
- **11:30a**  Lunch
- **1:30p**  Historic Church Walking Tour
- **3:45p**  Hotel check-in
- **5:00p**  Dinner
- **7:00p**  Songs & Stories Performance - OR - Show or Movie at Majestic Theatre

### Day 2
- **9:00a**  Seminary Ridge Museum - Including their Faith & Freedom Experience program
- **12:00p**  Lunch
- **1:30p**  Shriver’s House Museum
- **3:00p**  African American Voices at Gettysburg, Underground Railroad Tour
- **5:00p**  Dinner
- **6:30p**  Depart
Have additional time?
Consider one of the following options:

- **Visit a museum that you haven’t seen before** - Gettysburg is home to more than 30 museums to enhance your experience.
- **Interact with History** - Step back in time with an interactive program by a Living Historian.
- **Explore the Countryside** - Everyone knows Gettysburg’s Civil War history, but did you know of our rich agriculture?
- **Add in Some Fun** - Release some energy after sightseeing with a round of miniature golf or challenge yourself on one of our full golf courses, ride go-karts, go zip-lining, catch a show at one of our theatres.
- **Visit a Unique Attraction** - The Gettysburg area is home to a few rare attractions including The Catoctin Zoo, Land of Little Horses, Mister Ed’s Elephant Museum and the National Shrine of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton.
- **Take a Short Drive** - Experience what the entire south central Pennsylvania region has to offer.
Gettysburg Receptive Tour Operators

If you would prefer to have someone else do the planning and booking process, reach out to one of our Receptive Tour Operators:

Gettysburg Group Reservations
800-447-8788
www.gettysburggroupreservations.com

NLC Tours, LLC
717-334-2256

Stars and Stripes Tours
877-723-1863
www.starsandstripestours.com

For more information on planning your trip to Gettysburg, including hotel, boxed lunch or group rates information, please contact:

Aimee Reif, Group Sales Manager
Destination Gettysburg
571 W. Middle St. • Gettysburg, PA 17325
800-337-5015 x114 • Direct: 717-338-3062 • Fax: 717-334-1166
aimee@destinationgettysburg.com

www.gettysburggrouptours.com