



LDS Church History Tours for Youth

Thank you for considering a Church History Tour for Youth with Living Heritage Tours. We are very excited to help those that participate have an incredible experience that they will remember for the rest of their lives! We will be providing a wonderful spiritual experience while creating a ton of fun along the way. The purpose of this tour is threefold:

- 1. To strengthen testimonies of the Savior and His restored gospel.*
- 2. To strengthen testimonies of the Book of Mormon through reading, pondering, and feeling the Spirit.*
- 3. To liken the lessons of the past to our daily lives as a way to draw closer to the Savior.*

We expect participants to return home with greater faith, stronger testimonies, and a determination to represent their Savior in all things and in all places.

After completing the online registration, you will receive a Welcome Packet which will provide you with everything you will need to prepare for this upcoming tour. Included with the packet will be a few General Conference talks. Reading these talks prior to departure will help each participant have a much more meaningful spiritual experience!

We look forward to hearing from you soon as you prepare for this incredible journey to the historical sites of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

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General Information

Each tour begins in Rochester, NY and ends in Kansas City, MO. Attendees can fly with the group from Salt Lake City or meet the group in Rochester, NY. This arrangement allows youth from all over the country to attend this once-in-a-lifetime spiritual adventure!

The safety of our participating youth is our first priority. We only stay in name brand hotels in good neighborhoods. We rely on nationally recognized transportation that has a history of safety and customer satisfaction. We eat at well established, and national/regional chain restaurants. We provide honorable and trustworthy chaperons to help each youth feel comfortable, welcomed, and safe.

Chaperons

Our chaperones are recently returned sister missionaries who bring a contagious passion for the gospel to the tour. They are living proof that living the gospel can bring so much happiness into our lives. They are anxious to share their testimonies, knowledge of the gospel, and their righteous examples with those who join the tour. Our chaperons will be announced 5-6 months prior to departure. The number of chaperons will be based on how many youth we will have on the trip. Generally, we will have one chaperon for every fifteen youth. Our chaperons will not be compensated by Living Heritage Tours. Each chaperon will volunteer their time for the tour simply because they have a desire to serve the youth. However, Living Heritage Tours will pay for the lodging, meals, airfare, and ground transportation for each of our chaperons.

Chaperons will have many responsibilities. Each chaperon will be responsible for the youth assigned to them. This includes keeping the group together, encouraging each youth to participate in the tour activities, caring for each youth's individual needs as those needs arise, and generally making sure that everyone is having an amazing time.

Families & Others

We often have others outside the "youth" age range that want to join this tour. That's okay! We have had parents and grandparents join past tours. We've even had whole families join too. The pace of the tour is designed for teenagers, and we relate the historical information and the scriptures to that age group. If you fall outside the age range but you are alright with the pace and the focus of the messages, then contact us about joining the tour!

Transportation

Arrangements will be made for a chaperon to meet the youth who are arriving in Rochester, New York from an airport other than Salt Lake City. For those youth flying with the group from Salt Lake City, we will meet the rest of the group once we land in Rochester.

We have never lost anyone and we intend to never do so! We do frequent head counts at each site we visit and the bus never leaves until everyone is accounted for.

Hotels and Restaurants

The hotels we stay at are national brand hotels situated in desirable areas of major towns or cities. Each hotel has been specifically chosen for our group. All the hotels offer a hot complimentary breakfast and swimming pool. We have also intentionally chosen hotels that are situated on large grassy lots which we can use for games and devotionals.

We understand that having a great time and socializing during the trip is important. Once we arrive at the hotel each night, it is required that no one leaves the hotel property but being together in the lobby area, swimming pool, or other public areas is encouraged. Plan on strong friendships being developed on this

tour which will last a lifetime. We will have a curfew and it is expected that everyone will be in their own room by that time. Two chaperons will come around to each room just after curfew. Beyond making sure that everyone is accounted for, the chaperons will take this time to visit with the youth and ensure that they are having an uplifting, spiritual, and enjoyable time. This is an additional time when the youth can ask questions, or express concerns to the chaperons.

When possible, we will have the young men on one floor of the hotel and the young women on a different floor. Anyone found outside their room after curfew or found in the room of someone of the opposite gender will be dismissed from the tour.

A list of our hotels, with contact information, will be provided three months prior to departure.

What to bring

A general list of items to bring is included here, and a detailed complete packing list will be provided to you in the Welcome Packet which will be sent to you after your reservation is complete. As you start to prepare for the trip, please be courteous to others and plan to bring just one suitcase and one personal carryon item.

Suggested packing list:

- 1 suitcase
- 1 small carryon bag (backpack)
- Jacket or sweatshirt
- Enough clothing to last the whole trip:
 - Shirts
 - Pants/knee length shorts
 - Pajamas
 - Underclothing/socks
 - Shoes
 - 1 set of Sunday clothes
 - Swimsuit (optional)
- Toiletries
 - Toothbrush/toothpaste
 - Brush/Comb
 - Sunscreen
 - Bug repellent
 - Deodorant
 - First-aid kit
 - Medications
 - Hand sanitizer
- Scriptures
- Journal and pen will be provided

Hotel Rooms

Each hotel room will have 2 queen sized beds. Rollaway beds will not be available. The price of the tour is based on your desired room occupancy:

Quad Occupancy: \$1,249

Triple Occupancy: \$1,349

Double Occupancy: \$1,549

Come with your friends, or we can help find roommates for you!

Airfare:

We have secured group space on a flight from Salt Lake City, UT to Rochester, NY and on a flight from Kansas City, MO to Salt Lake City, UT. On the registration form, you can select between the options of flying with the group or meeting the group in Rochester. If you wish to fly with the group, we will invoice you for this expense. We will have firm prices about 9 months prior to departure. If you are arriving/departing from somewhere other than Salt Lake City, please provide your flight details to us so we can arrange to have our chaperones meet you at the airport in Rochester.

Traveling

Each Youth will be provided with a journal. They will be encouraged to take time to record in their journals their thoughts, impressions, and feelings they had at each historical site we visit. The youth will also be encouraged to answer these two questions regarding each site we visit:

1. How will my understanding of the historical lessons I just learned about help me draw closer to the Savior in my everyday life?
2. How will the feelings I felt at this historical site help me in my personal life?

While traveling on the bus, the youth will hear the history, personal accounts, and the stories of the events surrounding the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ (but we'll watch movies during the long drives too!). By the time we return home, they will have heard the history of the Church from 1805 to 1846...while standing in the actual places the events took place!

While this is a history tour, this tour should not be confused with school. We are going mix so much fun into our learning that it is expected that each person will return home having made many new close friends with which they will want to stay in touch with for a very long time!

Please contact me directly with any questions.

Tom Pettit

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We make sure that we learn a lot and have a ton of fun along the way! We will visit many sites of the early days of the church, but we won't just focus on the dates, locations, and events that occurred at each historical site. We are going to focus on how the lessons learned at each site can help us grow closer to the Savior in our everyday life.

Below is a detailed itinerary of our upcoming LDS Church History Tour for Youth

Two tours to choose from:
June 12-23, 2018 • July 17-28, 2018

Day 1: Our tour will officially begin in Rochester, New York. For those of you flying from Salt Lake City, we will meet as a group at the airport for our flight. For those who are traveling from somewhere other than Salt Lake, we will make arrangements to meet you at the airport in Rochester. From the Rochester airport, we will travel as a group directly to our hotel. Each youth will be responsible for their own lunch while we are traveling. Living Heritage Tours will provide dinner tonight. After dinner, we will hold a devotional and a preview of our upcoming trip. We will probably have enough time tonight for some group games or swimming. Prior to departure, we will email some suggested General Conference talks that will help prepare us for the experiences we will have during our tour.

Day 2: We will spend the whole day in Palmyra! Our stops today will include the Sacred Grove, the Smith Family Farm, the rebuilt Smith log home (where the Moroni visits took place), the Hill Cumorah, the Grandin Press (where the Book of Mormon was first published), the Martin Harris Farm, the Palmyra Cemetery, and the exterior of the Palmyra Temple. Living Heritage Tours will provide lunch and dinner today. Our July tour will attend the Hill Cumorah Pageant tonight!

Day 3: Today we will travel to Fayette, New York and visit the Peter Whitmer Farm. This is where the Church was officially organized. From these humble beginnings, the gospel is spreading forth throughout the world. We will then travel to Harmony, Pennsylvania and to the Susquehanna River where the Priesthood was restored. The church has recently renovated the area around the Susquehanna River. Joseph and Emma's home has been rebuilt, statues and markers have been placed on new paths throughout the surrounding groves, and a new Visitor's Center is now available. Living Heritage Tours will provide lunch and dinner today.

Day 4: We depart from the Church History Sites today to learn about our nation's history. However, our focus over the next two days will be in recognizing our Heavenly Father's hand in establishing America for the purpose of the Restoration. Our visits today include Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and the exterior of the Washington DC Temple. Living Heritage Tours will provide lunch and dinner today.

Day 5: Our love for America and an appreciation for the freedoms we enjoy will be enhanced as we spend the day in Washington DC. We will continue to learn about Heavenly Father's purpose of establishing America for individual freedom and as a place where the gospel could be restored. Our day will start at Arlington National Cemetery where we will witness the changing of the guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We will also visit the Lincoln Memorial, the Washington Memorial, war memorials, and the Smithsonian Institute museums. We will also visit the exterior of the White House, the Capital Building, and the Supreme Court. Living Heritage Tours will provide lunch and dinner today.

Day 6: Our day will start with a Sacrament Meeting with a local ward. We will then travel to Hiram, Ohio and visit the John Johnson Farm. It was here that Doctrine and Covenants Section 76 was received. Joseph and Sidney saw the Celestial Kingdom, the Father and the Savior, and many other things in the upper room of this home. This is a very sacred place. We will then continue on to Kirtland! There will be time to visit the exterior of the Kirtland Temple

before dinner where we will learn of the sacred circumstances surrounding the building and dedication of the temple. Living Heritage Tours will provide lunch and dinner today.

Day 7: Our whole day is spent in Kirtland! While dedicating the historical sites in Kirtland, President Hinckley included in the prayer, “In no other area of the Church was so much revelation received. In no other place was Thy Beloved Son so revealed to mortal man. In no other place was there such remarkable manifestations given to so many”. Our day will include a private tour of the Kirtland Temple and visits to the Kirtland Visitor’s Center, the Newell K. Whitney home where Joseph and Emma lived, the Newell K. Whitney store which included the School of the Prophets and where many revelations (including the Word of Wisdom) were received, the John Johnson Inn where the Church periodical *The Evening and Morning Star* was published, the reconstructed Kirtland Schoolhouse, the Kirtland Ashery and a reconstructed water-powered sawmill, the exterior of a home belonging to the Prophet Joseph Smith, and the Chaplin Forest Stone Quarry where much of the stone for the Kirtland Temple was obtained. Living Heritage Tours will provide lunch and dinner today.

Day 8: Today our bus will transport us from Kirtland, OH to Nauvoo, IL. We will have several hours to tour the historic sites and homes of Nauvoo including Joseph Smith’s home and grave site, the Red Brick Store, the LDS Visitor’s Center, the Women’s Statue Gardens, the Seventies Hall, Brigham Young’s home, Wilford Woodruff’s home, Heber C. Kimball’s home, and many other historic sites. Our day will end with a devotional near the Nauvoo Temple and by attending the outdoor production of *Sunset on the Mississippi*. Living Heritage Tours will provide lunch and dinner today. Our July tour will attend the Nauvoo Pageant tonight.

Day 9: Our full day in Nauvoo will be spent visiting the historic sites and home with tours being given by set apart missionaries. We will see the sites we may have missed yesterday and attend the stage production of *The Promise*. Living Heritage Tours will provide lunch and dinner today. The July tour will attend the British Pageant tonight.

Day 10: This morning we will visit Carthage Jail where Joseph and Hyrum sealed their testimonies. Then it is back to Nauvoo for a walk down the Trail of Hope. This is the street that the Saints walked just before crossing the Mississippi River. It was here that the Pioneers took their first steps toward the Salt Lake Valley.

Day 11: Today we will start the Missouri portion of our trip. We will have a picnic lunch at Adam-ondi-Ahman and discuss the great future Sacrament meeting which will be held there. We will then travel on to Far West, the LDS Visitor’s Center and reconstructed Liberty Jail, and finally the LDS Visitor’s Center in Independence. As we travel between these sites, we will listen on the bus about the Missouri era of the church, the Mormon Battalion, Zion’s Camp, and the pioneers. Lunch and dinner will be provided by Living Heritage Tours today.

Day 12: After breakfast at the hotel, we will transfer to the Kansas City airport for our flights home. Everyone is responsible for their own lunch today.

Each hotel offers a complimentary hot breakfast, 2 queen beds in each room, swimming pool, and jacuzzi. Each day will be full of historical stories and details. Each night will include devotionals, testimonies, and games.

Each youth will need to initial by each statement.

Your initials indicate that you understand each statement and agree to follow each rule:

_____ I understand that this trip is designed to be a spiritual experience and is not a “Senior Trip”.

_____ I will choose to have a great attitude.

_____ I understand that bringing a cell phone is determined by my parents. The only need for a cell phone during the trip is take pictures. If I choose to bring a phone instead of a traditional camera, I will not let it become a distraction to me or to others.

_____ I agree to stay with the group at all times and never be alone.

_____ I will show respect for hotel property, other hotel guests, and will not cause any disturbance to others while at the hotel.

_____ I will not distract others in the tour group from having a spiritual experience.

_____ I will follow all curfew rules set forth by Living Heritage Tours and will not leave my hotel room after the curfew time. I understand that if I am found outside of my hotel room after curfew, I will be immediately removed from the tour and it will be the responsibility of my parents to retrieve me at my expense.

_____ I will be on time to all activities.

_____ I will be modest in my dress and appearance.

_____ My behavior, actions, language, and attitude will reflect those taught in the For the Strength of Youth pamphlet.

_____ I will follow instructions given by the chaperons.

_____ I will show respect for the presenters throughout the tour.

_____ I will not disturb others who are trying to learn.

_____ I understand that there are three purposes to this trip. 1. To strengthen my testimony of the Savior and His restored gospel. 2. To strengthen my testimony of the Book of Mormon through reading, pondering, and feeling the Spirit. 3. To liken the lessons of the past to my daily life as a way to draw closer to the Savior.

_____ My intention for coming on this trip is to have a great spiritual experience, learn more of the restoration of the Gospel, draw nearer to the Savior, and to have an amazingly fun time!

_____ I understand that failure to follow these, and other rules, could result in my immediate dismissal from the group.

Youth Printed Name: _____

Youth Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

*This document will be included in the Welcome Packet we will mail to you once you register.
You may return it to us at that time*

Parental Permission Form

I have discussed each rule with my youth and have stressed the importance of following these rules. I understand that if my youth decides to not follow these rules, he/she will be dismissed from the tour group and I will be responsible for all arrangements and expenses necessary for my youth to return home immediately without the group.

I understand that group pictures which may include my son/daughter may be posted on the website, and/or Facebook page, and/or brochures of Living Heritage Tours. These group pictures will not be used anywhere else by Living Heritage Tours or sold by Living Heritage Tours. I understand that the names, or anything else to identify my son/daughter, will not be posted along with any picture or anywhere within the website or Facebook page of Living Heritage Tours. If the identity of my son/daughter is found on the Facebook page of Living Heritage Tours, it will be posted there by someone other than Living Heritage Tours and I will not hold Living Heritage Tours liable for the posts of someone else.

I understand that Living Heritage Tours acts only as an agent and assumes no responsibility for acts of third parties including transportation companies. I understand that Living Heritage Tours cannot be held liable for weather, sickness, or other cases beyond their control. I understand that Living Heritage Tours reserves the right to make changes to the itinerary as necessary.

I also understand that participation on this tour carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated completely, ranging from minor injuries to catastrophic injuries including death. I also understand and agree that in consideration of being permitted to participate, I waive, release, and promise not to sue Living Heritage Tours for any and all liability from any and all claims arising from participation in the tour.

I wish for my son/daughter to participate in Living Heritage Tours' LDS Church History Tour for Youth.

Youth Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Second Parent/Guardian Signature (if applicable): _____

Are there any medical problems/concerns which we should be aware of (including medication, dietary needs, physical limitations...)? _____

Do you have any concerns which we should be aware of so we can help you have an enjoyable and spiritual experience? _____

*This document will be included in the Welcome Packet we will mail to you once you register.
You may return it to us at that time*



Tom Pettit is the owner of Living Heritage Tours. He will be the tour guide and the presenter for this LDS Youth Church History Tour.

Tom has become a student of the information taught on these tours by devoting several hundreds of hours to studying and by visiting these special places many, many times. Tom is a frequent speaker at *Learn Our Religion*, the author of *Adam-ondi-Ahman*, and is currently working on several other Church History books and projects. Visit our *Testimonial* page at www.LivingHeritageTours.com to read what others are saying about touring with Tom Pettit.

Our LDS Church History Tours not only provide the history and information, but help you liken everything you see and learn to your own life. Tom's unique focus on these tours is not to just teach the history, but to help you draw closer to the Savior by applying the lessons learned from these historical events to your own daily life.

The popularity of our LDS Church History Tours has required us to offer multiple trips each year to the sacred sites of the Restoration. Tom's love of the gospel, his passion for history, and his unique way of teaching has attracted people anxious to visit these special places.

Tom Pettit has been teaching the gospel to youth and adults continuously for the last 16 years by serving as a youth Sunday School teacher, an Elders Quorum presidency counselor, Ward Young Men's Presidency counselor, Stake Young Men's Presidency counselor, Gospel Doctrine teacher, Mission Prep class teacher, and as a counselor in the Bishopric. Tom served his mission in Australia. He and his wife Lesa have five children (the picture needs to be updated!) and live in Lehi, UT.

Learn more about Tom Pettit and read some of his Church History articles by visiting his blog at www.tomcpettit.com

“It is good to look to the past to gain appreciation for the present and perspective for the future. It is good to look upon the virtues of those who have gone before; to gain strength for whatever lies ahead. It is good to reflect upon the work of those who labored so hard and gained so little in this world, but out of whose dreams and early pains, so well nurtured, has come a great harvest of which we are the beneficiaries. Their tremendous example can become a compelling motivation for all of us.”

President Gordon B. Hinckley

Living Heritage Tours is not affiliated with or sponsored by
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints.