

“Grant Moves South” with Bernie Drake
OLLI at Bradley University Private Charter Coach Trip
Monday, September 9 - Tuesday, September 17, 2019



Program Summary and Highlights: Gain a deeper understanding of the Civil War with our own personal guide as we visit battlefields, learn about military strategy, and explore antebellum homes.

- Explore Vicksburg Campaign and Vicksburg National Military Park, one of the largest such parks in the nation, with expert guide Brig. General Parker Hills, who has conducted numerous Military Staff rides and authored several books on the Civil War era.
- Visit the Shiloh National Military Park with a private local guide who'll share insights on the Battle of Shiloh, one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War.
- Experience history first hand as you explore some of the most well-preserved and architecturally stunning historic homes in the American South during our tour of private antebellum mansions in Natchez.
- Discover the history and heritage of Memphis with a visit to the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Motel and a special stop at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Program Price Includes:

- 9 days, 8 nights, 23 meals (8 breakfasts, 7 lunches, and 8 dinners)
- Eight nights' accommodations
- All admission fees, speaker fees, gratuities, and group travel expenses
- Bernie Drake as Historian/Group Leader and a Bradley staffer will accompany you throughout the program to handle all logistics and make your trip hassle-free.

All Inclusive Pricing with Charter Coach Transportation:

Double Occupancy - **\$1,999 per person**

Single Occupancy - **\$2,499 per person**

NEW LOTTERY STYLE REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

- **Registrations will be accepted Thursday, March 7 – Fri. March 22, 2019.**

In person, mail in and phone-in registration are all available.

It will NOT be first come, first served. If we have more than 36 registrations, everyone who has registered by 3/22/19 at 5:00 p.m. will be entered into a lottery to determine who receives a spot on the trip. Couples, as well as roommates and friends, (2 people max) can request to have their registrations “bundled,” meaning they will have 1 lottery number together, and they either both get selected or they both do not get selected. If we do not have 36 registrations by the deadline we will take everyone registered and continue to anyone else first come, first served until the trip is full.

- \$100 non-refundable deposit due when final registrations have been accepted.
- Final payment due on **Friday, May 31, 2019.**
- Cancellations: if there is a waitlist and we can fill your spot, you will be fully refunded minus the deposit. If there is no waitlist, a partial refund may be granted until Friday, July 19.

Overview of Accommodations:

Hampton Inn, Murray, Kentucky: 1 night Hampton Inn, Corinth, Mississippi: 2 nights

The Natchez Grand Hotel & Suites, Natchez Mississippi: 1 Night

Hampton Inn, Vicksburg, Mississippi: 2 Nights

Courtyard by Marriott Memphis Downtown: 2 Nights

Day 1: Battle of Belmont

Monday, September 9

We will depart Peoria at 7:00 a.m. and enjoy a Civil War era breakfast (coffee & hardtack!) We'll board the charter coach and make our way to the battle of Belmont in Columbus, Kentucky. Dinner at a local restaurant in Murray.

Hotel: Hampton Inn, Murray, KY

Meals Included: Dinner

Day 2: Fort Donelson National Battlefield

Tuesday, September 10

Our second day will include our tour of Fort Donelson National Battlefield and the surrounding area. Located on the banks of the historic Cumberland River in Dover, Tennessee, the Dover Hotel is where the momentous surrender of Fort Donelson took place. The “Surrender House” stands alone as the only existing structure where a major Civil War surrender took place. We'll eat lunch at a local restaurant, board the coach and travel to Mississippi. Dinner at Corinth is included.

Hotel: Hampton Inn, Corinth, MS

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 3: Shiloh Battlefield and Civil War Interpretive Center

Wednesday, September 11

This morning we head straight to Shiloh Battlefields to meet with our private guide, who'll give us details on the bloodiest battles of the Civil War. After our extensive tour, we'll have lunch at the locally famous Hagy Catfish Hotel. When we return to Corinth, we'll spend time at the Civil War Interpretive Center and the Crossroads Museum, and then dine at a local restaurant for dinner

Hotel: Hampton Inn, Corinth, MS

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 4: Battle of Brice's Crossroads, Tupelo National Battlefield

Thursday, September 12

As we drive from Corinth to Tupelo, we'll visit Brice's Crossroads and the Battle of Tupelo, the last major engagement of the Civil War in Mississippi. We'll have lunch in Tupelo, and because we are "in Tupelo" we'll drive by the birthplace of Elvis as we head out of town to Mississippi on the beautiful Natchez Trace Parkway.

Hotel: Natchez Grand Hotel and Suites, Natchez, MS

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 5: Antebellum Homes in the heart of Natchez

Friday, September 13

We'll have a bit later start today, as we'll drive a few blocks to begin our tour of three lovely antebellum homes with lunch at The Carriage House Restaurant. After our tours, we will board the coach for Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Hotel: Hampton Inn, Vicksburg, MS

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 6: The Vicksburg Campaign

Saturday, September 14

Today we will head into the Mississippi countryside, with our guide General Parker Hills, to study Grant's Vicksburg campaign, including the battles of Port Gibson, Raymond, Jackson, Champion Hill, and Big Black River. This campaign is considered one of the greatest campaigns in U.S. military history

Hotel: Hampton Inn, Vicksburg, MS

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 7: The Vicksburg Campaign Part II

Sunday, September 15

We'll continue learning about the Vicksburg Campaign with General Parker. We'll board the coach for our afternoon drive, making our way to Memphis for dinner at a local BBQ joint.

Hotel: Courtyard Inn Downtown Memphis

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Day 8: Memphis

Monday, September 16

Breakfast at the hotel is included, but you will be on your own for the rest of the morning and for lunch. We'll meet in the early afternoon to visit the National Civil Rights Museum at the Lorraine Hotel to trace events of the movement and Dr. King's assassination. We'll have our final group dinner in downtown Memphis.

Hotel: Courtyard Inn Downtown Memphis

Meals Included: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 9: St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and return to Peoria

Tuesday, Sept 17

We'll have breakfast at the hotel, then make a stop at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. We plan to have a tour of the hospital, and time to visit the pavilion and Memorial Garden. After our visit, we'll head back to Peoria, with a stop for lunch at Lambert's Café, "home of throwed rolls!"

Meals Included: Breakfast, Lunch