

Living Heritage Tours

Thank you for considering our Youth Church History Tour! 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 enjoy a wonderful spiritual experience while having 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.*
- 3. To liken the lessons of the past to our daily lives as a way to draw closer to the Savior.*

We expect that you will return home with greater faith, a stronger testimony, and a determination to always be a disciple of your Savior. We also expect that you will return home with friendships that will last a lifetime!

You will experience the history, personal accounts, and the stories of the events surrounding the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ. By the time you return home, you will have heard the history of the Church from 1805 to 1846...while standing in the actual places where the events took place!

After completing your 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 your curriculum journal and suggested General Conference talks to read. You may register for the tour online or by calling our office directly.

I look forward to meeting you soon! Please contact me directly with any questions.

Tom Pettit
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Living Heritage Tours
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General Information

The safety of our participating youth is our first priority. We only stay in name brand hotels in good neighborhoods. We strictly enforce that each youth stay with the group at all times. 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

Most 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. 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 and expectations. Each chaperon will be responsible for the youth assigned to them. This includes staying with the group, encouraging each youth to participate in the tour activities, caring for each youth's individual needs as those needs arise, and keeping a careful watch over each youth to make sure they are having a great time. Perhaps the greatest responsibility of each chaperon is to ensure that everyone has a memorable and spiritually uplifting experience.

Transportation

We hire deluxe charter busses and professional drivers. The bus is most comparable to an airplane in which the seats are leather, air conditioning works very well, there are overhead storage compartments, a sound system, a restroom, and monitors for movies.

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 stay at Holiday Inn, Fairfield Inn, and Comfort Suite brand hotels. A list of our hotels, with contact information, will be provided two months prior to departure.

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.

Anyone found outside their room after curfew or found in the room of someone of the opposite gender will be dismissed from the tour.

Each hotel room has two queen sized beds. Rollaway beds are not available. Some have elected to pay the quad occupancy rate and pack a hiker's sleeping bag which is small enough and light enough to fit within a suitcase. If you plan to bring a sleeping bag, which is optional, it needs to fit inside your single suitcase.

What to bring

We will be standing in holy places each day where the spirit can be felt. The *For the Strength of Youth* pamphlet states, "When you are well groomed and modestly dressed, you invite the companionship of the Spirit". Below is a general list of items to bring. Please include more or less of what you know you will actually need. Opportunities to wash clothes will be very limited, if available at all. 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.

We will expect everyone to follow the standards set forth in the *For the Strength of Youth* pamphlet which states, "Immodest clothing is any clothing that is tight, short, or revealing in any other manner. Young women should avoid short shorts and short skirts, shirts that do not cover the stomach, and clothing that does not cover the shoulders or is low-cut in the front or the back. Young men should also maintain modesty in their appearance. Young men and young women should be neat and clean and avoid being extreme or inappropriately casual in clothing, hairstyle, and behavior." Here is our rule on clothing: If your parents and your youth leaders are okay with you wearing it to a Youth activity, then it will most likely be just fine for our trip.

Suggested packing list:

- 1 suitcase
- 1 small carryon bag
- Enough clothing to last the whole trip:
 - Shirts
 - Pants/shorts
 - Pajamas
 - Underclothing/socks
 - Comfortable walking shoes
 - 1 set of Sunday clothes
 - Jacket/sweatshirt
 - Swimsuit (optional)
- Camera, or cellphone for camera use
- Photo ID for the airport
- \$50 or so for incidentals
- Souvenir money
- Reusable water bottle (this is a MUST)
- Money for the baggage fee if you check a bag on the airplane
- Scriptures
- Journal and pen will be provided
- Toiletries
 - Toothbrush/toothpaste
 - Brush/Comb
 - Sunscreen
 - Bug spray (you'll be glad for it!)
 - Deodorant
 - First-aid kit
 - Medications
 - Hand sanitizer

Bringing a cell phone is left to the discretion of your parents. If you bring a cell phone, it is your responsibility to not let it distract you from having a spiritual experience, learning, or interacting as a real person with others on the tour.

Airfare:

We have secured group space on flights so the group can travel together from Salt Lake City to Kansas City to begin the trip, and from Rochester, NY to Salt Lake City at the end of the trip. The cost of the airfare is included in the total cost of the tour. If you elect to not fly with the group, please contact Living Heritage Tours *before purchasing your flight*.

Cancellation Policy

We understand that sometimes things don't always go as planned and there may be a need to cancel your reservation. We want to help as much as possible by refunding as much as possible to you if you need to cancel. However, because the hotels, food, and transportation are prepaid, the following refund schedule will be followed:

- Cancel before March 6, 2023: Full Refund
- Cancel after March 6, 2023: \$500 penalty
- Cancel after May 6, 2023: 100% penalty

Travel insurance may be purchased which will help offset or even eliminate the refund schedule. Please contact us if you are interested in purchasing travel insurance.

Traveling

You will be provided with a journal which is loaded with information and also plenty of space to record your own thoughts, impressions, and feelings you have at each historical site we visit. You may want to think of these two questions as you write in your journal at 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 and at the sites, you will hear the history, personal accounts, and the stories of the events surrounding the restoration of the gospel of Jesus Christ. By the time we return home, you 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.

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My name is Tom Pettit and I am the owner of Living Heritage Tours. I conduct Church History Tours several times each year. Of all the tours I lead, the annual Youth Church History Tour is my absolute favorite one to do.

Since returning from my mission to Australia, I have spent the past 20 years teaching the gospel to youth and adults through church callings, church history tours, and speaking engagements. I also share the gospel by teaching the events of the Restoration and by teaching the doctrine of the Latter-day revelations at the actual sites where they took place! However, my focus on this tour is not to just teach the history, but to help the tour participants draw closer to the Savior by applying the lessons learned from these historical events our own daily life.

I love church history because of the revealed truths, the clarity of God's love for His children, and the inspiring stories of those early Saints. You can hear me tell some of my favorite stories from Church History by checking out my YouTube channel. Just search my name and you should start finding some of my videos.

My wife and I live in Lehi, UT with our five children.

“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