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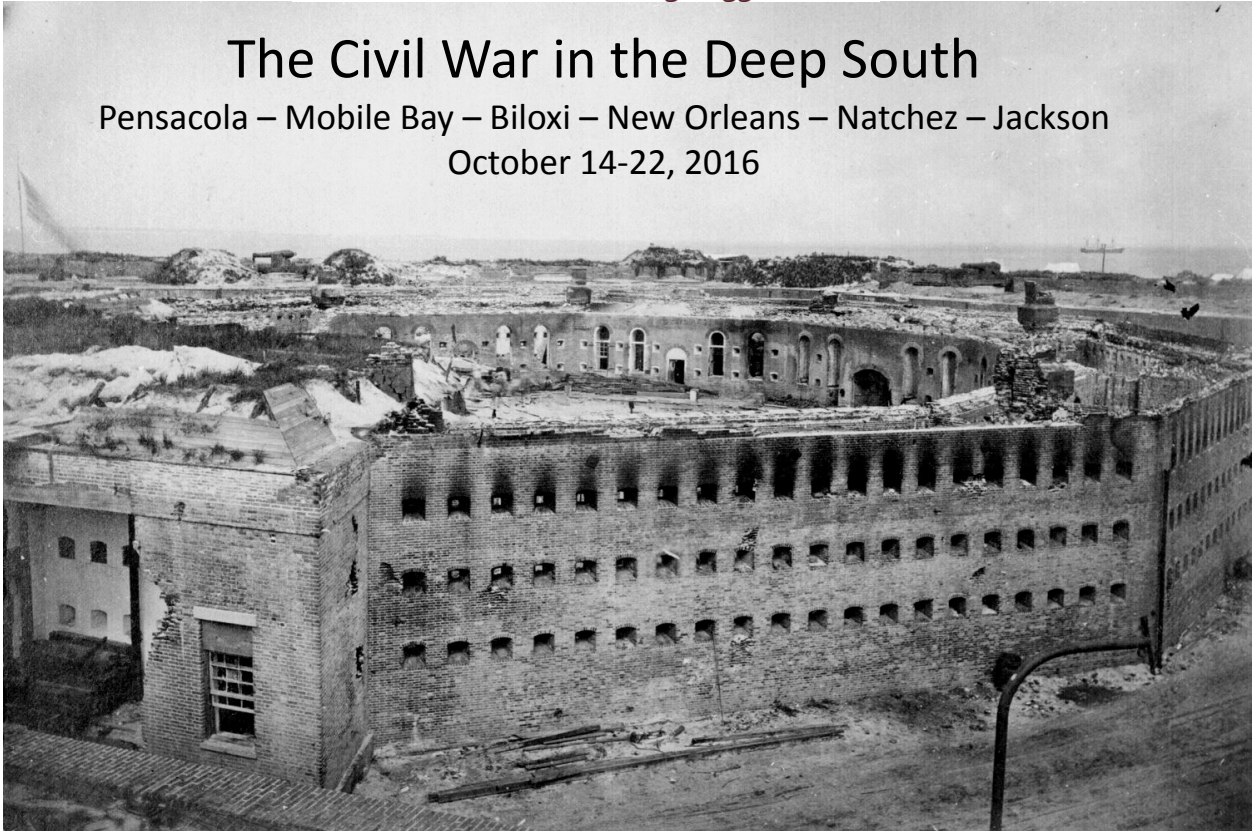
TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY®

Traveling Aggies

The Civil War in the Deep South

Pensacola – Mobile Bay – Biloxi – New Orleans – Natchez – Jackson

October 14-22, 2016



TRAVEL PLANNERS
INTERNATIONAL

Friday-October 14

Depart your home city bound for Pensacola, Florida. Transfer to your hotel. Welcome Dinner tonight.

D

Saturday-October 15—The Battles of Pensacola Bay

This morning after breakfast ,we will visit Fort Barrancas which sits on a bluff overlooking the entrance to Pensacola Bay and was built to protect the Pensacola Navy Yard. We will also visit the Advanced Redoubt and the National Museum of Naval Aviation. After lunch, on your own, we head for Santa Rosa Island to visit Fort Pickens, which is the largest of four forts built to defend Pensacola Bay and its navy yard.

Overnight in Pensacola

B

Sunday-October 16—Ship Island

Today we head west to Gulfport where we will take the ferry to Ship Island. On West Ship Island ,we will visit Fort Massachusetts which was built to protect the deep water passage to New Orleans. Local Confederate militia held the island and the fort for nine months in 1861. In July 1861, a brief naval battle occurred between the Confederate forces on Ship Island and the sailors onboard the USS Massachusetts. Union forces took over the island in September 1861 after the Confederate forces vacated. In the afternoon, we take the ferry back to Gulfport and then on to Biloxi to check into the Beau Rivage Resort and Casino .

Overnight Biloxi

B,D

Monday-October 17—Damn the Torpedoes/The Battle of Mobile Bay

After your buffet breakfast, we depart for Fort Morgan, Alabama. Since 1834 Fort Morgan has stood as the guardian of Mobile Bay. On the morning of August 5,1864 Union Admiral David Farragut's force steamed into the mouth of Mobile Bay in two columns led by four ironclads and met with devastating fire that immediately sank one of its iron-hulled, single-turret monitors, the USS Tecumseh. The rest of the fleet fell into confusion but Farragut allegedly rallied them with the words: "Damn the torpedoes. Full speed ahead!" Although the authenticity of the quote has been questioned, it nevertheless became one of the most famous in U.S. military history. After lunch on your own, we depart for Fort Blakely. On April 9, 1865 and just hours after the surrender of General Robert E. Lee in Virginia, the Battle of Blakely was fought . The battle was "Probably the last charge of this war, it was as gallant as any on record," "Harper's Weekly" reported. Historic Blakely State Park was created in 1981 to preserve the National Register Site and its miles of pristine breastworks. We then return to the Beau Rivage.

Overnight Biloxi

B

Tuesday-October 18-New Orleans

This morning we are on our way to New Orleans. On the way we will pass Fort Pike which was named for the explorer and soldier General Zebulon Montgomery Pike (1779-1813) whose name is also attached to Pike's Peak in the Rocky Mountains. Fort Pike is the first of the Third System fortifications, a group of brick and masonry structures built between 1816 and 1867. The fort was designed to withstand attack from land or sea. We will also pass by Fort Macomb located on the western shore of Chef Menteur Pass and was constructed to protect New Orleans .

The fort saw the most of its military action during the Civil War when a Confederate States of America garrison took control of and occupied the fort early in the Civil War. The Union regained control of the fort after the occupation of New Orleans. In 1867, the barracks caught fire, after which the fort was largely abandoned by the Army. It was decommissioned in 1871.

Overnight New Orleans

B,D

Wednesday-October 19– The Crescent City -Free Day

It has been said that New Orleans celebrates indulgence like no other U.S. city; its reputation for feasting and revelry, especially during Mardi Gras, is legendary. With Hurricane Katrina well in the rear-view mirror, almost a decade after the catastrophic failing of the city's levee system, tourism is flourishing. Visitors to New Orleans will find a city alive and thriving.

Overnight New Orleans

B,D

Thursday-October 20 –Port Hudson and Natchez

Breakfast at our hotel then north to Jackson, Louisiana to visit Port Hudson. After New Orleans fell to Federal troops in late April 1862, Confederate control of the Mississippi was in jeopardy because the Red River was the primary route for the shipment of supplies from Texas to the heartland of the Confederacy. The bluffs near the small town of Port Hudson represented a perfect site for the river batteries. These bluffs were the first high ground upstream from Baton Rouge and overlooked a severe bend in the river. This bend presented an additional obstacle for Union warships. The siege of Port Hudson began on May 23, 1863. Roughly 30,000 Union troops, under the command of Major General Nathaniel P. Banks, were pitted against 6,800 Confederates, under the command of Major General Franklin Gardner. The ensuing battles constituted some of the bloodiest and most severe fighting in the entire Civil War. On to Natchez. While the city's claim to fame is largely antebellum, its roots go all the back to the 1700s. Before becoming a royal court of King Cotton, Natchez was a rollicking frontier town where Kaintuck boatmen caroused and gamblers and thieves ruled the notorious Natchez-Under-the-Hill.

Overnight Natchez

B,D

Friday-October 21-Vicksburg

The Battle of Vicksburg, Mississippi, was the culmination of a two year effort by Union armies and navies to wrest control of the Mississippi River from Confederate forces. Today this beautiful city on the Mississippi River now preserves some of America's most significant historic sites. Among these are forts, batteries, miles of fortifications, historic homes and structures and even the wreck of a Civil War ironclad. Vicksburg today draws visitors from around the world. It is a place where the modern world steps into the past and where visitors still walk in the footsteps of the men and women that forged a nation.

Overnight Vicksburg

B,D

Saturday-October 22 - Homeward Bound or Football

Our motorcoach will depart for Jackson , Mississippi airport for your return flight. Or perhaps you might decide to attend the Texas A&M/Alabama game in Tuscaloosa. (Arrangements on your own)

Martin K.A. Morgan is an author/historian who specializes in American and military history. He holds a BA in history from the University of Alabama (1991), an MA in history from the University of Alabama at Birmingham (1996), and is currently a history doctoral candidate at the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. He is the author of *Down To Earth: The 507th Parachute Infantry Regiment in Normandy* (Schiffer, 2004) and *The Americans on D-Day: A Photographic History of the Normandy Invasion* (Zenith Press, 2014), and he contributes frequently to *World War II Quarterly*, *Shooting Illustrated* and *The American Rifleman*. He has also contributed to such other publications as *Aviation History*, *World War II*, *World War II History*, *Armchair General*, *the Garand Collector's Association Journal*, 39/45 (France) and *After the Battle* (England).



In addition to publishing, for over a decade Martin has also appeared regularly on television programs relating to historical subjects on PBS, Discovery, National Geographic, History, H2, The Weather Channel, Syfy, Oxygen, the Outdoor Channel, The Smithsonian Channel, and The American Heroes Channel. With a background as a park ranger and a museum professional, Martin's experience in public history paved the way for the publishing and broadcasting work he does today. Since 2002, he has been leading battlefield tours around the world.

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The Association
OF FORMER STUDENTS®

TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY®

Traveling Aggies

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TRAVEL PLANNERS INTERNATIONAL

The Civil War in the Deep South 2016 Tour Registration and Tour Cancellation Policy

Name on your passport _____ Passport # _____
Date of Birth _____ Birthplace _____
Spouse/Guest Passport Name _____ Passport # _____
Date of Birth _____ Birthplace _____
Email _____ Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Home Phone: _____ Office Phone: _____ Mobile Phone _____
Contact number during transit to airport in case of delays _____
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The following cancellation schedule applies:

DAYS BEFORE DEPARTURE

\$500.00 *per person* deposit due with registration
120 days – 90 days
89 days – 46 days
45 days – day of departure

PENALTY

\$250.00 per person Non-refundable
10% of entire tour price
50% of entire tour price
100% of entire tour price

Please understand that if you change your plans, your right to a refund is limited to the cancellation policies of the airlines as well as the policy of the hotels and land arrangements. Scheduled tours have strict cancellation fees due to air ticketing restrictions and hotel deposits. Significant penalties apply (i.e. non-refundable airline tickets). Cancellation must be received in writing.

I/we have read, understand and agree to the full Terms & Conditions as detailed in program documents.

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