

CIVIL RIGHTS

*a Journey
to Freedom*



**100%
REFUND
GUARANTEE**

See reservation
panel for details.

*Political, ethical, and cultural lessons of
a past remembered for a path forward*



Howdy, Ags!

Join former students and friends for an intimate and essential opportunity to explore the Deep South with an informative program that highlights America's civil rights movement in Alabama. Home to some of the most pivotal moments in history, a fourth of the official U.S. Civil Rights Trail landmarks are located here.

On this five-day journey, experience the legacy of those who changed history through the U.S. Civil Rights Movement. Stand in the pulpit at Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. preached, walk over the Edmund Pettus Bridge where law enforcement clashed with voting rights marchers, and gather with our group at Kelly Ingram Park as 1,000 or so students did in the 1963 Children's Crusade.

Taking a deeper dive beyond the civil rights "highlight" reel, each day offers exclusive, authentic experiences for in-depth knowledge, engaging conversations, and deep listening. A cadre of distinguished and compelling speakers and foot soldiers join us to serve as a living library—providing valuable, first-hand accounts of resistance and change. Learn about the underground work of everyday, sacrificing people who built the foundation for the civil rights movement to happen and continue today.

We'll be staying at comfortable accommodations, enjoying Southern hospitality with home-cooked meals, celebrating accomplishments of pioneers such as the Tuskegee Airmen, attending a musical performance, and becoming more empowered in our efforts to overcome adversity and support fundamental rights for all people.

Aggies are well known for our unmatched passion and camaraderie, and there is nothing better than sharing your adventures with the Traveling Aggies.


Please reserve online at texas-am.orbridge.com, by calling (866) 639-0079 or by returning the enclosed reservation form.

Gig 'em,

Marisa Liles

Marisa Liles
Manager of Traveling Aggies
The Association of Former Students

As we embark on this new world of group travel, the health and well-being of our guests, our team, and the communities we visit remain our top priority. For a detailed listing of the enhanced safety measures and hygiene protocols specific to our tours, please visit www.orbridge.com/wellness.

 Orbridge takes seriously the responsibility to minimize our global environmental impact. Each year we plant 100,000 trees in U.S. State Forests with afforestation needs as an on-going initiative among our evolving sustainability efforts. Learn more at [orbridge.com/going-green](https://www.orbridge.com/going-green).



Your 5-Day Itinerary *(subject to change)*

Day 1: Arrive in Birmingham, AL

Program introduction by Dr. Martha Bouyer, Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, Kelly Ingram Park, dinner at leisure
Overnight: Hampton Inn and Suites Birmingham-Downtown Tutwiler

Day 2: Birmingham (B,D)

Guided touring of Birmingham Jail, 16th Street Baptist Church, lunch at leisure, Bethel Baptist Church, dinner with group
Overnight: Hampton Inn and Suites Birmingham-Downtown Tutwiler

Day 3: Birmingham / Montgomery (B,D)

Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church with Tour Minister, National Memorial for Peace and Justice plus Legacy Museum visits, dinner and musical tribute at Bricklayer Hall
Overnight: SpringHill Suites by Marriott Montgomery Downtown

Day 4: Montgomery / Selma / Montgomery (B,L)

Discussions with Dianne Harris and Joyce O'Neal, fellowship lunch at Tabernacle Baptist Church, oral history with foot soldier Dr. Verdell Lett Dawson, Gee's Bend Quilters presentation, Edmund Pettus Bridge walk, Lowndes Interpretive Center visit, choir performance
Overnight: SpringHill Suites by Marriott Montgomery Downtown

Day 5: Montgomery / Tuskegee / Birmingham / Depart Birmingham (B,L)

Rosa Parks Museum, Tuskegee University visit, farewell lunch with Sandy Taylor at her restored antebellum home

(B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)

Activity Level: It is our expectation that guests on this program are able to walk a mile at a moderate pace, walk up and down a flight of stairs, and get in and out of a motor coach without assistance.





Program Highlights

- Journey through the Deep South accompanied by an Orbridge Travel Director to gain an enhanced understanding of the historic and continued struggle for racial equality in the U.S.
- Visit prominent locations integral to the Civil Rights Movement many have only read about in books, including Kelly Ingram Park in Birmingham and the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma.
- Retrace the footsteps and learn more of central figures, including Dr. King, Rosa Parks, and Rev. Fred L. Shuttlesworth.
- Treasure the opportunity to hear first-hand the powerful accounts of foot soldiers' struggles and triumphs with interactive discussions.
- Meet quiltmakers from Gee's Bend to discuss their art.
- Join choir members for a musical program that outlines the origins of traditional African American spirituals and how these songs were integrated into the first independent black churches and how choirs supported Dr. King on his visits around the U.S.
- Visit the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute and the National Memorial for Peace and Justice—two institutions that have taken diverse and complementary approaches to telling the rich and moving stories of the Civil Rights Movement and of America's history of racial inequality.
- Gather together at Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church.
- Celebrate the accomplishments of pioneering African American aviators at the Tuskegee Airmen Historic Site.
- Delight in a farewell lunch accompanied by true southern hospitality at the private restored antebellum home of Ms. Sandy Taylor, the retired Superintendent of the National Park Services Tuskegee Site.

What's Included

- 4 nights accommodations
- 4 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 2 dinners
- Full guiding services of an Orbridge Travel Director
- All activities as described in the program itinerary, including admission
- Private deluxe motor coach with air conditioning and comfortable seating
- Gratuities to Orbridge Travel Director, local guides, drivers, and wait staff for included meals
- Airport transfers for guests arriving and departing during the suggested times





Accommodations *(subject to change)*

HAMPTON INN AND SUITES BIRMINGHAM-DOWNTOWN TUTWILER

This property's namesake originally began hosting dignitaries in 1914 and today features 149 modern rooms, historic photographs, a grand marbled entrance, mahogany furniture, views of the cityscape, snack shop, and restaurant. Enjoy the ease of staying under a half mile from downtown Birmingham attractions including the Museum of Art and Civil Rights Institute along with onsite complimentary Wi-Fi and fitness room.



SPRINGHILL SUITES BY MARRIOTT MONTGOMERY DOWNTOWN

This outstanding property combines modern décor with an industrial vibe. Located across from the Legacy Museum in the heart of Montgomery's downtown dining and entertainment district, this all-suites property re-purposed from warehouse space offers spacious rooms, a market open 24/7 for snacks and necessities, and a fitness center.



FEATURED SPEAKERS



Dianne Harris

When Dianne Harris was 15 years old, she walked off the Alabama Lutheran campus with a group of 14 other students to join the student arm of the Civil Rights Movement in Selma. The year was 1965. It was the first time Dianne had openly disobeyed any authority at school. Although Dianne will be the first to tell you that disobedience is never a good decision without due cause, she is happy she made the decision to leave campus that year. For about a week, Dianne and the other Alabama Lutheran students participated in nightly meetings at the historic Brown Chapel AME and daily marches.

As a result, she was arrested twice and stuck in the arm with a cattle prod.

Today Dianne remains active in the Selma community. She has received the Congressional Foot Soldier Medal and Certificate, as well as numerous other medals and awards for her ongoing fight for racial equality. She is a passionate public speaker, appearing on NBC Today in 2015 and is often interviewed by newspapers, magazines and other media outlets for her unending vigil for justice. She remembers her involvement in the movement like it was yesterday. She particularly remembers listening to Martin Luther King, Jr. and the events of Bloody Sunday in Selma, Alabama.



Dr. Martha Bouyer

Dr. Martha Bouyer will lead guests to explore sites of the Civil Rights Movement, including the Birmingham Jail, Sixth Avenue Baptist Church, Linn Park, Phillips High School, Freedom Riders attack site, and the Black Business District.

Learn why Dr. King chose to come to Birmingham and how important mass meetings were for the movement by visiting the historic Bethel Baptist Church and Shuttlesworth parsonage bombing site.



Joyce O'Neal

Joyce O'Neal, a Selma native and lifelong pursuer of equality through her career in Social Work, is a faithful member of Brown Chapel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in Selma. She was baptized there as an infant and has been an active member ever since. She remembers attending mass meetings at the church with her family in the 1960's. Hear her tell of her experiences during the marches in Selma and the events of Bloody Sunday.

Mrs. O'Neal has been awarded with several honors, including: Outstanding Service Rendered to the Youth Motivation Task Force at Stillman College (2000), Outstanding Lay Person of the Biennial (2007-2009), Foot Soldier's Recognition at the U.S. Capitol (2016), Permanent Member of the Senior Citizens' Hall of Fame (2017), and the Alabama Social Work Hall of Fame (2017). Mrs. O'Neal was also the first African-American elected to the Alabama State Personnel Board (2006 and 2010).



Peggy Wallace Kennedy

Peggy Wallace Kennedy is the daughter of the late George C. Wallace, the former governor of Alabama who became known as one of America's most ardent segregationists of the 1960s when he stood in the schoolhouse door to prevent black students from integrating into the University.

Later in life Kennedy embarked on a personal journey of her own. She stepped from beneath the shadow of "the schoolhouse door" as she came to grips with her family's legacy and her own personal beliefs. She has since written and spoken on issues relating to justice and equality, most recently releasing a new book, *The Broken Road*, which is a memoir that reckons with her father George Wallace's legacy of hate—and illuminates her journey towards redemption.



Sandy Taylor

Ms. Sandy Taylor, the retired Superintendent of the National Park Services Tuskegee Site, will host a celebratory farewell lunch at her private, restored antebellum home. Lunch will feature recipes from Tuskegee scientist George Washington Carver and include locally grown ingredients.



Wanda Battle

Join Ms. Wanda Battle and friends for a night of special music. Wanda is the tourism director of Dexter-King Baptist Church. She, along with a host of others from the choirs at Dexter, Brick-A-Day, and others, will have dinner with guests. Enjoy a musical program where she outlines the origins of traditional African American spirituals, how these songs were integrated into the first independent black churches, and how choirs supported Dr. King on his visits around the U.S.

Optional Post-Tour Muscle Shoals



As a finale to your time discovering Alabama, consider exploring The Shoals—the quad cities of Florence, Muscle Shoals, Sheffield, and Tusculumbia—rich in musical and cultural history. Tour studios where some of the greatest hit records were recorded by legends, including Aretha Franklin, the Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan, Etta James, and Little Richard.

At the Alabama Music Hall of Fame—a must-visit for music fans—check out the exhibits and personal memorabilia of inductees: Nat King Cole, Hank Williams, Percy Sledge, Wilson Pickett, Jim Nabors, and many more.

Honor the Father of the Blues, W.C. Handy, by visiting his museum, and stop by inspirational Ivy Green, the birthplace of Helen Keller.

Post-Tour Itinerary *(subject to change)*

Day 5: Birmingham / The Shoals / Florence
Panoramic touring, evening at leisure
Overnight: The Stricklin Hotel

Day 6: Florence / Muscle Shoals / Florence (B)
FAME Studios, Muscle Shoals Sound Studios, Cypress Moon Studios, evening at leisure
Overnight: The Stricklin Hotel

Day 7: Florence / The Shoals / Birmingham / Depart Birmingham (B)
Ivy Green, W.C. Handy Home and Museum, Alabama Music Hall of Fame

What's Included

- 2 nights accommodations at The Stricklin Hotel (shown below) featuring all king beds and a Southern-style breakfast each morning
- Admission and fees for included activities
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers
- Private transportation
- Airport transfers for guests departing during the suggested times



CIVIL RIGHTS *a Journey to Freedom*

OCTOBER 15-19, 2022

Muscle Shoals Post-Tour: October 19-21, 2022

Standard
Rate:

~~\$3,399~~

\$3,329 Single

Special
Rate:

\$2,995*

\$3,995 Single

Muscle Shoals Post-Tour*

Double: \$1,295 | Single: \$1,595

Reserve by Credit Card:

Online: texas-am.orbridge.com

Phone: (866) 639-0079

Fax: (206) 452-5655

Reserve by Check:

Made payable to **Orbridge, LLC**

Mail to: Orbridge, P.O. Box 10339

Bainbridge Island, WA 98110

We strongly suggest purchasing travel insurance. Travel insurance information will be sent to you with your confirmation letter from the Traveling Aggies. For more information, contact Orbridge at (866) 639-0079 or you may call the Traveling Aggies at (979) 845-7514.

GUEST INFORMATION:

Guest #1 Name (Title/Salutation): _____

Email: _____ Class Year: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Guest #2 Name (Title/Salutation): _____

Email: _____ Class Year: _____

Home Phone: _____ Alt. Phone: _____

DEPOSIT PAYMENT:

Check ACH (Automated Clearing House) MasterCard/Visa American Express Discover

Card #: _____ Exp. Date: _____ CVV: _____

Name (as printed on card): _____

Billing Address (if different from above): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

DEPOSIT:

_____ guests joining program (\$850/person) +

_____ guests joining post-tour (\$500/person) = **TOTAL DEPOSIT: \$** _____

I/we have read, understand, and agree to the full Terms & Conditions at terms.orbridge.com and the COVID-19 Acknowledgement at orbridge.com/wellness; and I/we agree that Orbridge, LLC is authorized to charge my credit card above and/or take my/or our deposit for this program.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Reservations, Deposits and Final Payment. To secure your reservation, deposits are due upon placing a reservation as follows: \$850 per person per program and \$500 per person for any pre-tour and/or post-tour. Deposits are payable by check, ACH, wire transfer or major credit card. Final payment, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, is payable by check, ACH, wire transfer or major credit card, and is due no later than 90 days prior to the program's scheduled departure date. If your reservation is made between the final payment due date and the program's scheduled departure date, the full cost of the program, plus any pre-tour and/or post-tour, optional excursion(s) fees and optional electives, is due at the time of registration, payable by check, ACH, wire transfer or major credit card. If final payment is not received by Orbridge by the final payment due date, Orbridge may, at any time and with or without notice, cancel your reservation in its sole discretion with no right of refund. CST#2098750-40 WST#602828994

Reservation Cancellations and Refunds. All cancellations must be submitted to Orbridge in writing. If the cancellation notice is received by Orbridge: (a) more than 90 calendar days prior to the program's scheduled departure date, all monies paid to Orbridge for the main program and for any pre-tour and/or post-tour will be refunded in full; (b) between 90 and 60 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 25% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, and the balance will be refunded; (c) between 59 and 30 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 50% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour, and the balance will be refunded; (d) within 29 days prior to the scheduled departure date, a 100% cancellation fee will be applied to the full cost of the program, including any pre-tour and/or post-tour. In addition to and not in lieu of the foregoing, a Cancellation Fee equal to 100% of the carrier charge applies to all non-refundable airfares due to your cancellation made at any time prior to the scheduled program departure date, as applicable. Refunds, if any, will be processed within 30 calendar days of our receipt of your written notice.

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*Special group rate; limited offer. Rates are per person based on double occupancy except where noted as Single, in U.S. dollars. Airfare not included. Single availability limited. **A complement to the educational component of this journey, Expedition Libraries are curated collections of useful resources and background reading tailored to this program. Place your deposit on or before the specified date, and one Expedition Library per household will be sent after receipt of final payment. Libraries may be purchased; please call for details.



TXAM.CIV.22

CUT HERE



CIVIL RIGHTS a Journey to Freedom

OCTOBER 15-19, 2022

Special Traveling Aggies Rate: **Save more than \$800** per couple

What Guests Are Saying...

Traveling Aggie trips are always special whether in large groups or small and we look forward to our next one soon.

~Will '71 and Carolyn '81 Dierksen

Every Traveling Aggies trip that I have taken, I have made a new Aggie friend.

~Henry Presnal '57

For hassle free and fun filled good times, travel with the Aggies.

~Bob & Jane Jezienski

No funds donated to The Association of Former Students or to Texas A&M University have been used in the production or mailing of this travel brochure; all such costs are covered by the tour supplier.



Traveling Aggies
The Association of Former Students
505 George Bush Drive
College Station, TX 77840

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May 20, 2022

to receive the FREE Orbridge Expedition Library we've assembled for this program.**