

OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# THE LEGACY OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

in Birmingham, Montgomery & Selma

OCTOBER 25-29, 2023





Selma to Montgomery March



Four Spirits sculpture at Kelly Ingram Park, Birmingham



### *Traveling With You*

## **The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson**

The Rev. Dr. Adam Hearlson is blessed to serve as the Pastor of Overbrook Presbyterian Church, a racially diverse church in West Philadelphia. Throughout his ministry, Adam has worked hard to honor and empower congregations to love the difference among them. By fostering environments of love, appreciation, honesty, and respect, Adam seeks to bring the family of God into a harmony of praise. Adam teaches preaching and worship in academic and congregational settings across the country and writes widely about the ministry, worship, and congregational life. In 2018 he published the book, *The Holy No: Worship as a Subversive Act* which Brian McClaren called, “As brilliant an exploration of the act of worship as I’ve ever seen.”

The Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s reshaped the history of the United States and the world— leaving a legacy that is both vibrant and inspiring, but also fragile. In Alabama, the cities of Montgomery, Birmingham, and Selma were home to some of the great turning points of the multi-year effort. It was in these places that the Movement’s national leadership took shape and tens of thousands of people came together to advance the cause of justice against remarkable odds and violent resistance.

Go beyond the headlines to take a deep dive into history, learning directly from the actual activists and foot soldiers of the struggle whose vivid and compelling stories bring a history of unforgettable tragedy, triumphs and continuing struggles to life.

### **CONTACT:**

**Jennifer Watts**

[jwattsrn@gmail.com](mailto:jwattsrn@gmail.com)

### **REGISTER ONLINE**

[www.civilrightstours.org/overbrook](http://www.civilrightstours.org/overbrook)



## HIGHLIGHTS & INCLUDED FEATURES

- In Birmingham, a civil rights historian guides you through civil rights history including the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, Kelly Ingram Square and Bethel Baptist Church.
- Featured speaker Dr. Rev. Carolyn Maull McKinstry speaks about surviving the 16th St. Baptist Church bombing and how it changed the course of her life.
- Visit Selma, in the company of foot soldier and activist T. Dianne Harris and enjoy a private lunch hosted at Tabernacle Baptist Church, whose members invited Dr. Martin Luther King to Selma in 1964. Retrace the footsteps of the 1965 march as you traverse the landmark Edmund Pettus Bridge on foot. Visit the Lowndes Interpretative Center focusing on the Selma to Montgomery March.
- In Montgomery, visit Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church and Southern Poverty Law Center's Civil Rights Memorial Center.
- Enjoy a private, traditional southern soul food dinner at Montgomery's historic Bricklayer's Hall and learn the importance of the songs that united activists of the movement, in a joyful celebration of music.
- Visit the Equal Justice Initiative's Legacy Museum: From Slavery to Incarceration, and National Memorial for Peace and Justice—institutions that tell the rich and moving stories of the Civil Rights Movement and of America's history of racial inequality.
- Included Meals: 4 Breakfasts; 3 Lunches; 3 Dinners
- Two nights at the Hampton Inn & Suites Birmingham-Downtown-Tutwiler; Two nights at the Embassy Suites by Hilton Montgomery Hotel & Conference Center.

## Day-By-Day Schedule

*Please note that the itinerary is provided as preliminary information, and is subject to local conditions on the day of operation.*

### Day 1: Wednesday, October 25 ARRIVE BIRMINGHAM, AL

Flights Arrive Birmingham Airport by 3:00PM. You'll be greeted by your Civil Rights Expert / Tour Manager and transfer by motorcoach to the heart of Birmingham. Check in at the hotel is available from 4PM.

5PM: Depart to Historic Bethel Baptist Church. The church was at the forefront of the church-led civil rights movement of the 1950s, using nonviolent mass techniques to affect social change. Find out how the congregation was crucial to the success of the 1961 Freedom Rides. Bethel, led by Reverend Fred L. Shuttlesworth from 1953-1961, was bombed repeatedly between 1956 and 1962. We'll have a Southern dinner in the church community room. Our keynote speaker this evening is Rev. Dr. Carolyn McKinstry. She lived while four of her friends were killed when a bomb exploded at the 16th Street Baptist Church on Sunday morning, September 15, 1963. Dr. McKinstry is the author of "While the World Watched: A Birmingham Bombing Survivor Comes of Age during the Civil Rights Movement." (D)

**Accommodations:** Hampton Inn & Suites Birmingham-Downtown-Tutwiler

### Day 2: Thursday, October 26 MONTGOMERY, AL

After breakfast, we'll begin our full day exploration of Birmingham, delving into the city's civil rights history. Our guide today is historian and educator Dr. Martha Bouyer. Together, we'll have a comprehensive driving tour around the city's historically significant sites including Vulcan Park, Birmingham Jail, Dynamite Hill, Linn Park, Phillips High School. We'll stop for lunch on your own at a traditional "meat & three buffet."



Edmund Pettus Bridge

We'll walk through Kelly Ingram Park, and visit inside the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and an element of the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument. The Institute promotes a comprehensive understanding of the civil rights movement in Birmingham.

Dinner is on your own this evening. (B)

**Accommodations:** *Hampton Inn & Suites Birmingham-Downtown-Tutwiler*



Birmingham Civil Rights Institute

### **Day 3: Friday, October 27 SELMA TO MONTGOMERY, AL**

After an early breakfast, we depart by motorcoach to Selma, Alabama, where we meet Dianne Harris, Selma native and former student activist in the Voting Rights march. She'll be our guide through the history and events that took place in Selma. On a drive through Selma's neighborhoods, we'll see First Baptist Church—originally referenced as the First “Colored” Baptist Church that was host to the Dallas County Voters League, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), and mass meetings. We'll drive by Brown Chapel, the headquarters of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference during the 1965 Voting Rights Campaign.

Next, we'll head to Tabernacle Baptist Church. Begun in 1884, its members were active in the Dallas County Voters League that invited Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. to Selma in 1964. The church, and foot soldier Dr. Verdell Lett Dawson host us for an intimate lunch in the church community hall.

As we depart Selma, we'll traverse the landmark Edmund Pettus Bridge on foot, retracing the footsteps of voting rights marchers. Crossing the bridge, the weight of history is tangible. It's easy to a sense of history sweeping over you. Picture the scene marchers found awaiting them on the other side of the bridge on “Bloody Sunday” and acknowledge the fear and courage they had. The late civil rights icon and Georgia congressman John Lewis was there, and described the law enforcement presence that day as a “sea of blue.” He was beaten so badly that he suffered a broken skull.



Lowndes Interpretive Center



We'll retrace the route of the 54-mile march from Selma to Montgomery and stop at the National Park's Lowndes Interpretive Center. Here, through an audio-visual presentation and self-guided exhibits, we'll learn the details of the struggles that culminated in the 54 mile-march from Selma to Montgomery for voting rights.

Continue to Montgomery, where we check in at the hotel. Dinner in a private room in the hotel, an opportunity to discuss what we have experienced, and examine tomorrow's visit to the Legacy Museum. (B,L)

**Accommodations:** Embassy Suites by Hilton Montgomery Hotel & Conference Center

**Day 4: Saturday, October 28 MONTGOMERY, AL**

After breakfast, we'll walk to the newly expanded The Legacy Museum: From Enslavement to Mass Incarceration for our reserved, timed entrance. The museum is situated on a site in Montgomery steps away from the rail station where tens of thousands of Black people were trafficked during the 19th century and sold at auction into bondage. The self-guided visit through immersive and interactive audio-visual exhibits is at your own pace. A box lunch has been provided today that you can store in your suite refrigerator then enjoy at your leisure.

At 2PM We'll meet at the hotel and depart for a visit of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Civil Rights Memorial Center. Here, we'll meet with SPLC staff to take a deep dive into all that we have seen and learned, and discuss how

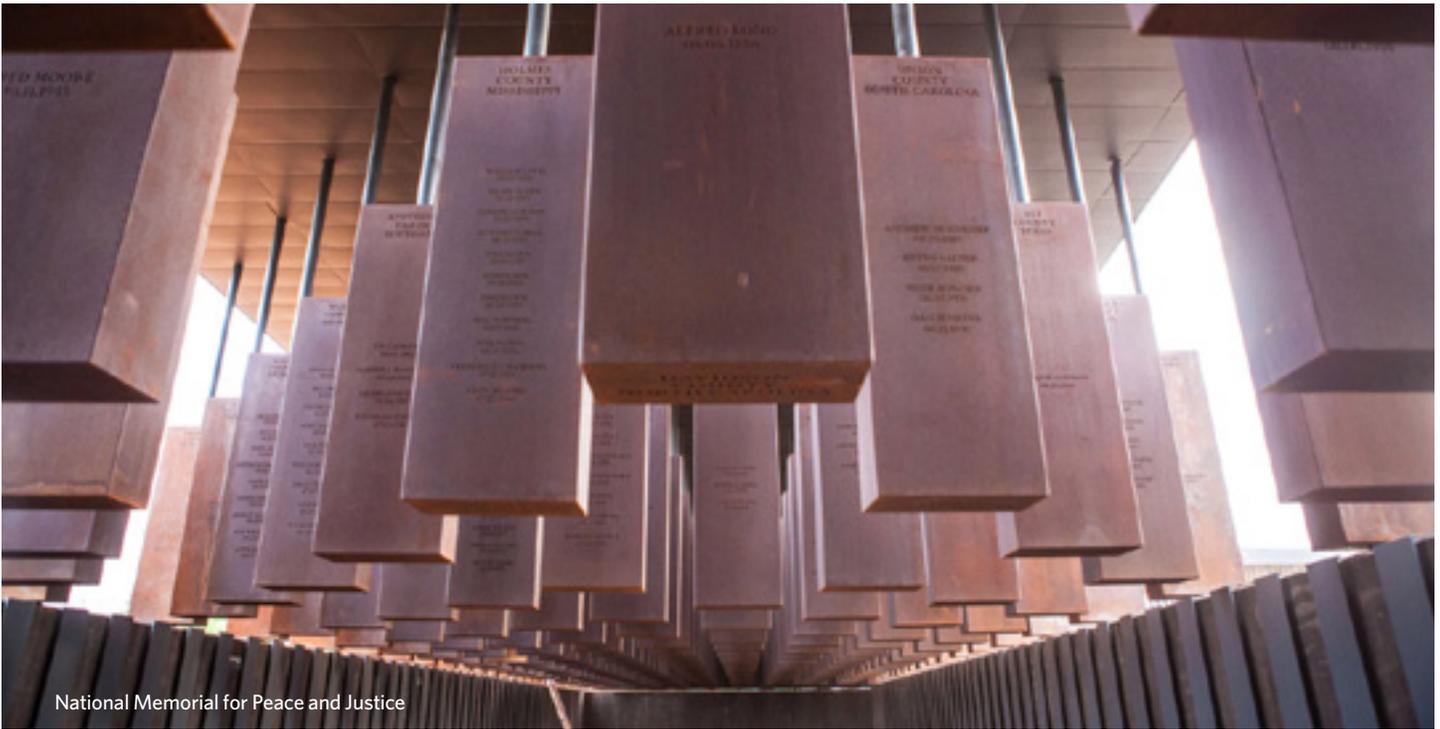


Musicians perform at Bricklayer's Hall

to channel our new knowledge and understanding of the civil rights movement into positive action in our own lives.

Drive to the powerful National Memorial for Peace and Justice. Created as a somber and meaningful place for people to gather and reflect on America's history of racial inequality, the site memorializes the legacy of enslaved Black people terrorized by lynching.

From here, we'll head over to historic Bricklayer's Hall. Built in 1954 by the local African American bricklayers'



National Memorial for Peace and Justice

union, it stands within the Centennial Hill neighborhood, a historically Black neighborhood in Montgomery. From February 1956 until 1960, the Bricklayers Hall housed the headquarters of the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA). The MIA formed on December 5, 1955, four days after activist Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to move from her seat in a racially segregated bus. We'll enjoy a private, casual dinner of traditional southern soul food.

Afterwards, we'll join Wanda Battle in singing the songs of the civil rights movement with local musicians. (B,L,D)

**Accommodations:** Embassy Suites by Hilton Montgomery Hotel & Conference Center

**Day 5: Sunday, October 29 DEPARTURE**

After breakfast, collect your box lunch and check out of the hotel. 9:30AM transfer to Dexter Avenue King Memorial Baptist Church for Sunday service. When the service is finished, we'll re-board our motorcoach and transfer to Birmingham Airport for flights departing after 5PM.

**Please note:** This proposed itinerary is the property of the ACRTA and may not be duplicated or distributed without written permission. All prices are based on preliminary quotes provided by hotel and service providers, prevailing fuel prices in effect as of the date of this proposal and are subject to change. Reservations are subject to the Terms & Conditions of the ACRTA.

**OVERBROOK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**The Legacy of the Civil Rights Movement**  
*in Birmingham, Montgomery and Selma*

**TRIP PRICE**

**\$2,279 per person, double occupancy**

**\$2,799 single price**

**\$1,941 per person, sharing a triple room**  
**(2 queen beds in Birmingham; 2 double beds and a pull-out sofa in Montgomery)**

**PRICE INCLUDES**

- Four nights accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Purified Potable water for you to refill your water bottle, ice tea and coffee/tea with all meals
- Exclusive Inside Access Education
- Expertly guided sightseeing, transportation and entrance fees for all included visits
- Local Tour Manager/Guide from the Alabama Civil Rights Tourism Association
- Taxes, service, and portorage charges; gratuities to local guides and drivers

**NOT INCLUDED**

airfare; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than noted in inclusions; personal items and expenses; airport transfers other than for those detailed in the itinerary; excess baggage; trip insurance; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

**Suggested Air Arrangements:** Please plan your flights to arrive in Birmingham by 3PM on October 25 Departure from Birmingham after 5PM on October 29

**REGISTER ONLINE**  
[www.civilrightstours.org/overbrook](http://www.civilrightstours.org/overbrook)



**BIRMINGHAM  
HAMPTON INN & SUITES BIRMINGHAM-  
DOWNTOWN-TUTWILER**

2021 Park Place, Birmingham, Alabama, 35203

Check-in 4:00 PM Check-out: 11:00 AM

Situated in the heart of downtown Birmingham, steps from the Birmingham Public Library, the Birmingham Museum of Art, and convenient to civil rights historic sites, the Tutweiler has held a place in the city's history since 1914. The newly renovated Hampton Inn & Suites features complimentary hot breakfast, Wi-Fi and fitness center.

Hotel standard rooms are non-smoking, with one king or two queen beds; City views, free WiFi, coffeemaker.



**MONTGOMERY  
EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON MONTGOMERY HOTEL &  
CONFERENCE CENTER**

300 Tallapoosa Street, Montgomery, Alabama, 36104

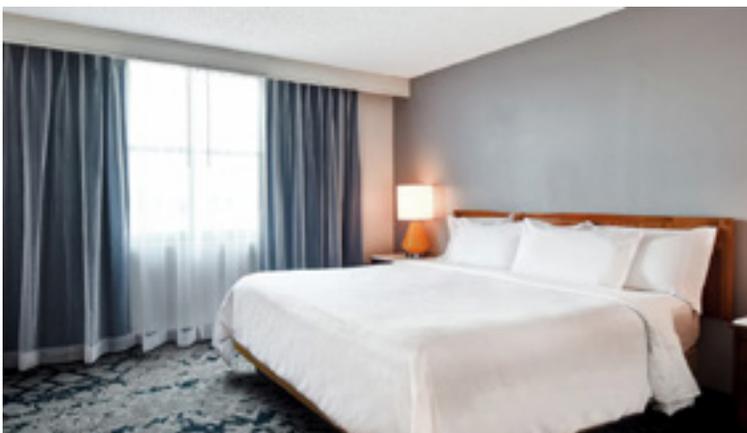
Check-in 4:00 PM Check-out: 11:00 AM

Situated in the heart of Montgomery's Entertainment District, the hotel is a five-minute walk from the Legacy Museum, the Montgomery Performing Arts Center, and Riverwalk Stadium, home of the Montgomery Biscuits.

The all-suite hotel standard rooms feature a bedroom with TV, either two double beds (limited availability) or a king-sized bed and separate living room. Each suite is approximately 508 sq. ft. The Living room is furnished with sofa bed, an armchair, an activity table and a 36-inch TV, refrigerator, microwave. The suite's bathroom boasts a marble vanity and a bathtub with shower. Wi-Fi access is included.

Hotel Amenities: Connecting Rooms, Free made-to-order breakfast, Complimentary evening reception, Non-smoking rooms, Digital Key, On-site restaurant, Indoor pool, Fitness center, Business center, Meeting rooms.

Accessible and Premium Rooms are available upon request, based on hotel availability at the time of the request and at an additional surcharge.



**GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$400 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

**NOT INCLUDED IN TOUR PRICE:** Transportation by air is not included. Hotel parking is not included. Hotel Rooms Before or After Tours – To start the trip relaxed and refreshed, many guests prefer to make hotel arrangements before their tour departs. As a service, we will make hotel reservations before or after your trip on a space available basis upon request. Hotel charges will be added to your tour cost. Airport transfers are not included for these bookings; ask for details when booking.

Personal expenses such as phone calls, portage, room service, alcoholic and bar beverages, meals (other than those specified in the itinerary), laundry, airline excess luggage charges, and other optional incidental extras are not included.

Optional sightseeing is not included.

Travel protection insurance is recommended but is not included in the tour cost.

**LUGGAGE RESPONSIBILITY:** Although every effort is made to handle guests' luggage carefully, we cannot be responsible, assume liability or accept claims for loss or damage to luggage and personal effects due to breakage, theft, or fair wear and tear through hotel, airline and group carrier handling. It is important to have adequate insurance to cover these eventualities.

**ITINERARY CHANGES & PRICE FLEXIBILITY:** We pledge to make every effort to operate all tours as advertised. We reserve the right to alter or curtail the itinerary, or substitute sightseeing, guides, speakers, hotels, and / or conveyances as deemed necessary. Any savings realized by these changes will be refunded to passengers. Any resultant added expense will be covered by the ACRTA.

**RESERVATIONS:** Space is not held until payment means are provided for the deposit.

**PAYMENTS:** Deposit of \$400 may be paid online, by phone, or via mailed check. At the final payment date your credit card provided will be charged the balance due. Final payment by check is the responsibility of the payee and is due by the final payment due date: June 25, 2023.

**CANCELLATIONS, REFUNDS, AND CHANGES:** ACRTA must strictly adhere to its cancellation policy to offset costs incurred prior to the commencement of the trip, which may include but are not limited to: advance payments to land operators; hotels, ship charters; communication expenses; development/promotional expenses, and the loss of time that might have permitted resale of reserved space. All cancellations must be made in writing to the offices of ACRTA and the effective date of cancellation will be upon ACRTA receipt of your notification.

- Up to 120 days before departure: deposit is fully refundable
- 119 - 90 days before departure: \$200 charge
- 89-65 days before departure: 25% of tour price
- 64-45 days before departure: 50% of tour price
- 44-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price
- 29-0 days before departure: no refund.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** The liability of Alabama Civil Rights Tourism Association as tour operator, is strictly limited. Alabama Civil Rights Tourism Association purchase of transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers are not under our control. We serve only as a partner for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. Alabama Civil Rights Tourism Association are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including, without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise lines, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

#### **HEALTH AND MEDICAL ISSUES**

We request that you be in good health to participate in this Alabama Civil Rights Tourism Association tour. There is a reasonable amount of walking, and **you must be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own.** We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, Alabama Civil Rights Tourism Association assumes no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If participant is a minor, legal guardian

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_