

Group Program Options: Civil War Site Tours



Combine your tour of The Mariners' Museum with a tour of the region's historical hot-spots! Create your own itinerary or choose from one of our pre-planned tours. John V. Quarstein, noted historian and author, will be your step-on guide for the day for an added fee of \$150. Boxed lunches available upon request!

Fort Monroe

The Fort Monroe National Monument spans the American story through the 21st century: American Indian presence, Captain John Smith's journeys, a safe haven for freedom seekers during the Civil War, and a bastion of defense for the Chesapeake Bay. Fort Monroe Walking Tour: The sites identified are within easy walking distance of each other. At a leisurely pace, the entire tour takes about 90 minutes. *No fee.*

Emancipation Oak

This site is where the first school for newly freed African Americans was located in June 1861. It is also where, on 1 January 1863, the first reading of the Emancipation Proclamation occurred. *No fee.*

Lee Hall Mansion

Built in 1858 by Richard Decauter Lee, Lee Hall is an antebellum Italianate mansion which served as the headquarters for Confederate Generals Magruder and Johnston during the 1862 Peninsula Campaign. The Peninsula Campaign Exhibition Gallery and a gift shop are located in the basement. *Group Rate: \$7 admission*

Endview Plantation

Built in 1769 by Colonel William Harwood, the house has witnessed the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, and the Civil War. It was used as a field hospital by Confederate and Union troops and as the headquarters for Union General McClellan during the 1862 Peninsula Campaign. An exhibition gallery and gift shop are located in the basement. *Group Rate: \$7 admission*

The Newsome House Museum & Cultural Center

The Newsome House honors the legacy of Joseph Thomas Newsome by engaging the public in an ongoing study and remembrance of African American history and culture. *Group Rate: \$2 suggested admission*

James A. Fields House

James A. Fields House is a historic home located in Newport News, Virginia. It was built in 1897 by the prominent African-American lawyer and politician James A. Fields (1844-1903) and served as the location of the first black hospital in the city, which later became the Whittaker Memorial Hospital. *Group Rate: \$3 adults; \$2 children (13-17), seniors and military. Length of Tour: 20 - 30 minutes*

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Let John V. Quarstein guide you through these historic sites in Newport News, VA.

Ironclad Campaign

The Battle of the Ironclads, 9 March 1862, changed the history of naval warfare forever. Visit the sites where it took place to see where history came to be!

- **Congress & Cumberland Overlook:** Scene of the March 8, 1862 sinking of the U.S.S. Cumberland and U.S.S. Congress by the ironclad C.S.S. Virginia (Merrimack) *No fee.*
- **Monitor-Merrimack Overlook:** Scene of the famous March 9, 1862 Battle of the Ironclads between the C.S.S. Virginia and the U.S.S. Monitor. *No fee.*

Peninsula Campaign

Tour Fort Monroe, Lee Hall Mansion and other fortifications associated with Union General George McClellan's failed effort to capture Richmond by way of the Virginia Peninsula.

- **Young's Mill:** The earthworks located adjacent to this 1820 tide mill were the western anchor of Confederate Major General John B. Magruder's first line of defense during the 1862 Peninsula Campaign. *No fee.*
- **Warwick Court House:** The 1810 courthouse served as the headquarters for Union Brigadier General Erasmus D. Keyes' IV Corps during the 1862 Peninsula Campaign. Professor Thaddeus Lowe's gas balloon, Constitution, provided reconnaissance of Confederate troop movements. The complex also contains the recently restored 1884 Warwick Court House. *No fee.*
- **Skiffe's Creek Redoubt:** This earthwork was part of the Skiffe's Creek Line, built to defend the Confederate Mulberry Island-James River flank during the 1862 Peninsula Campaign. *No fee.*
- **Battle of Lee's Mill:** These earthen fortifications were the scene of the April 5, 1862 engagement that prompted McClellan to besiege the Confederate's Warwick-Yorktown Defense Line during the 1862 Peninsula Campaign. *No fee.*
- **Battle of Dam #1:** This April 16, 1862 engagement was Major General George B. McClellan's only major attempt to break through the Confederate defenses commanded by Major General John B. Magruder. Five miles of earthworks from this important Civil War battle still remain. *No fee.*