How to Use this Map-Guide

The main part of this guide suggests a driving tour that follows the bloodiest march in American history. Two of the greatest armies this country has ever fielded slugged it out for more than a month in the spring and early summer of 1864. They battled across 100-miles of central Virginia, leaving tens of thousands of dead and wounded in their wake. Follow the soldiers by taking the “Blue Line” tour from the Rapidan River crossing at Germanna south to the gates of Petersburg. Peel back the years while driving, walking or biking the roads the soldiers used. Stop at the places they made famous. The entire tour from start to finish takes a full two days and covers four national battlefields. But feel free to opt for part of the tour. Slow down. Take a couple of the historic back roads. Visit a small town. Discover American history at its most dramatic, now unlocked from the landscape by Civil War Trails interpretive signs, indicated by the red stars (denoting 1864 campaign sites) and blue dots (denoting other Civil War sites) on the maps.

For more detailed travel information, stop by any Virginia Welcome Center or local/regional visitor center or contact any of the attractions or visitor bureaus listed in this guide. For additional Civil War Trails information, visit www.CivilWarTrails.org. For more Virginia travel information, see www.Virginia.org.

Follow these signs to more than 1,500 Civil War sites.
★ 1864 CAMPAIGN SITES ★

★ Gordonsville – Longstreet’s camp. Home to Exchange Hotel Civil War Museum.

★ Montpelier – Site of Confederate winter camps, 1863–1864.

★ Orange – Confederates moved from this area to meet Grant in The Wilderness.

★ Town of Culpeper – Union camps dotted area prior to the 1864 Overland Campaign.

★ Germanna Ford – Union soldiers crossed here May 4, 1864, starting the Overland Campaign.

★ Wilderness Battlefield Exhibit Shelter – National Park site at the scene of heavy fighting May 5-6, 1864.

★ Todd’s Tavern – Union and Confederate cavalry clashed here May 6-7, 1864.

★ Spotsylvania Battlefield – National Park tour reviews the fighting of May 8-21, 1864.

★ Spotsylvania Court House Historic District – Battle shattered the village in 1864. Walking tours available.

★ Harris Farm – Site of last engagement of Spotsylvania fighting, May 19, 1864.

★ Zion Methodist Church – Spotsylvania landmark. Union army turned to Massaponax here in May 1864.

★ Massaponax Church – Site of photographs showing Federal high command planning campaign.

★ Plantations on Guinea Station Road – Antebellum homes line route of Union march in May 1864.

★ Guinea Station – Site of Stonewall Jackson’s death in 1863 is on Union march route a year later.

★ Bethel Church – Gen. Grant, Meade, and Burnside had headquarters here, May 22-23, 1864.

★ Bowling Green – Union soldiers broke into stores, freed prisoners, and looted the town May 21, 1864, during march to the North Anna River.

★ Milford Station – Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad station. Site of skirmish prior to North Anna, May 20, 1864.

★ Carmel Church – Union army reunited here in preparation for attacks at the North Anna River.

★ Ox Ford Battlefield (North Anna River) – Confederates turned back Union attacks May 24-25, 1864. Hanover County park. Tour information for North Anna Battlefield available.

★ Hanover Junction – Critical railroad junction Lee hoped to protect by defending the North Anna line.

★ Mangohick Church – Elements of the Union army marched past here after the North Anna battle.

★ Ashland – Lee marched his troops through here on the way to Cold Harbor.

★ Nelson’s Crossing – Union army II and VI Corps crossed the Pamunkey River here.

★ Haw’s Shop/Enon Church – Fierce cavalry battle fought here May 28, 1864.

★ Totopotomoy Creek – Site of fighting May 28-June 1, 1864.


★ Polegreen Church – Church destroyed by artillery June 1, 1864, prior to Cold Harbor.

★ Meadow Bridge – Union cavalry were nearly trapped after Battle of Yellow Tavern, May 1864.

★ Battlefield at Cold Harbor – A National Park visitor center and Hanover County park commemorates and interprets the battles fought May 31-June 12, 1864.

★ Trevilian Station – Cavalry fought here June 11-12, 1864, as Grant began infantry move. (Multiple Trails sites.)

★ Long Bridge – Union troops crossed Chickahominy River here after disengaging at Cold Harbor.

★ Wilcox’s Landing – Site of main Union army James River crossing, this one via boat. Now a Charles City County park. (No modern bridge.)

★ North Bend – Union cavalry headquarters, June 1864.

★ Flowerdew Hundred – Parts of Union army crossed to this site on pontoon bridge over James River. Historical park. (No modern bridge.)

★ Prince George Court House – Large Federal cavalry camp located here.

★ Baylor’s Farm – African American Union troops involved in fighting here June 15, 1864.

★ Port Walthall Junction – Two actions here in May 1864 to control railroad.

★ Swift Creek – Union Gen. Butler repulsed an effort to disrupt Confederate supply lines, May 9, 1864.

★ Ellerslie – Plantation was a key Confederate site during Swift Creek fighting.

★ Petersburg National Battlefield – Initial Union assaults on Petersburg defenses, June 15, 1864.

★ Cavalry Assault – Site of Union cavalry assault against Petersburg, June 9, 1864.

A legion of 4,300 supply wagons followed the Union army as they moved south into The Wilderness Battlefield.
• Kelly’s Ford – Confederate Maj. John Pelham killed during cavalry battle here March 17, 1863.
• Brandy Station Battlefield – Largest cavalry battle on the North American continent, June 9, 1863.
• Graffiti House – Union and Confederate soldiers covered plaster walls with still-visible graffiti, 1863–1864.
• Cedar Mountain Battlefield – Stonewall Jackson led Confederates in battle here August 9, 1862.
• James City Battlefield – Day-long cavalry battle here Oct. 10, 1863.
• Rochelle (Jack’s Shop) – J.E.B. Stuart was almost cornered but escaped during this Sept. 22, 1863 battle.
• Aquia Landing – Important Union supply base for campaigns in 1862-1864.
• Potomac Creek Bridge – Union supply trains crossed here daily on a “cornstalk and beanpole” bridge.
• White Oak Church/Museum – Site of Union camp in winter of 1862. Museum with related artifacts.
• Fredericksburg Visitor Center – Information here about the city’s Civil War history.
• City Dock – Union infantry crossed here on a pontoon bridge before assaulting Lee’s army, Dec. 1862.
• Fredericksburg Battlefield Visitor Center – Information here about the battles at Fredericksburg, Wilderness, Spotsylvania and Chancellorsville.
• Slaughter Pen Farm – Civil War Trust walking trail, site of failed Union attack on Jackson’s position, Fredericksburg, Dec. 13, 1862.
• Chancellorsville Battlefield Visitor Center – National Park visitor center on site of Stonewall Jackson’s wounding during May 1863 battle.
• First Day at Chancellorsville – Civil War Trust walking trail with markers to tell the story of the first day’s actions.
• Salem Church – Scene of May 3-4, 1863, fighting during the Chancellorsville Campaign.
• Hartwood Presbyterian Church – Union troops burned interior woodwork for firewood.
• Mine Run – Civil War Trust walking trail with markers to tell the story of only battle in this aborted Union campaign, Nov. 1863.
• Rio Hill – Union cavalry under Gen. George Custer attacked Confederate winter camp here February 29, 1864.
• Scottsville – Union soldiers burned buildings as they moved through here in early March 1865.
• Hanover Tavern – J.E.B. Stuart passed through here on famous ride around McClellan in 1862.
• Meadow Farm Museum – Antebellum farm interpreting agrarian life during the Civil War.
• Beaver Dam Creek – National Park commemorating start of Seven Days’ Battles, June 26, 1862.
• Gaines’ Mill – National Park commemorating fighting here June 27, 1862.
• Dabbs House Museum – Lee’s first headquarters (June 1862) as commander of the Army of Northern Virginia.
• Museum of the Confederacy – Largest collection of Confederate artifacts housed in a modern museum. Confederate White House is restored and open for tours.
• Virginia Historical Society – Houses the “Four Seasons of the Confederacy” murals and world’s largest collection of Confederate-made weapons.
• Confederate Memorial Chapel – One of two surviving buildings of R.E. Lee Camp No. 1, Confederate Soldiers’ Home, a refuge for indigent veterans.
• Richmond National Battlefield Park Visitor Center – Explore Richmond’s battlefields with exhibits, film, and ranger assistance.
• Belle Isle – Site of notorious Civil War prison camp holding Union enlisted men. Now a city park.
• Confederate Navy Yard and Rocketts Landing – Site of busy deepwater port and ironclad ship-building facility on the James River.
• Libby Prison (site) – Waterfront warehouse became a prison for Union officers.
• Savage’s Station – Union rear guard fought here while Gen. George McClellan withdrew his army to the James River, June 29, 1862.
• Seven Pines – Scene of heavy fighting, May 31, 1862.
• Darbytown Road – Confederate offensive to reclaim defense line, October 9, 1864.
• Piney Grove – Farmstead depicting domestic life during the war.
• Malvern Hill – Union defense here held in last of the Seven Days’ Battles, July 1, 1862.
• Drewry’s Bluff – Confederate guns above the James turned back Federal gunboats, May 15, 1862.
• Fort Stevens – Scene of fighting May 14–16, 1864, during Bermuda Hundred campaign.
• Deep Bottom – James River crossing used by Union forces to attack Richmond defenses in 1864.
• Dutch Gap – Union canal dug to cut off a James River “curl” and avoid Confederate river defenses.
• Point of Rocks – Union field hospital site, 1864–1865.
• Parker’s Battery – Part of Confederate Howlett Line protecting Petersburg-Richmond front.
• Bermuda Hundred Landing – Union troops under Gen. Benjamin Butler landed here May 5, 1864.
• City Point Unit – Union supply depot and U.S. Grant’s headquarters during 1864-1865 siege of Petersburg.
• Depot Field Hospital (site) – Up to 10,000 Union patients treated in largest City Point hospital.
• Weston Manor – Antebellum structure provides setting for interpretation of Civil War civilian life.
• Union Fort – Union fortification in Hopewell city park protected perimeter of City Point supply base.
• Beef Steak Raid – Confederate cavalry captured 2,486 steers meant to feed Union troops, September 1864.
• Petersburgh National Battlefield – Site of opposing lines during siege lasting 9½ months.
• Violet Bank – Lee’s headquarters June-October 1864 during siege.
• Dunlop Station – VITAL rail junction for Confederate supplies and evacuation, 1864–1865.
• Petersburg Batteries – Three Confederate batteries (now in city park) built to defend city.
• Blandford Church – Situated just behind the Confederate lines and used as a temporary field hospital after the Battle of the Crater. Confederate cemetery adjacent.
• Fort Davis – Built as result of Union capture of Jerusalem Plank Road and is one of the largest forts surrounding Petersburg.
• Fort Hays – Constructed Aug.–Sept. 1864 after Globe Tavern battle.
• South Side Station – Oldest remaining railroad station in Virginia. Union artillery bombarded the building during siege. Lee’s Retreat tour begins here.
• Lincoln in Petersburg – Three markers tell the story of the president’s visits, April 3 and 7, 1865.
To Charlottesville (see inset below)
Confederate cavalry commander J.E.B. Stuart (inset) was mortally wounded during the Battle of Yellow Tavern, May 11, 1864.
The first Union attacks on thinly held Confederate lines at Petersburg were successful; but resistance stiffened resulting in a siege.
A Currier and Ives print of the fall of Richmond in April, 1865. The city was partially destroyed by fires which rampaged out of control after being set by the evacuating Confederate troops.
The following further explore and expand upon the story of the Civil War:

- Ashland/Hanover Visitor Center
  800-897-1479
  www.town.ashland.va.us

- Charlottesville/Albemarle Convention and Visitors Bureau
  877-386-1103
  www.visitcharlottesville.org

- Culpeper Visitor Center
  888-CULPEPER
  www.visitculpeperva.com

- Dabbs House Museum
  804-652-3406
  www.co.henrico.va.us/rec

- Fredericksburg & Spotsylvania National Military Park
  540-373-4461
  www.nps.gov/frsp

- Fredericksburg Visitor Center
  800-678-4748
  www.visitfred.com

- Hopewell Visitor Center
  800-863-8687
  www.hopewellva.gov

- Madison Chamber of Commerce Visitor Center
  540-948-4455
  www.madison-va.com

- Museum of the Confederacy
  855-649-1861
  www.moc.org

- Orange County Visitors Center
  877-222-8072
  www.visitorangevirginia.com

- Petersburg National Battlefield
  804-732-3531
  www.nps.gov/pete

- Petersburg Visitors Center
  800-368-3595
  www.petersburg-va.org

- Richmond National Battlefield Park
  Civil War Visitor Center
  804-771-2145
  www.nps.gov/rich

- Richmond Visitors Center
  888-RICHMOND
  www.visitrichmondva.com

- Spotsylvania Visitor Center
  877-515-6197
  www.spotsylvania.va.us

- Virginia Historical Society
  804-358-4901
  www.vahistorical.org

---

J.E.B. Stuart’s coat and blood-stained sash, exhibited at the Virginia Historical Society.

The Confederate White House in Richmond has been restored to its 1860s appearance.

---

The Civil War Trust, with more than 250,000 members and supporters, is America’s largest nonprofit organization devoted to saving our nation’s endangered battlefields. To help, visit www.civilwar.org or call 202-367-1861.
For more information on other Virginia Civil War Trails, call toll free:

1-800-VISIT VA

Get outside, connect with the landscapes, enjoy the vistas, be part of the stories. Inspired by what you saw? Check in on Twitter or Facebook, and snap a photo for Instagram and use our hashtags, #civilwartrails and #openairmuseum.

www.civilwartrails.org