How to Use this Map-Guide

This guide highlights more than 70 South-Central Virginia Civil War sites where you will discover the epic stories of soldiers and civilians who experienced triumph and tragedy during the last days of the war.

Follow The Route of Lee’s Retreat, Virginia’s First Civil War Trail, with 26 stops between Petersburg and Appomattox. Explore Sailor’s Creek Battlefield State Park and stand at the site of the largest Confederate surrender before Appomattox. Visit High Bridge Trail State Park to see the monumental bridge piers across the Appomattox River. Experience the life of a Civil War soldier at Pamplin Historical Park and The National Museum of the Civil War Soldier.

Discover the little-known, but important, 1864 Wilson-Kautz Raid Trail. Follow the route of 5,000 Union cavalrymen sent to destroy railroads, supply lines, and rolling stock. Read the fascinating civilian and military stories at more than 30 little-changed stops. Explore Staunton River Battlefield State Park, where “old men and young boys” defended the critical bridge from the raiders.

For detailed travel information, visit any Virginia Welcome Center or local Visitor Center, or contact any of the organizations listed in this guide. For additional Civil War Trails information, visit www.civilwartrails.org.

Follow these signs to more than 1,500 Civil War sites.

About a week after the surrender at Appomattox Court House, Lee allowed Mathew Brady to take this picture in Richmond.
South Side Railroad Station – This railroad was General Robert E. Lee’s last supply line coming into Petersburg. When it was cut, Lee was forced to withdraw from the Richmond-Petersburg front.

Pamplin Park Civil War Site – Here the Union’s Sixth Army Corps broke through the Confederate line defending Petersburg, causing a series of actions which led to the evacuation of the city that evening by Lee’s army.

Sutherland Station – The engagement here enabled General Ulysses S. Grant’s forces to sever the South Side Railroad, Lee’s last supply line into Petersburg.

Namozine Church – A rear guard cavalry skirmish took place here as Lee’s soldiers marched toward Amelia Court House.

Amelia Court House – Lee brought all his troops to this village from Richmond and Petersburg, hoping to continue into North Carolina and join forces with General Joseph E. Johnston’s army.

Jetersville – On his advance toward North Carolina, Lee ran into Union forces here, thus forcing him to change direction and march to Farmville.

Amelia Springs – At this point, the Union army came in contact with Lee’s rear guard as the Southerners completed their night march to avoid Grant’s troops at Jetersville.

Deatontonvill – Constantly pressing the Confederate line of march, Union troops fought a brief action here on the way to Farmville.

Holt’s Corner – At this road junction, part of Lee’s army turned north while the main portion continued ahead to the crossing of Little Sailor’s Creek.

Hillsman House – Union and Confederate forces fought a battle here on the slope across the creek from this dwelling, with most of the Southern troops surrendering. The house was used as a hospital.

Marshall’s Crossroads – At this intersection, Union cavalry fought Confederate infantry. The Confederates eventually withdrew from the field or were captured.

Lockett House – Fighting took place around this house as can be attested to by the numerous bullet holes that are still visible. It was later used as a hospital after the battle at the creek below.

Double Bridges – The Confederate column and wagon train which turned off at Holt’s Corner became bogged down while crossing Sailor’s Creek and were attacked by Union forces.

Rice’s Depot – Confederate troops entrenched here to protect the road from Burkeville Junction and skirmished with Union troops advancing from that direction.

Cavalry Battle at High Bridge – About 900 Union troops were sent on a mission to burn this South Side Railroad structure over the Appomattox River. In the engagement that followed, most were captured, and their mission was a failure.

Farmville – This tobacco town of 1,500 in 1865 saw both armies march through it. Lee, hoping to issue rations here for his army, was unsuccessful and then crossed to the north side of the Appomattox River.

Cumberland Church – Union troops, successfully crossing the river at High Bridge, attacked Lee’s army around the church and forced him to delay his march until nightfall.

High Bridge – Early in the morning, Confederate forces burned four spans of High Bridge but failed to destroy the lower wagon bridge. Consequently, Federal forces were able to continue their pursuit of Lee’s army north of the Appomattox River.

Clifton – Generals Grant and Meade used this location for their headquarters during the night. Grant stayed in the house, and it was here where he received Lee’s second letter suggesting a peace meeting. He left the next morning and rode on to Appomattox Court House.

New Store – At this point Lee’s army would change its line of march: Gordon’s corps now took the lead while General James Longstreet’s corps became the rear guard. They would continue to be pursued by Union army corps under the direction of Generals Humphreys and Wright.
Lee’s Rear Guard – Longstreet built breastworks here to protect the rear of Lee’s army, most of which was four miles south at Appomattox Court House.

Battle of Appomattox Station – In the evening, Union captured four trains of supplies at the station intended for Lee’s army. Also captured nearby, after a brief engagement, were portions of the Confederate wagon train and twenty-five cannons.

Burkeville – The junction of the South Side and Richmond & Danville Railroads, this location served as an important logistics and supply base during and after the Appomattox Campaign.

WILSON-KAUTZ RAID SITES

Prince George Court House – U.S. Generals Wilson and Kautz departed nearby for their 300-mile cavalry raid to destroy railroads in Southside Virginia.

Ream’s Station – Station burned by Wilson-Kautz raiders on June 22, 1864. During the expedition’s return to Petersburg on June 28, a 10-hour skirmish ensued nearby between the Federal raiders and Confederate General William Mahone’s forces.

Dinwiddie Court House – Before turning north to the South Side Railroad, the Wilson-Kautz raiders destroyed local records and appropriated local livestock.

Five Forks – The raiders passed here on their initial movement toward the South Side Railroad. Here, General Wilson learned of the Confederate attack on his rear guard at Dinwiddie Court House.

Ford’s Depot – The Wilson-Kautz raiders reached this point at sundown on June 22 and destroyed two trains and military supplies.

Black’s & White’s Station – A local resident gave Wilson incorrect directions which allowed Confederate forces to block the Federal advance temporarily.

Battle of Nottoway – First sizable engagement fought on the Wilson-Kautz Raid.

St. Mark’s Store – Parties of Union foragers roamed in search of food and horses, meeting sporadic resistance.

Burkeville Junction – This junction of the South Side Railroad and Richmond & Danville Railroad was a key objective of the Wilson-Kautz Raid.

Meherrin Station – Wilson, entrenched at Nottoway Court House, received word of Kautz’s success in destroying Burkeville Junction. Both Union columns rejoined here.


Charlotte Court House – After the destruction of railroad facilities at Burkeville Junction, Meherrin Station and Keysville, fears of local citizens were eased when the detachment burned no buildings.

Crewe – Originally called Robertson’s Switch, near here Grant made a cross-country night ride to join Generals Sheridan and Meade at Jetersville. Plans would be made for operations against Lee’s army the next day.

Nottoway Court House – Portions of the Union army passed through the village in their pursuit of Lee’s army. Grant spent part of the evening of April 5th here.

Ewell Crosses the Appomattox – Confederate General Ewell faced challenges crossing the Appomattox River near here trying to join Lee in Amelia.

Drakes Branch – The Union force halted here for two hours on June 25 and continued destroying track.

Carrington’s Mill – Rufus Barringer’s North Carolina Brigade attacked the Federal rear guard on the hill north of here.

Mulberry Hill – Union headquarters during the Battle of Staunton River Bridge.

Roanoke Station – Railroad track was destroyed from Drakes Branch to here just prior to the Battle of Staunton River Bridge.

Staunton River Battlefield St. Park – Confederate earthworks remain from the June 25, 1864 battle.

Wylliesburg – Site of the expedition’s first pause following the Battle of Staunton River Bridge. From this point on, the Federal raiders were in a race to safety.

Christiansville – Fatigued and disorganized following the rout at Staunton River Bridge, parties of Federals took farm animals and personal property from area homes.

Mt. Horeb Church – Skirmish site where Confederate General Rufus Barringer’s N.C. Brigade struck the rear of the Federal column.

St. John’s Church – Communion set from the church was stolen by the raiders and recovered days later at Ream’s Station.

Danieltown – Seven local men captured 32 of Wilson’s cavalrymen near here.

Smoky Ordinary – Wilson’s raiders camped here on their retreat to the Union lines at Petersburg following their repulse at Staunton River Bridge.

Double Bridges – Wilson made a fateful decision here to proceed north toward Ream’s Station.

Sappony Church – Skirmish site where Wilson attempted to force his way through to Ream’s Station just as Confederate General Wade Hampton’s cavalry appeared.

Stony Creek Bridge – Following the skirmish at Sappony Church, the shattered remains of Wilson’s command made a brief stand here.

OTHER CIVIL WAR SITES

City Point/Hopewell – At the confluence of the James and Appomattox rivers, the Union army was supplied from here via railroad and wagon. Grant’s headquarters cabin remains here.

Blandford Church/Petersburg – Special Confederate burial section and Tiffany glass windows commemorating the southern states.

Fort Davis/Fort Hays Petersburg – Two of a series of Union fortifications encircling the town.

Siege Museum – Museum highlights events and lifestyles during Petersburg’s Civil War siege.

Fort Early – Earthen defenses remain from May 1864 Battle of Lynchburg.

Old Court House Museum – 1855 court house houses museum of Lynchburg history.

Confederate Cemetery/Lynchburg – 1806 cemetery with well-interpreted Civil War section and medical museum.

Sandusky/Lynchburg – Begin your tour of several Civil War Trails sites here at Union General David Hunter’s headquarters during May 1864 Battle of Lynchburg.

Avoca Museum – First burial site of General James Dearing, last C.S. General to die in the war.

Danville Railroad Station – Richmond & Danville Railroad terminus. Road used as supply route and later as an escape route for the Confederate government.

Prison No. 6/Danville – Only survivor of tobacco warehouses converted into prisons during the war.

Sutherlin Mansion/Danville – Known as the “Last Capitol of the Confederacy,” Confederate Pres. Davis and his family stayed here April 3-10, 1865.

Bilhartz, Hall & Co./Chatham – Site of 1862 manufacturer of rare “rising breech” carbine rifles.

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Village View Manor/Emporia – 1790s home hosted Confederate Gen. attempting to head off a Union raid against railroad bridges in Dec. 1864.

Derwent – Lee lived here shortly after the surrender at Appomattox Court House.

Lee’s Last Bivouac – Lee’s last camp “in the field” after his surrender at Appomattox.

Huguenot Springs – A mass grave here contains the remains of over 250 soldiers.

Powhatan Court House – Confederate wagon train passed through here after evacuation of Richmond.

Violet Bank Museum – Begin your tour of Colonial Heights’s Civil War sites at this early 19th-century Federal style building which served as Lee’s headquarters during the summer of 1864.
LEE’S RETREAT
THE FINAL CAMPAIGNS

- Lee’s Retreat Driving Route
- Wilson-Kautz Raid Driving Route
- Alternate Wilson-Kautz Raid Driving Route
- Lee’s Retreat Site
- Wilson-Kautz Raid Site
- Other Civil War Trails Site
- State or National Park
- Information

Map 1

Old City Cemetery, Lynchburg

Mileage Scale
0 2 4 6 8 10

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park
Appomattox Station

Lee’s Rear Guard

To Lexington

JAME'S RIVER

APPOMATTOX

LYNCHBURG

CAMPBELL

ROANOKERIVER

SHENANDOAH

VALLEY
Surrender of Gen. Ewell’s Corps at Sailor’s Creek, by Alfred R. Waud.
With its many historic sites and battlefields, the City of Petersburg today is a perfect place to begin your adventure through the final days of the Civil War.
This 1880's etching shows the Danville Prison much unchanged from its construction in 1855.
This communion set was stolen by the raiders from St. John’s Church and recovered days later at Ream’s Station.
Looking much the way it did in 1865, this rural part of Virginia is rich in scenic and natural resources. As seen in this Edward Beyer lithograph of High Bridge in Prince Edward County, the Appomattox River continues to be a strong link to the region.

“Victory or Death, The Last Stand of the Savannah Vol. Guard at the Battle of Sailor’s Creek, VA., April 6, 1865” by Keith Rocco.
The following further explore and expand upon the story of the Civil War:

Lee’s Retreat/ Virginia’s Retreat
1-800-6RETREAT
www.varetreat.com

Appomattox Court House National Historical Park
1-434-352-8987
www.nps.gov/apco

Appomattox Visitor Information Center
1-434-352-8999
www.historicappomattox.com

Danville Museum of Fine Arts & History
1-434-793-5644
www.danvillemuseum.org

High Bridge Trail State Park
1-434-315-0457
www.virginiastateparks.gov

Lynchburg Regional Convention and Visitors Bureau
1-800-732-5821
www.discoverlynchburg.org

Pamplin Historical Park
1-877-PAMPLIN
www.pamplinpark.org

Petersburg National Battlefield
1-804-732-3531
www.nps.gov/pete

Petersburg Visitor Center
1-800-368-3595
www.petersburgva.gov

Sailor’s Creek Battlefield
1-434-315-0349
www.virginiastateparks.gov

Robert E. Lee’s Appomattox uniform and sword, the Museum of the Confederacy

The McLean House, Appomattox Court House NHP
South Boston-Halifax County Visitor Center
1-434-572-2543
www.gohalifaxva.com

Staunton River Battlefield State Park
1-434-454-4312
www.virginiastateparks.gov

Virginia’s Heartland Regional Visitor Center
1-434-392-1482
www.co.prince-edward.va.us

Bilhartz, Hall & Co. rising breech carbine.

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