



MEJDI TOURS

Civil Rights Journey The Movement Past & Present October 20-25, 2026



Journey through the American South on a reflective exploration of the Civil Rights Movement—past and present. This six-day, multi-city tour highlights key moments in the historic struggle and initiatives working to carry forward its legacy. Travel from Atlanta's Sweet Auburn District through downtown Montgomery, walk the bridge from Selma, step inside the sanctuaries of Birmingham, and absorb the melodies of Memphis. Immersive site visits, guided touring and conversations with experts foster a deeper understanding of race, faith, and freedom in America.

About MEJDI Tours

With roots in Jerusalem, MEJDI Tours is a global leader in socially conscious travel highlighting diverse perspectives at each destination.

Certified



Corporation



Tour Itinerary

Interested in pre-stay accommodation in Atlanta on Monday, October 19 (or earlier)? Contact Sharon Sabbagh of The Travel Collaborative: sharon@travelcoll.com ; 617-497-8193.

Tuesday, October 20 - Atlanta Introductions

Arrive in Atlanta by late morning or the previous evening, self-transfer to the tour starting point.

- King Center and “Sweet Auburn” neighborhood - MLK’s humble roots and enduring legacy
- Ebenezer Baptist Old & New - a movement of faith
- Transfer to Montgomery, AL (~2.5 hours)
- Tuskegee Institute - cornerstone of African American intellectual, scientific, and cultural life
- Group welcome dinner at Central Restaurant

Overnight: The Renaissance Hotel, Montgomery



Wednesday, October 21 - Montgomery in Focus

- EJI Legacy Museum & National Memorial for Peace and Justice - legacy of slavery and racial violence
- Rosa Parks Museum - profile in civil disobedience
- EJI Freedom Sculpture Park - history told through landscape and art
- Brief stop outside Alabama State Capitol and First White House of the Confederacy
- Dinner as a group at the hotel or nearby
 - Discussion with faculty from Troy University or Alabama State University

Optional (cost not included): Evening performance at the Davis Theater or Montgomery Performing Arts Center, depending on the schedule of events.

Overnight: The Renaissance Hotel, Montgomery



Tour Itinerary

Thursday, October 22 - Road to Selma

- Visit the Harris House - harboring the Freedom Riders
- Drive to Selma, stopping at the Viola Liuzzo Memorial - the story and sacrifice of an ally (~1hr drive)
- Reflections Coffee Shop, learning about efforts to revive Selma's central district
- Brown AME Church: where a great march began (*outside only if still undergoing construction*)
- Walk the Edmund Pettus Bridge, discuss the legacy of Bloody Sunday
- Late afternoon drive to Birmingham (~1hr 45 mins)
- Dinner as a group at The Essential
 - Special guest from Urban Impact Birmingham, which aims to build self-sufficiency for underserved communities by empowering entrepreneurs (*pending availability, or similar local organization*)



Overnight: *The Elyton Hotel, Birmingham*

Friday, October 23 - Birmingham

- Stories from the Civil Rights "Foot Soldiers"
- "Coffee Break" and story of entrepreneurship at site of AG Gaston Motel
- Kelly Ingram Park - hallowed grounds of the famous 1963 Children's Marches, reflect on sculptures portraying the struggle for freedom
- 16th Street Baptist Church - first Black church in Birmingham
- Lunch on own at Pitzitz Food Hall
- Temple Beth El, Birmingham Civil Rights workshop - a community reckoning
- Dinner and discussion with Dr. Martha Bouyer (or representative from leading community non-profit such as the Offender Alumni Association, or similar)



Overnight: *The Elyton Hotel, Birmingham*



Tour Itinerary

Saturday, October 24 - Graceland

- Head towards Memphis, TN, making stops for facilities and quick lunch “on own” en route (~4 hrs)
- Memphis Riverboat sightseeing cruise and historical introduction*
- Wither’s Collection Museum & Gallery: images of a movement and its movers, conversation with activist from Sanitation Workers Strike
- Dinner as a group at Majestic Grille, meet local musician
- Explore Beale Street with options for live music in the evening. Dinner as a group at Majestic Grille.

** Alternatively, brief visit to Graceland as a group*

Overnight: The Peabody, Memphis



Sunday, October 25 - Memphis

- Memphis Perspectives Tour
 - Urban Development landmarks and trends
 - Suffrage monument and Civil Rights heroes
 - Lorraine Motel (courtyard only)
 - Remembering the Sanitation Workers strike at Clayborn Temple
 - Slave Haven Underground Railroad Museum (*pending re-opening, or alternative*)
- Closing lunch and reflections
- Tour concludes, transfer to the airport for departing flights

Extend your trip to include a visit to the Graceland mansion (entrance fee starts at \$85) or time to view exhibits at the National Civil Rights Museum (\$20 entrance fee). Entrances not included.

Post-stay accommodations at The Peabody on Sunday, October 25 available at an additional cost.

Overnight: N/A

