



Civil Rights Then & Now

Legacy of a Movement, the Role of Faith

April 1-6, 2027

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 0: Arrival in Atlanta - Thursday, April 1

Arrive in Atlanta and self-transfer to a group hotel in downtown Atlanta.

Travelers will self-book flights and accommodation for this night based on forthcoming MEJDI flight guidance and hotel recommendations

OVERNIGHT: *To be determined (cost not included)*

MEALS: *N/A*

Day 1: Sweet Auburn - Friday, April 2

Spend the morning exploring Atlanta, birthplace of Martin Luther King, Jr, and a regional hub for civic and political activism. Walk the streets of the Sweet Auburn neighborhood and stand between the iconic buildings of the Ebenezer Baptist Church, old and new, where Rev. Martin Luther King Sr. once presided. Pay tribute at the resting place of Martin Jr. and Mrs. Coretta Scott King and explore the exhibition halls next door. After lunch at the historic Municipal "Curb" Market, visit the Zucot Gallery for a contemporary perspective at the largest African-American owned fine art gallery in the US Southeast. Depart Atlanta for Birmingham, arriving for an evening at leisure after checking in to downtown hotel.

OVERNIGHT: *Fairfield Inn & Suites Birmingham Downtown*

MEALS: *Breakfast included*



MEJDI TOURS



TOUR ITINERARY

Day 2: Sanctuaries of Birmingham - Saturday, April 3

Spend the day exploring Birmingham, beginning with an introduction through the sculpture garden in Kelly Ingram Park and discussion of King's famous Letter from a Birmingham jail. Stop at the AG Gaston Motel, opened by a prominent African American businessman in 1954 and serving as a residence for leaders of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in the pivotal months of April-May 1963. Enjoy a beverage and hear from management of the proudly black-owned coffee shop on the site today, then continue to the 16th Street Baptist Church for a docent-led tour of its iconic sanctuary. After lunch at the Pizitz Food Hall, visit the historic Bethel Baptist Church of Collegeville with Martha Bouyer, reflecting on the principles that guided organizers at this headquarters for the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights. Head to Montgomery for the evening, enjoy a group dinner upon arrival.

OVERNIGHT: Home 2 Suites by Hilton Montgomery Downtown
MEALS: Breakfast and Dinner included

Day 3: Montgomery Memories - Sunday, April 4

Begin the day in Montgomery with a visit to the Equal Justice Initiative's (EJI) National Memorial for Peace and Justice, a halting installation dedicated to the victims of racial terror. Join the congregation of Dexter Avenue King Baptist Church for spirited Sunday worship followed by a self-guided tour of the Legacy Museum, situated on a site steps away from the rail station where slaves were once sold into bondage. The museum is widely recognized for its powerful exploration of American racial injustice connecting the history of the Transatlantic Slave Trade, to segregation and modern-day issues like police violence and mass incarceration. The last stop of the day is the newest EJI site, the Freedom Monument Sculpture Park taking visitors on an artistically framed exploration of slavery and its legacy.

OVERNIGHT: Home 2 Suites by Hilton Montgomery Downtown
MEALS: Breakfast included





TOUR ITINERARY

Day 4: Road to Selma - Monday, April 5

Visit the Rosa Parks Museum in the morning, for a profile in courage and reflection on how a local boycott catalyzed a national movement. Continue along the route of key civil rights marches through Lowndes County and stop in Selma for a walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, remembering the events of Bloody Sunday in March 1965. Have lunch at a local shop working to revitalize the downtown commercial landscape before continuing the journey west. Reach Mendenhall Ministries in Mississippi for a presentation on their mission and community initiatives followed by dinner with local volunteers before continuing to the group's Jackson hotel.

OVERNIGHT: *Fairfield Inn & Suites, Jackson Airport*

MEALS: *Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner included*

Day 5: Jackson Conclusions - Tuesday, April 6

Unpack Civil Rights history in Jackson and throughout the State of Mississippi, beginning a visit to the Medgar Evers Home - now a National Historic Landmark - restored to look as it did when the prominent activist and his family lived there. Head downtown for a brief visit to the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum and pass key landmarks through the Farish Street Historic District including the former Freedom Summer Headquarters on the campus of Jackson State University, the Collins Funeral Home, and the Greyhound Bus Station. Conclude the journey over lunch and conversation with leadership of the Perkins Foundation. Transfer to the airport for afternoon departing flights.

Recommended departure flights from Jackson:

Delta Airlines departing Jackson (JAN) at 2:40pm, connecting in ATL, arriving to SEA at 8:46pm.

American Airlines departing Jackson (JAN) at 6:00pm, connecting DFW, arriving to SEA at 10:47pm.

OVERNIGHT: *N/A*

MEALS: *Breakfast and Lunch included*

