



# 1864 Shenandoah Valley Campaign

The year 1864 saw the turning point in the Civil War for the Valley. It was a complex year of multiple military operations that ended Confederate control of the Valley and wrought the near total destruction of its agricultural economy.

In the early fall, Sheridan delivered shattering defeats at the Battles of **Third Winchester** (September 19), and **Fisher's Hill** (September 22), dashing Confederate hopes. Federal cavalry then embarked on a 13-day campaign of destruction to neutralize the Shenandoah Valley's agricultural base, this "breadbasket of the Confederacy".

Early's cavalry pestered the Union raiders from Augusta County north until Sheridan routed the Confederates at Tom's Brook and pursued them 20 miles south to Woodstock. In a final attempt to destroy Sheridan's full army, then encamped between Strasburg and Middletown, Gen. Jubal Early met a smashing defeat at the **Battle of Cedar Creek** on October 19. Thereafter, the Confederacy, for all purposes, had lost control of the Shenandoah Valley. Six months later, the war in Virginia ended 50 miles away in the small Virginia town of Appomattox.

Plan a field trip with a handpicked historian to re-create the 1864 Campaign. Depending on your group's interest and location it can be a one day or one week tour.

## HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- **Third Winchester**
- **Fisher's Hill**
- **Tom's Brook**
- **Battle of Cedar Creek**
- **Dinner at the Wayside Inn**
- **Evening lecture**
- **Historian guide**



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