



# Civil War Journey

## Charleston and Savannah

When Abraham Lincoln, a known opponent of slavery was elected president, the South Carolina legislature perceived it as a threat. Calling a state convention in January of 1861 the delegates voted to remove the state of South Carolina from the union also known as the United States of America. Other southern states followed. On April 12, 1861, Charleston was the scene of the first conflict of what became the American Civil War.

On February 18, 1865, one Northern reporter noted of Charleston at their surrender:

**"A City of ruins, --silent, mournful, in deepest humiliation.... The band was playing 'Hail, Columbia,' and the strains floated through the desolate city, awakening wild enthusiasm in the hearts of the colored people...."**

As a port city, Savannah was always a Union target. Fort McAllister near Savannah guarded this port until late 1864 when General William T. Sherman's 60,000-man army began to close on Savannah. Needing control of the Ogeechee River to open supply lines, Fort McAllister fell after fifteen minutes of intense combat. Sherman's march to the sea ended, as the Ogeechee River now lay open. Within a week, the city of Savannah became the Union's prize at the close of the western campaign to split the Confederacy.

Here is your opportunity to explore two fascinating and extremely important cities in the American Civil War.

- Charleston's Civil War Battlefields by land and Sea
- Battery Pringle – OPEN ONLY TO THIS GROUP
- Fort Moultrie
- Fort Sumter
- Battery
- Mary Chestnut's War for independence Performance
- Dinner with Mary Chestnut
- Historic Savannah and the Civil War
- Green Meldrim – Sherman's Residence in 1864
- Fort Pulaski
- Fort Jackson for "Mess & Muster" – dinner
- Meeting Street where the Ordinance of Secession was signed
- Confederate Museum
- H.L.Hundley Tour
- Special Program at Drayton Hall Plantation
- Lodging at Hampton Inn
- Transportation
- 7 meals
- ALL tips



Fort James Jackson from the air, 1998

NPS Files



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