

US Capitol Visitor Center



This massive underground building is located on the East Side of the US Capitol Building. It was four years of construction at a cost of millions of dollars to provide a space that is ¾ the size of the US Capitol itself. The main floor is 30 feet below ground level and whole complex contains 580,000 square feet. (Over 13.3 acres) This was the largest project in the US Capitol's two-century history. The center contains space for exhibits, visitor comfort, food service, two-orientation theaters, an auditorium, gift shop, security, a service tunnel for truck loading & deliveries, mechanical facilities, storage, and office space for the US House and Senate. It is from this site that our student tour groups begin their Capitol Hill inside experience. After going through security, our groups are led to the Capitol Hill Exhibition Hall to view the dioramas of the 235 year history of this historic building. We enter a comfortable theater at an appointed time to view a 15 minute film presentation about who we are as a people. Following the film, the group is escorted on a guided walking tour of the immense area under the Capitol Dome and Statuary Hall. As our groups exit the visitors Center our guides lead their group down Capitol Hill explaining the history and pointing out buildings as they proceed to the National Mall area.

THANKS!

On behalf of the owners, tour guides, office staff, motor coach drivers and our shop personnel, we thank all the schools that travel and trust us with their students. We all work very hard to provide each school with an educational experience backed by great planning, sound efficient equipment, safety on the road, and motivated tour guides. We will never take your business or educational curriculum for granted.

We wish each school a peaceful holiday, a great school year in 2011 and we stand ready and are honored to travel with you and your students.

Respectfully,
The Entire Staff at Legacy Tour & Travel/Hawkeye Stages.



I WANT TO SEE YOU
IN WASHINGTON DC



Legacy Tour and Travel
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Decorah, Iowa 52101



THE BLUE ROOM BUGLE

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The educational tour to Chicago, Gettysburg and Washington, DC is celebrating its 15th year of student historic travel. This travel program has grown to where over 1000 students, parents & teachers are utilizing our services each year. New stories, special handouts, additional songs along with new sights & sounds remain our hallmark way of engaging your youth in the current & past history of this great country. The youth in your classrooms will be the ones to write the next history of this unique experiment we call the United States of America. We are pleased that so many schools value educational travel for their students. The tour guides are the people that bring this historical adventure to our rolling and walking classroom. A little more on each of our quality guides is below -

CHRIS KNUTSON is currently an instructor in the Lanesboro High School in Lanesboro, MN.



Chris has devoted her last ten summers to guiding students and adults. Chris is well versed in the past & current history of the varied venues that the students are exposed to on this Student Historic Travel Program. She has a very pleasant personality, and will remember your name.

TOM SPINDLER is retired from Cresco Community School after 33 plus years teaching Elementary and middle-school programs. Tom will exhibit a pleasantness coupled with a sly humor as he engages with the students. Tom brings to our tour guide team a curiosity to dig into history to find where the story goes. Tom is very active in his community and enjoys golf as well.



DAVE ZIMMER is a former Social Studies/History Instructor for 34 years at Mabel-Canton High School, Mabel, MN. Served as senior class advisor and Tour Guide for their senior tour to DC for 34 years.



Currently still leading the M-C seniors to DC for this, his 46th year. Dave specializes in re-enactment roles to lend authenticity to his historical stories. His energy and exuberance will motivate any student.

CARLYN KRAABEL is a retired Agriculture Instructor with 30 years of classroom experience.



Carlyn enjoys working with students and still leads his former high school seniors to DC every spring. His curiosity about History and 'the rest of the story' will enable a student to fully understand the historical meaning of an event.

PAT DOWNS has over 30 years in the classroom teaching theatre, speech, English, literature & creative writing. Pat divides her travel duties between DC, and New York City. She specializes in the role that women play in our nation's history.



MIKE WOODSON is a current educator still active in the classroom at the North Fayette Community School District. Mike is the newest member of our tour guide team. His pleasant demeanor will put the students at ease, and his curiosity about historical events will transfer to his students as they travel.



Our American Heritage tour takes student travelers to our nation's capital, Washington D.C. The city was named for the 'Father of our Country', George Washington. It was so named because of the great reverence the entire nation had for this extraordinary person who led the colonies to independence, then as our first President. Schools, parks, cities, and even a state are named in his honor. But Washington was a not-so-celebrated notoriety-slave owner. Did you know that at the time of Washington's death, Martha and George owned around 300 slaves working at Mt. Vernon? Behind the scenes, Washington added more and more slaves to his ever growing Mt. Vernon, thanks to his wealthy wife, Martha. In 1759 when he married Martha, George owned 36 slaves. By 1772, the number had grown to 135. Martha was a wealth widow whose first husband was Daniel Parke Custis. His estate, which included 285 slaves, was held in trust for their son 'Jacky'. Martha was granted a "dower share"- that is, a lifetime use of 1/3 of the estates assets, including the slaves. This amounted to about 85 'dower' slaves, plus any future children and grandchildren born to these slaves. In 1799 when George died, his will granted freedom to the 'Washington' slaves, numbering 124 upon Martha's death. However, Martha freed them before she died in 1801; Martha could not free her 'dower' slaves because they legally belonged to the estate of her son and his four children. Therefore, the 159 plus 'dower' slaves were instead divided among the four grandchildren. Some would end up working at a property overlooking Washington D.C. built and owned by George Washington Parke Custis, grandson to Martha and son of Jacky. Eventually, Custis' daughter, Mary, would live there with her husband, Robert E. Lee, future Civil War Confederate general. The mansion and farm property were taken away from the Custis-Lee family during the Civil War because of Lee's involvement. (**Note: You were required to pay your taxes in person, but R. E. Lee could not show up in tax court to pay his, so the property was confiscated by the US Government for military use.**) This place, named Arlington House, would later become Arlington National Cemetery.

NEW WASHINGTON DC MEMORIALS Two new memorials are on schedule to be constructed in Washington DC:

The Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial is presently under construction with a completion date of the summer of 2011. This 4-acre site is located on the northeast corner of the tidal Basin opposite the Thomas Jefferson memorial and next to the FDR Memorial. This is the first major memorial along the National Mall to be dedicated to an African-American, and to a non-president. The site will combine water & beautiful landscaping to encourage quiet reflections. The centerpiece is a 'Stone of Hope' a 30-foot statue of Dr. King, with a wall that will be inscribed with excerpts of his sermons and public addresses that speak to the three themes of King's life; Democracy, Justice, and Hope. More information can be found at www.mlkmemorial.org



The Dwight D. Eisenhower Memorial is a 4-acre site that will be situated between 4th & 6th Streets, South of Independence Avenue. Across Independence Avenue is the Smithsonian Indian Museum & Air & Space Museum. The memorial will be placed in front of the Dept. of Education Building. Eisenhower was our 34th President, a 5-star general in WWII and owner of a 500-acre farm next to the Gettysburg Battlefield. Opening date is scheduled for 2015. Additional information on the Eisenhower memorial can be located at www.eisenhowermemorial.org



SUGGESTED READING - looking to increase your knowledge of American history? Might we suggest the following books for your reading pleasure. **A Vast Sea of Misery** by Gregory A. Coco - deals with the aftermath of the Gettysburg battle; **the Smoked Yank** by Melvin Grigsby - published in 1888, this is the personal account of Melvin Grigsby, a union soldier imprisoned at the notorious "Andersonville" prison, **or Women Behind the New Deal** by Kirsten Downey - the biography of Francis Perkins, FDR's Secretary of Labor and his moral conscious. **Enjoy!**



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Q&A with Tour Guide Dave Zimmer

Dave Zimmer, Senior Tour Guide for Legacy Tour & Travel has been an active guide traveling to Gettysburg & Washington, DC since the early 1960's. We sat down with Dave and asked him to describe some of the changes he's witnessed over the past 40 years while conducting student tours to DC...

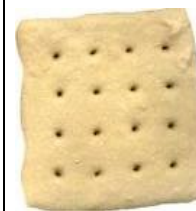
Question: What are the changes that you have seen in the Memorials in Washington DC? Answer: It was just the Washington Monument, Lincoln and Jefferson Memorial in the 60's. The Korean Memorial, Vietnam Wall, FDR Memorial and WWII Memorial have since been added. The street traffic used to circle around the entire Lincoln Memorial. You could walk up the 896 steps into the Washington Monument. We also used to tour the Washington Monument just before it closed at midnight. Now you need a timed pass to ride the elevator to the top. Old WWII 2-story wooden military buildings covered the area just east of the Vietnam Wall alongside the long reflecting pool in front of the Lincoln Memorial. When you looked out the narrow windows at the top of the Washington Monument towards the Pentagon you saw low trashy buildings & woods covering what is now 'Crystal' & 'Pentagon City'.

Question: How has the experience changed for a tour group on Capitol Hill? Answer: The entire Capitol Hill Building was wide open. There were no security checks or metal detector machines at the doors. You didn't have to have an appointment to enter the building. One just lined up on the East side of the Capitol Building or we used to find an open door and just walk in. The motor coach would unload right next to the Capitol Building on the East Plaza. Today the US Capitol Hill Visitors Center occupies that area, but the plaza is still there, but only for foot traffic or special visitors. I would conduct the Capitol Building inside tour for my student or adult groups. Today only the Capitol Hill red coated Tour Guides or a congresswomen/man or congressional aide is allowed to conduct a tour. Strict security is everywhere. After I would conduct a tour, I would release the students to explore the Capitol Building on their own. You can't do that anymore. You could walk into the Library of Congress and observe the main checkout desk area from a balcony; today you need an appointment to do that. (**Note: Currently the only nation's legislative capitol building open to the public is the US Capitol. The German Reichstag was closed to visitors in November of 2010.**)

Question: What changes have you experienced at Arlington Cemetery over the years? Answer: John F. Kennedy's gravesite was a grassy area with a picket fence surrounding the mounded grave site. The motor coach was allowed to enter the cemetery and transport the students' right up to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. During the Vietnam War, you walked right by freshly opened grave sites covered over with plywood sheets. Years ago we didn't get to participate in the Army Wreath Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown. Now every student group we take to Arlington participates in this ceremony.

Question: What did Pennsylvania Avenue look like? Answer: The Street was lined with decrepit buildings, pawn shops, cheap run down bars, old three story tenement buildings, greasy spoon eating places and porn shops. The public disappeared from the downtown streets when it got dark. Today the city is cleaned up, the downtown is vibrant with stores open in the evening, people are walking around, and the pan handlers are gone. Pennsylvania Avenue was full of traffic at it passed the White House. Today this area is only open to pedestrian foot traffic.

Hungry? Try a Hardtack, a Civil War Soldier's Meal



This rock hard unleavened cracker was a meal mainstay for the Union Army during the Civil War. Often times it was full of weevils when issued to the soldiers. It was carried by the soldiers in their haversacks and could be eaten as the troops marched along. 13 crackers was a soldier's daily ration. The crackers would get so hard that a soldier would soak them in hot coffee to soften them for consumption. One soldier wrote that the only way to bite through a dry hardtack was to place a cracker in his mouth, place his lower jaw on a rock and have another soldier slam the butt of his musket down on the top of his head to drive his teeth through the hardtack. Here is a recipe for Hardtack.

Ingredients

5 pounds unbleached all purpose flour
1 TBS salt

2 TBS baking powder
5 - 6 cups cool water. Keep mix fairly dry.

Start mixing dough with a fork, then use hands to form a workable dough ball. When dough is right consistency, it will take some 'power rolling'. Roll the dough 1/4" to 1/2" thick, rolling about 1/2 of the dough at a time. Use flour sprinkles liberally on the rolling surface to prevent sticking. Bake on ungreased cookie sheet till bone dry. Bake at 300°F for 70-90 minutes. Prick the 3" squares of dough on top with a fork before baking. **Do not** store in plastic or freeze. Tin or wood container is best.