Brightspark® by WorldStrides

CIVIL RIGHTS TOUR

Retrace the steps of American activists and heroes with stops at iconic sites in Birmingham, Selma, Montgomery, Atlanta, Memphis, and more. This hands-on, immersive student tour teaches lessons that still resonate today.

Why Brightspark?

Safety And Security

We regularly conduct strict audits of our vendors, ensuring they act in accordance with safety, security, and quality standards.

Our Tour Directors

You deserve the best, so we only use experienced and enthusiastic Tour Directors who are experts on their destinations.

Quality, Custom Tours

Our programs are designed for you, by you. From STEM-based DC tours to performance trips to some of our country's top music cities, we have a destination for every budget and every passion.

Industry Experience

With over 50 years of experience providing custom tours, Brightspark is a leader in student travel.

Travel Protection & Incident Coverage

With our 24/7 emergency hotline, comprehensive general



CIVIL RIGHTS TOUR

Day 1: Memphis

- Meet your Tour Director and board your private motor coach.
- Step into history at the **National Civil Rights Museum**. Immersive exhibits place you inside the protest experience and showcase the impact of non-violent activism.
- Journey to the antebellum South at the **Slave Haven Underground Railroad Museum**, making your way through hidden passages to retrace the steps of runaway slaves.

Day 2: Birmingham

- Board your private motor coach and travel to Birmingham.
- Visit **Kelly Ingram Park**, a 4-acre site that served as a central staging ground for large-scale demonstrations during the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s.
- Tour 16th Street Baptist Church, home to a predominantly African American congregation and meeting place of civil rights leaders during the sixties.
- Explore the past at the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute, an interpretive museum, research center, and living memorial.
- Visit Vulcan Park & Museum. The park is home to the world's largest cast iron statue and offers unique views of the city.

Day 3: Selma & Montgomery

- Board your private motor coach and travel to Selma.
- Walk in the footsteps of American heroes at the **Edmund Pettus Bridge**, the site of 1965's "Bloody Sunday."
- Visit the National Voting Rights Museum and Institute.
 Multimedia exhibits give visitors a comprehensive view of the struggle for democracy faced by excluded groups.
- Explore the Lowndes County Interpretive Center and learn about the Selma to Montgomery National Historic Trail.
- Board your private motor coach and depart to Montgomery.
- Travel through time at the Rosa Parks Museum, where students can learn about boycotts and nonviolent protests while they sit on a 1950s city bus, see the arrest of Ms. Parks, and meet Dr. King.
- Visit the Civil Rights Memorial, which honors those who gave their lives during the struggle for civil rights.
- Experience the newly-opened National Memorial for Peace and Justice, honoring victims of racial terror and violence.

Day 4: Tuskegee & Atlanta

- Board your private motor coach and travel to the Tuskegee Airmen's National Historic Site at Moton Airfield, celebrating the contributions of African American pilots during World War II. The famous Tuskegee Airmen began as an "experiment" by the U.S. Army to see if African Americans and other people of color could fight in the war. These men and women were pilots, technicians, and support personnel who opened the doors for many within the military and civil service.
- Travel to Columbus and take flight on the Blue Heron Adventure, a dual zip line that connects two states while traversing the Chattahoochee River. The park also includes a treetop obstacle course.
- Continue to Atlanta for dinner at Mary Mac's Tea Room, a local institution that dates back to the mid-1940s and is a standard-bearer for Southern cooking.
- Take in a fun view of the city from your perch atop the **SkyView Atlanta**, a 20-story Ferris wheel at downtown's Centennial Park.

Day 5: Atlanta

- Explore the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Historic Park. The Visitor Center includes a "Children of Courage" exhibit aimed at youth. Visitors can march through history in the "Freedom Road" life-size installation. A permanent featured exhibit documents the development of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. alongside the Civil Rights struggle.
- The park complex also includes Historic Ebenezer Church, King's Birth Home, the "I Have a Dream" World Peace Rose Garden, and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change. In the middle of a reflecting pool rests Dr. King's tomb. Inside the small museum are exhibits on Dr. and Mrs. King, Mahatma Ghandi, and more. The center also houses the King Library and Archives, the world's largest collection of primary source material on Dr. King and the Civil Rights Movement.
- Visit the National Center for Civil and Human Rights to learn how the American Civil Rights Movement connects to today's human rights issues around the world.
- Depart for home.







