

# MILITARY HISTORY SOCIETY OF IRELAND



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## **Tour of the American Civil War Battlefields – Eastern Theatre Campaign 20 September – 01 October 2011**

The years 1861 to 1865 saw the USA torn between allegiances in the deadliest war in the history of the country. Eleven southern states broke away from the US federal government (the Union) to form the Confederacy. The conflict between the two groups of states –the Civil War- ended slavery and restored the Union, at a monumental cost of over half a million deaths.

The Society has engaged Joe Walsh Tours to organise a 12-day (11-night) tour of battle sites of the Eastern Theater Campaign, scenes of some of the fiercest and most critical battles of the war. Included in the tour are visits to the battlefields at Gettysburg, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Antietam and Bull Run, in all of which the Irish Brigade played a notable part and paid a heavy price. Also included are visits to importance sites and museums in Washington DC. The Society will have the assistance of staff ride guides from the Center of Military History in the USA in relation to battlefields we will visit.

Capt Donal Buckley will take care of logistical matters during the tour on behalf of Joe Walsh Tours.

Numbers on the tour will be confined to one coach. Applications will be accepted on a 'first come first served' basis. The tour is dependent on sufficient numbers booking.

**Price:** €1,785 **FIXED** per person on a twin share basis based on 40/50 paying passengers.

### **Flights**

**OUT:** Dublin to Washington via Newark with Continental Airlines arriving in Washington at 17.10 on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2011.

**RETURN:** Leaves Washington at 17.40 on 30<sup>th</sup> September, via Newark, arriving in Dublin at 09.25 on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011.

## Day-to-Day Itinerary

### Day 1 | 20th September 2011 | Dublin - Washington DC - Alexandria

- ✓ Coach for airport arrival transfer with guide assistance
- ✓ Accommodation: Washington Suites Alexandria

### Day 2 | 21st September 2011 | Washington DC

- ✓ Coach for full day sightseeing tour / 8-hour service
- ✓ Step on guide / 8-hour service
- ✓ Sightseeing tour: Capitol Building, Ford's Theatre – Lincoln, Jefferson, Vietnam and WW2 memorials
- ✓ US Navy Museum (Free)
- ✓ Communal dinner
- ✓ Accommodation: Washington Suites Alexandria

### Day 3 | 22nd September 2011 | Arlington National Cemetery - Smithsonian Museum

- ✓ Coach for full day sightseeing
- ✓ Morning: Arlington National Cemetery
- ✓ Afternoon: Smithsonian Museum
- ✓ Accommodation: Washington Suites Alexandria

### Day 4 | 23rd September 2011 | Battlefield Bull Run

- ✓ Coach for over-the-road
- ✓ The Battle of 1st & 2nd Bull Run
- ✓ Lunch at local restaurant
- ✓ Accommodation: Washington Suites Alexandria

### Day 5 | 24th September 2011 | US Marine Corps Museum - Battle of Fredericksburg

- ✓ Over-the-road coach
- ✓ Morning: National US Marine Corps Museum
- ✓ Lunch in the National US Marine Corps Museum
- ✓ Afternoon: Battle of Fredericksburg
- ✓ Accommodation: Washington Suites Alexandria

### Day 6 | 25th September 2011 | Battle of Chancellorsville – Wilderness & Spotsylvania

- ✓ Over-the-road coach
- ✓ Morning: Battle of Chancellorsville
- ✓ Lunch in Old Fredericksburg
- ✓ Afternoon: Wilderness & Spotsylvania
- ✓ Accommodation: Washington Suites Alexandria

### **Day 7 | 26th September 2011 | New Market Battlefield**

- ✓ Over-the-road coach
- ✓ New Market Battlefield and Museum
- ✓ Packed lunch
- ✓ Drive the northern half of the skyline ridge, within the Shenandoah National Park, which offers spectacular vistas of which the troops in the Valley Campaign would have been acquainted. Visit the Visitor Centre in the National Park
- ✓ Accommodation: Hampton Inn Frederick

### **Day 8 | 27th September 2011 | Antietam National Battlefield**

- ✓ Over-the-road coach
- ✓ Morning: South Mountain and Crampton's Gap (near Harper's Ferry)
- ✓ Lunch at the Old South Mountain Inn
- ✓ Afternoon: Antietam National Battlefield
- ✓ Evening: Ghost tour of Gettysburg (optional)
- ✓ Accommodation: Hampton Inn Frederick

### **Day 9 | 28th September 2011 | Gettysburg**

- ✓ Over-the-road coach
- ✓ Lunch at Picket's Buffet
- ✓ Battle of Gettysburg including Gettysburg Visitor Centre
- ✓ Step on guide at the park
- ✓ Accommodation: Hampton Inn Frederick

### **Day 10 | 29th September 2011 | Free day**

- ✓ Day at leisure with optional coach to Baltimore; Annapolis
- ✓ Communal dinner
- ✓ Accommodation: Hampton Inn Frederick

### **Day 11 | 30th September 2011 | Fredericksburg – Washington Airport**

- ✓ Transfer from hotel to Washington Airport for flight to Dublin

### **Day 12 | 01<sup>st</sup> October | Arrive Dublin**

- ✓ Arrive Dublin Airport at 9.25AM.

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### **Transport, Accommodation and Meals**

- ✓ Flight from Dublin to Washington via Newark
  - ✓ 10 nights hotel accommodation in Washington Suites Alexandria and the Hampton Inn Frederick MD
  - ✓ Breakfast served each day
  - ✓ 6 lunches (including 1 packed lunch)
  - ✓ 2 communal dinners
  - ✓ Luxury air-conditioned coach and assistance of Donal Buckey on behalf of Joe Walsh Tours
  - ✓ Flight from Washington to Dublin via Newark
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### **Notes**

- ✓ Travel insurance optional at €35 per person
- ✓ Price per person sharing twin/double rooms with facilities
- ✓ Single rooms are on request at a supplement of €64 per night
- ✓ Price includes entry fees to museums and battle sites
- ✓ Passengers are entitled to check in one standard piece of luggage subject to airline's condition
- ✓ Prices are inclusive of all taxes and charges
- ✓ A refundable deposit of €400 is required for booking (non-refundable after confirmation)
- ✓ See important information enclosed concerning the USA ESTA Visa Waiver Programme. You will not be permitted to travel to the US unless you comply with that country's visa requirements