



— EXPLORING THE —
**UNDERGROUND
RAILROAD &
CIVIL WAR**

GROUP TOURS

in
JACKSON, MI

experience
jackson.com



EXPLORING THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD & CIVIL WAR

DAY ONE

Your group tour kicks off where the abolitionist movement started in Jackson – with the **Underground Railroad!** Located in the historic downtown area is the **First Congressional Church**. This Romanesque Revival Church has a long history of supporting civil rights crusades and was one of the first to pass a resolution condemning slavery.

Having seen more than just church services, this holy place of devotion has its share of stories. Your group can be like many others who have explored the sanctuary to take their guess on where exactly slaves have taken refuge. With two tall towers on either side of the front door and a number of loose floorboards, you might just be able to see the coveted hiding spots.

Steps away from the church is **Bucky Harris Park**. The now serene park was once the bustling town square where anti-slavery riots took place along with other activities that were crucial to the smooth operation of Jackson's Underground Railroad.

Get the full Underground Tour with expert guide Linda Hass. Contact Linda for a tour at JacksonMIUndergroundRailroad.com.

Break for Lunch

After working up an appetite exploring Jackson's Underground Railroad, take a break for lunch to savor the mouth-watering delicacies you'll only find here. Every direction you look you'll find great **restaurants** tempting you!

Next Stop: A Real Civil War Experience

Next, your group is in for a real treat as they tour the **Ella Sharp Museum**. A key feature of the museum is their Hillside Farm Lane, a fully-erect historic village representative of the Civil War era. Highlights include an 1860's log cabin, the Dibble one-room schoolhouse, country store, print shop, doctor's office, wood shop and the Merriman Sharp Farmhouse. As you walk up and down the lane exploring each building, you can imagine what life was like back when Michigan mustered the first volunteer regimen for the Civil War.

Another fascinating exhibit can be found inside the museum. Be sure to see the resolution table that was used during the birth of the Republican Party, which happened right on the outskirts of Jackson in 1854. The museum also features a fascinating rotation of exhibits highlighting Jackson's deep automotive history – as the original motor city, your group will love reliving the early years of the automotive industry on the gallery walls.

To book a tour or for more information about taking a group tour of the, please call Ella Sharp Museum contact 517-787-2320.

Check In & Freshen Up

After a day exploring the arts and culture scene, you'll be pleased to take a break at a well-appointed Jackson hotel. Check in, freshen up and relax for a bit before heading out to enjoy an entertaining evening in Jackson.

Evening Entertainment

Year round, you'll find plenty of entertainment options that are perfect for your group. Whether it's a concert by the **Jackson Symphony Orchestra**, a show at the **Potter Center**, or music and wine tasting at **Sandhill Crane Vineyards**, your group will have a wonderful time enjoying the evening.

DAY TWO

Start the last day of your trip with a delicious meal and heartfelt hospitality at Bob Evans Restaurant. Located just off I-94 and minutes from many area hotels, it's a wonderful place to get your morning coffee and breakfast favorites.

Before heading out of town, make time for one more stop to soak up even more of the anti-slavery moment that ran deep in Jackson not long ago. Feel the devastating impact that slavery imposed on many when entering **Mt. Evergreen Cemetery**. The final resting place for slaves and war heroes alike, monuments immortalize these brave souls. **Jackson Station** held so many slaves' tickets to freedom as they hopped aboard trains headed for the Canadian border. The oldest continually operating passenger rail station in the country, its architecture and history are sure to impress.

Take a moment to place your feet firmly on the ground where our forefathers bravely gathered at **Under the Oaks** to form the Republican Party and ignite the abolitionist movement in our country. Or learn the sacrifices and war stories of Michigan's finest at the **Michigan Military Heritage Museum**.

Download the free Experience Jackson Tours app today to explore the Underground Railroad stops at your own pace.



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