

Ideal Charter
Military History

CIVIL WAR KENTUCKY



Stevie Jay
TRAVEL

7 Days September 3-9, 2019
From \$1862*

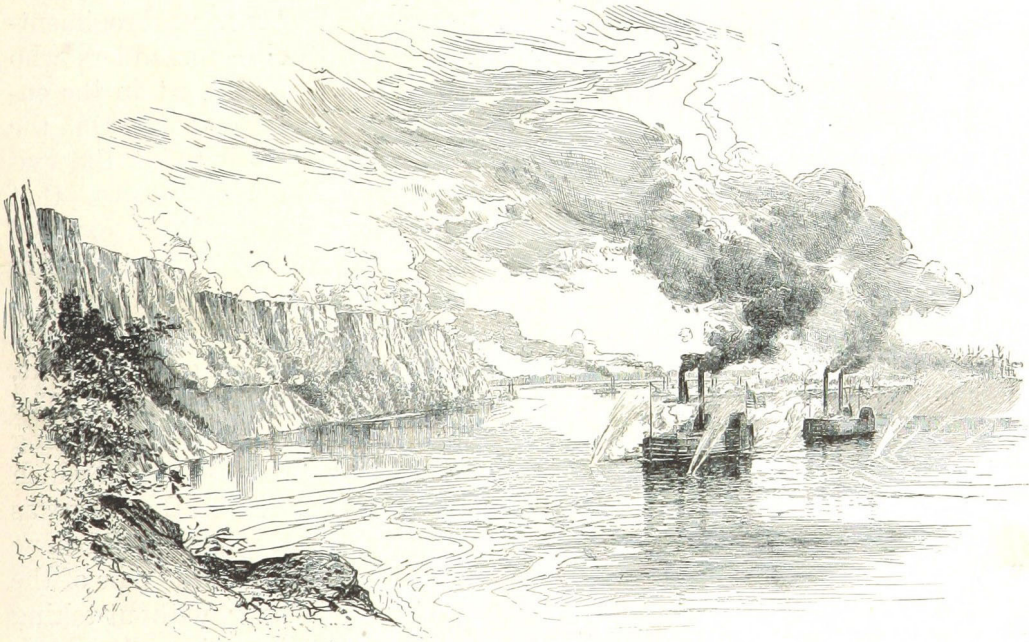
- Battlefield guides, museums and antebellum homes
- Battle planning exercises demonstrate how the campaigns took shape
- Special dining: Lamberts Cafe Threwed Rolls; Boone Tavern, Berea; Halls on the River & other unique experiences
- Luxury motor coach with expert commentary
- Travel insurance included
- Single share guarantee *if booked by June 30*—join like-minded fans of military history even if you have no roommate

“I HOPE TO have God on my side, but I must have Kentucky.”
If newly-inaugurated President

Lincoln didn't actually say those words, he must have thought them! A glance at the map will show the tremendous importance of the Bluegrass State; its allegiance to North or South would go a long way to determine the war's outcome. This tour will provide an in-depth look at the two periods when the Confederacy made serious attempts to install itself there: autumn/winter 1861-62, and Bragg's Confederate offensive in the late summer of 1862. Historian/tour guide Fred Christensen is an engaging presenter and will draw you into these tumultuous times giving you new understandings.



\$75-125 Early Bird Discount
Coupons (see page 3)



THE GUN-BOATS "TYLER" AND "LEXINGTON" FIGHTING THE COLUMBUS BATTERIES DURING THE BATTLE OF BELMONT. FROM A DRAWING BY REAR-ADMIRAL WALKE.

Itinerary

Day 1 Tuesday: Chicago-Central Illinois-Mounds-Cairo-Sikeston MO

Our luxury motor coach will depart Chicago and numerous Central Illinois cities, for the drive to the Cairo area. On the drive, we'll receive a background briefing from historian/tour guide Fred Christensen, setting the stage for the war's beginning in the Midwest.

After lunch in Mounds, we'll visit Cairo, with a fascinating and important past contrasting with its modest present. A visit to **Fort Defiance Park**, at the southernmost tip of Illinois will allow understanding of its tremendous

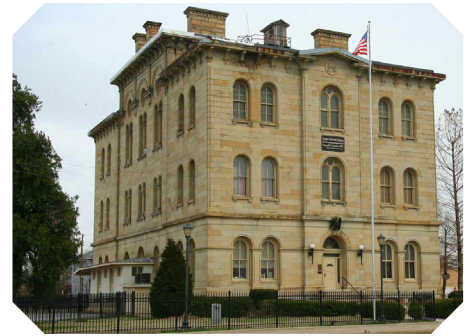
strategic importance when the war began. Newly-commissioned Brigadier General Grant spent five months at his Cairo headquarters, and the **Cairo Customs House Museum** preserves mementos of that stay and of the era. We'll get a full guided tour of the Museum.



Brigadier General US Grant

Book online: StevieJayTravel.com

Cairo Customs House Museum



We'll then spend two nights in nearby Sikeston MO, and will have dinner at the legendary Lambert's Cafe, home of "thrown rolls." For those who enjoy board wargaming, Fred will bring along a selection of Civil War battle games (SPI, The Gamers, etc.) for evening activities, for those so inclined. (L, D)

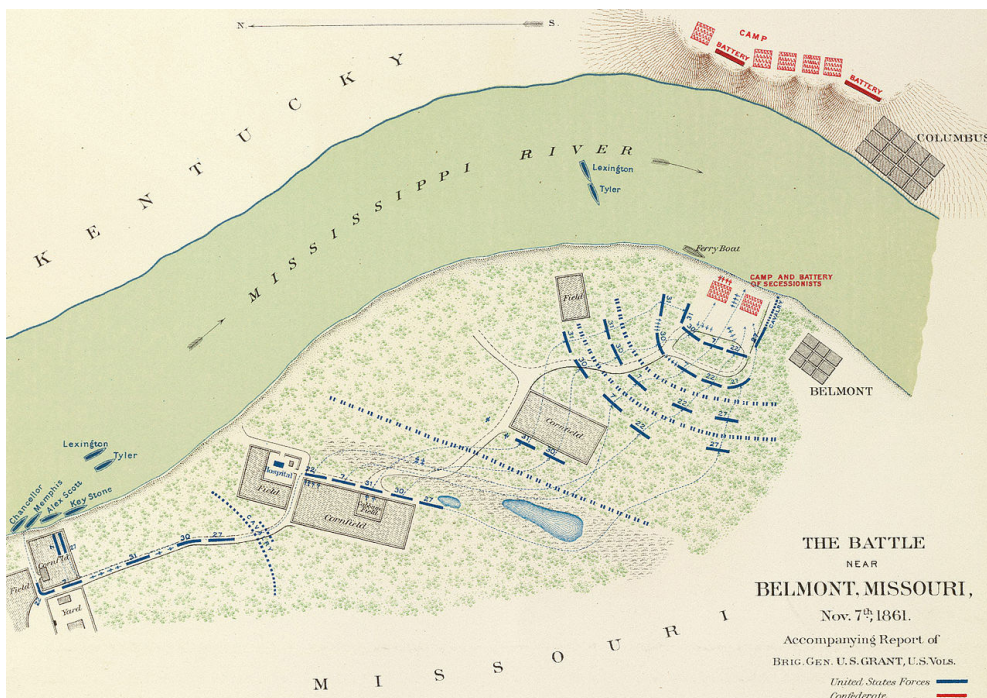
Day 2 Wednesday: Sikeston-Cairo-Columbus KY-Battle Planning Exercise-Sikeston

We'll examine the military situation Grant faced in 1861, and visit the site of his first Civil War battle. In the morning, we'll drive to **Columbus-Belmont State Park** in Kentucky, 20 miles south of Cairo, to examine the impressive Confederate fortifications (the "Gibraltar of the West") created under General Leonidas Polk in 1861. We'll discuss the battle of Belmont (Nov. 7, 1861) from the Confederate viewpoint. Then, after lunch at a nearby restaurant, we'll drive through Cairo to the Missouri shore, twenty miles south on that bank, for a detailed examination of **Belmont at its actual location**. This is that rarest of sites, an undisturbed and unspoiled Civil War battlefield!

Our battle-planning/wargame exercise will be indoors!



In the hotel this evening, we'll conduct the first of two battle-planning exercises, wargaming the "what-ifs" of this strategic situation. In early





Above: Bardstown Civil War village;

Below: Battle of Richmond

1862, Polk and the Confederates fully expected an attack directly on the Columbus fortifications (rather than at Forts Henry and Donelson, as actually happened). What were the options here for Grant and Halleck on the one hand, Polk and A. S. Johnston on the other? Tour members will form rival staffs provided with information on troops available and logistic constraints, and will plan for various contingencies. Then the two sides will come together to compare plans and analyze results of the "Battle of Columbus." (CB)

Day 3 Thursday: Sikeston MO-Munfordville KY-Bardstown KY-Lexington KY

In the morning, our motor coach will take us east into and through Kentucky from the events of late 1861 to those of the Confederate invasion of August-October 1862. On the bus, Fred Christensen will provide background information and will show videos of the campaign's dramatic opening events at spectacularly scenic Cumberland Gap.

Battle for the Bridge marker



After an included lunch, we'll be at Munfordville for a visit to the "Battle for the Bridge Historic Preserve." In August 1862 the main Confederate

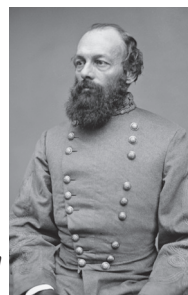
Army under Braxton Bragg had bypassed Don Carlos Buell's Union Army of the Ohio in the race to Kentucky. The Union garrison at Munfordville, defending a strategic railroad bridge, provided a tempting target, a dramatic episode, and an early victory for Bragg. We'll receive a full guided tour of the site, including two miles of marked hiking trails (optional).

Then we'll proceed to Bardstown, with its many Civil War connections and museums. The group will visit Old Bardstown Village with its excellent Civil War Museum, Women's Museum of the Civil War, and other nearby houses and sites. After an included dinner, we'll then drive on to Lexington and the Embassy Suites Hotel. (CB, L, D)

Day 4 Friday: Lexington-White Hall State Historic Site-Richmond-Berea-Lexington

The Battle of Richmond (Aug. 30, 1862) will be the focus of today's tour. General Edmund Kirby Smith's small Confederate Army, bypassing Cumberland Gap, encountered a Union force of raw recruits, and won the war's most one-sided and complete tactical victory. We'll begin the day with a stop at White Hall State Historic Site, the antebellum home of Cassius M. Clay, ferocious abolitionist, Union General, and friend of Abraham Lincoln. His ideas about how to fight near Richmond would have changed the course of this campaign's history.

General Edmund Kirby Smith



Then we'll drive to the Battle of Richmond Visitor's Center, where superintendent Phil Seyfrit will join us as guide for the rest of the day, beginning with an overview and visit to the Center's displays. Since this battle was an all-day affair, with the Rebel army triumphing in three successive clashes along the road to Richmond, we'll proceed south to Berea and Big Hill before following the flow of events northward. Lunch will be a special treat, at the famous Boone Tavern in Berea with its regional specialties.

After the afternoon's last stop at the cemetery in Richmond, where the hapless Yankees suffered their final defeat of the day, we'll head for a tasty dinner at Hall's on the River. Its scenic location at the Palisades of the Kentucky River will provide a glimpse of the imposing terrain that a more competent Union leadership would have used for its defensive stand! (B, L, D)

Day 5 Saturday: Lexington-Battle Planning Exercise

Victory at Richmond led to the five-week Confederate occupation of the Bluegrass, centered on Lexington. During this time, Kirby Smith's coop-

eration (or lack of it) with Bragg's larger army would be decisive for the campaign's outcome. We'll spend today in **historic downtown Lexington**, with its many antebellum residences and historic connections.

We'll have guided tours of two of the most famous sites, the **Hunt-Morgan House** (home of cavalry raider Gen. John Hunt Morgan, "thunderbolt of the Confederacy"), and the **Mary Todd Lincoln House**, girlhood home of the President's wife and residence of his Bluegrass in-laws. Group members will have some free time to explore the area at their leisure, including its many shops and historic buildings.

The Mary Todd Lincoln House



Back at the Hotel in the evening, we will have time for a complimentary drink and included dinner. Then we'll have the second of our **battle-planning/wargaming exercises**. The unfought "Battle of Harrodsburg" could have been the great decisive struggle for Kentucky... our rival staffs can draw up plans for this encounter, avoiding the all-too-numerous mistakes of the real campaign (and, of course, possibly making their own instead!). (B, D)

Day 6 Sunday: Lexington-Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park-Perryville-Lexington

Our first stop is at **Camp Nelson Civil War Heritage Park**. This was a Union mobilization center, supply depot, and hospital center...reminding us of the logistical side of war, which made the more dramatic tactical events possible.

The Battle of Perryville



The **Battle of Perryville** (Oct. 8, 1862) was Kentucky's largest Civil War clash, and the culmination of the Confederate attempt to hold the state. Its course was determined largely by errors and blunders on both sides, which make it a truly fascinating subject for study and for speculation on the "what-ifs" of history. In the morning, we'll drive to Perryville State Historic Site, for a tour of its museum, a background class and overview by park experts, and lunch catered by Melton's Deli in nearby Danville. After lunch, we'll explore the battlefield using its well-marked trail system (two miles or more), with a knowledgeable guide who has conducted US Army staff rides here in the past. If there is too much walking we will provide a cool spot indoors so you need not "straggle" on.

Tonight we'll have a farewell dinner at a unique location. (B, L, D)

Day 7 Monday: Lexington-Cincinnati-Fort Wright-Illinois

Our final day and drive home will include a stop at the "Confederate high-water mark in the West." During the September occupation of the Bluegrass, some of Kirby Smith's forces under Gen. Harry Heth (of later Gettysburg fame) pushed north to the Ohio River. The result was the so-called Siege of Cincinnati, with tens of thousands of Ohio volunteers (the "squirrel hunters") responding to the threat from the south bank. Union Generals Horatio Wright and Lew Wallace tried to organize this mass of humanity, and the episode produced far more memorable and humorous anecdotes than it did casualties. The hills of northern Kentucky were the sites of the Confederate menace and later Union fortifications, and there are good museums commemorating this episode.

We'll visit the **James A. Ramage Civil War Museum** in Fort Wright, and will enjoy an expert-led tour of the nearby fortifications. Then we continue on northwest through Indiana stopping for a nice lunch. Finally we drive back to the same Central Illinois cities and Chicago with a new appreciation of the early Civil War years in Kentucky. (B, L)

Included meals are noted each day with the initials of Continental Breakfast, (Full) Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner. Green hexes (●) show optional wargames, simple battle planning exercises.

Occupancy	Price*
Double	\$1,862
Single	2,336
Triple	1,772
Quad	1,726

Early Bird Discount for 1st 24 to book: \$125 thru May 3; or \$100 May 4-June 2; or \$75 June 3-July 4. See tour's webpage for discount code.



What's Included: • Round trip motor coach transportation from Chicago & Central Illinois • Touring by luxury air-conditioned coach, historian/tour guide, tour manager, baggage handling • Guided sightseeing • **Single share guarantee: either be assigned a roommate or if none available get a single room at no extra cost** • AIG Travel Guard deluxe group plan insurance • Driver tip • Most meals: local, southern and unique dining experiences • 16 Meals: 6 Breakfasts 5 Lunches 5 Dinners • \$61 current total taxes & fees, subject to change • Hotel accommodations • Admissions per itinerary • Led by Fred Christensen & Mark Williams

Accommodations: (6) total number of nights Sikeston (2) Pear Tree Inn Lexington (4) Embassy Suites Lexington Green

What's Not Included: • Three meals • Alcoholic beverages

*All prices are per person, based on occupancy. Triples and quads use existing bedding: 2 double beds. • Insurance coverage is included from AIG Travel Guard; for coverage details see www.steviejaytravel.com/insurance. Other terms at www.steviejaytravel.com/terms incorporated by reference. • Price and details are subject to change. Acct#190903s 25Apr19 18:30

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