

## VP-2 Reunion 2014 - Charleston Tours

Your reunion hosts have contracted with the professional tour company, "Adventures in Charleston," to plan and carry out our tours during our stay in Charleston.

**Note: Each tour requires a minimum attendance of at least thirty people or the tour will be subject to cancellation.**



**Friday, October 31<sup>st</sup>:** A historic tour of America's best preserved city: Charleston, SC. The cost of this tour is **\$46 per person**, which includes round-trip transportation, a private guide, admission to Heyward-Washington house, a visit to the Citadel, tax and gratuity for the tour guide.

Depart the Crowne Plaza Hotel at 11:30 am.

11:45 am – 1:15 pm: Browse through the Market Square area, well known for its unique shops, boutiques, restaurants and pubs. Enjoy

lunch on your own at a place of your choosing in Market Square.

1:15 – 3:15 pm: Enjoy a privately guided bus tour as you explore this enchanting and historic city. Favorite sights include: Rainbow row, cobblestone streets, quaint gardens, hundreds of 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century homes, buildings and churches, and the Battery overlooking the Charleston harbor and Fort Sumter. You will tour the Heyward-Washington house, built in 1772 by Daniel Heyward, father of Thomas Heyward, a signer of the Declaration of Independence. It is the only 18<sup>th</sup> century house open in the city with an original kitchen house, carriage house and "necessary" in the courtyard. The house is furnished with magnificent Charleston-made furniture of the 18<sup>th</sup> century period.

3:15 – 4:30 pm: Arrive at the Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina. Enjoy a Full Dress Parade of the 2000 member Corps of Cadets.

5:00 pm: Arrive back at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.



**Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>:** A full tour of the Boone Hall Plantation in the morning, lunch on our own in the Market Square, and an afternoon harbor cruise to historic Fort Sumter. The cost of this full day's activity is **\$85 per person** and includes round-trip transportation, a privately guided tour of Boone Hall, escort to the Fort Sumter tour, admission to Boone Hall, admission to Fort Sumter, tax and tour guide gratuity.

Depart the Crown Plaza Hotel at 8:30 am:

9:00 am – 12:00n: Arrive at Boone Hall Plantation through the famous three-quarter mile "Avenue of Oaks." Boone Hall was granted to one of South Carolina's first settlers, Major

John Boone, in 1676. Originally a cotton plantation, Boone Hall spread over 17,000 acres. Hand-made brick and tile were manufactured on the plantation and are identified in the mansion, garden walls, slave cabins and many of Charleston's oldest and most historic buildings. Enjoy a guided tour of the grounds followed by a guided tour of the mansion, a tram tour, and "Exploring the Gullah Culture" of black history in America.

12:30 – 2:00 pm: Lunch on our own in the Charleston Market.

2:30 – 4:45 pm: Board the Fort Sumter sightseeing boat. On April 12, 1861, Fort Sumter was occupied by Union troops who refused to vacate the Fort as demanded by the Confederates. All negotiations finally failed and Confederate batteries in the Charleston harbor commenced a massive bombardment of Fort Sumter, and America's greatest moment of conflict, the "War Between the States," began. The Fort is located at the entrance of Charleston's beautiful harbor. It is only accessible by boat. The Fort boasts an excellent museum containing priceless exhibits. Historians with the National Park Service conduct interesting and informative tours of the Fort. In addition to a visit to Fort Sumter, you will enjoy a complete tour of the Charleston harbor, viewing many points of interest.

5:00 pm: Arrive back at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.



**Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Our final day of touring includes a morning spent at the Patriot's Point Naval and Maritime Museum with lunch aboard the carrier U.S.S. Yorktown

followed by a visit to the Confederate submarine H.L. Hunley. The cost of this tour is **\$72 per person**, which includes round-trip transportation, admission to Patriot's Point and the Hunley exhibit, plus lunch in the Yorktown CPO mess.

Depart the Crowne Plaza Hotel at 8:30

9:00 am – 1:00 pm: Explore Patriot's Point Naval and Maritime Museum at our own pace, including the destroyer USS Laffey and submarine USS Clamagore. Tour the USS Yorktown and view the aircraft on display on the Yorktown's flight deck and hangar deck. Visit the Medal of Honor Museum and the mockup of a Vietnam river patrol base. At noon, enjoy lunch in the CPO mess on board the Yorktown.

1:30 -3:00 pm: Tour the Warren Lasche Center where the H.L. Hunley is preserved and on display. Learn the story of how the Hunley became the first submarine to sink a ship in battle when it attacked the warship Housatonic, and how the Hunley crew became victims of their own attack.

3:30 pm: Arrive back at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Tour selection can be made here.