

RODEPH SHOLOM ADULTS CIVIL RIGHTS JOURNEY

Thursday, March 17 – Sunday, March 20, 2022

This experience is only open to CRS members. Adults must be 21+ and fully vaccinated.

Join Rabbi Spratt and Cantor De Lowe on a once-in-a-lifetime Civil Rights Journey to Atlanta, Montgomery, and Birmingham. During these three days, we will meet with Reverends who worked with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and experience church services in the famed Ebenezer Baptist Church. Among the many sites we will visit are the Rosa Parks Museum and the Equal Justice Initiative's new Legacy Museum & Lynching Memorial. We will speak with activists who marched from Selma to Montgomery and walked across the Edmund Pettus Bridge*.

Alongside these and other incredible first-hand experiences, we will engage with the contemporary realities of race and racism, the legacy of civil rights, and consider how each of us can make an impact. We will also enjoy building our own community as we travel, eat, and reflect together.

This program is run through Etgar 36, a pluralistic, nonpartisan, and nonprofit Jewish educational venture that leads (primarily) Jewish groups to the South. These groups seek to better understand the history of the civil rights movement and the connection between Jews and Blacks during that time, and to consider issues in the present moment connected with civil rights. During the trip, we will also reflect on Jewish-Black relations then and now.

*Please note this trip can accommodate those with more limited mobility. Please indicate this need during your registration.

TENTATIVE TRIP ITINERARY

THURSDAY MARCH 17

Arrive at Airport & Bus to Hotel

Welcome Program: & Leo Frank Story

Hear the story of Leo Frank, a New York Jew who moved to Atlanta, was falsely convicted of murder, and was lynched. This has impacted the identity of Jews in the South since it occurred in 1915

Overnight: Fairburn GA (Atlanta)

FRIDAY MARCH 18

Breakfast at hotel

8:30 AM Leave for Montgomery, AL

11:00 AM Equal Justice Initiative's Legacy Museum

(CST) Explore the evolution of racial oppression from slavery to mass incarceration

12:30 PM Lunch

1:45 PM Leave for Selma

3:00 PM Tour Selma & The Edmund Pettus Bridge

Meet with someone who was beaten on the march. Hear her story

Learn about Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel and his involvement in the struggle.

5:00 PM Depart for Montgomery

Dinner

Shabbat Services at Temple Beth Or (Montgomery, AL)

Overnight: Montgomery, AL

SATURDAY MARCH 19

- Breakfast at hotel
- 9:00 AM Rosa Parks Museum
Stand where the Civil Rights movement began and learn about the Montgomery Bus Boycott
- 11:00 AM Memorial for Peace and Justice - Lynching Memorial
Reflect on an often-overlooked tragedy at the first national memorial for victims of lynching
- 12:00 PM Depart for Birmingham and Lunch
- 3:00 PM Walking tour of Freedom Park & 16th Street Baptist Church
Get a walking tour by a Reverend who was a Civil Rights worker in Birmingham in the 50s & 60s and was arrested and had the dogs & hoses turned on him. See the historic church where 4 girls died in a bombing.
- 4:00 PM Birmingham Civil Rights Institute
Explore museum about the Civil Rights movement
Dinner
Depart for Atlanta
- Overnight:** Fairburn GA (Atlanta)

SUNDAY MARCH 20

- Breakfast at hotel
- 8:15 AM Depart hotel
- 9:00 AM Meeting with Fair Fight 2020
Discuss the issues of, and find out the work going on about, voting rights and voter suppression in Georgia and across the nation. Also discuss the idea of staying and being active against an issue (specifically the abortion laws in Georgia) vs. boycotting the state.
- 10:15 AM Arrive at The King Center and tour the Auburn Street neighborhood
See the historic neighborhood where King was born, preached and is buried
- 11:00 AM Sunday morning services at Ebenezer Baptist Church
Dr. King's historic church
- 12:45 PM Depart for airport and home
- 3:30 PM Earliest that return flights should depart

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. How much walking is there on the trip?

- a. The longest blocks of walking are in the EJI Memorial in Montgomery, which is about a ½ mile, and also when we walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge, in Selma, which is about a ¼ of a mile. People who feel that they would rather not walk across the Edmund Pettus Bridge can ride the bus across it.

2. Can my food preferences be accommodated?

- a. We will be taking advantage of the local cuisine in the deep south but can accommodate vegan, vegetarian, and gluten-free diets, and peanut allergies as well. Please let us know when signing up. People with dietary concerns are also encouraged to bring their snacks and supplemental food that they can keep on the bus.

3. Where will we eat meals?

- a. Breakfast will be available at each of our hotels. Friday night we will pick up dinner from a place that everyone will pre-order and bring it to the hotel and eat together as a group. Saturday lunch is in a modern food hall where you can get what you want and there are communal tables inside and outside. Friday lunch and Saturday dinner are in restaurants.

4. Do the hotel rooms have refrigerators in them?

- a. Yes. There are mini fridges in the rooms.

5. Are there chargers and Wi-Fi on the bus?

- a. Yes. Each seat has an outlet to charge phones etc. There is also Wi-Fi, but there will be spots along the route where service is not available.

6. Is there a bathroom on the bus?

- a. Yes, and we will make scheduled bathroom stops on long rides.

7. Will there be water and snacks on the bus?

- a. Yes, we will provide snacks and drinks.

8. Can the bus accommodate wheelchairs?

- a. Yes. We do need to know as far in advance as possible to guarantee we have that bus available for our group. Please let us know when signing up.

9. Will we have the same bus with us the whole time and can we leave things on it?

- a. Yes. The driver will be on the bus the whole time, or it will be locked up overnight.

10. Are we seeing the new slavery museum and “lynching” memorial in Montgomery?

- a. Yes. That is the Equal Justice Initiative Legacy Museum and Memorial to Peace and Justice.

11. Is there a dress code for the trip?

- a. No. Participants should dress for the weather and comfort. We are outside for much of the trip. Casual nice is fine for Sunday morning church services. No need for suits, jackets, ties, dresses. For Temple on Friday night, participants are fine wearing what you have been wearing all day. The Temple is aware that we are not going back to the hotel to change before services.