

2018 National Winter Convention Tours

Tuesday, February 20: Fort Sumter

Stand on the grounds where America's deadliest war began at Fort Sumter National Monument. Your tour vessel will cruise to Fort Sumter from Liberty Square in downtown Charleston. The Arthur Ravenel Jr. Bridge provides the backdrop for all Fort Sumter cruises, with Charleston's stately Rainbow Row and Battery homes clearly seen from onboard. Once at Fort Sumter, experience a feeling of patriotic pride while a National Park Ranger brings each feature to life, evoking images of mortar shells and cannonfire. A boxed lunch is included with the cost of the tour.



Tuesday, February 20: Magnolia Plantation & Gardens

Founded in 1676 by the Drayton family, Magnolia Plantation, is the oldest public tourist site in the Lowcountry, and the oldest public gardens in America. Step back in time with a half-hour guided tour of the Drayton family home, the third to grace the site in more than three centuries of Drayton family occupation. Ten rooms are open to the public, furnished with early-American antiques, porcelain, quilts, and other Drayton family heirlooms. Guides describe life in the 19th century, using furniture and household objects to bring plantation culture alive. Also included with admission: historic gardens, orientation theatre, the garden center and the conservatory. While visiting you can enjoy lunch on your own at the Peacock Cafe.



Wednesday, February 21: Charleston Tour & Patriots Point

During the bus tour you will see the College of Charleston, Harleston Village, the Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, and of course our famous Battery with its elegant town houses built by planters and merchants in the 18th and 19th centuries.

Enjoy lunch on your own at Old City Market, one of the nation's oldest public markets. From authentic Lowcountry dishes, like shrimp & grits, to sophisticated interpretations of Southern fare, the Charleston City Market's Great Hall and surrounding neighborhood offer a range of excellent restaurants.

After lunch we will tour Patriots Point, one of the world's largest naval and maritime museums. Visit the USS Yorktown, the Destroyer Laffey, the Vietnam Era Naval Support Base with its Sea Cobra and Huey helicopters; and the newly renovated Congressional Medal of Honor museum.

