

Drayton Hall

Military Programs

Revolutionary War House Tour

The Revolutionary War House Tour at Drayton Hall is altogether a remarkable experience as it relies on historical facts, written records, and oral histories all centered on Drayton Hall where many of the pivotal events of the war actually took place. The presentation will include information about the activities of John Drayton, his wife Rebecca, and his sons William Henry, Charles, and Glen, as well as the activity of the soldiers of the British and Continental armies, who encamped at Drayton Hall as part of the campaigns for Charleston. John's eldest son, William Henry, was one of the outstanding leaders of the period; among his many extraordinary actions and honors, William Henry was appointed to the South Carolina provincial congress, served as its president, issued the state's first order to fire on the British, and oversaw the formation of South Carolina's first Constitution. Also presented will be the options that were open to the enslaved, including the story of Sam and Kath who deserted to the British. To enhance their experience, visitors are encouraged to ask questions of the senior interpreters who lead this one-hour tour. By reservation only. Please contact Debbi Zimmerman, Group Tour Coordinator, at 888-349-0588 ext 2630 for reservations or by email debbi_zimmerman@draytonhall.org

Civil War House Tour

During the antebellum years the Draytons were concerned about the prospects for their future. This tour begins with a presentation of those concerns as expressed in the stories that have come down through family oral tradition and letters of the period. Visitors will hear about the path towards war and more about history's mysteries as a mix of historical facts and theories answer a range of questions. What really happened at Drayton Hall at the time of the Civil War? What was the involvement of the Drayton brothers Dr. John, Thomas and James, nephew Charles, and cousins Percival and Thomas, who fought against each other? Why did Drayton Hall escape destruction after Charleston's surrender? What happened to the plantation's enslaved – when did they leave, where did they go, and why did some stay on? A spell-binding experience for Civil War buffs and history enthusiasts alike. To enhance their experience, visitors are encouraged to ask questions of the senior interpreters who lead this one-hour tour. By reservation only. Please contact Debbi Zimmerman, Group Tour Coordinator, at 888-349-0588 ext 2630 for reservations or by email debbi_zimmerman@draytonhall.org

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Revolutionary War Hands-On Program (Adults and Families)

Visitors learn to describe and interpret the American Revolution as it played out in a real place with real people, and learn to identify and evaluate the ideas and beliefs that shaped decisions and actions. During the program visitors will have an opportunity to examine replicas of uniforms, experience camp life, consider the options available to enslaved people, and join the Navy! This engaging and comprehensive program will take visitors back through time and place, bringing the Revolutionary War to life as never before. One hour. *Often paired with the Revolutionary War-focused house tour.* Please contact Debbi Zimmerman, Group Tour Coordinator, at 888-349-0588 ext 2630 for pricing and reservations.

Civil War Hands-On Program (Adults and Families)

Visitors learn to describe and interpret the reality of the Civil War from diverse points of view. Through hands-on activities, visitors will come to understand what it meant to be a soldier, they will learn about the experiences of civilian men, women, and children, and the roles and contributions of African Americans, enslaved and free. This engaging and comprehensive program will take visitors back through time and place, bringing the Civil War to life as never before. One hour. *Often paired with the Civil War-focused house tour.* Please contact Debbi Zimmerman, Group Tour Coordinator, at 888-349-0588 ext 2630 for pricing and reservations.

Revolutionary War Walking Tour in Downtown Charleston

This popular walking tour introduces buildings and places important during the American Revolution in Charleston. Important battles in the Charleston area are discussed as well as factors that brought about the war. Participants will also observe the places where colonists responded with boycotts and petitions. Comprehensive in its scope, this tour interprets not only the course of the Revolution and Charleston and South Carolina's roles in it but, ultimately, the effects of independence. 1-1½ hours. Please contact Debbi Zimmerman, Group Tour Coordinator, at 888-349-0588 ext 2630 for pricing and reservations.

Civil War Walking Tour in Downtown Charleston

The Civil War Walking Tour identifies important Charleston Civil War historical sites and life in the city at the time of the war and the impact of the war from multiple viewpoints will be presented. Participants will also hear about the causes of the war, including debates over slavery and regional differences in ways of life, and will learn about its lasting impacts on Charleston, South Carolina, and the United States. 1 -1½ hours. Please contact Debbi Zimmerman, Group Tour Coordinator, at 888-349-0588 ext 2630 for pricing and reservations.

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From King to Country: Charleston & the American Revolution – Premier Package Tour

Begin your voyage into Charleston's Revolutionary past at Drayton Hall. Explore the causes of the American Revolution and chart the Drayton's family's journey from loyal participants in the Royal government to enthusiastic supporters of American liberty. Next, visit the Charleston Museum's Heyward-Washington House, which once belonged to Thomas Heyward, Jr., signer of the Declaration of Independence. Learn about Heyward's role in the Revolution, as well as the courageous stand taken by his wife, Elizabeth. Then, discover why the nation's first president stayed at the Heyward's during his Southern Tour in 1791. Please contact Debbi Zimmerman, Group Tour Coordinator, at 888-349-0588 ext 2630 for pricing and reservations.