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Mississippi Civil Rights History Tour

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Day 1 - Jackson

Start your tour at the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum to experience Mississippi's civil rights history through eight interactive galleries. The museum is America's first state-sponsored civil rights museum. While you're in town, be sure to stop at the Medgar and Myrlie Evers Home National Monument. It was the home of African-American civil rights activist Medgar Evers at the time of his assassination. The home is available for tours by appointment only at this time.



Day 2 - Natchez

One of Natchez's must-see attractions is a historic home called Longwood. It is the largest octagonal home in the United States and was built, in part, through the work of enslaved laborers. Work on Longwood's interior halted with the outbreak of the Civil War, and its interior remains unfinished to this day. Also in Natchez, Forks of the Road marks the site of Deep South's second-largest slave market. Signs at the site discuss the city's role in the domestic slave trade.



Day 3 - Sumner

Emmett Till was a 13-year-old African-American boy from Chicago who was murdered in 1955, an event which ignited the civil rights movement. Two men accused of killing Till were tried at the Tallahatchie County Courthouse, in Sumner, and ultimately cleared of all charges (though they later confessed to the crime). Visitors can book tours of the courthouse and the Emmett Till Interpretive Center, located across the street.



Day 4 - Oxford

At the Civil Rights Memorial on the campus of the University of Mississippi, you'll find a life-size bronze statue of James Meredith, the first African-American student to break the segregation barrier by successfully enrolling at the University of Mississippi. Meredith is depicted walking toward a 17-foot-tall limestone portal inscribed with the words "courage," "knowledge," "opportunity," and "perseverance."