



Legendary Lexington May 31 (Thu)



This "Battlefield Getaway" takes us to the historic town of Lexington, MO, mostly known for the three-day Civil War battle, the "Battle of the Hemp Bales." Today we visit the Battle of Lexington State Historic Site which includes a guided tour of the Anderson House. It was once called "the largest and best arranged dwelling house west of St. Louis." Today, Oliver Anderson's mansion is best known for the three bloody days in 1861 when it was a fiercely contested prize in a Civil War battle between the Federal forces and the Missouri State Guard. It is restored and furnished in mid-19th century fashion, but still displays damage from the shot and shell that hammered it during the Battle of Lexington. Soldiers met their death in the downstairs hallway. The Visitor Center has an exhibit hall with artifacts from the Civil War and a theater with an excellent 15-minute film that explains the events of Sept. 18-20, 1861, and why the "Battle of the Hemp Bales" lifted Southern spirits and further dampened Northern hopes of an easy victory in the struggle for Missouri. The battlefield is quiet now, and restored gardens and orchards dot the landscape. Afterwards, we'll take a short drive to the historic downtown area and enjoy a hot "made from scratch" included lunch at the Victorian Peddler. After lunch, we'll stroll down streets where wagon trains once rolled and have a little shopping time in buildings dating back to the 1840s. Many of these buildings are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Then, our local step-on guide will share the past and present with us on our drive throughout the historic area and learn the history of Lexington. See the Lafayette County courthouse, built 1847-1849, the oldest working courthouse in Missouri. Embedded in the east column is a Union cannonball from the Civil War Battle of Lexington.

Reservations: Call 913-369-3939

Checks Payable To: Group Getaways, PO Box 503, Tonganoxie KS 66086

Cancel Policy: By Apr 16- Full Refund / After Apr 16- No Refund

Optional Trip Cancellation Insurance: \$11

Pick Up Locations: Topeka & Lawrence

\$82 INCLUDES:

- ✓ Motor Coach Transportation
- ✓ Tour Director
- ✓ Guided Tour of Historic Lexington
- ✓ Local Step-On Guide & Gratuity
- ✓ Battle of Lexington State Historic Site
- ✓ Anderson House & Museum
- ✓ Lunch
- ✓ Shopping in Historic Downtown
- ✓ \$5.00 Group Getaways Green
- ✓ Tax

