

REVISED: NOVEMBER 7, 2022 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Civil Rights Journey Thursday, November 17 – Sunday, November 20, 2022

What is the purpose of the trip?

To deepen our understanding of the structural racism that exists in America and the historical response to it during the Civil Rights Movement, especially voiced by the Jewish community.

Is attendance in the October-November 2022 class, *Jews in the Civil Rights Movement*, a mandatory pre-requisite for the trip?

TBE will be offering a three-session course, *Jews in the Civil Rights Movement*, on October 19 & 26, and November 2, 2022. Attendance in the course is NOT a mandatory pre-requisite for the trip but participants are 'strongly encouraged' to take the course. If you are unable to attend the course, please see the resource list appended to this FAQ.

How many people will be on the trips?

We are aiming for one bus-load of up to 50 people. The prices below are predicated on a group size of 25-50 individuals.

What is the price of the trip and what's included?

The Civil Rights Weekend costs \$995 per person for a double occupancy room. Please add \$275 for a single room supplement (total due: \$1270).

The trip includes all meals (beginning with Friday breakfast and ending with Sunday breakfast—in total 7 meals); all ground transportation, hotels, admission and programming costs. It does not include airline transportation to and from Atlanta or Sunday lunch.

How do I register and pay for the trip?

Please complete a registration form for each traveler on the TBEwellesley.org/RJI webpage. On the form you can indicate with whom you are sharing a room. We need each person's contact information so couples please, each complete the registration form.

The deposit of \$500 pp is due on August 5, 2022 (single occupancy deposit is \$635pp. Full balance is due on September 9, 2022. (\$495 pp or single occupancy is \$635pp). Please make checks payable to ETGAR 36 and return to Lynn Burke at TBE.

What is the cancellation policy?

The trip is predicated on at least 25 people sending in a deposit by August 15. If that threshold is not met, we will return all checks. Likewise, if TBE cancels the trip by August 15 (i.e. a situation as experienced in May 2020 when COVID spiked), then all checks will be returned.

If an individual cancels after August 15 but before September 15, the individual will be responsible for programming fees and deposits that ETGAR 36 has made that are not refundable.

After September 15, there are no refunds for group and/or individual cancellations.

Trip insurance is an option that travelers may want to consider.

How will we get to and from Atlanta?

Each traveler will arrange his/her own transportation to and from Atlanta, which allows individuals to use the airline of their choice, points, etc. and flexibility for those who wish to arrive early or extend their time in Atlanta.

How will we get to and from the Atlanta airport?

Our tour provider, ETGAR 36, will meet our group at 5:30 pm on Nov 17th at the Atlanta Airport, North Terminal Baggage Claim area, between Carousels 3 and 4. For those arriving earlier or later on Nov 17, you may take an UBER or Lyft (at your expense) to the hotel. Check-in is usually at 4 pm but feel free to call the hotel to arrange an earlier check-in time if desired. (Your rooms will be in your name). It is a 15-minute ride to the Fairfield Inn in Fairburn, GA.

After our visits to Ebenezer Baptist Church and the King Center on Sunday morning, and lunch (on our own) at the Ponce City Market, the bus will take folks to the airport. Please make your return airline reservations for after 3:30 pm on November 20th to allow time for travel to the airport and security.

What if I want to come to Atlanta before or extend my stay after the trip?

In November 2019, several folks chose to come to Atlanta earlier in the week or earlier on Thursday to do some sightseeing on their own. If you choose to stay additional nights at the Fairburn Inn, please make your own reservations. Note that the Fairburn Inn is a distance from downtown Atlanta and very far from the Northern suburbs. You might choose a different hotel for an extended stay. (ETGAR 36 chose this hotel as it is South of Atlanta with much less traffic for our Friday morning trip to Montgomery).

Are there any suggestions if we extend our stay in Atlanta?

Some of the past travelers arrived early in Atlanta to explore the city and visit the National Center for Civil and Human Rights—an exceptional interactive museum that is not included on our trip but highly recommended! (Limited hours but open on Thursdays, 12-5 pm!)

What about dinner on Thursday night?

As noted above, the Fairburn Inn was chosen for its proximity to the highway we will be taking on Friday morning. It is 10-15 minutes south of the airport; Atlanta is 20 minutes north of the airport. There are not many restaurants (beyond fast-food restaurants) within walking distance. The exceptions are the Waffle House or Los Mariachis Mexican restaurant (rave reviews from past travelers! Losmariachisga.com or 770-773-8376. We suggest that travelers have three options for dinner:

- 1. Uber into downtown Atlanta directly from the airport, either taking your suitcases with you or putting them on the ETGAR bus. We will unload your suitcases at the hotel where you can pick them up after dinner.
- 2. Take the ETGAR bus to the hotel and eat nearby at Los Mariachis or another restaurant
- 3. Take the ETGAR bus to the hotel and Uber into Atlanta (about 35-40 minutes plus traffic).

Will a tour guide provide explanation of the various sites?

A dedicated tour guide will be with us to provide narrative and contextualize each activity and event. Orientation to the trip's itinerary will begin with an 8:30 pm meeting at the hotel on arrival night where we will hear the story of Leo Frank, a New York Jew who moved to Atlanta, was falsely convicted of murder, and lynched. This tragic event impacted the identity of Jews in the South since its occurrence in 1915.

Are there mobility requirements?

The tour will involve walking and accommodations can be made for those with mobility challenges e.g. the Edmund Pettus Bridge is ¼ mile walk but participants can also ride the bus over the bridge. ETGAR36 can arrange for a bus that accommodates wheelchairs; advance notice is imperative so a bus can be reserved. A scooter can also be stored under the bus-

What are the facilities on the bus?

The 50-passenger bus is equipped with restroom facilities. The bus will be parked nearby during activities so folks who tire can go back to the bus for respite. Suitcases will be stored in the bus's luggage compartment—it is suggested that you bring a daypack to carry items onto the bus (e.g. sweater, water bottle/food, camera, etc.).

What are suggestions for clothing?

Participants are advised to check the weather forecast! The average temperature in Atlanta in mid-November is in the mid 60's during the day, but high 40's at night. There is a 1 in 5 chance of rain so participants should dress for the weather. Casual nice is fine for Sunday morning Church services—no need for suits, jackets, ties, or dresses. For Temple on Friday night, participants are fine wearing what they have had on all day. The Temple is aware that we are not going back to the hotel to change before services.

People should be aware that the church congregation will be "dressed for church"!



Please bring a refillable water bottle and any snacks for the buses that you might want. We will not be providing in-between meal snacks although the bus will stop on longer bus rides between cities for restroom breaks and food.

Are tips included in the price?

Tips for the tour guide and speakers are included in your fee. Tips for the bus driver are not included so we ask that you consider a tip. For your convenience, we will provide an envelop on the last leg of our journey!

Are there suggested readings?

Etgar 36 suggests the following readings and films if you are interested:

- <u>Just Mercy</u>, Bryan Stevenson
 - Founder and Director of the Equal Justice Initiative
- March, Congressman John Lewis
 - Three-part graphic novel about the Selma to Montgomery march
- The Taylor Branch trilogy about Dr. King:
 - Parting the Waters: America in the King Years 1954-63
 - Pillars of Fire: America in the King Years 1963-65
 - At Canaan's Edge: America in the King Years 1965-68
- The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness, Michelle Alexander

- The Quiet Voices: Southern Rabbis and Black Civil Rights, 1880s to 1990s, Mark Bauman and Berkley Kalin
- Going South: Jewish Women in the Civil Rights Movement, Debra Schultz
- Troubling the Waters: Black-Jewish Relations in the American Century, Cheryl Lynn Greenberg
- Neshoba: The Price of Freedom Film
 The 2010 documentary film about events and attitudes in Neshoba County, Mississippi, 40 years after the 1964 murders of Chaney, Goodman, and Schwerner.
- Eyes on the Prize: America's Civil Rights Years 1954-1965 series, DVD
 This landmark series, which first premiered in 1987, documents the history of the civil rights movement in America
- The Temple Bombing, Melissa Fay Greene
- Walking With The Wind, John Lewis

WORTH REPEATING!!!!

- Bring a daypack for the bus. Bus will be with us and the daypack can be left on the bus when we are in museums, etc. Suitcases will be stored in the luggage compartment underneath.
- Dress for the weather! Layers, raingear, walking shoes.
- Bring a refillable water bottle and snacks.