

U.S. CIVIL RIGHTS TRAIL JOURNEY

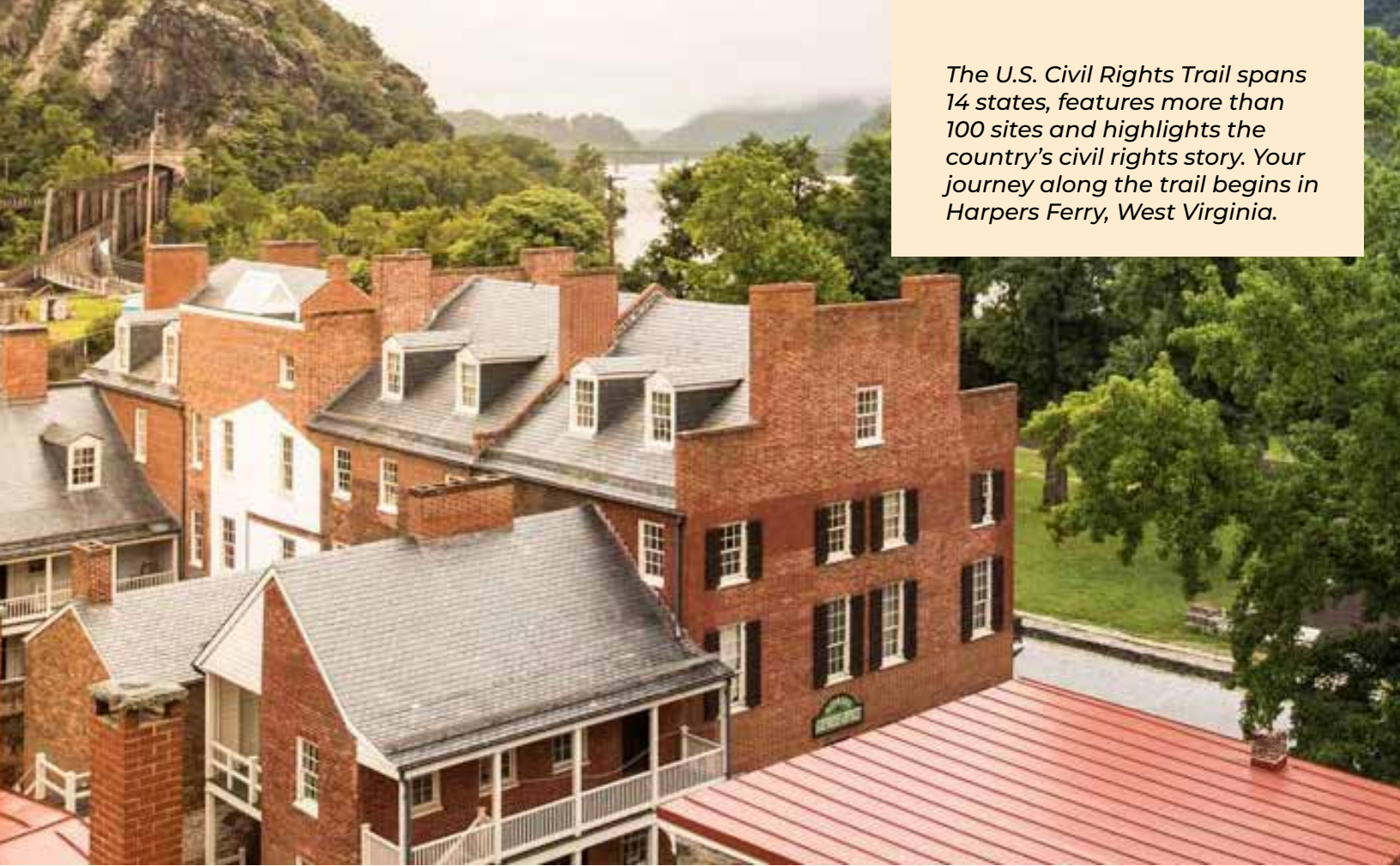
WEST VIRGINIA





*Harpers Ferry - Charleston
(4 hrs. 51 mins.)*

Charleston - Huntington (54 mins.)



The U.S. Civil Rights Trail spans 14 states, features more than 100 sites and highlights the country's civil rights story. Your journey along the trail begins in Harpers Ferry, West Virginia.

DAY 1 – HARPERS FERRY

Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

Your exploration of the U.S. Civil Rights Trail in West Virginia starts with a visit to Harpers Ferry National Historical Park. Harpers Ferry was the setting of several climactic events that occurred before and during the Civil War, events that are part of our nation's civil rights narrative. Visitors can step back in time and see the locations of these historic incidents that make up our country's complex past. The park includes:

John Brown's Fort

John Brown was a radical abolitionist who believed in ending slavery by instigating violent revolts.

The Lockwood House

Called "Clayton Hospital" at the time of the Civil War, the Lockwood House was where wounded Union soldiers received treatment.

Loudoun Heights

Confederate forces led by Col. Thomas Jonathan "Stonewall" Jackson were the first to gain control of Loudoun Heights. In 1861, Jackson ordered that three infantry blockhouses be built on top of the mountain, the remnants of which are still visible today.

Maryland Heights

The first battle between Union and Confederate troops took place at Maryland Heights.

The Point

A spectacular panoramic view of the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers reveals why Harpers Ferry played a strategic role in the Civil War.

DAY 2 – CHARLESTON

Elizabeth Harden Gilmore House



*Elizabeth Harden Gilmore House
Charleston, WV*

Depart Harpers Ferry for Charleston, where you can visit the home of civil rights leader Elizabeth Harden Gilmore who led efforts to integrate schools, housing and public accommodations in her state. Gilmore's long list of civil rights victories began prior to the *Brown v. Board of Education* ruling. In the early 1950s, Gilmore formed a women's club that opened the first integrated day care center in Charleston and later secured the admission of African-American Girl Scouts into the previously all-white Camp Anne Bailey. But her steadfast fight for equality did not stop there. In 1958, she co-founded the local chapter of the Congress of Racial Equality and went on to lead a department store sit-in campaign that lasted over a year, resulting in the integration of Charleston lunch counters.

DAY 3 – HUNTINGTON

Memphis Tennessee Garrison House

The next morning, make the 1-hour drive from Charleston to Huntington to visit the Memphis Tennessee Garrison House. The modest two-story house was much more than a place to call home for Memphis Tennessee Garrison. After retiring from an ambitious teaching career in Gary in the southern part of the state, Garrison moved to Huntington and eagerly opened her doors to provide a space for the African-American community to discuss obstacles to breaking down racial barriers and how to find solutions.

Garrison was the first woman president of the West Virginia State Teachers Association, and in 1931 she was elected vice president of the American Teachers Association. Garrison was a vital component in organizing a new NAACP branch in McDowell County and served as the national vice president of the NAACP Board of Directors in the 1960s.



*Memphis Tennessee Garrison House
Huntington, WV*

This concludes your U.S. Civil Rights Trail journey in West Virginia.