



# HISTORICAL CRUISE

## CIVIL WAR: SOUTHEAST COAST

Nov 16, 2026 - Nov 24, 2026



STEPHEN AMBROSE  
ESTD 1979  
HISTORICAL TOURS



WORLD AFFAIRS  
COUNCIL OF  
PHILADELPHIA  
& PARTNERS

## TRIP OVERVIEW



**The convenience and amenities of a cruise, with the historical intensity of a Stephen Ambrose Historical Tour (SAHT).**

Sail into Civil War history on the **Civil War: Southeast Coast Cruise**, combining the luxury of **American Cruise Lines** with the in-depth focus of a **Stephen Ambrose Historical Tour**. Explore the Union's coastal campaigns, from Sherman's march into Savannah to the Port Royal Experiment, where formerly enslaved people took their first steps toward freedom. Enjoy expert-led lectures, gourmet dining, and stunning coastal views for a perfect blend of history, education, and relaxation.



## EXPERT



## HISTORIAN

**Gerry Prokopowicz, Ph.D.**

Gerald J. Prokopowicz, a professor at East Carolina University, specializes in Public History and the Civil War era. He hosts *Civil War Talk Radio* and has authored *Did Lincoln Own Slaves?* and *All for the Regiment*. Formerly the resident Lincoln Scholar at the Lincoln Museum, he helped create the award-winning exhibit Abraham Lincoln and the American Experiment and edited *Lincoln Lore*.

He serves on advisory boards for the Lincoln Studies Center and the Lincoln Forum and holds degrees from the University of Michigan and a Ph.D. from Harvard.

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Conveniences of a Cruise**

All the amenities and ease of traveling on an American Cruise Line ship.

**Excursions Exclusive to SAHT Guests**

SAHT guests will have exclusive excursions not offered by American Cruise Line, making this cruise a true Civil War tour SAHT guests expect.

Here are our exclusive excursions:

- **Fort Sumter:** The site where the first shots of the Civil War were fired, marking the start of the conflict in April 1861.
- **CSS Hunley:** Explore the world's first successful combat submarine and uncover the mysteries of this groundbreaking Confederate innovation.
- **Parris Island Museum:** Learn about the United States Marine Corps, from the Civil War through modern times.
- **Fort Pulaski:** Marvel at the impressive engineering of this brick fort, whose capture by Union forces showcased the power of rifled artillery.
- **Fort McAllister:** Visit this well-preserved Confederate earthen fort that withstood multiple Union naval attacks before falling in 1864.
- **Olustee Battlefield:** Walk the grounds of Florida's largest Civil War battle, where Union and Confederate forces clashed in a fierce engagement in 1864.

## ITINERARY



Civil War Cannon at Fort Sumter, South Carolina

- **Day 1 [Nov 16th] - Charleston, SC**

- Begin in historic Charleston, the birthplace of the Civil War. Visit **Fort Sumter**, where the first shots were fired in April 1861, setting the war in motion. That evening, gather for a Welcome Reception with your historian to preview the journey ahead.

- **Day 2 [Nov 17th]- Charleston, SC**

- Tour the CSS Hunley Museum, home to the first successful combat submarine, and uncover the mystery of its final mission. Then, transfer to your cruise ship and settle in as your historian delivers a lecture on the Civil War's coastal campaigns.

- **Day 3 [Nov 18th]- Beaufort, SC**

- Dock in Beaufort, SC, a key Union stronghold and site of the Port Royal Experiment. Visit the Parris Island Museum, then explore historic Beaufort on a ranger-led tour of its role in wartime emancipation.

- **Day 4 [Nov 19th] - Hilton Head, SC**

- Enjoy a day at sea with expert-led lectures covering military strategy, naval innovation, and the war's impact on civilians, alongside the ship's amenities.



## ITINERARY



Fort Pulaski

- **Day 5 [Nov 20th] - Savannah, GA**
  - Begin at Fort Pulaski, a Union stronghold that fell in 1862. Then, explore Savannah's historic district, with stops at the Owens-Thomas House, the Green-Meldrim House (Sherman's headquarters), and the Webb Military Museum.
- **Day 6 [Nov 21st] - On the Water**
  - Cruise while enjoying the ship's amenities and historian-led lectures on the Union's "Anaconda Plan" and the war's broader impact.
- **Day 7 [Nov 22nd]- Brunswick, GA**
  - Travel to Fort McAllister, a remarkably preserved Confederate earthwork fort that withstood multiple Union attacks before falling in 1864. Return to Brunswick for a stroll through its charming historic district.
- **Day 8 [Nov 23rd]- Amelia Island, FL**
  - Visit Fort Clinch, a key coastal defense held by Union troops and home to the first African American regiment in the Union Army. Then, tour Olustee Battlefield, Florida's largest Civil War battle site, following a scenic walking trail with interpretive stops.
- **Day 9 [Nov 24th] - Home from Jacksonville, FL**
  - After breakfast aboard the ship, transfer to Jacksonville International Airport (JAX), concluding your Civil War journey with a deeper understanding of the war's coastal campaigns.

## AMENITIES



## ACCOMODATIONS

- One night at a downtown Charleston hotel
- Seven nights on the American Cruise Line ship, American Liberty

## INCLUDED

- A professional historian lecturing and answering questions from the Welcome
- Dinner to the Farewell Dinner Tour manager to handle guest needs and on-the-ground logistics
- All meals from the welcome reception to breakfast on the final morning
- Entrance fees to all museums, sites, and parks Private motor coach for our exclusive excursions
- Hotel taxes and service charges
- Educational road book of maps and historical information Gratuities for ship staff

## ACTIVITY LEVEL

This tour requires walking on uneven terrain. In general, guests walk about three miles over the course of each day.

## NOT INCLUDED

- Flights
- Gratuities for historian, tour manager, and bus driver
- Travel Insurance - always highly recommended



## SHIP DETAILS

**AMERICAN LIBERTY**

- Inaugurated 2022-2023
- Observation Areas at the Bow
- Lower Capacity of 100 Passengers for a more Intimate Guest Experience
- Indoor Fitness Center
- Private Balconies in most Staterooms
- Elevator Access to Each Deck



## HOW TO BOOK

**PRICING**

- Single Room: \$11,640
- Double Room \$8340
- Vista Balcony Room Upgrade
  - Price Double Occupancy:
    - \$300 per person
  - Single Occupancy:
    - \$200 per person

**PAYMENT DETAILS**

- \$1,000 per person deposit is due at registration to confirm your seat; \$500 of each deposit is nonrefundable in case of cancellation.
- Fifty percent (50%) is due 150 days prior to the tour start date.
- Full balance (100%) is due at 100 days prior to the tour start date.

**NEED MORE INFORMATION?**

- You can call the Stephen Ambrose Historical Tours office at 504.821.9283
- Visit the website: <https://wacphila.org/tour/civil-war-cruise/>

**CLICK HERE TO BOOK**  
**NOW!**