

LOWER TOWN HARPERS FERRY TRAIL GUIDE



1. INFORMATION CENTER

Start your visit here with an orientation to park stories and information.

2. RESTORATION MUSEUM

Explore "layers" of history and discover how a building changes over time.

3. FRANKEL'S CLOTHING STORE

This exhibit reveals a revolution in the clothing industry tied to machines and advanced by war.

4. INDUSTRY MUSEUM

Transportation improvements and industrial innovations gave rise to Harpers Ferry. Original machines feature weapons production technology.

5. NATIONAL PARK BOOKSHOP

Stop here for a fine selection of books, videos and gifts of local and national interest.

6. BLACKSMITH SHOP

Experience some of the sights, sounds and stories of a 19th century working-class town. (Open seasonally).

7. HAMILTON STREET

Building foundations and photos mark the sites of a pre-Civil War riverside neighborhood.

8. HARPERS FERRY: A PLACE IN TIME

Explore the growth of the town from past to present. **Video**

9. PROVOST MARSHAL OFFICE

Learn about the Provost Marshal who served as judge, jailer and, if need be, executioner.

10. MRS. STIPES BOARDING HOUSE

Visit the widow Cornelia Stipes' boarding house during the Civil War. Rooms occupied by war correspondent James Taylor and a military officer are located on the second floor.

11. DRY GOODS STORE

Clothes, hardware, liquor, groceries and other merchandise that arrived daily by railroad and canal in the 19th century are on display.

12. ARSENAL SQUARE

Arms produced at the Harpers Ferry Armory

were stored in two brick buildings here – the Small Arsenal and Large Arsenal.

13. JOHN BROWN'S FORT

Originally the Armory's fire enginehouse and watchman's office, John Brown barricaded himself here during the final moments of his raid.

14. THE POINT

View the gap in the Blue Ridge Mountains as you stand at the confluence of the Potomac and Shenandoah rivers.

15. JOHN BROWN MUSEUM

Explore the story of John Brown and the struggle over slavery. **Video**

16. ALLIES FOR FREEDOM

Learn about the five African-American raiders who joined John Brown. (Located on the second floor of the John Brown Museum).

17. HARPERS FERRY WETLANDS

Discover the history and nature of this special resource along the bottomland of the Shenandoah River.

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18. EDUCATION & THE STRUGGLE FOR EQUALITY

Find out about one of the first schools in the New South for former slaves, and learn about the struggle for equality in the 20th century.

19. ALFRED BURTON JEWELRY STORE

This frame building, reconstructed from original historic fabric, displays the wares and tools of this local businessman.

20. CONFECTIONERY

Learn a tragic story of a family touched by war.

21. CIVIL WAR MUSEUM

Discover the twists and turns of four years of civil war in Harpers Ferry.

22. BLACK VOICES

Listen to human stories of struggle and triumph.

23. HARPER HOUSE

This is the oldest surviving building in Harpers Ferry. The lower level, halfway up the Stone Steps, exhibits an armory worker's apartment.

24. JEFFERSON ROCK

Here in 1783, Thomas Jefferson described this view as "worth a voyage across the Atlantic."

TRAIL INFORMATION

Sidewalks and crushed stone foot-paths. Beware of cobblestone gutters. The climb up the Stone Steps to the Harper House and Jefferson Rock is moderately strenuous. Watch for traffic on all roadways.