



# Field Trip Planner

## Scheduling a Field Trip

1. **All field trip visits to the park are by appointment only.**  
We do not accept reservations by phone. Field trip organizers must complete and submit a registration form via email or fax. Your field trip is confirmed **ONLY** when you receive an emailed confirmation.
2. **Reservations must be made at least two weeks prior to the date you intend to visit.**  
Available space for spring (March to May) programs fills quickly.
3. **Ranger-led programs are conducted for no more than 50 students.** For groups larger than 50, a variety of self-guided activities are available which allow you to get the most of your visit. See page 6.
4. **Review the Field Trip Policies and Expectations on page two of this planner.**
5. **Reservation sheets, program information, support materials, and additional classroom activities are available on the park website.**
6. **All ranger-guided programs are subject to staff availability.**

We look forward to assisting you and your students in learning more about the Andersonville prison and prisoners of war.



## Telling the Story of Prisoners of War

A visit to Andersonville provides a unique opportunity to study the American Civil War. The National Park Service has developed a series of lesson plans and on-site programs designed to help students from fifth through twelfth grade understand how the Camp Sumter military prison, commonly called Andersonville, fits into the larger story of the American Civil War.

This newsletter provides an overview of our programs and educational resources developed for the Civil War Sesquicentennial.

Teachers can use the lesson plans in the classroom and bring their students to the park for self-guided and/or ranger-led programs geared to support the lesson plan. Ranger programs are sixty minutes in length and can accommodate up to 50 students. For groups larger than 50, a variety of self-guided activities are available which allow you to get the most of your visit. All educational programs are free of charge.



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

## NATIONAL PRISONER OF WAR MUSEUM



Andersonville National Historic Site was established by Congress in 1970 to "provide an understanding of the Civil War prisoner of war (POW) story, to interpret the role of prisoner of war camps in history, and to commemorate the sacrifice of Americans who lost their lives in such camps."

The park includes the site of the Andersonville Prison, the National Prisoner of War Museum, and Andersonville National Cemetery. The museum opened at Andersonville in 1998, and it is dedicated to all brave men and women of the United States who have suffered captivity. Close to 20,000 soldiers and their dependents are buried in the cemetery at Andersonville.

Today, the park is a tribute to the prisoner of war experience. Etched on memorials throughout the park, and throughout the prisoner of war experience in American history, is the phrase, "Death Before Dishonor," symbolizing the American resolve to uphold the values of freedom and liberty in the face of adversity.

### Andersonville National Historic Site Andersonville National Cemetery

496 Cemetery Road  
Andersonville, GA 31711

**Phone**  
229 924-0343

**Email**  
ande\_interpretation@nps.gov

**Official Park Website**  
<http://www.nps.gov/ande/>

**Teacher Information**  
<http://www.nps.gov/ande/forteachers/>

**For Kids**  
<http://www.nps.gov/ande/forkids/>

The National Park Service cares for the special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

Produced by the Division of Interpretation and Education  
1 August 2012

# Field Trip Policies & Expectations

Please consider the following when planning and scheduling a field trip to the park.

- While in the prison site, it is important to remember that 13,000 American soldiers died on these grounds. Your students should be courteous and refrain from running, shouting, or horseplay.
- One of the causes of death at Andersonville Prison was exposure. There is little shade and can be very hot in the spring and summer or very cold in the fall and winter. For safety and comfort, students should wear close-toed shoes and be appropriately dressed for the weather.
- It is the responsibility of the teachers and group chaperones to control student discipline and behavior.
- To provide for an effective experience, ranger-led programs are only available to groups of 50 students or less. **We cannot accommodate large groups by splitting.**
- Please notify the park if you will be more than 15 minutes late. If you are more than 15 minutes late, the park cannot guarantee the availability of staff to conduct ranger led programs.
- No food or drinks are allowed inside the National Prisoner of War museum. No food or drink other than water is allowed on the prison site and in the National Cemetery. Please dispose of all trash properly.

Before visiting the park, please review these rules of park etiquette with your students.

- **The Andersonville National Cemetery is an active cemetery.** If there is a funeral in progress please be respectful of the mourners. There are 20,000 American servicemen and their families buried here. At no time should there be running, loud talking, or horseplay.
- The theater in the museum only seats 45. If there are more than 45 people in your group it will be necessary to divide your group and rotate them between the museum and the theatre.
- There is a picnic area along the road from the prison site to the cemetery. This is not a covered pavilion and is available on a first come first serve basis.
- There is a small bookstore inside the museum. Park staff request that there be no more than five students in the bookstore at a time. While your students are in the bookstore a teacher or adult chaperone **must** be present inside the bookstore.
- Respect the landscape and monuments of the park. Do not climb on the earthworks, monuments, or cannon. Do not allow your students to splash or drink the water at Providence Spring or the courtyard fountain.
- Failure to comply with park policies may result in your students or your group being asked to leave by park staff.

# Summary of Educational Program Offerings

All educational programming at Andersonville National Historic Site meets the following Georgia Performance Standards: SSUSH9c, SSUSH 9d, SSUSH9f, SS8H6b, SS5H1c, SS5H1e

Please remember that ranger-led programs are conducted for no more than 50 students. Detailed overviews of the ranger-led programs follow on the next two pages.

## Ranger-Led Programs

### “Life & Death in a Rebel Prison”

Students will explore the experience of becoming a prisoner during the Civil War. Students will be given a prisoner profile highlighting when, where, and how the prisoner was captured. This helps students tie in the prisoner experience to events of the rest of the war. At the end of the program students will discover what happened to their assigned prisoner. See page four for more information on this program.

### “Relics of Civilization”

Students will examine the experiences of Union prisoners of war through the items they brought, made, traded, and stole. Conducted among the shebangs in the reconstructed northeast corner, this program explores the meager living conditions of prisoners. Students will work in groups to study items and discuss how prisoners might adapt these items in unique ways in order to meet their daily needs. See page five for more information on this program.

Each activity is approximately 60 minutes in duration.

## Self-Guided Programs and Activities (See page six for detailed information)

### Park Films

So as not to impact the experience of other visitors we ask that school groups view the park film(s) before their field trip. Please request a copy of one or both park films when completing the Field Trip Request Form.

### Museum Scavenger Hunt

Worksheet for students to work through as they explore the National Prisoner of War Museum, emphasizing the Civil War prisoner experience. *If you plan on using this activity, you will need run copies for your students before you arrive.* This activity is approximately 30 minutes in duration.

### Cemetery Monument Activity

Teacher-led activity that guides students through the Andersonville National Cemetery and explores how former prisoners memorialized Andersonville after the Civil War. The National Cemetery is an active cemetery and if there is a funeral in progress park staff asks that you refrain from this activity. *If you plan on using this activity, you will need run copies for your students before you arrive.* This activity is approximately one hour in duration.

### Audio Tour

If your bus or van is equipped with a CD player or Cassette player you can use this driving tour of the park. At points of interest your students will be able to get out and see that particular location. This tour includes both the prison site and the National Cemetery.

Park staff will notify you if there is a funeral taking place in the cemetery. In which case, we ask that you refrain from touring the cemetery. The audio tour is one hour in duration.

### Prison Walking Tour

Teacher or group leader will use the Walking Tour Guide to lead students around the prison site. The guide contains information about key locations and questions to ask students on a self-guided tour. Allow at least two hours.



American POW: Confederate soldier during the Civil War, 1861-1865. NPS/Keith Rocco

# Ranger-Led Program

## *“Life and Death in a Rebel Prison”*

### **Program Overview**

Students will explore how Union soldiers became prisoners during the Civil War with the help of prisoner profiles. Each student will receive a card explaining the details of a real Civil War prisoner. Throughout the program they will be asked to consider things from the perspective of their historical figure. The physical tour centers on the reconstructed North Gate, the same type of gate that greeted thousands of prisoners. This program will address prison life, including the harsh conditions and methods of survival. This program also places Andersonville in the larger context of the Civil War, linking the events that created the prisons and also explaining how troop movement or decisions of military leaders helped or hurt those held in the stockade. At the end of the program, students will discover what happened to their historical prisoner.

### **Applicable George Performance Standards:**

SSUSH9c, SSUSH 9d, SSUSH9f, SS8H6b, SS5H1c, SS5H1e

### **Program Length:**

This activity is approximately 60 minutes in duration.

### **Program Location:**

Prison Site - North Gate Reconstruction

### **Logistics:**

Students will meet the ranger in the vicinity of the northwest corner of the prison site. Buses may be parked at the Museum parking lot or use the tour road to off-load or park buses at the pull-out next to the Wisconsin Monument.

### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Students should be able to explain how and why soldiers were captured and transported to a prisoner of war camp.
2. Students should be able to explain that the 45,000 prisoners reflected America’s diverse population and that each prisoners’ experience was unique.
3. Students should be able to describe the challenges faced by soldiers imprisoned at Andersonville.
4. Students should be able to explain the consequences of being a prisoner of war during the Civil War.

### **Group Size:**

50 Students or less; this program works best with a minimum of 25 participants.

### **A Note About the Program Title**

Andersonville survivor Robert H. Kellogg’s 1865 memoir, *Life and Death in Rebel Prisons*, was among the first to be published at the end of the Civil War. A vivid account of his experiences at the Andersonville and Florence military prisons, the title of the program is inspired by his book.

**Ranger-led programs are conducted for no more than 50 students at a time.  
We cannot accomodate large groups by splitting.**

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# Ranger-Led Program

## *“Relics of Civilization”*

### **Program Overview**

Students will examine the experience of Union prisoners of war through the items they brought, made, traded and stole. From buttons to bread, common items could mean the difference between life and death for these men. The physical program centers on the reconstructed northeast corner where tents structures help remind the visitor of the meager living conditions for most prisoners. Students will work in groups to study items and discuss how prisoners might adapt these items in unique ways to meet their daily needs. Time will also be taken to explore the economic system in the prison, which included illegal trade with guards, a store in the middle of the prison and the simple trading between fellow prisoners. Students will be asked to consider whether they would have made the right trades, saved the best resources or pursued the jobs that would either have saved or shortened their lives as prisoners.

### **Applicable George Performance Standards:**

SSUSH9c, SSUSH 9d, SSUSH9f, SS8H6b, SS5H1c, SS5H1e

### **Intended Grade Levels:**

This activity is geared toward younger students and is most appropriate for fifth grade and below.

### **Program Length:**

This activity is approximately 60 minutes in duration.

### **Program Location:**

Prison Site - Northeast Corner Reconstruction

### **Logistics:**

Students will meet the ranger inside the northeast corner of the prison site. Buses may be parked at the Museum parking lot or use the tour road to drop students off at the northeast corner.

### **Learning Objectives:**

1. Students will be able to describe what day-to-day challenges faced prisoners
2. Students will be able explain the “material culture” of daily prison life.
3. Students will be able to explain and demonstrate how prisoners used minimal tools and supplies in order to meet their needs.

### **Group Size:**

50 Students or less

### **A Note About the Program Title**

On July 13, 1864, Andersonville prisoner John Ransom noted in his diary that he had “. . . *two small gold rings on my finger, worn ever since I left home. Have also a small photograph album with eight photographs in. Relics of civilization. Should I get these things through to our lines they will have quite a history.*” The title of this program is inspired by his words and experiences.

**Ranger-led programs are conducted for no more than 50 students at a time.  
We cannot accomodate large groups by splitting.**

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# Self-Guided Programs and Activities

Recognizing that not all visiting groups will be able to attend a ranger-led program, the park has developed the following activities to choose from when planning a self-guided field trip. It is the responsibility of the teachers and group chaperones to control student discipline and behavior. You are responsible for dividing and rotating your group among the activities you select during your visit.

## Before Your Visit

### Films

So as not to impact the experience of other visitors we ask that school groups view the park film(s) before their field trip. Please request a copy of one or both park films when completing the Field Trip Request Form.

This offering is free, but depends on the timely return of the DVDs so others may use it and this offering can remain free.

### *Echoes of Captivity*

A 27-minute film on the prisoner of war experience throughout American history.

### *Voices From Andersonville*

A 28-minute film on the history of the Andersonville Prison during the Civil War. *If you are teaching the Civil War, this film should be your choice.*

### Pre-Visit Activities

Material to assist in Pre-Visit, On-site and Post-visit educational activities and reflection can be found in the For Teachers section of the park website.

## In the Museum

The starting point for any visit, the National Prisoner of War Museum includes a theater, exhibits, bookstore, and restrooms.

### Self-guided Museum Tour

The exhibits are divided into two areas: a central hallway, and the main gallery. The hallway exhibits focus on the Civil War story at Andersonville.

The main gallery explores the experiences of Prisoners of War throughout American history. *If you are teaching the Civil War, the hallway exhibits should be your focus.*

- Activity duration: 30 minutes
- Maximum capacity: 45

### Museum Scavenger Hunt

A worksheet is available for students to work through as they explore the National Prisoner of War Museum, emphasizing the Civil War prisoner experience.

*If you plan on using this activity, you will need run copies for your students before you arrive.*

- Activity duration: 30 minutes
- Maximum capacity: 30

### Bookstore Visit

No more than five students should be in the bookstore at a time with chaperone.

## On the Park Grounds

### Cemetery Monument Activity

Teacher-led activity that guides students through the Andersonville National Cemetery and explores how former prisoners memorialized Andersonville after the Civil War. *If you plan on using this activity, you will need run copies for your students before you arrive.*

- Activity duration: 1 hour
- Maximum capacity: 50

### Audio Tour

If your bus or van is equipped with a CD player or Cassette player you can use this driving tour of the park. At points of interest your students can get out and see that particular location. This tour includes both the prison site and the National Cemetery.

- Activity duration: 1 hour  
30 minutes at prison site  
30 minutes in cemetery

### Prison Walking Tour

Teacher or group leader will use the Walking Tour Guide to lead students around the prison site. The guide contains information about key locations and questions to ask students on a self-guided tour. Allow two hours.

- Activity duration: 2 hours



Living historians describe prison life to students during the annual Living History Weekend in March.

## Additional Resources

Curriculum-based activities designed to further explore the Andersonville story are available for use in your classroom. Each provides a different way of teaching about the Civil War prisoner of War experience and were developed in cooperation with certified teachers in the State of Georgia.

These activities include:

- Historic Photo Analysis Activity
- Document-based Inquiry
- Economics and Trade
- Medical Conditions
- Companion for using the 1996 film *Andersonville* in the classroom

Curriculum Materials are found online at: <http://www.nps.gov/ande/forteachers/curriculum-materials.htm>

### Junior Ranger Program

The park's Junior Ranger Program is another resource you can use in the classroom or in the park: <http://www.nps.gov/ande/forkids/beajuniorranger.htm>

### Beyond the Civil War

While most classes visit the park to teach the American Civil War, Camp Sumter is just the beginning of the park's story. When Andersonville was added to the National Park System in 1970, Congress directed that the park "interpret the role of prisoner of war camps in history, and to commemorate the sacrifice of Americans who lost their lives in such camps." The National Prisoner of War Museum is where the broader mission of the park is carried out; the main exhibit area includes artifacts, interviews and exhibits which explore the experiences of POWs from the American Revolution through the War on Terror.

Consider a visit to the museum when teaching Twentieth Century wars.



American POWs: WWII pilot supporting a Civil War soldier. NPS/Keith Rocco