



GETTYSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK

145th Anniversary Real-time Programs

Join a team of National Park Service Rangers for a series of free special short programs that commemorate the 145th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg. A total of 20 programs follow and explain the battle in chronological order and as close as possible to the real time when the events took place. The programs range in length from a half an hour to an hour.

Although visitors may attend the programs of their choosing, the information presented in each links to other programs in the series so each program is not designed to be an independent presentation. Minimal walking is involved, though visitors will need to make short drives by vehicle between program locations. The program number corresponds with the accompanying map that marks the starting location of each.

July 1

The convergence of ten roads, along with chance, brought the opposing armies together at Gettysburg. The battle began during the early morning hours and continued for nearly ten hours. The six programs listed below examine the major events and explain how the battle grew from a mere skirmish in the morning into a full-fledged engagement by afternoon.

1. 9:00 – 9:50: **The Battle Opens. Overview of Campaign and Buford vs. Heth**, with **Eric Campbell** (Meet at the West End Information Station, Rt. 30 West)
2. 10:00 – 10:45: **The Infantry Battle, Wadsworth vs. Heth**, with **Jim Flook**
(Meet at Reynolds Woods, Auto Tour Stop 1)
3. 1:30 – 2:15: **The Battle Grows; The Struggle for Oak Ridge**, with **Rick Bartol**
(Meet at the Eternal Peace Light Memorial, Auto Tour Stop 2)
4. 2:30-3:15: **The Afternoon Fight for McPherson’s Ridge and Seminary Ridge**, with **Raffi Andonian** (Meet at Reynolds Woods, Auto Tour Stop 1)
5. 3:30 – 4:15: **Barlow’s Knoll; Early defeats the 11th Corps**, with **Karlton Smith**.
(Meet at Barlow Knoll, East Howard Avenue)
6. 5:00 – 5:45: **The Union Rallies on Cemetery Hill**, with **Chuck Teague**
(Meet at Baltimore Street entrance to National Cemetery)

July 2

Hoping to follow up his army’s success on July 1, Gen. Robert E. Lee decided to assault the Union battle line located on a series of hills and ridges south of the town. The ensuing Confederate attacks that afternoon and evening struck both flanks of the Union battle line and resulted in fighting at places such as Little Round Tops, Devil’s Den, the Wheatfield, Peach Orchard and Culp’s Hill, among others. The eight programs below visit these famous landmarks and others and explain how this combat resulted in the bloodiest day of the battle.

7. 2:30-3:15: **Planning and Preparation, Union and Confederate Plans for July 2** with **Bill Hewitt** (Meet at the North Carolina Monument, Auto Tour Stop 4)
8. 3:30 – 4:00: **Longstreet’s Flank March and Preparations to Assault the Union Left**, with **Karlton Smith** (Meet at the Alabama Monument, Auto Tour Stop 7)

July 2, continued

- 9. 4:15 – 4:45: Little Round Top, with Kyle Stetz**
(Meet on Little Round Top at the General Warren statue)
- 10. 5:00 – 5:35: Devil’s Den with Raffi Andonian**
(Meet at the Devil’s Den Parking Lot)
- 11. 5:45 – 6:15: The Wheatfield, with Jim Flook**
(Meet in the Wheatfield, Auto Tour Stop 9)
- 12. 6:30 – 7:00: The Peach Orchard, with Chris Gwinn**
(Meet in the Peach Orchard at the Ranger Program Sign)
- 13. 7:20 – 8:00: Crisis at the Union Center with Kevin Bowman**
(Meet at the Pennsylvania Memorial, Auto Tour Stop 12)
- 14. 8:15 – 9:00: East Cemetery Hill and Culp’s Hill with Chuck Teague**
(Meet at the Baltimore Street entrance to the Soldiers’ National Cemetery).

July 3

Although famous for “Pickett’s Charge,” the grand and final Confederate attack at Gettysburg, the final day of the battle also witnessed other critical areas of fighting. The six programs below examine the major actions of the entire day, from the bitter struggle for control of Culp’s Hill (the longest sustained combat of the battle) to the cannonade and frontal assault upon the Union center on Cemetery Ridge.

- 15. 7:30 – 8:00: Overview for July 3, Union & Confederate Preparations, with Bill Hewitt**
(Meet at the General Meade Equestrian Monument on Cemetery Ridge, near Auto Tour Stop 15)
- 16. 8:30 – 9:15: The Opening Attacks on Culp’s Hill, with Greg Coco**
(Meet at the Spangler’s Spring Parking Lot, Auto Tour Stop 13)
- 17. 9:30 – 10:00: The Final Struggle for Culp’s Hill.**
(Meet at the Spangler’s Spring Parking Lot, Auto Tour Stop 13)
- 18. 11:00 – 11:30: Planning and Preparation for Pickett’s Charge, with Matt Atkinson**
(Meet in the Peach Orchard at the Ranger Program Sign)
- 19. 1:00-1:45: The Cannonade, with Chuck Teague**
(Meet at the High Water Mark, Auto Tour Stop 15)
- 20. 4:00 - 5:00: Pickett’s Charge, with Chris Gwinn**
(Meet at Ranger Program Sign in Cemetery Parking Lot)