

ANDERSONVILLE PRISON HISTORICAL HIKE

The Andersonville Prison Historical Hike is a walking history lesson through Andersonville National Historic Site and the town of Andersonville. This hike is designed to acquaint young visitors with the tragic prisoner of war stories throughout American history.

LOGISTICS

Duration: 4 hours +

Distance: 3 miles

Accessibility: Walking on paved and grassy surfaces, uneven terrain. A vehicle may follow approximate course, if needed.

Locations: National Prisoner of War Museum, prison site, national cemetery, town of Andersonville

Group Size: Suitable for 2 - 200 participants. If your group is larger than 15, you will want to divide into smaller groups and designate hike leaders. One set of questions may be filled in by the group, as long as each participant can answer the questions. *Think green: To save paper, start printing on pg. 2 and print double sided pages, if possible.*

Hike Requirements

1. Each group should request a park map from the museum.
2. Scouts should be in proper uniform and on their best behavior.
3. The hike leader is responsible for the safety of the hikers. This hike is in two parts: one in the National Historic Site and the other across Highway 49 in the town of Andersonville. We require that the hikers be driven between these two locations due to the hazard of crossing the highway. This is a dangerous road!
4. The hike group should be under the supervision of a responsible person over the age of 21.
5. If a funeral is in progress, do not approach funeral services, open graves or heavy equipment.
6. Show respect for the graves, monuments, and other features. **Please do not sit on any gravestones or climb on any monuments or cannons. All boots on the ground is a good rule to follow.**
7. All of the earthworks are from the time of the prison's operation. **Please do not climb over or walk on any of the earthworks (earthen forts).**
8. Fire ant hills and mounds are common in this area. Do not disturb them. Poisonous snakes and poison ivy are also in the area. Do not try to capture any snakes you may find. Be careful and stay alert.
9. The "Leadership Rule of Two" should be in effect at all times.
10. When it is necessary to walk near a road, walk beside it, not on it. Walk single file, facing oncoming traffic.
11. Each hiker is encouraged to pick up litter as they are hiking.
12. While inside the National Prisoner of War Museum, all participants should talk softly, walk, and be respectful to other visitors. No more than five scouts in the bookstore at one time, and a chaperone should also be present. No eating or drinking inside the museum.

Patch Fulfillment

Patches of various designs are available for purchase at the museum store.

Instructions:

Answers to each question are based on information from exhibit panels. Please do not lean on panels, or use them as writing surfaces. This can damage the signs.

National Prisoner of War Museum: Questions 1 – 15

What is a POW?

1. In 1929, several nations signed an agreement that outlined several rules, which provided for the ethical treatment of POWs. One of these rules states “They [POWs] must at all times be humanely treated and protected, particularly against acts of violence, insults, and public curiosity”? What is the name of this convention?

Capture

2. Members of the Armed Forces of the United States follow a Code of Conduct. Which Article number of the Code of Conduct states: “I will never surrender of my own free will. If in command I will never surrender the members of my command while they still have the means to resist”?

Journey to Camp

3. During World War II (Two), American and Filipino soldiers captured at Corregidor and Bataan were forced to march to their prison camp. Thousands of these men died or were killed during this forced march. This march is known as the Bataan Death March. When did this march take place?

Living Conditions

4. During the War of 1812 which was fought between America and Great Britain, many American POWs were taken back to England for confinement. Where, in England, were more than 1700 American POWs imprisoned?

News and Communications

5. During World War II, to inform their fellow inmates of the news from the outside world, prisoners printed newspapers to be distributed among the POWs. What did the prisoners make to receive the news from the outside and that the prison authorities in both Germany and Japan forbid them to keep?

Those that Wait

6. During the Civil War, two charitable organizations labored to improve conditions for Union POWs. What are the names of these two organizations?

_____ and _____

Privation

7. During the Viet Nam War, the North Vietnamese prison authorities punished their captives for supposed wrongdoings. What was one item used to punish their POWs?
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Morale and Relationships

8. During World War II, the prisoners at Camp O'Donnell erected a simple memorial to their fellow inmates that had died. In what year did the POWs at Camp O'Donnell erect the large white cross in "Memory of the American Dead at Camp O'Donnell War Personnel Enclosure"?
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Escape

9. During World War II a daring escape plan was attempted. It is known as the "Great Escape." From which prison did they escape?
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Freedom

10. Charlie Plum wrote a book about his experiences as POW in Viet Nam titled I'm No Hero. How many years was Charlie Plum held captive as a POW?
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Center Hallway (Civil War)

11. One man is generally blamed for the misery and atrocities associated with Andersonville Prison. What is the name of the man Union POWs blamed for the conditions at Andersonville and whom they felt symbolized "all the horror and atrocity of Andersonville"?
 12. In July 1862 an agreement was made between the Union Army and the Confederate Army that established the rules and procedures to be followed when exchanging or paroling prisoners. What is the name of this agreement?
 13. After an inspection in June 1862, the President of the Sanitary Commission declared "Nothing but fire can cleanse" the barracks and urged that the camp be abandoned. Which camp was the President of the Sanitary Commission describing?
 14. According to the letters between General Grant and General Lee in October 1864, Grant would accept "nothing less than..." what?
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15. During the Civil War there were approximately 150 POW prisons in the Union and Confederate states combined. What are the names of six (6) other Civil War POW prisons?

Exit the museum through the back doors and enter the Commemorative Courtyard. The Courtyard is a quiet place to sit and think about the POW experience. Please take a few moments to enjoy the plaques and the sculpture as you reflect about the daily trials and tribulations that a POW must overcome just to survive. After you have examined the Courtyard please exit out the back and continue your hike through the Andersonville Prison site. Start at the top of the horseshoe shaped sidewalk as you exit from the Courtyard. Walk along the right hand side to continue your hike.

Prison Site: Questions 16 – 30

16. Camp Sumter, the official name given to Andersonville Prison by the Confederates, started operating February 1864 and imprisoned approximately 45,000 men during its fourteen months of operation. Approximately how many Union POWs died while imprisoned at Andersonville?

17. The Confederate authorities were afraid the Union Cavalry would attack and try to liberate the prisoners. What structures did the Confederates build to defend the camp against Union Cavalry raids?

As you reach the end of the sidewalk, look to your left and you will see the reconstructed Northeast corner of the prison. Using caution when crossing the road, walk over to this site.

18. The section of wall represents the Northeast corner of the addition the Confederates built to accommodate the continuously growing number of prisoners. The logs are twenty (20) feet tall standing on end with five (5) feet buried in a trench. The logs are circular in shape and not hewn square because there was not enough time to do this work. What is the date this section of the prison was opened to the Union POWs?

19. For the most part, the Confederate authorities did not provide any shelters or material for the Union POWs at Andersonville. Therefore the prisoners had to make their shelters from anything they could find or had brought into the prison with them. What types of materials would be most valuable for building shelters according to prisoners?
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Now walk westward along the road toward the monuments in the Northwest corner of the prison.

20. As you walk toward the monuments you will notice two rows of white markers. The outer row indicates the outline of the prison wall. What does the inner row of markers indicate?
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21. The prisoners at Andersonville were allowed to dig wells to get fresh water. You will notice several small concrete squares with silver discs on the tops. These mark the locations of these historic wells. As a prisoner, would you and your group invest the time and energy to dig a well? Why or why not?
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22. Although some prisoners escaped by tunneling out, most escaped while on work details outside the prison walls. Approximately, how many prisoners escaped from Andersonville?
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23. A Catholic priest from Savannah stayed at Andersonville nearly four months to administer to the physical and spiritual needs of the sick and dying prisoners. He had once been a POW himself. What is the name of this Catholic priest?
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Now walk southward down the hill. You will see the reconstructed portion of the North Gate to the prison. This gate was used as the main entrance into the prison. Notice the logs are hewn square. This is because this represents a part of the first section of the prison that was constructed. The logs are hewn because the Confederate authorities thought they had enough time to build this section of the prison.

24. Go into the gate section. According to the wayside exhibit located there, what are words you would use to describe the men in this picture?
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25. According to this wayside exhibit, what is the number of prisoners imprisoned at Andersonville in August 1864?
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Continue walking down the hill to the stone pavilion.

26. This is the site of Providence Spring. Providence Spring appeared one day while the prisoners were praying for relief from the summer sun and a draught through which they were suffering. On what date did Providence Spring appear?
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27. This pavilion was erected after the war to commemorate the appearance of this spring. What year was this pavilion erected and why did survivors care to mark this spot?
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Now walk toward the parking lot until you come to the wayside exhibit located there.

28. A branch of a stream ran through the prison at Andersonville. This branch was the main source of water for the prison. What is the name of the stream of which this branch is part?
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Now walk southward and up the hill to your left toward the earthen fort with the footbridge.

29. This fort is called the Star Fort because its shape resembles a star. There were a total of nine cannon placed in this fort. Many of these cannons were aimed into the prison. Why?
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30. Next to the parking lot is another wayside exhibit, which tells about the prison hospital site. This is the site of the largest and last hospital built at Andersonville. What is the total number of hospital sites at Andersonville?
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At this time you will want to return to your vehicles and drive to the town Andersonville by departing out the park exit. The next questions take place outside of the national park.

The Drummer Boy Museum is a privately owned museum in the town of Andersonville. These questions can be answered in the lobby of the museum without paying admission. Please remind scouts that the museum is funded entirely through donations, if they would like to see the rest of the museum. Skip questions 31 and 32 if the museum is closed.

Town of Andersonville: Questions 31 – 34

31. In the lobby of the Drummer Boy Museum, the Confederate Medal of Honor awarded to Captain Henry Wirz is displayed. What year was the medal awarded to Captain Wirz? How long after the war was this?
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32. The Drummer Boy Museum contains a number of artifacts and items related to drummer boys. What role did drummer boys serve in Civil War armies, and how old were they?

Exit the Drummer Boy Museum and find the monument in the center of town.

33. This monument was dedicated to the memory of the man that is generally blamed for all the misery at Andersonville Prison. This man was captured at the close of the war and taken to Washington DC where he was tried for his alleged crimes and sentenced to death. He was executed by hanging November 10, 1865. Even today, some people say he was unjustly convicted. To whom is the monument in the town of Andersonville dedicated?

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34. Today, based on what you learned, would you erect this monument?
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After concluding your time in town, you will want to return to your vehicles. Turn left onto Highway 49 and re-enter the park by the main entrance. Follow the signs to the national cemetery. This section of the hike starts at the Georgia Monument. Use your park map for directions. Start looking for answers to the following questions by reading the wayside exhibit near the post marked number 1.

Cemetery: Questions 35 – 49

35. The prisoners that died at Andersonville Prison were buried in this location even before it became a National Cemetery. After the war, to pay homage and to honor the prisoners buried here, the prison cemetery was then established as a National Cemetery. What is the date that Andersonville National Cemetery was created?

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36. One woman is closely associated with the establishment of the Andersonville National Cemetery. This woman raised the American flag at the National Cemetery for the first time. What is the name of this woman? What else is she famous for?

Now enter the cemetery grounds and turn right following the brick wall.

37. Find grave number 1 located under the tree near the brick wall. This is the grave of the first prisoner to die at Andersonville Prison and be buried in the cemetery. What is the name of the first prisoner to die at Andersonville and be buried in the cemetery?
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Now walk back toward the road and walk northward along this road toward the flagpole in the center of the cemetery. Along the side of the road is another wayside exhibit.

38. This wayside exhibit informs the reader about a former Andersonville prisoner. While imprisoned at Andersonville, he was given the duty of recording the names of the prisoners that died and were buried in the cemetery. What is the name of the former Andersonville prisoner that returned to Andersonville after the war to help establish the National Cemetery?

39. On the opposite side of the road is another wayside exhibit. This exhibit informs the reader about the gravestones used in the cemetery. When the National Cemetery was first established, wooden headboards were used to mark the graves. Later, stone markers replaced these wooden headboards. What is the date that the stone markers replaced the wooden headboards? *If you look carefully, you will see a few headstones that are thinner and do not have a federal shield. These are the oldest stone markers in the cemetery.*

40. Continue walking toward the flagpole and find the monument with the soldier standing on top. This is the first monument that was erected in the National Cemetery. It was erected in 1898. What state erected the first monument at Andersonville National Cemetery?

41. Several brothers were imprisoned together at Andersonville. Some survived but many died. Find grave number 4005. This is the grave of the brother of Adam Swarner who is buried in grave number 1. This brother died five months after Adam died. What is his name?

Return to the road and walk towards the flagpole and then take the road to the right. You will see another wayside exhibit. This exhibit informs the reader about the "Raiders." The Raiders were gangs of prisoners that preyed upon their fellow prisoners. The prisoners tried the ringleaders of these gangs for their crimes.

42. These ringleaders were found guilty of their crimes and hanged inside the prison. They were then buried in the cemetery. Notice the graves that are separate from the others. This was done to dishonor these men. Should these men be remembered? Why? Why not?

Continue walking along this road toward the large stone pavilion located at the rear of the cemetery. As you walk towards this pavilion you will notice a line of gravestones located to the left and the right of the traffic circle. This is the memorial section of the cemetery. No soldiers are actually buried here.

43. Find the memorial marker for Luther Story. Luther Story died during the Korean War. His body was never recovered and this stone was erected in his memory. Luther won a special award for his actions against the enemy. What is the name of this special award won by Luther Story?

Continue walking to Section H which is the larger section located to the left of the stone pavilion and in the Northeast area of the cemetery.

44. Find grave number 12,607. This man won the Medal of Honor for his actions at the Battle of Gettysburg, during the Civil War. What is the name of this man?
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Continue walking northward toward the brick wall at the back of Section H.

45. Find grave number 12,196. This is the grave of Lewis Tuttle. This gravestone has an unusual decoration attached: a dove. It is the cemetery's mystery in that we do not know who placed it there or exactly when. Why might someone place anything on a grave?
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Now walk toward the road. After you have reached the road turn to the right and find the monument located in the traffic circle.

46. The Oddfellows and Rebekahs Associations erected this monument. To whom is this monument dedicated?
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Continue walking along the road toward the large traffic circle with the flagpole in the center.

47. Find grave number 7373. This is the grave of Joseph Wyatt from Ohio. According to his gravestone, what was Joseph Wyatt's profession?
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Continue walking toward the flagpole. You will find a wayside exhibit alongside the road. This wayside exhibit informs the reader about the graves marked as "Unknown."

48. According to this wayside exhibit, out of the 12,920 prisoners that died at Andersonville, what is the number of graves that are marked "Unknown U.S. Soldier"?
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49. Find the monument with the soldier on top that has his head bowed and his hands resting on his musket. What state erected this monument in memory of her soldiers that died at Andersonville?
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Congratulations! You have just completed the Andersonville National Historic Site Hike. We hope you have enjoyed this walk and learned many new things along the way. Thank you for participating.