



Sunday In The Cemetery Tours: Frequently Asked Questions

What types of tours are available?

Besides the history tour, this year we are offering Civil War and Women's History tours. And, new this year, a special Behind-the-scenes tour. Please refer to the tour schedule for dates and times for these special tours.

Saturday walk-up tours highlight the gatehouses and sections of the cemetery not featured in the Sunday In The Cemetery tours.

Are reservations required for a tour?

Reservations are recommended for the Sunday tours, as the tours sell out quickly.

The Saturday tours are "walk-up" tours and no reservations are required.

What time are the tours?

On Sundays, the walking tours (which take approximately 1.5 hours) are at noon and 2:00 p.m.; the trolley tours are at 1:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - every Sunday* from June 5 through October 30.

The one-hour walk-up tours take place every Saturday at 2:00 p.m. from June 11 through October 29.*

*There are NO tours on Saturday, July 2 or Sunday, July 3.

We recommend people show up 15 minutes before the start of the tour. For the walking tours, sensible walking shoes are recommended as the tours do go off-road through the cemetery grounds.

What is the Women's History tour all about?

A 1.5-hour walk and/or trolley tour that features some of the remarkable women who are our permanent residents. Some pop up to say "Hi!" plus we discuss some issues, stories and ways these women contributed to our community and our nation.

What is the Civil War tour all about?

2011 is the 150th anniversary of the beginning of the Civil War. Forest Lawn has more than 2000 Civil War soldiers buried here, including seven Medal of Honor recipients and 10 generals. Members of the Buffalo Civil War Roundtable Benedict R. Maryniak Chapter conduct this special tour, which is led by a Civil War re-enactor who will point out the many people who had an active role during this historic time. Trolley tours are approximately 1.5-hours long.

What is the Behind-the-scenes tour all about?

This is new this year!! Forest Lawn President, Joseph Dispenza, and Interpretive Program Director, Sandy Starks, will host an entertaining trolley tour on Sunday, July 17 at 3:30 p.m. that takes guests to some special spots in the cemetery not visited on the standard history tour, and also into some of the private mausoleums in the cemetery. A wine and cheese reception follows in our historic chapel. This special event is approximately three hours long. Cost is \$50 per person.

How long are the tours?

The Sunday tours take approximately 1.5 hours. The walking distance is approximately 2.5 miles.

Saturday tours are approximately one hour long, and the walking distance is approximately one mile.

What is featured on the Sunday tours?

Here are a few of the people, places and things featured on the tour:

- Oishei Bell
- Mirror Lake

- Millard Fillmore and his family
- Birge Memorial
- Our Historic Chapel
- Red Jacket
- Sara Hinson – founder of Flag Day and started the Pledge of Allegiance in Buffalo schools
- Tombstone symbols and their meanings
- Some of our "permanent residents" will appear during the tour.

What is the difference between the walking and trolley tour?

Obviously much more area and more stories are covered on the trolley. The popularity of the walking tour is the "up close and personal viewing" one gets while strolling through the grounds. The same "permanent residents" are experienced on both tours (if they are above ground that day!).

What is featured on the Saturday tour?

Here are a few of the stops that are featured on the tour:

- *In Loving Memory* exhibit in the Main Street Gatehouses
- Grand Army of the Republic lot
- Colored Troops plaque
- Elk Monument
- Conjockey Creek (Serenity Falls and Scajaquada Creek)

How much are the tours?

- Sunday trolley - \$25
- Sunday Walking - \$15
- Saturday Walking - \$10
- Behind the Scenes - \$50

Visa®, MasterCard®, American Express® and Discover cards are accepted.

Where can I purchase tickets?

At the Forest Lawn office during regular business hours or by calling **716.885.1600**.

Any of our capable office associates will be able to take your order.

Do you have a group discount?

We do not offer group discounts. We do have an 11:30 a.m. time slot available on Sundays for groups that would like to have the trolley all to themselves. A minimum of 20 people is needed to book this time slot. Price is \$25 per person.

Do you have tours during the week?

Check our website as we sometimes will add a tour during the week.

Can we schedule a private tour?

Yes you can! Please call our tour coordinator, Lisa Testa, at 716.885-1606, ext 213 or Sandy Starks at 716.885-1606, ext 302, to hear about the many options available for your Forest Lawn experience.

Is there a limit as to the number of people who can go on a tour?

We sell 30 tickets for each Sunday in the Cemetery time slot. On private trolley tours, we ask that for a minimum of 20 people. Walking tours are usually limited to 20 people per docent. No minimums on private walking tours.

Where do I park?

There is plenty of free parking in the parking lots and roadways just inside the Delaware Avenue gate, where the Sunday tours begin.

Are children allowed on the tours?

It is suggested that children 12 years of age and older participate in the tour.

Are there restrooms available?

There are public restrooms next to our administration building.

Where do I check in for a tour?

On Sundays there is a check-in table under a tent located across from our office, just inside the Delaware Avenue gate.

On Saturdays, you will meet the docent at the Main Street gates.

What if it rains on a day a tour is scheduled?

Tours go rain or shine, so bring your umbrella. If there is to be excessive winds or severe lightning and thunder, we may cancel a tour.

How can we check if a tour is cancelled?

You can call our office at 716.885.1600 during business hours or our Sunday in the Cemetery tour line at 716.885.1606 ext 302. Cancellations will be posted by 8:00 a.m. on the day of the tour.

What is your exchange refund policy?

Please note that no refunds will be given on tickets unless the cemetery cancels the tour. If a tour is canceled, you may rebook (if available) for another day by calling 716.885.1600 during business hours or our Sunday in the Cemetery tour line at 716.885.1606, ext, 302.

Is the trolley handicapped accessible?

Yes it is! There is room for two wheelchairs. Be sure to state that you will need the designated handicapped space when you make a reservation

Tell me about the trolley

The trolley is heated, air conditioned and enclosed. The tour guide uses a microphone so all can hear.

What types of vehicles are allowed in the cemetery?

Because of the trees and condition of our historic bridges, there is a limited tour route available for 56-passenger coaches. Smaller coaches (up to a 36-passenger capacity) are allowed throughout the grounds.

Is there a place to picnic in the cemetery?

There are no picnic facilities available on the grounds.

What about school tours?

We'd be pleased to arrange a general or customized tour for your school. Choose from an approximately 1.5-hour guided walking or trolley tour. Visit www.education,forest-lawn.com for more information, or contact Lisa Testa at ltesta@forest-lawn.com or 716.885.1606, ext 213.

Rules and Recommendations

- Please wear sensible walking shoes for the walking tours, as we do go off road and through the cemetery grounds.
- Bottled water is recommended for walking tours.
- No food or drink (except closed water containers) is allowed on the trolleys.
- If it is a hot day, don't forget to wear sunscreen.
- All bus tours must check in at the office before entering the grounds. If a tour comes in and does not check in with the office, they will be asked to leave the grounds.



FOREST LAWN

the future is our past

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