



Lantern Tour 2021 FAQs



LANTERN TOUR BASICS

Q: How does this event work?

A: Check in at Battlefield Park any time during the 30-minute interval on your ticket. While you're waiting for your tour to start, you'll have a few minutes to look at the reenactors' living history display surrounding the pavilion.

Once your tour is called, you'll follow a guide with a lantern onto the wooded trail where you'll meet seven characters from Civil War era New Bern who will tell you their stories. When you finish the trail, you'll be directed to a large tent where you can sit and enjoy more stories and period music.

Q: Is this a military tour about the Battle of New Bern?

A: No. Although a couple of the characters took part in the battle, the tour tells a variety of inspiring stories about people and events during the 1862-1865 timeframe. All seven of the characters represent real people who lived during that era and much of the scripts are based on their very own writings.

Q: Why is this not recommended for children under 7? Is it graphic or scary?

A: Not at all! But the combination of walking, standing, and hearing historical stories that are not particularly humorous may be difficult for young children with shorter attention spans, which may be distracting for the other guests.

Q: What are the walking conditions like?

A: The wooded paths are gravel, wood chips, marl, and dirt. There are some tree roots, slight inclines/declines, and steps. There are no seats along the path. The paths are not suitable for mobility walkers, strollers or wheelchairs. If you have any concerns about your mobility, you should visit the park and walk the trails before buying tickets.

Q: How should I dress for this event?

A: Sturdy closed-toe walking shoes are a must! Evening weather can cool very quickly so dress in layers and be prepared for light rain or wind. We recommend you bring a flashlight.

Q: What is the rain policy?

A: This event will proceed in light or intermittent rain. It will ONLY be postponed in the event of heavy rain or stormy conditions. In that case, your reservation automatically shifts to the following weekend, same day and same arrival time. Ex: if you're ticket is for Friday, April 9 at 7:30, it will automatically shift to Friday, April 16 at 7:30. You do not have to do anything or contact the office about the change.

Weather changes will be posted to our website www.NewBernHistorical.org and Facebook page www.Facebook.com/NewBernHistoricalSociety and on our voicemail at 252-638-8558 by 3 pm each event day.

Q: How long is the event?

A: With check-in, walking tour, and time in the story tent, it should be approximately 90+ minutes. The walking portion alone is about an hour of combined walking and standing. Total walking distance is less than a mile.

Q: Will there be food available at the event?

A: No food or beverages are available for purchase at this event. You may bring water on the tour. Alcoholic beverages are not permitted at this event.

TICKETS

Q: How do I buy tickets?

A: There are no paper tickets for this event – it is all online. Go to our secure website at www.NewBernHistorical.org/tickets and click on the ticket link. You will be redirected to Eventbrite to book and pay for your ticket(s).

First, choose your night – Friday, April 9 or Saturday, April 10. Then choose the arrival time you prefer.

You can pay through Eventbrite's secure payment processor or opt for PayPal.

You will receive a confirmation email from Eventbrite with a pdf ticket attached. Be sure to read the special instructions in the email.

Bring either the email or the PDF ticket with you to check in. A paper copy is preferred if you have a printer.

Q: Can I buy tickets at the Historical Society or by calling your office?

A: Yes, of course, although no paper tickets are issued. To ensure you get the confirmation email and instructions, we ask that you purchase online through our website. It's super easy and secure.

Q: Why must I pick an arrival time? Why is the ticket not good for anytime that weekend?

A: Space on the trails is limited and the tour groups are very small, therefore arrival times must be staggered.

Q: I don't know what my plans will be yet. Can I buy a ticket at the door?

A: With limited space available, we do expect a sellout, so best to buy in advance.

Q: Why is the latest arrival time 8pm?

A: In order to allow enough time to complete the entire event.

Q: I haven't received my ticket in the mail. Can I pick it up at the battlefield?

A: **No paper tickets will be mailed!** Be sure to print and keep your Eventbrite confirmation email or the attached pdf ticket to show at check-in.

Q: Are tickets refundable?

A: Tickets are not refundable, but you may transfer them to other people. Please call 252-638-8558 to notify the office of the change.

PARKING, ARRIVAL & CHECK-IN

Q: Where is Battlefield Park?

A: New Bern Battlefield Park is at 300 Battlefield Trail in New Bern. It is just inside the Taberna subdivision. From New Bern, take Highway 70 toward Havelock. Go about 4 miles, then turn right onto Taberna Way, at the light by Dunkin Donuts. Go over the railroad tracks and take an immediate left onto Battlefield Trail.

From Havelock, take Highway 70 toward New Bern; go about 12 miles. After passing Eastern Carolina Nissan on the left, turn left onto Taberna Way, at the

light by Dunkin Donuts. Go over the railroad tracks and take an immediate left onto Battlefield Trail.

Q: Where do I park?

A: As you enter Battlefield Trail, you'll be directed by parking attendants. Parking is along Battlefield Trail or on a grassy lot near the park. If it has recently rained, the grassy lot may be muddy. There is very limited handicapped parking near the pavilion. Parking is limited so car-pooling is encouraged.

Q: When, how and where do I check in?

A: Please check in during the 30-minute window of your reservation. Ex: if your reservation is for 7-7:30 arrival time, please check in any time between 7 and 7:30. You do not need to check in early. Time is built in before your actual tour for you to visit the reenactors' living history display.

Check in is at the Visitors Center Pavilion at Battlefield Park. **Show your confirmation email at the check-in table.** If you are with a group, please wait for your entire group to gather so that you can enter together.

Q: What do I do after check-in?

A: You'll have a few minutes to check out the living history display by reenactors from the 26th NC Infantry Regiment while waiting for your tour to be called.

HEALTH & SAFETY and RELATED PHYSICAL CONDITIONS

Q: What are the plans for COVID-19 safety?

A: The safety of both our visitors and our volunteers is critical. All guests must wear a face mask over his/her nose and mouth at all times.

We will observe safe distancing requirements in lines and during the tour itself. Tour groups are very small, wait times are short, and there will be hand sanitizer available.

Q: What are the walking conditions like?

A: The wooded paths are gravel, wood chips, marl, and dirt. There are some tree roots, slight inclines/declines and a few steps. There are no seats along the path. The paths are not suitable for mobility walkers, strollers or wheelchairs. If you have any concerns about your mobility, you should visit the park before

buying tickets. Sturdy closed-toe shoes are a must and we recommend you bring a flashlight.

Q: Are there restrooms at the park?

A: Yes, there are clean restrooms at the park located in the pavilion.

Q: Are pets allowed?

A: **No pets** are allowed. If you require the assistance of a certified service animal, please call the office at 252-638-8558 prior to making a reservation.

For questions, please call the Historical Society office at 252-638-8558 or email us at adminoffice@NewBernHistorical.org.