

GETTYSBURG
Railway

Embark on a journey through history
and the picturesque countryside of
Adams County, Pennsylvania.



TAKE A RIDE INTO THE PAST

HISTORIC ADVENTURES ON THE RAILS

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v. Aug 26

The Gettysburg & Northern Railroad tour offers an exciting cultural experience that highlights the historic significance of the rail line. Enjoy a first-class train ride near the battlefield, with views of the Eternal Light Peace Memorial and the picturesque countryside. Along the way, you'll learn about various historical points of interest and the modern-day use of the railroad, all from the comfort of fully renovated 1950s-era passenger railcars.

Continue to experience the magic of railway travel on our other scenic excursions,
Granite State Railway & Blue Ridge Scenic Railway.



Ride with us Every Season

Fall Foliage
Along the Rails

Holiday Magic
on the Santa Train

Spring in
Full Bloom

All Aboard
for Summer



1 **Gettysburg & Adams County**
This journey travels from downtown Gettysburg into rural Adams County, passing farmland, woodlands, creeks, and apple orchards near the base of South Mountain. While Gettysburg is best known for the 1863 battle, the land holds a much deeper history shaped by agriculture, education, and transportation.



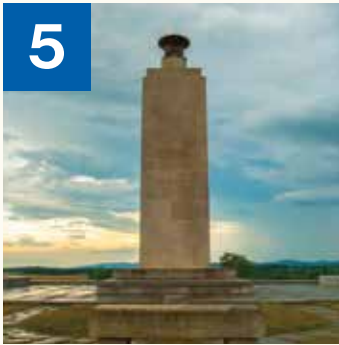
2 **Gettysburg College**
Founded in 1832 as Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg College emerged during a period when Adams County was a regional center for commerce, culture, and political activity. The institution remains closely tied to the town's history and development.



3 **The Railroad Cut**
Near this location is the historic railroad cut, an unfinished rail extension in 1863 that became a deadly trap during the Battle of Gettysburg. Confederate troops used it for cover on July 1, but Union attacks turned it into a fatal bottleneck. In 1997, the remains of a Union soldier killed here were discovered and later reburied with full military honors.



4 **Battle of Gettysburg – July 1, 1863**
The first day of the Battle of Gettysburg unfolded in the fields north and west of town. Union forces under Generals John Reynolds and Oliver Otis Howard attempted to hold advancing Confederate troops but were driven through Gettysburg by afternoon. The surrounding land later became part of Gettysburg National Military Park.



5 **Eternal Light Peace Memorial**
Located near Mummasburg Road, this monument was dedicated in 1938 on the battle's 75th anniversary. President Franklin D. Roosevelt spoke at the ceremony, attended by many aging Civil War veterans. A flame burns continuously atop the memorial, symbolizing lasting peace between North and South.



6 **Civil War Artillery Positions**
Along this stretch, Confederate artillery under Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Henry Carter once stood. During the battle, more than 600 cannons were in use, with approximately 200 firing simultaneously during the July 3 bombardment preceding Pickett's Charge.



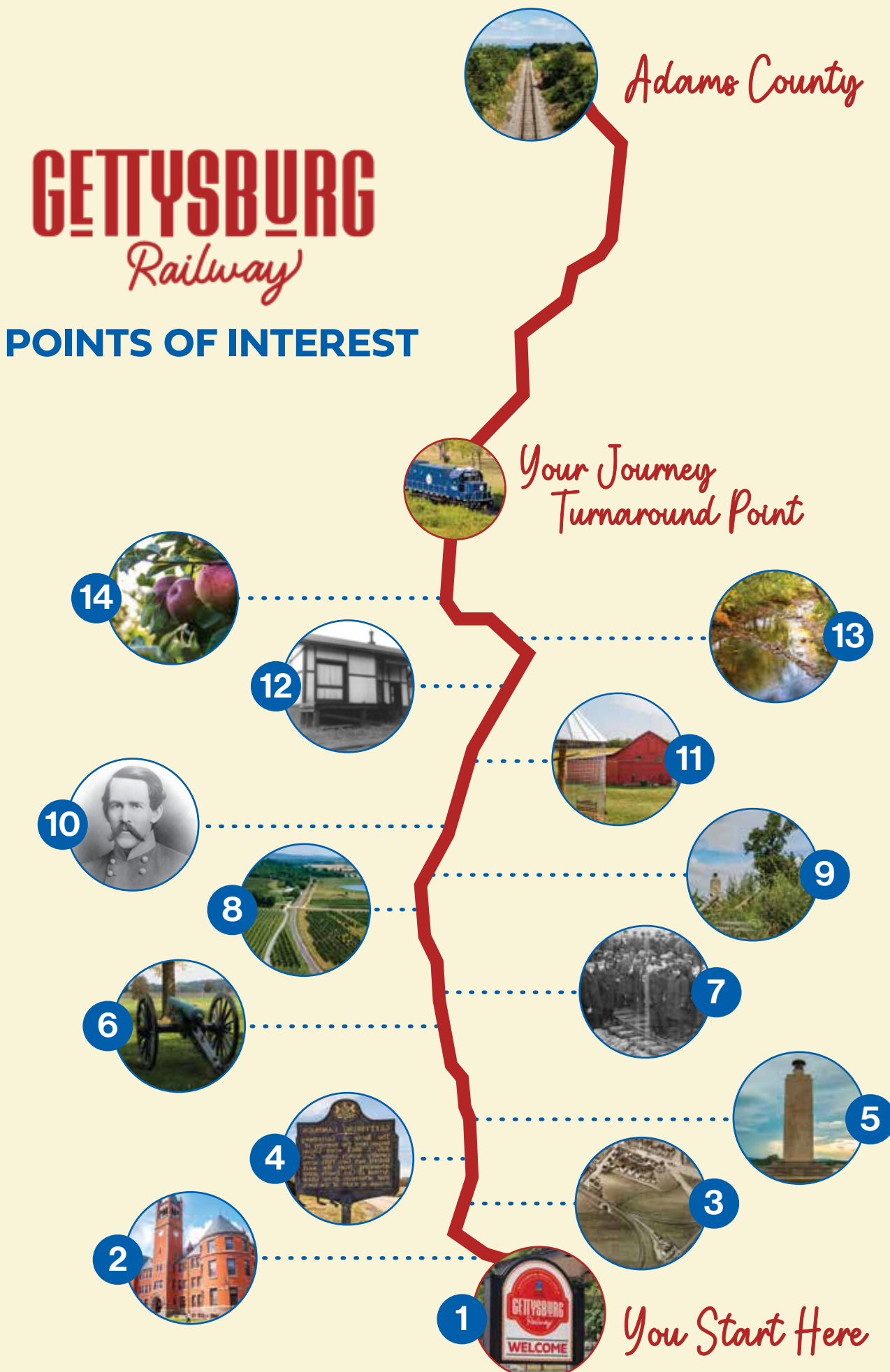
7 **History of the Railroad**
Efforts to bring rail service to Gettysburg began in the early 1800s. After many setbacks, rail service finally arrived in 1858. The Gettysburg and Harrisburg Railroad you are riding on was completed in 1884, marked by the driving of two golden spikes at Oak Ridge. The first passenger train ran on April 21, 1884.



8 **South Mountain Range**
The South Mountain Range is the northern extension of the Blue Ridge Mountains, stretching from the Potomac River through south-central Pennsylvania. Its fertile eastern slopes helped establish Adams County as one of the nation's premier apple-growing regions.

GETTYSBURG Railway

POINTS OF INTEREST



9 **French and Indian War & Revolutionary Era**
During the French and Indian War, frontier settlers faced raids and violence, prompting local militia service. Col Hance Hamilton, a prominent early settler, owned much of this land. Twenty years later, residents again took up arms as part of the Continental Army during the American Revolution.



10 **Newville (Biglerville) Road**
This road—modern Route 34—is one of ten major roads converging at Gettysburg. On July 1, 1863, approximately 7,000 Confederate troops under General Robert Rodes passed through here en route to the battle.



11 **Goldenville Road**
Dating to 1747, Goldenville Road is among the oldest in the region. George Washington traveled this route in 1794. A Civil War skirmish occurred nearby on June 26, 1863, between Pennsylvania emergency troops and Confederate forces led by General Jubal Early.



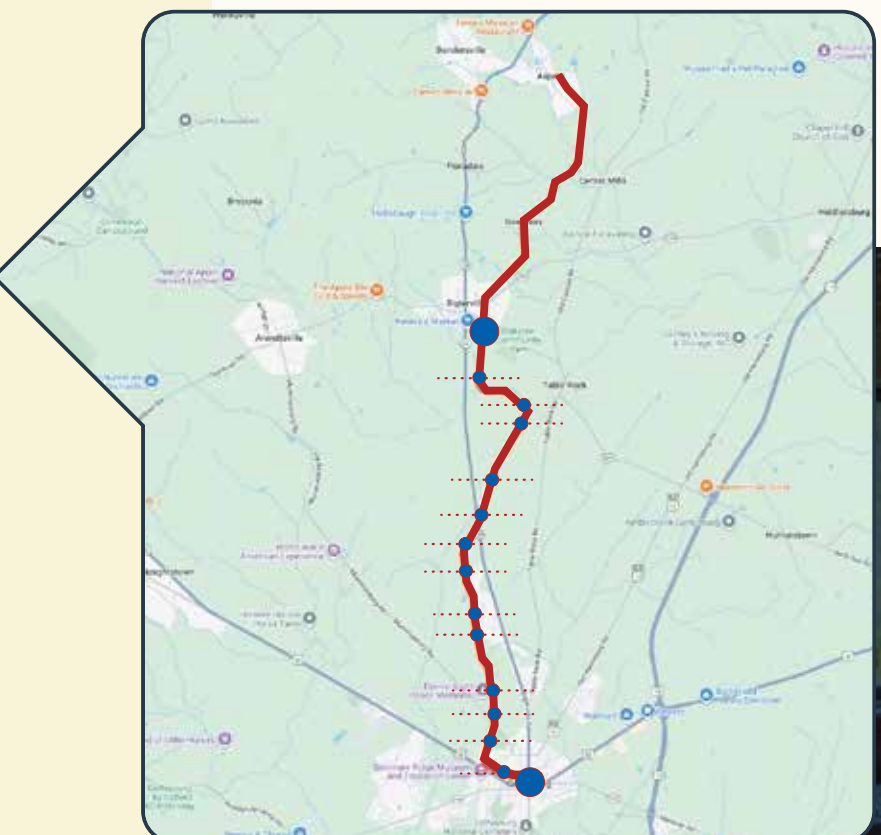
12 **Table Rock Station**
This was one of several simple platform stops along the railroad, allowing farmers to ship goods to larger markets. Many such stops existed along the largely rural route.



13 **Native American History**
Native Americans lived in Pennsylvania for over 10,000 years before European settlement. In Adams County, artifacts found near creeks reveal long-standing camps and villages. By the time Europeans arrived, Native populations had shifted toward major rivers like the Susquehanna.



14 **Origins of the Fruit Industry**
After the Civil War, Adams County became a national center for apple production. In 1893, Noah Sheely sold 1,500 barrels of apples at the Chicago World's Fair, sparking a boom. Today, the county produces 70% of Pennsylvania's apples and hosts the annual National Apple Harvest Festival each October.



Don't Forget to Refuel
Be sure to visit our Concession Car for snacks and beverages.



Scan to View Menu

*Menu items subject to seasonal availability.



Every Mile Tells a Story