

Guided Tours



Joyce has been guiding visitors around Danville since 2009, welcoming people from almost every state in the nation and twenty-two different countries. With a master's degree in education and decades of working with students plus helping to organize and lead international tour groups, she knows how to make your experience educational and fun. Check out her five-star ratings on [tripadvisor.com](https://www.tripadvisor.com).

Contact:

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The Secrets Inside

You will learn little-known facts about the mansions, churches, and former residents on or near Millionaires Row. A 90-minute walk takes you through the heart of Danville's Old West End where you'll marvel at the beautiful Victorian homes and places of worship -- and hear about the secrets within their walls. See where Lady Nancy Langhorne Astor was born. She became the first woman to sit in the British House of Commons in 1919 before women in the U.S. could vote. A 15-minute tour inside a restored mansion is based upon availability but not guaranteed. (\$15 per person)

There's a Story Here

Joyce will tell stories about the people and buildings on Holbrook Street, where the professional African-American community lived from the late 1800s until the late 1960s. You will see the church where Camilla Williams sang. (She was the first African-American to sing with a major New York opera company and became an international star.) Also on tour is a house listed in *Green Book*, the guide for traveling African Americans during segregation. This historic neighborhood included the location of the William F. Grasty Branch of the Danville Public Library during segregation; the residence that housed a restaurant for African Americans; the home where the Civil Rights Movement was nurtured and more. (\$15 per person)

Tales of Tobacco, Textiles, and Trains

You will start this 90-minute tour in the oldest part of Danville located near the Dan River. Cobblestone streets lead visitors into the Tobacco Warehouse District noted for having the best of industrial architecture built in the late 1800s and early 1900s. These textile-manufacturing and tobacco-processing buildings have been repurposed as living spaces, businesses, cafes, and more. (\$15 per person)

Millionaires Row Mini-Tour + Danville Museum of Fine Arts & History Tour

This tour includes an hour walk on Millionaires Row and admission to the Danville Museum of Fine Arts & History housed in a Victorian mansion. See recreated rooms in the house when it was the private residence of the Sutherlin family from 1858 until 1911, art galleries, a Civil War exhibit, a Civil Rights exhibit, a gift shop, and more. (\$25 per person)

Step-On Custom Tours

Cost is based on the length of the tour, number of participants and the itinerary. Tell Joyce what your group wants to see on a city tour and she will make it happen.

Recent tours were given to the following groups:

Abbott Bus Company
Alamance Arts Council
Blue Ridge Hiking Club
Colonial Classic Car Club
Dinner with Racers starring Ryan Eversley
Garden Club of Virginia
HTEC Educators Training Conference
King's Grant Retirement Community
Reynolds Homestead – College for Older Adults
Rotary Clubs
Vintage Gals
Virginia Beach Ladies Camp
Virginia Farm Bureau
Virginia Geographic Alliance
Virginia Natural Resources Leadership Institute
Virginia Rural Leadership Institute
Visit SoSi Ambassadors
Wesley Campus Ministry W&M
church groups
family reunions
school groups + reunions

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What people are saying about the guided tours...

Took the walking tour. Joyce was so accommodating to our large group. Gave plenty of info for the adults, even brought a scavenger hunt for the smaller children to keep them engaged. Got to see the inside of one of the restored houses, and that home owner was SO gracious and informative. We squeezed the tour in between thunderstorms, and she didn't even complain about getting a little wet. Would absolutely recommend! - Kristen L

I had such a wonderful experience!! Ms. Joyce Wilburn is an excellent tour guide with so much knowledge to share. There is surprisingly so much rich history embedded within the small city of Danville. I recommend this tour to anyone who loves history, wants to learn more about the Danville area, or is a visitor from out of town. You won't regret it! - Cliresa H

I went on this tour on a beautiful Saturday morning, and the tour guide Joyce made the experience very worthwhile! I enjoyed discussing the architecture, and her knowledge of the local history was captivating! I really appreciated her attention to detail. I would recommend this tour to anyone who wants to learn authentic American history. The history of Danville is a vital piece of the story of our freedom as Americans. I plan to attend future tours, and I would love to answer any questions anyone has! - Trevor M

Our "Secrets Inside" tour of Danville, VA's historic Millionaires' Row gave us more history, architecture, intrigue, and laughs than we ever imagined could be packed into a 2-hour stroll. Joyce's knowledge and passion is infectious, and if you've ever driven by the grand old houses and many churches along Main St. in this charming former hub of tobacco and textile production and wondered about them--or if you're a first-time visitor and love history or architecture or a lovely walk with a terrific guide, this is for you! - Aime B

Joyce is a fantastic guide. Historic Danville is so interesting. Joyce does a great job describing the way of life early in the town's founding. We took the industrial area tour this trip.
- R. Joslin