



# Mosby Heritage Area Itinerary

The Mosby Heritage Area offers scenic landscapes and historic landmarks, towns and villages, horse country, destination dining, wineries and tasting rooms, and antique and boutique shopping. The area is named after Colonel John S. Mosby who was known as the "Gray Ghost" by fearful Federal forces during the Civil War because of the lightning quick raids he and his Rangers conducted before they quickly disappeared, blending in with local farmers and townsmen.



## Day One:

Take a scenic drive through National Historic Districts and along Virginia Scenic Byways. Meander past horse farms and estates lined with signature Mosby Heritage Area stone walls.

- **Snickersville Turnpike** – This rolling 1810 Virginia Scenic Byway has a pull-off area to read the interpretive marker for the Battle of Aldie and the Civil War Monument to the 1<sup>st</sup> Massachusetts Cavalry. Take in the view of the Bull Run Mountains.
- **Dover** – Dover's large brick house was used as a meeting place for Mosby Rangers prior to their raids, one of which resulted in the capture of a Union General from his bed! (Private)
- **Oakham Farm** – Once owned by secessionist Hamilton Rodgers, who was instrumental in forming the Loudoun Artillery. It is also the birthplace of "Mosby's Confederacy." Here, Colonel Mosby recruited cavalymen for his reconnaissance operations and guerilla warfare. (Private residence)
- **St. Stephen's Catholic Church** – St. Stephen's was built to accommodate President Kennedy and his family. They frequented the Middleburg area as a place of respite and to take part in equestrian activities in the early 1960s.
- **The Lorman Chancellor House** – Home to the mayor of Middleburg during the Civil War. He was a supporter of Col. John Mosby, which eventually got him arrested. (Private residence)



**Suggested Lunch at Market Salamander** – Enjoy a relaxing meal in this working chef's market.

- **Unison** – Known as "Union" before the Civil War, its name was changed after a 150-0 vote for secession from the Union. The Methodist Church there was used as a hospital during the Civil War, and graffiti from the soldiers can still be seen from the second floor balcony. Today Unison is a National Historic District.
- **Bloomfield and the Ebenezer Churches** – Mosby's Rangers frequently travelled through Bloomfield. Nearby, two churches, c. 1765 and 1855, sit next to one another. There, Mosby's Rangers divided up \$172,000 in "greenbacks" stolen from an earlier B&O Railroad raid. Look in the church windows and walk through the cemetery.
- **Newstead Farm and Mount Weather** – Former home of the 1980 Kentucky Derby winner "Genuine Risk," once owned by the Firestone family, and now a private horse breeding facility. The buildings atop the mountain are the only visible part of "Mount Weather," the Federal government's huge under-ground complex. (Private)
- **Greengarden Farm** – The home of Major Dolly Richards, who commanded one of Mosby's Rangers' two battalions. It was a "safe house" (hiding place) for Mosby's Rangers. (Private residence)



For more information contact:  
Jennifer Ritter, Director of Sales  
Visit Loudoun  
Tel: 703-771-7525  
Email: [ritter@VisitLoudoun.org](mailto:ritter@VisitLoudoun.org)  
[VisitLoudoun.org](http://VisitLoudoun.org)

Annual Events and Festivals:  
Leesburg Flower and Garden Festival – April  
Hunt Country Stable Tour – May  
Lucketts Fair – August  
Bluemont Fair – September  
Waterford Homes Tour and Crafts Exhibit – October  
Christmas in Middleburg – December





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## Day One Continued:

- **Vineyard Hill** – Near Upperville, this site gives you a vantage point to look east over fields where fierce fighting took place in 1863. There is a Virginia Civil War Trails marker that tells the story.

**Suggested Dinner at Hunter's Head Tavern** – Enjoy a delicious dinner featuring local produce from Ayrshire Farm in this c. 1750 authentic English pub. The log cabin was built by Scotsman Steven McPherson, an early settler and large landowner of the Virginia Piedmont in the early 1700s.

## Day Two:

- **Mt. Zion Church** – Served as a hospital several times during the Civil War, as well as a place to imprison civilian supporters of Mosby. Group tours of the church and cemetery can be arranged.
- **Aldie Mill** – Virginia's only operating twin wheel water-powered gristmill, built in 1807. Union soldiers hid from Col. Mosby in the mill's flour bins in an 1863 raid; 19 "ghostly" soldiers were captured. Today, mill tours and grinding demonstrations are given at the mill.
- **Ayrshire Farm** – This certified organic farm features rare and endangered breeds of livestock and magnificent barns. Get a rare peek at this estate through a pre-arranged tour. (Private residence)
- **Home Farm Store** – This gourmet retail and traditional butcher shop in the heart of Middleburg features many products procured from certified organic Ayrshire Farm.

**Suggested Lunch in the Town of Middleburg** – Walk the brick sidewalks in this quaint and historic town, brimming with boutique and antique shops, art galleries, and winery tasting rooms. Enjoy lunch at one of the many eateries, followed by desert at another, and then take some time to shop. Don't miss the Christmas shop!

- **National Sporting Library & Museum** – Tour this magnificent facility dedicated to preserving, promoting, and sharing the literature, art, and culture of equestrian and field sports. The Horses and Mules Memorial outside the museum is a tribute to the 1.5 million horses and mules that lost their lives or were wounded during the Civil War.
- **Chrysalis Vineyards** – Enjoy a tour and tasting at this winery that specializes in unusual Spanish and French varietals and the native Virginia grape, Norton. Chrysalis is one of more than 30 wineries and tasting rooms in Loudoun, and is included in a drivable "cluster" of wineries called the Mosby Cluster.

**Suggested Dinner at Red Fox Inn** – Enjoy a casual and cozy dinner in the oldest continually operated inn in the country. The Inn served as both headquarters and as a hospital for the Confederates during the Civil War. While strategy was planned upstairs in what today is the Jeb Stuart Room, wounded soldiers were cared for in the tavern rooms below. The pine service bar still in use today was made from the field operating table used by an Army surgeon.



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