



National Trust for Historic Preservation
National Trust Tours

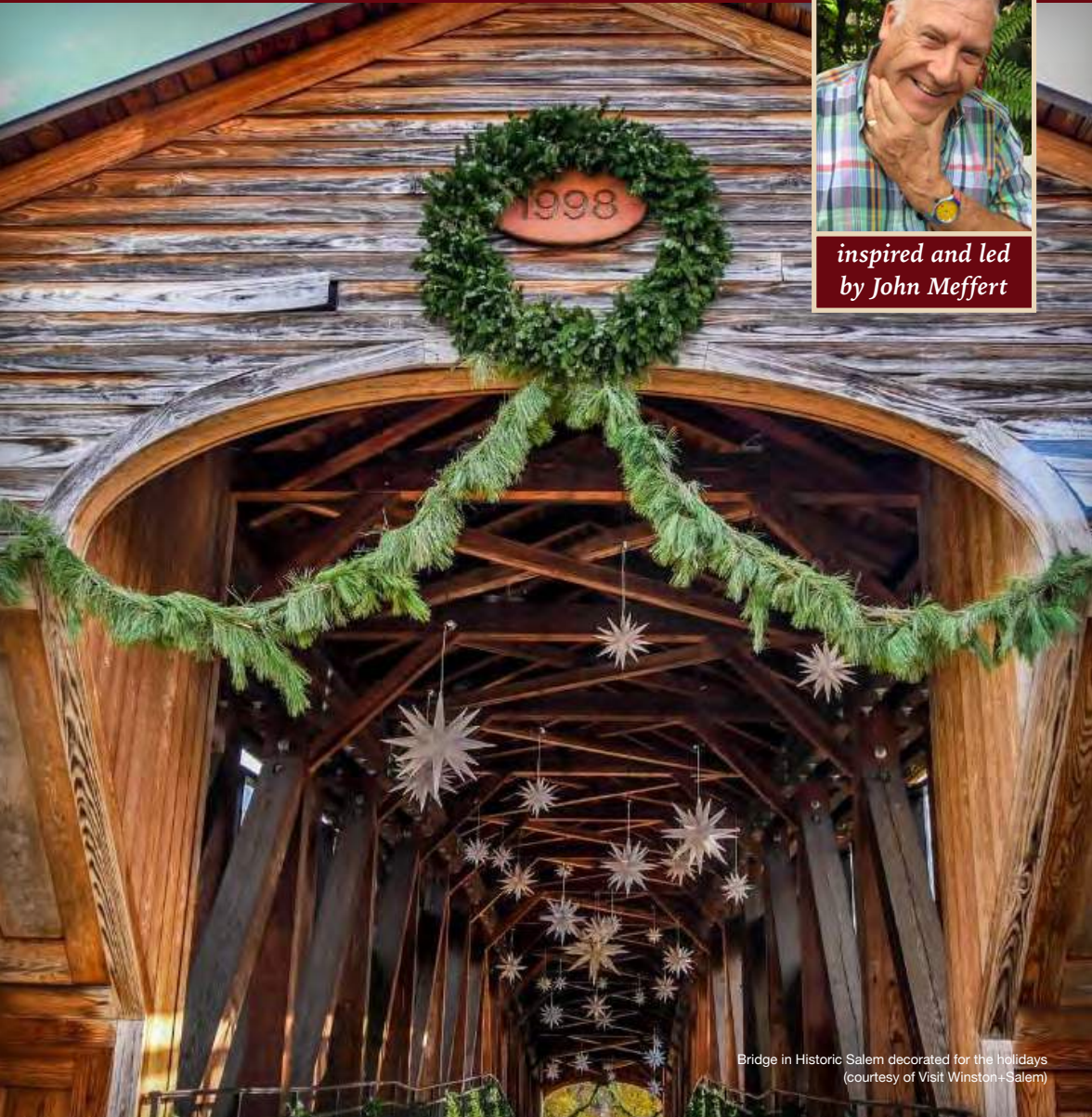
Carolina Christmas Charm

*Historic Treasures and Moravian Traditions
in Winston-Salem*

December 1–6, 2026



*inspired and led
by John Meffert*



Bridge in Historic Salem decorated for the holidays
(courtesy of Visit Winston-Salem)

Carolina Christmas Charm

Historic Treasures and Moravian Traditions in Winston-Salem

On a journey conceived and led by Study Leader John Meffert, National Trust Tours invites you to Winston-Salem—a premier destination for preservation enthusiasts—brought to you as only the National Trust can. The tour is thoughtfully scheduled in early December, when locals celebrate Moravian holiday traditions and the city comes alive with festive winter cheer. Discover historic Moravian sites, including Bethabara and Old Salem, on expert-led tours that showcase their preservation triumphs. Enjoy a curator-led visit to the Reynolda Museum of American Art, admiring art masterpieces as well as the extraordinary 1910s Reynolds family mansion. Sample rare heritage apples and award-winning wines on a scenic outing into the Yadkin Valley. Along the way, discover Winston-Salem's most intriguing and iconic sites—from the historic shotgun houses of Happy Hill to the towering R.J. Reynolds Building, an Art Deco landmark that inspired the Empire State Building.

Travel with John Meffert

Historian and longtime favorite National Trust Tours host John Meffert is a longtime proponent of preservation. As former director of the National Trust's Southern Office, he now serves as a consultant on heritage conservation services in his hometown of Charleston, where he has also served as director of the Preservation Society of Charleston, preserving the city's historic resources.



Accommodations at The Historic Brookstown Inn



Be surrounded by the enduring charm of nineteenth-century pine floors, hand-made brick walls, and exposed wood beams during your five-night stay at the Historic Brookstown Inn. Built in 1837, this distinctive boutique hotel blends historic character with modern comforts, complemented by the exemplary Southern hospitality of its knowledgeable staff. Spacious guest rooms are appointed with eighteenth- and nineteenth-century antiques and quality reproductions. Poster-style beds with hand-stitched quilts along with soaring ceilings are typical features, creating an elegant and inviting atmosphere. The inn is ideally located within easy walking distance of Old Salem and several outstanding restaurants, making it a perfect home base for your stay.



Single Brothers' House
(photo by Warren LeMay)

Tuesday, December 1 A Warm Welcome

Arrive at Charlotte Douglas International Airport (CLT) in the late afternoon and take a group transfer to The Historic Brookstown Inn, a one-of-a-kind hotel set within a repurposed 1837 textile mill. After settling into your spacious room, meet your fellow travelers and enjoy a welcome dinner at a top-rated restaurant just a short walk from the hotel.

(Dinner)

Wednesday, December 2 Old Salem: An 18th-Century Gem

Begin your day with the first of five hearty Southern breakfasts, enhanced by a series of engaging talks from Study Leader John

Meffert. Then walk to Old Salem's remarkable historic district, spanning nearly 100 acres and featuring close to 100 meticulously restored buildings—many more than 200 years old. At the Old Salem Visitor Center, gain insight into this community founded in 1766 by Moravian settlers and view the 18th-century Tannenberg organ, the last surviving two-manual American organ built by the renowned American organ maker David Tannenberg. From there, explore the town's restored buildings, admiring distinctive Germanic architectural details such as half-timbering, herringbone doors, central chimneys, and steeply pitched roofs. Along the way, interpretive guides and skilled tradespeople share stories of the Moravian, African American, and Indigenous

communities who shaped Old Salem, as well as the commercial trades that made Salem an important regional hub. Following a casual lunch together, enjoy a guided visit to the Museum of Early Southern Decorative Arts (MESDA), home to an exceptional collection of furniture, ceramics, metalwork, and other decorative arts created and used in the early American South. During Candle Tea at the Single Brothers' House, a National Historic Landmark, listen to traditional carols while smelling handmade beeswax candles, savoring sugarcake and coffee, and admiring finely crafted nativity scenes. This iconic building historically housed unmarried men who lived, worshipped, and apprenticed within. Dinner and the evening are at your leisure. *(Breakfast, Lunch)*

Thursday, December 3

Colonial Simplicity to Tobacco Grandiosity

Drive to Bethabara Park, a National Historic Landmark, for a guided tour focusing on preservation and history, with early access arranged exclusively for the National Trust. Founded in 1753 by German-speaking Moravians, Bethabara was the first Moravian settlement in the North Carolina piedmont. See the restored 1788 Gemeinhaus (meeting house in German), the only German colonial church with attached minister's living quarters remaining in the United States. Also visit the recently restored 1834 log house and the Medicinal Garden first planted in 1756—the first such garden ever planted in America. Continue to the 170-acre historic R.J. Reynolds Estate, now Reynolda Village,

featuring boutiques and restaurants within the estate's repurposed farm buildings. At the Reynolda House Museum of American Art—once the Reynolds family's 64-room mansion—view American art masterpieces with a Reynolda Museum curator. Explore the orchid room, orangery, and striking plant displays within the beautifully restored 1913 greenhouse, one of the estate's most distinctive architectural features. Drive through Buena Vista, a prestigious historic neighborhood known for its tree-lined streets and impressive early 20th-century homes in Tudor, Colonial Revival, and Georgian styles. After a short break at the hotel, get into the holiday spirit on an enchanting evening drive through miles of dazzling light displays at the Tanglewood Park Festival of Lights. *(Breakfast, Lunch)*

Friday, December 4

Apples, Wine, Mountains, & Moravian Music

Head to Home Creek Living Historical Farm for a glimpse of farm life in North Carolina's northwestern Piedmont circa 1900. Be treated to a special tour of the farm and a delicious apple tasting at the Southern Heritage Apple Orchard. Once the Hauser family farm, the property includes the original farmhouse, a tobacco curing barn, a corn crib, cultivated fields, and one of the world's most significant heritage apple orchards, preserving more than 425 varieties of historic Southern apples—many on the brink of extinction. These rare varieties have been carefully tracked down and collected across the South by dedicated "apple hunters," helping safeguard a unique and flavorful piece



Old Salem in Winter
(courtesy of Visit Winston+Salem)

of America's agricultural heritage. Next take a scenic drive to Pilot Mountain State Park, known for its dramatic quartzite knob rising above the surrounding landscape. Over lunch at a renowned Yadkin Valley vineyard, sample award-winning local wines in a picturesque setting. Conclude the day with a stop at the Moravian Music Foundation for a short presentation exploring the rich traditions of Moravian sacred music.

(Breakfast, Lunch)

Saturday, December 5 Shotgun Houses & Skyscrapers

Embark on a meaningful journey organized by Triad Cultural Arts, a nonprofit arts organization dedicated to honoring the rich and vibrant heritage of Winston-Salem's African American community.

During a guided tour of Happy Hill, the city's oldest Black neighborhood, dating back to 1872, visit the Shotgun House Legacy Site, a preservation project that safeguards these distinctive homes and preserves the powerful stories of the residents who lived in them. Continue into downtown Winston-Salem to witness its remarkable evolution from an industrial tobacco district to today's thriving Innovation Quarter, where former warehouses have been thoughtfully transformed into sleek offices, stylish apartments, and cutting-edge research labs. A special focus will be the iconic R.J. Reynolds Building, a 314-foot Art Deco landmark completed in 1929 and widely recognized as a design inspiration for New York City's Empire State Building. Conclude your morning in the Downtown

Arts District, where beautifully renovated buildings, once part of the city's tobacco market, now house galleries, studios, and creative businesses. Linger downtown for lunch and shopping or return to the hotel for a relaxing afternoon. This evening, gather with your fellow travelers for a memorable farewell dinner at one of Winston-Salem's finest restaurants, located in the only remaining mansion from the city's historic "Millionaires' Row." *(Breakfast, Dinner)*

Sunday, December 6 Farewell North Carolina

Join a morning group airport transfer to Charlotte International Airport (CLT) to meet your return flight home. *(Breakfast)*



Old Salem Evening Christmas Traditions
(courtesy of Visit Winston-Salem)



Carolina Christmas Charm

Historic Treasures and Moravian Traditions in Winston-Salem

December 1–6, 2026

Tour Information

Tour Cost:

Land Package\$3,995

Single Supplement.....\$495

Tour price is per person based on double occupancy, with a minimum of 15 paying participants.

Activity Level: Moderate, good overall mobility required.

Deposit & Final Payment: A deposit of \$1,000 per registrant is required to reserve space on the tour, of which \$500 is nonrefundable for ISDI's registration and planning fee unless the tour is cancelled due to low enrollment. This deposit may be paid by check or by Visa, MasterCard, or American Express. Final balance will be invoiced and is due on August 20, 2026, and must be paid by check, ACH/wire transfer, or Zelle to International Seminar Design, Inc. Registrations are accepted after this date on a space-available basis with payment in full by check only.

Flights: Airfare is not included in the tour price. Participants are responsible for their own air arrangements. Please do not purchase airline tickets until the operation of the tour is confirmed by ISDI.

Cancellations & Refunds: Cancellation by participant must be made in writing to ISDI and is effective only upon acknowledged receipt by ISDI. There is a non-refundable registration and planning fee of \$500 per person regardless of cancellation date. Written cancellation received by ISDI on or before August 20, 2026: full refund minus \$500 per person registration and planning fee. Written cancellation received by ISDI between August 21 and October 15, 2026: full refund minus \$2,000 per person cancellation fee (includes registration and planning fee). Written cancellation received by ISDI on or after October 16, 2026: no refund. Tour registration is non-transferable. In the case of cancellation, substitutions are not allowed. After the tour has commenced, no refunds will be issued for any reason including, but not limited to, unused portions of tour. If the tour is cancelled by ISDI or National Trust Tours due to low enrollment, active registrants will receive a full refund of all tour payments.

Tour Inclusions: 5 nights at the Historic Brookstown Inn; breakfast daily, 3 lunches, 2 dinners, 2 glasses of wine or beer at included dinners; land transportation by private coach; one group airport transfer upon arrival on December 1 and one group airport transfer upon departure on December 5; entrance fees to sites and visits listed in the itinerary; services of an ISDI Tour Manager; onsite local guides; a National Trust study leader; gratuities to local guides and drivers and to servers at included meals; bottled water on coach; service charges and taxes.

Tour Exclusions: Airline tickets, airline taxes and surcharges, and baggage fees; airport portage; airport transfers for those not using the scheduled group transfers; meals other than those specified in the itinerary; gratuities for hotel housekeeping; personal items such as telephone calls, room service, valet service, à-la-carte orders, specialty wines and liquors, laundry charges, travel extensions, or tour deviations; travel insurance; any other items not specifically included in the itinerary.

Terms and Conditions: Upon receipt of registration, ISDI will send registrant a Participant Tour Agreement detailing the full terms and conditions for this tour. This document must be signed and returned to ISDI before participant's registration is considered complete and any arrangements can be confirmed. ISDI will send all documents pertaining to the tour by email unless specifically requested otherwise.

Travel Insurance: Travel Insurance is not included in the tour cost, but participants are strongly encouraged to purchase a travel protection plan in conjunction with this tour, including coverage of trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency evacuation/repatriation, medical expenses, lost or damaged baggage, and other expenses and/or losses incurred due to unexpected situations, as well as Cancel for Any Reason. Should a participant cancel at any time after registering for the tour, ISDI must strictly abide by the cancellation policy outlined herein. Travel insurance information will be sent upon tour registration. For additional information, please contact National Trust Tours at 888-484-8785.

© 2026 International Seminar Design, Inc.
CST 2072963-40

TO REGISTER ONLINE:

Visit
<https://nationaltrusttours.com>

TO REGISTER BY PHONE:

Call National Trust Tours at
888.484.8785

TO REGISTER BY EMAIL:

Email National Trust Tours at
info@nationaltrusttours.com



National Trust for Historic Preservation
National Trust Tours

Upcoming Close-to-Home Getaways with National Trust Tours & ISDI

A Lowcountry Sojourn in Savannah

March 22–27, 2026

Chicago: Epicenter of American Architecture

May 24–28, 2026

Pittsburgh: Art & Architecture in the Steel City

September 15–19, 2026

Architecture, Art & Craft in Asheville

October 5–9, 2026

New Orleans: An Insider's Look at the Crescent City

November 15–19, 2026

For more information, visit [nationaltrusttours.com](https://www.nationaltrusttours.com)

Travel with National Trust Tours is open to members of the National Trust for Historic Preservation (NTHP), a privately-funded non-profit organization, works to save America's historic places. Membership is \$20 for individuals and \$30 for families. To learn more about the NTHP, visit www.savingplaces.org.