Church History Museum & Beehive House

Nestled among the skyscrapers and shopping malls in the heart of downtown Salt Lake City is a bustling and beautiful historic area originally settled by Latter-day Saint pioneers in 1847. Known as the 35 acres of Temple Square, this tour will highlight several of its most significant buildings constructed in the nineteenth century by Salt Lake City’s original settlers.

The tour starts in the Church History Museum where guides will introduce you to The Heavens are Opened exhibit which tells the story of the founding of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. You will also visit The Mormon Trails exhibit which surveys the numerous routes traveled by Latter-day Saint pioneers to the Salt Lake Valley and finish the tour in the Sisters for Suffrage: How Utah Women Won the Vote exhibit where you’ll learn that Utah women were the second in the nation to win the right to vote and the first in the nation to cast a vote. And what’s a museum tour without plenty of time afterward to browse through the museum’s lovely gift shop!

Next, you’ll tour the Conference Center. There you will visit the main auditorium, which is large enough to house a Boeing 747 and comfortably seats 21,000 people. Before departing, a stop will be made at the fourth-floor terrace, which offers spectacular views of Temple Square. While currently under construction, you’ll be able to see the original foundation of the Salt Lake Temple.

Finally, you’ll visit the Beehive House, the historic home of Brigham Young originally constructed in 1854 to serve as his official residence as governor of the Utah Territory and president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He lived there with one of wives, the official hostess of the home, until he died in 1877. You will also walk by the Lion House where twelve of Brigham Young’s fifty-seven wives lived and visit the original governor’s office. If you have enough energy after touring the Beehive House, we’ll take an optional short walk up the street to visit Brigham Young’s gravesite and family cemetery.

This tour includes standing and walking. All the sites visited are handicap accessible EXCEPT the Beehive House where there are no wheelchair ramps into the home. There are also multiple stairs in the Beehive House without elevator access.