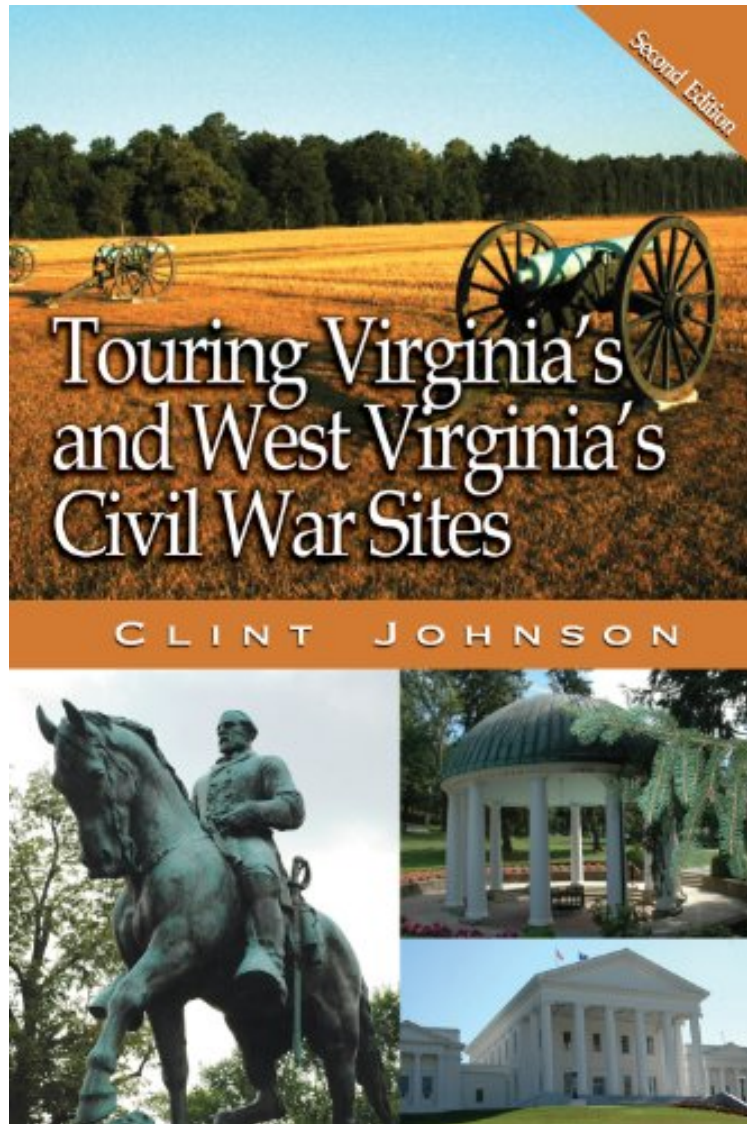


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Touring Virginia's and West Virginia's Civil War Sites (Touring the Backroads)

Clint Johnson

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Clint Johnson : Touring Virginia's and West Virginia's Civil War Sites (Touring the Backroads) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Touring Virginia's and West Virginia's Civil War Sites (Touring the Backroads):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy sandpebblethanks1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Almost heaven West VirginiaBy Mike Carr SrNice resource. I am moving to WV in two weeks it will

make travel planning easier. 25 of 25 people found the following review helpful. Well written overview for budding historians. You are about to embark on a journey to many places untouched by modern man, giving you a glimpse of the past mirrored with stories and brief histories of battles long since silenced by time. As you open this book you will begin your Civil War trek at Manassas, stopping at the National Battlefield and its museum. From there you will work counterclockwise around Virginia and West Virginia, through one historic site to the next, stopping sometimes at battlefields, other times at simple out-of-the-way museums or perhaps nothing more than a few relics ravaged by nature. Each stop is clearly marked on easy-to-read maps accompanied by side notes or script detailing the historical significance of the stop. My particular favorite is the Harpers Ferry tour where the author gives an interesting overview of the town along with a brief account of how West Virginia became a state. Although one could spend days going over the surrounding historical sites the author does not drag you into detail after detail, but gives you a brief synopsis of what occurred. Coming from someone who has visited this site many times I've become very familiar with the back-roads and sights to see, and Mr. Johnson does a fine job in taking you around to many of those same areas. However, this book won't give you the detail you need to understand every site, but that can be obtained from the Harper's Ferry National Park visitor center, or by taking a ranger guided tour of the town. By using this book the average reader will enjoy his journey into the past with stops along the way at several key historic areas. This is not a book for the well-read historian or a tactical study on terrain and warfare, but simply a good book for those mildly intrigued by the Civil War. It may serve to whet their appetite and further their desire for more research. If you purchase this book and choose to go forth, your trek will take you to numerous battlefields, both small and large. It is my hope that you will leave with a better understanding of what took place during that bloody struggle we now call the Civil War. So, in finishing your journey you will find yourself as did Lee and the Army of Northern Virginia, in a quiet little place known as Appomattox Court House. "This is a quiet reverent place, the spot where one country died and another was reborn."

In the minds of many people, Virginia is the Civil War, it is the state most closely associated with Confederate luminaries Lee, Jackson, Stuart, and Mosby and Union leaders Grant, Sheridan, Burnside, McClellan, and Pope. But when Virginia's general assembly voted the state out of the Union, citizens west of the Shenandoah Valley voted themselves out of Virginia, creating the Union state of West Virginia. *Touring Virginia's and West Virginia's Civil War Sites* covers all the significant sites in both states. The 17 tours visit large and small battlefields, cemeteries, monuments and statues, rivers, and mountains, while sharing the histories behind each location, some surprising and obscure. This latest edition includes updated directions, new photographs for each site, and several new sites--including the Museum of the Civil War Soldier in Petersburg, the American Center for the Civil War in Richmond, and the grave of the designer of the Confederate battle flag, William Porcher Miles, in Union, West Virginia.

About the Author Fascinated with the Civil War since the fourth grade, Clint Johnson counts Confederate soldiers from three states among his ancestors. He has written nine books on the war (among them *Civil War Blunders*), as well as hundreds of newspaper and magazine articles on business, history, and travel. His hobbies include reenacting with the 26th Regiment of North Carolina Troops (which goes as the 24th Michigan when portraying Federals) and Cowboy Action Shooting, in which he shoots oh so slowly in the "Duelist" category as "Carolina Clint." He lives in the mountains in Jefferson, North Carolina.