



JOURNEY TO FREEDOM

Florida's Untold Minorcan Story

Dates: *Saturday, March 13 – Saturday, March 20, 2027*

Locations: *New Smyrna Beach and St. Augustine, Florida*

Commemorating: *The 250th anniversary of the 1777 journey of more than 600 Minorcan, Greek, and other settlers from the New Smyrna Colony to freedom in St. Augustine.*

Presented in collaboration with: *New Smyrna Museum of History, St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine, The Minorcan Experience, Menorcan Cultural Society, and regional historical, cultural, educational, and community partners.*

JOURNEY TO FREEDOM PRESS RELEASE

September 25, 2026

(NEW SMYRNA BEACH & SAINT AUGUSTINE, FL) - In March 2027, communities across Florida's First Coast will commemorate one of the state's most dramatic—and least known—stories of survival, perseverance, faith and freedom. This program is ***Journey to Freedom: Florida's Untold Minorcan Story***.

This 8-day program is a commemoration of the end of the Turnbull settlement in New Smyrna Beach when over 600 Minorcan, Greek, Italian, and Corsican indentured laborers walked to freedom in St. Augustine. The 250th anniversary program is brought to the public through a unique collaboration of organizations dedicated to preserving and sharing this important history. These organizations include the New Smyrna Museum of History, St. Photios Greek Orthodox National Shrine, The Minorcan Experience, and the Menorcan Cultural Society, along with additional regional partners.

The eight-day event will begin in New Smyrna Beach, and end in the historic town of St. Augustine, through programs, services, educational opportunities, commemorative experiences and activities. The commemoration will explore the lives, struggles, sacrifices, faith and legacy of the Mediterranean people who became part of Britain's largest agricultural settlement in Colonial Florida.

More than simply a historical commemoration, *Journey to Freedom* will offer visitors a chance to travel through Florida's history while experiencing two of the state's most beautiful, distinctive and historic coastal communities.

For Updates Visit Our Website: JourneyToFreedom250.com