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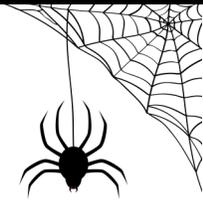
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HALLOWEEN MASQUERADE BALL

with Devilish Touring of Washington, DC™

October 30th-November 1st, 2023



The Annual **MARS EXCLUSIVE MASQUERADE BALL** is back in 2023 with a Zombie Rock-n-Roll Tribute Show, (A.K.A. “Night of the Singing Dead”) and Halloween Celebration. Imagine, a Killer Halloween Party Show where a sorcerer’s spell and a witch’s curse bring back the devil’s music of Rock-n-Roll in a spook-tacular night of flashback fun where VH1 meets The Twilight Zone. The “Dead Legends” conjures up the zombie images of Elvis, Buddy Holly, and Roy Orbison to perform the most bone-shaking rock songs and haunting ballads. Plus, a special appearance by Rod Serling. Don’t miss it—This show is a Graveyard Groove!

Saying goodbye to Washington DC is never easy, sometimes even for the dead. From the alleyways of Old Town Alexandria to the graves of the congressional cemetery to the bones of James Smithson, The Capital has spent 230 years collecting her ghosts. Those restless spirits and their stories are out there, just waiting to be uncovered... BY YOU! Indulge your appetite for ghouls, ghosts, and things that go bump in the night, with our spooky tour package featuring a **MARS EXCLUSIVE MASQUERADE BALL** event geared toward helping you connect with the spirit world, spend time with the spirits, and cleanse yourself on All Saints’ Day.

DAY 1 - MONDAY, OCTOBER 30TH ~ DEVIL’S NIGHT

Arrive at the Mansion on O Street, “...one of the Top 5 historic venues to explore in the world!” according to Smithsonian.com, to explore over 100 themed rooms and attempt to find over 70 secret doorways on a zany Halloween Treasure Hunt. Have fun searching for Autumn and Halloween themed items found only at The Mansion, lavishly decorated for the spooky season. With prizes to win and an included Creepy Cocktail to sip on, this is the perfect event to kickstart your Spooktacular weekend. *Guests will also receive a Halloween Shopping Bag - Everything at the Mansion is for sale and proceeds benefit artists in residence, heroes, and other programs at O Street Museum.* Depart and check-in to the Marriott Tysons Corner Center, newly redesigned and renovated with a sophisticated, clean, and modern appearance. Refresh and get ready for a Devilishly Delightful evening with Trick or Treat Prizes awarded for best dressed devils. Experience a Devil’s Night Tour of the City guided by historically “undead” figures sharing haunting tales of DC sites ... *and perhaps a graveyard or two!* Dinner is included during your Devil’s Night Tour along with a Devil’s Cocktail. (Meals: D)

DAY 2 - TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31ST ~ ALL HALLOWS EVE

After a full breakfast at the hotel, you’ll be off with your guide who is simply *dying* to tell you about the paranormal activity haunting the streets of the Nation’s Capital. Today, tour some famous, some not-so-famous, and some infamous haunted sites in Washington DC, while hearing spine-chilling tales of ghostly encounters. On your travels, visit and see such sites as: **The Woodrow Wilson House**, whose namesake’s ghost still roams the premises. Aided by a cane, he can be heard climbing the steps to his bedroom. The sound of a man sobbing can be heard from the bedroom. Other times, an almost transparent, pale gray figure is seated at the former president’s desk. He appears to be wearing a dress shirt, tie, and jacket with an old-fashioned lap robe or blanket covering the lower part of his body. See **The Haunted Octagon House**, purported to be one of the most haunted homes in D.C. Apparitions and otherworldly forces have reportedly been seen and felt in many places within The Octagon, including on the spiral staircase, the second and third floor landings, the third floor bedroom, and the garden area in the rear. Among the eyewitnesses have been members of the public, curators, and other employees hired by the museum.

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DAY 2 - OCTOBER 31ST ~ ALL HALLOWS EVE *(continued)*

There are many variations of ghost stories that feature the Octagon House. As one of the oldest buildings in the city, it lends itself nicely as a setting for historical, spooky, and macabre tales. Explore Lafayette Park, known as “tragedy square” and hear stories of conspiracies, crimes of passion, duels, and assassinations. After lunch on own while touring, you’ll get a creepy tour of the Congressional Cemetery and hear the ghost tales at **The Smithsonian Castle**, noteworthy because it’s considered by some to be haunted. This fact is often discounted as just a myth or urban legend, but there is compelling evidence that this building might just have a few “otherworldly inhabitants.” One item the Castle contains is said to be the reason this building is haunted. The Smithsonian is named after an Englishman, James Smithson. When he died he left his fortune to found the Smithsonian Institute. After his death his body was brought to the Castle in 1904 and placed under one of the main rooms. Afterwards, hop over to Georgetown to see the famous ‘Exorcist Stairs’ and eerie Oak Hill Cemetery. Upon concluding the haunted tour, return to the hotel in the late afternoon to prepare for the evening’s festivities:

Tonight, you are cordially invited to:

THE KILLER HALLOWEEN MASQUERADE BALL. Dance your bones off to the “Dead Legends” and “A Night of the Singing Dead!” Do **The Spiral Dance** until your toes fall off and indulge in **Samhain Blood Cocktails**. *What would All Hallows Eve be without treats? We will have prizes for the best dressed masqueraders!*

(Meals: B, Masquerade Ball & Dinner)

DAY 3 - WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 1ST ~ ALL SAINTS DAY

Enjoy a **full breakfast** at the hotel this morning before **checking out**. Start the day in **Alexandria** to celebrate the dawn of **All Saints' Day**. Finish the morning with a **Ghostly Tour of Old Town Alexandria**. See the outside of the **Gadsby's Tavern**, mostly known for its prominent presidential patrons, but about this time of year, one of its other famous guests is discussed: A ghost known as the “Female Stranger” is said to haunt Gadsby's. You'll want to finish your included **Bloody Mary Cocktail** BEFORE your **guide** explains the legend of **Bloody Mary!** If you're worried about sanitary conditions in modern restaurants, your tour guide will give you a sobering look into a once precious commodity we take for granted today: Ice. Massive blocks of the stuff were harvested from the Potomac River and stored in ice houses and underground wells. One Old Town ice house served a dual purpose. In the days before embalming techniques, bodies were kept on ice to stave off decay. But the price of ice being what it was, what was an entrepreneur to do if a block of ice was somehow coursing with frozen bodily fluids? This leads to an apocryphal tale of how the “Bloody Mary” was named, but you've probably heard other theories. Enjoy **free time** in **Old Town** for shopping, exploring, and **lunch on own** before (*hopefully!*) departing for home. (Meals: B)

FROM \$689/PP DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

35 minimum + 1 Single comp

(ghost friends admitted free)

To receive a detailed or customized proposal of this tour,
email: Info@TakeAFunTrip.com or call: 540-869-1864

MARS & COMPANIES

Tour Includes: 2 nights' accommodation, baggage handling, 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners, Halloween Masquerade Ball, admissions and guide service as stated in the itinerary.

Artists and performers using celebrity names will be tribute performers. Local and regional entertainers will perform as themselves.
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