

# The American Revolution Story Alexandria, VA, & Washington, DC

Alexandria, Virginia, a living testament to the indelible mark left by the Revolutionary War. This historic community stood at the forefront of defiance against the British Crown with its visionary leaders actively shaping the course of history.

Delve into Alexandria's rich history of patriotism and resilience through its cobblestone streets and colonial-era architecture.

Commemorate the 250th anniversary of the Revolutionary War where the seeds of liberty were sown and the spirit of a nation ignited.

## SAMPLE ITINERARY

### DAY ONE - Colonial Old Town Alexandria

Arrive to the colonial cobblestone streets of **Old Town Alexandria, VA**. Meet your **Colonial Guide** who will take you on an in-depth journey of the colonial port town to see:

- **Gadsby's Tavern & Museum**, a center of political, social, and cultural life in Alexandria. Nearly all of the founders of American Independence enjoyed the warm tavern hospitality.
- **Christ Church**, a beautiful example of Georgian church architecture, dating from 1773. Silver plaques mark the pews of George Washington, who served as a vestryman, and of Robert E. Lee.
- **Tomb of Unknown Soldiers of the American Revolution**, a lovely & prominent marble monument in Arlington National Cemetery marking the grave of an unknown Revolutionary soldier.

Check-in to your local MARS Partner Property hotel.

Enjoy a **Welcome Dinner at Gadsby's Tavern**, complete with a **visit from Martha Washington** herself!

### DAY TWO - Mount Vernon & the Masonic Temple

Enjoy **breakfast included** at the hotel.

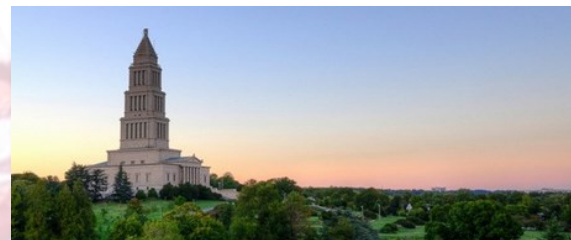
Tour **George Washington's Masonic**

**Temple & National Memorial** offering one of the finest views of Washington, plus an extraordinary collection of Colonial-era treasures. The Masonic Memorial is located on the site proposed for the national capitol building.

Explore **Mount Vernon**, the estate of our first President, George Washington, Commander of the Constitutional Army, and President of The Constitutional Convention. Here George Washington escaped the rigors of public office and enjoyed the life of a successful Virginia planter. America's most visited historic house, Mount Vernon sits on a grassy, shaded slope overlooking the Potomac River. Many furnishings are original pieces acquired by Washington himself. Mount Vernon is both George Washington's home and final resting-place. While visiting, we'll pay our respects and **lay a wreath** at his gravesite on the property where he is entombed.

After **lunch on own** at Mount Vernon, visit Washington's Distillery and Grist Mill.

This evening, you'll enjoy **free time** to explore the town at your leisure, have **dinner on own**, and step inside the unique boutiques and shops lining the cobblestone streets of Old Town Alexandria, Virginia.



### DAY THREE - Revolutionary DC

Enjoy **breakfast** at the hotel.

Experience the **National Archives**. The spacious rotunda of the National Archives contains the original, actual Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.



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## SAMPLE ITINERARY *(continued...)*

For the first time in modern history, all the pages of these documents are on display to the public. At night, the display is lowered 20 feet into a bombproof and fireproof vault.

Visit the impressive **United States Capitol Building** on Capitol Hill where you'll enjoy a tour of the world's most recognized symbol of democracy and the seat of American government.

Explore the **Library of Congress**, the largest national library in the world with more than 100 million items in three buildings. The original Library of Congress Building (now called the Thomas Jefferson Building) is perhaps Washington's most richly ornamented building.

Discover **DAR, Daughters of the American Revolution Museum**, a decorative arts museum. It collects furnishings, ceramics, glass, textiles, and household items that were made and used in America through the early 20th century. You will see 31 period rooms (each arranged to look like a different time and place in American history), a main gallery with an exhibit that changes annually, and a study gallery where you can get close to the museum objects.

Explore the **National Portrait Gallery** and see famous paintings of the Revolution including Gilbert Stuart's "Lansdowne Portrait" of George Washington.

Stop at the **Jefferson Memorial**, where a 19-foot statue of the third president stands beneath a rotunda inscribed with passages from the Declaration of Independence and Jefferson's other famous writings. Looking from the memorial across the Tidal Basin provides a memorable view of the city.

See the **Washington Monument**, one of the tallest masonry structures in the world. This majestic obelisk was dedicated in 1885 to the memory of our first President.

Enjoy **dinner included** this evening at another local favorite.

Return to your hotel to rest & relax.

### **DAY FOUR - The Anderson House & the Smithsonian Institute's American History Museum**

After an **included breakfast** at the hotel this morning, embark on a Tour of **Anderson House**, the home to the Society of The Cincinnati's Collection of Revolutionary era art, armaments, and personal artifacts.

Discover something new at the world renowned **Smithsonian Institute's American History Museum on the National Mall**. The Museum features a collection of numerous Revolutionary War artifacts including George Washington's uniform and Thomas Jefferson's desk on which he wrote the Declaration of Independence.

Later, visit the **Constitution Gardens**, dedicated in 1776 with a memorial island bearing the names of the signers of the Declaration of Independence..

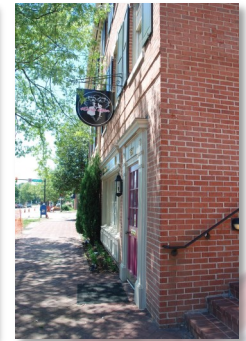
Enjoy a **delicious dinner included**.

Return to your hotel to rest and relax for the remainder of your evening.

### **DAY FIVE - Smithsonian Institute Museums**

Enjoy **breakfast** at your hotel this morning prior to checking out.

**Free time** has been allotted here to allow for additional time to explore one of the Smithsonian Institute's Museums along the National Mall before departing for home.



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