

A Revolutionary Colonial Christmas Capital to Capital

This festive tour delves into the rich historical tapestry of Washington, DC, & Williamsburg, VA, during the Revolutionary War. The itinerary unfolds like a holiday tale as the group visits iconic sites such as Mount Vernon, where the spirit of George Washington's leadership comes alive amidst holiday décor, the National Christmas Tree in the nation's capital, and the dazzling Grand Illumination in Williamsburg. This tour weaves a seamless narrative of yuletide joy and revolutionary fervor. With an evening at Christmastime Busch Gardens in Williamsburg, you'll experience the magic of the season, with the merging of history with a joyous spirit.

SAMPLE ITINERARY

DAY ONE -

Arrive in **Washington, DC**, & stretch your legs while exploring the annual **DC Christmas Market**, a unique and festive shopping "village" in the heart of Downtown DC, featuring more than 150 regional artisans, crafters, and festive treats. Enjoy **lunch on own** at one of the many vendors. Be sure to walk over to the **National Portrait Gallery** and see famous paintings of the Revolution including Gilbert Stuart's "Lansdowne Portrait" of George Washington.

Experience the **National Archives**, containing the original Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. At night, the display is lowered 20 feet into a bombproof and fireproof vault.

Witness the **National Christmas Tree** and the **Pathway of Peace** near the **White House** in President's Park. The National Christmas Tree is surrounded by 56 state, district, and territory trees. The trees are decorated by school children chosen from each state.

Enjoy **dinner included** at a local favorite, decorated for the season before checking-in to your Alexandria area hotel for the evening.

DAY TWO -

Enjoy **breakfast included** at the hotel this morning.

Tour the **Anderson House**, the home to the Society of The Cincinnati's Collection of Revolutionary era art, armaments, and personal artifacts.

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.

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 **lunch included** at **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.

Tour **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.

Tour **George Washington's Masonic Temple & National Memorial**, the original site for the national capitol building.

Enjoy a **delightful dinner included** in



Old Town Alexandria, the young seaport with a long history and many tales from the Revolutionary War.

Return to your hotel to rest & relax.



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SAMPLE ITINERARY (continued...)

DAY THREE -

Enjoy **breakfast included** at the hotel prior to checking out.

Explore **Mount Vernon**, the estate of George Washington, our first President where he escaped the rigors of public office. It's America's most visited historic house, nestled on a shaded slope overlooking the shores of the Potomac River.

After **lunch on own** at Mount Vernon, depart for **Colonial Williamsburg**. Upon arrival, check-in & freshen up at your local area hotel.

This evening, you'll enjoy **free time** to explore **Busch Gardens Christmas Town** at your leisure, have **dinner on own**, and be immersed in this one-of-a-kind winter wonderland. Discover the reason for the season with the Christmas Town Express, Santa's Workshop, and more. Festive treats, holiday shopping, and special photo opportunities complete this grand holiday tradition.

Return to your hotel to rest & relax.

DAY FOUR -

Enjoy **breakfast included** at the hotel.

Embark on a **Colonial Williamsburg Guided Tour** including the Capitol, where Virginia patriots developed principles of self-government, individual liberty, and responsible leadership, and the Governor's Palace reflecting the period of Lord Dunmore's residence, the last English governor of the Virginia colony.

Enjoy **lunch on your own** in Colonial Williamsburg's **Merchants Square**, the shopping hub of downtown Colonial Williamsburg, or you may want to try a Colonial Tavern.

Return to your hotel for to rest & freshen up for this evening's events.

It's **Grand Illumination** time! Experience the tradition which has taken visitors' breath away for over 60 years. In the 18th century, illumina-

tions-- the firing of guns and lighting of fireworks -- celebrated major events such as the birthday of a reigning sovereign, military victories, or the arrival of a new colonial governor. Enjoy musical performances on multiple stages throughout the Historic Area and fireworks displays from the Capitol, the Magazine, and the Palace.

A very special **dinner is included** this evening. Indulge with **The Groaning Board**, Williamsburg's family style dinner, served to Williamsburg's visitors since Colonial times & featuring wonderful Live entertainment.

Return to your hotel to rest & relax.

DAY FIVE -

Enjoy **breakfast included** at the hotel.

Celebrations continue at **Jamestown Christmas!** Decked out for the holidays, Jamestown commemorates the 1st permanent English settlement in the New World. Here, you will find full-size replicas of the three ships which landed on its shores in 1607. Enjoy **lunch on your own** at the Jamestown Settlement Café.

Explore **Yorktown at Christmastime!** One of the eight original shires formed in colonial Virginia in 1682, Yorktown comes alive at Christmas with decorations throughout the town and many seasonal activities.

Enjoy **dinner included** this evening at a Colonial Tavern before returning to your hotel to rest and relax.

DAY SIX -

Enjoy **breakfast included** at the hotel.

Explore **Berkeley Plantation**, the birthplace of Benjamin Harrison, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and William H. Harrison, our ninth U.S. president.

Enjoy a delightful and festive **lunch included** before departing for home.



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