

## Visit Alexandria

Patricia Washington, President & CEO Alexandria City Academy September 26, 2019

## Mission

To attract visitors that increase revenues and promote the City of Alexandria and its assets





# Organization

•A 501 (c)(6) *nonprofit* 

- A Membership based organization
  - 380+ members, including restaurants, shops, hotels, attractions, etc.
  - We assist our members with unique marketing opportunities, web and Visitor Guide promotion, sales leads, media coverage, etc.
- Independent of city government, but with significant funding from general tax revenues
- Works in alignment with city government and economic development partners



## **Visit Alexandria Board of Governors**

Representatives from the following categories:

- Hotel
- Retail
- Restaurant
- Association
- Attraction
- Historic Preservation
- City Manager's Designee (currently Deputy City Manager Emily Baker)
- Mayor's Designee (currently Vice Mayor Elizabeth Bennett-Parker)
- Citizen At-Large



# **MARKETING MIX**

**ADVERTISING** SALES **WEB** PUBLIC RELATIONS RESEARCH **EVENTS & ACTIVATION VISITOR & MEMBER SERVICES** SOCIAL MEDIA **PUBLICATIONS INTERNATIONAL** PROMOTIONS

## **Economic Impact of Visitors (50+ miles)**

**\$859 million** in Visitor Spending

> 6,583 Jobs

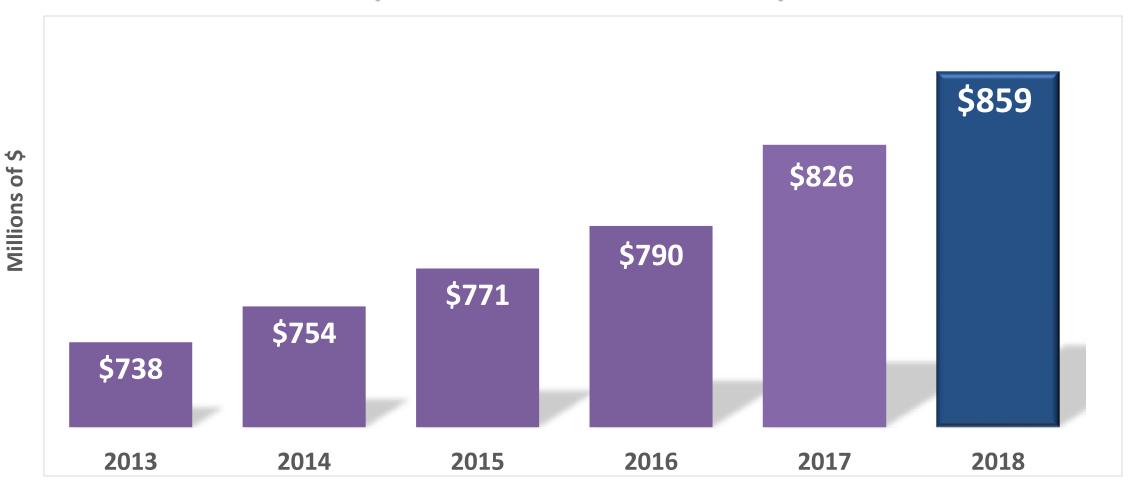
**\$27.9 million** in Local Tax Receipts\*

Source: 2018 Economic Impact of Domestic Travel on Virginia and Localities, Virginia Tourism Corporation. \*Data is based on macroeconomic modeling and provides an estimate of receipts, not an accounting of actual taxes and receipts.



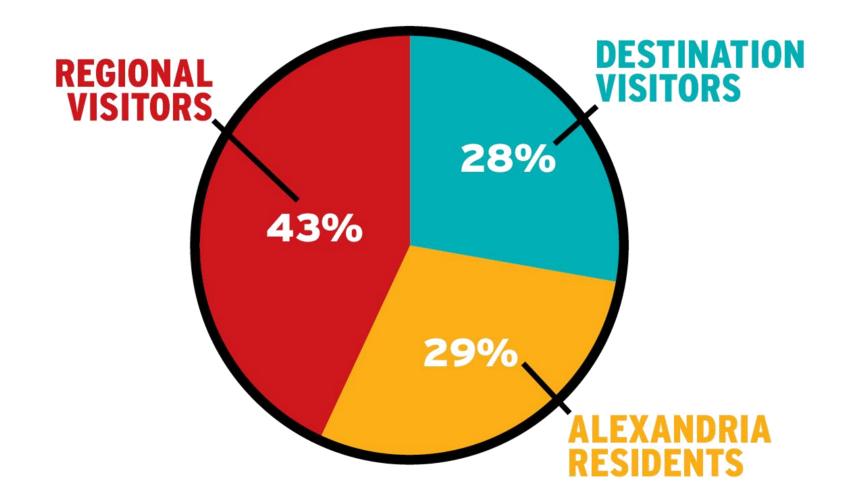
### **Visitor Spending in Alexandria**

(Home location = 50+ miles)



Source: 2018 Economic Impact of Domestic Travel on Virginia and Localities, Virginia Tourism Corporation

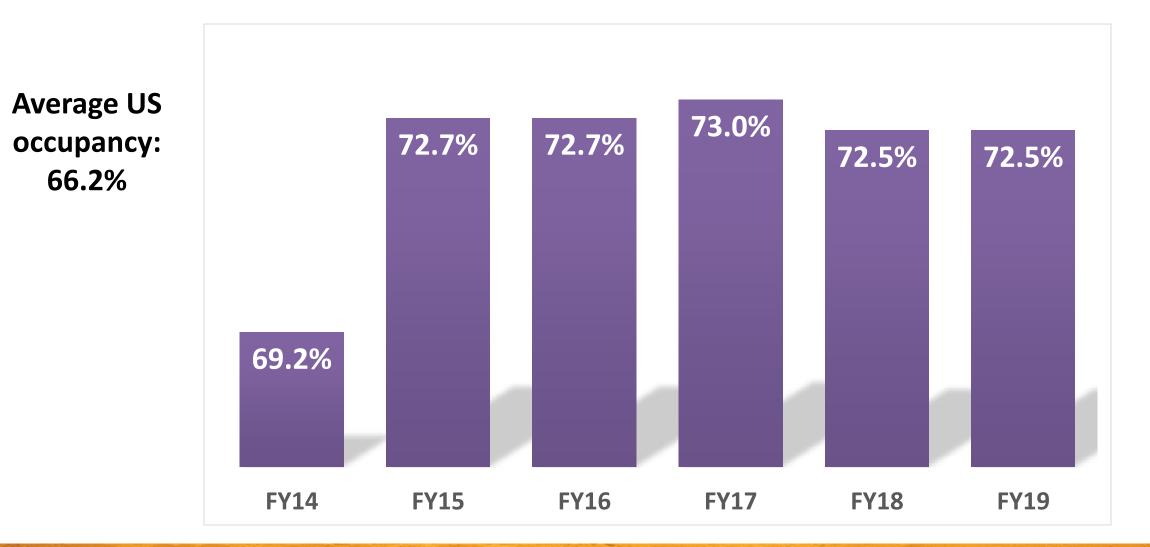
### **Non-Residents Pay 71% of Consumption Taxes**



Source: 2016 Visa credit card sales, meals, and lodging transaction data, VisaVue



## **Occupancy (by Fiscal Year)**



Source: STR; Fiscal years run July through June



## **Visit Alexandria By the Numbers**

VisitAlexandriaVA.com

2.33 million visits per year

Social Media 141,000 followers

Meetings and Sales \$45.6 million in meetings leads

Public Relations 1,190 total media stories generated

> Visitor Center 78,500 guests served



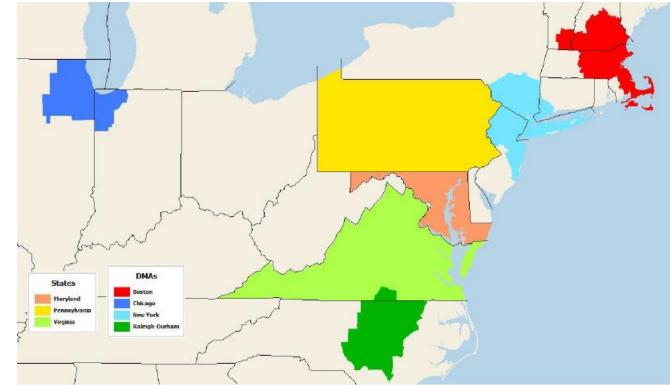
## **Target Geographic Markets**

#### **Destination:**

Targeting Those Interested in DC Travel National

*Awareness* States: PA, MD, VA Metros: Raleigh, New York, Chicago, Boston

**Regional:** DC Metro Area















Look who made the list! It turns out that one of the best travel destinations in the U.S. is just up the road. A nationally designated historic district founded in 1749, Old Town Alexandria hums with more than 200 independent restaurants and boutiques alongside intimate historic sites and museums. At the heart of it all is renowned King Street, a walkable mile that leads to the Potomac riverfront. And with Old Town just minutes away from both the National Mall and Mount Vernon, it's the perfect weekend escape you've been looking for.

Alexandria

VisitAlexandriaVA.com



### **Top Press Hits**







## SHAPE ShermansTravel Southern Living

Alexandria



## **New Regional Brand Campaign for Old Town**





#### STOP SCROLLING. START STROLLING.

Next time, browse without a browser. Spend an afternoon strolling Old Town's King Street mile, the largest collection of independent boutiques in the D.C. region. Step inside local shops offering curated selections of stationery, vintage barware, sustainable fashion and more. Shop national favorites like Warby Parker and West Elm. See why the best finds aren't delivered, they're discovered.

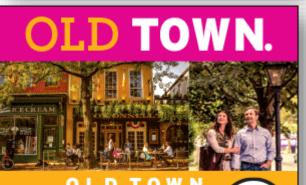


VisitAlexandriaVA.com/OldTown



#### STOP SCROLLING. START STROLLING.









### **"50 Ways to Love Your Summer" Campaign**











50 Ways to Love Your Summer in Alexandria



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#### **CAN START A BLAZE OF INSPIRATION.**

Ignite your breakthrough thinking in a destination that has influenced leaders for centuries. Just minutes from D.C., Alexandria is fueled by a spirit of innovation that dates back to George Washington and continues today.

Named the 2018 #1 Best Value U.S. Travel Destination by MONEY and a Top 5 Small City by Condé Nast readers, Alexandria's walkable, nationally-designated historic district hums with restaurants, boutiques and intimate museums alongside four-star boutique and brand-name conference hotels accommodating groups up to 800. Inspire your attendees with authentic experiences and out-of-the ordinary venues.

Introducing The Leadership Collection<sup>™</sup> at Alexandria Now affordable access is at your fingertips to three nationally-recognized programs featuring groundbreaking content and facilitators. A growing hub for innovation and a hidden gem for executive to mid-size meetings, Alexandria is the ideal location to motivate, inspire and develop leaders.

Find out more at Alexand naLeadershipCollection.com or (703) 652-5360.

Alexandria

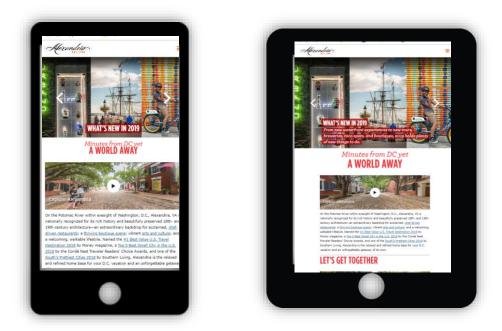
MeetAlexandriaVA.com

VIRGINIA IS FOR LOVERS



### Website

### WEBAWARDS 2016 Outstanding Web Site Award Travel Category



Get our monthly e-newsletter: Sign up at VisitAlexandriaVA.com/eNews





Minutes from DC yet



On the Potomac River within eyesight of Washington, D.C., Alexandria, VA is nationally recognized for its rich history and beautifully preserved 18th- and 19th-century architecture—an extraordinary backdrop for acclaimed, <u>dief-driven restaurants</u>; a <u>thirving boutique</u> scene; <u>vibrant artica and outliver</u>; and a welcoming, walkable lifestyle. Named the <u>±1 Best Value U.S. Travel Destination</u> 2018 by Money magazine, a <u>Top 5 Rest Small City in the U.S. 2018</u> by the Condé Nast Traveler Readers' Choice Awards, and one of the <u>South's</u> <u>Prettiest Cities 2018</u> by Southern Living, Alexandria is the relaxed and refined home base for your D.C. vacation and an unforgettable getaway of its own.

#### **LET'S GET TOGETHER**





Black History Month Alexandria's rich collection of African American history sites tell America's story from colonial times to the Civil War to Civil Rights. Alexandria Wedding Showcase Discover Alexandria's historic charm and connect with world-class vendors at this third annual event coming February 17.



# visitALX BLOG

visitALX

THINGS TO DO FOOD & DRINK ARTS SHOPPING

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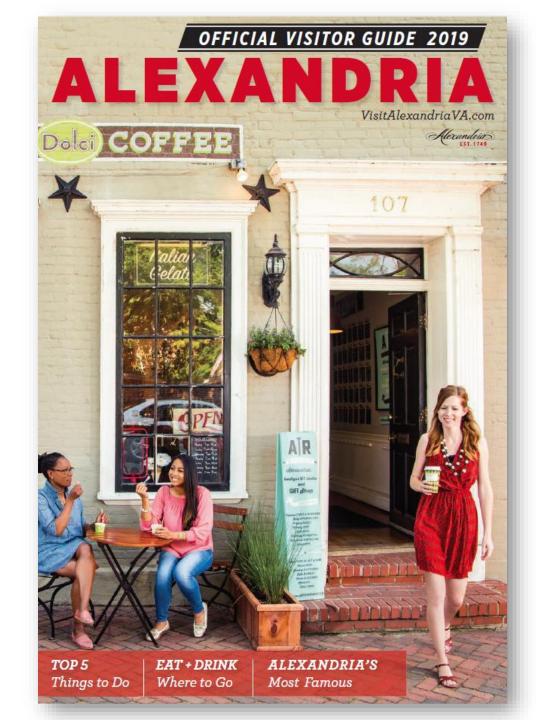


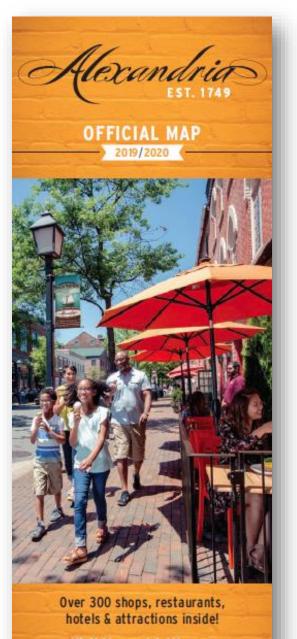
AUGUST 15, 2019 Video: 5 Things to Do in Alexandria's Del Ray Neighborhood



MAY 7, 2019 The Ultimate King Street Shopping Guide for Old Town Alexandria



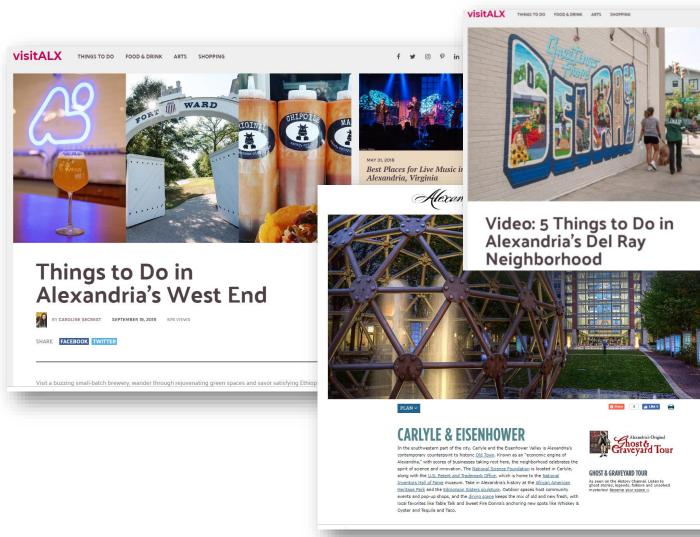




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## Neighborhoods







## Neighborhood Video Series: Del Ray, Carlyle, West End



### **King Street Corridor Initiative**

#### **Beautification**





#### Programming





#### Marketing



Hexandria



### **King Street Corridor Initiative Partners**



City Manager's Office

Department of Project Implementation

Department of Recreation, Parks & Cultural Activities

Department of Transportation & Environmental Services

Office of Historic Alexandria



#### FOUNDING FUNDERS

Lead Partners Alexandria Hotel Association Alexandria Restaurant Partners

Asana Carr Hospitality TTR Sotheby's International Realty

Community Contributors Alexandria Chamber of Commerce EYA Port City Brewing Company Tall Ship Providence Foundation

#### **Neighborhood Partners**

Chadwicks Restaurant Old Town Business Association Pizzeria Paradiso Potomac Riverboat Company Urbano 116 and Augie's Mussel House

## **Portside in Old Town Summer Festival**



















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## Thank you.