



fairfax
county
virginia

connect
with america

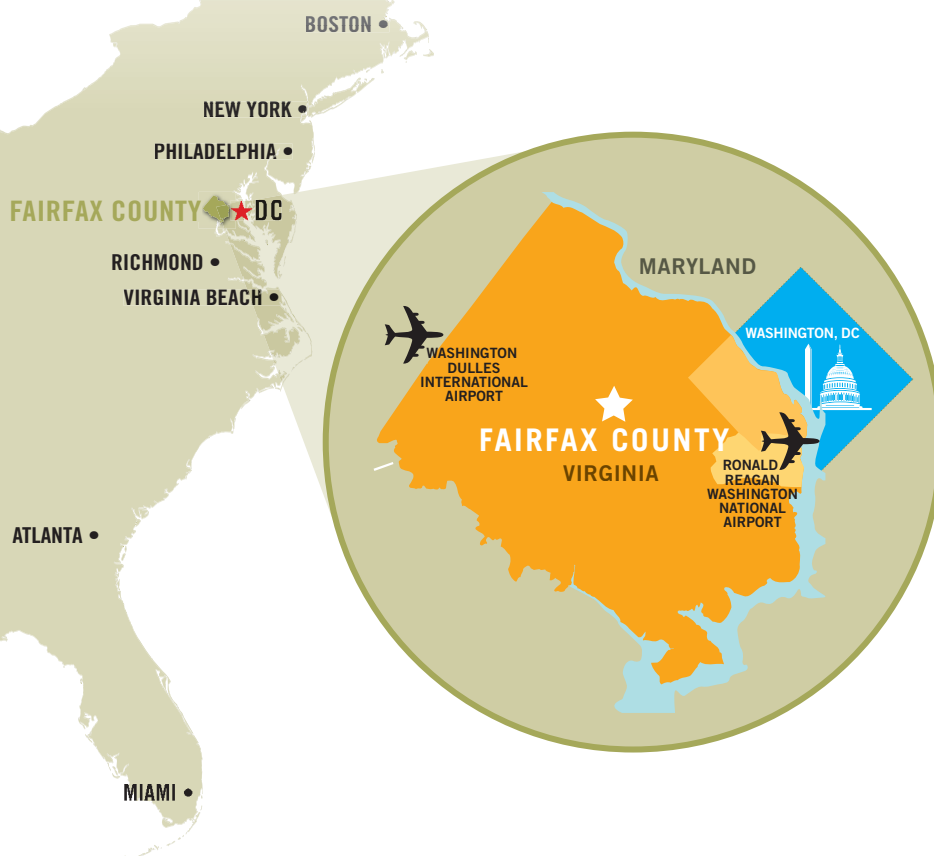
NICE TO MEET YOU



WELCOME to Fairfax County, Virginia! Located just west of the U.S. capital of Washington, D.C., Fairfax County offers an unexpected blend of picture-perfect natural surroundings and big city amenities, positioning visitors in the heart of the National Capital Region. Whether you want to do it all - or get away from it all - there's a special place for you here.

While history touches just about every corner of Fairfax County, from George Washington's Mount Vernon in the east to Civil War battlefields in the west, the area is also a diverse and technologically innovative destination that boasts a vibrant arts and cultural scene with a sophisticated urban vibe. And for a breath of fresh air, its collection of more than 400 wide-open parks, gardens, and natural outdoor escapes will rejuvenate your soul.

With 100+ hotels, easy access to three airports, major highways, Amtrak rail service and an expanding regional Metrorail line, visitors have plenty of ways to get to and around this centrally located Northern Virginia vacation destination. Come see for yourself and Connect with America.



FAIRFAX COUNTY AT A GLANCE



Approximately 15 miles
west of Washington, D.C.



2nd highest concentration of
attractions in the Capital Region



Approximately 19,000 rooms
in 100+ hotels



Visit these one & only's
in Fairfax County:

*Home to the most visited
historic estate in the U.S.*

*The country's only national park
dedicated to the performing arts*

The first bald eagle refuge in America

*One of the only places to walk under
the wing of a Space Shuttle*

NEW & NOTABLE

America's 250th in Fairfax County

Fairfax County is marking America's 250th birthday with a countywide celebration that blends history, arts, food, and immersive visitor experiences. Anchoring the commemoration is **George Washington's Mount Vernon**, where in 2026 will debut revitalized mansion tours and the major new exhibition *George Washington: A Revolutionary Life*, alongside expanded interpretive experiences, and commemorative retail offerings. The free **Virginia 250 Passport** invites visitors to explore Fairfax County's nationally significant sites—including **Mount Vernon**, the **National Museum of the U.S. Army**, **Gunston Hall**, and **Woodlawn & Pope-Leighey House**—while collecting stamps, enjoying discounts, and entering to win prizes. The **National Museum of the U.S. Army** is also leading with *CALL TO Arms: The Soldier and the Revolutionary War*, a powerful exhibition marking both the Army's and the nation's 250th anniversaries. Across the county, the arts and culinary scenes are joining the celebration, from **Tephra ICA's** "Evolving Craft at 250" and a special 250th performance series at **Wolf Trap** featuring the National Symphony Orchestra, to **commemorative wines, craft beers, specialty cocktails, and even a limited-edition chocolate bar** made with U.S.-grown cacao. Together, these experiences showcase Fairfax County as a place where America's past, present, and future converge for the nation's milestone anniversary.



Interactive Adventure Playground for Adults Opens in Tysons

Level99, a 40,000-square-foot, first-of-its-kind adventure playground for grown ups, has debuted inside **Tysons Corner Center** - its first Mid-Atlantic location. Known for live-action, challenge-based entertainment, the space offers more than 50 interactive mental and physical challenge rooms, Player-vs-Player arena duels, and stunning art installations. Adjacent to the gaming center is a new outpost for **Victory Brewing Co.**, which offers a brewery-driven menu and Detroit-style pizza, among other menu options.

J.W. Marriott Reston Station Opens in Reston, the first in Virginia

The highly anticipated **J.W. Marriott Reston Station**, Virginia's first and only J.W. property, brings 243 guest rooms, 94 luxury condos, and approximately 35,000 sq. ft. of meeting space to Reston (September 2025). The hotel property also includes chef-driven dining in its upscale restaurant, **The Simon**, a combined 150 wines and bourbons in its adjacent **Schar Bar**, a one-of-a-kind elevated and walkable garden, stunning public art by Italian artist Lorenzo Quinn, and 14 exclusive Mindful Rooms, a J.W. first, which were designed as sanctuaries for intentional travel and holistic well-being.

Reston Station Welcomes New Restaurants, Entertainment

In addition to the J.W. Marriott property, **Reston Station** is bringing an array of new dining and entertainment experiences to the burgeoning complex, located adjacent to the Metrorail. **Ebbitt House**, the first expansion for the world-famous Old Ebbitt Grill in Washington, DC, is set to open a 300-seat dining room with two bars and a 125-seat patio in 2026. **Noku Sushi** and **Tous les Jour Bakery** are also new dining additions to the complex.

NEW & NOTABLE

Masterpiece Mini Golf Unveiled at the Workhouse Arts Center

The **Workhouse Arts Center** launched **Masterpiece Mini Golf**, an imaginative new attraction designed to blend art history, interactive education, family competition, and creative fun. Each of the 18 holes features a tribute to a legendary artist or movement and is believed to be the only golf course in the country designed entirely by artists as a tribute to the Masters of Art History. Designed by artists-in-residence of the Workhouse, a sprawling arts campus with a unique history as a former prison, the course is open seasonally throughout the year.

Workhouse Arts Center Adding Region's First Glass-Blowing Studio

The **Workhouse Arts Center** will soon be welcoming the first public-facing glassblowing studio in the Washington, DC region. The Hot Shop will build upon the art center's existing glassblowing program to offer classes, public demos, and studio access. Plus, the facility will feature cameras to allow guests to see what goes on inside a 2,000-degree piece of equipment. The Hot Shop is expected to open in late 2026/early 2027.

Exclusive Speakeasy Debuts at The Watermark Hotel

Tucked in a secret location within **The Watermark Hotel** in Tysons is **The Naisho Room**, an invitation-only, speakeasy experience inspired by the precision of Omakase. Evenings unfold through expertly crafted cocktails, elevated bar bites, a stunning city-lit view, and an upscale Tokyo-inspired atmosphere.

River Sea Chocolates Expands to Reston

Husband-and-wife owned **River Sea Chocolates**, a bean-to-bar and sustainably-focused artisan chocolate factory in Fairfax County, recently opened its second location in Reston, expanding its production space to grow distribution. Still open in Chantilly, the new space will offer retail sales and additional sneak peeks into the process of crafting chocolate from cacao bean into ready-to-buy bars.

Even More Unique New Culinary Offerings, Food Tours in #FXVA

Fairfax County's culinary scene is also booming. **Bunnyman Brewing** recently merged with Mustang Sally Brewing, creating a third outpost in Chantilly and bringing together two favorite local names. Food lovers will be drawn to the county's upcoming openings, including **Corsica Wine Bar**, **Ruthie's All Day**, **Electric Bull**, **Flavor Hive**, **Wonder Food Hall**, **The Salty Donut**, **Clarity** (Reston), and the Martha Stewart-endorsed bakery/cafe **Maman**. **Virginialicious**, a local woman-owned company, has started exclusive food tours of **Annandale's Korean food scene**, exploring the food, the culture, and the community that helps establish Annandale as some of the best Korean food in the United States.

Famed F-15 Fighter Jet Joins Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center Collection

The **Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center** recently welcomed a McDonnell Douglas F-15C Eagle, one of the most historically significant fighter planes of the post-World War II period. It is also the first aircraft of its kind to be accessioned into the Smithsonian collection. The Udvar-Hazy Center also recently announced plans for an expansion of its Boeing Aviation Hangar, adding 44,000 square feet of space by close of 2028.



STORY IDEAS

Complement Your DC Trip

In Fairfax County, you can delve deeper into America's history – even after you've seen Washington, DC's iconic monuments and memorials. Pair the two destinations together for a complementary experience. Take in the Washington Monument, but then learn why they created such a grand monument in George Washington's name at his home, Mount Vernon. Or, visit the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in DC to learn about the history of air and space flight, but then head to Fairfax County to walk amongst the machines, planes, and space shuttles that powered this history at the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center. There are stories like this all around Fairfax County just waiting to be told.

Historic Homes

Nothing will give you a taste of history more than exploring the fascinating historic homes of Fairfax County. Trace the steps of two famous George's at the 18th century homes of our nation's president, George Washington, or the Father of the Bill of Rights, George Mason. Glimpse into the mind of Frank Lloyd Wright at his Usonian masterpiece, the Pope-Leighey House. Or dive into the diverse and captivating history of Woodlawn Estate, the first ever site of the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Women's History

Fairfax County is home to a multitude of sites and stories that celebrate the contributions of women to the United States. Visit two critical sites that celebrate the fight for women's equality during the suffrage movement. Then learn about how one woman helped create America's first national wildlife refuge for the protection of bald eagles and how another donated land and funding to create America's only National Park for the performing arts. Finally, honor the forward-thinking women responsible

for saving George Washington's home, creating one of the earliest preservation organizations in the U.S.

Black History

The African American experience is intricately entwined in the rich tapestry of Fairfax County's history and in America's story. From one of the oldest thriving African American communities in the U.S. to the site of the first rural NAACP office to the last remaining African American school in Northern Virginia, and to several sites on the Underground Railroad Network to Freedom, Fairfax County gives you ample opportunities to reflect on the sacrifices and vital contributions that African Americans have made throughout our history.

Military History

With the Union capital of Washington to the east and the Confederate capital of Richmond to the south, Fairfax County was firmly in the center of the Civil War conflict and was the site of several important battles. Today, Northern Virginia is home to multiple museums, battle sites, and poignant historic venues telling the story of the most turbulent time in American history. Pair this with a visit to some of DC's most iconic monuments and memorials and don't miss the soaring new National Museum of the U.S. Army, located near Fort Belvoir.

Wildlife & Outdoor Recreation

If you enjoy Mother Nature, then you've come to the right place. At Fairfax County's 400+ parks, marshes, and gardens, you can rent a canoe or kayak, hike, bike, or horseback ride on nature trails. Or witness the mighty power of the Great Falls rapids. Located along the "Atlantic Flyway," bird lovers can watch millions of birds of prey, songbirds, and waterfowl migrate through the region or reflect on the nation's symbol at America's first-ever bald eagle refuge at Mason Neck.



STORY IDEAS

Global Cuisine

Take your taste buds on a tour around the world without ever leaving Northern Virginia. Fairfax County - and its surrounding localities - boasts an exceptional and staggering array of globally inspired cuisine, from Uyghur and Australian to Afghan and Ethiopian. In fact, here you will also find many exclusive concepts - the first Iraqi dessert shop in the U.S. that specializes in lokma and one of the only places in the States that serves an all-day Pakistani breakfast.

Made in Fairfax

Home to an incredible and diverse group of artisan makers, Fairfax County embraces locally made products and the people who create them. From creamy peanut butter made with Virginia peanuts and blended with a variety of flavors like espresso, bee pollen, and turmeric, to meticulously painted tea towels featuring the landmarks of the region, to handcrafted chocolate made from sustainably-sourced cacao beans, there are a variety of gift ideas or unique experiences in Fairfax County to satisfy your urge to buy local.

Beer & Wine Profiles

Known as the “Gateway to Virginia’s Wine Country,” Fairfax County’s two uniquely historic vineyards are easily accessible during a stay in the Capital Region and give visitors a taste of why Virginia is considered an up-and-coming wine destination. The craft brew scene continues to boom and many local brewmasters work with local makers to craft delicious beer profiles, using cacao husks from a neighboring chocolate factory or single-origin coffee beans from the neighborhood roastery. Pair these with unique concepts like a hazy IPA made with 50 lbs. of gummy bears or a spicy ale blended with jalapenos and honey.

Arts & Culture

From an incredibly unique prison-turned-arts center with ties to women’s suffragists and the only public Frank Lloyd Wright home in Virginia to America’s only national park dedicated to the performing arts, Fairfax County showcases the talent of an amazing array of artists and performers. Pair this with larger-than-life murals, self-guided public art walking tours, or a venture to see an intricately designed, handcrafted Korean Bell Garden for an arts experience you’ll never forget.

Hands-On Educational Fun

Get hands-on at Fairfax County’s array of immersive and educational attractions. From stepping into the shoes of George Washington at Mount Vernon’s digital “Be Washington” interface and the G-STEM activities at the National Museum of the U.S. Army to the simulator rides at the National Air and Space Museum and the Experiment Bar at the Children’s Science Center Lab, kids and adults will be having so much fun they might not even realize they’re learning!

Luxury

Embrace a luxurious getaway with a stay at The Ritz-Carlton, Tysons Corner, conveniently attached to Tysons Galleria, known as the “Rodeo Drive of the East Coast.” Browse brands like Versace, Chanel or Rolex and end your day with a spa treatment and wine tasting at the hotel. A short drive away, dine at one of the region’s most exclusive restaurants, L’Auberge Chez Francois or visit one of Fairfax County’s two stunning wineries. Or, stay in one of the Mindful Rooms at Virginia’s only JW Marriott property in Reston after dining at its chef-driven restaurant and bar.



RESOURCES

HOW WE CAN HELP

- **Additional story ideas:** Fairfax County is a diverse destination with a variety of stories to be told. Let's brainstorm!
- **Itineraries:** We can share sample itineraries to showcase how Fairfax County can be explored in 24 hours, 48 hours, a weekend getaway, or a week-long vacation.
- **Press Trips:** Press trips can be arranged on a case-by-case basis. Contact us to request a visit.
- **Interviews:** We can help arrange interviews with local leaders and destination partners, as needed.
- **Photo & Video Assets:** We have a vast media gallery and would be happy to provide imagery or b-roll as needed.

PHOTO/VIDEO REQUESTS

Photography, b-roll video clips, and logos can be downloaded for editorial use or to promote Fairfax County, Virginia as a tourism and meeting/sports destination. To request access to our online photo and video library, contact Ali Morris at AMorris@fxva.com.

Find more resources at [FXVA.com/press](https://www.fxva.com/press).

SIGNATURE EVENTS

No matter what season you visit, there are a variety of signature events, fairs & festivals, and creative pop-up events happening all year long in Fairfax County. Put these on your calendar!

SPRING

- National Cherry Blossom Festival
- Historic Virginia Garden Week

FALL

- Fairfax County Brewfests
- Fall Festivals & Halloween Haunts

SUMMER

- Wolf Trap Summer Concert Season
- Innovations in Flight Outdoor Aviation Display

WINTER

- Christmas at Mount Vernon
- Holiday Light Shows

Find a full list of events at [FXVA.com/events](https://www.fxva.com/events).

CONTACT INFORMATION



Ali Morris
Senior Manager,
Communications & Marketing
AMorris@fxva.com
703-752-9505
[FXVA.com](https://www.fxva.com) & [FXVA.com/blog](https://www.fxva.com/blog)

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