

# Liberty Call

## A Regional Military Themed Itinerary



### Day 1 - Early Morning Arrival

Tour the **Virginia War Museum** in Newport News, and explore American military history from 1775 to the present day through more than 60,000 artifacts. Participate in one of several customized programs, including A Soldier's Heritage (1775-1975). The goal of this program is to explain how the evolution of warfare led to changes in uniforms, weapons and battlefield tactics throughout American military history.

Enjoy a driving tour of downtown Newport News:

#### Newport News Shipbuilding

The Newport News Ship Building is the largest industrial employer of Virginia, is the sole builder of nuclear-powered aircraft carriers, and partners with General Dynamics Electric Boat to build nuclear-powered submarines.

#### Tugboat Dorothy

The first ship built at Newport News Shipbuilding, this 90-foot tugboat was launched into the James River in 1891. Since 1976, it has been on display outside the shipyard as a tribute to the price and craftsmanship of the shipbuilders of Newport News.

#### Victory Arch

On November 11, 1918, World War I ended and the city's embarkation camps were converted into receiving facilities. Dedicated in 1919 and reconstructed in 1962, more than 441,000 doughboys found their way back home through this majestic arch in Newport News. It is a great group photo opportunity.

Arrive in Norfolk and enjoy lunch overlooking the Elizabeth River at **Waterside District**. This revitalized waterfront has turned into a central place to dine and features the best of national, local, and regional restaurants - it's sure to please everyone in your group. Slurp down some oysters from local seafood restaurant **Stripers** or devour a juicy burger from **Blue Moon Taphouse**. Waterside also offers live music, festivals, and more.

Next, sit back and take part in an escorted tour of the Naval Station Norfolk. Homeport to the Navy's 100-ship Atlantic Fleet, Naval Station Norfolk is the world's largest naval installation. Enjoy a Navy-personnel guided tour of the base where you pass by giant aircraft carriers, destroyers, submarines and a collection of period homes.

Depart for the **USS Wisconsin**. Berthed at **Nauticus**, the USS **WI-54** is one of the largest and last battleships ever built by the U.S. Navy. Explore its deck through a self-guided or audio tour that will take visitors back in time to experience this majestic ship that earned five battle stars during World War II.

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Dinner this evening is at **Smoke BBQ Restaurant & Bar** in Newport News. Smoke BBQ prepares all their dishes just as we do for our family and friends. The use of fresh, local and natural ingredients along with hardwood smoked meats, makes this restaurant and catering services the best in the area. During dinner, you'll be serenaded by **Frank Cubillo, Frank Sings Frank**, a retired full colonel of the U.S. Marine Corp, who is not a Sinatra "impersonator", but when you hear him sing in his own voice, you will swear you are listening to the Chairman of the Board himself! You can also have Frank come directly to you at your hotel!

### Day 2 - Tour more of Newport News & Hampton

**The Mariners' Museum and Park** in Newport News, is one of the largest and most comprehensive maritime history museums in the world. For over 70 years, The Mariners' Museum and Park has illustrated the spirit of seafaring adventure through a strikingly diverse collection of maritime artifacts including the anchor and turret from the Civil War ironclad USS Monitor, antique navigational instruments and more.

Depart for **Hampton** and enjoy a nostalgic ride on the **Hampton Carousel**. This beautifully restored carousel is one of the few antique merry-go-rounds still in existence. Built by the Philadelphia Toboggan Company in 1920, the carousel's 48 horses and two chariots were hand-carved and painted by German, Italian and Russian immigrant artisans.

Walk over to the **Virginia Air & Space Science Center**. Take flight to the birthplace of America's space program and the official visitor center for NASA Langley Research Center. Participate in "Space Freeze II: A Cryogenics Demonstration." Plunge into the extreme cold of outer space and discover how it affects living things, inanimate objects and potential building materials.

This evening, enjoy a taste of local flavor at **Crab Shack on the James**. Established in 1993, this indoor and outdoor restaurant located at the foot of the James River, provides panoramic views and beautiful sun sets from every table. After dinner, stroll the James River Fishing Pier and watch families catch their prize dinner of croaker, spot, flounder, trout and striped bass.

### Day 3 - One more museum before heading home!

Arrive at **U.S. Army Transportation Museum** in Newport News at **Joint Base Langley-Eustis**, the U.S. Army's largest transportation unit. This museum is devoted entirely to more than 200 years of Army transportation history including miniatures, dioramas, experimental models, and video presentations. Authentic World War II footage and a replica base camp during the Persian Gulf War are also exhibited at this Museum.