

Historical Tea, Holiday Lights, and Everything Nice

The call of the holiday season brings on thoughts of twinkling lights, cups of eggnog or hot cocoa, and the glowing feeling of appreciation for everything we have. This tour combines unique experiences with memorable moments to get you excited for the holidays. See beautifully decorated historic homes, breathtaking museums, and quaint shops to fill your heart with excitement as the holidays approach.



National Museum of the Marine Corps

The **National Museum of the Marine Corps** is already a magnificent place to visit but it transforms with a hint of cheer during the holiday season. Each year, seasonally themed trees are arranged throughout Leatherneck Gallery to create a welcoming glow as you enter. During your visit, uncover the history of the Corps, test your skills as a Marine, and get insight into the lives of those who fight for our freedom. See the incredible Gene Hackman-narrated film "We, The Marines" to get an unparalleled view into the experiences of Marines from boot camp through modern training.

Travel north to discover a truly hidden gem: the historic riverfront **Town of Occoquan**. Ring in the holiday season by strolling along the town's holiday decorations as you browse through the town's quaint stores. Sit down for a delectable lunch at one of the many restaurants and cafes in town. Many restaurants offer waterfront seating for an authentic Occoquan experience!



Occoquan's waterfront



Rippon Lodge

Your next stop is a truly unique

historical tea at Rippon Lodge, the oldest known home in Prince William County. Take in the holiday decorations on the first floor, as well as hearing about the different holiday celebrations and traditions of the time period. If you would rather take something home to remember your tour by, sit down to enjoy an ornament making experience in this beautifully decorated home.

End your day by celebrating a holiday tradition with **Christmastide at Gunston Hall**! Activities include children's crafts, a visit from Santa, games, and even an indoor snowball fight. The evening hours provide a romantic holiday experience by candlelight as guests are invited to sample period food in the kitchen, explore the grounds, enjoy 18th century music, and chat with characters from the past.



Christmas at Gunston Hall





Gunston Hall





Go to <u>www.visitpwc.com/groups/itineraries/</u> for additional itinerary ideas, such as:

- <u>An Art-Fully Crafted Tour</u> an art tour of Prince William and Loudoun, VA
- <u>Patsy Cline and the Bottling Line</u> the music of Patsy Cline, live entertainment and shows, and a dose of history and spirits
- <u>Plaids and Stripes</u> a military appreciation tour featuring the Virginia International Tattoo
- <u>History Meets Mystery</u> boat rides, horses, history, and an array of food experiences in Prince William and Loudoun, VA
- <u>Marine Corps Birthday</u> pay homage and thank our military members for their service on this tour honoring U.S. Veterans and the birthday of the Marine Corps!
- <u>Brothers and Sisters in Arms</u> a military tour of Northern Virginia
- <u>Boats, Bottles, and Bites</u> taste your way through the historic waterfront town of Occoquan during this culinary adventure
- <u>Polo in the Park: A Summer Tour of DC's Countryside</u> the tour where history and horses come together for a summer trip full of stories and excitement







To customize this itinerary, contact your personal travel partners <u>Mark Kowalewski (mkowalewski@pwcgov.org)</u>, <u>Mike Stoupa (mstoupa@pwcgov.org)</u> and Linda Horowitz (<u>lhorowitz@fxva.com</u>) for help with your suggested itinerary, dining suggestions and hotel selection.