

Visit  
**PRINCE WILLIAM**  
VIRGINIA

### Value Packed Student Tour

With an emphasis on keeping costs low but value high, this itinerary provides more than two full days' worth of fun and knowledge to student tour groups. From hands-on history and military appreciation to science and service-learning opportunities, Prince William, VA provides a wealth of opportunities for entertainment and education for less than you would expect. Many of the programs and offerings can be customized to meet a specific request your group may have so dive into our value packed itinerary to begin your adventure!

#### Day 1:

Start your tour at the **National Museum of the Marine Corps**. 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. During your visit, 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 warfare training. Also included in your visit is a **hands-on activity** centered around the STEAM skills modern-day Marines need to keep our country safe. Students may engineer a boat, parachute, or other tools to keep a Marine mission ready. During your visit, enjoy a meal in Devil Dog Diner, the on-site cafeteria-style eatery that honors Marine mess operations.



National Museum of the Marine Corps

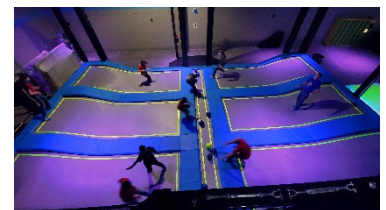


National Memorial Cemetery at  
Quantico

Next, pay your respects at **National Memorial Cemetery at Quantico** with a **private flag-placing experience** at the graves of veterans whose remains were previously forgotten. Hosted by the **Missing in America Project**, their mission is to find, identify, and provide full military burial for these now-remembered heroes. This all-volunteer organization will impart the true value of sacrifice and leadership to your students.

End your afternoon at **Rippon Lodge**, one of Prince William County's oldest known homes. Built in the 1740s, the property overlooks the Potomac River and is close to the former bustling port of Dumfries. The owners used their proximity to the waterways to export their goods to England. Included in your tour is a **19<sup>th</sup>-century musket firing demonstration**.

Get excited for dinner and fun tonight at **Healthy Fun One Adventure Park**. Be prepared to duck, dive, and dodge as your group plays dodgeball on trampolines! Not in the mood to bounce? They also have a high ropes course, ninja warrior style course, climbing obstacles, an enormous inflatable bounce area, and other entertaining activities for students. A pizza party in their private party rooms is included!



Healthy Fun One Adventure Park

## Day 2:

Begin your day with a **hands-on history program** at your hotel. This portable educational experience covers the fundamental things needed to function as a 19<sup>th</sup>-century soldier. The historian will guide the students through a lesson in history to set the stage for the rest of today's tour.

Continue your morning with a **civics lesson in an actual government building** where local leaders make decisions impacting the community they serve. Students will be given scenarios to think through, discuss, and act on to learn about the result of their choices. From the local town hall in Occoquan to the board chambers for the local county supervisors, your group will sit in the seats of local leaders and community members influencing daily lives as they learn.

The next stop on your journey is **Brentsville Courthouse Historic Centre** to conduct a **mock trial** based on historically accurate information. Explore the 19<sup>th</sup>-century jail and discover where the Prince William Cavalry was formed in 1860. The jailhouse here also has ties to the Underground Railroad and the fight for equality. Many runaway bondsmen and abolitionists were jailed here for expressing their opinions in public. Become drawn into the stories of those who were captured, such as William Hayden, who was held in jail for over a year for being "too light" before escaping.



**Brentsville Courthouse**

Head over to **Manassas Mall** for lunch at their large food court. With nationally recognized brands and local options to choose from, everyone will be able to find something tasty to eat. If you have some extra time, browse the over 80 stores to take something home with you to remember your tour.



**Manassas National Battlefield**

Next, visit **Manassas National Battlefield** and soak up all the history it has to offer. The site of the Civil War's first major clash, watch the 45-minute film that covers the First and Second Battles of Manassas. You can then make your way to the Museum where artifacts and exhibits about the First Battle of Manassas are displayed.

Continue your tour at **Ben Lomond Historic Site**, a field hospital used during both major battles at Manassas National Battlefield. From the smell that may have lingered in the home to the sounds of soldiers crying out for help, this immersive museum can practically put you in the shoes of an injured soldier or the family who lives there throughout the ordeal. To make history even more enjoyable, your students will sit by the campfire, roasting marshmallows and making s'mores, while the site staff tell stories of the importance of this historical site.

Dinner and fun happen tonight at **Uptown Alley**, an upscale bowling alley. With 24 bowling lanes, a full arcade, and a two-story laser tag maze, the fun stops only when you want it to. The on-site Red Embers Grill will give your group a from-scratch meal to enjoy before or after your games.



Uptown Alley

### Day 3:

Begin your day with a **hands-on history program** at your hotel. This portable educational experience covers archaeology and how it has impacted the interpretation of history in our region. Using actual artifacts and archaeological reports/surveys, students will be introduced to the concepts of stratigraphy, excavation, reconstruction, and preservation. They will even perform their own excavation...on a cookie!



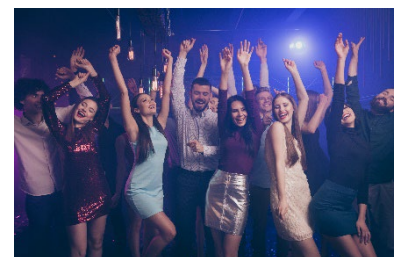
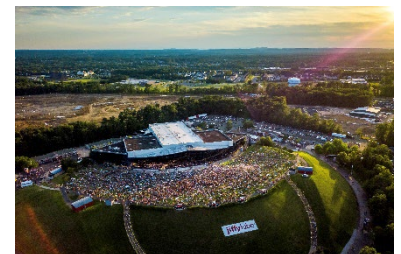
Neabsco Creek Boardwalk

End your tour with **science in the park!** Head out onto the **Neabsco Creek boardwalk** for a hands-on learning experience with nature. Geared towards elementary school students, this tour will educate your students on the importance of conservation, how pollution impacts the ecosystem, and the role erosion plays on the landscape. For middle and high school groups, you can participate in a **service-learning opportunity** in one of the dozens of public parks in Prince William County. Leave your mark on a space for future visitors to enjoy!

## Need more inspiration?

Check out additional student group tour inclusion ideas:

- [Backstage tour of Jiffy Lube Live](#) – get the VIP treatment and go backstage at the largest outdoor amphitheater in the D.C. metro region. See the green room, walk out on stage, and learn what it takes to host a live concert for 25,000 people!
- [Private venues for student dinner dances](#) – a private venue may be a welcome and safe change of pace for your next student dinner dance. Hosting a dinner party away from your hotel keeps students from sneaking away and sets the tone for a special evening of food and fun!
- [5 budget friendly restaurants for student groups](#) - Prince William, VA provides more value than you realize, including our group friendly dining options. Every dollar counts!
- [Waterfront dining options for student groups](#) - Waterfront dining is typically expensive, making it a challenge to provide an elevated experience for young travelers. However, look no further than our suggestions for AFFORDABLE waterfront dining options for your next student group traveling along Interstate 95 to or through Washington D.C.







<b>Washington DC</b>	<b>30 miles</b>	<b>Williamsburg</b>	<b>132 miles</b>
<b>Baltimore</b>	<b>74 miles</b>	<b>Philadelphia</b>	<b>172 miles</b>
<b>Richmond</b>	<b>83 miles</b>	<b>Virginia Beach</b>	<b>177 miles</b>
<b>Gettysburg</b>	<b>88 miles</b>	<b>New York</b>	<b>261 miles</b>

Go to [www.visitpwc.com/groups/itineraries/](http://www.visitpwc.com/groups/itineraries/) for additional itinerary ideas, such as:

- [An Art-Fully Crafted Tour](#) – an art tour of Prince William and Loudoun, VA
- [Patsy Cline and the Bottling Line](#) – the music of Patsy Cline, live entertainment and shows, and a dose of history and spirits
- [Plaids and Stripes](#) – a military appreciation tour featuring the Virginia International Tattoo
- [History Meets Mystery](#) – boat rides, horses, history, and an array of food experiences in Prince William and Loudoun, VA
- [Marine Corps Birthday](#) – pay homage and thank our military members for their service on this tour honoring U.S. Veterans and the birthday of the Marine Corps!
- [Brothers and Sisters in Arms](#) – a military tour of Northern Virginia
- [Boats, Bottles, and Bites](#) – taste your way through the historic waterfront town of Occoquan during this culinary adventure
- [Polo in the Park: A Summer Tour of DC's Countryside](#) – 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 [Mark Kowalewski \(mkowalewski@pwcgov.org\)](mailto:mkowalewski@pwcgov.org) and [Mike Stoupa \(mstoupa@pwcgov.org\)](mailto:mstoupa@pwcgov.org) for help with your suggested itinerary, dining suggestions and hotel selection.