A ROAD TRIP THROUGH VIRGINIA

Highlighting Bristol, Harrisonburg, and Virginia Beach

Day 1: City of Bristol

Bristol resides in Tennessee and Virginia. It is the Birthplace of Country Music (Smithsonian Museum) and home to Bristol Motor Speedway. Bristol is a world-class fly-fishing destination.

The Downtown is vibrant with two awardwinning boutique hotels, the best new craft distillery (USA Today 10Best) and a great selection of shopping, food, and craft beer.







Christopher Perrin
Discover Bristol
cperrin@bristolchamber.org, 423-989-4875
DiscoverBristol.org



ITINERARY

The original country music recordings happened in Bristol during the Bristol Sessions in 1927. Learn about the "Big Bang of Country Music" in our incredible Smithsonian-affiliated museum.

Take a break and grab a bite to eat at the Burger Bar diner. According to local legend, this popular establishment is the spot where country music superstar Hank Williams Sr. had his last meal.

Stroll through the various antique shops, boutiques, and galleries located on both sides of the state line.

Learn more about our historic Downtown by taking the Bristol Self-Guided Walking Tour. Visit several points of interest including a marker for where the 1927 Sessions took place.

Straddle the state line and take a photo as you are in two places at one time.

Enjoy a relaxing meal at one of the many local restaurants. Treat yourself to a dessert or hot beverage at Blackbird Bakery, which is conveniently opened 24 hours a day.

Extend your stay in town with an overnight in one of our two downtown boutique hotels. The Bristol Hotel is a Top 10 Downtown Hotel in the US by Travel + Leisure. The Sessions Hotel is named after the 1927 Sessions. Bristol's energetic passion for country music is reflected throughout the hotel's thoughtful décor with curated pieces and musical offerings.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITES

- Tour Bristol Motor Speedway & Dragway. Hosts NASCAR and NHRA events as well as the 2016 Battle At Bristol.
- Visit the NEW Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Bristol (Coming Soon).
- Enjoy a complimentary tasting and tour at Lost State Distilling.
 Awarded Best New US Craft Distillery by USA Today 10Best.
- Go beer hopping in Downtown Bristol. It is home to three craft breweries and a draft house.
- See a show at the historic Paramount Center for the Arts or Theatre Bristol.

Day 2: Harrisonburg

Nestled in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley,







Jennifer Bell

City of Harrisonburg Tourism and Visitor Services jennifer.bell@harrisonburgva.gov, 540-421-9609 VisitHarrisonburgVA.com

Stop by the Hardesty-Higgins Visitor Center at 212 S. Main Street. Grab coffee and a baked good at Heritage Bakery & Café which is located within the house. Browse through the Valley Turnpike Museum and Civil War Orientation Center also located in the building.

Visit Agora Market which houses many local artisan shops including Lineage, a local maker of high-quality canvas bags and leather products. Harrisonburg is known for an artisan culture - from traditional crafts like quilting to fine arts.

Enjoy a free Traipse Scavenger Hunt around Downtown Harrisonburg, an award-winning Main Street community with outdoor challenges from family fun to a pub crawl. Explore Downtown Harrisonburg with this user-friendly app and try to answer all the puzzles without using the optional hints. All puzzles are outdoors. Enjoy public sculptures and murals along the trail including a LOVEworks sign.

Choose one of Harrisonburg's over 200 restaurants for lunch. For outdoor dining, head to Downtown Harrisonburg, Virginia's First Culinary District with numerous options from patios to rooftop dining if weather allows. For dining with a view, enjoy roof top dining at Magnolias Taco & Tequila Bar or one of many restaurants serving international cuisine.

Refresh yourself on the Shenandoah Beerwerks Trail. Here, you can taste some of the best craft beer in the country. Relax and enjoy libations from our 5 breweries along the Trail: Brothers, the Friendly Fermenter, Three Notched, Pale Fire, or Restless Moons Brewery.

End at the gorgeous Hotel Madison & Shenandoah Valley Conference Center which blends a sophisticated style with relaxing comfort. Amenities include the Montpelier Restaurant & Bar, a fitness center, business center, indoor pool, and guest laundry. Enjoy a chef tasting in the Montpelier's private room.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITES

- The Virginia Quilt Museum is the Official Quilt Museum of the Commonwealth of Virginia, celebrating and nurturing Virginia's quilting heritage.
- The beautiful Edith J. Carrier Arboretum & Botanical Gardens offers a 125-acre public urban garden year-round free admission.
- Explore More Discovery Museum offering multiple floors of interactive engaging learning experiences for children including a 8+ maker space.
- The Brethren & Mennonite Heritage Center offering historic buildings highlighting the lifestyle of original settlers to the area.
- Visit a local vineyard: CrossKeys, Bluestone, Brix & Columns, Marceline and The Purple WOLF Vineyard at White Oak Lavender Farm.



Day 3: Virginia Beach

Famous for its iconic three-mile boardwalk and beaches, Virginia Beach provides groups with the opportunity to experience all the city has to offer through customizable "Live the Life Adventures" in five categories. Groups can delight their taste buds with Culinary & Agriculture adventures, go behind the scenes of thrilling performances with Arts & Culture, fly a WWII airplane with Military & History, watch Dolphins swim in Outdoor & Eco-Adventures



ITINERARY

Meet your guide for a Virginia Beach riding tour. You will visit the historic Cape Henry Lighthouse, the oldest government-built lighthouse in America that was overseen by Alexander Hamilton. Also, you will see the spot where the English Colonists first landed in 1607 at the First Landing Cross.

Next come nose-to-nose with Komodo dragons, hedgehogs and more on your visit to the Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center. After exploring the aquarium, see the largest population of bottlenose dolphins on the east coast with a dolphin watching boat trip.

Next, take a trip back to a time when the aircraft were spectacular and learn why our heroes never let us down. "Swingtime in the Skies." takes you to the Military Aviation museum to see one of the largest collections of flying WWI and WWII aircraft in the world. Lunch is also included with a Fighter Pilot or Rosie the Riveter

Then tour the Thoroughgood House, this national historic landmark, built in 1719 reflects the lifestyle of one of Virginia's first colonists. Also enjoy the English cottage-style gardens.

Tonight, enjoy a walk on the iconic Virginia Beach Boardwalk and dine at one of the many oceanfront group friendly restaurants.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITES

- Take a Dream Workshop at Edgar Cayce's A.R.E.
- Learn about Virginia Beach's heritage and shipwrecks and lore at the Virginia Beach Surf and Rescue Museum.
- Attend a performance at the Sandler Center for the Performing Arts or Zeiders American Dream Theatre.
- Enjoy a "Taste of the Market" at the Virginia Beach Farmers Market.
- Explore Virginia Beach's culinary offerings including Oyster Tastings, crab feasts and more.



Virginia Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau BEACH virginia Beach Convention & Visitors Bureau jcoggin@visitvirginiabeach.com, 757-385-6642 VisitVirginiaBeach.com/Group-Tour/

