**A ROAD TRIP THROUGH VIRGINIA**

Along I-95

Highlighting Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax, Prince William County and Richmond

**Day 1: Arlington**

Located steps from the nation’s capital and a destination that celebrates our country's history and honor, Arlington, Virginia offers everything from top hotels, world-class shopping and a global dining scene, to Reagan National Airport, Arlington National Cemetery, the Pentagon and much more. And it’s all available at a great value – Arlington hotels average at least 20% less than the downtown D.C. ones and place visitors closer to the city’s top destinations.

**ITINERARY**

Start your Arlington adventure with a visit to one of the most revered locations in the nation. The rolling green hills of Arlington National Cemetery honor those who have served our nation and serve as a tribute to the service and sacrifice of every individual laid to rest within these hallowed grounds. See the final resting place of President John F. Kennedy and pay respects at the Tomb of the Unknowns. Stop by the Arlington House: The Robert E. Lee Memorial has reopened after an extensive rehabilitation of the site. Don’t miss the Military Women's Memorial, honoring 3 million women who have defended the nation since the revolutionary war, and the new “The Pledge” monument honoring military women and service animals.

Just outside the Cemetery grounds, stop by the famed U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial, also known as Iwo Jima, before visiting the 88-acre woodland oasis that also serves as the Memorial for U.S. President and conservationist Theodore Roosevelt. Here, the miles of serene trails are a wonderful respite from the bustle of Arlington’s urban neighborhoods.

Enjoy a visit to Ballston Quarter, Arlington’s newly reimagined retail and entertainment complex, complete with a recreational cooking school, an indoor/outdoor food hall with a variety of local restaurants, entertainment venues and much more. And don’t forget about the arts scene – Arlington’s Broadway-caliber musicals, dance and live theatre performances have returned in a big way to Arlington, so make sure to include a theater experience in your itinerary.

**ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES**

- Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Museum: The newly renovated museum features hands-on activities, artifacts and diverse, personal histories that explore the long, dynamic history of drug use, misuse and law enforcement unlike any other.
- Bowlero Offers arcade games and artisan dining to a large area of blacklight bowling.
- Fashion Centre at Pentagon City: A world-class shopping experience with more than 140 stores and restaurants in a spacious environment.
- Black Heritage Museum of Arlington: Now in a new location, the museum honors African American history in Arlington County.

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For this itinerary and more, visit virginia.org/groups
Day 2: Alexandria

Just five miles from Washington D.C. and an easy drive from major East Coast hubs, Alexandria, Virginia is the perfect spot for your next group tour. Named a Top 5 Best Small City in the U.S. 2020 by the Condé Nast Traveler Readers’ Choice Awards, Alexandria offers a relaxed, walkable setting with a small-town feel, lots of history, and the amenities of a cosmopolitan city.

ITINERARY

Alexandria, recognized for its role in American history as George Washington’s adopted hometown, and find an extraordinary backdrop for unique boutiques, award-winning dining, a bustling art scene at world famous sites like the Torpedo Factory Art Center, and vibrant nightlife nestled amidst a beautifully-preserved architectural landscape.

Experience the city’s rich past and trace the steps of key figures in America’s history as you wind through this insider itinerary, tasting and exploring extraordinary Alexandria.

The tour will begin at the Carlyle House, one of the grandest mansions in early Alexandria. Then move to the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum, the colonist’s pharmacy, and then stop for lunch at Gadsby’s Tavern Museum, the local tavern frequented by America’s first six presidents.

After lunch, explore the George Washington Masonic Memorial to view historic artifacts and take the elevator to the top for spectacular views of the Capital Region. Shop along King Street, then end the day at The Fish Market, a local favorite.

For this itinerary and more, visit virginia.org/groups

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITES

- Boat Tour on Potomac Riverboat Company.
- Do a Food Tour.
- Visit Port City Brewery.
- Shop Old Town Farmers Market in Market Square.
- Explore on a walking tour.
Day 3: Fairfax County

Fairfax County enjoys the best of both worlds: proximity to Washington, DC with a unique history of its own. Step back in time at an 18th century president's home and then jump into the future by viewing spectacular spacecraft all in one day. Ranger-led nature walks along the Potomac River, chocolate-making classes and a picnic under the stars while enjoying a musical performance are just a sample of the unique experiences you can expect to enjoy.

ITINERARY

Start at George Washington's Mount Vernon with a mansion tour. Head to the distillery and gristmill to learn from the master distiller how Washington made his famous rye whiskey. Lunch at the Mount Vernon Inn to enjoy dishes from Washington's lifetime, including Virginia's famous peanut soup and a delicious pot pie!

Proceed to the National Museum of the U.S. Army. Opened in November 2020, the museum highlights the Army's direct influence on our nation socially, technologically, scientifically, financially, and culturally. Enjoy the multi-sensory theater, fully interactive Experiential Learning Center, cutting edge simulation and virtual reality experiences.

Last stop is the Workhouse Arts Center. This former prison-turned-arts-haven is home to 60+ artists. Tour the onsite Lucy Burns Museum and learn about the site’s 91 years of prison history. Suffragists picketing the White House for women's right to vote were imprisoned and force-fed. Notorious criminals were also held at the Workhouse like Watergate mastermind G. Gordon Liddy along with local celebrities like Chuck Brown and Petey Greene. Some of our nation's most remarkable performers like Frank Sinatra, Ella Fitzgerald, and Duke Ellington performed on the site. End the day with a thrilling murder mystery dinner there!

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Surround yourself in the intimate ambiance while attending a performance inside a barn from the 1700’s at The Barns of Wolf Trap.
- Tour George Mason’s Gunston Hall or enjoy a cocktail by candlelight experience.
- Indulge in confections at River-Sea Chocolates with a wine and chocolate pairing experience or create and decorate your very own chocolate bar.
- Take in eye-popping space and aircraft at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center.
- Join a park naturalist for a twilight boardwalk stroll at Huntley Meadows Park.
Day 4: Prince William County

Located 30 miles outside Washington, D.C., Prince William is best known for Manassas National Battlefield, Historic Occoquan, Marine Corps Base Quantico, the National Museum of the Marine Corps and Quantico National Cemetery, over 25 Civil War sites and museums, historic towns with unique dining and boutique shops, and world-class shopping at Potomac Mills. The area spans from the Bull Run Mountains in the west to the stunning shores of the Potomac River in the east.

ITINERARY

Receive a warm welcome to Occoquan by Mayor, Earnie Porta, Jr. Enjoy a guided tour of the quaint riverside town as he highlights the unique history of Occoquan. Discover stories of the historic buildings and how the town got its name. After, get a taste of Occoquan’s best culinary creations and libations during an Occoquan Progressive Meal. Start off at Bottle Stop with a delicious appetizer and glass of wine. Choose from starters like their Parmesan-Asiago Dip or the seared buffalo & smoked chipotle sausage bathed in cheddar-beer sauce. Before you leave, browse their collection of small production wines and craft beer from around the world to take home.

Take a scenic stroll along the water to Madigan’s Waterfront for your main course. Enjoy a platter featuring a mini crab cake, chicken salad filled pastry cup & filet of tilapia topped with chopped tomatoes & basil with a balsamic glaze served on seasoned flatbread. Before or after your entree course, So Olive can provide a tasting and education about their unique olive oils, such as the blood orange fused olive oil. As you spend some time exploring the unique shops around town, peruse their selection of over 20 different flavors of olive oil and balsamic vinegar for use at home.

For dessert, choose a tasty treat from Mom’s Apple Pie, NazBro Chocolates, or Potomac Chocolates to enjoy while touring Rippon Lodge, one of the oldest known homes in Prince William County, built around 1747. Your group could play period appropriate games just as visitors would have in the 18th and 19th centuries.

End your day by traveling to Brew Republic Bierwerks where you’ll discover the brewing process from start to finish with a behind the scenes look at their facility.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITES

- Indulge in a personal tour, tasting and a meal with the owners at MurLarkey Distilled Spirits.
- Honor our once forgotten Veterans with a flag placing ceremony at Quantico National Cemetery and the Missing In America Project.
- Immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of Marines in action at the National Museum of the Marine Corps.
- Discover a Civil War hospital and experience a musket firing demonstration at Ben Lomond Historic Site.
- Participate in a wine blending class at Effingham Manor & Winery and end with a blending competition amongst your group.

Visit Prince William

Visit Prince William
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Day 5: Richmond Region

We've got history, art at every corner, major shopping, a great range of hotels and more than 900 restaurants. Richmond is featured on more “must-visit” lists every day. And we have a whole team of tourism professionals who are here to help group travel planners bring their clients the best experience ever, with free services and support. No matter what size your group or your budget, we’re here for you.

ITINERARY

The Richmond Region was at the heart of America’s quest for independence in Colonial times. This tour brings you to historic sites and famous homes, and you will have some fun with vintage entertainment as well. The area is also home to a bevy of wineries, breweries, distilleries and cideries. We will wet your whistle as you enjoy the unmatched history of Richmond.

Ding! Ding! Goes the trolley!  Hop on a Richmond Trolley for a 2-hour tour of one of America’s most historic cities.  Next head to Henricus Historical Park and visit the recreation of the second successful English settlement in the New World, where Pocahontas met and married John Rolfe. After experiencing the park enjoy lunch on your own in Richmond’s most unique shopping and dining district, Carytown.

Your next stop is at St. John’s Church – Give Me Liberty Re-Enactment. It was here in this historic church that Patrick Henry fanned the flames of liberty with his stirring Give Me Liberty speech. Local actors give a superb recreation of that event on the site where it happened. Continue your Colonial journey as you walk the halls of the Virginia State Capitol, America’s most historic building. Designed by Thomas Jefferson and opened in 1788, the Capitol is where the Aaron Burr trial was held and where the Bill of Rights was ratified. Abraham Lincoln, Winston Churchill, and Queen Elizabeth, II, have visited.

After a fun day of exploring, it’s time to enjoy wine tasting at one of the Richmond Region’s favorite wineries, James River Cellars Winery. Next you will delight in a truly southern dinner at Hanover Tavern. Patrick Henry favored this historic tavern and so do we! After dinner head downstairs for an evening of theater with an entertaining performance by the Virginia Repertory Theater.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITES

- Riverfront Canal Cruise - Enjoy this historical tour of the Kanawha Canal and hear about Richmond’s history while traveling in a flat-bottomed boat.
- Kings Dominion Winterfest - Enjoy the season’s spirit with a grand display of holiday lighting, live entertainment, and your favorite rides.
- Dominion Energy GardenFest of Lights at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden - Voted as a 2020 10Best Readers’ Choice Travel Award.
- Dominion Energy GardenFest of Lights at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden - Millions of lights line garden paths and twinkle in trees under the night sky.
- Patrick Henry’s Scotchtown - This was the home of patriot Patrick Henry. Tour this Colonial-era house and learn about the statesman and revolutionary who lived here.