

A ROAD TRIP THROUGH VIRGINIA

Highlighting Marion, Loudoun County and Prince William County

Day 1: Town of Marion

Marion, VA is "America's Coolest Hometown"! Located in the heart of Southwest Virginia's Highlands, Marion offers a vibrant historic downtown filled with small town charm, fun shopping, and unique mix of dining options that rivals larger communities. The Official Television Series of Virginia, "Song of the Mountains" bluegrass and Americana showcase, is taped LIVE at our Lincoln Theatre every month.



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Start your visit in the heart of our historic downtown. Just minutes from Interstate 81, downtown Marion is a certified Virginia Main Street Community, filled with local shopping, a local museum, art galleries, and of course – food!

Folks come from around the country to learn instrument making from the master luthier Wayne Henderson. And seasonally, restaurants and streets are filled with live entertainment, from bands to solo pickers to cruise ins.

For lunch, you've got your work cut out for you to make a choice – homemade soup and sandwich inside a classic Piggly Wiggly grocery store at Sister's Café. Regional cuisine at the preserved Main Street Post Office at Macado's. Japanese cuisine, Texas-styled BBQ, world-class Appalachian fusion at The Waterlily inside the General Francis Marion Hotel, or local favorites at The Wooden Pickle American Bistro. To do it right, plan a food crawl – or even better, plan a couple days to dine your way through our downtown!

Walk off lunch with a little shopping. Find a vintage treasure at The Downtown Resale Boutique. Search for handmade work of art from The Ford Studios. Grab a gift from Past Time Antique Emporium and General Store. Don't forget to stop in for Ice Cream or a sweet treat at Hester's Country Store and Fudgery.

And outdoor recreation – we've got mountains of it! From hiking, swimming and kayaking at nearby Hungry Mother State Park to wild ponies at Grayson Highlands State Park to our in-town Riverwalk, Marion is your home!

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- The Henderson School of Appalachian Arts features woodwork, letterpress, pottery, painting, and Wayne Henderson's Guitar Making Workshops.
- Enjoy the outdoors in the middle of town at Riverbend Park and Riverwalk. Trout fishing. Amphitheater. Futsal Pitch. And more.
- Visit the historic Lincoln Theatre for a tour or catch a live taping of the famous Song of the Mountains.
- Park Place Drive-in and Arcade. Experience the nostalgia of a drive-in movie from new releases to classics and live concerts.
- We are keeping the art of handcrafted libations alive with craft beer at 36Fifty Brewing and craft spirits at Highlands Distilling.



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Day 2: Loudoun County

An exquisite culinary and heritage destination just 25 miles from the U.S. capital of Washington, D.C. — Loudoun, Virginia — DC's Wine Country®, boasts award-winning wineries, tasting rooms, breweries, distilleries, farm-to-table dining, country inns and estates, and full service hotels and resorts. Along the way, you'll experience scenic vistas, rich American heritage, and charming small towns. Home to Washington Dulles International Airport, Loudoun County is easily accessible for international and domestic travelers alike.



Visit
LOUDOUN
DC's Wine Country®

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Visit the National Sporting Library & Museum in Middleburg, Virginia, which houses a collection of more than 20,000 literary works and 800 pieces of art. Literature and art come together in the library's collection of "fore-edge" books. Be sure to ask a librarian what a fore-edge book is!

Enjoy a driving tour along historic Route 50 with a local step-on guide and stop at Aldie Mill for a live grinding demonstration.

Enjoy lunch on own in historic downtown Leesburg. Suggestions include small plates, look to the Wine Kitchen on King Street and Tuscarora Mill or Fire Works Wood Fired Pizza in the Market Station precinct on Harrison Street. For lighter fare, Puccio's up the street is a classic local deli serving Italian sandwiches and signature salads

Start the day in Leesburg at Dodona Manor, the historic home turned museum of statesman General George C. Marshall, author of the Marshall Plan that rescued Europe after World War II. Walk the rooms of the 19th Century Greek Revival mansion where he and his wife worked, dined and entertained visiting dignitaries.

Savor the views and tastes at Walsh Family Wine. Dashing couple Nate and Sarah Walsh lease prime vineyards from farms throughout Loudoun, blend their classy vintages at this elegant tasting room in Hillsboro and pay tribute to the source farm on the labels of the bottles. What to try? The velvet smooth 2017 Russ Mountain Merlot and the crisp and bright 2019 Bethany Ridge Sauvignon Blanc, named for nearby ranges.

Enjoy dinner at Monks BBQ for lunch in Purcellville, VA. Known for its in house smoked meats, classic sides with a twist, unique homemade sauces and specials, Monks is truly 'Made in Loudoun.' If time allows, make sure to check out Tipped Cow Creamery – taking on fun flavors into one of America's favorite treats.

ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

- The Conche - A chocolate boutique restaurant with hands-on experiences/classes, unique cocktails, and a delicious menu for groups.
- Morven Park - home to 2 former governors, this historic mansion is a great tour option for groups.
- Bluemont Vineyards Sangria Making Program - overlook the Loudoun Valley and enjoy the views and savor the flavors of Loudoun.
- Harpers Ferry Brewing Company - enjoy your brews overlooking the Potomac River with views of both Maryland and West Virginia.
- StageCoach Dinner Theater, specializing in murder mysteries and themed cabarets perform in house or off-site!

Day 3: 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.



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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 ACTIVITIES

- 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
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