

A WINNING TEAM: VIRGINIA BEACH CONVENTION CENTER AND NEW SPORTS CENTER'S BLOCKBUSTER COMBINATION FOR MEETINGS + EVENTS

Virginia Beach, Va. – November 20, 2020 – Virginia Beach's rich coastal environment has a roster of distinct venues for hosting meetings, conventions, exhibitions and special events in a safe and socially distant way, including the destination's LEED Gold-certified convention center and a new, state-of-the-art Sports Center for visitors looking to host their next event at the beach.

As one of the safest cities for it size, the City of Virginia Beach has pledged to follow health and safety guidelines as part of a <u>Meet Smarter</u> pledge and features at the <u>Virginia Beach</u> <u>Convention Center</u> including touchless restrooms, MERV13 filters for the cleanest air filtration system, electronic signage, contactless ticketing and wide-open spaces with natural light make it a great choice for exhibitions and meetings. The convention center follows best practices and protocols for large gatherings as recommended by the World Health Organization, the Center for Disease Control & the Virginia Department of Health.

Just across the street, the state-of-the-art <u>Virginia Beach Sports Center</u> opened this fall as the East Coast's largest indoor sports complex and is steps away from local shops, restaurants, and attractions, including the beautiful boardwalk and beaches of the Virginia Beach Oceanfront. With 285,000 square feet of space, including 12 basketball courts, 24 volleyball courts, a 200 meter, hydraulically banked track and seating for 5,000 spectators, it offers an additional 195,000 square feet of programmable space which can accommodate a variety of events using court space along with ability to lay the track flat.

Virginia Beach Convention Center's new customizable group package is geared towards savings with tiered options offering a menu of preferred incentives. "The Beach Bundle" is available for NEW convention center business booked by the end of 2021 with options including:

- 1,000 to 1,999 Room Nights 25% off Convention Center rental and choice of:
 - Shuttle to/from Virginia Beach Convention Center
 - Housing assistance via Meeting Max
 - Board breakfast
- 2,000 to 2,999 Room Nights 50% off Convention Center rental and two choices from:
 - Shuttle to/from Virginia Beach Convention Center
 - Housing assistance via Meeting Max
 - Board breakfast
 - Sponsored entertainment or rental assistance for a special event (up to \$1,000)
 - Dine-A-Round program for group
- 3,000+ Room Nights 75% off Convention Center rental and three selections, including:

- Shuttle to/from Virginia Beach Convention Center
- Housing assistance via Meeting Max
- Board breakfast
- Sponsored entertainment or rental assistance for a special event (up to \$1,000)
- Dine-A-Round program for group
- City & hotels will match a rebate up to \$2 each per paid room night

All groups also will receive a Safe City and 'Meet Smarter' pledge, assistance from Virginia Beach's destination experts with pre- and post-event details (lead, proposals, local insights), Attendance Builder support, VIP registration assistance, a VIP welcome letter from the Mayor, flexible contracts and free parking at the Convention Center.

"Within a day's drive from two-thirds of the country's population, Virginia Beach's wide-open beaches and Atlantic coastline allows for natural social distancing and hosting an event here offers the perfect blend of business and pleasure," said Bryan Miller, general manager for the Virginia Beach Convention Center. "Our expert team, safety-oriented Meet Smarter program and LEED Gold facility offers advantages inherent in design, and improved technology capabilities like touchless ticketing systems, to create seamless and safe gatherings and events."

For more information on Virginia Beach or to plan your next event, visit https://www.visitvirginiabeach.com/meetings/.

About Virginia Beach

Virginia Beach, one of Virginia's most populous cities, resides where the Chesapeake Bay meets the Atlantic Ocean. The city is home to 35 miles of sandy beaches, a flourishing culinary and craft beer scene, rich history, a variety of arts and entertainment and family-friendly attractions that keeps visitors entertained year-round. For more information about Virginia Beach, visit www.visitvirginiabeach.com.

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