

## Spring Into Fun in Williamsburg

Spring has finally sprung throughout Williamsburg, Jamestown, and Yorktown! Visitors to the destination are invited to explore the endless gardens and markets, enjoy the family-friendly events, and find excitement at the area's most popular attractions.

Spring blooms can be enjoyed throughout the area's local gardens and markets. Every Saturday, <u>Williamsburg</u> <u>Farmers Market</u> features a rotation of 40 regional purveyors bringing their freshest products to sip and savor on a stroll through the heart of historic Williamsburg. At <u>Yorktown Market Days</u>, visitors enjoy spectacular views of the York River, live music, food trucks, and a variety of vendors selling seasonal produce, fresh seafood, and meats, breads, fresh-cut flowers, handmade soaps and candles, honey, gourmet dog treats, and beautiful works from local artists and artisans. Visitors can also explore the blooming lavender fields at <u>Sweethaven Lavender</u> <u>Farm</u>, where they can cut their own bouquet of lavender and other botanicals.

Thrill-seekers can once again enjoy two of the area's most popular theme parks. <u>Busch Gardens</u> <u>Williamsburg</u> launches its newest coaster <u>DarKoaster™</u>, North America's first all-indoor straddle coaster. The twists and turns continue at <u>Water Country U.S.A.®</u> come May, when the newly redesigned <u>Aquazoid Amped™</u> slide debuts along other heart-pounding water rides like Colossal Curl, Big Daddy Falls, and Cutback Water Coaster™.

<u>Colonial Williamsburg</u> offers more than 90 acres of green spaces and gardens. Guests can take part in a <u>Green</u> <u>Thumbs & Garden Enthusiast itinerary</u> and visit the <u>Colonial Williamsburg Arboretum</u> made up of more than 30 historic gardens — from flowering backyard pleasure gardens to the grand Governor's Palace gardens and grounds. Thanks to <u>Colonial Williamsburg's Rare Breeds program</u>, baby lambs can also be found across from the Governor's Palace pasture and at the Nassau pasture across the street from the art museum.

Visitors are invited to celebrate <u>Jamestown Day</u> at <u>Jamestown Settlement</u> on May 13, marking the 416<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1607 founding of Jamestown, with military salutes, maritime and interpretive demonstrations. At the ships' pier, history lovers can board a recreation of one of the three ships that brought English colonists to Jamestown in 1607 and learn how sailors navigated the seas in the 17<sup>th</sup> century with a special demonstration on celestial navigation.

In honor of Memorial Day, <u>Colonial Williamsburg</u> is offering free admission during Memorial Day Weekend, May 26-29 to all active duty military, reservists, retirees, veterans, National Guardsmen, and their immediate dependents. <u>Go Ape Zipline & Adventure Park</u> is offering an exclusive discount to all veterans, service members, and their families. They can swing into action and enjoy a thrilling discount on all park activities from May 26-28.

Finally, Historic Grace Episcopal Church (ca. 1697) in <u>Yorktown</u> is holding a Memorial Day prayer service to honor those who died while serving in the U.S. armed forces. After the service, a brief ceremony will be held in the cemetery with the playing of "Taps." All attendees will participate in a hand salute or with reverence, honoring the 107 known veterans buried in the Grace Episcopal Church Cemetery.