

DC TOURS AT A GLANCE



On the following pages you will find tour information about many of the sites in the Washington, DC, area. An asterisk to the left of a listing indicates that special tours are available at congressional request.

All tours of Government buildings are cancelled on days when the national threat level is code color orange, unless otherwise informed.

Admission is free unless otherwise noted.

This information is subject to frequent change, and for the most up-to-date information it is recommended that you check the facility's website or call for more information.

Government Buildings

<p>* White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW 202-456-2322</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed Sunday and Monday • Member tours take place at 8:00 a.m. • Congressional Tours are scheduled between 7:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. 	<p>Congressional staff should contact the White House Visitors Office for the most recent information on tours. Although tours must be scheduled at least 28 days in advance, due to the high volume of requests, the White House Visitors Office recommends booking about six months in advance.</p> <p>NOTE- Congressional offices simply submit automated request forms and the White House Visitors Office, not Congressional offices, approves or denies requests.</p>
<p>* Bureau of Engraving & Printing 14th & C Sts SW 202-874-2330</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open M-F 9 am to 2 pm, Sept. – May; additional hours until 7pm, May – August • Closed weekends and holidays • Guided Tour 	<p>The largest producer of security documents in the United States. The BEP produces over 9 billion Federal Reserve notes each year (coins are produced by the United States Mint). In addition, they produce over 20 billion postage stamps.</p> <p>Public tour tickets are distributed on a first come first serve basis the Raoul Wallerberg Place side of the building. Tickets are needed March through Labor Day.</p> <p>The public tour is recommended as congressional tours only take place at 8:15 and 8:45 am, are only available to a limited number of constituents, and must be booked at least two weeks in advance.</p>
<p>* FBI 9th and E Sts NW 202-324-3447</p>	<p>**As of August 30, 2002 ALL TOURS have been closed until further notice due to extensive renovations.**</p>
<p>* National Archives 7th St & Pennsylvania Ave NW 866-272-6272</p> <p>Fall & Winter Seasons (Day after Labor Day through March 31) 10:15 am to 4:00 pm weekdays</p> <p>Spring Season (April 1 through the Friday before Memorial Day Weekend) 10:15 am to 5:30 pm weekdays</p> <p>Summer Season (Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day) 10:15 am to 7:30 pm weekdays</p>	<p>The Archives oversees the management of all Federal records to ensure ready access to the essential evidence that documents the rights of American citizens, the actions of Federal officials, and the national experience. Preserving the nation's history, the National Archives displays the US Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and Bill of Rights. At night they are lowered into a 50-ton vault to protect them.</p> <p>Reservations are required for individuals or groups up to 20 wishing to take a one-hour guided tour of the National Archives Experience. All docent-led tours of the National Archives Experience begin at 9:45 a.m. daily throughout the year. Reservations must be made at least 6 weeks prior to the date of the visit. Contact the Volunteer Coordinator at volunteer@nara.gov to schedule a date and time for your visit.</p>

<p>* Pentagon Off Route I-395 Arlington, VA 703-697-1776</p>	<p>Pentagon Tours are available Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., and normally last approximately 60 minutes. The program does not operate on federal holidays and weekends. Tours can be reserved up to 3 months in advance. A minimum of two weeks notice prior to the proposed tour date is required. Constituents may either request a General Public Tour or a Group Tour.</p> <p>General Public Tours can be reserved by Active-Duty military (to include National Guard and Reserve with a .mil email address), Congressional staff members, and government employees with a .gov email address.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information needed: the name of the group and the number of persons in the group; the date and time the tour is wanted, with possible alternate date and times; and the name and phone number of the person requesting the tour. • General Public Tours begin and end at the Pentagon Metro entrance. • There is no minimum or maximum group size for General Public Tours. • Foreign nationals/non-US citizens must contact their embassy here in Washington D.C. <p>Group Tours are made up of 5 or more people from an educational institution (K-12, college, and home school), government agency, church or military unit, or Scout group. They may be reserved by the group itself or through Congressional staff members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information needed: the name of the group and the number of persons in the group; the date and time the tour is wanted, with possible alternate date and times; and the name and phone number of the person requesting the tour. • Group tours can be tailored to meet the time requirements of the party, but normally last for 30 to 60 minutes. • Group Tours begin and end at the Pentagon Metro entrance unless special arrangements for pickup and drop-off at another building location are requested.
<p>* State Department 2201 C St, NW 202-647-3241</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open M-F, closed weekends and holidays • Scheduled tours given at 9:30 am, 10:30 am, and 2:45 pm • Tours are 45 minutes long 	<p>Tours are by reservations only. Reservations can be made 90 days in advance by going to http://receptiontours.state.gov. These guided tours of the diplomatic reception rooms showcase 18th century American furniture, paintings and decorative arts. Strollers, briefcases, backpacks, and packages are not permitted at any time.</p> <p>Children are allowed, but tour is recommended for children twelve or over.</p>
<p>* Treasury Department 500 Pennsylvania Ave NW 202-622-2000</p>	<p>**Tours are suspended until further notice.**</p>

On Capitol Hill

* **U.S. Capitol
between Constitution and
Independence Avenues
202-224-4048**

- Open Daily 9:00 am to 4:30 pm Monday-Saturday
- Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas

The United States Capitol is among the most architecturally impressive and symbolically important buildings in the world. It has housed the meeting chambers of the Senate and the House of Representatives for almost two centuries. Begun in 1793, the Capitol has been built, burnt, rebuilt, extended, and restored. As the focal point of the government's Legislative Branch, the Capitol is the centerpiece of the Capitol Complex.

Congressional Staff led tours can be given to groups of no more than 15. They are informal and led through the Cannon tunnel should be scheduled by calling your congressional office.

The Capitol Guide Service conducts free guided tours of the Capitol Monday through Saturday, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM. The first public tour begins each day at 9:00 A.M. and the last at 3:30 P.M. Tours last approximately thirty to forty minutes. Visitors must obtain free tickets for tours on a first-come, first-served basis, at the Capitol Guide Service kiosk located along the curving sidewalk southwest of the Capitol (near the intersection of First Street, S.W., and Independence Avenue; see the map below). Ticket distribution begins at 9:00 a.m. daily. Ticketholders will be directed to the South Visitor Receiving Facility, which is located south of the Capitol; from there they will proceed to the Capitol to begin their tour. Maximum tour size is 40 people.

Large group tours can be reserved by calling 202-225-6827. Please have a pen and paper available as you may receive important information from a recording.

Note: Please be aware of the list of prohibited items viewable at <http://www.aoc.gov/cc/visit/prohibited-items.cfm>

* **Library of Congress
Jefferson Building
101 Independence Ave SE
202-707-4683**

- Visitors Center is open Mon – Sat, 10 am to 5:30 pm
- Public Tours are available Mon. – Fri. at 10:30 am, 11:30 am, 1:30 pm, 2:30 pm, 3:30 pm and Sat. at 10:30 am, 11:30 am, 1:30 pm, 2:30 pm
- Closed Sundays and Holidays

As the nation's library, the Library of Congress shares resources with the American people, who, through their elected representation in Congress, have created the world's largest repository of knowledge.

Groups of 10 to 60 may arrange tours through the Visitor Services Office. These lecture tours are available only by reservation (call 202-707-8000) and last approximately an hour in length. They are available beginning any time between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm and are not suitable for children younger than 5th grade.

Constituents may arrange special tours by contacting the congressional office of their representatives. The congressional tour is virtually identical to the public tour except it includes a tour of the Thomas Jefferson Building led by an LoC docent. General congressional tour hours are Jan & Feb at 1:45 ONLY and Mar – Dec at 8:30, 1:45, 3:45. Large group congressional tours are available at 9:00, 10:00, 11:00, and 1:00 year round.

* **Supreme Court
First and East Capitol Sts NE
202-479-3499**

- Congressional tours are held promptly at 2:00 pm. Maximum of 6 people per tour.
- Call AT LEAST 1 month in advance, preferably more—

To schedule tours call between 3pm and 5 pm Monday-Friday. Tours are given at 2:00 p.m. M-F when the court is not in session. Due to official court business, tours may be cancelled at any time. Arrive no later than 1:45 pm at the front plaza of the court. Latecomers can NOT be accommodated. No tickets are needed – names are on a list. During the off season, spaces for tours are often available even if requested only the day before.

<p>especially during the summer months. Reservations can be made for the current month and the succeeding three months.</p>	<p>The Court is, open to the public 9 am to 4:30 pm Monday- Friday. Public tours are given on a first-come, first-served basis from 9:30am to 3:30pm, at the bottom of the hour, every weekday the court is not sitting.</p> <p>Public lectures are available in the Courtroom every hour on the half-hour from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on days that the Court is not sitting.</p>
<p>The U.S. Botanic Garden 100 Maryland Ave SW 202-225-8333</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open daily from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, including Christmas. • Visitors are welcome in Bartholdi Park from dawn until dusk. 	<p>Free 45-minute highlight tours may be available. Check at the Visitor Information Desk upon arrival.</p> <p>Groups of 10 – 35 visitors may reserve a free 45-minute guided tour of the Conservatory. These tours are offered Monday through Friday at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and on weekends when space permits. Please make tour reservations at least three weeks in advance by calling (202) 226-4082.</p>

Smithsonian Institution

Information for all Smithsonian museums can be found at <http://www.si.edu> or by calling 202-633-1000. All Smithsonian museums are closed on December 25.

<p>Freer Gallery of Art 12th St & Jefferson Drive SW 202-633-4880</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open 10 am to 5:30 pm daily 	<p>The Freer gallery contains a vast collection of Asian and American artwork. Founded by Charles Lang Freer, the building includes paintings, ceramics, manuscripts and sculptures from areas of China, India, Japan and Persia. The Freer is also home to the largest collection of works by James McNeill Whistler. The museum connects with the Sackler Gallery by an underground exhibition space.</p> <p>Highlights tours are available daily except Wednesdays and Federal Holidays and meet at the Information Desk at 12:15pm.</p> <p>Private groups must make a reservation by calling the Tour Scheduler at (202)633-1012. Reservations should be made at least four weeks in advance.</p>
<p>Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden 7th St and Independence Ave SW 202-633-1000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Museum open 10 am to 5:30 pm • Plaza open 7:30 am to 5:30 pm • Sculpture Garden open 7:30 am to dusk 	<p>A beautifully designed circular building with a fountain of concentric circles, the Hirshhorn is based upon the extensive 11,000-piece modern art collection of Joseph Hirshhorn. The collection includes art by Picasso, Matisse, Warhol, O'Keefe and Rodin.</p> <p>WALK-IN TOURS Meet at the Information Desk for the following tours by volunteer docents and staff: Weekdays, 10:30 am, 12 noon and 1 pm Weekends, 12 noon, 1 and 2 pm Tours of the Sculpture Garden are weather permitting.</p>
<p>National Air and Space Museum 4th St and Independence Ave SW 202-633-2563</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open 10 am to 5:30 pm 	<p>Perhaps the most famous and most popular of the Smithsonian Museums, the Air and Space Museum displays artifacts and airplanes that dangle from the ceiling that date from the earliest times of aviation and space exploration. These include the Spirit of St. Louis, Voyager, John Glenn's Mercury spacecraft, WWII fighter planes, the Apollo Lunar Module, and the 4-billion year old shard of lunar rock brought back by Apollo 17 astronauts. Films in the IMAX theater and planetarium are offered daily.</p> <p>Free docent-led tours are offered daily at 10:30 am and 1:00 pm and depart from the Welcome Center. Tours highlight the Museum's</p>

	<p>collection and trace the history of air and space travel.</p> <p>Each adult tour request requires a minimum of 20 people; a request in writing and a minimum of two weeks notice prior to the requested tour date (please do not send requests more than 6 months in advance).</p>
<p>* National Gallery of Art 4th St & Constitution Ave NW 202-842-6678</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open M-Sat from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. 	<p>Besides having the only daVinci in the United States, the National Gallery has wonderful and diverse collections of impressionist paintings, early Christian art, 15th century Italian paintings, sculptures, and Rembrandts in the West Wing. The East Wing displays 20th century works by Miro, Magritte, Van Gogh, Pissarro and Matisse.</p> <p>VIP passes for special shows can be obtained.</p>
<p>National Museum of African Art 950 Independence Ave., SW 202-633-4600</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open 10 am to 5:30 pm 	<p>The museum's extensive collection consists of 7,000 African artworks in wood, metal, ceramic, cloth and ivory. On long term loan is an exhibition titled "The Ancient Nubian City of Kerma, 2500-1500 BC" which consists of 40 pieces, including ceramics, jewelry and a variety of small ivory animal inlays.</p>
<p>National Museum of American Art 8th and G Sts NW 202-275-1500</p>	<p>Houses the largest permanent collection of American art in the world, including the works of artists Thomas Cole, Mary Cassatt, Winslow Homer, Edward Hopper and Georgia O'Keeffe. The museum reflects the nation's ethnic, geographic, cultural and religious diversity.</p>
<p>National Museum of American History 14th St and Constitution Ave NW 202-357-2700</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open 10 am to 5:30 pm 	<p>**Closed for renovations until 2008**</p> <p>The museum's self described goal is to "collect, preserve, and interpret artifacts as a special class of historical evidence and as principal expressions of human creativity." The museum is principally focused on how objects are made and used and how they influence society and the lives of individuals. It contains thousands of historical objects as well as oral histories, prints, photographs, and objects uniquely Americana, including trade literature and engineering drawings.</p> <p>Highlight tours offered Tuesday – Friday at 10:15 am and 1:00 pm and Saturday at 10:15. Check with Information Desk for other tours as announced by docent.</p> <p>All requests for special group tours are subject to docent availability and must be scheduled in advance.</p>
<p>National Museum of Natural History 10th St and Constitution Ave NW 202-633-1000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open 10 am to 5:30 pm Beginning on March 24, the museum will be open until 7:30 PM on Fridays and Saturdays. Beginning on Friday, May 26 (start of Memorial Day weekend) through Sunday, September 3, the museum will be open until 7:30 PM every evening. Due to special events the Museum will close at 5:30 PM on the following dates: April 8, April 22, June 13 & 	<p>Some of the artifacts in this collection include a life size model of a blue whale, an enormous prehistoric white shark, and an 80-foot dinosaur skeleton. Also on view is the Hope Diamond, a 45 and one half carat jewel known in some circles as the eighth wonder of the world. The Discovery Room works well for parents with young children and there's a costume room where youngsters can try on clothes from around the globe.</p> <p>Call (202-633-1077) for tour information.</p> <p>Free weekday highlights tours are available Tuesday through Friday at 10:30 AM and 1:30 PM, September through June. Meet in the Rotunda. There are no tours in July or August.</p>

<p>June 19</p>	
<p>National Portrait Gallery 8th and F Streets NW 202-275-1738</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open 10 am to 5:30 pm 	<p>Housed in one of the oldest government structures in Washington – The Old Patent Office Building – the Portrait Gallery was established by Congress as “a free public museum for the exhibition and study of portraiture and statuary depicting men and women who have made significant contributions to the history, development, and culture of the people of the United States, and the artists who created such portraiture and statuary.” The museum has dozens of galleries, each with a specific theme.</p>
<p>National Zoo 3001 Connecticut Ave NW 202-673-4717</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Daily (closed Christmas) • April 2-Oct. 28 Buildings open: 10am-6pm Grounds open: 6am-8pm • Oct. 30 – April 1 Buildings open: 10am-4:30pm Grounds open: 6am-6pm 	<p>The National Zoo allows you to see a charming pair of panda bears, the first Komodo dragons to breed in the western world, golden lion tamarins, and orangutans who make their own transportation system. It also hosts (among many other animals) lions, cheetahs, tigers, elephants, rhinoceroses, bears, giraffes, and a reptile and insect house. The zoo borders part of lush Rock Creek Parkway and is a treat for children of all ages.</p>
<p>Renwick Gallery 17th and Pennsylvania Ave NW (202) 633-2850.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open daily 10 am to 5:30 pm 	<p>Just a stone’s throw away from the White House, this majestic building houses US crafts designed from clay, glass, wood, fiber and metal, both past and present. Two rooms are furnished in the styles of the 1860s and the 1870s; the rest of the building is devoted to exhibitions about the diversity of this country’s heritage in design, crafts and decorative arts.</p> <p>To schedule a group tour, call (202) 275-1693.</p>
<p>Sackler Gallery 1050 Independence Ave SW 202.633.4880</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open daily 10 am to 5:30 pm • Thursdays until 8 pm in the summer and July 4th 	<p>Containing over 1000 works of Asian art, the Sackler is renowned for its Chinese Bronzes and jades. In 1987, the gallery added the Vever collection, a series of Islamic arts from the 11th to the 19th century. The museum connects with the Freer Gallery.</p> <p>Highlights tours meet every day, except Wednesdays and Federal holidays, at the information desks at 12:15pm.</p> <p>Reservations for private tours should be made four weeks in advance. For more information or to arrange a tour, call 202.633.1012</p>
<p>Smithsonian Arts and Industries Building 900 Jefferson Drive SW 202-357-1300</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open daily 10 am to 5:30 pm 	<p>**Currently closed in preparation for renovation.</p> <p>The Arts and Industries building houses a re-creation of the 1881 Exposition for which it is named. The original US National Museum, this architectural wonder once held many specimens (such as the Spirit of St. Louis) that are now on display in other Smithsonian museums. Presently, the museum features exhibition spaces and galleries that host historical artifacts and displays, along with a Discovery theater for educational programs.</p>
<p>Smithsonian Institution Building 1000 Jefferson Drive, SW 202-633-1000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open 10 am to 5:30 pm 	<p>Known as “the Castle,” built in 1855, the Smithsonian Institution Building is the original Smithsonian building. It houses the administrative offices, information for visitors, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and even James Smithson’s crypt.</p> <p>Walk-in tours meet at the information desk and are Tours subject to docent availability and vary by season</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every Mon., time as announced by docent • Every Fri., 9:45 AM • Every Sat., 9:30 AM & 10:30 AM • Every Sun., 10:30 AM as announced by docent

For groups of 10 or more, by appointment only, 3-week notice required; call Mon.-Fri., 9 AM-5 PM, except federal holidays:
202-633-2987

Museums and Galleries

<p>Daughters of the American Revolution Museum 1776 D St NW 202-879-3241</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Mon. – Fri. 9:30 am to 4 pm, Sat. 9 am to 5 pm • Closed Sundays, federal holidays, and during an annual meeting in late June – early July 	<p>Holds both decorative and fine arts collections. All works were made or used in America between 1700 and 1850. Different historic eras and places are represented in the museums rooms and galleries.</p> <p>Admission is free. Docent tours Monday-Saturday 10am-2:30pm Call ahead for guided tours of 5 or less. Call two weeks ahead for Congressional Tours of 5 or more.</p>
<p>Folger Shakespeare Library 201 East Capitol St SE 202-544-4600</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Mon. – Sat. 10 am to 4 pm • Closed all federal holidays 	<p>Houses the world’s largest collection of Shakespeare’s printed works and a collection of other rare Renaissance books on all disciplines. The reading Room is open to scholars and graduate students for research, and to the public in April. Exhibitions, a museum shop, theatre productions, poetry readings, lectures, chamber music, recitation contests, student fellowships, workshops and family programs are offered.</p> <p>Docent tours of the building and the current exhibition are available on Monday through Friday at 11am and on Saturday at 11am and 1pm, at no charge and with no prior arrangement.</p> <p>Docent tours of the Elizabethan Garden are available every third Saturday of the month, from April through October, at 10 and 11am, at no charge and with no prior arrangement.</p>
<p>Ford’s Theatre and Lincoln Museum 517 10th St NW 202-426-6924</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open daily 9 am to 5 pm • Closed on Christmas • No Congressional Tours • Call Ahead!! Theatre closes for matinees and rehearsals • Self Guided Tour 	<p>The site of the infamous assassination of President Lincoln. After being closed for many years, the theater re-opened for performances in 1968. However, the appearance inside remains unchanged from the 1860’s.</p> <p>Tours are free and self-guided. During hours of operation when the theatre is closed, the museum and house where Lincoln died usually remain open. In the museum, fifteen minutes talks cover the history of the assassination and the theatre. Talks are given daily at 9:15, 10:15, 11:15 am, 1:15, 2:15, 3:15, and 4:15 p.m.</p>
<p>Holocaust Memorial & Museum 14th Street south of Independence Avenue SW 202-488-0400</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Daily 10 am – 5:30 pm • EXTENDED HOURS (Tuesdays and Thursdays, April through mid-June) Exhibitions and Museum Shop: 10 a.m.–7:50 p.m. • Closed Christmas and Yom Kippur 	<p>One of the more impressive and moving of Washington’s museums, the permanent exhibition tells the story of the Jews targeted for annihilation in systematic, state-sponsored genocide. It also reverently describes the fate of other Nazi victims, such as Gypsies, Poles, homosexuals, and political and religious dissidents. The three-floor exhibition uses artifacts, oral histories, documentary film, and photographs to depict the rise of Nazism, the early persecution, and the “final solution.” Stories of resistance and rescue are also featured.</p> <p>NO PASSES are necessary for entering the Museum building, special exhibitions, the interactive Wexner Learning Center and other Museum resources.</p> <p>Timed entry pass required for permanent exhibition. Each day, the Museum distributes on a first–come first–served basis a large but</p>

	<p>limited number of timed entry passes for use that same day. Groups of 20 or fewer should call tickets.com at 1-800-400-9373. Groups of 21 or more must make reservations through the Group Scheduling Office (202)488-0455.</p>
<p>International Spy Museum 800 F Street NW 202-393-7798</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open daily 9 am to 8 pm April – Oct.; 10 am to 6-8 pm Nov. – March hours vary, check website for exceptions • Closed Nov. 27, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1 • Admission – Adults: \$15; Seniors: \$14; Children K-12: \$12; Children under 4 free • Group discounts of 20 or more call 202-654-0944 • Advance ticket sales call ticketmaster 1-800 551-7328 	<p>Gain access to the world’s largest collection of international espionage artifacts ever placed on public display. Over 600 pieces are on exhibit, including our collection of G-Man toys from the 1930s and 1940s when interest in G-Men (“G” stands for “Government,” in this case FBI agents) was at a high and children searched for worthy role models.</p> <p>Explore interactive exhibits about disguise, surveillance, threat analysis, and more. Discover the history of spying from biblical times to the present day.</p> <p>There is often a waiting line for admission on weekends and holidays, averaging between one and a half and three hours. For the shortest wait, plan your arrival for after 2 pm, keeping in mind that the last General Admission Tickets are sold 1 hour prior to closing. Or you can buy them in advance, but you must do so at least 48 hours in advance; and a two dollar service fee, per ticket, applies. Order by phone or purchase in person (during Museum hours) at the F Street Lobby Information Desk or at the Group Arrivals Entrance, located on 9th Street</p> <p>For current information visit http://www.spymuseum.org/plan/</p>
<p>Madame Tussauds 1025 F Street N.W. 888-929-4632 888-923-0334</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open Everyday at 10 am 	<p>Madame Tussauds offers both a fun, and educational experience. While there, one can encounter important political figures, the biggest Hollywood celebrities, and top sports stars. For more information, call Shameka Lloyd (tel. 202/942-7304)</p>
<p>National Geographic Explorers Hall 17th and M Sts NW 202-857-7588</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open M-Sat 9 am to 5 pm, Sun 10 am to 5 pm • Closed Christmas Day 	<p>Experience the wonders of National Geographic through interactive exhibits, artifacts on display, and changing major exhibits. The hall also offers Earth Station One, an interactive video presentation using a mammoth globe.</p> <p>Admission is free.</p>
<p>National Museum of Crime and Punishment 575 7th Street, NW 202-393- 1099</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March-August: 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m., September-February: 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m. • Last tickets sold 1 hour before close • Closed Christmas, Thanksgiving, and New Years Day • Pricing • Children under 5: Free • Children 5-11: \$14.95* • Adults 12-59: \$17.95* • Seniors (60+), Military, and Law Enforcement: \$14.95* • *Plus Tax 	<p>Throughout history, mankind has struggled with the conflict between good and evil, traditionally considered a cornerstone of the human condition. The National Museum of Crime & Punishment (NMCP) dissects both the overarching concept of crime and the dark side of the criminal mind; explores the techniques and methodologies employed by law enforcement agencies and the government to investigate and often solve such crimes; and through intensely interactive and highly-personalized scenarios, simulates the consequences associated with punishment, incarceration and rehabilitation.</p>

<p>National Postal Museum 2 Massachusetts Ave, NE 202-633-9370</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open daily 10 am to 5:30 pm except Christmas. 	<p>Drawing on its vast postal history and philatelic collection, the museum includes six major exhibition galleries touching on a range of topics, from the earliest history of the post office to the art of letter writing and the history of stamp collecting. An impressive atrium features three suspended airmail planes and is one of five exhibit galleries.</p> <p>Admission is free.</p>
<p>Navy Museum Washington Navy Yard 805 Kidder Breese SE 202-433-4882</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open M – F 9 am to 5 pm • Weekends and holidays 10 am to 5 pm • Call by noon Friday for weekend visitation • Closed: Thanksgiving, December 24, Christmas, and New Years' Day 	<p>**Due to increased security, tour groups and individuals who do not have military or Dept. of Defense identification should call in advance for an appointment.**</p> <p>Contains an overview of US naval history. Its mission is to collect, preserve, display and interpret historic naval artifacts and art work to inform, educate and inspire naval personnel and the general public. The museum is housed in what used to be the Naval Gun Factory. The artifacts include weapons, ship models, uniforms, medals and fine art. Highlights include a fully rigged fighting top from the frigate USS Constitution, a WW II F4U Corsair, working submarine periscopes, a hut from Admiral Byrd's Antarctic expedition, and a Tomahawk Cruise Missile.</p>
<p>Newseum 555 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W. 888-NEWSEUM</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open M – F 9 am to 5 pm • Closed: Thanksgiving, December 24, Christmas, and New Years' Day 	<p>The Newseum — a 250,000-square-foot museum of news — offers visitors an experience that blends five centuries of news history with up-to-the-second technology and hands-on exhibits.</p> <p>The Newseum features seven levels of galleries, theaters, retail spaces and visitor services. It offers a unique environment that takes museumgoers behind the scenes to experience how and why news is made.</p>

Monuments and Memorials

<p>Arlington Cemetery Memorial Drive Arlington, VA 703-697-2131</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reachable by Tourmobile or the Metro • Open Everyday • 8 am to 7 pm April 1 through September 30 • 8 am to 5 pm October 1 through March 31 • Self guided tour 	<p>Arlington is one of more than 100 national cemeteries; however, it is the only one of two national cemeteries administered by the Army. Lying across the Potomac River from the Lincoln Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery serves as the final resting place for casualties of war, veterans, and their spouses from the civil war to the present. It is where you will find the eternal flame at the grave of President John F. Kennedy.</p> <p>The 612 acres of Arlington National Cemetery were once part of the 1,100-acre Arlington plantation owned by Mary Ann Randolph Custis, one of George Washington's relatives. She married Lt. Robert E. Lee on June 30, 1831, and lived at Arlington House for 30 years.</p> <p>The Tomb of the Unknowns is guarded around the clock by specially selected members of the US Army 3rd Infantry Regiment (the "Old Guard") based at Fort Myer, Virginia. The changing of the guard occurs every hour during winter and at night and every half hour in summer during the day</p>
<p>Iwo Jima/Marine Corps War Memorial George Washington Parkway & I-66 Arlington, VA 703-289-2500</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easily accessible from Arlington Cemetery 	<p>The Marine Corps Memorial honors those Marines who have given their lives in defense of our country since 1775. It is also known as the Iwo Jima Memorial as the statue shows a group of Marines raising the American flag atop Mount Suribachi during the invasion of Iwo Jima in February 1945. The memorial was a replica of the famous picture taken by Frank Rosenthal and was dedicated by President Eisenhower in 1954.</p>

	The Marine Corps presents the Marine Sunset Review Parade featuring the Drum and Bugle Corp and the Silent Drill Team on Tuesdays from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., May through August. It is free to the public.
Jefferson Memorial 14th St and Constitution Ave NW 202-426-6821 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open daily 8 am to 11:45 pm except Christmas 	This impressive memorial next to the Tidal Basin in West Potomac Park southwest of the Mall holds engravings of some of Thomas Jefferson's timeless quotations. Jefferson admirers can also travel to Monticello south of Charlottesville, Virginia, about a two hour drive from D.C.
Korean War Memorial Westbound Independence Ave at 23rd St SW French Drive SW 202-426-6841 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open 8 am to midnight daily except Christmas 	Just southeast of the Lincoln Memorial stands the Korean War Memorial, dedicated July 27, 1995. The memorial features 19 statues in a field, symbolizing a squad on patrol on the Korean peninsula, as well a granite wall with the images of thousands of servicemen and servicewomen etched on it.
Lincoln Memorial 23rd St and Constitution Ave NW 202-426-6841 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open 8 am to 11:45 pm daily except Christmas 	Located on the west end of the West Potomac Park, facing toward the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial is a very popular destination for visitors to D.C. Honoring our sixteenth president, this memorial includes walls inscribed with passages from the Gettysburg Address and Lincoln's second Inaugural Address.
National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Judiciary Square F St between 4th and 5th Sts NW 202-737-3400 Open every day in the year, 24 hours a day. Self Guided Tour.	This memorial is dedicated to all the men and women who serve and protect. The Memorial Visitors Center is located less than two blocks away, at 605 E Street, NW. It is open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, and Noon to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. Tours can be arranged through the office so call at least 1 week in advance.
Teddy Roosevelt Memorial 703-289-2500 Theodore Roosevelt Island is Accessible via the northbound lane of the George Washington Memorial Parkway.	This island memorial to the 26 th President is located in the middle of the Potomac River, between the Kennedy Center and the George Washington Memorial Pkwy. The teardrop-shaped island features more than two miles of trails that cut through woods, swamp and marsh.
The FDR Memorial West Potomac Park – West Basin Drive 202-426-6841 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 am to midnight • Open everyday except Christmas 	The new Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial was dedicated on May 2, 1997. The monument, designed by Lawrence Halpin, is situated on a little over seven acres of land adjacent to the Tidal Basin and the famous Cherry Blossom Walk near the Jefferson Memorial. The Roosevelt Memorial consists of four large open-air galleries constructed of beautiful red-veined Cold Spring granite that was quarried in South Dakota. The main part of the memorial is open 24 hours a day. Interpretive Ranger staff is on site from 8 am to 11:45 pm daily except Christmas.
Vietnam Memorial 21st St and Constitution Ave SW 202-426-6841 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 am to midnight • Open everyday except Christmas 	The Vietnam Memorial honors the men and women of the armed forces who served in the Vietnam War. The names of more than 58,000 who gave their lives or remain missing are listed, in the chronological order they became casualties, on the black granite panels.
Washington Monument 15th St and Constitution Ave SW 202-426-6841	The Monument is 555 feet tall and is located on the west end of the Mall. The short skyline of D.C. gives this structure the illusion of being tall. Visitors riding down from the 500-foot observation level at the top are able to look through windows in the elevator cab to observe

- Open daily 9 am to 4:45 pm
- Timed entry tickets are required, and are available at the 15th street kiosk or at 1-800-967-2283

several of the 193 restored commemorative stones on the interior walls of the Monument. The stones represent donations from various organizations and societies toward the building of the Monument.

Cathedrals and Churches

**National Cathedral
Massachusetts and Wisconsin
Avenues, NW
202-537-6200**

- Sundays 8 am – 6:30 pm.
Tours offered 12:45 pm – 2:30 pm. Saturdays 10 am – 4:30 pm. Tours offered 10-11:30 am and 12:45 – 3:30 pm. 10–11:30 am; 12:45–3:30 pm
On Mondays & Wednesdays, when there is an organ demonstration scheduled, afternoon tours are offered from approx. 1:15–3:30 pm.

Standing higher than the Washington Monument, the Cathedral crowns fifty-seven acres at the city's highest point, intended as a living symbol of our country's heritage of religious freedom and faith. Here you will see craftsmanship and artistic detail second to none. The foundation stone was laid on September 29, 1907, in the presence of President Theodore Roosevelt. President George Bush spoke at the September 29, 1990 ceremony at which the final stone was set on the Cathedral's southwest tower.

Donation of \$3 adults, \$2 senior citizen, \$1 child for tours.

Proceeds support Cathedral programs and ministry.

For more information, visit

<http://www.cathedral.org/cathedral/visit/tour.shtml>

Historic Areas and Homes

**Frederick Douglass
National Historical Site
1411 W Street SE
202-426-5961
Reservation Line: 800-967-2283**

- Open 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily, October 16 through April 14, and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily, April 15 through October 15.
- The last house tour departs 30 minutes before closing time.
- The site is closed on January 1, Thanksgiving, and December 25.

The 1880's home of Frederick Douglass speaks of his struggle to abolish slavery and to establish civil and equal rights for all. Tours, exhibits and films aid in this journey.

There is no admission fee for Frederick Douglass National Historic Site. However, a \$2.00 per person service charge applies to all reservations for tours of the Douglass Home.

Groups of 5 or more are REQUIRED to make a reservation. Smaller groups and individuals are encouraged to make reservations. Please call, 1-800-967-2283.

**George Washington's
Distillery and Gristmill
16 miles south of Washington,
D.C., 8 miles south of Old Town
Alexandria, and 3 miles south of
Mount Vernon**

- April – Oct.: 10 am to 5 pm

George Washington created his grist mill in 1771 as a way to boost his production of flour and cornmeal, and export high quality flour to other nations. After being encouraged by his farm manager, James Anderson, Washington built a whiskey distillery next to the gristmill. At its peak production, the distillery produced 11,000 gallons of whiskey. Soon, the distillery became one of the most successful economic endeavors at Mount Vernon.

- Adults: \$4.00
- Children ages 6-11: \$2
- Children 5 and under: Free
- Subject to change without notice

<p>Monticello Rt. 66 W to Warrenton, VA then Rt. 29 S to Charlottesville, VA then I-64 E to Exit 24A Charlottesville, VA 434-984-9800</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 1 – Oct. 31: 8 am to 5 pm; Nov. 1 – Feb. 28: 9 am to 4:30 pm • Closed on Christmas 	<p>Monticello is the autobiographical masterpiece of Thomas Jefferson, designed and redesigned and built and rebuilt for more than forty years. Jefferson described the house as his “essay in architecture,” but today it is recognized as an international treasure. Monticello is the only house in America on the United Nations’ prestigious World Heritage List of sites that must be protected at all costs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Children under 6: free ▪ Children ages 6-11: \$6.00 ▪ Adults: \$14.00 ▪ Adult Groups of 25 or more: \$11.00
<p>* Mount Vernon 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway Mount Vernon, Virginia 703-780-2000</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April through August, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. • March, September, and October, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. • November through February, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. 	<p>The home of America’s first President and his wife, George and Martha Custis Washington. Original furnishings and artworks are used whenever possible, and the grounds and buildings are kept as near as possible to how they were when he lived there.</p> <p>Public self-guided tours are available daily during the open hours.</p> <p>Children ages 5 and under (accompanied by an adult) – FREE Adults - \$13.00 Senior Citizens, age 62 and above (with identification) - \$12.00 Youth ages 6 through 11 (accompanied by an adult) - \$6.00 Annual Pass (unlimited daytime admission for one year) - \$18.00 Add a Youth to Annual Pass, each - \$9.00</p>
<p>The Sewall-Belmont House and Museum 144 Constitution Avenue, NE 202-546-1210</p>	<p>The Sewall-Belmont House and Museum celebrates women activists throughout history from Phillis Wheatley to Althea Gibson. It is also the home of the National Woman’s Party, the former of suffragist leader Alice Paul. Docent-led tours are available as wells as other special tours and educational programs. The site is a national Historic landmark because of its significance in U.S. History. For more information, contact Becky Gilmore (tel. 202/546-1210 ext 12)</p>
<p>The Stephen Decatur House Museum 748 Jackson Place, NW 202/842-0920</p>	<p>The Decatur House was home to Commodore Stephen Decatur, Jr. and his wife Susan Wheeler. Commodore Decatur was a high celebrated naval hero. The Commodore and his wife improved their social position by hosting several parties, including the daughter of President James Monroe. Many notable historical figures have stayed in the house, including Henry Clay, Martin Van Buren and Edward Livingston. For more information, contact Arioth Harrison (tel. 202/842-917)</p>
<p>Naval Academy Annapolis, MD 410-263-6933</p> <p>April – June September – November Mon-Fri • 10:00am – 3:00pm Saturday • 9:30am – 3:00pm Sunday • 12:30pm – 3:00pm</p> <p>July – August Mon-Sat • 9:30am – 3:00pm Sunday • 12:30pm – 3:00pm</p> <p>December – March Mon-Sat • 10:00am – 2:30pm Sunday • 12:30pm – 2:30pm</p>	<p>The Visitor Center features the film “<i>To Lead and To Serve</i>,” guided walking tours of the Naval Academy, a sample midshipman room, Freedom 7 space capsule, an original Dahlgren boat howitzer, the original wooden figurehead of the USS Delaware (used for the casting the statue of Tecumseh), an exhibit on the life and times of John Paul Jones, an extensive gift shop, restrooms and vending machines.</p> <p>\$7.50 adults \$6.50 seniors (62+) \$5.50 students (1st-12th grade) Pre-school free</p>

Performing Arts

<p>Kennedy Center 2700 F Street, NW 202-416-8340</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open daily from 10 a.m until approximately half an hour after the end of the evening's final performance • Congressional Tours should be scheduled three months in advance • Guided Tours 	<p>The Kennedy Center is the nation's busiest arts facility, presenting more than 3,000 performances each year for audiences approaching 2 million. An additional 20 million each year attend touring Kennedy Center productions or tune in to television or radio broadcasts, including the Kennedy Center Honors, the Mark Twain Prize, The Kennedy Center Presents, and Billy Taylor's Jazz at the Kennedy Center on National Public Radio.</p> <p>Free tours from 10 am to 5 pm Mon – Fri, and 10 am to 1 pm Sat and Sun. They depart from the parking plaza on Level A, feature the Hall of States and Hall of Nations, the Center's main theaters, and dozens of paintings, sculptures, and other artworks given to the Center by foreign countries. Call ahead for large groups. For more information, call (202) 416-840b0.</p>
<p>* Marine Tattoo 8th and I Streets, SE 202.433.6060</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday nights at 8:00 pm • May – August 	<p>Concert by the U.S. Marine Band, Silent Drill Team & Bugle Corps. A "tattoo" is a military tradition traced from the early 17th century's 30 Years War. The sounding of the bugle signaled soldiers to close the tavern and return to their quarters. Someone would "tap to" the keg stoppers. Through the years, "tap to" evolved into "tattoo." Although "Tattoo" is sounded now, it is only in the spirit of military tradition.</p> <p>Reservations for the public must be made in writing three weeks in advance. General public seating starts at 8 p.m. Unclaimed seating will be available at 8:15 p.m. for non-tickets holders. Park at Washington Navy Yard at 8th and M, there is a shuttle to the parade. For VIP tickets call two weeks prior to date of parade.</p>

Sightseeing Tours

Boat Tours

1. *D.C. Ducks* (Union Station – Washington D.C. 20018 NE, tel. (202) 966-3825) offers 90-minute tours in their converted World War II amphibious vehicles. After an hour-long road tour of prominent sights, the tour moves from land to water, as the vehicle is piloted into the waters of the Potomac for a 30-minute boat's-eye view of the city. Tours run continuously from 10 AM to 4 PM from March through November. Prices vary by tour.
2. The enclosed boat *The Dandy* (Prince St., between Duke and King Sts., Alexandria, VA 22314, tel. 703/683-6076 or 703/683-6090) cruises up the Potomac past the Lincoln Memorial to the Kennedy Center and Georgetown. Prices vary by boat and time. Visit www.dandydinnerboat.com for details.
3. *The Spirit of Washington* (Pier 4, 6th and Water Sts. SW, tel. 202/554-8000) *The Spirit of Washington* is a dining vessel which cruises out of Washington, DC. The features are amazing: three completely separate indoor decks with chic decor; the largest outdoor deck in DC; dance floors and full service bars on all three decks; and huge panoramic windows all around. Individuals can call (866) 211-3811 daily from 8:30 AM – 7:00 PM. If you're reserving for a group of 20 or more, call (202) 554-8013 Monday – Friday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM. Visit www.spiritcruises.com

Bus Tours

1. *Tourmobile* buses (tel. 202-554-5100), authorized by the National Park Service, stop at 18 historic sights between the Capitol and Arlington National Cemetery; the route includes the White House and the museums on the Mall. Tickets are \$17.50 for adults, \$9 for children 3-11. **Tickets may be purchased at Arlington Cemetery or from the bus driver. Group tours of 50+ should call 6 weeks in advance.**
2. *Old Town Trolley Tours* (tel. 202- 832-9800), orange-and-green motorized trolleys, take in the main downtown sights and also foray into Georgetown and the upper northwest, stopping at out-of-the-way attractions such as Washington National Cathedral. Tickets are \$27 or adults, \$14 for children 4-12, free for children under four.
3. *Gray Line Tours* (tel. (tel. 800-862-1400) has a four-hour tour of Washington, Embassy Row, and Arlington National Cemetery that leaves Union Station at 8:30 AM and 2 PM (at 2 PM only November-March; adults \$22, children 3-11 \$11); tours of Mount Vernon and Alexandria depart at 8:30 AM (adults \$20, children, \$10). An all-day trip combining both tours leaves at 8:30 AM (adults \$36, children \$18). Visit www.graylinedc.com

Segway Tours

1. *Capital Segway Tours* (tel. 202/682-1980) is the Washington, D.C.'s only authorized Segway dealer. The tour begins with a Segway safety orientation and training session. For two and a half hours, Tourists will view sites such as the White House, Washington Monument, National Mall, Smithsonian, Capital Building. Tours begin at 10 AM, 12:30 PM, 3 PM, and 6 PM. The cost is \$65 or \$30 per person for a two-person SegShaw. For more information contact Steven Orr (tel. 202/682-1980)

Walking Tours

- DC by Foot (tel. 571/431-7543) is a new kind of tour experience which offers discussions and legendary stories behind the monuments. Tours meet from February 15th to May 14th at 2 PM and 6 PM, and May 15th to November 20th at 10 AM and 6 PM. All tours are free, no reservations are

needed, and last about one hour and fifteen minutes. Guides meet their tours at the north corner of 15th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.

Festivals and Seasonal Events

Washington has a lively calendar of special events; listed below are some of the most important or unusual event and when they usually occur.

Winter

A Christmas Carol returns year after year to historic Ford's Theatre (tel. 202/347-4833). **Mid-Nov.-late Dec.**

The Washington National Cathedral's Open House celebrates the season's holidays with bagpipers, choral sing-alongs, and seasonal decorations in the Gothic-style cathedral (tel. 202/537-6200). **Early Dec.**

The 25th Annual Scottish Christmas Walk salutes Alexandria's Scottish heritage with a parade, bagpipers, house tours, crafts, and children's events (tel. 703/838-4200). **Early Dec.**

Old Town Christmas Candlelight Tours visit historic Ramsay House, Gadsby's Tavern Museum, the Lee-Fendall House, and the Carlyle House in Old Town Alexandria. Included in the tour are music, colonial dancing, and light refreshments (tel. 703/838-4200). **Mid Dec.**

The People's Christmas Tree Lighting on the west side of the U.S. Capitol celebrates its 34th anniversary this year. Military bands perform (tel. 202/224-6645). **Mid Dec.**

The Nutcracker is performed by the Washington Ballet at Warner Theatre (tel. 202/362-3606). **Mid-late Dec.**

U.S. Botanic Gardens' Annual Winter Flower Show bursts forth with more than 1,000 of the traditional holiday red, white, and pink poinsettias as well as a display of Christmas wreaths and trees (tel. 202/225-7099). **Mid-Dec.-mid-Jan.**

The National Christmas Tree Lighting/Pageant of Peace is accompanied by seasonal music and caroling. In mid-December (usually the second Thursday) the president lights the National Christmas Tree (on the Ellipse just south of the White House) at dusk. For the next few weeks the Ellipse grounds are the site of nightly choral performances, a Nativity scene, a burning Yule log, and a display of lighted Christmas trees representing each of the country's states and territories (tel. 202/619-7222). **Mid-Dec.-Jan. 1**

The Arena Stage at Crystal City presents the musical "Ella" as a part of the Arthur Miller Festival. Crystal City is located in Arlington, Virginia. For more information, call Arena Stage (tel. 202/488-3300) or (202/488-4380) **Late-Dec.-Late Feb.**

The Washington National Cathedral Christmas Celebration and Services include Christmas carols, pageants, and seasonal choral performances (tel. 202/537-6200). **Dec. 24-25**

White House Christmas Candlelight Tours are evening tours (5-7 PM) of the White House lavishly adorned with traditional Christmas decorations. Tours are free but highly popular and admission is on a first-come, first-served basis; arrive early (tel. 202/456-2200 or 202/619-7222). **Late Dec.**

Washington Antiques Show at the Omni Shoreham Hotel is an established, high-quality presentation for buyers and browsers (tel. 202/234-0700). **Early Jan.**

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday is celebrated with speeches, dance, choral performances, and special readings. For more information, contact the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Library (tel. 202/727-1186); the National Park Service (tel. 202/619-7222); or the Smithsonian (tel. 202/357-2700). **Mid-Jan.**

The Chinese New Year Festival explodes in Chinatown, amid a cacophony of firecrackers and a dragon-led parade (tel. 202/638-1041 or 202/724-4091). **Mid-Jan.**

Robert E. Lee's birthday is marked with 19th-century music and period food at Arlington House, the Custis-Lee mansion in Arlington Cemetery (tel. 703/557-0613). **Mid-Jan.**

African-American History Month features special events, museum exhibits, and cultural programs (tel. 202/789-2403 or 202/727-1186). **Feb.**

Lincoln's birthday celebrations include a wreath-laying ceremony and a reading of the Gettysburg Address at the Lincoln Memorial (tel. 202/619-7222). **Early Feb.**

The DC Chamber of Commerce Visitor Information Center celebrates Black History Month with the Balck Artists of DC Art Show. This event will be held at the Visitor Center. For more information, contact Aishia Wright (tel. 202/289-8137) **Early-Feb-Late Feb**

Frederick Douglass's birthday is celebrated with a wreath-laying ceremony at the Frederick Douglass National Historic Site in Anacostia (tel. 202/619-7222 or 202/426-5961). **Mid-Feb.**

George Washington's birthday is celebrated with a parade down Washington Street in Old Town Alexandria, a historic-homes tour, and Revolutionary War reenactments (tel. 703/838-4200 or 703/838-5005). **Mid Feb.**

Spring/ Summer

The Spring Antiques Show, at the Armory (tel. 301/738-1966; during show, 202/547-9215) hosts more than 185 dealers from 20 states, Canada, and Europe. **Early Mar.**

St. Patrick's Day and Festival begins with a parade down Constitution Avenue at 1 PM on March 17. The following days feature theater, folk music, and dance concerts (tel. 202/637-2474). For information on Old Town Alexandria's March 16 parade festivities, call 703/838-4200. Arlington House in Arlington National Cemetery goes green as well (tel. 703/557-0613). **Mid-Mar.**

The Annual Bach Marathon honors Johann Sebastian's birthday. Ten organists each play the massive pipe organ at Chevy Chase Presbyterian Church (1 Chevy Chase Circle NW, tel. 202/363-2202) from 1 to 6. **Mid-Mar.**

The Arthur Miller Festival presents "The Death of a Salesman" at the Arena Stage, at Crystal City. **Mid-Mar.-Mid. May**

The Smithsonian Kite Festival, for kite makers and kite fliers of all ages, is held on the Washington Monument grounds (tel. 202/357-3030). **Late Mar.**

The Arena Stage at Crystal City stages "A View from the Bridge" as a part of the Arthur Miller Festival. . Crystal City is located in Arlington, Virginia. For more information, call Arena Stage (tel. 202/488-3300) or (202/488-4380) **Late-Mar.- Mid May**

The National Cherry Blossom Festival opens with the traditional Japanese Lantern Lighting ceremony on the 29th (tel. 1-877/442-5666, 202/397-7328, or 202/661-7585). **Late Mar. -Early Apr.**

Imagination Celebration, an annual month-long festival for young people at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, draws some of the nation's best children's theater companies (tel. 202/467-4600). **Apr.**

The White House Easter Egg Roll brings children ages eight and under, with an accompanying adult, to the White House lawn (tel. 202/456-7041). **Early Apr.**

The anniversary of Thomas Jefferson's birthday is marked by military drills and a wreath-laying at his memorial (tel. 202/619-7222). **Mid-Apr.**

The White House Spring Garden Tours are walks around the Jacqueline Kennedy Rose Garden and the West Lawn; public rooms within the White House can also be visited (tel. 202/456-7041). **Mid-Apr.**

The Georgetown House Tour, now in its 70th year, offers the opportunity to view private homes. Admission includes high tea at historic St. John's Georgetown Parish Church (tel. 202/338-1796). **Mid-Late Apr.**

The Smithsonian's Washington Craft Show exhibits one-of-a-kind handcrafted objects by 100 of the country's best artisans (tel. 202/357-2700). **Late Apr.**

The Alexandria Garden Tour finds six private gardens and another half-dozen historical sights open to the public, with afternoon tea at the historic Athenaeum (tel. 703/838-4200). **Late Apr.**

The D.C. International Film Festival is where dozens of foreign and American films premiere. Tickets are required (tel. 202/274-6810). **Late Apr. -Early May**

The Washington National Cathedral Flower Mart salutes a different country each year, with flower booths, crafts, and demonstrations (tel. 202/537-6200). **Early May**

The Georgetown Garden Tour shows off more than a dozen private gardens in one of the city's loveliest and most historic neighborhoods (tel. 202/333-6896). **Mid May**

The Joint Services Open House at Andrews Air Force Base in suburban Maryland features two days' worth of static aircraft and weapons displays, precision parachute jumps, and either the Navy's Blue Angels or Air Force Thunderbirds aerobatic team (tel. 301/568-5995). **Mid May**

Malcolm X Day pays tribute to the slain civil-rights leader. A week of workshops and films culminates in a commemoration on May 18, when concerts and speeches are held in Anacostia Park (tel. 202/396-1021 or 202/678-8352). **Mid May**

The Memorial Day Weekend Concert, performed by the National Symphony Orchestra at 7:30 PM on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol, officially welcomes the summer to Washington (tel. 202/619-7222). **Late May**

Memorial National Cathedral's Summer Festival of Music features everything from Renaissance choral music to contemporary instrumental fare (tel. 202/537-6200). **Late May**

The comedy, "The Mystery of Irma Vep", will be showing at the Arena Stage at Crystal City. **Early June-Mid-July**

The Festival of American Folklife, sponsored by the Smithsonian and held on the Mall, celebrates the music, arts, crafts, and foods of various nations' cultures (tel. 202/357-2700). **Late June - Early July**

The Independence Day Celebration includes a grand parade that marches past many of the capital's historic monuments. In the evening, the National Symphony Orchestra performs for free on the steps of the Capitol; this is followed by a fireworks display over the Washington Monument (tel. 202/619-7222). **July 4**

During the Twilight Tattoo Series, the 3rd U.S. Infantry, the U.S. Army Band, the Drill Team, and the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps play on the Ellipse grounds, between the White House and the Washington Monument, every Wednesday evening at 7 (tel. 703/696-3718). **Mid-July-late Aug.**

The Hispanic Festival, which takes place on the Mall, celebrates Latin American culture, food, music, dance, and theater. **Late July**

The Virginia Scottish Games, one of the largest Scottish festivals in the United States, includes traditional Highland dance, bagpipes, a national professional heptathlon, animal events, and fiddling competitions on the Episcopal High School grounds (3901 W. Braddock Rd., Alexandria, VA, tel. 703/838-4200). **Late July**

The National Frisbee Festival (National Mall, near Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum, tel. 301/645-5043) is the nation's largest noncompetitive assembly of Frisbee lovers. The disk-catching canines almost steal the show from the two-legged pros. **Late Aug.**

Autumn

The Labor Day Weekend Concert features the National Symphony Orchestra on the West Lawn of the U.S. Capitol (tel. 202/467-4600). **Early Sept.**

At the John F. Kennedy Center's Open House there are jugglers, musicians, dancers, and other performers on all five stages. Thousands throng to this free event every year (tel. 202/467-4600). **Early Sept.**

Adams-Morgan Day celebrates the African American and Latin American character of this unique neighborhood with live music, crafts, and cuisine (tel. 202/332-3292 or 202/789-7000). **Early-Mid Sept.**

The Constitution Day Commemoration observes the anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. Events include a naturalization ceremony, speakers, and band concerts (National Archives, tel. 202/501-5000). **Mid-Sept.**

The Washington National Cathedral Open House is a chance to share in cathedral-related crafts, music, and activities, including a climb up the central tower (tel. 202/537-6200). **Late Sept.**

Rock Creek Park Day celebrates the park's 107th birthday, with music, children's activities, foods, and arts and crafts. The party runs from noon to dusk (tel. 202/426-6829). **Late Sept.**

The "Taste of DC" Festival presents dishes from a variety of D.C. eateries. Food-tasting tickets are sold on site (tel. 202/789-7000). **Mid Oct.**

The White House Fall Garden Tours provide an opportunity to see the splendid gardens of the White House, including the famous Rose Gardens and the South Lawn (tel. 202/456-7041). **Mid-Oct.**

The Washington International Horse Show is D.C.'s major equestrian event (tel. 301/840-0281). **Mid-Oct.**

The Marine Corps Marathon attracts thousands of world-class runners. It begins at the Iwo Jima Marine Corps Memorial in Arlington, Virginia (tel. 703/690-3431). **Late Oct.**

Theodore Roosevelt's birthday is celebrated on Roosevelt Island in the Potomac, with tours of the island, exhibits, and family activities (tel. 202/619-7222). **Late Oct.**

Veteran's Day activities include services at Arlington National Cemetery, the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and the U.S. Navy Memorial, as well as an 11 AM wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknowns, led by the president or another ranking official (tel. 202/475-0843). **Mid-Nov.**