

NORTHERN VIRGINIA

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VIRGINIA'S CULTURAL REGION

Discover
why Virginia
is for Lovers

Home to an energetic mix of history, culture, dining and shopping, Virginia's Cultural Region brings together Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax County, Loudoun County, and Prince William County for a vacation experience like no other.



SUGGESTED ITINERARY

Historical Hotspots

Day One

AFTERNOON

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.

Visit Historic Downtown Leesburg. A shoppers dream with antique dealers, art galleries, and other specialty shops. Dining options range from casual atmospheres to fine dining featuring local specialties. Historic attractions include the Loudoun Museum, Balls Bluff Battlefield Regional Park, Outlands Plantation, and Morven Park.

EVENING

Virginia Gateway is a premier, walkable, outdoor shopping destination in Gainesville with over 100 shops, restaurants, and entertainment businesses to enjoy at your leisure. Enjoy dinner at Out of the Blue Crabs and Seafood for a casual meal and cocktails before ending your day.

Day Two

MORNING

Manassas National Battlefield Park - "Where the Southern Victories Tested the Northern Resolve". On July 21, 1861, two armies clashed for the first time on the fields overlooking Bull Run. Heavy fighting swept away any notion of a quick war. In August 1862, Union and Confederate armies converged for a second time on the plains of Manassas. The Confederates won a solid victory bringing them to the height of their power. Ben Lomond Historic Site and Old Rose Garden - Built in 1832 and a prime example of Federal style architecture, this house sits within five miles of the site of the First and Second Battles of Manassas. The main house was used as a Confederate hospital during and after the Battle of First Manassas. Union soldiers campaigning through the area in 1862 left graffiti on the walls of the home, some of which can be read today. Site contains the main house, slave quarters, dairy and smokehouse in which visitors can learn about antebellum life and experience the immersive Civil War hospital. There is also an antique Rose Garden containing many rare and historic varieties of roses.



AFTERNOON

Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center - Located in Chantilly this museum displays thousands of aviation and space artifacts, including a Lockheed SR-71 Blackbird, a Concorde, and the space shuttle Discovery. The Center also offers the Airbus IMAX Theater and the Donald D. Engen Observation Tower, which gives you a 360-degree bird's-eye view of Dulles International Airport and the surrounding area.

Tour the Turning Point Suffragist Memorial, the only place in America that tells the complete story of the suffrage movement. The memorial features a section of the White House fence in front of which suffragists picketed in 1917. It is also a stop along the "Constitution Trail," which links sites connected to the Constitution in Washington, DC and Virginia, such as George Washington's Mount Vernon and the National Archives.



George Washington's Mount Vernon - America's most visited historic home belonged to George Washington, the first President of the United States. Immerse yourself in the restored gardens, working 1700s farm, outbuildings, Distillery and Gristmill, and the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center to discover the real George Washington.

Day Three

MORNING

Founded in 1749 and boasting the nation's third oldest historic district, Alexandria hums with a cosmopolitan feel. Start your day with a stunning 360-degree view of historic Alexandria and its surrounding regions at The George Washington Masonic National Memorial observation deck located at the top of King Street.

Hop on the free King Street Trolley to National Historic Landmarks abound. First stop, George Washington's original pew (#60) at Christ Church followed by a visit the seven-foot wide Spite House, America's skinniest historic home.

From there, learn about the city's rich history by visiting museums on Market Square. Within one block visitors can explore Gadsby's Tavern Museum, Carlyle House, and the Stabler-Leadbeater Apothecary Museum.

AFTERNOON

The grounds of Arlington National Cemetery honor those who have served our nation by providing a sense of beauty and peace for guests. The impressive landscape serves as a tribute to the service and sacrifice of every individual laid to rest within its hallowed grounds. Make time to visit the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and witness the Changing of the Guard ceremony, performed by the U.S. Honor Guard.

Located at the entrance to Arlington National Cemetery, The Military Women's Memorial is the only major one of its kind in the United States (and the world!) to showcase the service of women in the military, preserving moments and stories of military women from the Revolutionary War through the present. The structure features 16 exhibit alcoves for permanent and rotating exhibits, as an education center, interactive exhibits, and a world-class collection of military women's stories.

Day Four

MORNING

One of Arlington's most photographed memorials, the Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima) is one of the largest cast bronze sculptures in the world with its 32-foot-high figures sitting atop gilded granite base. The magnificent memorial was based on an iconic, Pulitzer Prize winning photo of the second flag-raising on the island of Iwo Jima during World War II. The memorial is dedicated to all Marines who have given their lives in defense of the United States since 1775.



The Netherlands Carillon is a short walk to the south of the memorial. Overlooking Washington, DC., the Netherlands Carillon was a gift from the Dutch People in gratitude for U.S. aid given during World War II. The tower features 50 bells hanging in an open steel tower, which plays various patriotic tunes at set times."

Located just outside the Pentagon, the National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial commemorates the 184 people who lost their lives at the Pentagon, and on American Flight 77 on the Pentagon attack on September 11, 2001.

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