

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

STEAMing Through Northern Virginia

Day One

AFTERNOON

Start the adventures outdoors at Great Country Farms with student focused programming. Take on the garden tour, learning the basics of agriculture while getting a little dirty, or the gem-mining program will journey through the rock cycle across the geological timeline. Depending on time of year include a specialty tour with the in season veggie or fruit and pick-your-own.

Step back into the past at Aldie Mill along scenic Route 50 in southwestern Loudoun County and enjoy a grinding demonstration with the miller and learn the mechanics behind this piece of history. Opened for business in 1809, Aldie Mill was the largest mill in Loudoun throughout the 19th century. It witnessed the Civil War on its doorstep and even inside the mill itself.

EVENING

Take on the night at Dulles Golf Center and Sports Park with a round of mini-golf or even hit the batting cages. Enjoy their spacious setup for an evening BBQ with activities and lawn games throughout their unique location.

Day Two

MORNING

Start the morning at the Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum. Find the connection between agriculture and science at the Loudoun Heritage Farm Museum. From learning about plants and agriculture to weights and measures, the programs offered cover a variety of topics from science and math to history and social studies.



AFTERNOON

The Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Chantilly, Virginia features nearly 200 air and spacecraft and more than 3,000 artifacts. Here, students across all grade levels can flourish through the Museum's student group programs. These interactive STEM labs immerse students in engaging, hands-on activities where they delve into topics like "Flight School Math," "Living and Working in Space," and "Smart Skies interactive flight simulators."

Looking for a thrilling activity that is less taxing on the body? Look no further than K1 Speed where you'll experience an indoor go-kart race with speeds up to 50 mph. Their safety precautions include a four-point harness and superior braking system that will ensure a great environment to put the pedal to the metal! Student groups can also participate in their classroom-based, STEM focused, education programs to enhance your experience.

EVENING

Students will then enjoy a show at The Hylton Performing Arts Center. Home to an abundance of cultural expression, the opera house and theater provide a wide variety of music and performances sure to leave the students on the edge of their seats. The Performance A La Carte program allows you to tailor to exactly what your student groups need. Choose a program and space that will work with your schedule and The Hylton Performing Arts Center will do the rest!



Day Three

MORNING

Experience a half-day or multi-day program at George Mason University, a Carnegie-ranked Research 1 doctoral institution. Thanks to their Global STEM Pathways Initiative and collaboration with Global Student Travel providers, students can dive into a hands-on, immersive STEM and college life experience. Discover exciting STEM careers in fields such as forensics, data science, climate dynamics, geo-information science, and beyond.



AFTERNOON

After lunch head over to the Arlington National Cemetery - 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 the hallowed grounds of Arlington National Cemetery. 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. More than three million people visit Arlington National Cemetery each year.

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. 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.

The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Museum offers group tour and educational experiences unlike any other in the US. Located inside DEA headquarters, the Museum features content for any group, from history and culture to science and technology. Visitors learn about the history of drug use in America drug trends, and the work of DEA.

EVENING

With nine gallery spaces and a large lawn suitable for public art, the Museum of Contemporary Art Arlington is one of the largest non-federal venues for contemporary art in the Washington, DC area. MoCA Arlington offers a comprehensive field trip program, which caters to K-12 students and community groups. Groups will be guided through its contemporary art galleries and participate in a hands-on art workshop inspired by current exhibitions. Don't miss the new MoCA's Innovation Studio + Store located at Amazon's HQ2 Met Park where the public can interact directly with artists in Residence and other creatives.

Climb UPTon is the largest ropes course in the Mid-Atlantic, located in Upton Hill Regional Park Arlington. Offering 90 different elements with three levels of difficulty, perfect for guests of all ages!

Day Four

MORNING

The National Museum of the United States Army offers diverse G-STEM (Geography, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) activities for students of all ages. The Experiential Learning Center, provides hands-on experiences with state-of-the-art equipment. Groups can also participate in Operation Safe Passage (OSP), a role-playing classroom experience teaching problem-solving skills using G-STEM systems. Squads progress through challenging games as they are trained on systems and then execute a simulated humanitarian mission, aiding a community post-earthquake with tasks like bridge repair, supply delivery, and search and rescue operations.

AFTERNOON

Head over to Building Momentum, a global leader in teaching and training student programs focusing on problem-solving designed to integrate Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics through hands-on activities for critical thinking, creativity, and innovation.

From there head into the heart of Old Town to the former World War II torpedo factory, the Torpedo Factory Art Center, home to the largest collection of publicly accessible working artist studios in the U.S. Guests can visit 82 artists' studios, plus seven galleries, and two workshops. Experience the gallery of icons illustrating each of the 500+ Inductees and their technological achievements that helped stimulate growth for our nation and beyond. Stop into the Alexandria Archaeology Museum located on the third floor where archaeologists reconstruct Alexandria's history, fragment by fragment.



The National Museum of United States Army



Tall Ship Providence

Step back in time and into the life of a sailor serving in the Continental Navy under the command of legendary Captial John Paul Jones for the Tall Ship Providence immersive one-hour tour.

The National Inventors Hall of Fame inspires the next generation of innovators by connecting them through the story of invention. Families and groups can interact with and explore the kiosks and archives during their visit.

EVENING

Your group will want to experience an awe-inspiring laser light show at the Irene V. Hylton Planetarium. Listen to music from artists such as The Beatles, Led Zeppelin, and The Beach Boys, as colorful lasers create works of art above you.

Day Five

MORNING

Your next stop is an experience at the National Museum of the Marine Corps. Uncover the history of the Corps, test your skills as a Marine, and get insight into the lives of those who fight for our freedom. During your visit, see the incredible Gene Hackman-narrated film "We, The Marines" to get an unparalleled view into the experiences of Marines from boot camp through modern warfare training. Your group will also participate in a STEM education program where students will participate in hands-on activities to learn about how science, technology, and engineering impact the daily lives of Marines.



Torpedo Factory Art Center



National Museum of the Marine Corps

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