



NORTHERN VIRGINIA

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VIRGINIA'S CULTURAL REGION

Discover Why Virginia is for Lovers

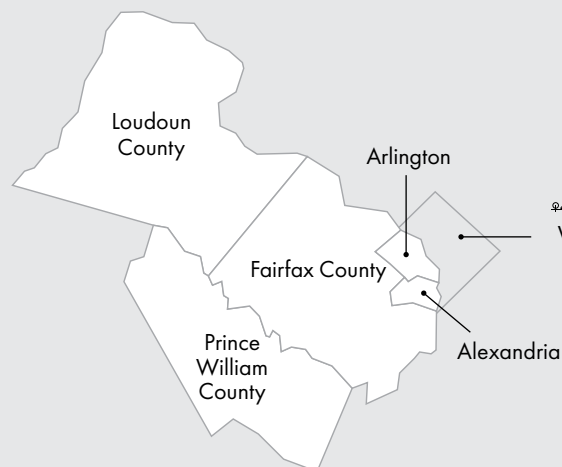
Home to an energetic mix of history, culture, dining and shopping, Virginia's Cultural Region brings together Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax County, Loudoun County and Prince William County for a vacation experience like no other.

What's Inside:



We're closer than you think!

Montréal – 600 miles
Toronto – 475 miles
Boston – 460 miles
New York City – 250 miles
Virginia Beach – 215 miles
Philadelphia – 160 miles
Richmond – 100 miles
Baltimore – 60 miles





Mount Vernon Trail in Arlington

DESTINATION OVERVIEW

Welcome to Northern Virginia – also known as Virginia’s Cultural Region – where an ideal mix of history and approachable local culture promises visitors a rich experience.

Learn about the events and places that helped shape the United States while discovering quaint downtown neighborhoods where locals treat visitors like family. Stroll tree-lined streets and tour charming boutique wineries. Hop on bikes to ride along the banks of the Potomac River for some of the most stunning views of Washington, DC. Browse the home of America’s first president, hoist a pint at a historic brewery, dine at a celebrity chef’s restaurant or treat yourself to a little retail therapy. It’s all waiting for you in Northern Virginia.

Virginia’s Cultural Region is known as the hip and cosmopolitan side of Virginia, and it’s easy to see why. With award-winning theatre companies, dazzling visual artists, crave-worthy cuisine and chic shopping, it’s the place to be. Indulge in locally sourced dishes at award-winning restaurants featuring cuisines from around the world. Applaud the performances of world-class theatre productions and meet with local artisans as they create everything from watercolor paintings and sculpture to jewelry and woodwork. Enjoy live music from international artists or up-and-coming indie bands. Find the perfect gift or keepsake at shops featuring top designers and local brands. Looking for a bargain? Find the best deal on brand names at two of Virginia’s largest outlet malls.

Just as hip and cosmopolitan are the unique opportunities to sample drinks not available anywhere else. With more than 45 wineries and more than 40 breweries, Northern Virginia is the ideal place to raise a pint or toast a glass. Sample the libations from George Washington’s own recipes, handed down through the generations. Explore our wineries, where producers hand craft wines in intimate settings ranging from renovated dairy barns to Mediterranean-style estates.

In Northern Virginia, you’ll also discover our storied past. America’s first president made his home here, which has set the stage for the region being at the epicenter of many of the historical events and decisive battles that have shaped the nation ever since. Explore Civil War battlefields and honor the soldiers of wars past with solemn memorials and tributes to our nation’s armed forces. Combine that with the quaint side of history, with tree-lined boulevards and cobblestone streets featuring antique shops and friendly one-of-a-kind boutiques. And of course, it’s all just steps from the power and influence of America’s capital city, Washington, DC.

From breweries to battlefields, from cuisine to couture, Northern Virginia is a destination not to be missed. Meet the artistic influences of today and tomorrow as you mingle with the stories of the past and dine or sip with the very best. It’s all found in Virginia’s Cultural Region.

With so much to do, exploring Virginia’s Cultural Region also takes you outside. Bring your bicycle (or rent one via Capital Bikeshare) and take to the miles of bike trails that traverse the region, or ride alongside the shores of the Potomac River for amazing views of the DC monuments and Tidal Basin. Take to the water yourself for a scenic kayak ride or aboard a relaxing dinner cruise. Enjoy a round of golf, a leisurely hike in the woods, or relax with a picnic overlooking acres of vineyards. The possibilities are endless.



Waterfront Dining in Alexandria | © Kristian-Summerer



National Air and Space Museum Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center in Fairfax County



National Museum of the Marine Corps in Prince William County



WHAT'S NEW?

LOUDOUN COUNTY

An exquisite culinary and heritage destination 25 miles from Washington, DC, Loudoun boasts 50 award-winning wineries, 30-plus craft breweries, as well as farm-to-table dining, country inns, resorts and historic towns including Leesburg and Middleburg, the capital of Virginia horse country.

Loudoun is an oenophile's dream. Known as DC's Wine Country®, Loudoun's wine region celebrated 40 years in 2024. Inspired by Lew Parker who bottled the first wine in 1984, the wider Loudoun wine scene is one of the most exciting in the US. While Chardonnay, Viognier and Bordeaux grapes prosper, a new generation of small batch winemakers experiment with Albariño, Tannat, Nebbiolo, Petit Manseng and Chardonel. Innovation is everywhere. **Walsh Family Wine** opened the Winemakers Studio in 2023 – an incubator that helps upcoming winemakers start their own brands, and winemakers collaborate to create blends or partnerships with neighboring breweries and distilleries. And through it all, there's a communal, family-friendly feel to it all. Here, a winemaker will join you for a tasting, an owner will recommend a neighboring estate and you can meet a grower working in the vines. With the **Silver Line Metro** now in Loudoun, visitors can pick up guided wine tours from the metro station. The craft beverage scene extends beyond wine, with 30 breweries, local distilleries and cideries across the destination. We invite you to pair a beverage with Loudoun's unbeatable culinary scene. With rich soil, four seasons and a storied agricultural tradition, – George Washington hailed Loudoun as "The Breadbasket of the Revolution" – Loudoun's family farms supply a bounty of fresh meats, produce and vegetables to local restaurants, including **Bia Kitchen** – a Euro-inspired restaurant – and the cozy **Local Provisions** in eastern Loudoun's urban corridor. While culinary and craft beverage opportunities abound, there are plenty of ways to get active. Check out Loudoun's first state park, **Sweet Run**, which opened in summer 2023, or access the Appalachian Trail along the county's western border. For overnights, tuck into the new **Hotel Burg** in historic Leesburg, a resort or a charming bed and breakfast adjacent to the vines.

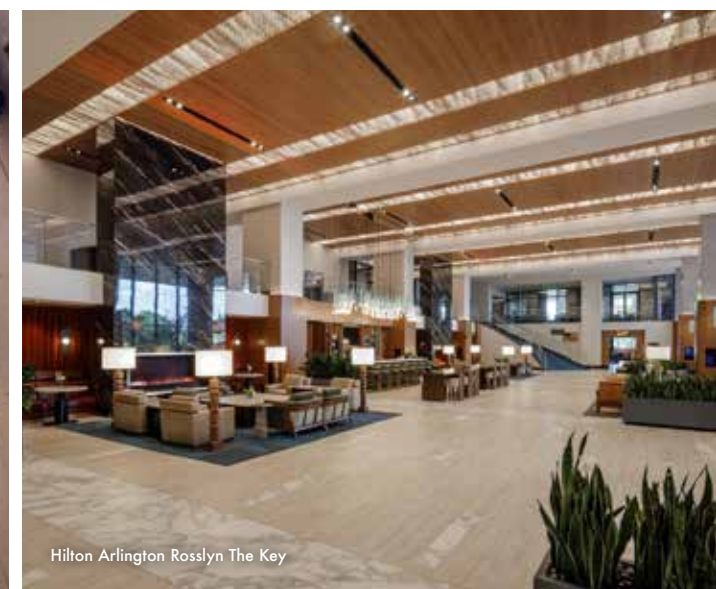
ARLINGTON

Arlington may be most well-known for its memorials and Arlington Cemetery, but there's an entirely new Arlington to discover. Named Safest Place in America (Bloomberg, 2024) and Fittest City in America for eight straight years, Arlington is more than a place to stay – it's a vibrant, convenient hub where visitors can explore the region without ever needing to leave the neighborhood.

In July 2025, the **AC Hotel Arlington/National Landing** opened its doors after a multi-million-dollar transformation. This sleek, European-inspired hotel, which is part of the Marriott Bonvoy collection of properties, joins Arlington's hotel landscape as the largest AC Hotel in North America. It offers two modern and inviting dining options, a 4,000 square-foot state-of-the-art fitness center, the AC Library, 8,800 square feet of completely refreshed meetings and events space, and a complimentary airport shuttle. Meanwhile, the **Hilton Arlington Rosslyn The Key**, a luxury full-service retreat overlooking the Potomac River, opened its doors in August 2025. Features 331 guest rooms, nearly 30,000 square feet of meeting space, **Locket**, an all-day, on-site restaurant, a state-of-the-art fitness center, and EV charging spaces. Guests can look forward to unbeatable views of Washington, D.C. in a spacious and inviting environment.

Part of Arlington's unique history is being told through new and intriguing public art installations across the county. Don't miss **Queen City**, a towering brick sculpture from renowned public artist Nekisha Durrett that pays homage to the former Arlington neighborhood of the same name. This working-class Black community was displaced for construction of the Pentagon, and today the brick exterior gives way to an interior display of 903 ceramic orbs that represent the 903 individuals who were part of the historic community. Not far away is **FREED**, a 30-foot-tall beacon which pays homage to the notion of freedom, whether experienced as a historical or contemporary and personal or collective condition. Both are part of Arlington's world-renowned Public Art collection which visitors can experience with the **Arlington Public Art Walking Tour**.

And there's never a shortage of exciting new restaurants around Arlington. Check out **Wonder Food Hall** with delivery and takeout from 21 vendors across several cuisines. The highly anticipated opening of Chinese fusion restaurant, **Bar Chinois**, took place this summer in National Landing and be sure to stop by **Westville**, a NYC-based, vegetable forward chain in Clarendon.





Eavesdrop Brewery



The Black Sheep



Manassas Battlefield



Level99



JW Marriott Reston Station



George Washington's Mount Vernon

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

Explore Prince William, Virginia — where history meets adventure just 30 miles from D.C. Discover historic battlefields, scenic trails, and waterfront views, then unwind in charming towns filled with local shops, breweries, and restaurants. With museums, family attractions, and events year-round, Prince William offers the perfect mix of nature, culture, and modern fun.

Virginia's craft beverage scene is booming, and nowhere is that more evident than along Prince William County's **Steins, Vines, and Moonshine Trail**. This self-guided tasting adventure winds through scenic countryside and features more than 20 award-winning breweries, wineries, and distilleries. Newly launched this year, the Steins, Vines, and Moonshine app makes exploring easier than ever — just download, create a username, and check in at each stop using the QR codes inside. After 10 check-ins, you'll even receive a prize from PWC as a thank-you for sipping your way through the trail! From craft beer at **Eavesdrop Brewery** to lakeside views at **The Winery at Sunshine Ridge Farm**, every stop combines authentic local flavor with unforgettable experiences.

Prince William, Virginia also serves up global tastes with local heart. From **My Cravingz**, a Turkish bakery in Manassas, to **Bebop**, a Korean-Mexican fusion restaurant in Haymarket, and **Southern Comfort Café** in Woodbridge, every bite tells a story. Add in Bolivian salteñas, Afro-Caribbean comfort food, and family-run taquerías, and you've got a dining scene that's as diverse as it is delicious.

For those craving the outdoors, Prince William is the Capital Region's best-kept secret! With over 38 miles of shoreline, 50 parks, and the expansive **Prince William Forest Park** — Northern Virginia's largest green space — there's no shortage of fresh-air fun. Paddle the historic **Occoquan River**, hike **Civil War-era** trails, or saddle up for a countryside ride, all just a short drive from D.C.

And if you're looking for live music, craft food, and even more local flavor, **NOVA Live** (formerly Farm Brew Live) keeps expanding. The campus now features **MurLarkey Distilled Spirits** and **Proof Kitchen & Bar**, pairing farm-to-flask spirits with globally inspired cuisine. Coming soon: **Tempo by Hilton**, a landmark hotel set to open in late 2025/early 2026, complete with the vintage-inspired **Repeal Speakeasy** and cozy **Moonsong Café** — making NOVA Live the ultimate all-in-one destination.

FAIRFAX COUNTY

An incredible cultural and historical destination located in the heart of Northern Virginia, Fairfax County offers an unexpected blend of natural surroundings and big-city amenities, groundbreaking new exhibitions, eclectic dining, immersive entertainment, luxury accommodations, and unforgettable family adventures on tap for 2026.

In 2026, Fairfax County, Virginia will be at the center of celebration as America marks its 250th anniversary, and the region is rolling out an impressive lineup of new attractions to match the moment. At the forefront is **George Washington's Mount Vernon**, where visitors can enjoy a revitalized mansion tour and explore the new museum exhibition, *George Washington: A Revolutionary Life*. Guests can also explore the new Lives Bound Together: Slavery at Mount Vernon exhibit, the interactive Patriots Path: Revolutionary War Encampment, a renovated food court, and pick up an official VA250 Passport.

Beyond history, Fairfax County is quickly emerging as a hub for immersive entertainment. **Level99**, a 40,000-square-foot adventure playground for adults, has debuted inside **Tysons Corner Center** with more than 50 challenge rooms, interactive art installations, and a Victory Brewing outpost. A few miles away, escape enthusiasts can test their skills at the new **Break from Reality Escape Room**, while **Bond's Escape Room** now offers a cutting-edge VR Arena and live game show experience. In Lorton, the **Workhouse Arts Center** introduces **Masterpiece Mini Golf**, which blends art history with 18 holes of putt-putt.

Fairfax's culinary scene is also booming. **Bunnyman Brewing** recently opened a third outpost in Chantilly and food lovers will be drawn to the county's upcoming openings, including **Ebbitt House**, **Ruthie's All Day**, **Electric Bull**, **Wonder Food Hall**, **The Salty Donut**, and the Martha Stewart-endorsed **Maman**. For a more exclusive experience, visitors can uncover **The Naisho Room**, a hidden speakeasy and omakase destination in Tysons.

After a full day of history, adventure, and dining, guests can retreat to the **JW Marriott Reston Station**, the newest luxury property in Fairfax County and Virginia's first and only JW Marriott. With elevated design, multiple dining concepts, and premium amenities, it anchors the growing Reston Station development and sets a new standard for hospitality in the region.

Paired with the year-long 250th Anniversary celebrations, these new experiences ensure Fairfax County will be one of the East Coast's most compelling destinations in 2026.

ALEXANDRIA

Founded in 1749 and recently named a Top 5 Best U.S. City by Travel + Leisure, Alexandria is a welcoming escape on the Potomac River just minutes from Washington, D.C., where vibrant neighborhoods, rich history, and dozens of independent shops and restaurants blend historic architecture with modern amenities.

Alexandria’s historic waterfront continues to evolve as a dynamic destination where past and present meet. Highlights include a rotating waterfront public art installation, an expanded African American Heritage Trail, and year-round attractions like **tall ship Providence**, a replica of the first ship commissioned to the Continental Navy.

In 2025, **Archer Hotel Old Town** unveiled refreshed public spaces and introduced **HomeGrown**, a daytime eatery inspired by local flavors and run by a husband-and-wife team with deep Alexandria roots. The hotel also features **JoyLife SPA**, offering its signature blend of wellness and rejuvenation, and **AKB**, a stylish cocktail bar known for handcrafted drinks and small plates.

The new **Continues Arcade** adds nostalgic fun to the city’s entertainment scene with over 30 vintage games — from Skee Ball to pinball — and a lively restaurant concept by celebrity chef Spike Mendelsohn.

Alexandria’s diverse dining scene includes longtime favorites like **Cheesetique** in Del Ray and **El Pulgarcito** in Arlandria-Chirilagua. Among the newest spots is **LaPluma Coffee & Wine**, owned by Iliana and Dany Lopez. The two-level space offers a coffee shop, wine bar, patio seating, and flavorful Central American dishes like Garnachas and Cheese Papas Rellenas, along with standout drinks such as Horchata and Mayan Hot Chocolate.

Beverage enthusiasts can enjoy seasonal craft beers at **Port City Brewing Company** and **Atlas Brew Works**. Whisky lovers will appreciate The **MacMillan Spirit House**’s curated selection and live music in Old Town North. For a speakeasy vibe, **Casa Luna** — tucked beneath **Kisso Asian Bistro** — serves up artful cocktails and elevated bar bites.

Recognized as the D.C. region’s premier “shop small” destination, Alexandria offers a vibrant array of independent boutiques. Highlights include **Pippin Toy Co.**, a magical shop for kids by local owner Amy Rutherford, and **Eliana Curated**, a new jewelry boutique on King Street featuring unique, handcrafted pieces.



STORY IDEAS

 BREWS AND BIKING

Northern Virginia is known for quality wine, but it is quickly also becoming one of the hottest areas for craft beer, with **more than 40 breweries** to choose from. From quaint breweries in historic buildings and breweries with self-serve beer walls to farm breweries growing their own hops and hoppin’ brewpubs, it’s a great way to experience the flavor of the region. If you would prefer to work off the calories before drinking them in, hop on your bike and explore the string of breweries that are along the **Washington & Old Dominion** and **Mount Vernon Trails** that span almost 100 miles throughout the region. Bring your own two wheels or rent one from **Unlimited Biking** or from the **Capital Bikeshare** program.

ATTRACTIONS

- More than 40 breweries | *Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, Prince William*
- Capital Bikeshare | *Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax*
- Monuments and springtime cherry blossoms | *Alexandria, Arlington, Fairfax*
- Port City Brewing Co. | *Alexandria*
- Unlimited Biking bike rentals | *Alexandria*
- Nighthawk Pizza and Brewing and Astro Beer Hall | *Arlington*
- Washington & Old Dominion Trail | *Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun*
- Fairfax County’s Locally Poured Field Guide featuring 15+ spots | *Fairfax*
- LoCo Ale Trail featuring 30+ breweries | *Loudoun*
- Brew Republic Bierwerks and Waters End Brewing Co. | *Prince William*
- Mount Vernon Trail along the Potomac River with views of Washington, DC
- Pedego E-bike LoCo Ale Trail Brewery day | *Loudoun*





DIVINE WINE AND A TRIP THROUGH TIME

Pair a crisp Viognier with a trip back in time to George Washington’s home, or try a flavorful Norton with the stories of the American Civil War. Virginia’s Cultural Region will take you on a journey through American history and the craft of winemaking. Sample a great wine and cheese plate just steps from national historical treasures. In Northern Virginia pair picturesque vineyards of more than 50 wineries featuring everything from Cabernet to Chambourcin with dozens of historic sites that helped shape the United States.

ATTRACTIONS

- More than 50 Wineries | *Fairfax, Loudoun, Prince William*
- Wine bars | *Alexandria, Arlington, Loudoun*
- Arlington National Cemetery Tomb of the Unknowns | *Arlington*
- George Washington’s Mount Vernon | *Fairfax*
- The Winery at Bull Run | *Fairfax*
- George C. Marshall’s Dodona Manor | *Loudoun*
- Manassas National Battlefield Park | *Prince William*



DC's Wine Country®



Cheesetique in Alexandria



Wolf Trap National Park For the Performing Arts



King Street, Alexandria | © Chris Cruz



Historic Occoquan



UNFORGETTABLE ARTS AND CULTURE

Northern Virginia is a travelers’ cultural paradise. Tap into the arts scene with unexpected visual arts centers including a former torpedo factory and a historic former prison. Experience world-class theater and performances at the Tony Award-winning **Signature Theatre** or enjoy a show under the stars at **Wolf Trap**, the only national park dedicated to the performing arts. Discover independent art galleries tucked inside historic buildings along picturesque streetscapes.

ATTRACTIONS

- Torpedo Factory Art Center | *Alexandria*
- Birchmere Music Hall | *Alexandria*
- Signature Theatre | *Arlington*
- Museum of Contemporary Art-Arlington | *Arlington*
- Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts | *Fairfax*
- Capital One Hall | *Fairfax*
- Workhouse Arts Center | *Fairfax*
- Tally Ho Theater | *Loudoun*
- Hylton Performing Arts Center | *Prince William*



CUISINE AND COUTURE

The Northern Virginia region has been referred to as the “hip and cosmopolitan side of Virginia,” boasting crave-worthy cuisine and chic shopping. Indulge in locally sourced dishes at award-winning restaurants featuring cuisine from around the world, as well as artisanal treats ranging from local chocolates and cheeses to coffee and spirits. The region also has some of the best shopping in the country. You’ll find everything from antique shops, independent boutiques, and art galleries in historic towns, to 400+ stores and restaurants alongside high-end luxury retail in **Tysons Corner** – home to the “Rodeo Drive of the East Coast.” There are also two outlet malls located in the region for those looking to grab bargains.

ATTRACTIONS

- King Street shops and restaurants | *Alexandria*
- Cheesetique | *Alexandria*
- Artisan Confections | *Arlington*
- WHINO | *Arlington*
- Tysons Corner Center and luxury shopping at Tysons Galleria | *Fairfax*
- River-Sea Chocolate Factory & Liquid Cafe | *Fairfax*
- Handmade by LMAC | *Ashburn*
- Outlet malls | *Loudoun, Prince William*
- Art galleries in Historic Occoquan | *Prince William*
- Antique shopping | *Leesburg, Middleburg, Lucketts and Purcellville*



CHARMING DOWNTOWN DISTRICTS

Soak up the small town charm of Northern Virginia’s downtown districts. Get a taste of the equestrian life in Downtown Middleburg. Stroll bustling King Street in Old Town Alexandria, within eyesight of Washington, DC on the Potomac River waterfront for dining, boutiques and galleries. In nearby Arlington, the stylish Village of Shirlington features a European-style promenade with outdoor dining, fun night spots and eclectic art-house movies. Visit Historic Downtown Occoquan for riverside shops, restaurants and Mill House Museum. Downtown Leesburg welcomed its first boutique hotel in 2025 just steps from art galleries, restaurants and other specialty shops. And visit the charming small town of Historic Clifton, where you can dine at destination restaurants or visit Fairfax County’s first winery, shop antique stores, and end your day with homemade custard.

ATTRACTIONS

- King Street/Old Town | *Alexandria*
- Village of Shirlington | *Arlington*
- Historic Clifton | *Fairfax*
- Historic Middleburg | *Loudoun*
- Historic Downtown Leesburg | *Loudoun*
- Historic Occoquan | *Prince William*



HISTORICAL HOTSPOTS

Immerse yourself in the rich American history that permeates Northern Virginia. Get to know America's first president at **George Washington's Mount Vernon** or learn about Alexandria's Black history and the Black experience in America at **Freedom House Museum** or the **Alexandria Black History Museum**. For American Civil War history, visit **Manassas National Battlefield Park**, the site of the first two major battles of the war. Pay your respects at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at **Arlington National Cemetery** and the nearby **National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial**. Homes of great architectural significance like **Morven Park** in Leesburg can also be found throughout the region. Sample a great wine or craft beer just steps from national historical treasures.

ATTRACTIONS

- Freedom House Museum and Alexandria Black History Museum | *Alexandria*
- Arlington National Cemetery and Marine Corps War Memorial | *Arlington*
- George Washington's Mount Vernon | *Fairfax*
- Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center | *Fairfax*
- Oatlands Historic House and Gardens | *Loudoun*
- Manassas National Battlefield Park | *Prince William*



Manassas National Battlefield Park



George Washington's Mount Vernon



Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center



Marine Corps War Memorial



Need help planning your visit?

Please contact the following for media assistance, sample itineraries, story ideas and more.



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