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Colonial Williamsburg and Washington, DC Christmas

Featuring an overnight stay at the Greenbrier!

Dec 9-15, 2017

Head to the preserved colonial city of Williamsburg and learn about Christmas traditions of the past. Plus, tour the homes of Jefferson and Washington as well as have time to explore the Smithsonian Museums in Washington D.C. We also enjoy the modern day tradition of Christmas lights in both our nation's capital city as well as Newport News!

Saturday, Dec. 9 – We're on our way!

Meet your tour directors Dea and Declan at one of our meeting locations and board the luxury motorcoach with just 44 seats, leather, wi-fi and a galley as we head east towards our first overnight making stops along the way. Enjoy lunch in Louisville, Kentucky. Our overnight will be the Embassy Suites in Charleston, WV, famous for their happy hour! Enjoy a choice of restaurants either dining in the hotel restaurant, ordering in or at the Towne Center Mall across the street. **(Happy Hour at Hotel)**

Sunday, Dec. 10 – Monticello and the Oldest Tavern in the USA!

After our full, hot, cooked to order breakfast this morning, we head into Virginia, where we have our first colonial stop – the **Michie Tavern!** Historic Michie Tavern, established in 1784 by Scotsman William Michie, served as the social center of its community and accommodated travelers with food, drink and lodging. Famous for their Fried Chicken lunch we dine colonial style with all you can eat chicken right out of the cast iron pot. We then visit nearby **Monticello**, home to Thomas Jefferson. In addition to being a master statesman, Jefferson was an architect and inventor, both of which are on display in his home. This historic mansion has numerous touches uniquely designed by Jefferson, including octagonal rooms, a bed built into a bookcase, and a clock that showed the day of the week in addition to the time. The knowledgeable tour guide that leads us through the house will give us an insider's view of life in the Jefferson household. After our tour, we head to historic Colonial Williamsburg and check into the Holiday Inn Gateway, where we have a chance to unpack before dinner at a local favorite, Sal's by Victor. After dinner it's off to start the Christmas cheer by driving through the **Newport News Celebration in Lights**. One of the best lights display in the country, you will be amazed at the talented artists who make the scenes come alive! The length of the lights if outstretched would span 100 miles. **(B, L, D)**

Monday, Dec. 11 – Mariners and Colonists

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before we visit the **Mariners Museum**. A steward of one of the world's most extensive maritime collections, The Mariners' Museum and Park is committed to the preservation and conservation of more than 32,000 objects and several million library and archival materials. From Civil War Ships to the Titanic, the museum provides a comprehensive look at the relationship between man and the sea.

We then head to **Colonial Williamsburg**. Saved from ruin by the Rockefeller family, it is now a living history museum and provides a glimpse into the colonial capital of Virginia. It has served as the backdrop for numerous movies and TV shows, including *1776*, *The Patriot*, and the TV series *Turn*. We will also get to see the town garbed in traditional colonial-style Christmas decorations. Tonight we enjoy dinner at Captain George's Seafood Restaurant, a perennial favorite! Enjoy the bounty from the sea with the 70 item all-you-can-eat seafood buffet including Alaskan Snow Crab Legs, steamed shrimp, Oysters Rockefeller, scallops, prime rib and fresh broiled fish and more! **(B, D)**

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2017 – Washington’s Home and Washington, DC

After breakfast at the hotel, we check out and travel to **Mount Vernon**, the home of George Washington. We will visit his home after the presidency and learn about the life of our first president, separating fact from fiction. Our lunch will be our first stop onsite and will consist of colonial and modern fare. And of course our dessert will be cherry pie! Next enjoy the museum with videos and artifacts, the mansion with knowledgeable docents and you may take a 10 minute walk to the gravesite of President and Mrs. Washington. We then head to Washington, DC, where we check into our hotel for a two-night stay at the all-suites Cambria D.C. located at the new CityMarket at O lifestyle center. Located near a Metro Station, if you want to venture on your own today or tomorrow, you will be able to make your way easily back to and from the hotel. Tonight is free to enjoy and relax. Visit the Mansion on O Street, walk to the White House, or enjoy the rooftop patio with fire pit. **(B, L)**

Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2017 – Smithsonian Museum Day.

After breakfast in the Bistro at the hotel, we head into the Smithsonian Museum district around the Washington Mall, where you have your choice of Smithsonian Museums to visit. Our coach will run a shuttle and you will be free to visit the museums of your choice. *Note: The Holocaust Museum is free but tickets need to be procured prior to the visit. Let us know if you need help.* This evening enjoy dinner on your own and then you have the option to depart with us on a monument night tour and we will be sure to find some Christmas lights! **(B)**

Thursday, Dec. 14, 2017 – Greenbrier Resort and Bunker Tour

After breakfast, we check out of our hotel and travel to the **Greenbrier Resort**. A wonderful resort, it was decorated by Dorothy Draper, who famously decorated the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. It also housed a secret for decades – it was the site of an underground bunker that was designed for Congress to evacuate in case the Cold War became hot. We will have a tour of the bunker before having free time to explore the grounds and resort! You have read about it and seen it on television, now you get to experience it as a guest. Don’t forget the James Bond style casino (dress code) on property. We enjoy dinner tonight at the Greenbrier Main Dining Room (dress code) or the more casual restaurant. **(B, D)**

Friday, Dec. 15, 2017 - Returning Home

After breakfast, we depart from the Greenbrier and head for home. We will make stops along the way and lunch on own in Lexington, KY with a late evening arrival. You will be glad for our plush motorcoach! Thank you for traveling with us! **(B)**

This is a 3-Sneaker Tour, which we have defined as “*Steady pace, 1-2 flights of stairs, some inclines*”

Ranking is based on the part of the tour with the highest level of activity. Please see our *Passport To Fun!* for more details.

Tour includes:

- ✓ Round trip Luxury 44 passenger (more leg room) leather seated Motorcoach transportation
- ✓ Superior accommodations throughout the tour, plus stay at the Greenbrier Resort!
- ✓ 11 Meals (6 Breakfasts, 2 Lunch, 3 Dinners), plus a Happy Hour at the Embassy Suites
- ✓ Tours of Presidential Homes: Washington’s Mount Vernon and Jefferson’s Monticello
- ✓ Visits to Colonial Williamsburg Historic Buildings and Mariners Museum
- ✓ Holiday Lights tour of Newport News and Washington, D.C.
- ✓ Bunker Tour at Greenbrier – visit where our government would have escaped to during the Cold War
- ✓ Visits to the Smithsonian Museum District with choice of museums or Holocaust Museum (book prior)
- ✓ All other Activities as indicated
- ✓ Baggage Handling
- ✓ Professional Tour Directors Dea Hoover and Declan Rutan
- ✓ All gratuities including step-on guides, included meals, driver and director

Please note: Any notice of fuel surcharges imposed by carriers and/or attractions will be disclosed at least 30 days prior to tour departure. Itinerary is subject to change due to uncontrollable circumstances. Substitutions will be made.

\$1,957 per person, double occupancy

\$2,455 pp single

\$1,792 pp triple

\$1,709 pp quad

Save 3% on this tour! Experience Colonial Life and Capital City Christmas Lights for

\$1,899 pp, dbl occ when you pay with check or money order!

\$1,899 per person, double*

\$2,381 per person, single*

\$1,739 per person, triple*

\$1,658 pp quad*

*These prices reflect 3% savings by paying with check or money order

Make your reservation with a \$500 deposit per person. Once this tour fills, a wait list will be formed. Please send a check, or call with a credit card along with your name, address, phone number, and all roommates’ names if you are sharing a room and any dietary or walking restrictions.

We encourage all travelers to purchase travel protection and pay with initial deposit. Please remember that certain benefits are time sensitive. Plans help provide coverage for unexpected circumstances and help protect your trip and your investment. We offer several 3rd party insurance plans that we believe are the best available in the industry.

Balance on base tour price is due Oct 15, 2017, and per state insurance regulations we are unable to provide any refunds after that time. If you purchase travel protection and need to cancel after June 10, 2018, you must file a claim with the insurance company. As we utilize a 3rd party insurance company, they are responsible for processing the claim, which typically takes 6-8 weeks. Restrictions on coverage apply, and we encourage you to read over the policy as well as call them directly with any questions prior to buying coverage, regardless of which insurance company you select.