

# Day Trips

Washington is located in an area that is rich in historic lore and natural beauty. From the bustling sounds of a Chesapeake Bay harbor to the utter stillness of a Blue Ridge mountaintop, from the small, old tobacco farms of southern Maryland to the grand estates of Virginia's hunt country, you will find a richness of scenery and history. And

much of this can be found within a short drive from the city. Get off the main roads and wander slowly across the country. You may be surprised what you find. To start you on your way, here are a few day trips to areas, all but one of which are maintained by the National Park Service, that you may find interesting.

## Tourmobile Service

Parking in downtown Washington is severely limited, and searching for a parking space can be frustrating. To complement the public transportation system the National Park Service provides concessioner-operated Tourmobile service that stops at all major points of interest on the Mall and Capitol Hill and at the National Visitor Center and Arlington Cemetery. Rates vary with unlimited reboarding privileges. Call 554-7950 for additional information.

## Visitor Information

**National Visitor Center.** 523-5300.  
**Dial-A-Park** gives recorded information on current park activities and events in the Washington area. 426-6975.  
**Kiosk**, a monthly calendar of park events, is available at most park sites.  
**Metrobus** and subway schedules are available. 637-2437.  
**International Visitors Information Service**, 801 19th Street, NW, is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. 872-8747.  
**Traveler's Aid Society.** 347-0101.  
**Handicapped Visitors.** Tours for the blind and the deaf can be arranged. Voice, 426-6770; TTY for the deaf, 472-5764.  
**Emergency Help.** Police: 911. U.S. Park Police: 426-6600.

## Camping

Tent camping and trailer facilities are available at: Assateague Island National Seashore, Md., and Va., (301) 641-1441. Catoctin Mountain Park, Thurmont, Md., (301) 271-7447. Greenbelt Park, Greenbelt, Md., 344-3948. C&O Canal, Carderock, Md., 299-3613. Prince William Forest Park, Triangle, Va., tents, (703) 221-4840; trailers, (703) 221-2474.

## Picnic Areas

East and West Potomac Parks, East and West Ohio Drive, SW, no reservations necessary. Anacostia Park, between South Capitol Street and Benning Road, SE, no reservations necessary. Fort Dupont Park, Minnesota Avenue and Randle Circle, SE. For reservations call 673-7646. Rock Creek Park, North of the Zoological Park and west of 16th Street, NW. For reservations call 673-7646. Fort Hunt, George Washington Memorial Parkway, Va. For reservations call 557-8991. Fort Washington, Md. For reservations call 763-1770. Greenbelt Park, Greenbelt, Md. For reservations call 344-3948. C&O Canal, Carderock, Md. For reservations call 299-3613.

## Recreation and Sports

**Ice Skating:** National Sculpture Garden, 9th and Madison Drive, SW. Winter: 11:15 a.m. to 9:15 p.m. Monday through Friday, 9:15 a.m. to 10:05 p.m. weekends and holidays. 347-9041. Fort Dupont Park, 37th and Ely Place, SE. Year-round on an indoor rink: 12:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. Monday through Friday, 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. weekends and holidays. 581-0199.  
**Golf:** East Potomac Park, Haines Point, SW. 554-5962. Langston Park, 25th and Benning Road, NE. 398-6005. Rock Creek Park, 16th and Rittenhouse Streets, NW. 723-9832.  
**Horseback Riding:** Rock Creek Horse Center, Military and Glover Roads, NW. 362-0117.  
**Tennis:** There are about 150 public courts which are free, on a first-come, first-served basis. Most of these are run by the D.C. Department of Recreation, 3149 16th Street, NW. 673-7646. East Potomac Courts, Haines Point between Park Service Headquarters and 14th Street Bridge, SW, open 9 a.m. to dark. 554-5962. Anacostia Park, between 11th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue Bridge, SE. 763-1770. Kennedy Courts, 16th and Kennedy Streets, NW. 723-2669. Peirce Mill Courts, Rock Creek Park at Park Road, NW. 723-2669.

## Floral Displays

Massive seasonal displays of flowers, planted and maintained by the National Park Service, can be found throughout the city during most of the year. A favorite is Washington's Floral Library, created in 1969, near the Tidal Basin at Independence Avenue and East Basin Drive. Other sites include Pershing Square, Lafayette Square, Fountain Four at the entrance to East Potomac Park, and the west bank of the Potomac, which has plantings of more than one million daffodils.

National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior

### Antietam National Battlefield Site

The park is 40 kilometers (25 miles) from Frederick, Md., via Alt. U.S. 40 and Md. 34. In one of the bloodiest, most ferocious battles of the war, Robert E. Lee was stopped from invading the North. Five days later, Lincoln announced that on January 1, 1863, he would issue the Emancipation Proclamation. Stop at the visitor center for a map. Open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily with extended hours for summer months. (301) 432-5124.

### Catoctin Mountain Park

North of Washington 105 kilometers (65 miles) on U.S. 15 is Catoctin Mountain Park. You may enjoy fishing, swimming, boating, camping, hiking, and picnicking, and visiting a mountain craft center in the park. Campgrounds have restrooms, fireplaces, tables and trailer parking (trailers over 6.7 meters [22 feet] prohibited). The park is open from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily with longer hours in the summer. (301) 271-7447.

### Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park

The historic Chesapeake and Ohio Canal projected to link the tidewater area with the Ohio Valley runs parallel to the Potomac River. The canal route now offers 298 kilometers (185 miles) of biking and hiking along the towpath, camping, and mule-run barge trips. Open from dawn to dark daily. 299-3613.

### Clara Barton House

Built in 1892 at 5801 Oxford Road in Glen Echo, Md., this building was intended for Red Cross storage, but it became home and headquarters for Clara Barton, founder of the American Red Cross, in 1897. The furnishings belonged to either Ms. Barton or the Red Cross. The house is open 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday. 492-6246.

### Fort McHenry

In 1814, during the British bombardment of Baltimore and Fort McHenry, Francis Scott Key penned the lines to a poem that is now the National Anthem. The fort is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, with extended summer hours. The fort is 5 kilometers (3 miles) from the center of Baltimore, accessible over East Fort Avenue which intercepts Md. 2. (301) 962-4290.

### Fort Washington

This massive early 19th century fort south of Washington was built to protect the capital city. Interpreters in period dress lead tours. The fort is open daily in the winter, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Summer, 9 a.m. to dark. Use exit 37 south from the Capital Beltway (I-495) onto Md. 210 (Indian Head Highway) to Fort Washington Road. 292-2112.

### Gettysburg National Military Park

The park is 58 kilometers (36 miles) north of Frederick, Md., on U.S. 15. This is the site of the battle that repulsed Lee's second, and last, invasion of the North. 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, extended summer hours. (717) 334-1124.

### Glen Echo Park

Glen Echo was the site of Chautauqua lectures and workshops and an amusement park in the early years of the 20th century. Today the park offers creative education programs with professional artists in residence to teach and to discuss their works with visitors. Environmental education programs are also provided. A 1921 carousel designed by the Dentzel Company of Philadelphia, creators of America's finest carousels, is also at the park for you to see. The park is open Tuesday through Saturday. 492-6286.

### Great Falls Park, Maryland

About 24 kilometers (15 miles) from the Mall, at the end of MacArthur Boulevard, are the Great Falls of the Potomac. This area enjoys the peak of its popularity in the fall when the foliage competes with the wonders of the falls. The park has woodland paths, picnic areas, and a restored 19th century tavern-museum. This is a good starting point for hiking or cycling along the C&O canal. Open from dawn to dusk daily. 299-3613.

### Great Falls Park, Virginia

Excellent views of the 15-meter (50-foot) fall of cascading water can be seen here. In this 324-hectare (800-acre) park are a snack bar, restrooms, visitor center, picnic facilities, hiking trails, interpretive programs. Fishing is permitted but swimming and boating are prohibited. A \$1 parking fee is charged. The park is about 24 kilometers

(15 miles) from Washington at 9200 Old Dominion Drive. Open from dawn to dusk daily. 759-2915.

### Greenbelt Park

Take exit 28 of the Capital Beltway (I-495), south on Kenilworth Avenue, left on Md. 193 to the entrance. Greenbelt is just 15 kilometers (9 miles) outside Washington in Maryland. The park has 175 campsites with hiking trails and picnic groves. Open from dawn to dusk daily. 344-3948.

### Harpers Ferry National Historical Park

Located 105 kilometers (65 miles) from Washington via I-270 and U.S. 340 Harpers Ferry is one of two original Federal arsenals. The town is historically associated with John Brown's raid and the first rumblings of the Civil War. Much of the town has been restored to its pre-1860 appearance. 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Sunday. (304) 535-6371.

### Manassas National Battlefield Park

The park, 42 kilometers (26 miles) southwest of Washington near the intersection of I-66 and Va. 234, is the site of the two Civil War battles of Manassas, known as Bull Run in the North. The visitor center, where maps of the battlefield are available, contains a museum, slide program, folders, and booklets. The park is open from 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. daily. (703) 754-7107.

### Mount Vernon

South of Alexandria, Va., is the plantation where the young George Washington lived with his half-brother, Lawrence, who named the estate "Mount Vernon" in honor of Edward Vernon, the British admiral. The house sits high on the Virginia bank of the Potomac River. The main house and flanking service buildings have been faithfully restored by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union. The grounds, on which the tombs of George and Martha Washington are located, and house are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily March-September and 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. the rest of the year. Admission charge. 780-2000.

### Oxon Hill Farm

This turn-of-the-century working farm in Oxon Hill, Md., is especially attractive for children. Take the Capital Beltway (I-495) to exit 37 south, and right at the end of the ramp to Oxon Hill Road. The farm is open 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. 839-1177.

### Prince William Forest Park

The park, located at Triangle, Va., has more than 56 kilometers (35 miles) of trails and fire roads, and allows fishing in season. Oak Ridge Campground has 120 family campsites complete with water, restrooms, fireplaces, and picnic tables. Take I-95 south about 40 kilometers (25 miles) from I-495 to Route 619 to the park entrance. Open dawn to dark daily. (703) 221-7181.

### Shenandoah National Park

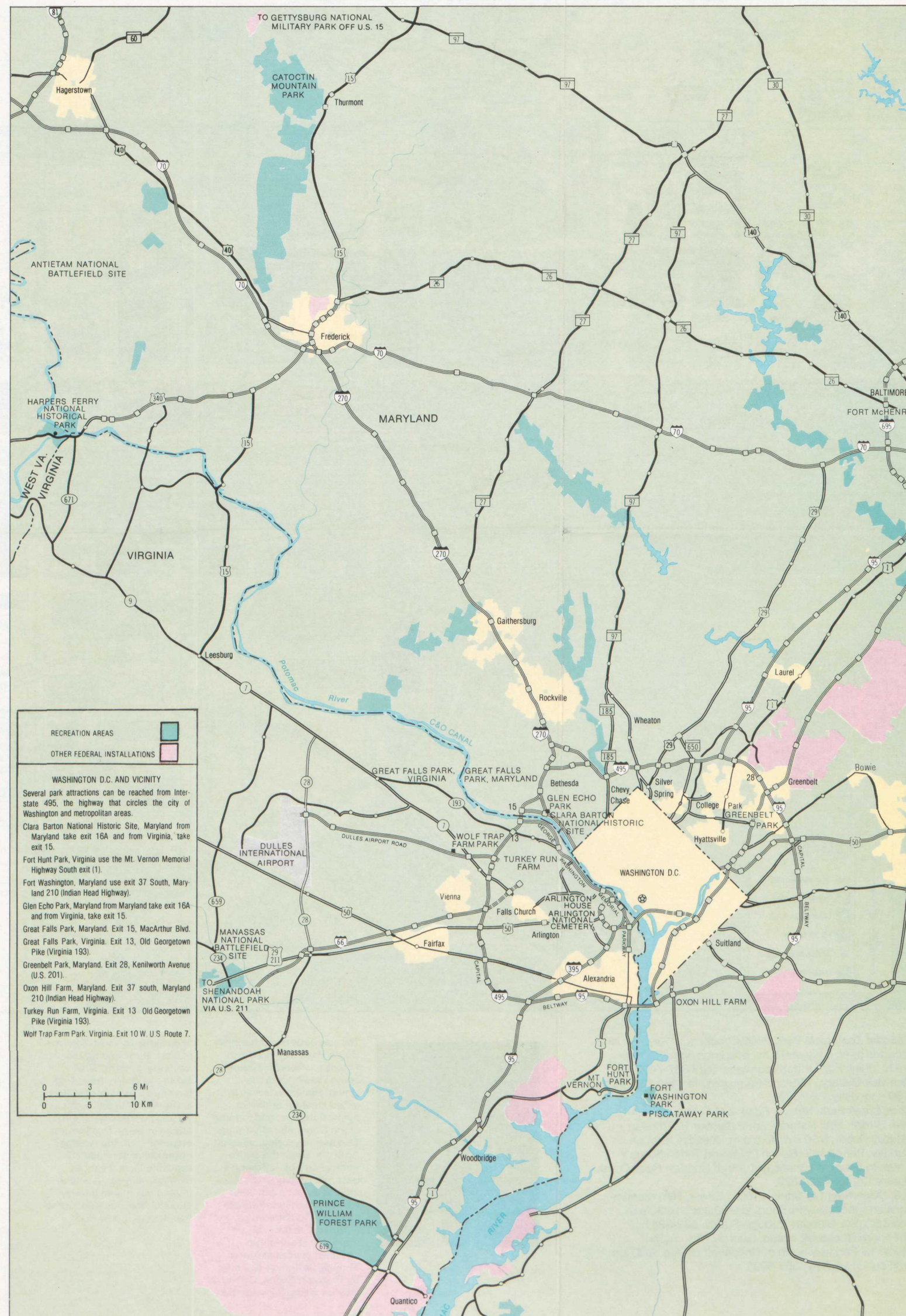
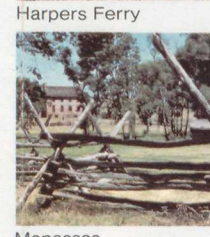
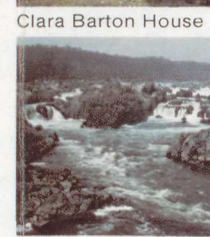
Shenandoah, with headquarters at Luray, Va., is the closest national park to Washington and offers many attractions. Skyline Drive, which threads through the park, is magnificent in its vistas. Four campgrounds with 700 campsites, mountain cottages and lodges, 151 kilometers (94 miles) of the Appalachian Trail for hiking plus 322 kilometers (200 miles) of park trails, interpretive services, fishing, horse rental, and picnic spots can be found in this wonderful park. The park is located about 130 kilometers (80 miles) southwest of Washington and may be reached via I-66, Va. 55, and U.S. 340 or via I-66 and U.S. 211. The park is open daily with museum hours from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. (703) 999-2266.

### Turkey Run Farm

The day-to-day operations of a colonial homestead are re-enacted in a wooded setting in McLean, Va. Take I-495 to exit 13, Va. 193 east 1.6 kilometers (1 mile), left into the farm; or take the George Washington Memorial Parkway to Va. 123, right fork onto 193, right into farm. It is open Friday through Sunday in winter and Wednesday through Sunday in summer. 557-1356.

### Wolf Trap Farm Park for the Performing Arts

Opera, ballet, jazz, pop, symphony orchestra, musical theatre, and modern and folk dance are performed in the woods of Vienna, Va., during the summer. Some free shows are given on weekends. 938-3810. For ticket information call 938-3800.



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Welcome to Washington, the Nation's Capital. Washington is a city of government buildings, museums, and people. Here the institutions of government work at fulfilling the ideals of the Founding Fathers. Here the many museums, large and small, contain treasures from all over the country and the world reflecting the kaleidoscopic

diversity and origins of America's people. And here, in this city that belongs to all Americans, more than 700,000 persons make their homes. With this brochure, the National Park Service hopes to acquaint you with these Washingtons and to wish you an enjoyable visit.

# Washington DC

**The Kennedy Center**  
New Hampshire Avenue at F Street, NW. The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is the culmination of an interest in a national cultural center dating back to George Washington. The center's facilities include the Eisenhower Theatre, the Opera House, the Concert Hall, the American Film Institute Theatre, and restaurants. Guided tours are given from 10 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. daily. Entrance ramps provide easy access for handicapped persons. 254-3850.



**Lincoln Memorial**  
Foot of 23rd Street, NW. In 1867, two years after Abraham Lincoln's death, Congress organized the Lincoln Memorial Association to plan a monument to his memory. Work finally started on February 12, 1914. Henry Bacon was the architect, and Daniel Chester French sculpted the great marble statue of Lincoln. Carved on the marble walls are Lincoln's Gettysburg and Second Inaugural Addresses. Interpretive services are from 8 a.m. to midnight daily; wheelchair ramps and an interior elevator are available for handicapped visitors. 426-6841.

**Arlington House and Arlington National Cemetery**  
Arlington, Virginia, via Memorial Bridge. This national cemetery, across the Potomac River from Washington, has received interments from all our wars and military conflicts. Prominent among the many memorials is the Tomb of Unknowns. The cemetery is also the burial place for two former Presidents, William H. Taft and John F. Kennedy. Arlington House, the home of Gen. Robert E. Lee, is inside the cemetery. The cemetery is open 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Arlington House is open 9:30 a.m. to 4:40 p.m. Guided tours are available. 557-0613.

## Other Downtown Attractions

**Botanic Gardens**, First Street and Maryland Avenue, SW; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Guided tours are available. 225-8333 or recorded message 225-7099.  
**Bureau of Engraving and Printing**, 14th and C Streets, SW; 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, closed holidays. Continuous tours are conducted. 447-9079.  
**Corcoran Gallery of Art**, 17th Street and New York Avenue, NW; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday. 638-3211.  
**Decatur House**, 748 Jackson Place, NW; 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday through Friday, noon to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, and holidays except December 25. For information call the Wilson House. 387-4062.  
**Federal Bureau of Investigation**, J. Edgar Hoover Building, 10th and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The last tour begins at 3:15;

tours last approximately one hour. Enter on E Street between 9th and 10th Streets. 324-3447.  
**Folger Shakespeare Library**, 210 East Capitol Street, SE; 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily; closed Sunday in winter and on holidays. 546-4800.  
**Frederick Douglass Home**, 14th and W Streets, SE, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 889-1736.  
**Museum of African Art**, 316 A Street, NE; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, noon to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. 547-6222.  
**National Archives**, Pennsylvania Avenue at 7th Street, NW; Main exhibit hall: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday. 632-3241.  
**Theodore Roosevelt Island**, George Washington Memorial Parkway north of Roosevelt Bridge; 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily.

**National Zoological Park**, 3000 Connecticut Avenue, NW; grounds open daily at 6 a.m., buildings open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily. For further information call 387-7400.  
**Renwick Gallery**, 17th and Pennsylvania, NW; 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily. 381-6264.  
**Rock Creek Park**, Klinge Road to D.C. line and west of 16th Street, NW; Nature Center (Glover Road near Military Road); 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday; Peirce Mill (Beach Drive and Tilden Street); 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. Rock Creek Nature Center 426-6829.  
**U.S. Department of State**, 2100 C Street, NW; reservations are necessary for tours at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. 632-3241.  
**Theodore Roosevelt Island**, George Washington Memorial Parkway north of Roosevelt Bridge; 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily. 557-8991.

**The White House**  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. The White House has been the official residence of every American President except George Washington, who selected the site for the mansion. The original design



was drawn up by James Hoban, an Irish-born architect. Burned by the British in 1814, the President's House was restored and painted white, thus giving it its name. The White House contains furnishings and

accessories collected throughout its history. Open for tours 10 a.m. to noon Tuesday through Saturday; 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Memorial Day to Labor Day. Closed for official functions; check Dial-A-Park, 426-6975.



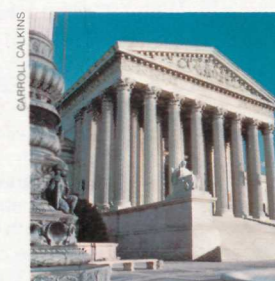
The Washington Monument Constitution Avenue at 15th Street, NW. In 1833, the Washington National Monument Society was organized "for the purpose of erecting a great National Memorial to Washington." Fifteen years later the cornerstone was laid. After many difficulties and delays, the building was opened to the public in 1888. An elevator, for which persons 16 years and older are charged

10 cents, takes visitors to the 152-meter (500-foot) level. Return is by elevator or down the 898 steps from which the 190 memorial stones imbedded in the interior wall can be seen. Open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily; 8 a.m. to midnight in spring and summer. Inclined pathways from the parking lot and 15th Street lead to the entrance and elevator. 426-6841.

**Ford's Theatre**  
511 10th Street, NW. **House Where Lincoln Died** 516 10th Street, NW. Restored Ford's Theatre—scene of the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln on April 14, 1865—is maintained as a "living" memorial to the Civil War. The museum in the basement depicts the various phases of Lincoln's life and has many interesting

objects owned by Lincoln, his family, and contemporaries. The theatrical presentations are held throughout the year. Check local newspapers for times. Tickets for plays are available at the box office; telephone 437-4833. The museum and house are open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The theatre closes at 2 p.m. Thursdays and Sundays. 426-6927.

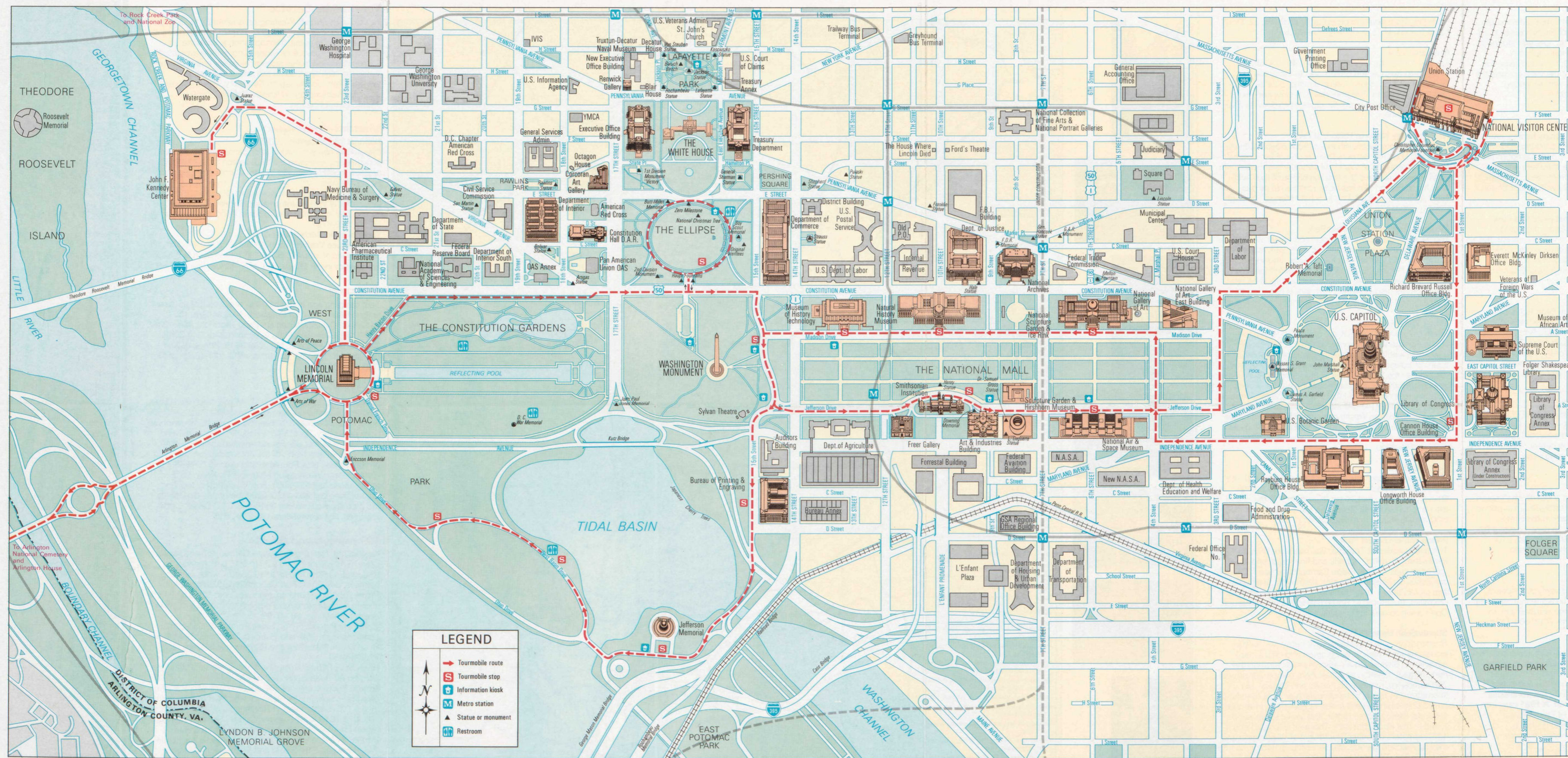
**National Visitor Center**  
Massachusetts Avenue, at First Street, NE. The best way to see Washington is to plan ahead. The attractions are many and varied and even an extended visit does not allow enough time to see everything. The primary source of information on the city and the place to begin your visit is at the National Visitor Center, housed in historic Union Station. The center contains the National Bookstore, a fast-food restaurant, and a gift shop with American handicrafts. Taxis, city buses, the Tourmobile, and the Metro subway all serve the National Visitor Center. Open 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily. 523-5300.



**U.S. Supreme Court**  
First Street and Maryland Avenue, NE. The highest tribunal in the land was established by Article III of the Constitution. Originally the Court was made up of the chief justice and five associate justices. Today the Court has nine members who annually hear arguments on some 170 cases out of almost 5,000 petitions. The nine justices are appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Court moved into its present building in 1935 when Charles Evans Hughes was chief justice. Interpretive services and tours are conducted from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Court is closed Saturday, Sunday, and holidays. Handicapped persons may call 252-3000 for arrangements.



**The U.S. Capitol**  
Capitol Hill. Through the halls of this magnificent structure have passed the leading figures in American history—the elected representatives of the people. Construction of the U.S. Capitol began in 1793. President John Adams addressed the first joint session of Congress in the Senate chamber on November 22, 1800, but the building was not finished until 1867. Since then numerous changes have been made to the building, the symbol of the Federal Government. The Capitol is open 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily but closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Tours start from the Rotunda every few minutes from 9 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Visitor passes to the House and Senate galleries may be obtained from your representative or senator. A level entrance on the east front under the main portico plus many interior ramps and elevators provide access for the handicapped. Wheelchairs may be borrowed. 225-6827.



**Thomas Jefferson Memorial**  
South Bank of Tidal Basin. Thomas Jefferson, besides being President of the United States, was also a gifted amateur architect, political thinker, and founder of the University of Virginia. This memorial, dedicated on April 13, 1943, the 200th anniversary of Jefferson's birth, was designed by the architectural firm of John Russell Pope in the simple classic style admired by Jefferson. Inside the memorial is a 6-meter (19-foot) bronze statue of Thomas Jefferson sculpted by Rudolph Evans. On the interior walls four excerpts



from Jefferson's writings are carved. Surrounding the memorial and the Tidal Basin are cherry trees that the city of Tokyo presented to the city of Washington in 1912. The trees burst into bloom in early- to mid-April, depending on the weather. Interpretive services are available from 8 a.m. to midnight all year. A wheelchair ramp and an interior elevator are provided for the handicapped. 426-6841.

**The Mall and Museums**  
The Capitol to the Washington Monument. Rows of stately elm mark the sweep of the greensward that preserves a key feature of Pierre Charles L'Enfant's plan for the capital city executed in 1791. Footpaths and bikeways, information and map kiosks, and refreshment stands make the mall an attractive place for outdoor activities. Buildings of major public interest border both sides. Here are found the Department of Agriculture building, the National Gallery of Art, and seven of the Smithsonian Institution museums: Freer Gal-

lery, Arts and Industries, Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Air and Space, History and Technology, Natural History and the central Smithsonian Institution building. Smithsonian: open 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily in winter, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. in summer. 381-6270. National Gallery: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, noon to 9 p.m. Sunday. Mall parking is limited; take Metro to Smithsonian Station. 737-4215.

**Library of Congress**  
10 First Street, SE. Bookshelves 547 kilometers (340 miles) long are needed to hold the items in the world's largest library. Established in 1800, the Library was burned by the British during the War of 1812 and was started again in 1815 with about 6,500 volumes from Thomas Jefferson's personal collection. Originally designed as a research aid to Congress, the Library's facilities were later opened to the public. Its exhibition halls contain some of the most treasured items of U.S. history and priceless examples

of early printing. Exhibit halls are open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday, and holidays from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Continuous free guided tours are conducted from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, Sunday, and holidays. Regular musical and literary programs are also part of the Library's services. A street-level entrance is located under the front stairs and there are elevators inside for the handicapped. Call 426-5458 for information on tours.