



“Norfolk & Virginia Beach” May 20-28, 2022

Dear Parks and Recreation Traveler:

We will once again try and run our *Norfolk & Virginia Beach* trip for the third time next spring. Due to this wacky world of COVID that we are now dealing with some minor changes in this itinerary were necessary under current conditions. Any open spots remaining on the trip will be released and open to the public for sign-up on Monday morning November 8, 2021 at 8:00am on a first come—first serve basis.

Join us as we make our first tour to the *Norfolk & Virginia Beach* area of Virginia. Our trip will include a tour of *Kesmarc Kentucky* in Versailles, KY as well as a visit to *Thomas Jefferson's Monticello* in Charlottesville, VA. We relax for three days on the pristine beaches of *Virginia Beach* located on the famed three-mile Boardwalk. We enjoy breathtaking views as we drive through beautiful *Shenandoah Valley*. And the last stop on our tour will be a visit to Greenville, OH and a guided factory tour of the longest running manufacturer of travel trailers—*Airstream!*

The first day of our trip is pretty much a travel day with an overnight stay in Winchester, KY. We will tour *Kesmarc Kentucky* and witness a pioneer in equine rehabilitation and a world leader in equine hyperbaric medicine before checking into our Hampton Inn for the evening. On Saturday we get to know the author of the Declaration of Independence, champion of religious freedom, 3rd president of the United States and founder of the University of Virginia as we visit Thomas Jefferson's—*Monticello!*

Sunday, we arrive in Norfolk, VA where a local certified Step-on-Guide will join us on the bus as we view the Freemason, Ghent and downtown neighborhoods of Norfolk. We will discover the rich history and local lore of Norfolk & Virginia Beach. We check into our hotel with a full oceanfront view located on the famed Boardwalk in Virginia Beach for a three-night stay.

On Monday we visit the *Military Aviation Museum* which owns the largest flying collection of WW1s and WW11 military aircraft in the USA, sixty-three to be exact! Also planned is a visit to the *Virginia Aquarium & Marine Science Center* to include a 90-minute excursion on the *Atlantic Explorer* in search of Virginia's most common and charismatic marine mammal—*The Bottlenose Dolphin!*

On day five of our trip a Navy personel Guide will join us on the bus as we enjoy a guided tour of *Naval Station Norfolk*, the largest Naval Base in the world. On our guided tour we will see aircraft carriers, destroyers, amphibious assault ships, and learn about the history of *Naval Station Norfolk*. We will also visit *Nauticus & Battleship Wisconsin* with views of its 16-inch guns. We complete our day with a 2-hour evening sunset cruise on the *American Rover*. The American Rover is a three-masted topsail schooner 135 feet in length and inspected by the Coast Guard to carry 129 passengers.

Wednesday, we head west and visit *Luray Caverns* located on the upper edge of the *Shenandoah Valley*. This U.S. Natural Landmark is the largest and most popular caverns in Eastern America. From well-lighted

paved walkways explore cathedral-sized rooms with ceilings 10 stories high, filled with towering stone columns and crystal-clear pools. And experience the haunting sounds of the world's only Stalacpipe Organ.

Thursday is pretty much a travel day with dinner at *The Chop House* in Dayton, OH and overnight for the next two nights at Holiday Inn Express & Suites in Greenville, OH.

Friday, we travel to Jackson Center, OH and enjoy a guided factory tour of the longest running manufacturer of travel trailers—*Airstream!* In the afternoon we visit *The Garst House Museum*, a historical museum with roots in the American experience. It houses over 300,000 artifacts on display in 35,000 square feet of exhibition space within six major and two minor venues.

Featured in the *Garst House Museum* are *The National Annie Oakley Center* and the foremost collection dedicated to the life of Annie Oakley. Other major exhibits include *The Treaty of Greenville* and "*Mad*" *Anthony Wayne*, military collection, period American furnishings, county history and agricultural artifacts.

The tour also includes 7 dinners, 1 Lunch, Sunset Cruise, attractions, admissions, lodging, all gratuities, escort & deluxe motor coach transportation. As always, this itinerary is subject to change without advance notice.

Our coach will have full time Wi-Fi during the duration of our trip.

Participants should be aware that this trip will include moderate to heavy walking. Travelers will be negotiating steps/stairs on & off and up & down at various sites and motor coach during portions of the trip.

Participants will be restricted to one piece of checked luggage and one carryon bag to be carried inside the motorcoach. One piece of checked luggage and one carryon bag will be allowed on the motor coach. Luggage tags & final itinerary will be provided to you closer to the actual departure date of the trip.

Participants who register must also complete a consent waiver form which will detail emergency contacts and any current and pertinent medical or medicinal information. This form will be sent at a later date.

It will be the responsibility of the traveler to be punctual when the itinerary states a departure or group meeting time. In order to meet our itinerary commitments and to be fair to our fellow travelers, we will not hold the bus because someone is late. It will be the responsibility of the traveler to rejoin the group.

Fee Schedule:

The cost of this wonderful trip will be **\$1985** per person (double occupancy). The single traveler cost will be **\$2620** (Includes a single traveler supplement of **\$635** per single traveler). The Triple traveler cost will be **\$1775** per person (triple occupancy). This price is all inclusive and includes all gratuities. We are asking you to pay in increments due to the cost of this trip. You can make payments as often as you like, but we will need a minimum amount paid as follows:

Payment Schedule:

Immediately: \$50 per person deposit (non-refundable). All refunds will be subject to a \$50 refund fee.
Friday, January 7, 2022: a minimum of an additional **\$600** must be paid.

Friday, March 25, 2022: remaining balance of the trip must be paid in full.

Friday, March 25, 2022: After this date no refunds of any kind will be given for cancellations due to our commitment to the various vendors involved with this trip (see the information on travel insurance, highly recommended).

This trip will close out for registration on Friday, March 25, 2022

TRAVEL INSURANCE: Many of you have inquired about travel insurance for our extended trips. Travel insurance is a method for providing you a means to recoup your cost should you have to cancel at the last minute or become sick on a trip. We do not endorse any particular product, but after searching the internet we came up with a couple of sources for travel insurance.

Travel Guard International, 1-800-826-4919 or www.travelguard.com Several of our travelers have used this provider.

Or compare several plans at once at www.InsureMyTrip.com or www.quotetravelinsurance.com With either service you can purchase on line or over the phone. Please make sure you understand what you are purchasing. Buying the travel insurance is totally up to you and making any claim with the carrier is the total responsibility of the person purchasing the insurance.

If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to call 636-949-3372 or John's direct line at 636-949-3580.

This trip is now open for registration and will be conducted on a FIRST COME-FIRST SERVE basis

Thank you for considering traveling with us.
Sincerely,

John Pike
Trip Planner