

BULBS, BLOOMS & BLOSSOMS – Garden Themed

Williamsburg, Virginia
Suggested Group Itinerary

Provided by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation.

www.jyfmuseums.org

Experience hands-on history at Jamestown Settlement and the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, conveniently located within 20 minutes of each other in the heart of our nation's beginnings. Explore the stories of America's earliest adventures from the first permanent English settlement to the last great victory of the Revolution at these two living-history museums where real history is real fun.

Take an active role and make your own memorable moments in history. Set sail to the past aboard a re-creation of the ships colonists' sailed to Virginia and aim to have fun alongside an artillery crew for a Continental Army cannon firing. Discover firsthand why our country's history isn't just important – it's unforgettable at Jamestown Settlement and the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown!

DAY ONE

2:00-5:00 pm Guided Tour of Jamestown Settlement—Enjoy the Flora and Fauna

Beauty meets function in fields and gardens at Jamestown Settlement, a living-history museum that includes agriculture in the story of the nation's beginnings. Varieties of field crops and herbs and vegetables grown in the 17th and 18th centuries are cultivated at Jamestown Settlement's re-created Paspahegh town.

Corn, a food staple of the Powhatan Indians that English colonists adapted to their diet, is planted in early spring at the Paspahegh town and James fort. At Jamestown Settlement, beans and squash are later planted around the emerging corn stalks. Tobacco, Virginia's premier cash crop during the colonial period, is grown at both museums, with seedlings planted in mid-spring. Cotton and flax – crops used in making cloth – are grown at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, and grain is planted at both museums.

5:30 pm Check into your Williamsburg accommodations

7:00 pm Dinner

You can choose from a wide selection of Williamsburg area restaurants to match anyone's palatial tastes or budgets! Visit www.GroupToursWilliamsburg.com for additional information on Williamsburg area dining for group tours.

8:30 pm Return to your Williamsburg accommodations

DAY TWO

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8:00 am Breakfast at your Williamsburg accommodations

9:15 am Depart for Colonial Williamsburg

9:30-11:45 am Guided tour of Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area

Spring makes everything new. Even in the past. The renewals of spring parallels the reawakening of our Historic Area after winter's dormancy. Crocuses and daffodils are some of the first blossoms to spring forth with the warmth of the sun. Our gar-dens, large and small, grand and simple, burst with color and fragrance. Through the eyes of a garden guide, discover the design influences and variety of plants in our gardens. Enjoy a guided garden tour in the Historic Area and discover interesting facts about several native and uncommon trees. Afterward, sit back and relax as a member of the horticultural staff shares the stories behind the plants or maintenance of these renowned gardens. *(Available Wednesdays, April through June).*

12:00-3:00 pm Lunch and free time in the Historic Area

Free time to explore the Historic Area on your own or shop at Merchants Square. Located adjacent to Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area, Merchants Square is an 18th-century style retail village with more than 40 shops and restaurants. The shops at Merchants Square offer everything from traditional and designer clothing to handmade candies, antique quilts, garden art, folk art and a variety of exclusive Williamsburg reproductions. The restaurants on Merchants Square offer choices from a quick sandwich to the freshest seafood, steaks or contemporary American regional cooking.

3:00 pm Return to accommodations before Dinner

5:30pm Dinner

7:15pm Optional shopping or return to your Williamsburg accommodations

Optional shopping available at New Town, Premium Outlets, Williamsburg Outlet Mall or Yankee Candle. For complete information on area shopping opportunities, please refer to our web-site.

DAY THREE

8:00 am Breakfast at your Williamsburg accommodations

8:45 am Depart for Norfolk

10:00am-12:00pm Visit the Norfolk Botanical Garden

A 155-acre garden filled with thousands of plants and more than thirty themed gardens. Some gardens focus on a single plant while others look at a plant from a specific region.

12:00-1:00pm Lunch on your own at the Botanical Garden

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1:00 pm Depart for Yorktown

1:45-3:45 pm Guided tour of the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown

Beauty meets function in fields and gardens at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, living-history museum that includes agriculture in the story of the nation's beginnings. Varieties of field crops and herbs and vegetables grown in the 17th and 18th centuries are cultivated at the re-created 1780s farm. Visitors may be invited by historical interpreters to help with turning earth, watering and weeding.

At the Revolution-era farm, peanuts, collards, cow-peas, okra, peppers and gourds are grown in a small garden representing foods a slave might have cultivated for personal use or to sell at market.

4:00—6:00 pm Sunset Cruise aboard the Schooner *Alliance*

Named for the French and American Alliance that was instrumental in winning the war of Independence in 1781, the *Alliance* sails the majestic York River and Chesapeake Bay. Captains and owners, Greg and Laura Lohse, have been sailing tall ships together since 1988. Their chief desire on every cruise is to help each guest feel welcome and relaxed. Their vast experience in teaching tall ship seamanship and navigation enables them to provide a rich learning adventure to all guests who wish to participate in the operation of their craft.

6:30 pm Dinner in Historic Yorktown

8:30 pm Return to your Williamsburg accommodations

DAY FOUR

7:30 am Breakfast at your Williamsburg accommodations

8:30 am Depart for Charles City County

9:30-11:30 am Visit Berkeley Plantation

Berkeley is Virginia's most historic plantation. Five terraced gardens leading from the house to the James River were dug by hand before the Revolutionary War. Flowers bloom Spring through Fall and many hundred-year old trees grace the restored boxwood garden offering breathtaking vistas of the James River. On December 4, 1619, early settlers from England came ashore at Berkeley Plantation and observed the first official Thanksgiving in America. See the birthplace of Benjamin Harrison, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and President William Henry Harrison, "Old Tippecanoe." "Taps" was composed at Berkeley when General McClellan headquartered 140,000 Union troops in 1862.

11:30 am Depart for Williamsburg

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12:30—Until Visit Busch Gardens and Enjoy a Behind-the-Scenes Garden Tour

Today at Busch Gardens, you'll learn a little about the 120+ varieties of plants that reside in the park and how these plants provide the basic needs for the insects and wildlife at Busch Gardens. You'll also learn how you can help in the conservation efforts of our planet by creating your own certified wildlife habitat garden.

Times Flexible Return to your Williamsburg accommodations

DAY FIVE

7:00 am Breakfast at your Williamsburg accommodations – check out and load luggage

8:00 am Depart for Richmond

9:15-11:30 am Visit Tuckahoe Plantation, Thomas Jefferson's Boyhood Home

Situated on the James River, just seven miles west of Richmond, this extraordinary colonial plantation is considered one of the most complete existing 18th century plantation layouts in North America. Originally settled by the Randolph family in the early 18th-century, a numerous and influential family, the Randolph's helped shape the early politics of the colony and the nation. Tuckahoe is the only early Randolph home still standing on its original site. From 1745 until 1752, Tuckahoe was the boyhood home of America's third president and founding father, Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson began his studies as a young boy in the one-room schoolhouse that still stands today. Tuckahoe is truly a horticultural treasure. The gardens never quite go to sleep as there is something blooming nearly year-round.

11:30 am Depart for Maymont Park

12:00-3:00pm Visit Maymont Park & Mansion (lunch on own at Maymont)

Maymont was the 100-acre Victorian country estate of James Henry and Sallie May Dooley. In 1886, the Dooleys first viewed and purchased the rough pasture and field that would become Maymont. At the age of 40, with no children and the resources of her husband's prosperity at her disposal, Sallie Dooley led the effort to transform the landscape into a showplace that would rival the lavish estates that were springing up throughout the country. The Romanesque-style mansion was completed in 1893 and the Dooley's spent the next three decades filling its sumptuous interiors with treasures from around the world and establishing Maymont's magnificent gardens, landscapes and architectural complex.

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3:00 pm Depart for Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

3:15-5:00 pm Visit the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden blooms year-round and includes more than 40 acres of spectacular plants and a 63-foot-tall domed conservatory housing orchids, exotic plants and changing displays.

5:00 pm Depart for return home with a dinner stop en route