LOCAL ATTRACTIONS

Located on the banks of the Potomac River and minutes away from the Nation’s capital, Alexandria, Virginia is a place rich in history. With its 18th and 19th century architecture and famous homes like Mount Vernon, the city offers visitors a step back in time. Visitors can experience this historic city with a variety of activities ranging from shopping and dining in historic Old Town to visiting museums or engaging in the city’s vibrant arts and culture scene.

For further information, contact the Alexandria Visitors Center, 221 King Street, Alexandria at 703-746-3301, www.visitalexandriava.com/planning-tools/visitors.

OLD TOWN

Located 1.5 miles away from the Westin Alexandria Hotel, historic Old Town offers visitors the opportunity to stroll on cobblestone streets, browse quaint shops, and dine in cafes, restaurants, and taverns. The Westin offers a complimentary shuttle to the area on a first-come, first-served basis from 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. For more information, visit www.visitalexandriava.com/about-alexandria/old-town-alexandria.

CONCERTS AND MUSIC

The Birchmere Music Hall

The Legendary Birchmere Music Hall is a world-famous concert venue known for a nightly line-up of classic as well as up-and-coming jazz, country, R&B, folk and bluegrass artists in an intimate, relaxed setting. With a legendary reputation in the music industry, this Alexandria venue has hosted top acts. The Birchmere has also played an important role in the discovery of new artists. To attract the top performers and audiences, the Birchmere sets an intimate tone by keeping the audience close—nestled just two feet away from the stage, delighting in traditional American cuisine. No seat in the 500-seat music hall is a bad one—or very far from the performers, while the venue’s second stage, the Bandstand, provides standing-room only concerts perfect for dancing to every beat in its 1,000-person space. The Birchmere is located at 3701 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria. For more information, call 703-549-7500 or visit http://www.birchmere.com.

- **Billy Bragg and Joe Henry: Shine A Light Tour.** Legendary singer-songwriters Billy Bragg and Joe Henry are on a tour for their collaborative new album Shine a Light. Recorded during a 65 hour train ride across America, the record digs into the country’s rich locomotive and folk music history. Throughout the set Bragg told stories of their rail trip, which began in Chicago, wound its way through the Midwest and Texas and ended in Los Angeles. Performance on September 27 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $59.50.

- **Luna with Britta Phillips.** Luna is a dream pop/indie pop band formed in 1991 by singer/guitarist Dean Wareham after the breakup of Galaxie 500. Described by Rolling Stone as “the best band you’ve never heard of,” Luna combines intricate guitar work, traditional rock rhythms and poetic lyric. Performance on September 29 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are $35.
MEMORIALS

George Washington Masonic National Memorial
This magnificent structure consists of a research center and library, community center, performing arts center and concert hall, and banquet and event facilities, and serves as a meeting site for Masonic lodges and organizations. The memorial also features exhibits and an observation deck. The memorial is open daily from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and is located at 101 Callahan Street, Alexandria. General admission is $7. Admission with a guided tour is $10. For more information, call 703-683-2007 or visit www.gwmemorial.org/index.php.

Mount Vernon
An American landmark that pays tribute to George Washington, Mount Vernon consists of Washington’s estate, beautiful gardens and grounds, and an education center. Mount Vernon is open daily from 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and is located 8 miles south of Alexandria at 3200 Mount Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon, Virginia. Admission is $17. For more information, call 703-780-2000 or visit www.mountvernon.org. If without a car, it is possible to travel from Old Town Alexandria to Mount Vernon by boat: www.spiritcruises.com/washington-dc/cruises/mount-vernon.

Carlyle House Historic Park
Carlyle House stands as a reminder of Alexandria’s prosperity and growth. John Carlyle, one of the founders and first landowners in Alexandria, and his first wife Sarah Fairfax moved into the home in 1753. Carlyle House interprets the lifestyle of an 18th century Virginia family and its servants and slaves. The house is open from 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Tuesday–Saturday and from 12 noon – 4:00 p.m. on Sundays and is located at 121 North Fairfax Street. Tours are given on the hour and on the half hour. Admission fees vary by age. For more information, call 703-549-2997 or visit https://www.nvrpa.org/park/carlyle_house_historic_park/content/tour_information.

Alexandria African-American Heritage Park
On June 17, 1995, the Norfolk Southern Corporation presented the Alexandria African American Heritage Park to the City of Alexandria. The 7.6 acre park is part of a mixed-use Carlyle Development and a satellite site for the Alexandria Black History Museum. The park was designed by nationally-recognized landscape architectural firm EDAW, with memorial sculptures by Washington, D.C. sculptor Jerome Meadows. The park hours are from dawn until dusk, and the park is located on Holland Lane between Duke Street and Eisenhower Avenue, Alexandria. Admission: Free. For more information, call 703-549-2997 or visit http://alexandriava.gov/historic/blackhistory/default.aspx?id=37348.

Alexandria Black History Museum
The Alexandria Black History Museum follows its mission of preserving the history of Alexandria’s African-American citizens, as well as providing a forum for issues of concern to all African-Americans. The Museum has become a source of pride to Alexandria’s African-American citizens. With two exhibition galleries on the first floor of the museum and artifact storage and offices below, the Alexandria Black History Museum continues to expand educational opportunities for residents, scholars, and tourists. The museum is open Tuesday – Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and is located at 902 Wythe Street in Alexandria. Admission is $2. For more information, call 703-746-4356 or visit http://alexandriava.gov/BlackHistory.
MOVIES

AMC Hoffman Center 22
Attendees can take the Westin Alexandria Hotel’s complimentary shuttle to the movie theater, which is located about a half-mile from the hotel. The shuttle is offered on a first-come, first-serve basis from 7:00 a.m. – 10:00 p.m. The movie theater is located at Hoffman Town Center, 206 Swamp Fox Road, Alexandria. For show times and more information, call 703-236-1083 or visit https://www.amctheatres.com/movie-theatres/washington-d-c/amc-hoffman-center-22.

MUSEUMS

Torpedo Factory Art Center
Located on the waterfront in Old Town, this Alexandria landmark is home to the largest collection of publicly accessible working artists’ studios in the United States. The art center features 82 working artists’ studios, seven galleries, two workshops, a café, and a gift shop. The art center is open daily from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. and until 9:00 p.m. on Thursday and is located at 105 North Union Street. Admission is free. For more information, call 703-838-4565 or visit http://torpedofactory.org.

Alexandria Archaeology Museum at the Torpedo Factory Art Center
Visitors to the Alexandria Archaeology Museum can learn how the city’s archaeologists, volunteers, and students work with residents and developers to manage the archaeological resources that are important to the community’s past. The museum’s main exhibit, Archaeologists at Work: The Lee Street Site, highlights one city block. Other exhibits feature the Civil War era and various sites and finds in Alexandria. The museum is open from 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Sundays and from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Tuesday – Friday and is located at 105 North Union Street, #327. Admission is free. For more information, visit www.alexandriava.gov/Archaeology.

Freedom House Museum
This small, not-too-well-known museum was originally the headquarters of a major slave trade business that housed slaves and was later preserved and converted into a museum. In the stunning true story told in the major motion picture 12 Years a Slave, free Black man Solomon Northup was kidnapped and sold into slavery, where he subsequently spent an agonizing twelve years in captivity. James Burch (Birch), the D.C.-based slave dealer responsible for selling the real Northup into slavery, became one of the last owners of one of the largest slave trading companies in the country from 1859 to 1861. The company exported over 3,750 slaves to the new cotton and sugar plantations of the Deep South. Today the building, owned by the Northern Virginia Urban League, is home to the Freedom House Museum. Self-guided and guided tours are available. The museum is open from 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday to Friday and is located at 1315 Duke Street, Alexandria. Admission: Free, donations accepted. For more information, call 703-836-2858 or visit http://www.nvul.org/#!freedom-house-museum/c79w.

SHOPPING

Fashion Centre at Pentagon City
Meeting participants can travel to the mall by taking the Westin Alexandria Hotel’s complimentary shuttle to the King Street Metro Station. Board a yellow or blue line train and exit at the Pentagon City Metro Station. The mall is located within a short walking distance of the metro station at 1100 South Hayes Street, Arlington. To learn more, visit www.simon.com/mall/fashion-centre-at-pentagon-city.

Landmark Mall
This mall is approximately a 20-minute taxi cab ride from the Westin Alexandria, located at 5801 Duke Street, Alexandria. For more information, visit www.landmarkmall.com.
National Harbor
National Harbor is a waterfront area with more than 150 diverse shops and boutiques and over 30 dining locations. It is located on the Potomac River at 165 Waterfront Street, National Harbor, Maryland. For further information, call 877-NATLHBR or visit www.nationalharbor.com.

Potomac Riverboat Boat Cruises runs water taxis available daily leaving from the Alexandria City Marina, located at 105 North Union Street, Alexandria, which is behind the Torpedo Factory Art Center. The Potomac Riverboat Company offers 25-minute water taxis between Old Town Alexandria and the Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center and the National Harbor.

TICKETS: $16 round-trip, $8 one-way. For trips on Monday – Thursday, receive a $2 discount when booking online in advance. For further information, call 877-511-2628 or visit www.potomacriverboatco.com.

SPORTS

Baseball
The area’s local baseball team, the Washington Nationals, will play ball with the Arizona Diamondbacks at 7:05 p.m. on Monday, September 26, Tuesday, September 27, and Wednesday, September 28 at Washington Nationals Park, 1500 South Capitol Street, SE, Washington, D.C. 20003.

The Nationals Stadium is Metro accessible (Navy Yard-Ballpark) take yellow to green line.

Tickets range from $10 – $42. To purchase tickets and obtain more information, call 202-675-NATS (6287) or visit www.nationals.com.

Boat Tours
Potomac Riverboat Boat Cruises runs narrated sightseeing tours of the Washington monuments available Tuesday – Sunday leaving from the Alexandria City Marina, located at 105 North Union Street, Alexandria, which is behind the Torpedo Factory Art Center. The tours are 45 minutes in each direction from Alexandria to Georgetown. TICKETS: $28 round-trip, $15 one-way. For trips on Monday – Thursday, receive a $2 discount when booking online in advance. For further information, visit www.potomacriverboatco.com.

THEATER

John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts
The Kennedy Center is the nation's busiest performing arts center, hosting approximately 3,000 events annually for audiences of more than 2 million. Since 1971, the Kennedy Center has been providing Washington with magnificent performances of music, dance, theater, and more. The Center is located at 2700 F Street, NW, Washington, D.C.

For more information, call 202-467-4600 or visit http://www.kennedy-center.org).
John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts
Ticketed Performances:
To view show times and purchase tickets for any Kennedy Center performances, call 202-467-4600 or visit www.kennedy-center.org.

- **Washington National Opera: The Marriage of Figaro.** The barber of Seville is getting hitched—and it's a day of madness in the palace! Mozart's comic masterpiece comes to life through enchanting music and absurd mix-ups in a charming exploration of the perils of temptation and the triumph of love. Performances from Sept 22 until October 2. Tickets range from $25.00 to $315.

- **Shear Madness.** Set in present-day Georgetown, Shear Madness engages locals and visitors alike as armchair detectives to help solve the scissor-stabbing murder of a famed concert pianist who lives above the Shear Madness unisex hairstyling salon. The show combines up-to-the-minute improvisational humor and a mixture of audience sleuthing to deliver a unique performance. Performances run until October 2. Tickets cost $50.

- **National Symphony Orchestra: Shakespeare at the Symphony: From Tchaikovsky to Elgar.** In his NSO debut, Edward Gardner conducts three works inspired by the literary legacy of Shakespeare: Elgar's Falstaff, Walton's Suite from Henry V, and Tchaikovsky's Romeo and Juliet. Performances will take place from September 29 until October 1. Tickets range from $15 to $89.

Millennium Stage — Free Admission:
Every day of the year at 6 p.m., the Kennedy Center hosts a free performance at its Millennium Stage as part of its "Performing Arts for Everyone" program. While no tickets are required, seating is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. The Millennium Stage features local, national, and international talents and has been described as "a cultural institution within a cultural institution" by the Washington Post.

- **Jan Knutson.** Strathmore Artist-in-Residence: Drawing from the rich legacy of jazz guitar greats, Jan Knutson’s music is a unique blend of virtuosity, lyricism, and vitality. Knutson will be joined by fellow guitarist Steve Abshire for a concert of classic standards and originals, including tunes from Jan’s latest album, Looking Both Ways. Performance on September 26 at 6:00 p.m.

- **YoungArts Awareness Day.** In observance of YoungArts Awareness Day, four young artists will sprint through the founding of our nation to the present day in A Very Brief History of the United States. Travel from the Revolutionary War to the birth of jazz, and from the Civil Rights Movement to modern politics in this celebration of improvisation, creativity, and collaboration. Performance on September 27 at 6:00 p.m.

- **Jagwa Music.** From the streets of Dares Salaam, Tanzania, Jagwa Music brings on a high-powered celebration with the interlocking rumble of drums, hacked mini Casio keyboards, and hotwired megaphones grounding spitfire vocals. Jagwa Music is touring the U.S. as part of Center Stage, a program of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the New England Foundation for the Arts. Performance on Sept 28 at 6:00 p.m.

- **Local Dance Commissioning Project: Sarah Beth Oppenheim.** Local Dance Commissioning Project Awardee Sarah Beth Oppenheim and her company Heart Stück Bernie present a dance performance commissioned by the Kennedy Center that draws inspiration from significant events in John F. Kennedy’s presidency, including the Commission on the Status of Women, Civil Rights, and the tumultuous social climate, the excitement and science of the race to the moon, and President Kennedy’s July 1963 request to Congress to abolish the quota system of immigration. Performance on September 29 at 6:00 p.m.