

Washington, D.C.

Visitors Guide



Produced by the office of Bill Shuster, Member of Congress

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Traveling DC

Getting around Washington can be challenging. Luckily, there are a number of efficient ways to traverse the town.

Metro

The Metro system is an easy, affordable way to get around DC and its surrounding areas. There are five different lines running, and each line has trains going in both directions. The lines are color coordinated; Blue, Orange, Red, Green and Yellow.

How do I find Metro Stations?

Stations are identified by tall brown columns with a large “M” that denote the station entrance. The colors strips directly below the “M” show the lines that serve the station. Signs inside of the station will direct you to the train platform you are looking for, with a list of its stops as a guide.



Metro Map: <http://www.wmata.com/metrorail/systemmap.cfm>

When do these trains run?

The metro starts running at 5 a.m. on weekdays and 7 a.m. on weekends. The trains stop running at midnight Sunday-Thursday and 3 a.m. on Friday and Saturday nights.

How much does the Metro Cost?

The metro uses a fare card system. You can purchase these cards at kiosks inside of the stations. Go to the link below and choose your beginning and destinations to find your fare data.

Metro Fare Site: <http://www.wmata.com/metrorail/stations.cfm>

Throughout this pamphlet, the closest metro station to each site will be noted.



Buses

Buses are another easy way to get around Washington DC. There are buses running throughout the day, with stops near every major site. Like metro, the lines are color coordinated to help riders figure out what line will get them where they want to go. There are signs at each stop. Below is a link to the bus line map.

Bus Map: <http://www.wmata.com/metrobus/maps/dc.pdf>

How much does it cost to ride the bus?

Buses operate on a flat based fee:

Regular Fares:	\$1.25
Express Fares:	\$3.00
Seniors/Disables	\$.60

If you plan on riding multiple times throughout the day, you can purchase all-day fare cards for \$ 3.00.

How often do buses come by?

Most buses run everyday, however some only operate on the weekdays. The frequency of the buses may go down during morning and evening rush hours. Please plan any trips on the buses according to the severity of traffic.

The buses are a good alternative to the metro, particularly if your desired trip is short. Buses are cheap and easy to navigate.

Taxi

You will be able to hail a taxi on many of the busy streets of Washington. Washington DC operates on a 'zone system' for taxi cabs, so depending on how far you are traveling, there will be a set price for your ride. There are numerous Cab Companies in Washington. For a complete list, see the site below. The phone number for DC Cab, one of Washington's more popular cab services, is (202) 269-0990.

Complete List of Cab Services: <http://www.commuterpage.com/taxi.htm#DC>



Sightseeing in DC

Washington, D.C. has so many sites to offer that it can be difficult to decide where to spend your vacation time. The following section will list some of the most impressive sites DC has to offer.



Washington Monument - As perhaps the most recognizable monument in America, the Washington Monument towers above the city. Tours are available that offer views from the top of this mammoth structure. No other monument depicts the independence and power of American like the Washington Monument.

Location: 15th Street, Southwest

Admission: Free on first come, first serve basis. Distribution begins at 8:30 a.m. and continues until tickets for the day are gone.

Hours of Operation: April - September 9 a.m.-4:45 p.m.

Closest Metro Station: Smithsonian

Website: <http://www.nps.gov/archive/wamo/home.htm>

Smithsonian Museums

As one of the largest museum chains in the world the Smithsonian is the premier educational, historical, artistic and cultural organization for the American people.



Air and Space-This branch of the Smithsonian is dedicated to the study of space and flight. Regular exhibits include: The Wright Brothers & The Invention of the Aerial Age, World War II and Commercial Aviation, and Human Spaceflight.

Location: Independence Avenue at 4th Street, SW

Admission: Free

Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Tours: Student and regular tours available, reservations can be made at (202) 633-2563.

Closest Metro Station: Smithsonian

Website: <http://www.nasm.si.edu/>



Natural History- From dinosaurs and fossils to deepwater dwellers and mythic beasts, the Museum of Natural History is the nation's center for biodiversity and research.

Location: Intersection of 10th Street and Constitution Avenue, Northwest

Admission: Free

Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

Tours: Family Tours available every Tuesday through Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. School tours also available, call (202)633-1000

Closest Metro Station: Smithsonian

Website: <http://www.mnh.si.edu/about.html>



NMAI in Washington, DC

American Indian Museum -The DC branch of the American Indian Museum contains fine collections of artifacts and displays that give voice to the Native American culture.

Location: 4th Street and Independence Avenue, SW

Admission: Free

Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Thursday 10 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Tours: Tours are given at 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, and at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays.

During the summer, the tours begin at 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. on Mondays, and at 11 a.m., 1:30 p.m., and 3 p.m. on Tuesday through Sunday.

Closest Metro Station: L'Enfant Plaza

Website: <http://www.nmai.si.edu/>



Arlington National Cemetery - Among those laid to rest here are veterans from the American Revolution to the Iraq Wars, famous Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and the Kennedy Grave Site.

Location: Arlington, VA

Admission: Free

Hours of Operation: 8 a.m. – 7 p.m. April 1st – Sept. 30th; 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. rest of the year

Parking: Ample parking with access from Memorial Drive (\$1.25 first 3 hours; 2.00 per additional hour)

Closest Metro Stop: Arlington National Cemetery Metro Stop

Website: <http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org/>



The Kennedy Center - The John F. Kennedy Center, open to the public since 1971, is the heart of DC's performing arts.

Location: New Hampshire Avenue

Tickets: Purchase by phone or at the box office (202) 467-4600

Tours: Free tours are given by the friends of the Kennedy Center from 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday and Sunday.

Closest Metro Station: Foggy Bottom, George Washington University Station (short walk down New Hampshire Avenue)

Website: <http://www.kennedy-center.org/>



Ford's Theatre - Closed for 103 years after being the site of President Lincoln's assassination, the reopened theater now serves as a living tribute to President Lincoln's love of the performing arts.

Closest Metro Station: Metro Center (Take 11th Street exit)

Tickets: Through Ticket Master, the box office, or the group sales line. (202) 638-2367 or (800) 899-2367

Hours of Operation: Box Office Open Monday-Friday 10-6.



International Spy Museum - The International Spy Museum is the first and only public museum in the United States solely dedicated to espionage.

Location: 800 First Street Northwest

Tickets: Adults- \$16 Children- \$13 Children under 5- Free

-Tickets given on an hour time slot basis. It is highly suggested that tickets are purchased a few days in advance.

Tours: Spy City Tour is available each Saturday at 2 p.m. Cost for tickets is \$79. Tours are 2 hours in length.

Closest Metro Station: Gallery Place/ Chinatown

Website: <http://www.spymuseum.org/plan/index.php>



National Art Gallery - Home to hundreds of the nation's treasured pieces of art, the National Art Gallery is a spectacular destination for the entire family.

Location: On National Mall between 3rd and 7th Streets on Constitution Avenue Northwest.

Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday; 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday

Admission: Free

Tours: The Gallery hosts tours based on one's particular area of interest. For a complete list of tours and times, see the following site:

<http://www.nga.gov/programs/tours.shtm#introtours>

Closest Metro Station: Judiciary Square on the Red Line; Archives on the Yellow and Green; Smithsonian on the Blue and Orange Lines.

Website: <http://www.nga.gov/>



Holocaust Museum - The Holocaust Museum is an important site that will stay with you after you leave. The sites and sounds depict the struggles of humanity during World War II. Some depictions may be too strong for younger audiences.

Location: 100 Raoul Walenberg Place, SW

Hours of Operation: 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Admission: Free, Time tickets required to get into

permanent exhibit

Tours: Daily offerings are subject to change, visit the website for guide information.

Closest Metro Station: Smithsonian; One block away

Website: <http://www.ushmm.org/>



National Mall (Vietnam Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Memorial, FDR Memorial) - The Mall plays host to some of America's most treasured monuments that pay homage to our Nation's heroes. The memorials are staggered throughout the walk among the trees and flowers around the park.

Hours of Operation: Public can visit 24 hours, rangers available from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.

Closest Metro Station: Smithsonian Metro Station

Website: <http://www.nps.gov/nama/index.html>



Mt. Vernon – The home of George Washington, our nation’s first president, is located just outside of Washington, D.C. The home’s beautiful architecture and pristine surroundings add a feeling of tranquility to this gorgeous site.

Location: 16 miles South of Washington, DC

Hours: April – August: 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

March – October: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

November – February: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Admission: Adults – \$13; Senior Citizens – \$12; Youth 6-11 – \$6

Tours: Audio and guided tours offered. For further information, visit the web site below or call (703) 799-8688. Prepare to spend at least a few hours.

Closest Metro Station: Huntington Station to connect bus to Mt. Vernon

Website: <http://www.mountvernon.org/>



Supreme Court – The Supreme Court building’s awe-inspiring architecture both inside and out fits perfectly into the capitol experience. Tours are available when the Court is not in session, so plan your trip accordingly.

Location: First Street

Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through

Friday

Tours: Lectures are available in the court from 9:30 – 3:30 when court is not sitting Monday through Friday every half hour.

Closest Metro Station: Capitol South is the closest, but the buildings are also accessible from Union Station.

Website: <http://www.supremecourtus.gov/visiting/visiting.html>



Cherry Blossoms – This beautiful festival takes place March 31st – April 15th. People from around the world come to Washington to enjoy the bloom of these gorgeous flowers. See the National Mall information for location details.



National WWII Museum - The World War II Memorial honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the U.S., the more than 400,000 who died, and all who supported the war effort from home. Symbolic of the defining event of the 20th Century, the memorial is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice, and commitment of the American people.

Hours of Operation: Always Open

Admission: free

Closest Metro Station: Smithsonian

Website: <http://www.wwiimemorial.com/>

**These Tours can be set up through Congressman Shuster's Office
(Please Call: 202-225-2431)**



Capitol Tours -We are able to accommodate groups as large as 30. The tours are free and can be scheduled any time between 9 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. It is strongly suggested that you get these tours set up at least one week in advance to ensure that your time slot and date are open.

Tours typically last ninety minutes. For larger tours, please contact the Capitol Guide Service at 202-225-6827 or visit www.aoc.gov



Treasury Tours -The tours will focus on the history of the Treasury and the architectural history of the building, highlighting restored spaces.

Tours are offered Saturday mornings at 9:00, 9:45, 10:30, and 11:15. Approximate length is sixty minutes. Required information from each visitor: Name, Date of Birth, and social security number for each visitor. Photo ID is necessary to gain admittance into the building before tour.



Pentagon Tours - Tours for groups will be offered Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. All requests for tours must be submitted two weeks prior to the tour date. Requests must include the following information:

1. Name of school/institution
2. Address
3. Point of Contact
4. Tour Date and time requested
5. Number of students/adults on tour
6. Roster of visitors including names, dates of birth, city/state of birth, and social security numbers. Tours are approved on first come, first serve basis.



White House Tours - Rich in history, tradition, and patriotic symbolism the White House is famous for its ornately decorated rooms and gardens.

Hours of Operation: 7:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday.

Tours: Self-led tours. The tour only takes about forty-five minutes. White House Tours are scheduled through your congressman and can be scheduled up to six months in advance. The White House requires at least one month's notice for a tour. It is important that you reserve your tour time early as they are given out on a first come, first serve basis. Tours may be subject to cancellation at any time. For more information call (202)456-7041.

Tickets: Free

Closest Metro Station: Federal Triangle

Website: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/history/tours/>



Bureau of Engraving and Printing - These tours can also be arranged through Congressman Shuster's office. Call the Congressman's office for further details at (202) 225-2431.



Dining in DC

The DC area is home to countless restaurants and bars. In the following section, we will highlight different styles of restaurants that are convenient to the major traveling hubs in Washington.

Union Station



Thunder Grill – Fajitas, enchiladas, and quesadillas are offered with most main dishes being offered for under \$15.

Location: In Union Station

Hours: 11:30 a.m. – 10 p.m.

Phone Number: 202-898-0051



America Restaurant – This American-themed restaurant/bar serves has an extremely large menu. Average entrée anywhere from \$11-20.

Location: In Union Station

Hours: 11:30 a.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Phone Number: 202-682-9555



Center Café – This restaurant, located at the entrance of Union Station, offers breakfast, lunch and dinner. Entrees offered under \$12.

Location: In Union Station

Hours: Vary by season

Phone Number: 202-682-0143



Smithsonian Station



City Zen - Located in the Mandarin Oriental Hotel, CityZen has been described as a World class culinary experience with entrees being offered from \$21.

Location: 1330 Maryland Avenue. SW

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday 6 p.m.-9:30 p.m.; Friday-Saturday 5:30 p.m.-9:30 p.m.

Phone Number: 202-787-6868



Garden Café - This café is located in the National Gallery of Art. The offerings here include French, American, and fast food. The average entrée is between \$11-20.

Location: 700 Constitution Avenue

Hours: Monday-Thursday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday 10 a.m.-8:30 p.m. Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Phone Number: 202-289-3360

Federal Triangle



Market Inn - This restaurant specializes in crabs and is very kid-friendly. Large groups are encouraged to give this popular restaurant a try. Entrees are priced between \$11-20.

Location: 200 East Street SW

Hours: Mon-Thu 11am-10pm; Fri 11am-11pm; Sat 4:30pm-11pm; Sun 10:30 am-10pm

Phone Number: 202-554-2100



The Capital Grille - The Grille atmosphere is family friendly with entrees being offered at above \$21.

Location: 601 Pennsylvania Avenue NW

Hours: Mon-Sat 11:30am- 3pm; Fri-Sat 5pm-11pm; Sun-Thu 5pm-10pm

Phone Number: 202-737-6200



L'Enfant Plaza



Maine Avenue Seafood – This seafood spot is popular for its perfectly prepared fish entrees. Most meals priced below \$10.

Location: 1100 Maine Avenue

Hours: 8 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Phone Number: 202-554-2669

Phillips Flagship Restaurant –Phillips offers buffet-style seafood. This restaurant offers lunch and dinner seafood buffets. Prices: Lunch Buffet: \$13.99, Dinner Buffet: \$22.99

Location: 900 Water Street SW

Hours: Mon-Thurs 11 a.m.-2:30 p.m.; 4 p.m.-9 p.m.; Friday 11 a.m.-10 p.m.; Saturday 12 p.m. – 1 a.m.; Sunday 12 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Phone Number: 202-488-8515

Gallery Place/ Chinatown

Tony Cheng's Seafood Restaurant and Mongolian Bar –Downstairs is a Mongolian Barbecue (you pick the ingredients, a chef cooks them in front of you); upstairs is a Chinese seafood restaurant. Entrees range from \$11-20 on average.

Location: 621 H St. NW

Hours: Fri-Sat. 11 a.m.-midnight; Sun-Thu 11 a.m. – 11 p.m.

Phone Number: 202-371-8669



Hard Rock Café – This restaurant chain is known across America with entrees offered at prices averaging \$11-20.

Location: 999 E. St. NW

Hours: Sun-Thu 11 a.m. – 11 p.m. Fri-Sat 11 a.m. – Midnight

Phone Number: 202-737-7625



DuPont Circle



Mark and Orlando's -Serving as both a restaurant and bar, the American cuisine is priced at an average of \$11-20.

Location: 2020 P St. NW

Hours: Mon-Fri 11:30 am-3 pm; Mon-Thu 5:30-10 pm Fri-Sat 5:30-10:30 pm Sun 5:30-9:30 pm

Phone Number: 202-223-8463



Pizzeria Paradiso - Within walking distance from the Dupont Circle stop, this pizzeria serves up simple and pure pies.

Location: 2029 P St. NW

Hours: Mon-Thu 11:30am-11pm Fri-Sat 11:30am-12am Sun 12 pm-10pm

Phone Number: 202-223-1245

Metro Center



ESPN Zone - With 230 TVs including a 16-foot screen, ESPN Zone in DC is a sports mecca.

Location: 555 12th Street NW

Hours: Fri-Sat 11:30 am-midnight Sun-Thu 11:30 am-11 pm

Phone Number: 202-783-3776

Other Locations



Cheesecake Factory - Known for its World-class cheesecake, this restaurant has something for everyone.

Location: 5345 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20015

Monday - Thursday 11:30 am - 11:30 pm

Friday & Saturday 11:30 am - 12:30 am

Sunday 10:00 am - 11:00 pm

Phone Number: (202) 364-0500



Shopping In DC



Georgetown

It's time to make a trip to The Shops at Georgetown Park for the best in shopping, entertainment and dining! Whether you enjoy a relaxing dinner at one of the mall's restaurants or spend the day shopping at all your favorite stores, The Shops at Georgetown Park offers a complete entertainment experience.

Located: On 3222 M Street, NW (Wisconsin and M Street NW)

Metro Stops: Foggy Bottom, Dupont Circle and Rosslyn Metro stops (with connecting shuttle or bus service), Metro busses or the Circulator.

Mall Hours:

Monday - Saturday - 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

Sunday - Noon - 6 p.m.



The Fashion Center at Pentagon City

The Fashion Centre at Pentagon City is one of the premier shopping malls in the Washington, DC area, located just minutes from the nation's capital and convenient to the Pentagon City Metro station. This upscale mall includes 170 stores.

Located: 1100 South Hayes Street Arlington, VA 22202. At the intersection of South Hayes Street and Army Navy Drive in Arlington, Virginia.

Metro Stops: Pentagon City Metro Station

Mall Hours: Monday to Saturday 10:00-9:30 am; Sunday 11:00 am-6:00 pm



Tyson's Corner Mall

A short ride from the Nation's capital, Tysons Corner Center is one of the premier shopping malls on the East Coast.

Located: Just off the Capital Beltway (I-495) near the intersection of Routes 7 and 123.

Metro Stops: Take the Metro to West Falls Church on the Orange Line, take the Bus to 28A, 28B, and 3T

Mall Hours:

Monday - Saturday: 10am - 9:30pm

Sunday: 11am - 7pm

