

WELCOME TO WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

JAMESTOWN

Relive the experience of America's first permanent English colony.

www.historyisfun.org

www.historicjamestowne.org

Near the site of the original colony, Jamestown Settlement tells the story of 17th-century Virginia; from the arrival of English colonists in Jamestown in 1607 to the cultural encounters and events that planted the seeds of a new nation. The world of Jamestown, America's first permanent English colony, comes to life through film, gallery exhibits and outdoor living history.

Expansive [gallery exhibits and an introductory film](#) describe the cultures of the Powhatan Indians, Europeans and Africans who converged in 17th-century Virginia, and trace Jamestown's beginnings in England and the first century of the Virginia colony.

Climb aboard replicas of the [three ships](#) that sailed from England to Virginia in 1607, and explore life-size re-creations of the [colonists' fort](#) and a [Powhatan village](#). In the outdoor areas, costumed historical interpreters describe and demonstrate daily life in early 17th century Jamestown.

Dine at the [Jamestown Settlement Cafe](#) and shop in [museum stores](#). A variety of Jamestown admission tickets and vacation packages are available with Williamsburg area attractions. This unique museum of 17th-century American history and culture is located adjacent to the entrance of the original site, [Historic Jamestowne](#), administered by the National Park Service and Jamestown Rediscovery (on behalf of Preservation Virginia).

Discover Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center in person! Save money with [combination tickets](#) today.

Comments: I would suggest the Jamestown Settlement for families with younger children and Historic Jamestowne for adults.

YORKTOWN

Experience the entirety of the American Revolution

www.historyisfun.org

www.nps.gov/york

Near the battlefield where allied American and French forces won the decisive battle of the American Revolution in 1781, the Yorktown Victory Center chronicles the Revolutionary period, from colonial unrest to the formation of the new nation.

The story of America's evolution from colonial status to nationhood is told through films and exhibits inside a new museum building and outdoor living history at a re-created [Continental Army encampment](#) and [Revolution-era farm](#). The state-operated museum of the American Revolution is an excellent starting point for a tour of Yorktown.

Work is now underway on transforming the Yorktown Victory Center into the [American Revolution Museum at Yorktown](#). By late 2016, expansive permanent exhibition galleries and a new introductory film will debut in the recently completed building, and visitors will be welcomed in expanded and upgraded settings for the encampment and farm. The Yorktown Victory Center remains in daily operation throughout construction, which is occurring in phases and included a move from the original museum building to the new facility in March 2015. A current exhibit at the Yorktown Victory Center, "[Creating Our New Museum](#)," provides a multimedia, interactive encounter with the permanent galleries and introductory film that will premiere with the museum's transition to the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown in late 2016.

Comments: Yorktown also has a downtown Historic Area with complimentary trolley service to take you through the town and to the beach.

COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG

www.colonialwilliamsburg.org

Williamsburg was the thriving capital of Virginia when the dream of American freedom and independence was taking shape and the colony was a rich and powerful land stretching west to the Mississippi River and north to the Great Lakes. For 81 formative years, from 1699 to 1780, Williamsburg was the political, cultural, and educational center of what was then the largest, most populous, and most influential of the American colonies. It was here that the fundamental concepts of our republic — responsible leadership, a sense of public service, self-government, and individual liberty — were nurtured under the leadership of patriots such as George Washington, Patrick Henry, Thomas Jefferson, George Mason, and Peyton Randolph.

Near the end of the Revolutionary War and through the influence of Thomas Jefferson, the seat of government of Virginia was moved up the peninsula to the safer and more centrally located city of Richmond. For nearly a century and a half afterward, Williamsburg was a simple, quiet college town, home of the College of William and Mary.

Additional Comments: There is much you can see at Colonial Williamsburg without purchasing a ticket. The shops, dining venues, gardens and more are available to you with no admission ticket. However, parking is often limited in time and/or space. I often suggest parking at the Visitor's Center where you can freely park and purchase a day's transportation ticket for about \$2.00 per person. There are places throughout the Colonial Williamsburg area where you can purchase a ticket if desired.

BUSCH GARDENS

www.buschgardens.com

We are a theme park in every sense of the term ... a place where fun comes naturally.

Our theme is classic Europe, like the Parisian streets of France, the hamlets of Scotland and the Oktoberfest celebrations of Germany. In all, we have nine villages centered around six countries for you to explore.

We've filled our park with one of the best collections of world-class roller coasters, and balanced that with live entertainment for the entire family, kid-friendly rides for youngsters and breathtaking architecture and landscaping for everyone to enjoy. In fact, we have been voted the world's most beautiful theme park since 1990.

In addition to the fun, we are a place for learning about nature. We care deeply about conservation and the animals in our care. You can see and learn about Bald Eagles, Clydesdale horses and gray wolves, and we hope that when you visit your appreciation for nature will grow like ours has.

We are a park for kids, packed with classic kid-siderate rides, Sesame Street® characters and places for kids to explore. Where else can they sing with Elmo, hold a lorikeet and ride between mom and dad on a thrilling attraction?

We are nestled near the banks of the James River in Williamsburg, Va., which also is a perfect place for a family vacation. We are surrounded by the Historic Triangle of Colonial Williamsburg, Yorktown and Jamestown, and we're only an hour away from Virginia Beach. This destination has something for everyone.

For information on all the Williamsburg Area has to offer its visitors, shopping, dining, golfing and outdoor activities, please go to www.visitwilliamsburg.com.