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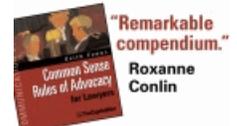
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## Museums, Memorials and Monuments in DC

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- For answers to questions commonly asked by visitors to Washington (like "How do I get a flag flown over the Capitol?") see **our "what's the deal with..." page.**
- A map of the Mall is available in Adobe pdf from the National Park Service. This is a large file. To see how to get around to see the sites, see How to Get Into, Around and Out of Washington, DC.
- Due to the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001, many hours of public access have changed from those listed below. Visit the web sites or call the numbers listed for the most up-to-date information.
- **From the Washingtonian- what's happening this month**
  - Museums
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### The Three Branches of National Government

- **Supreme Court**

The Supreme Court building is open from 9 am to 4:30 pm Monday through Friday. It is closed Saturdays, Sundays, and federal holidays. First Street and Maryland Avenue, NE. 202-647-3241 Metro: Union Station or Capitol South.

- **United States Capitol**

Update: As of March 1, 2002, until further notice the US Capitol public hours are 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Saturday, and public access is only through tour groups.

For additional security, the new procedures have been implemented regarding items that visitors will not be permitted to bring into the Capitol. There is no place to check bags, so if you bring a prohibited item you will not be able to take the tour. These prohibited items include:

- Aerosol and non-aerosol sprays
- Cans and bottles

- Oversized suitcases, duffle bags, and oversized backpacks
- Knives of any length, razors, and box cutters
- Mace and pepper spray

Visitors must obtain free, timed tickets for tours on a first-come, first-served basis, at the East Front Screening Facility, located near the fountains on the East Front plaza of the Capitol. All security screening is done at this facility, and visitors are then escorted by the Capitol Police and the Capitol Guide Service to the Rotunda to begin their tour. Maximum tour size is 40 people. Call 202-225-6827 for recorded information. Metro: [Union Station](#) or [Capitol South](#). ([Click here for a map of the Capitol complex.](#))

(OLD INFORMATION: The Capitol is open to the public every day of the year except for New Year's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas:

- March through August: 9:30 am to 8:00 pm, every day
- September through February: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm, every day

Guided public tours last approximately thirty minutes. The tours are given free of charge, and tickets are not required. The waiting area for tours is located on the East Front Drive (facing the Library of Congress and the Supreme Court). For recorded information regarding tours of the Capitol, call 202-225-6827. Special Congressional tours given by your Representative's staff can be arranged by calling your Representative's office: 202-225-3121.)

- **U.S. House Of Representatives Visitor Information**

- **White House**

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Open to school and youth groups and organized military and veterans groups Tuesday through Saturday from 7:45 am to 10:30 am. Guided Tours (reserved through Congressional offices) -- Reserved tickets to the White House may be obtained through Congressional offices. However, tickets are limited and demand is heavy. Requests should be made to your Representative at least 30 days in advance. All White House visitors are encouraged to call the 24-hour tour line at 202-456-7041. Metro: [McPherson Square](#). The White House Visitor Center is located on E Street NW, just east of 15th Street.

- **A White House History**

A virtual historical tour of the White House where you can view the rooms and furnishings, past and present.

- **District of Columbia City Government**

## **Museums and Memorials - most are free**

- **Alexandria, VA - visit**

Alexandria, "[the fun side of the Potomac](#)," is a short Metro ride from DC. The link above takes you to the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce visit Alexandria's historic sites page, with information on places to visit such as [Mt. Vernon](#) and several places in Old Town, including [Gadsby's Tavern](#) (George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison all ate here) and the [Torpedo Factory Art Center](#). Alexandria was established as a town in 1749 and has numerous antique shops, art galleries and restored colonial homes. The [City of Alexandria also has a site with information](#). Metro: [Braddock Road](#) or [King Street](#)

- **Alexandria (VA) Archeology Museum**

Open Tuesday to Friday: 10 am to 3 pm;  
Saturday: 10 am to 5 pm; Sunday: 1 pm to 5 pm, Closed Mondays. Closed: New Year's Day, Easter, 4th of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas. Located in the Torpedo Factory Art Center, 105 N. Union Street, #327, Alexandria, Virginia. Phone: 703-838-4399.

- **Arlington National Cemetery**

Open daily, October through March from 8:00 am until 5:00 pm and April through September from 8:00 am until 7:00 pm Tour sites include the Arlington National Cemetery Visitors Center, Kennedy Grave sites, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, [Arlington House](#) (Lee's Home), and the Robert E. Lee Memorial. **Highly Recommended: Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier - every hour on the hour; every half hour during the summer months.** Metro: [Arlington Cemetery](#). 703-692-0931

- **Botanic Garden**

Closed in 1997 for a renovation of the 1933 Conservatory and construction of the National Garden project, the United States Botanic Conservatory is now open. Maryland Avenue and First Street, SW. Open daily, 10:00 am until 5:00 pm June through August, open until 9:00 pm 202-225-8333. Metro: Federal Center, SW.

- **Bureau of Engraving and Printing**

202-622-2000, 14th and C Streets, SW. See how U.S. currency - at a rate of \$30 million daily - postage and revenue stamps are printed. Real and counterfeit paper money and coins are on display. Public tours are conducted Monday through Friday (Federal Holidays excluded) from 9 am to 2 pm and last approximately 35 minutes. Admission is free. For 24 hour information 202-874-3188. Metro: Smithsonian.

- **Capital Children's Museum**

**Admission Fee charged.** The whole city block at 3rd and H Streets, NE. About three blocks behind Union Station at 800 3rd Street, NE. The museum specializes in hands-on, interactive educational exhibits. Open daily from 10 am to 5 pm. 202-675-4120 Metro: Union Station.

- **Chesapeake and Ohio Canal**

Follows the Potomac. Hiking, biking and more. The Billy Goat Trail is a 4-mile loop off the C&O Canal, and canal boat rides operate between April and November.

- **City Museum (of Washington, DC)**

**Admission Fee charged for exhibits - no fee for building and library admission.** 801 K Street, NW. Sponsored by the Historical Society of Washington, DC. Open Tuesday through Sunday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and on the third Thursday of every month until 9:00 pm. 202-383-1800. Metro: Mt. Vernon Square 7th St. - Convention Center

- **Constitution Gardens**

On the Mall just east of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial, north of the Reflecting pool, south of Constitution Avenue.

- **Corcoran Gallery of Art Museum**

17th Street and New York Avenue. Open Tuesday through Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm and on Thursday, 10:00 am to 9:00 pm. 202-447-9709. Metro: [Farragut West](#) or [Farragut North](#).

- **DEA Museum**

700 Army Navy Drive, Arlington, VA. Open Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. Metro: [Pentagon City](#)

- **Decatur House**

One of the oldest houses in DC, built in 1818 for Stephen Decatur. 1610 H Street NW, across the street from the White House. ton, VA. Open Tuesday - Saturday: 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, Sunday: Noon - 4:00 pm. Metro: [McPherson Square](#)

- **Department of State**

2201 C Street, NW. Tours are conducted Monday through Friday at 9:30 am, 10:30 am, & 3:00 pm. Tours are by reservation only. A [virtual tour of the Diplomatic Reception rooms](#) is available 202-647-3241. Metro: [Foggy Bottom/GWU](#)

- **Department of the Treasury**

This building was built in 1836 and since then has served as the headquarters for the Treasury Department. A tour (offered only on Saturdays) includes the history of the Treasury Department, the building's architecture history, the Andrew Johnson suite, where, in 1865, President Johnson conducted official business for 6 weeks after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, the beautiful Salmon P. Chase suite, the Cash room (the site for Grant's inaugural reception), and the 1864 burglar proof vault. Entrance through Appointment Center doors located next to the White House on 15th street between F and G streets, NW. Metro: [Metro Center](#) or [Federal Triangle](#) or [McPherson Square](#). For Tour

information or to make an advanced reservation call 202-622-0896. For hearing impaired tours call 202-622-0692.

- **Dumbarton Oaks**

The Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection is housed in a nineteenth-century Federal-style mansion. Former owners Mildred and Robert Woods conveyed the house, gardens, and their collections to Harvard University. It is now a museum with collections of Byzantine and Pre-Columbian art, as well as a research institution. The gardens were designed by the noted landscape gardener Beatrix Jones Farrand and are also open to the public. 1703 32nd Street, NW. Gardens open daily from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Museum open Tuesday through Sunday from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm. Both are closed on Federal Holidays and December 24, 25, and January 1. **\$ Admission fee to garden.** 202-338-8278.

- **FDR Memorial**

South bank of the Tidal Basin in West Potomac Park. Open 24 hours daily. At the Swan Boathouse you can rent a paddle boat to cruise on the Basin.

- **Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)**

Open 8:45 am to 4:15 pm, Monday - Friday. This is a guided tour, lasting approximately 1 hour. Tours run every 20 minutes. Enter Rear of FBI Building on E Street between 9th & 10th Streets, NW. Closed on weekends and Federal holidays. Congressional tours are not available, however, many congressional offices will make reservations for you. Reservations are required for groups of 15 or more people. 202-324-3447. Metro: Metro Center or Gallery Place/Chinatown.

- **Folger Shakespeare Library**

201 East Capitol Street, SE (Behind the Library of Congress). This library has one of the world's finest collections of rare English Renaissance books and a large collection of Shakespeare's works. Plus, there are many programs and concerts at the Folger theatre. The building and gift shop is open Monday through Saturday from 10:00 am until 4:00 pm Tours are available

Monday through Friday at 11:00 am, Tuesdays at 10:00 am and 11:00 am, and Saturday at 11:00 am and 1:00 am Call for tour information and event times: 202-544-7077. Metro: [Capitol South](#).

- **Ford's Theatre (NPS) (Ford's Theatre Society)**

10th Street Between E and F Streets, NW. Building is open every day from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm with the exception of Christmas. 202-426-6924. Metro: [Metro Center](#) or [Gallery Place/Chinatown](#).

- **Gunston Hall**

Gunston Hall was the plantation home of George Mason (1725-1792), a senior statesman and well-known public figure in Colonial/Revolutionary War America. Author of the Virginia Declaration of Rights, Mason was the first to call for such basic American liberties, freedom of the press, religious tolerance and the right to a trial by jury. Thomas Jefferson was influenced by his words when composing The Declaration of Independence, and Mason's ideas were also used as the model for many state constitutions, France's Declaration of the Rights of Man, and the United Nations Charter of the Rights of Man.

Today, Gunston Hall is a National Historic Landmark, located about 12 miles from Mount Vernon. Hours are 9:30 am - 5 pm everyday with the exception of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. **\$ Admission fee charged to Gunston Hall Plantation, children in kindergarten and younger-free.** 703-550-9220

- **International Spy Museum**

New in 2002. Next to FBI Headquarters at 800 F Street NW, Washington, DC. Hours: 10 am to 8 pm April through October, 10 am to 6 pm November through March. Open everyday of the year except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. **\$ Admission Fee charged.** 202-654-0960, toll-free: 1-866-779-6873. Metro: [Archives/Navy Memorial](#) or [Gallery Place/Chinatown](#).

- **Jefferson Memorial**

South bank of the Tidal Basin. Open 24 hours daily. At the Swan Boathouse you can rent a

paddle boat to cruise on the Basin. ***A separate visit after 10:00 pm is highly recommended***

- **John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts**

Tour is conducted by Friends of the Kennedy Center volunteers. Visitors should go to the Tour Desk on Motor Parking Lobby A, where tours leave approximately every 15 minutes and last about an hour. 202-254-3774 Metro: Foggy Bottom/GWU.

- **Korean War Veterans Memorial**

(Lists of Casualties from the Vietnam and Korean Wars)

Near the Lincoln Memorial in West Potomac Park at the foot of 23rd Street, NW. Open 24 hours daily.

- **Library of Congress**

Jefferson Building, First Street and Independence Avenue, SE. Tours are conducted at 10:00 am, 1:00 pm, and 3:00 pm, Monday through Friday. These tours follow the showing of an orientation film that begins in the Visitors' Orientation Theater, Room LM-139 in Madison Building. Groups of 10 people or more need reservations. 202-287-5458. Metro: Union Station or Capitol South.

- **Lincoln Memorial**

West Potomac Park at the southern foot of 23rd Street, NW. Open 24 hours daily. 202-426-6895. ***A separate visit after 10:00 pm is highly recommended.***

- **Marine Corps War Memorial**

The statue depicts Marines raising the U.S. flag on Iwo Jima. Just off the George Washington Memorial Parkway in Arlington.

- **Mount Vernon**

Home of George Washington. Open to the public daily from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm from March through October & at 4:00 pm from November through February. **\$ Admission Fee:** Adults \$7.00 Children ages 6 to 11 \$3.00, Children 6 and under free, Senior Citizens \$6.00. Special

prices or groups of school children, youth groups & senior Citizens. A group is defined as a minimum of twenty adults or twelve students (grades 1 - 12). 703-780-2000.

- **National Air and Space Museum on the National Mall**

Open 10:00 am - 5:30 pm every day except Dec. 25. The most popular, i.e., crowded, museum in Washington. Independence Avenue & 7th Street, SW Metro: L'Enfant Plaza (across the street) or Smithsonian.

- **Steven F. Udva-Hazy Center at Dulles International Airport**

Open 10:00 am - 5:30 pm every day except Dec. 25. A round-trip shuttle bus (\$ fee charged) has been established between the museum's flagship building in Washington DC and the Udvar-Hazy Center. 14390 Air & Space Museum Parkway, Chantilly, VA.

- **National Aquarium**

14th Street between Constitution Avenue and D Street, NW. Tanks filled with fish, frogs, alligators, sharks etc. Open daily from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm except Christmas. 202-377-2825. Metro: Federal Triangle.

- **National Arboretum**

3501 New York Avenue, NE. 444 acres of trees, shrubs and assorted plants in the northeast section of the District of Columbia. Hours: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday. 10:00 am to 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday. Guide services for organized groups are available. Please make reservations for groups. Entrance: New York Avenue, NE. Metro: Stadium Armory on the blue or orange lines, then Bus number B-2, B-4, or B-5 to the intersection of Bladensburg Road and R Street, Walk east of R street 300 yards to the R street gate. 202-637-7000.

- **National Archives**

7th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW. Open daily from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Saturday from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. 202-523-3183. Metro: Archives/Navy Memorial

- **National Building Museum**

401 F Street, NW, between 4th and 5th streets. Wheelchair access at 4th and G streets. Museum Hours: Monday - Saturday 10:00 am - 4 pm, Sunday noon - 4 pm. Closed Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day. Pension Building hours: Monday through Friday (12:30 pm), Saturday and Sunday (12:30 pm and 1:30 pm). Metro: Judiciary Square. 202-272-2448.

- **National Capital Trolley Museum**

1313 Bonifant Road, Silver Spring. Open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 5:00 pm, in July and August also open Wednesdays from 11:00 am to 3 pm 301-384-6088. Metro: Silver Spring

- **National Cryptologic Museum**

Maryland Route 32 and the Baltimore/Washington Parkway. Open M-F from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. 301-688-5849

- **National Gallery of Art**

6th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW. Open daily from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, Sunday 11:00 am to 6:00 pm. 202-737-4215. **Highly Recommended.** Metro: Archives/Navy Memorial or Smithsonian.

- **National Geographic Society Explorers Hall**

17th and M Streets, NW. Exhibits of famous scientific expeditions. M-Sat 9 am to 5 pm, Sunday 10 to 5. 202-857-7588. Metro: Farragut North.

- **National Mall**

The memorials and monuments on the National Mall are open daily from 8:00 am until 11:45 pm, every day except Christmas Day. Metro: Smithsonian.

- **National Museum of African Art**

950 Independence Ave, SW 202-357-4600 Metro: Smithsonian

- **National Museum of The American Indian**

4th Street and Independence Ave, SW 202-633-1000 Metro: L'Enfant Plaza

- **National Postal Museum**

2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE in the Washington City Post Office Building on Capitol Hill (next to Union Station). Hours: 10:00 am to 5:30 pm. Closed on Christmas. General number is 202-357-2700, hearing impaired call 202-357-1729. Metro: Union Station.

- **National World War II Memorial**

On the Mall at 18th Street, NW between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. Open 24 hours daily. Metro: Smithsonian.

- **National Zoological Park**

3001 Connecticut Avenue, NW. Grounds open daily from 8:00 am to 6:00 pm from May 1 through September 15. Buildings are open from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm during the winter months and from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm during the summer months. 202-673-4717. Hint if taking Metro: it's an easier walk - downhill - from the Cleveland Park station rather than the uphill walk from the Woodley Park/Zoo station.

- **Newseum**

The Newseum will close March 3, 2002 until reopening in Washington, DC at Pennsylvania Ave and 6th St. NW in 2005. 1101 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA Local: 703-284-3544 Toll-Free 888-NEWSEUM

- **Octagon House**

Now housing the American Architectural Foundation. 18th and New York Avenue, NW. Architectural exhibits. Served as James Madison's White House following the destruction of the real White House by the British in 1814. The Treaty of Ghent was signed here, ending the War of 1812. Open Tuesday through Sunday from 10:00 am to

4:00 pm. Closed Monday. **\$ Admission Fee charged.** 202-638-3105. Metro: [Farragut West](#) or [Farragut North](#).

- **Old Post Office Tower**

1100 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. Open Daily from 9:00 am to 10:00 pm. National Park Service offers a tour of the bell tower with a splendid view of the city. The lines for this tour are normally much shorter than for the Washington Memorial. Tours begin approximately every five minutes from the glass elevator at the northwest corner of the stage level of the Pavilion 202-289-4224 Metro: [Federal Triangle](#) or [Archives/Navy Memorial](#)

- **Pentagon**

Across the 14th Street Bridge in Virginia (I-395). After September 11, 2001, tours cancelled indefinitely. Open Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 3:30 pm Tours every half hour. Sights to see: the Flag Corridor, the Hall of Heroes. 202-695-1776 Metro: [Pentagon](#).

- **Phillips Collection**

The nation's first museum of modern art with free Sunday concerts. 1600-1612 21st Street, NW. 202-387-2151. **\$ Admission Fee charged.** Metro: [DuPont Circle](#).

- **Science Museum of the National Academy of Sciences**

Marian Koshland Science Museum. 6th and E Streets, NW. 202-334-1201, 1-888-567-4526 **\$ Admission Fee. charged.** Metro: [Gallery Place/Chinatown](#) or [Judiciary Square](#).

- **Smithsonian Institution**

Most museums open daily from 10:00 am until 5:30 pm For specific information, call 202-357-1300. Metro: [Smithsonian](#)

**Encyclopedia Smithsonian** - features answers to frequently asked questions about the Smithsonian and links to Smithsonian resources from [A](#) to [Z](#).

- **Anacostia Neighborhood Museum**

2405 Martin Luther King Avenue, SE Metro: Anacostia, then take W3 or W3 bus

- **Arts and Industries**

900 Jefferson Drive, SW Metro: Smithsonian

- **Freer Gallery of Art**

Jefferson Drive and 12th Street, SW Metro: Smithsonian

- **Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden**

Independence Avenue and 7th Street, SW  
Metro: Smithsonian

- **National Air and Space Museum**

Independence Avenue & 7th Street, SW  
Metro: L'Enfant Plaza

- **National Gallery of Art**

4th Street between the Mall and Constitution Avenue, NW Metro: Archives/Navy Memorial

- **National Museum of African Art**

950 Independence Avenue, SW Metro: Smithsonian

- **National Museum of American Art**

8th and G Streets, NW. Building closed for renovation until July 4, 2006. Exhibitions being held at the Renwick Gallery. (Old information: Free walk-in tours noon weekdays; 2:00 pm weekends. Group tours and Explorations in American Art, a four-visit survey course are available by appointment only; call 202-357-3111.) Metro: Gallery Place/Chinatown.

- **National Museum of American History**

10th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW.  
Call Smithsonian Visitor Information: 202-357-2700 (voice) or 202-357-1729 (TTY), Monday through Friday, 9 am to 5 pm, Saturday and Sunday, 10 am to 4 pm  
Metro: Smithsonian or Federal Triangle.

- **National Museum of The American Indian**

4th Street and Independence Ave, SW 202-633-1000, Daily 10 am - 5:30 pm, closed December 25. Metro: L'Enfant Plaza

- **National Portrait Gallery**

8th and F Streets, NW. Building closed for renovation until 2004-2005. Free walk-in tours noon weekdays; 2:00 pm weekends. Group tours and Explorations in American Art, a four-visit survey course are available by appointment only; call 202-275-1738. Metro: Gallery Place/Chinatown.

- **Renwick Gallery**

Pennsylvania Avenue and 17th Street, NW 202-357-2531. Metro: McPherson Square.

- **Sackler Gallery**

1050 Independence Avenue, SW 202-357-2700 Metro: Smithsonian

- **Smithsonian Institution Building (The Castle Building)**

1000 Jefferson Drive, SW Metro: Smithsonian

- **Textile Museum**

11,000 textiles and 1,000 rugs. 2320 S Street, NW 202-667-0441. Metro: DuPont Circle.

- **Union Station**

50 Massachusetts Ave NE Washington, DC 20002 202-371-9441 Metro: Union Station. ***A beautiful building, well worth a visit.***

- **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum**

100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, SW (old 15th street between Maine Avenue and Independence Avenue). There is an entrance also on 14th street, next to the Bureau of Printing & Engraving. Open 7 days a week from 10:00 am to 5:30 pm Closed on Christmas. *Permanent exhibition is recommended for ages 11 and up. Daniel's Story is recommended for ages 8 and up.* The visit will take from an 1 1/2 to 3 hours. 202-488-0400 Metro: Smithsonian on the blue or orange lines, exit at 12th and Independence Avenue.

- **United States Naval Observatory**

34th Street and Massachusetts Avenue, NW. Evening hours are available with advance reservations at least 4 to 6 weeks in advance: Monday at 8:30 pm, weather permitting, except on Federal holidays. 202-653-1543. [Reservations online.](#)

- **United States Navy Memorial**

Located at 701 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. Hours for Visitors Center are Monday through Saturday, 9:30 am to 5:00 pm, and Sunday, noon to 5:00 pm. 202-737-2300. Metro: [Archives/Navy Memorial](#)

- **Vietnam Veterans Memorial**

([Lists of Casualties from the Vietnam and Korean Wars](#))

Henry Bacon Drive and Constitution Avenue, NW, adjacent to the Lincoln Memorial. Always open. Constructed of black granite to honor all Americans who served in the Vietnam War. As a special tribute to those who did not return, the names of more than 58,000 who gave their lives or who remain missing are inscribed in the Memorial's walls. The names are in chronological order. **A separate visit after 10:00 pm is highly recommended.**

- **Washington Monument**

On the Mall at 15th Street, NW. Open daily April through Labor Day from 8:00 am to midnight. September through March from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm 202-426-6841. Metro: [Smithsonian](#) .

- **Washington Navy Yard**

9th and M Streets, SE, on the banks of the Anacostia River. The original buildings date back to the 1800's and contain the Navy Memorial Museum and Marine Corps Museum. The Navy Museum is free and open from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm weekdays. Docked near the Navy Museum is a real Vietnam-era destroyer, the USS Barry. The USS Barry is open from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm Metro: [Navy Yard](#)

- **Washington DC museums and exhibits - list from Yahoo**

- **Woodlawn**

This grand 1805 house overlooking the Potomac River was a gift from George Washington to Eleanor "Nelly" Custis, granddaughter of Martha Washington (Nelly's brother, George Washington Parke Custis, built Arlington House), and her husband, Maj. Lawrence Lewis, the General's nephew. Dr. William Thornton, first architect of the U.S. Capitol, designed Woodlawn for the young couple. Woodlawn interprets the lives of the Lewis family as well as the numerous African-Americans, both free and enslaved, who lived and worked on this Virginia plantation.

Also located on the grounds of Woodlawn is the **Pope-Leighey House**, a "Usonian" house designed and built by **Frank Lloyd Wright**. It was moved to Woodlawn in 1965 in order to remove it from the path of a highway project.

Woodlawn is located at 9000 Richmond Hwy (US Rt. 1), at the intersection of Rt. 1 and VA Rt. 235 South, 3 miles from Mount Vernon. Both houses are open daily March-December from 10 am to 5 pm, and are closed during the months of January and February, except for Presidents' Day. 703-780-4000

**TIP:** If you can't make it south to Williamsburg, the Mount Vernon/Woodlawn/Gunston Hall triad is a good substitute. They offer excellent educational and interpretive programs on Colonial and early Federal American life, including children's programs, colonial crafts, family, and slave life. Woodlawn is just three miles from Mount Vernon, and Gunston Hall is approximately another 5 miles south down US Rt. 1 from Woodlawn.

- **World War II Memorial**

Open 2004. On the Mall at 18th Street, NW between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial. Open 24 hours daily. Metro: [Smithsonian](#) .

**Also see our Visiting Washington, DC page**

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You can **add your recommended Washington, DC-related books and web sites here:** [Washington DC sites - visitor links](#)

URL: <http://www.TheCapitol.Net/VisitingDC/dcmuseum.htm> Last updated: October 08, 2004

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