

Come explore with us

All Aboard

Tours & Travel

Black River Middle School

June 15-17, 2016

Washington, DC

Day One, Wednesday, June 15, 2016

- 12:30pm Enjoy **lunch on your own**. Baltimore's Inner Harbor has been nationally acclaimed for its extraordinary waterfront development. Stroll through **Harborplace**, a twin glass pavilion, offering some of the finest shopping and food in the city.
- 1:30pm Depart.
- 3:00pm Check in to the **Comfort Inn University Center (703-591-5911 – 11180 Fairfax Blvd, Fairfax, VA 22030)**.
- Meet our **FULL TIME ESCORT, Tammy Belden**. ESCORT stays at the hotel with the group throughout the tour.
- 5:45pm Depart.
- 7:00pm Board the *Spirit of Washington* (Pier 4, Water Street, Washington, DC).
- 7:30pm Enjoy a **dinner cruise and entertainment** this evening on the *Spirit of Washington*. Sail along the *Potomac* River and see the historic and famous sites of our Nation's Capitol from a different perspective.
- 10:00pm Return to dockside and depart for the hotel for the night.
- 11pm-6am Three (3) professional uniformed **security agents** on duty.

Day Two, Thursday, June 16, 2016

- 7:00am Enjoy **breakfast** at the hotel this morning.
- 8:00am Depart with your **ESCORT**.
- 9:00am Visit **Arlington National Cemetery**. No land in American is more sacred than this square mile. It is America's shrine to valor and sacrifice. This is the final resting place for **President John F. Kennedy**, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Audie Murphy, prizefighter Joe Louis, and thousands of soldiers from every major U.S. war. The Cemetery is the former plantation and home of Civil War General Robert E. Lee. Arlington House, **Space Shuttle Challenger Astronaut's Memorial**, and Monuments to nearly every major sacrifice that affected our country are located within these 612 acres. The **Tomb of the Unknowns** speaks of a nation's debt to the many whose ultimate sacrifice helped make a nation free. Arlington averages 27 funerals a day. The crews, service members, and groundskeepers follow an elaborate choreography to ensure that each funeral feels like it is the only one taking place.
- 11:30am Depart.
- Noon Enjoy **lunch on your own** at various locations.



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1:00pm

Depart.

1:30pm

Visit your choice of Smithsonian Institution's Museums.

The Smithsonian Institution's security policy is: All bags, purses, attaches, shopping bags satchels, suitcases, etc will be hand searched. To expedite this, please bring only a small purse or fanny pack. **DO NOT** bring daypacks, backpacks, or luggage in to the museums.

- **National Air & Space Museum.** Experience the history of flight at one of the world's most visited museum, from the plane flown by the Wright brothers to the Apollo 11 command module. Features an incredible collection of aviation and space technology treasures. *Open until 7:30pm*
- **Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden.** This donut-shaped building boasts a collection of 19th and 20th century paintings and sculptures. *Open until 5:30pm.*
- **National Museum of African Art** is the only museum in the United States dedicated exclusively to the collection, exhibition and study of the traditional arts of sub-Saharan Africa. *Open until 7:00pm.*
- **National Museum of American History.** The new central atrium with skylights dramatically opening the building. A grand staircase connects the 1st and second floors. Galleries with over 3 million objects including new galleries and exhibitions never displayed before. A special state-of-the-art gallery displaying the original **Star Spangled Banner**.
 - This very popular collection tops the list of must-sees for any visitor with a taste for true Americana. See the flag that inspired the Star Spangled Banner, Dorothy's Ruby Red Slippers, First Ladies' inaugural gowns, quilts, cars, locomotives, and much, much more.
- **National Museum of Natural History.** The Hope Diamond and dinosaur fossils and the world's largest African bush elephant top the amazing natural treasures on display along with a live insect zoo. *Open until 7:30pm*
- Experience something of the unique nature and welcoming spirit of **The National Museum of the American Indian.** From the American Southwest, Hawaii, Canada, South and Central America you will feel the spirit of these native people. See items from the great American pyramid builders to the beautiful craftsmanship of North, Central, and South America's indigenous people. *Open until 5:30pm*

5:30pm

Depart.

6:00pm

Visit **Pentagon City Shopping Mall** and enjoy dinner via coupons. The sky lit Food Court features international specialties from the familiar to the exotic.

7:00pm

Continue with an **Illuminated Monument Tour**.

EACH COACH MAY TOUR THE FOLLOWING MEMORIALS AT THEIR DISCRETION.

- Stop at **The National World War II Memorial.** This *newest memorial* honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the U.S. during World War II, the more than 400,000 who died, and the millions 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 to the common defense of the nation and to the broader causes of peace and freedom from tyranny throughout the world.
- Stop at **The Vietnam Veterans Memorial.** This privately funded memorial has drawn millions who have come to touch the over 50,000 names, make pencil rubbings and leave flowers, letters, flags and personal mementos.
- Stop at **The Lincoln Memorial**, overlooking the Reflecting Pool, was patterned on a classic Greek temple. Inside, inscriptions from his Gettysburg Address and Second Inaugural Address flank the 19-foot marble statue of our 16th President.
- Stop at **The Korean War Veterans Memorial.** The triangular field contains nineteen ground troopers, clad in foul weather ponchos, fully equipped for battle. Representing those who supported the ground troops are hundreds of faces etched on a polished granite wall.
- Stop at **The Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima Statue).** One of the largest bronze statues ever depicts the American Flag being raised on Mount Suribachi during World War II and commemorates all marines who have died in battle since 1775. The view from this hillside looking across the *Potomac* into Washington is spectacular.

- Stop at **The Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial**. The FDR is unique among the memorials of Washington, DC. The memorial is divided into four outdoor galleries, or rooms, one for each of FDR's terms in office.
 - Stop at **The Jefferson Memorial**. The 19-foot statue of the third president stands beneath a rotunda inscribed with passages from the Declaration of Independence and Jefferson's other famous writings. Looking from the memorial across the *Tidal Basin* provides an unforgettable view of the city.
- 9:30pm Depart.
- 10:00pm Return to the hotel for the night.
- **Pizza and Soda will be delivered to the hotel lobby (one cheese pizza per room and one Sprite per person). The Escort will accept the Pizza Delivery.**
- 11pm-6am Three (3) professional uniformed security agents on duty.

Day Three, Friday, June 12, 2015

- 7:30am Enjoy breakfast at the hotel this morning prior to checking out.
- 8:30am Depart with **ESCORT, Tammy Belden**.
- 9:30am Meet our professional photographer by the Ulysses S. Grant statue at the United States Capitol. A color photo will be taken of the group on the steps of the Capitol. Each student will receive one photo. Photos will be sent to your school. Only the number of photos authorized by All Aboard will be printed.
- 10:00am Visit the **Supreme Court Building (outside only)**. Within the walls of this white marble monument the third branch of government exercises its mandate to protect and interpret the spirit of the Constitution.
- Visit the **United States Library of Congress**. *Explore. Discover. Be Inspired!* Established as an act of Congress in 1800, The Library of Congress is the largest national library in the world with more than 100 million items in three buildings. The original Library of Congress Building (now called the Thomas Jefferson Building) is perhaps Washington's most richly ornamented building. **DID YOU KNOW?** The library has more than 650 miles of bookshelves, and more than 138 million objects in 470 different languages.
- If for any reason an inside tour is not available or the wait in line is extremely long our guide will conduct a tour outside the buildings.
- 11:00am Arrive at the **Capitol Visitor's Center**. The Capitol Visitor Center welcomes visitors to the seat of American government. At nearly 580,000 square feet, the CVC is the largest project in the Capitol's 215-year history and is approximately three quarters the size of the Capitol itself. The entire facility is located underground on the east side of the Capitol so as not to detract from the appearance of the Capitol. Features include an exhibition gallery that features the House & Senate while in-session, orientation theaters, a 550-seat cafeteria, gift shops, and restrooms all within a secure public environment that will provide visitors shelter from the unpredictable D.C. weather. ***Security procedures do not permit motor coaches to drive to the front of the Capitol. Passengers may disembark at Garfield Circle and walk up hill along Independence Avenue (about 1 ½ city blocks) to the front of the Capitol Building.***
- 10:20am Visit **The United States Capitol (pending availability)**. The most recognized symbol of democratic government in the world, the U.S. Capitol has housed Congress since 1800 and is one of the most imposing public buildings in the world. The Capitol is where Congress meets to write the laws of our nation, and where presidents are inaugurated. Its ceilings are decorated with historic images, and its halls are lined with statuary and paintings representing great events and people in the nation's history.
- 12:30pm Enjoy lunch on own at the **Capitol Visitor Center** after your Capitol Tour.
- 1:30pm **ESCORT DROPS**. Depart for home.

Tour includes: Roundtrip transportation via deluxe equipped motor coach, two nights' accommodations, two breakfasts, security as stated in itinerary, one dinner, one dinner cruise, pizza and soda, admissions, and full-time Escort as stated in the itinerary. Taxes and gratuity included; gratuity for Escort Service is included.

8th GRADE WASHINGTON TRIP STUDENT GUIDELINES

WHAT TO BRING:

1. Pack for three (3) days and two (2) nights - do not over pack (we are not going away for a week). Use one (1) small suitcase. Prior to the trip, clearly mark your suitcase with your name, address, and phone number. You will not be permitted to bring a backpack into any touring site, but you will be allowed to leave a backpack on the bus.
2. **Dress appropriately - No one will be allowed on the bus Wednesday morning unless dressed appropriately. Thereafter, anyone dressed inappropriately will be asked to change back into their clothes from Wednesday. Check the Weather Channel for DC weather and pack accordingly.**
 - a. **Gentlemen:** Shirt with a collar, lightweight pants, or nice walking shorts.
 - b. **Ladies:** Blouse, collared shirt, skirt, lightweight pants, or nice walking shorts.
 - c. **NO tee shirts, tank tops, spaghetti straps, DENIM of any kind, gym shorts, ripped or torn clothing, and no bare midriffs. All shorts, skirts, and dresses must be fingertip length.**
 - d. **Avoid excessive jewelry, or anything that might set off a metal detector.**
3. Comfortable, broken in shoes or nice sneakers. There will be considerable walking each day; sometimes on city streets, other times on unpaved paths. You need shoes that offer support. **NO FLIP FLOPS!!**
4. Light jacket or sweater (the air conditioning in the bus can be chilly at times). Bring a light rain jacket or umbrella if the weather forecast warrants it.
5. Personal hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.). It is unlikely you will have an opportunity to purchase them during the trip.
6. Cameras. Students may use cell phones as cameras. A more expensive digital camera will be permitted, but the responsibility for loss, theft, or damage must be assumed by the student. Make sure students know how to use their camera. Note: Cameras cannot be used in some buildings and will be confiscated by Park Police if caught doing so.
7. Personal Listening Devices will be allowed on the bus but will not be permitted through security at the places we will visit. Anything that you do not want lost should be labeled with student's name. There is a TV in each of the motel rooms. Game systems are not permitted in motel rooms.
8. **Cell Phones** - Students are allowed to carry their cell phones, but are only to be used to call home or in the case of an emergency. Other use may result in loss of cell phone. Please try not to call your child unless it is an emergency.

MEDICATION:

1. Any medication prescribed by a doctor and all over-the-counter medications needed by the student while away must be given to Ms. Pape, the school nurse, **no later than Wednesday, June 1st.**
2. All prescription medication must be in a bottle or vial from the pharmacy, clearly labeled with the student's name, instructions, doctor's name, and the name of the medication.
3. Doctor's note authorizing trip nurse to dispense medication must be included.
4. Only the number of doses needed while on the trip may be contained in the bottle or vial.
5. **Under no circumstances will any student be permitted to have any medication in his/her possession, with the exception of inhalers and epipens.**

FOOD/SNACKS:

1. We will be stopping along the way down and back from Washington where students will be able to purchase their own snacks. Students are responsible for their own lunches on all three days. All breakfasts and dinners are provided.
2. NO soda or gum is allowed on the bus.
3. **NO GLASS CONTAINERS OF ANY KIND.**
4. NO family sized or large bags of snacks. Students have become ill on the bus from over-eating junk food. A small personal snack will be allowed on the bus, but do to allergies, students will be asked not to share food.
5. All snacks must be in the **factory sealed** package.

BUS CONDUCT:

1. Busses will depart at 9:00 AM, but **students must be brought to school by parents at 8:00 AM.** They cannot take the school bus that morning because of their luggage.
2. Consider the safety and comfort of others on the bus. Five hours on the bus can be pleasant or miserable. Distractions are a serious safety hazard to the bus driver. Visit quietly and stay in your seat.
3. Use appropriate behavior. No shouting out of windows or throwing objects.
4. Boisterous or noisy students will be moved to the front of the bus with a chaperone.
5. Do **NOT** use the bathroom on the bus unless it is an emergency. Rest stops will be made.
6. Each time you get off the bus, clean the area around your seat.
7. When you board the bus, please report any existing damage to the teacher. You will be responsible for any damage that is caused by you.

MOTEL CONDUCT:

1. Check in is Wednesday afternoon. Students will be allowed to change before departing for the Dinner Cruise. Please report any existing damage to your room to a teacher so that you are not held responsible for it.
2. No one will be allowed to hang out in the halls.
3. **NO room visiting will be allowed. If found in a room other than your own, the consequence will be an immediate phone call home.**
4. After you are taped into your room at the end of the night, do NOT open the door again unless it is an emergency.
5. In an emergency, call for a security guard, teacher, nurse or Mr. Mullen.
6. Other guests in the motel are to be treated with respect and courtesy. Keep behavior in your room calm and quiet.
7. Motel phones are off limits. The phones will be disconnected at the main switchboard.
8. Don't play with the air conditioning/heating units.
9. Make sure that you sleep. Thursday and Friday will be busy days with a lot of walking.
10. There will be a room inspection Friday morning. Students will be responsible for any damage to the room.

TOURING CONDUCT:

1. Good manners are required at all times. Use the words "please, thank-you, and excuse me" when appropriate.
2. Use respectful behavior. The Park Police don't give second chances or warnings - you are asked to leave.
3. Stay with your touring group. Touring with 150 people is difficult in any city, and we will be dividing the group up at most locations. An area at each site will be designated as a meeting area. If you get separated from your group, go directly to the designated meeting area.
4. Arrive promptly at the time designated to meet at each site. One person late causes the whole group to be delayed.
5. Move quickly as a group from area to area. Stragglers slow everyone down and increase the chances that someone will get lost.
6. Avoid unnecessary stops. Time will be allotted to visit restrooms, get drinks, etc. Buying from street vendors is expensive and slows the group down.

SAFETY:

1. Any student found in possession of any illegal items will be sent home. **It will be the responsibility of the parent to pick up his/her child.**
2. Don't stray away from the tour group. Stay with a group of students at all times.
3. Don't talk with strangers. If approached by anyone, be courteous, keep walking, and stay with the group. NO wisecracks or rude comments.

WHAT IFS (ACTIONS/CONSEQUENCES):

We will have a good time, **BUT:**

1. Teachers have the right to check baggage and clothing before, during, and after the trip.
2. If roommates are not cooperative, teachers will have the option to move students to a chaperone's room.
3. Misbehavior will be dealt with very seriously! Consequences could range from being assigned a permanent chaperone that will be with the student at all times, **to having a parent pick up his/her child in Washington.**
4. Major discipline problems or a student under the influence of alcohol, drugs, or tobacco will result in the student being suspended from school and not being permitted to participate in graduation exercises and other end-of-the-year activities.

RETURN:

1. Arrival time is estimated to be 6:00 PM. Students will call home one hour before arrival.
2. Parents must be on time to pick up his/her child.
3. Parents are asked not to park in the bus lane.

MOTEL ADDRESS:

Comfort Inn University
11180 Main Street
Fairfax, Virginia 22030

(703) 591-5900