Day Trips

Washington is located in an area that is rich in historic lore and natural beauty. From the bustling sounds of a Chesapeake Bay harbor to the utter stillness of a Blue Ridge mountaintop, from the small, old tobacco farms of southern Maryland to the grand estates of Virginia's hunt country, you will find a richness of scenery and history. And much of this can be found within a short drive from the city. Get off the main roads and wander slowly across the country. You may be surprised what you find. To start you on your way, here are a few day trips to areas, all but one of which are maintained by the National Park Service, that you may find interesting.

Tourmobile Service

Parking is downtown Washington is several limited, and searching for a parking space can be frustrating. To come out way, a parking transportation service the National Park Service provides concessionaire-operated Sightseeing Services, which operate in the area. For information, call 301-623-3377. Information for additional.

Visitor Information

For more information about municipal services, activities and events in the Washington area, 456-7775, call the visitor's guide to the Mall and Capitol Hill and the National Park Service, which gives recorded information on current park conditions

Facilities

There are about 150 public courts which are free, open to the public, and may be reserved. For information, call 637-2437. Metrobus and subway schedules are available. 637-2437.

Camping

The National Park Service provides concessioner-operated camping facilities throughout the city during most of the year. A favorite is Great Falls Park, 105 kilometers (65 miles) on U.S. 15 South of Washington. The park has 179 camping sites with restrooms, fireplaces, tables and trailer parking. Open from dawn to dusk daily. 557-1378.

Shenandoah National Park

The park, located at Triangle, Va., is magnificent in its vistas. Four campgrounds with more than 150 sites with cooking facilities and fireplaces are available. Open dawn to dusk daily. 593-9777.

The Potomac River flows north of Frederick, Md., to the Potomac River. The park, located at Triangle, Va., has more than 56 sites with cooking facilities and fireplaces. Open dawn to dusk daily. 570-2000.

Mount Vernon

South of Alexandria, Va., is the plantation where the young George Washington lived with his half-brother, Lawrence. The house, known as Mount Vernon, was faithfully restored by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association of the Union. The grounds, with the tomb of George and Martha Washington are located and house the town of Mount Vernon, where visitors are admitted, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. 557-1378.

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