Welcome to National Mall and Memorial Parks!

November is a great time to experience your national park! Our ranger staff presents interpretive programs throughout the park from bike tours and evening walking tours to shorter detailed programs of each memorial.

To learn more about the future of the National Mall, visit the National Mall Plan website (www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan) to read current alternatives, express ideas, and follow our progress.

Page through this newspaper to find out more about the many fascinating ranger programs offered throughout the park. Our park staff and volunteers will be glad to answer any of your questions. Thanks for visiting, and have a wonderful experience at National Mall and Memorial Parks!

---

**The Women’s Army Corps during World War II**

By Ranger Rebecca L. Karcher

Auxiliary unit, not fully integrated into the army.

Driven by intense patriotism, thousands of American women eagerly answered the call. Women who joined the WAAC came from every ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic background. To become a member, a woman had to be in good health, be able to pass an Army aptitude test, be between twenty and forty-nine years old, and have no children under fourteen years old. The WAAC was a closely watched government experiment in women’s ability to participate in the Armed Forces. The WAAC was successful, and performed so well during its first year that it impressed many generals and government officials, including President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

As the months passed following the December 7, 1941, Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, and the American casualty rate continued to rise, the United States government saw an urgent need for more military personnel. With much of the able-bodied male population already exhausted, the government looked to the female population to rise, the United States government saw an urgent need for more military personnel. With much of the able-bodied male population already exhausted, the government looked to the female population to rise, the United States government saw an urgent need for more military personnel. With much of the able-bodied male population already exhausted, the government looked to the female population to rise, the United States government saw an urgent need for more military personnel. With much of the able-bodied male population already exhausted, the government looked to the female population to rise.

To keep the American war effort moving forward, Congress, on May 12, 1942, passed the bill that created the Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC.) The passing of this bill was controversial because some were morally opposed to the idea while others did not believe that women were fit for military service, or were morally opposed to the idea. Initially the WAAC served as an auxiliary unit, not fully integrated into the army.

The experiment that created the Women’s Army Corps became an opportunity for American women to participate fully in another aspect of American citizenship, and therefore became an undeniable catalyst for greater equality and opportunities for women in the decades following World War II.

---

**National Mall Times**

November 2009

---

**Important Numbers**

- **Radio:** 1670 AM
- **Postal:** 202-233-3520
- **Website:** www.nps.gov/nationalmallplan

---

**Advertising**

- Ranger Led Bike Tours
- Ranger Led Programs
- Ranger Article: The Human Lincoln
- Ranger Led Programs continued
- Potomac Nature Packs
- New Lincoln Memorial Page
- Washington Monument Tickets
- Eastern National
- Tourmobile
- Old Post Office Tower NHS Tours and Presentations
- NPS Organic Act
- Daily Ranger Programs
Join National Park Service rangers every Saturday and Sunday from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. for FREE guided bike tours of the Nation's Capital. (Family Tours are given on the third Sunday of the month from 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.) Tour season begins Saturday, March 28, and continues through Sunday, November 29, 2009.

Please bring your own bike, helmet (required), and water. All tours begin at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial plaza.

For more information call Bike Program Coordinator, Ranger Jason Martz at 202-438-4391, or check our website: www.nps.gov/mall.

Saturday, November 21 - Death and Devastation

A new flu epidemic is sweeping the country! The year is 2009. Or is it 1918? It is the swine flu (H1N1) today, but was the Spanish flu then. Disease, disasters, and war are nothing new to the citizens of the United States. Responding to times of death and devastation has shown the depth of spirit and ingenuity that exists within us all. Come join rangers as we talk about how explosions, floods and epidemics have changed the course of American history.

Sunday, November 22 - Photography on the Mall - Then and Now

Ever wonder where is the best place to photograph the United States Capitol, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, the Washington Monument, or any of the other iconic locations around the city? Grab your camera and join us for a two-wheeled jaunt across the National Mall to see what it looked like after the turn of the 20th century, then take your own shots from some of our better vantage points today! See the National Mall through the eyes of the camera lens, and take home the pictures of a lifetime.

Ranger Led Bike Tours

Sunday, November 1 - People of DC - Washingtonians & the Great War

The First World War swept away four world empires, redrew international boundaries, inaugurated mass genocide, killed nine million people, and elevated the United States to a status never before held. When the United States entered the war in 1917, millions of Americans heeded President Woodrow Wilson's call to "make the world safe for democracy." When the "war to end all wars" concluded, Americans yearned for a "return to normalcy" that eventually evaporated during a Great Depression and a second, more devastating world war. Explore the ways in which Washingtonians responded to the call for service and sacrifice during World War I, through visits to the memorials and the sites forever associated with the Great War of 1914-1918.

Saturday, November 7 - Liberators of the Americas, the Revolutionaries who liberated North & South America

Similarities and differences between the revolutionary leaders who liberated both North and South America will be discussed on this bike tour. We will talk about the different revolutions while visiting the memorials and statues that honor them. We will also discuss their individual revolutions, and the effects these liberators had on the countries they created. The tour will start at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, then move along to the Washington Monument and to the Virginia Avenue memorials.

Sunday, November 8 - Photography on the Mall - Then and Now

Ever wonder where is the best place to photograph the United States Capitol, the Thomas Jefferson Memorial, the Washington Monument; or any of the other iconic locations around the city? Grab your camera and join us for a two-wheeled jaunt across the National Mall to see what it looked like after the turn of the 20th century, then take your own shots from some of our better vantage points today! See the National Mall through the eyes of the camera lens, and take home the pictures of a lifetime.

Saturday, November 14 - The Mystery of Kelly’s Bane

Nestled amongst the many iconic monuments and memorials are objects whose stories are often as compelling as the landmarks themselves. Look closely and you will find them standing proudly at the base of the Washington Monument, along

sidewalks and pathways, and sometimes even floating in the reflecting pool. What are these mysterious objects and what secrets do they hold? Join our rangers as we uncover the "Mystery of Kelly's Bane" on this history and unique tour around the National Mall.

Sunday, November 15 - On this Date in History - Lincoln and the Gettysburg Address

On November 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln gave a short speech to help dedicate the new Soldiers National Cemetery in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. Just a few months after the most devastating battle ever fought on the American continent, Lincoln felt he needed to reassure the American people that these men had not died in vain. This was his stage. At the conclusion of his speech, Lincoln felt that it was not well received by the audience. Little did he realize that his Gettysburg Address would be remembered as one of the more influential speeches in American history.

This special anniversary bike tour will trace tangible links about Lincoln's process to prepare, write, and give his Gettysburg Address. You will learn more about when Lincoln was invited to speak, how he crafted his "few appropriate remarks," and how this speech helped dictate his legacy.

Sunday, November 15 - Family Tour - The Mysteries of the Gettysburg Address

Most Americans have heard of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, and know that it was one of the truly famous speeches in American history. But do you know the reason why Lincoln was asked to deliver the speech or that the speech almost didn't happen? Have you heard stories about how Lincoln wrote his speech on the back of an envelope while riding a train? These mysteries and more will be explained by our National Park Service rangers. Join them as they travel more than one hundred years back in our nation's history to uncover the story behind the legendary speech.

Parents – Please note; all participants (children and adults) must have their own bike and helmet. Reservations for Family Tours are required. Please call Bike Program Coordinator Ranger Jason Martz 202-438-4391 to make reservations. Space is limited.

Saturday, November 28 - There Must be a Better Way

The engineers who descended from James Watt and his steam engine proved man’s ability to generate power to an exponential degree. In the space of three hours, travel in time through one hundred and twenty years of technological change. From Buffalo Bill Cody streaking on horseback (one horsepower mind you) across the western plains of the American continent to Mercury astronauts soaring into the heavens at 4,500 miles per hour (more than one horsepower); astronauts will illustrate the deep effect these changes have made upon our city, country, and the world at large.

Sunday, November 29 - Off the Beaten Path - Discover Lonely and Overlooked Landmarks

You may have seen them on a map, driven past them hundreds of times, or even walked up to one of them out of curiosity. What are they, whom do they memorialize, and, more importantly, why are they here? In a city of colossal and iconic memorials to great figures and even greater deeds, these smaller statues, urns, and symbolic gestures of friendship and remembrance can be found as well, yet their stories have largely gone untold until now. Find out from our rangers the stories of these lonely landmarks.

www.nps.gov/mall
Imagine... it's 1935, and the United States is in the tightening chokehold of the Great Depression. In the midst of massive job losses, starvation, and financial chaos, one voice rings out clearly to bring calm and reason to a frightened nation. Out of the darkness of the depression emerges a beacon of hope in the person of Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Come and listen to Roosevelt himself as he delivers one of his famous "Fireside Chats," with an introduction and follow-up summary from a National Park Service staff member. Meet at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. Call 202-426-6841 for more information.

Daily at 1 p.m. & 5 p.m
"I Have A Dream"

On August 28, 1963, Martin Luther King climbed the steps of the Lincoln Memorial, and delivered one of the great examples of rhetoric known to man – the speech known as "I Have a Dream." Referring to the Bible, the Declaration of Independence, the Emancipation Proclamation, the Constitution of the United States, and even Shakespeare's Richard III, King informed and urged his audience to action in support of the advancement of rights for all Americans. Join a ranger as we examine some of the trivia from the movies, "National Treasure," and "Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian," to determine just how much is truth, and how much is fiction! Meet at the Lincoln Memorial. Contact Lee Vogtman at Lee_Vogtman@nps.gov for more information.

Thursday, November 19
This Day in History – The Gettysburg Address
12 p.m., 2 p.m., 6 p.m.

The 272 words of Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address first were read on November 19, 1863 in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, and in less than a century have been carved forever in stone on the south wall of the Lincoln Memorial. This historic speech has been the subject of many myths and legends. The meaning and importance of Lincoln’s words have been debated and analyzed for over a century. What makes the Gettysburg Address so special? What did Lincoln say? What didn’t he say? How did he write it, and how was it received? This program will examine the context, creation, delivery, and legacy of Lincoln’s speech. Meet in the Lincoln Memorial chamber for these special programs on the 146th anniversary of the speech. Contact Nate Adams at 202-438-6640 for more information.

Saturday, November 7
A Day with a Ranger
10 a.m. – late afternoon

Have you ever said “I wish I had a park ranger to walk with me to all of these wonderful places?” Here is your chance. Spend the day with a park ranger and explore the icons of National Mall and Memorial Parks. The rich architectural story and symbolism of the memorial sites, and the city itself, will be unveiled against the backdrop of American history from colonial to modern times. The tour will begin at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial plaza, and conclude on the grounds of the Washington Monument at mid to late afternoon. Note: entrance to the Washington Monument is not included. Bring comfortable walking shoes and water. Contact Brad Berger at 202-438-4173 for more information.

Saturday, November 7
The Lincoln Haunts Jaunt
5 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Celebrate our sixteenth President’s Bicentennial by stopping at sites that would have been familiar to Abraham Lincoln. This walking tour will concentrate on areas around Lafayette Square, the White House, and along Pennsylvania Avenue. Meet at the base of the Washington Monument for this two-hour walking tour. Please wear comfortable shoes. Contact Lowell Fry at 202-438-9603 for more information.

Sunday, November 8
Bird Walk Around the Tidal Basin
5 p.m. – 7 p.m.

What is bipedal, endothermic and a vertebrate species? Join a park ranger to explore the Tidal Basin area for birds! Discover waterfowl, songbirds, and possibly birds of prey. B.Y.O.B! Bring Your Own Binoculars, bug spray, and wear comfortable shoes. Tour begins at the base of the steps of the Thomas Jefferson Memorial. Contact Kristel Nelson at 202- 497-1357 for more information.

National Mall Times
3
Saturday, November 21
A Day with a Ranger
10 a.m. – late afternoon

Have you ever said “I wish I had a park ranger to walk with me to all of these wonderful places?” Here is your chance. Spend the day with a park ranger and explore the icons of National Mall and Memorial Parks. The rich architectural story and symbolism of the memorial sites, and the city itself, will be unveiled against the backdrop of American history from colonial to modern times. The tour will begin at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial plaza, and conclude on the grounds of the Washington Monument at mid to late afternoon. Note: entrance to the Washington Monument is not included. Bring comfortable walking shoes and water. Contact Brad Berger at 202-438-4173 for more information.

Saturday, November 21
Friends and Rivals: The Turbulent Relationship between John Adams and Thomas Jefferson
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Over the fifty-one years during which Founding Fathers John Adams and Thomas Jefferson were acquainted, they were alternately close friends and bitter political adversaries. The relationship between the short, pugnacious, and self-described “obnoxious” Adams, and the tall, stately, soft-spoken Jefferson is one of the great dramas of American history. They worked together to craft the Declaration of Independence, served together as President and Vice-President of the new nation they helped to conceive, but then didn’t speak to each other for twelve years. Come and learn about the unlikely friendship, the vicious personal attacks, political disputes, and the eloquent correspondence that they shared in their later years. Program begins at the Thomas Jefferson Memorial steps. Contact Harry Gedney at 202-438-9640 for more information.

Sunday, November 22
World War II Operations and Vehicles
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

The operations and vehicles of World War II proved to be of crucial importance to the United States’ rendezvous with destiny. Meet at the Pacific Theater entrance of the World War II Memorial for a walking tour to learn about timelines, battles, aircraft, tanks, and ships such as the USS Enterprise, (the Big E), which contributed to more major actions than any other ship, and still survived the war. Contact Victor Pillow at 202-286-1624 for more information.

Saturday, November 28
Mutiny at Morristown
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

The winter encampment of 1779-1780 at Morristown was known for the bitter cold and the snow that reached up to six feet in height. It was a place where food, supplies, blankets, and firewood were scarce. It was where anger and frustration grew from a payroll that was over a year late in arriving. It was where a Continental Army was shaken to the core and General George Washington himself felt the effects. It was a desperate time and the men could only take so much. It was New Years Day 1781 and it was mutiny! Meet at the Washington Monument. Contact Ranger Joel Yarvis at Joel_Yarvis@nps.gov for more information.

Sunday, November 29
The Man with the Voice that Inspired America
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Join a park ranger at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial, and listen to the voice that inspired a country. From fireside chats, inaugural addresses, and other prominent speeches, come learn about the story of a President who led his country through a depression and a world war and turned it into the greatest superpower of the 20th Century. Meet at the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial. Contact William Cheek at 202-359-1463 for more information.

Potomac Nature Packs

Birds, Bugs and Trees, OH MY!

Discover the wild side of the National Mall with nature packs designed to engage the entire family. Each pack is filled with a sketch pad, binoculars, books, park brochures, maps, and activities for the whole family. These self-guided nature packs allow the whole family to put on their Eagle Scout license. One pack per family. Call 202-426-6841 for more information.

Highlights include a new Lincoln Memorial Construction Flipbook and an Interactive Site. The flipbook utilizes historic photographs to tell the story of the memorial construction from inception to completion. You can experience a virtual walk-through of the memorial, and listen to ranger reflections of the memorial and its history on the Interactive Site.

Be sure to visit the updated Lincoln Memorial website! http://www.nps.gov/linc
Mary Todd how he danced. “In the worst way,” she replied.

He did not cut a figure on the dance floor. Rather, he would pick the whole foot up and put it down as he marched to operas. His movements were slow, and many considered him clumsy.

If he had any musical aptitude, it was latent. He neither played an instrument nor read music. His singing voice was not outstanding but his tastes were eclectic, ranging from operas to marches. He did not cut a figure on the dance floor. If he had any musical aptitude, it was latent.

Clothing appearance seems to have mattered little to Lincoln. Even as an aspiring lawyer, his coat was too short. Even after a marriage of seven years, his wife Mary was unable to refine him. Once when this future first couple were out in public, his pant legs were patched, and his swallowtail socks did not match, his pants clapped behind his back—if a swarm of children weren’t clinging to the “delight of the block.” His walk was firm, though perhaps flatfooted, as he did not walk heel to toe. Rather, he would pick the whole foot up and put it down as he went along. His movements were slow, and many considered him clumsy.

He could easily be self-deprecating. Upon seeing his life mask for the first time his response was, “There is the animal himself.” Yet of a later second life mask his young secretary John Hay said that “the whole expression is of unspeakable sadness and all-suffering strength.”

He had great physical strength. He was a powerful man who excelled at wrestling and “fives,” an old name for handball. Yet Lincoln was more stooped and careworn than ever from the slaughter of America’s bloodiest war, with over six hundred and twenty thousand dead by war’s end, when he made a visit of several hours to wounded soldiers, both Union and Confederate, in his last months. The event was both exhilarating and exhausting. On departing, after shaking hands and talking with these men, he picked up an ax, holding it steadily in his right hand with the ax head at a distance. After he left, younger military men there were not able to repeat this feat.

But more significant were his character strengths. He wasn’t one to bear a grudge. “It doesn’t pay,” he said. Nor did he gossip. Stephen A. Douglas, his debate rival, accurately said, “He is as honest as he is shrewd.”

Someone remarked about the sixteenth President that “to see Lincoln... was to feel closely drawn to him.” Do you?
Visiting the Washington Monument

Hours of Operation: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

All persons who wish to visit the Washington Monument must have a ticket. One person may pick up to six tickets. Open daily (except July 4 and December 25.)

Timed entry tickets are required and may be obtained in two ways:

1. Free, same-day tickets may be picked up at the Washington Monument Lodge (located at the base of the Monument along 15th Street) on a first come - first serve basis, the morning of your visit. Monument Lodge opens at 8:30 a.m.

2. Reserved tickets may be obtained in advance by visiting www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777 (for individuals) or 1-877-455-6777 (for large groups). Reserved tickets are often booked 30 days ahead of time. Please plan accordingly. All reserved tickets carry a $1.50 convenience charge.

Reserved tickets may be obtained in advance by visiting www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777 (for individuals) or 1-877-455-6777 (for large groups). Reserved tickets are often booked 30 days ahead of time. Please plan accordingly. All reserved tickets carry a $1.50 convenience charge.

Want to learn more about one of Washington, D.C.’s more impressive and fascinating landmarks, the Old Post Office Tower? Tours are by request. Call 202-606-8691 for more information.

Operating Hours

Summer: Memorial Day through Labor Day
Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. - 7:45 p.m.
Sunday and Holidays 10 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

Winter: Labor Day through Memorial Day
Monday through Saturday 9 a.m. - 4:45 p.m.
Sunday 10 a.m. - 5:45 p.m.

202-606-8691
www.nps.gov/opot

Eastern National

Want to learn more about National Mall and Memorial Parks? Eastern National, a park partner, operates four bookstores throughout the park. The bookstores are located at:

- Lincoln Memorial: 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Thomas Jefferson Memorial: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Washington Monument Lodge: 8:30 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Tourmobile Sightseeing

Get ready for the sights and sounds of the Nation’s Capital. Tourmobile Sightseeing’s narrated shuttle tours take you right where you want to go. Buy your tickets from the driver, and enjoy unlimited re-boarding. You choose where to stop, stay as long as you want, then board and ride to another historic location.

202-554-5100
www.tourmobile.com

**Monuments, and reservations, which purpose is to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.**

National Park Service Organic Act
August 25, 1916

Old Post Office Tower NHS Tours and Presentations

Ranger led walking tours of Pennsylvania Avenue
Upon Request - Saturdays and Sundays 11 a.m. & 1 p.m.

Join a park ranger for an interpretive program to learn more about one of Washington, D.C.’s more impressive and fascinating landmarks, the Old Post Office Tower. Tours are by request. Call 202-606-8691 for more information.

Daily Ranger Programs

- World War II Memorial
- Lincoln Memorial
- Thomas Jefferson Memorial
- Vietnam Veterans Memorial
- Korean War Veterans Memorial
- Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial

Scheduled Programs are presented at:

11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m.

**Additional programs on request.**