

# Visit Colonial Williamsburg Virginia

***Immerse yourself in 400 years of history with great travel deals in Williamsburg, Virginia!***

Visit *Colonial Williamsburg*, Virginia the nation's largest living history museum with 301 acres to explore, great hotels and resorts, including *King's Creek Plantation Resort*, and homes, stores and taverns reconstructed and restored to their 18<sup>th</sup>-century appearance.

Stroll through this gem of our national pride. Watch tradesmen and women practicing historic trades and domestic crafts. Encounter historical interpreters and character actors in your journey back through time. Enjoy 90 acres of carefully sculpted gardens. It's where America began!

Located only about a two-hour drive south of Washington, D.C. -- or an easy train ride from anywhere on Amtrak -- the Historic Triangle of Williamsburg, Jamestown and Yorktown, VA is the perfect vacation destination with something for everyone. And you won't need a car once you get here!

## Places to go, People to See, Great Vacation Packages

Just a bit of background for you:

Originally Middle Plantation, a 1632 fortified settlement located on high ground on the Virginia peninsula between the James and York rivers, it was renamed Williamsburg after the capital of the Virginia Colony was moved there from Jamestown in 1698. The town received a royal charter as a city in 1722, and was the center of political events in Virginia leading up to the American Revolution.. Williamsburg is well-known for *Colonial Williamsburg*, the restored Historic Area of the city, with many hotels and resorts nearby. It is also known for the adjacent *College of William & Mary*, established in 1693, the second-oldest university in the United States.

The Historic Triangle of Virginia, which is Williamsburg, Jamestown and Yorktown, is one of the most popular tourist destinations in the world for families, honeymoons and couples' great escapes. The three corners of the triangle are linked by the Colonial Parkway, a 23-mile national scenic byway, shielding travelers from commercial development, and allowing them to go back in time when life was simpler. The area is rich with history, restaurants, shopping and many beautiful hotels and resorts.

### ***Colonial Williamsburg***

Here you can step back to the eve of the American Revolution. From 1699 to

1780, Williamsburg, VA was the political and cultural center of Britain's largest colony in the New World.

Williamsburg, Virginia is a favorite destination of Josh Williams, co-founder of Romms101.com (<http://www.Rooms101.com>). He spent his honeymoon there and visits frequently. He is a huge fan of the *King's Creek Plantation Resort* and finds it to be one of the best he has experienced so far. His Williamsburg, VA favorites are:

- 1 *The Blue Talon Bistro* nestled in the heart of Colonial Williamsburg with a superb menu for light dining, gourmet meals, excellent wine, a variety of specialty brews (Josh says to try the "*Hoegaarden*"), and absinthe
- 1 *The Jamestown Tour*. Recently modernized for the 400th anniversary, this incredible peak into the founding of America is completely top notch and full of incredible artifacts, museums and fun
- 2 The Toy Store in *Colonial Williamsburg*
- 3 The chocolate covered strawberry's from the Candy store in *Colonial Williamsburg*
- 4 *The Polo Outlet* in the *Prime Outlet's* Shopping center

Additional highlights include the *Governor's Palace*, the Capitol, the Museums of *Colonial Williamsburg* and *Basset Hall*.

### **Preferred Resort Accommodations**

Today, when visiting *Colonial Williamsburg* Virginia, you'll discover that you have truly stepped back in time with this beautiful restoration. Choose to stay at *King's Creek Plantation Resort*, minutes away, and your accommodations will keep you in the historic mode. *King's Creek Plantation Resort* is located adjacent to *Water Country USA* and across the street from Williamsburg's newest museum, *President's Park*, highlighting all of our nation's presidents.

The Resort is set on rolling hills blending detailed landscaping with the natural beauty of Virginia's woodland. From the moment you pass through *King's Creek's* gate, you meander through the charm of The Cottages dotted with fun amenities such as tennis courts and picnic areas. The center of the property hosts the clubhouse and their newest star, *King's Creek Commons and Aquatic Center*. On the northern part of the Plantation lies *The Townes* featuring deluxe townhouse living and yet another swimming pool.

### **Busch Gardens Williamsburg Virginia**

*Busch Gardens* is a fabulous combination of historic European charm to

contemporary state of the art rides, exhibits and events. With dozens of thrilling rides and attractions, entertaining shows, a wide variety of authentic foods and shops, and an all-new children's area, *Busch Gardens* is the ticket to world-class adventure. For the 19th consecutive year, the European-themed park has been voted the "Most Beautiful Park" by members of the *National Amusement Park Historical Association*. The combination of European-themed architecture, lush landscaping and elaborate costumes contributes to the beauty and charm of the park.

Here's what's new this year:

#### *Sesame Street Forest of Fun*

1. Can you tell me how to get to Sesame Street? Now, you can just follow the signs to *Busch Gardens*. *Elmo*, *Big Bird*, *Abby Cadabby* and other *Sesame Street* characters are now at the world's most beautiful theme park. *Sesame Street Forest of Fun* is *Busch Gardens*' newest attraction and just for children and their families. This new area features family-friendly rides, playgrounds and a 4-D *Sesame Street* movie. Kids can meet their favorite *Sesame Street* character and get their picture taken with them as well.
2. Christmas Town Open weekends from Nov. 27 through Dec. 13 and daily Christmas week, "*Christmas Town: A Busch Gardens Celebration*" will create the anticipation of the season and fill visitors' senses with all things Christmas. The park will transform into a winter wonderland filled with holiday traditions, new surprises and park favorites that make everyone say, "Now this is Christmas."
3. Pulse-Pounding Thrills With plenty of exciting rides like *Griffon* with the power and speed of a mythological beast, *Curse of DarkKastle*, a thrill ride set in a castle frozen in time, *Alpengeist*, a ski-lift-style roller coaster, *Apollo's Chariot*, the hypercoaster and *The Big Bad Wolf*, the world's first suspended roller coaster, your day just got much more exciting! You'll enjoy the relaxation at the end of the day in your comfortable vacation resort.

#### **Shopping in Williamsburg, VA**

More than 200 retail and designer outlet stores make the Historic Triangle a shopper's paradise! *Prime Outlets at Williamsburg*, *Patriot Plaza Premium Outlets* and the *Williamsburg Outlet Mall* combined offer 150 factory and designer outlet stores. In the heart of Williamsburg, *Merchants Square* boasts specialty boutiques and designer stores as well as Colonial reproductions and collections. The *Williamsburg Antique Mall* features more than 400 antique dealers. Nearby, Historic Yorktown presents *Riverwalk Landing* a waterfront shopping and dining locale that's just a short walk to many of Yorktown's local art

galleries and antique shops.

### **Jamestown Settlement**

Get a total understanding of what happened back in 1607 as the first steps were taken in colonizing America. Visitors are immersed in the world of America's first permanent English colonists and the Powhatan Indians they encountered. The events and environment of 17th-century Virginia are brought to life in Jamestown Settlement's exhibition galleries. Extensive gallery exhibits and a new introductory film explore Jamestown's beginnings as a business venture, the impact of European colonization on the Powhatan Indian culture, and the origins of the first known Africans in Virginia. Hundreds of objects from 17th-century Europe and Africa and Virginia archaeological artifacts are integrated into the gallery setting, which features three-dimensional structures and small theaters. In the outdoor living history areas, board a replica of one of the three ships that sailed from England to Virginia in 1607. Try on armor or play a game of quoits in a palisaded colonial fort. In a re-created Powhatan Indian village, take part in activities Pocahontas would have helped with as a child, like grinding corn and making cordage. Costumed historical interpreters guide you into the past, helping you try your hand at 17th-century activities. There are restaurants and gift shops on site, with hotel accommodations nearby.

### **Yorktown Victory Center**

Start your tour at the state-operated *Yorktown Victory Center*, a museum of the American Revolution.

Follow the Road to Revolution, an outdoor walkway to the main museum building. Exhibits along the "Road" describe events that resulted in the transformation of the mood in Britain's American colonies from acceptance of the status quo in mid-18th century to rebellion 25 years later. Dramatic presentations explaining the living documents that marked the beginning and conclusion of the Revolution -- the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution and Bill of Rights -- anchor the exhibit space.

In the gallery entitled Witnesses to Revolution, you'll meet 10 individuals who lived during the 18th century and recorded their observations in letters and diaries. In *Converging on Yorktown*, you'll experience the fascinating story of Yorktown's Sunken Fleet, ships lost or scuttled during the Yorktown siege.

A new long-term exhibition, "*The Legacy of Yorktown: Virginia Beckons*," examines how people from many different cultures, those in Virginia before the 1607 founding of Jamestown and those who arrived later, shaped a new society. With an emphasis on 1607 to 1830, the exhibit explores economic, political and religious motivations for immigration and how people from Europe and Africa and other places in America were changed by and shaped their new environment.

The Yorktown Victory Center's living-history program offers visitors the opportunity to experience Revolutionary era life firsthand. Outside the main museum building are re-creations of a Continental Army encampment and a 1780s farm where costumed interpreters re-enact and discuss daily life during and after the Revolution.

### **Water Country USA**

As the mid-Atlantic's largest water park, *Water Country USA* offers 43 acres of pools, children's play areas, lazy rivers and water rides. Families and couples will have a blast at "Rock 'n' Roll Island," featuring nearly 600 feet of body slides, a 700-foot lazy river and a 9,000-square-foot pool. Rock 'n' Roll Island celebrates the music of the 1950s and '60s – the era that all of *Water Country USA* is themed after. For guests who want to relax, the park has about 1,500 free lounge chairs and 16 private cabanas for rent.

### **Historic Jamestowne**

Founded in 1607, Jamestowne served as the capital of Virginia throughout the 17th century. It was the location where the language, customs, laws and government practiced in our nation today were established. Today, the National Park Service and *APVA Preservation Virginia* preserve and interpret our nation's roots at Historic Jamestowne, site of America's first permanent English settlement.

Start your experience at the new *Historic Jamestowne Visitor Center*. You'll see a presentation on Jamestown's beginnings and rich history. Walk through the town site to see the original church tower dating to the 1690s and the foundation of some the earliest buildings in Virginia. At the Glasshouse, costumed glassblowers demonstrate one of the earliest industries in English-speaking America. Driving tours explore the lush natural setting where exhibits explain how the settlers harnessed the Virginia wilderness for their needs. You'll see bald eagles, heron, osprey, deer and other wildlife.

At the *Jamestown Rediscovery* excavation, archaeologists are uncovering the remains of the original 1607 James Fort. Visitors can share in the moment of discovery as archaeologists gently coax the Jamestown of 1607 from the banks of the James River. An innovative new exhibition facility showcases more than 1,000 artifacts and the findings of this world-renowned archaeological project.

### **Historic Yorktown**

Start your day with a sail on the York River. You'll see the once thriving seaport of Yorktown that welcomed hundreds of ships a year importing and exporting cargo between the colonies and England.

Up on Main Street, referred to as "on the hill", the wealthy passed their days trading commodities and dreaming of independence. "Under the hill", the area along the waterfront, was filled with taverns and merchant shops where the sailors would spend time and money before their ship once again set sail.

Now the waterfront has awakened once more and again is witness to the unfurling of sails and the sounds of footsteps along the dock. *Riverwalk Landing*, a multi-million dollar project, includes shops, fine dining, a performance area, and two docks - one that supports large vessels such as cruise and tall ships, and the other for smaller personal watercraft.

Immerse yourself in 300 years of history. Experience many 18th-century homes, and picturesque streets as well as art galleries, antique and specialty shops. March to the beat of the *Fifes and Drums of York Town*. Dine at one of the charming restaurants, some with a beautiful view of the York River. A free trolley runs a route daily Spring through Fall.

Be sure to see *Yorktown Victory Monument*, which was commissioned by the Continental Congress in 1781 and completed in 1884 to commemorate the victory at Yorktown. See Cornwallis' Cave, where legend has it that the English General and his staff sought refuge from the bombardment by American and French Troops. Visit the York County Historical Museum, which includes exhibits and artifacts spanning centuries of York County history.

You'll find Williamsburg Virginia an unforgettable experience. Great vacation packages await you at [Rooms101.com](http://Rooms101.com)!