



Colonial Williamsburg THE Best Time To Go.

There is probably no better time to visit Colonial Williamsburg than during the period from Thanksgiving through Christmas. Sunrise and fresh-baked bread warm up a cool, crisp day at Colonial Williamsburg. The alluring mix tempts the morning's first visitors to follow the costumed bakers to the Raleigh Tavern on Duke of Gloucester Street (shortened to "Dog" Street by locals). There you'll find baskets filled with goodness. You couldn't ask for a more appetizing start to celebrating Thanksgiving's bounty at Colonial Williamsburg.

Sobering current events at home and abroad renew and strengthen our ties with family, faith, fellowship, and national pride. Restore and rejuvenate those bonds by sitting down to lunch or dinner at one of the four dining taverns in the Historic Area.

All of them offer superb holiday fare, costumed servers, roving minstrels, authentic furnishings, and a pleasant atmosphere. There's the sumptuous offering for Thanksgiving dinner at King's Arms Tavern. Start with cream of Virginia peanut soup, so rich, flavorful, and filling that they could serve it as the main course. But then there would be no room for the roasted young turkey served with giblet gravy, cornbread dressing, Carolina candied yams, and cranberry chutney.

Dessert can't be any better than their warm mincemeat pie. But you might be talked into tasting their seven-layer chocolate cake. In recent years, the restaurant added wines from French vineyards visited by Thomas Jefferson. They're not inexpensive, but consider the company. You'll get a meal and a memory that you'll savor.

Be sure to visit the shops, cottages, and other sites in the historic district. If you haven't been here in years (or ever), seeing Colonial Williamsburg this month makes good sense too.

Gone are the steamy summer lines waiting to get in all the shops, craft houses, and taverns. You'll also get the jump on the Christmas season crowds coming to shop in December. There seem to

be just enough visitors to make it sociable. Don't be surprised if you're the only one in front of the warm fire at the cobbler's shop, usually one of the most popular places. That's another reason why Thanksgiving is such a great time to visit.

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