

CIRCLE THE CHESAPEAKE BAY

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DAY ONE

Arrive local Washington, D.C. or Richmond, VA airport where you will be met by your Group Tour Company escort/guide and motorcoach. Both will be for your exclusive use during your seven day journey. Transfer to Richmond's most famous hotel, The Jefferson. Enjoy a Welcome Dinner [dinner included]

DAY TWO

Today, tour the area of Virginia known as "The Northern Neck" which enjoys a rich and colorful past. A visit to historic Christ Church (1732) should be first on your list. Nearby is St. Mary's Chapel (1669), Robert E. Lee's birthplace at Stratford Hall, and Wakefield, the birthplace of George Washington. This evening, drive to Norfolk, VA for hotel check in. [lunch included]

DAY THREE

Enjoy a day in the city which boasts "the largest Naval Base in the world." First take a tour of this Naval Facility. You will see destroyers, submarines, aircraft carriers and planes attached to the Naval Air Station. Next visit the memorial to General of the Army Douglas MacArthur. A visit to this memorial provides a glimpse into this century's history of our country, renewing one's faith in those American values—Duty, Honor, Country—which motivated this man as he helped to mold our nation during some of its greatest crises and finest hours. End the day with a cruise of the famous Hampton Roads Harbor, site of the Battle of the Monitor and Merrimac, the magnificent Chesapeake Bay, a stop at the historic Civil War island of Fort Wool and in-depth review of the mighty warships at the Norfolk Naval Base. [no meals included]

DAY FOUR

Today's journey begins by crossing the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel to Virginia's Eastern Shore and the beginning of the DelMarVA Peninsula. You will have an approximate two hours drive to Chincoteague and the National Wildlife Refuge which occupies the lower third of Assateague Island and is part of a chain of refuges along the Atlantic flyway. More than 300 species of birds have been identified on the refuge. Local legend contends that Chincoteague in the late 160's. Continue onto Ocean City, MD. This evening, enjoy a casual seafood dinner followed by a walk along Ocean City's old fashioned wooden boardwalk. [dinner included]

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DAY FIVE

This morning drive to Crisfield, MD (approximately 1 hour) to board a boat for your cruise to Tangier Island, a remote island in the Chesapeake Bay. In 1608, John Smith sailed up the Chesapeake Bay and landed at a small island he named Tangier. For many years, Tangier was the hunting and fishing grounds of the Pocomoke Indians, but in 1666 a Mr. West bought the island from the Indians for two overcoats. The rich oyster and crab grounds surrounding the island drew early settlers to this remote spot. Tangier is a romantic largely unspoiled fishing village with quaint narrow streets. The people of Tangier, who speak with a lingering trace of Elizabethan accent, are warm, friendly and proud of their island. Following lunch on Tangier Island board your boat for your return to Crisfield and then back to Ocean City for a free evening to enjoy this Atlantic Ocean resort town.

[lunch included]

DAY SIX

After hotel check out, drive to St. Michaels, MD (approximately 2 hours) and spend the morning exploring this charming town. Formerly known as Shipping Creek, St. Michaels was active as early as 1632 when Captain Claiborne from Kent Island recorded trading here. It was not until the time of the American Revolution, however, that the town began to develop as a noted shipbuilding center. During the War of 1812, the local militia successfully repelled two British attacks. Traditional accounts of the attack on August 9, 1813 credit the townspeople with extinguishing all ground lights and hanging lanterns in treetops, causing the British to shoot over the town. While there, tour St. Michaels' Museum at St Mary's Square and the Chesapeake Bay Maritime Museum. Enjoy lunch at the Crab Claw followed by a cruise across the Chesapeake Bay to Annapolis, MD, capital of the state, once capital of our nation, and one of the highest concentrations of 18th century buildings. This evening is free to explore the many shops and restaurants located along the harbor area.

[lunch included]

DAY SEVEN

Following hotel check out, your guided tour of Annapolis will include the Maryland State House, the oldest state house in continuous legislative use, a tour of the United States Naval Academy and if time permits a visit to William Paca House and Gardens, the restored home of William Paca, a signer of the Declaration of Independence.

Drive to Washington, D.C. (approximately 1 hour) for your departure home.
[no meals included]