

Buckroe Beach Park

Hampton, VA 23662

757-850-5134

Open from Memorial Day to Labor Day, this 3/4 mile clean beach is a perfect stop for relaxation and recreation! The adjacent park provides picnic areas with shelters, tables, and grills, and a children's playground. Kayak, paddle boats, and umbrella rentals are available.

Busch Gardens

Williamsburg, VA

757-253-3350

Trees and shade keep the park pleasant even in the heat of summer! Escape From Pompeii serves up "hot" special effects, tumbling ruins and a harrowing plunge into a splash pool.

Website: <http://www.buschgardens.com/BGW/default.aspx>

Colonial Williamsburg

Williamsburg, VA

1-800-HISTORY

What makes a visit to Colonial Williamsburg so much fun? When people ask you where you've been, you can say, "The 18th Century." And, you can tell your friends you actually met Thomas Jefferson and Patrick Henry.

Website: <http://www.history.org/>

Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge

Cape Charles, VA

757-331-2760

The Eastern Shore of Virginia National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1984 for migratory and endangered species management and for wildlife oriented recreation. The 752 acres of maritime forest, myrtle and bayberry thickets, grasslands, croplands, and fresh and brackish ponds provide important habitat for wildlife. When visiting the refuge, be sure to check out the Sunset Beach Resort Best Western Motel on the other side of US 13, just after crossing the bridge-tunnel. The motel/resort site has a beach on the bayside of the eastern shore where kayak rentals are available and a beautiful sunset can be seen! A great weekend getaway or daytrip!

Website: <http://www.fws.gov/Refuges/profiles/index.cfm?id=51650>

First Landing State Park

Virginia Beach, VA 23451

757-412-2300

Bird watching, crabbing, three indoor aquariums, restrooms, showers and water sports rentals.

Website: http://www.dcr.virginia.gov/state_parks/fir.shtml

Jamestown Settlement and Yorktown Victory Center

Williamsburg, VA

757-253-4838

Experience the story of America's beginnings at Jamestown Settlement and the Yorktown Victory Center. Through film, artifact-filled galleries and outdoor living history, these museums engage visitors in nearly two centuries of our nation's history - from the founding of America's

first permanent English settlement in 1607 to the decisive Revolutionary War victory in 1781 and implementation of the Constitution and Bill of Rights.

At **Jamestown Settlement**, you'll learn about the people of 17th-century Virginia - Powhatan Indians and European and African immigrants. At the **Yorktown Victory Center**, you'll discover the lives of men and women who witnessed the American Revolution and the formation of the new nation.

Administered by the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, an agency of the Commonwealth of Virginia that is accredited by the American Association of Museums

Website: <http://www.historyisfun.org>

Maymont Park

Richmond, VA

804-358-7166

A 100+ acre Victorian estate with the Dooley mansion and nationally acclaimed gardens on one side, a Children's Farm on the other side, and a brand new spectacular Nature Center in between. Tram rides are offered most days. Open every day, but the exhibits are closed on Mondays. Admission is free to the park and all exhibits, but they encourage donations.

Website: <http://www.maymont.org/>

Nauticus

Norfolk, VA

757-664-1000

Nauticus is a spectacular maritime-themed science center featuring hands-on exhibits, interactive theaters, aquaria, digital high-definition films, and an extensive variety of educational programs. A gift shop and restaurant compliment the experience.

Website: www.nauticus.org

Norfolk Botanical Garden

Norfolk, Virginia

757-441-5830

The Garden is open every day of the year. Free parking adjacent to the staffed main visitor center See the website for seasonal events! Also on the grounds are: 12 miles of walking paths, 8 minute video overview of the Garden, Wheelchair accessibility (wheelchairs to borrow, paths, tram), Drink Machines, and Picnic area.

Website: <http://www.norfolkbotanicalgarden.org/>

Science Museum of Virginia

Richmond, VA

1-800-659-1727

Wonderful hands-on learning and fun. There is also a planetarium and special shows all year.

Website: <http://www.smv.org/>

Town Point Park

Norfolk, VA

757-441-2345

Norfolk's 7-acre waterfront park is the downtown site of more than 65 major outdoor concerts, award-winning festivals, and special events each year. Festivals include Harborfest, the Bayou Boogaloo & Cajun Food Festival, Afr'AM Fest and Virginia Wine Festival.

Website: http://www.festeventsva.org/directions_tpp.php

Virginia Air and Space Center

Hampton, VA

757-727-0900

Take flight to the Virginia Air & Space Center. Your imagination will soar as you launch a rocket, pilot a space shuttle, come face-to-face with the Apollo 12 Command Module, and a DC 9 passenger jet. Experience a 3D IMAX film in the Riverside IMAX Theater...you have to see it to believe it! There is always something new landing at the Virginia Air & Space Center!

Website: <http://www.vasc.org/index.html>

Virginia Aquarium

Virginia Beach, VA

757-425-FISH

Visit here to explore the mysteries of water at the most extraordinary place of its kind. The Virginia Marine Science Museum is the largest aquarium in the state, and one of the top marine science museums in the country.

Website: <http://www.virginiaaquarium.com/>

Virginia Zoo

Norfolk, VA

757-441-2499

The Virginia Zoo is a 53-acre zoological park featuring over 350 animals. The first habitat, featuring the rare and exciting gelada baboons of Ethiopia, opened July 1999.

Website: <http://www.virginiazoo.org/>

Waller Mill Park

Location:

Route 645 Airport Road

Williamsburg, VA

Phone:(757)259-3778

This park is situated on Waller Mill Reservoir so there are many fun things for families to do and see! Rowboats and pedal boats are available to rent year round and kayaks and canoes are available in the summer months. You can also launch your own (non-gasoline motor) small boat. Aside from water activities, there is one of the best mountain biking trail in all of Hampton Roads! - A 5 1/2 mile stretch of rugged and scenic terrain provides loops for both the novice and experienced rider! Hikes are made fun with scenic trails accompanied by a self-guided trail booklet! A fantastic way for your family to discover nature!

Website: <http://www.ci.williamsburg.va.us/dept/rec/parks.htm#waller>

Water Country USA

Williamsburg, VA

1-800-343-7946

Let your little ones see how fun playing in the water can be! Lots of areas for diaper changing, and of course - life jackets are supplied!

Website: <http://www.watercountryusa.com/wc/default.aspx>