MISCHIEF & MISTLETOE
Williamsburg Holidays

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA
Suggested Group Itinerary

The Greater Williamsburg Chamber & Tourism Alliance
421 N. Boundary Street | Williamsburg, VA | 23187-3495
800-368-6511 | 757-229-6511 | fax 757-253-1397
www.ChristmasInWilliamsburg.com
**DAY ONE**

Check in your Williamsburg accommodations  
5:30 pm  
Choose from limited to full-service properties with exterior or interior corridors, indoor or outdoor pools, with deluxe continental breakfast or full breakfast buffet, priced from budget and moderate to deluxe. Visit the website for more information on area hotels.

Dinner  
6:30 pm  
For a complete list of group dining opportunities, please visit the website.

Optional Shopping  
8:00 pm  
This evening, take some time to do a little holiday shopping at New Town, Premium Outlets or Yankee Candle.

**DAY TWO**

Breakfast at your Williamsburg accommodations  
8:00 am  

Depart for Colonial Williamsburg  
8:45 am  

Tour of Colonial Williamsburg’s Historic Area  
9:00 am—12:00 pm  
America’s largest living history museum. From 1699 to 1780, Williamsburg was the political, social and cultural capital of Britain’s largest, wealthiest and most populous colony. Colonial Williamsburg encompasses more than 500 buildings and 90 acres of magnificent gardens. In the shops, taverns, government buildings, homes and streets George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, George Mason and other Virginia Patriots debated the ideas—liberty, independence, and personal freedoms—that led to the founding of American democracy. Interaction with costumed interpreters of varied age, race, and social position provides a first-hand view of life when the town was the capitol of the Virginia colony.

Enjoy lunch on your own in Merchants Square  
12:00—1:00 pm  
Located adjacent to Colonial Williamsburg’s Historic Area, Merchants Square is an 18th-century style retail village with more than 40 shops and restaurants. The restaurants on Merchants Square offer choices from a quick sandwich to the freshest seafood, steaks or contemporary American regional cooking.

For a list of group dining opportunities, visit our website. For a list of restaurants in Merchants Square, visit the website: www.merchantsquare.org

Williamsburg Decorating Ideas for Your Home at the DeWitt Wallace Decorative Arts Museum  
1:15—2:00 pm  
Explore how Yuletide celebrations of colonial times evolved into the signature Williamsburg Christmas look that is admired today in the Historic Area. The Colonial Williamsburg Landscape staff shares tricks of the trade as they demonstrate how to decorate a wreath, swag, or other traditional Williamsburg holiday decorations using fresh fruit, greens and other natural materials.

You’ll leave with plenty of information to make your own Williamsburg decorations for the holidays or any time of the year.

Free time to shop at Merchants Square  
2:00—3:00 pm  
The shops at Merchants Square offer everything from traditional and designer clothing to handmade candies, antique quilts, folk art and a variety of exclusive Williamsburg reproductions.

Christmas Decorations Walking Tour  
3:15—4:15 pm  
Enjoy a guided look at Colonial Williamsburg’s picturesque building exteriors and streets decorated in their holiday splendor. Learn about the materials, construction techniques and holiday traditions of Colonial Williamsburg’s decorations.

Free time to self-explore the Historic Area  
4:15—5:15 pm  

Dinner in a Colonial Tavern  
5:30—7:00 pm  
Taverns were not only an integral part of colonial life in America, but were also a necessity. The modes of travel and transportation of the day mandated the location of a tavern every few miles on the main thoroughfares. Each of the operating taverns located in Colonial Williamsburg’s Historic Area is inspired by a different style of colonial-era cooking.

Depart for Newport News, VA  
7:15 pm  

Enjoy Celebration in Lights at Newport News Park  
7:30—8:00 pm  
View whimsical toys, elegant swans, leaping reindeer, multi-colored snowflakes and scenes from Virginia’s past portrayed in a kaleidoscope of dazzling color along this two mile driving tour of spectacular animated scenes.

Return to your accommodations  
8:30 pm  

**DAY THREE**

Breakfast at your Williamsburg accommodations  
8:00 am  

Depart for a full day of touring  
8:45 am
### DAY THREE — CONTINUED

**Guided tour of Jamestown Settlement including the Lord of Misrule**  
9:00 am—12:00 pm  
At Jamestown Settlement, a short holiday film and special interpretive programs compare and contrast English Christmas customs of the period with how the season may have been observed in the difficult early years of America’s first permanent English colony. In England, the holiday season—extending from December 25 to January 6—was a time of merriment and feasting. Little is known about Christmases at Jamestown, but it is likely there were few celebrations other than church services to mark the holiday.

Lunch on your own at the Jamestown Settlement Café  
12:00—1:00 pm

**Depart for Yorktown**  
1:00 pm

**Guided tour of the Yorktown Victory Center**  
1:30—3:30 pm  
Soldiers of the American Revolution had little opportunity for Christmas merriment. At the Yorktown Victory Center, hear accounts of Christmas and winter in military encampments during the American Revolution and glimpse holiday preparations on a 1780s farm. Visitors to the Continental Army encampment can learn about winter camp life and hear accounts of Christmas during the war, as well as assist the quartermaster in preparing military supplies. At the farm, historical interpreters will demonstrate a variety of holiday activities, including setting a farmhouse table for a holiday feast, decorating with greenery, and open-hearth cooking in the farm kitchen.

**Free time to explore Riverwalk Landing in Yorktown**  
3:45—4:30 pm  
What could be more perfect than a day spent soaking up the atmosphere of our nation’s exciting history while at the same time enjoying modern-day conveniences and an eclectic mix of shops? Once, this town was a thriving seaport welcoming visitors from Europe and the colonies. Its reign ended with the coming of war, but was rewarded with independence.

**Depart for Busch Gardens**  
4:30 pm

**Enjoy Christmas Town at Busch Gardens, plus Dinner (Platinum Dining Certificate provided)**  
5:00—10:00 pm  
Experience new attractions, shows and shopping filled with holiday spirit. Enjoy an immersive experience amid more than a million twinkling lights while exploring the best holiday traditions from around the world. Santa visits the park each evening to hear Christmas wishes from the young and young-at-heart.

### DAY FOUR

**Return to your accommodations**  
10:15 pm

**Arrival at Williamsburg**  
11:00 am—12:00 pm  
Board the bus for an overnight stay in Williamsburg.

**Breakfast at your Williamsburg accommodations**  
7:30 am

**Depart for Hampton Roads**  
8:30 am

**Enjoy the Star of Wonder Planetarium Show**  
9:00—10:30 am  
Experience the journey of the Magi around you in the Virginia Living Museum’s state-of-the-art digital planetarium theater! Since 1965, the museum has journeyed in the footsteps of the magi. Over the years, the scientific thinking has changed, archeology has revealed new clues, and our understanding of who the magi might actually have been has grown. This program offers a truly immersive look at the journey of the Magi while examining the latest clues and seeking once more to understand the appearance of the Star of Bethlehem.

**Depart for Norfolk**  
10:45 am

**Visit Nauticus and the USS Wisconsin**  
11:30 am—1:00 pm  
Nauticus is the National Maritime Center in Norfolk, Virginia. The complex includes the Battleship Wisconsin, the Hampton Roads Naval Museum and the Norfolk Cruise Terminal. Nauticus has a maritime-themed science center for kids with an aquarium, hands-on exhibits, interactive theaters, and a variety of educational programs. The Battleship Wisconsin BB-64 is one of the famous Iowa-class ships. It was commissioned on April 16, 1944 and reported for duty in the Pacific. It is one of the largest and last battleships ever built by the United States Navy. The main deck and sections of two upper decks are open for self-guided tours. Explore the deck of this national treasure and learn about the ship’s powerful guns and her award-winning military career.

**Lunch on own**  
1:15—2:15 pm

**Shop at MacArthur Center Mall**  
2:30—4:30 pm  
Located in the heart of downtown Norfolk, and just a few blocks from the waterfront, MacArthur Center is the only place in Southeastern Virginia where you can experience world-class shopping in a world-class environment. Nordstrom, Dillard’s, and 140 extraordinary stores, along with an 18-screen theater and food court that surround a beautiful 70-foot atrium.

**Depart for Virginia Beach**  
4:30 pm

**Dinner**  
5:15—6:45 pm  
Visit the Virginia Beach website for a list of possible group dining options.
## DAY FOUR — CONTINUED

**Enjoy McDonald’s Holiday In Lights at the Beach**

7:00 pm  
Festive fish, jumping dolphins, frolicking porpoises—all in bright, colored lights against the clear night-time sky, are the stars of McDonald’s Holiday Lights at the Beach, a nautical and holiday-themed light display at the Virginia Beach oceanfront! They are joined by Santa, elves, and a 40-foot tall Christmas tree erected on the beach and in the beautiful parks along the Virginia Beach boardwalk. It’s the only time of the year that vehicles get to drive right on the boardwalk—over 30 blocks! This “Fanta-Sea” of lights is sure to dazzle and amaze holiday travelers.

**Depart for Norfolk**

7:45 pm  
Celebrate the “Four Seasons” in lights at Norfolk Botanical Garden  
8:15 pm—9:15 pm  
View spider webs, Christmas elves and waterfalls in a light display that brings the holiday season to the gardens. Make memories you will treasure forever on the two-mile driving tour through more than 750,000 lights.

**Return to your accommodations**

9:30 pm  

## DAY FIVE

**Breakfast at your Williamsburg accommodations**

8:30 am  

**Depart for Charles City County, VA**

9:30 am  

**Visit Berkeley Plantation**

10:15 am—12:00 pm  
Berkeley is Virginia’s most historic plantation. On December 4, 1619, early settlers from England came ashore at Berkeley Plantation and observed the first official Thanksgiving in America. See the birthplace of Benjamin Harrison, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and President William Henry Harrison, “Old Tippecanoe.” “Taps” was composed at Berkeley when General McClellan headquartered 140,000 Union troops in 1862.

**Enjoy a boxed lunch at Shirley Plantation**

12:15 pm  

**Visit Shirley Plantation**

1:00 pm—3:00 pm  
Shirley tells the story of the Hill-Carter family, eye witnesses to 11 generations of American history. To this day, the 11th generation continues to own, operate, and work this grand southern plantation. Shirley Plantation is Virginia’s first plantation (1613) and one of the first economic engines of the New World. Today, Shirley continues to be a working plantation, a private family home, a growing business, a National Historic Landmark and a direct link between the past and the present.

## DAY SIX

**Visit Maymont Park**

3:45 pm—5:00 pm  
Celebrate the season at Maymont and revel in Victorian holiday splendor! Lavish tree trimmings, the opulent dining room, spectacular decorations, games and activities bring the wonders of Christmas 1893 to life. Below stairs, the work spaces abound with preparations to make the Dooleys’ first Christmas in their new home very special. A visit to Maymont Mansion during the holiday season is sure to put everyone in a festive spirit.

**Dinner at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden**

5:30 pm—6:45 pm  
Enjoy a special buffet dinner in the Robins Room featuring handcrafted botanical ornaments and displays.

**Enjoy the GardenFest of Lights at Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden**

6:45 pm—8:00 pm  
Stroll gardens illuminated by more than 700,000 holiday lights! Stop in the warm and cozy indoor venues including model trains in the Education Building (enjoy the fireplace in the Library), more model trains and dazzling displays in the Conservatory and a roaring firepit in the Children’s Garden.

**Depart for your Williamsburg accommodations**

8:00 pm  

---

For complete details on all things Christmas, visit the Christmas in Williamsburg website at www.ChristmasInWilliamsburg.com.

For more information on Group Tours, contact Vivian Bunting, Sales Manager, Tourism, at 757-229-6511 or via email at bunting@williamsburgcv.com.