

Opsail 2012

The 1812 Bicentennial Event

Weekend Itinerary

June 8 – 10, 2012

Friday
June 8, 2012

Arrive at Newport News, Va., and start your weekend by learning all about the War of 1812 and the role Hampton Roads played while you tour the **Virginia War Museum**. American military history unfolds at this museum. Outstanding collections of personal artifacts, weapons, vehicles, uniforms, posters and much more trace the development of the US military from 1775 through the present. Include a **group presentation**, where our educational department will show you the evolution of American soldiery through the use of artifacts, to gain insight into the living conditions of soldiers at war and to develop an understanding of America's struggle to preserve freedom.

Then sit back and relax as you enjoy a driving tour of downtown Newport News. Just a few blocks away is the heart of Newport News' maritime tradition, **Newport News Shipbuilding**, a division of Huntington Ingalls Industries. As you drive by, check out the yard's first ship Hull #1, the iron steam tugboat **Dorothy**. Then discover the **Victory Arch**, a perfect location for a group photo. Since 1919, the Victory Arch has paid tribute to the heroism of the Peninsula's men and women in the military. Walk through this magnificent arch into Victory Landing Park. You might just see an aircraft carrier docked for overhaul or ships unloading cargo from abroad!

Tonight enjoy dinner at the **Crab Shack**. Located on the James River, your group will watch the sunset and the sky turn every hue imaginable for a unique, waterfront, seafood dining experience!

Saturday
June 9, 2012

Come explore an outdoor festival on the water at Opsail. Ships from countries around the world - including Italy, Brazil, Ecuador, Spain and the Netherlands - have been invited to Norfolk's waterfront for this spectacular event. Enjoy live music and great food. Tall Ships open for tours, giving visitors the opportunity to explore the decks and talk to international sailors. Special private tours of the Tall Ships are available for groups from 9am to noon.

Stroll over to **Granby Street**, just one block walking distance from Opsail. Experience over 30 locally owned and operated restaurants, from American Bistro to Tapas or Mexican. Whatever your taste buds are, Granby will satisfy.

Take a bus tour of the world's largest naval installation, **Naval Station Norfolk**. A knowledgeable, active duty Navy guide will board your motorcoach and give a narrated tour of the base.

Dinner this evening is at the historic **Boxwood Inn**. This 100+ year-old bed and breakfast was built in 1896 and served as the Warwick County (now Newport News) Hall of Records, a general store, a post office and a hotel for soldiers during both World Wars. Enjoy entertainment this evening by the Doorway Singers. Choose from a variety of entertainment ranging from "Liberty Call, Liberty Call" to "Those Fabulous '50s" to "The Banquet of Brian Boru."

Opsail 2012 Itinerary Continued

Sunday

June 10, 2012

This morning enjoy a tour of **The Mariners' Museum and the USS *Monitor* Center**.

Designated by Congress as America's National Maritime Museum, The Mariners' Museum offers a captivating look at centuries of seafaring adventures. The dramatic USS *Monitor* Center brings to life the "Battle of the Ironclads" and offers visitors the chance to walk the deck of a full-scale *Monitor* replica. Other treasures await you at this maritime gem. The world-class collection includes 35,000 maritime paintings, artifacts, figure heads, ship models, decorative arts and small craft from around the world. Enjoy lunch at the Compass Café before heading back home.



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