

Tourism Revenue Grew in Newport News in 2015

~ All Virginia regions saw increased tourism revenue, while Virginia reached \$23 billion ~

Newport News, VA, Sept. 9, 2016 – According to the U.S. Travel Association, tourism was once again an important contributor to the economy of Virginia – and to the City of Newport News – last year.

In Newport News, tourism generated \$284.4 million in revenue in 2015, a 2.4% increase over the prior year. Tourism also supported 2,916 jobs in the city (a 2.8% increase over the prior year) and contributed to an economic engine that produced \$9.67 million in local taxes (a 5.7% increase) and \$12 million in state taxes (a 6.1% increase).

“Tourism creates jobs, generates revenue, and benefits businesses and neighborhoods,” said Cindy Brouillard, Tourism Director of the Newport News Tourism Development Office. “It’s a critical component to the economy of Newport News.”

In the Commonwealth of Virginia, tourism generated \$23 billion in travel spending, supported 223,100 jobs, and provided \$1.6 billion in state and local taxes. Figures were based on spending by travelers from within the United States on trips taken 50 miles or more away from home.

“Having a strong tourism industry is vital to job creation and economic growth in Virginia,” said Governor Terry McAuliffe. “Our rich history, scenic beauty, vibrant arts, and burgeoning culinary scene make Virginia a destination like none other. It’s easy to see why travelers are eager to discover why *Virginia is for Lovers*.”

Tourism is one of Virginia’s top five industries. For detailed economic impact data by locality, visit www.vatc.org and click on “Research.”

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