

Catch A Wave To Virginia's Waterfront



Day 1 - Afternoon Arrival to Newport News

Enjoy a tour of **The Mariner's Museum and Park**, one of the largest and most comprehensive maritime history museums in the world! For over 70 years, The Mariners' Museum and Park has illustrated the spirit of seafaring adventure through a strikingly diverse collection of maritime artifacts including the anchor and turret from the Civil War ironclad USS Monitor, antique navigational instruments and more.

Then make your way to the **Victory Arch** in downtown Newport News. 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. Just a few blocks away is the heart of Newport News' maritime tradition, **Newport News Shipbuilding**. As you drive by, check out the yard's first ship, the iron steam tugboat Dorothy on Washington Avenue.

Enjoy a breath-taking sunset over the James River as you dine at the **Crab Shack on the James**. Established in 1993, this indoor and outdoor restaurant, located at the foot of the James River, provides panoramic views and beautiful sunsets from every table. After dinner, stroll the **James River Fishing Pier** and watch families catch their prize dinner of croaker, spot, flounder, trout and striped bass.

Day 2 - Explore Virginia Beach and Norfolk

Enjoy the day at Virginia Beach and visit the **Virginia Aquarium** where you can hang with harbor seals...see giant sea turtles...have a staring contest with a 19-foot shark...and whip up a hurricane. Virginia Aquarium is one of the top aquariums in the country. On your journey view their current IMAX film. Next, visit **Cape Henry Lighthouse and Fort Story**. Feel the overwhelming relief of our nation's courageous first permanent English Settlers as they stepped ashore at Cape Henry in April 1607. Sense the incredible dedication and fortitude of the keepers as they daily climbed the stairs to the top of Old Cape Henry Lighthouse, our nation's first federal public works project and the New Cape Henry Lighthouse, our nation's first cast-iron lighthouse. Next, enjoy some free time for lunch and shopping along the spectacular Virginia Beach Oceanfront.

This afternoon travel over to Downtown **Norfolk** and visit **Nauticus**, an interactive science and technology center exploring the power of the sea. Then, visit the battleship **USS Wisconsin** and explore the main deck of this mighty military vessel that earned five battle stars during World War II. In the evening, enjoy a delicious catered dinner and entertainment aboard the **Spirit of Norfolk**.

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Day 3 - Explore Hampton

Visit the **Virginia Air & Space Science Center** and experience hand on exhibits, which allow you to explore and learn more about the American space program that begun at our very own NASA in Hampton. View an IMAX film before taking time for a little nostalgia. Walk next door and take a ride on the **Hampton Carousel** that was restored in 1920 and built by the Philadelphia Toboggan Company. Enjoy lunch at one of many charming restaurants located here before taking a tour of the **Hampton History Museum**. Here you'll learn about Hampton's remarkable heritage as the nation's oldest continuous English-speaking settlement.

This afternoon visit historic **Fort Monroe and the Casemate Museum**, housed in the wall of the largest stone fortress in the country. Take a ride and view the amazing Old Point Comfort Lighthouse located at the fort and enjoy lunch at Paradise Island Club.