

## The Great Outdoors

### Day 1

**A.M.** - Upon arrival in Newport News head straight to one of the city's most picturesque spots, Newport News Park, where your outdoor adventure can begin. With an abundance of activities available in the park including: hiking, biking, fishing, canoeing, disc golf, archery and more (rental equipment is available for many activities), it would be easy to spend your entire stay in just this one spot. But there is so much more!

**P.M.** - Take a break from adventure for lunch at one of the many restaurants nearby. After a hearty meal to replenish your energy levels, travel the short distance to another of Newport News' favorite adventure areas, the 60-acre Huntington Park.

Overlooking the James River, Huntington Park caters to all lovers of the outdoors (even those who just want to relax on a warm, sandy beach!) with its wide variety of activities, which include: swimming, boating, tennis, fishing and an amazing 13,000 square-foot adventure playground, "Fort Fun," for the kids.

Following an afternoon filled with fun recreational activities, slow the pace a little with a leisurely stroll around the park's impressive, sweet-smelling Rose Garden, which features over 45 different rose varieties!

Dine right on the banks of the James River while watching the sun set over the water, before retiring to your Newport News hotel for the night.

### Day 2

**A.M.** - Start your day at The Mariners' Museum Park, a 550-acre woodland park featuring the five-mile Noland Trail around Lake Maury. Depending on your energy level, you can run or hike the scenic trail, rent paddle boats and canoes for fishing (depending on the time of year), or stroll at a leisurely pace and enjoy the picturesque scenery, which includes the famous Lions Bridge that provides a breathtaking view of the James River and is one of 14 bridges located in the park. Children (and adults alike) will also enjoy the wooden play ships, specifically designed to be climbed upon!

No need to travel far for lunch as The Mariners' Museum recently opened its very own eatery, The Compass Café, where you will enjoy a light and delicious lunch.

Before leaving for the afternoon's activities, visit The Museum gift shop, where you can search for your very own treasure to remind you of your stay in Newport News.

**P.M.** - Things get a little wild after lunch as you head to the Virginia Living Museum where their great outdoors is inhabited with an abundance of wildlife. Stroll the  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile outdoor elevated boardwalk and come face-to-face with otters, red wolves, coastal birds, deer and other native wild animals in naturalized habitats, making you feel as though you are on an outdoor safari!

Turn your safari adventure into a learning experience as you gain insight into the habits of the animals housed here and discover how they would survive in the wild.

The adventure continues at the Virginia Living Museum, whose unique design also brings the great outdoors inside! Only here does the great outdoors become the great "indoors" as you experience a steamy Cypress swamp, a cool mountain cave and the underwater world of the Chesapeake Bay all located inside the Museum!

If time permits, and you want even more of an outdoor-safari experience, head across the road to the Peninsula S.P.C.A. Exotic Sanctuary & Petting Zoo, where you'll meet, amongst other animals, an African mandrill, a Siberian Tiger and a black leopard!

Being out on a safari-type adventure is sure to work up an appetite, so before returning to your Newport News hotel for the night, select a dining spot for the evening.

### Newport News Visitor Center

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# Newport News Virginia

## Day 3

**A.M./P.M.** Choose from the following options, depending upon your departure schedule:

1. **Golf:** If you have golfers in the family, they'll not want to miss the opportunity to play on at least one of Newport News' great golf courses, including the 4-star rated (by Golf Digest) Deer Run Course. In addition there are also the Cardinal Course, which features some of the best greens in the Tidewater area, and the course at Kiln Creek Golf Club and Resort, which features eight water holes. As well as great golf, much to the delight of most golfers, the courses promise guest appearances from an array of wildlife, who appear unfazed by the golf carts and players.
2. **Disc Golf:** Regardless of age, just about everyone can participate and enjoy disc golf, which makes it the perfect group activity. With an 18-hole regulation and championship course located in Newport News Park, and rental equipment available, disc golf would be a great outdoors choice to end your stay in Newport News, as you'll enjoy the beauty of Newport News Park one more time before you head home.
3. **Waterside Retreat:** Complete your stay in Newport News with a visit to Harwood's Mill, located at the southeast end of Newport News Park. Here you have the opportunity to rent a boat, fish, hike, mountain bike or just relax at the water's edge and enjoy the sights and sounds of nature. It's also the perfect spot for a picnic lunch before starting your journey home.

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