

Hotel is Comfort Inn at 5716 S. Van Dorn St., Alexandria, VA (703) 922-9200 Home Metro is Van Dorn St. on Blue Line

Tuesday, 15th

- **DC The Best Bus Tour.** Starts at 10 am. We will stop at these sites with our guide: Capitol Hill outside, White House outside, WWII Memorial, Korean War Memorial, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Memorial, Iwo Jima Memorial.
- **Lunch-Potbelly's subs?**
- **White House Visitor's Center.** Free. 7:30am-4:00pm. The Visitor's Center has artifacts from the White House and a 14-minute film, "Reflections from Within."
- **National Archives.** Free. 10am-5:30pm. This is where we can see the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and Bill of Rights. Unfortunately, all the timed entry tickets were sold out, but we can stand in a line to enter, although it may involve a wait of around 30 minutes. There is a note on the website that says Armed Forces presenting ID cards can get directly in to a special entrance with their families and guests. I have as yet not been able to get an answer as to whether this includes retirees. Guess we can try it when we get there!

Wednesday, 16th

- **Arlington National Cemetery.** Free entry. 8:30am-4pm. Bus tour cost is \$12. We will see: Marine Corp Memorial, John F. Kennedy Gravesite, US Coast Guard Memorial, Pershing Gravesite, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, and Arlington House.
- **Capitol Tour.** Free. 8:30am-4:30pm. I have reserved entry for all 7 of us here. Our entry time is 12:40 p.m. We have to be there 45 minutes early to get through screening and exchange our confirmation page for the actual tour passes. The 45-minute guided walking tour also has a 13-minute film included. We will see the Crypt, the Rotunda and the National Statuary Hall. There is also a restaurant here, and I recommend eating there because of the lack of other sites. It's supposed to be quite good. Down the tunnel is the:
- **Library of Congress.** Free. 8:30am-4:30pm. Tours are offered hourly from 10:30-3:30 daily. Or we can wander around on our own. Besides all the books, the inside is beautiful and there are lots of things to see, like a Gutenberg Bible.
Next door is the:
- **Supreme Court.** Free. 9am-4:30pm. We can tour the building on our own. Currently, court is not scheduled for the time we are there.
- **Union Station.**
- **Jefferson Memorial.** Free. 8am-11:45pm.

Thursday, 17th

- **Museums Day.** All these museums are directly on the National Mall. We can choose whatever we want to see of the following museums that are all free. I suggest we only try to do a few. We can split up and meet back up as needed via cell phone. There are restaurants in the starred museums. Clockwise on Mall:
 - *American History. 10am-5:30pm. American History from George Washington's uniform to Kermit the Frog, its documented here.
 - *Natural History. 10am-5:30pm. Fossils and living specimens from land and sea, as well as items from different cultures.
 - National Gallery of Art. 10am-5pm. Art from Middle Ages to 20th Century. Raphael, Da Vinci, Monet, Whistler among others.
 - *American Indian. 10am-5:30pm. Museum of Native Peoples of the Americas.
 - *Air and Space. 10am-5:30pm. Technologies in flight, from Spirit of St. Louis to Apollo capsule.
 - Hirshhorn. 10am-5:30pm. Contemporary Art.
 - African Art Museum. 10am-5:30pm. Ancient and Modern African Art.
 - *Smithsonian Castle. 8:30am-5:30pm. Central information center. Once the home of the start of the collections now in surrounding museums.
 - Sackler Gallery. 10am-5:30pm. Asian art.
- **PM Lighted Monument Drive**

This trip will be monumental!