PLEASE NOTE: The schedule listed in this itinerary is a general guideline of the sequence of events and certain en route changes may be made. Your destination will be crowded so please be patient and flexible in the event that changes are necessary. Times listed in the itinerary may vary once the tour begins due to weather, road, traffic or crowd conditions. Any changes to this schedule will be announced only by Mr. Buege or your Taylor Tours’ escort, Mr. Ron Roth.

HINTS: Dress appropriately and wear comfortable shoes. Blankets and pillows may be taken on the coaches; however, they are your own responsibility. Food and soft drinks may be consumed as long as the coaches are kept clean. Please no coolers or ice. An umbrella or raincoat may come in handy.

LOADING: Your chartered motor coaches will arrive at Eastside Middle School for loading. Please keep the loading area free of cars. Be sure your suitcase has a “Taylor Tours” luggage tag with your name on it.

Monday, March 25  Travel * Union Station * Iwo Jima Memorial * Air Force Memorial * Hotel Check-in

4:45 am  Your Wise motor coaches will arrive at Eastside Middle School for loading. Your loading crew will load all luggage. You should have a carry-on bag that will go on the motor coaches with you. Personal hygiene items and anything you need while traveling should be in your carry-on bag. There will not be time to open the bays of your motor coaches to find your suitcase.

5:15 am  All aboard for roll call. Make sure you have taken advantage of the school restrooms before you leave.

5:30 am  D.C., here we come! Planned rest stops and dinner will occur enroute.

8:40 am  Around this time, a stop will be made at the West Virginia Welcome Center at mile marker 10 on I/64. Please take advantage of this stop.

9:05 am  “On the Road Again”.

11:00 am  At this time, you will make a lunch stop at the food court in the Beckley Travel Plaza at mile marker 45 on I/64/77 near Beckley, West Virginia. Everyone will receive $10.00 cash for this meal. Please take advantage of the restrooms before you leave.

11:55 am  Roll call on the coaches.

12:00 pm  Rolling on!

2:40 pm  Around this time, you will stop for a restroom break at the rest area at mile marker 232 on I/81 near Mount Sidney, Virginia.

3:05 pm  Let’s keep moving!

5:45 pm  Depending on traffic, you will arrive at Union Station for dinner at this time.

At one time, Union Station was the gateway to our Capitol City. It is an operable train station yet today. You will enjoy the restored grandeur of its monumental classic design. There is a large food court, shops, kiosks and a movie theater. The food court and restrooms are downstairs. Everyone will be given $10.00 cash for this meal. Please know the time and location to meet as a group after dinner.

6:45 pm  At this time, you will meet Mr. Roth at the designated location and check in with your chaperones. When everyone is present, you will walk to board your coaches.

6:55 pm  You will now travel to visit the newly rehabilitated Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima). This multi-million dollar rehabilitation project consisted of re-gilding the engravings on the sculpture’s pedestal, cleaning and waxing the sculpture and granite base and improves lighting, landscaping and infrastructure. Everyone will agree that this has to be one of the most impressive statues ever cast. The memorial depicts the American Flag being raised on Mt. Suribachi during World War II. Please listen for instructions before taking plenty of pictures.

Your last stop of the evening will be at the Air Force Memorial. The Air Force Memorial is dedicated to all men and women who have served in the United States Air Force. This memorial was dedicated on October 14, 2006 and symbolizes flight and the flying spirit with 3 stainless steel spires that soar 272’ in the air. These spires represent the contrails of the Air Force Thunderbirds doing maneuvers.

8:15 pm  Are you tired yet? You will finally travel to your hotel to check-in.

When you arrive, please wait for announcements and instructions. Mr. Roth will get the room keys while the loading crew unloads the suitcases. When ready, you will get your luggage and go directly to your room to get settled in. Please be patient and respect the other guests in the hotel.
Please note: the hotel charges for access to the internet and unfortunately, you will be responsible for those charges. You will also be responsible for any long distance calls made from your room.

Sheraton Pentagon City
900 South Orme Street
Arlington, VA 22204
703-521-1900

10:00 pm Your chaperone will meet you in your room with valuable information about tomorrow’s activities. All phone calls should be made, all snacks purchased and all visiting done. You are not to leave your room after this time. Thank you for your cooperation.

11:00 pm Lights out! Tomorrow is going to be a very busy day.

Tuesday, March 26 Mount Vernon * Smithsonian Museums * Holocaust Museum * Crystal City Sports Restaurant * Illumination Tour * Hotel

6:00 am Wake-up call. Let’s get up and get moving. Today you will need comfortable shoes, a jacket and a camera.

6:45 am Everyone will enjoy a great buffet breakfast in the hotel. When you are finished, please go to your room and get your needed items for the day.

7:50 am Please board the motor coaches.

8:00 am You will leave immediately for Mount Vernon, the estate of Martha and George Washington. There is no better way to understand President Washington’s importance then to walk in his footsteps at his home.

9:00 am When you arrive, Mr. Roth will check your group in as everyone walks to the group entrance. You will also receive a Meal Pass to use in the Food Court while you are here. This Meal Pass will get you an entree, a side, cookies and a drink. PLEASE NOTE: Lunch times will need to be rotated.

9:40 am The group time to go into the mansion is at this time. When you have gone through the home, you will have time to explore this historic place. Do not waste your valuable time.

Here, Washington escaped the rigors of public office and enjoyed the life of a successful Virginia planter. America’s most visited historic house, Mount Vernon, sits on a grassy, shaded slope overlooking the Potomac River. Many of the furnishings are original pieces acquired by Washington himself. Mount Vernon is both George Washington’s home and final resting-place. This Southern plantation details the life of the “Father of Our Country” while providing fascinating insights into colonial times. You also will enjoy visiting the gift shop and the new museum with 25 galleries and theaters. Don’t miss the powerful movie about Washington and his leadership.

Make sure to visit the Ford Orientation Center and Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center to view the fascinating array of Mount Vernon artifacts and learn more about George Washington. The Museum and Education Center features 23 galleries and theaters where visitors learn about Washington through interactive displays, an action adventure movie, short films produced by The History Channel, immersive experiences, and a rich and comprehensive collection of more than 700 objects which give an unprecedented look at the personal effects of the Washington family.

12:00 pm Please meet Mr. Roth in front of the gift shop and walk to board the motor coaches. Make sure you have used the restrooms before leaving.

You will now travel to the National Mall to spend a few hours at the Smithsonian Museums. You will be given instructions and a time and place to meet.

You may go in groups to the museum of your choice. Remember, no one is to ever be alone and always have a chaperone in your group. Here is a brief description of some of the Smithsonian Museums:

At the National Air and Space Museum, you will experience the history of flight at one of the world’s most visited museums, from the plane flown by the Wright brothers to the Apollo 11 command module. This museum features an incredible collection of aviation and space technology treasures.

National Museum of American History. This very popular collection tops the list of must-sees for any visitor with a taste for true Americana. See the flag that inspired the Star Spangled Banner, First Ladies’ inaugural gowns, quilts, cars, locomotives and much, much more.

National Museum of Natural History. The Hope Diamond, dinosaur fossils and the world’s largest African bush elephant top the amazing natural treasures on display along with a live insect zoo.

Experience the unique nature and welcoming spirit of The National Museum of the American Indian. The displays will feature information from the American Southwest, Hawaii, Canada, South and Central America. You will feel the spirit of the native people and see items ranging from the great American pyramid builders to the beautiful craftsmanship of North, Central, and South America’s indigenous people. Group entrance to this museum is on the south side of the building on Maryland Avenue.
The National Gallery of Art houses an outstanding collection of masterpieces that trace the development of Western art from the Middle Ages to the present. The original West Building concentrates primarily on European works from the 13th century, while its contemporary counterpart, the East Building, highlights works of modern artists.

The Smithsonian Institution's have a strict security policy. Lines could be long so please be patient. DO NOT bring daypacks, backpacks or luggage into the museums. DO NOT bring sharp items into the museums, such as knives (including pocket), screwdrivers, corkscrews, scissors, nail files, etc.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO TEACHERS/CHAPERONES: One adult for every 15 students is required. Teachers and chaperones must remain with their groups at all times.

3:15 pm Everyone should meet in front of the American History Museum. When everyone is present, the group will quickly load the coaches.

3:30 pm You will now travel to the Holocaust Museum. Upon arrival, you will get into a single file line and then go through strict security. Please leave all metal objects on the motor coaches including your camera.

4:00 pm Special reservations for Eastside Middle School at the Holocaust Museum are at this time. You will learn about the systematic persecution of approximately six million Jews by the Nazi regime. Holocaust is a Greek word meaning "sacrifice by fire". The Nazis believed that Germans were "racially superior" and that the Jews, deemed "inferior", were an alien threat to the so-called German racial community. During the era of the Holocaust, German authorities also targeted other groups.

Your reservations allow you to go to the top floor for viewing. However, don't miss “Daniel's Story” on the first floor. This is an exhibition reviewed by psychiatrists and recommended to explain the Holocaust to middle school students. It tells the story of Daniel, a fictional child based on a collection of true stories about children during the Holocaust. You will see other exhibits but another of interest is the Power of Nazi Propaganda. This reveals how the Nazi Party used new techniques as well as new technologies and carefully crafted messages to sway millions with its vision of a new Germany. This propaganda drove the world into a war that cost some 55 million lives.

5:30 pm Please meet Mr. Roth in the brick courtyard behind the Holocaust Museum. You will load the coaches to travel to dinner.

6:00 pm Your reservations for dinner at Crystal City Sports Restaurant are at this time. Please be seated and give your drink order before going to the buffet line. Make sure you use the restrooms before you have to leave.

7:00 pm Or when everyone is finished, you will load the motor coaches. At this time, you will meet your special D.C. Guides that will be with you for the rest of the evening. Please show your respect and make them feel welcome. Everyone should turn off or silence all cell phones during this time.

Now you will start your sightseeing by visiting the Memorials that are very special to all citizens of the United States. What you will be able to see will depend on the weather, traffic and how fast the group moves. The order of your next stops may vary but during the evening you will make a stop at the following:

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial is a privately funded memorial that has drawn millions to touch the over 50,000 names, make pencil rubbings, and leave flowers, letters, flags and personal mementos.

The Lincoln Memorial, overlooking the Reflecting Pool, was patterned on a classic Greek temple. Inside, inscriptions from his Gettysburg Address and Second Inaugural Address flank the 19-foot marble statue of our 16th President.

The Korean War Veterans Memorial field contains nineteen ground troopers, clad in foul weather ponchos, fully equipped for battle. Representing those who supported the ground troops are hundreds of faces etched on a polished granite wall.

The ceremony and dedication for the World War II Memorial was seen around the world. This memorial honors the 16 million who served in the armed forces of the U.S. during World War II, the more than 400,000 who died and the millions who supported the war effort from home. Symbolic of the defining event of the 20th Century, the memorial is a monument to the spirit, sacrifice and commitment of the American people to the common defense of the nation and to the broader causes of peace and freedom from tyranny throughout the world.

The Franklin D. Roosevelt Memorial is unique among the Memorials of Washington, DC. The Memorial is divided into four outdoor galleries, or rooms, one for each of his terms in office.

You will stop at 164 Independence Avenue to see the latest memorial built, the newly dedicated Martin Luther King Memorial. The street number is a reference to the Civil Rights Act of 1964, a milestone in which Dr. King played an integral role in achieving. Dr. Martin Luther King is remembered as a great orator whose impact on the nation came from the eloquence and inspirational quality of his words. His speeches, sermons and public addresses combined themes of democracy and the true meaning of justice and equality.

10:00 pm Around this time, you will say good-bye, with a lot of thanks, to your special guides and travel back to your hotel to catch up on your rest.

11:00 pm Please meet your chaperone in your room for valuable information about tomorrow. All phone calls should be made, all snacks purchased and all visiting done at this time. You are not to leave your room after this meeting. Thank you again for your cooperation.

11:30 pm Lights out!
Wednesday, March 27

6:30 am  Wake up call! It is time to wake up and gather your needed items for the day. You will need comfortable shoes and possibly warm clothing for tonight’s dinner cruise.

7:45 am  Everyone will enjoy a full buffet breakfast at this time. When you are finished eating, go back to your room and get everything you need, take time for the restrooms then go directly to the motor coaches for roll call.

8:15 am  All aboard for roll call.

8:30 am  You will now travel back into the District of Columbia. Your first stop will be to see the White House, the home of our United States President. Make sure you get plenty of pictures of you and your friends.

9:40 am  Please meet Mr. Roth at the designated location to board your coaches and travel to Grant’s Memorial for your group photo.

10:00 am  Your reservation for your group photo with the Capitol in the background is at this time. Smile! Everyone will receive this wonderful color photo that will be a lifelong keepsake memory of you and your friends.

10:15 am  After your photo, board the coaches to travel to the National Archives.

10:30 am  Your reservation is at this time. The spacious Rotunda of the National Archives contains the original Declaration of Independence, Constitution and Bill of Rights. All the pages of these documents are on display to the public. At night, the display is lowered 20 feet into a bomb and fireproof vault.

When you are ready, everyone should meet on the front steps of the National Archives and check in with their chaperones.

11:30 am  Please board the coaches and travel to the Reagan Building for lunch. Everyone will receive a voucher for this meal.

The Reagan Building is the International Trade Center. Here, federal, state and regional trade resources and related trade businesses are brought together for the importance of linking countries and communities in trade. You will again have to go through strict security.

Please get your food, eat and use the restrooms before you have to leave. Don’t waste your time!

12:45 pm  Please meet at the designated time and place. You will go back upstairs and walk outside to board your motor coaches and travel to Capitol Hill.

When you arrive, you will be asked to leave all metal objects and liquids on the motor coaches. Going into the Capitol is just like going through airport security. You may, however, bring your camera and cell phone.

You will immediately follow Mr. Roth as you walk up Capitol Hill for your pre-arranged group reservation for the U.S. Capitol Tour.

The Capitol is the most recognized symbol of democratic government in the world and has housed Congress since 1800. It is one of the most imposing public buildings in the world. The Capitol is where Congress meets to write the laws of our nation and where presidents are inaugurated. Its ceilings are decorated with historic images and its halls are lined with statues and paintings representing great events and people in the nation’s history.

Inside the Capitol, it is very loud and confusing. Please listen carefully for instructions. Everyone will receive a sticker and then you will be asked to get in line to see the movie about the Capitol. Afterwards, you will follow a member of the U.S. Capitol staff who is wearing a red jacket. They will give you information as they take you into many of the historical areas.

1:40 pm  Group I - Reservations for your U.S. Capitol Tour are at this time.

1:50 pm  Group II - Reservations for your U.S. Capitol Tour are at this time.

After your tour, you will be given a few minutes for the restrooms before walking down the hill to board your coaches.

3:30 pm  You will now travel to the Newseum.

When you arrive, Mr. Roth will check your group in and their staff will make announcements to you before you get off the motor coaches.

3:45 pm  Your reservations for the Newseum are at this time. You will discover how news and communication has evolved and affected our lives throughout the years. There are many hands-on activities for you to enjoy. There is something interesting for everyone at the Newseum. If you enjoy history, sports, a great view of the U.S. Capitol, the Berlin Wall, and even a 4D movie, it’s all here. This is educational and a lot of fun!!!!! Please do not waste your time.

5:15 pm  Please meet at the designated area and walk outside to board your motor coaches. You will now get to shop for souvenirs in the area before your Dinner Cruise.
At this time, you will travel to enjoy your evening dinner cruise. It’s time for you to relax and release your energy!

Boarding for your **Spirit Cruise** will begin at this time.

Enjoy a student dinner onboard the **Spirit of Washington**. Travel beneath the historic bridges spanning the **Potomac** while enjoying dinner, live entertainment and unparalleled views of our Capital’s greatest monuments.

When the Spirit docks, please go directly to the motor coaches. After roll call, you will travel back to the hotel to catch up on your rest.

Please meet your chaperone in your room for announcements. All phone calls should be made, all snacks purchased and all visiting done. You are not to leave your room after this time. Thank you again for your cooperation. You should organize and pack your luggage for tomorrow’s check-out. Don’t forget to set out your needed clothing for tomorrow’s activities.

**Thursday, March 28**

**Check-out * Arlington Cemetery * Travel to Williamsburg * Great Wolf Water Park * Dinner * Hotel**

Wake up call. Rise and shine, it’s check-out time. Please finish packing and gather all needed items for today. You will need to pack your swimsuit and anything you need for the water park this afternoon in your carry-on bag.

You will enjoy a full buffet breakfast in the hotel. When you are finished, please go to your room and get your luggage. Give your keys to your chaperone and then take your luggage to the motor coaches for loading. **Please check your room carefully.** You do not want to leave anything valuable behind.

The motor coaches will be open for loading at this time. We do need the loading crew ready to help.

Roll call.

You will now travel to visit **Arlington National Cemetery**.

When you arrive, you will go through strict security. You do not need to bring anything but your phone or camera. There is no need for backpacks or purses.

Once through security, please follow Mr. Roth to board the next available tram to ride up Roosevelt Avenue to the Tomb of the Unknowns.

Hopefully the tram will leave at this time. On the way up, you will stop and visit the **Kennedy Gravesites**.

Arlington Cemetery is the final resting place for President John F. Kennedy, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Audie Murphy, prizefighter Joe Louis, and thousands of soldiers from every major U.S. war. Arlington House, home of Civil War General Robert E. Lee, Space Shuttle Challenger Astronaut’s Memorial, and the Tomb of the Unknowns are also located on these famous 624 acres.

Depending on tram times, you will now view the “Changing of the Guard” at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. This is presented by the 3rd United States Infantry. Throughout this ceremonial time, please show total respect. No one should be talking, chewing gum or wearing a hat.

Eastside Middle School representatives will present a wreath in the name of your school and community.

After the ceremony, you will catch the tram and ride back down the hill. When you get to the bottom of the hill, you will be given time to use the restrooms at the Visitor’s Center before boarding your motor coaches.

As you step onto your motor coach, please take a box lunch to your seat. You will eat lunch as you travel to Williamsburg. Please dispose of all trash in the trash bags up front when you arrive at the hotel.

It is now time to travel to Williamsburg, Virginia.

Around this time, you will arrive at Great Wolf Lodge to hopefully check in. Please listen carefully and it will go much faster. Mr. Roth will pass out keys while the loading crew unloads the luggage. As soon as you have your key, you may go directly to your room and change.

**Please note:** If the hotel is not ready for the group to check in, you will still be allowed to change and enjoy the water park.

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**Great Wolf Lodge**

549 E Rochambeau Drive

Williamsburg, VA

757-229-9700
5:30 pm  Please meet at the announced area for a “Backyard Barbeque” consisting of hamburgers, hot dogs, corn dogs, sides and dessert. No one will walk away hungry. When you are finished, you may go back to this fantastic water park. Even though there are several lifeguards on duty, chaperones need to be on hand.

9:00 pm  The water park will close at this time; however, there are several other activities in the hotel to choose from.

10:30 pm  Please meet your chaperone in your room for valuable information about tomorrow. All calls, snacks, ice, etc. should be taken care of before this time. You are not to leave your room after this time. Thank you for your cooperation. Take the time to organize your luggage for tomorrow morning’s check-out.

11:15 pm  Lights out!

**Friday, March 29  Check-out * Colonial Williamsburg * Travel Home**

6:45 am  Wake up call! Rise and Shine. Please gather your needed items for the day and traveling home.

7:30 am  Everyone will enjoy a great buffet breakfast in the hotel. When you are finished, please go to your room and get your luggage. Give your keys to your chaperone and then take your luggage to the motor coaches for loading. **Please check your room carefully.** You do not want to leave anything valuable behind.

8:25 am  The motor coaches will be open for loading at this time. The loading crew will need to be there!

8:45 am  You are on your way to historic Colonial Williamsburg.

9:00 am  You will now enjoy a tour of Colonial Williamsburg. Like Boston and Philadelphia, Colonial Williamsburg played a major role in the American Revolution. Williamsburg was the social and political culture of Virginia. This was the wealthiest and the most populous of Britain’s mainland colonies. It was also the training ground for leaders such as George Washington, Patrick Henry, George Mason and Thomas Jefferson.

12:00 pm  At the end of the tour, you will board the motor coaches and travel to enjoy lunch in the area. You will be given $10.00 cash for this meal.

1:25 pm  All aboard for roll call.

1:30 pm  You will now begin your journey home.

3:35 pm  It’s time for a quick restroom break at the rest area at mile marker 113 on I/64 near Charlottesville, Virginia.

4:00 pm  “Moving on.”

6:55 pm  Around this time, you will make a dinner stop at the Beckley Travel Plaza at mile marker 45 on I/64/77. You will receive $10.00 cash for this meal. Please keep track of your time and use the restrooms before you have to leave.

7:50 pm  All aboard for roll call.

7:55 pm  "Keep on Truckin’.

10:35 pm  Your last stop will be made at mile marker 141 on I/64 near Morehead, Kentucky. This is a quick ‘off and on’ restroom stop.

11:00 pm  Let’s go Home!!

1:30 am  Around this time, you will arrive at Eastside Middle School. The loading crew will unload the luggage, while everyone else helps clean up around all the seats. You should check and make sure that you are not leaving anything of value behind. Chaperones please help us double check. Please take the time to thank your teachers and chaperones for all of their hard work and dedication. Please say good-bye to Mr. Roth. **Welcome Home!!**

**EASTSIDE 8th GRADE CLASS RULES**

All Eastside Middle School rules are in effect on this tour. Be warned that drugs in any form or the possession of alcohol will result in the student being sent home at the parents’ expense. Swimming is at your own risk and requires a signed parental permission form.