

# Williamsburg Tours

## Grand Illumination in Colonial Williamsburg

Virginia's Historic Triangle - Williamsburg, Jamestown and Yorktown

Three Days/Two Nights

### Day 1

- 1:00pm  
Arrive Williamsburg, VA. (**Group should plan on having lunch before meeting your Colonial Connections Escort to start touring.**)
- 1:00-4:00pm  
Guided Tour **Colonial Williamsburg** – America's largest living history museum. From 1699 to 1780, Williamsburg was the political, social and cultural capital of Britain's largest, wealthiest and most populous colony. Colonial Williamsburg encompasses over 500 buildings and 180 acres of magnificent gardens. In the shops, taverns, government buildings, homes and streets George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Patrick Henry, George Mason and other Virginia Patriots debated the ideas – liberty, independence, and personal freedoms – that led to the founding of American democracy. Interaction with hundreds of costumed interpreters of varied age, race, and social position provides a first-hand view of life when the town was the capitol of the Virginia colony.
- 4:30pm  
Check into hotel. All selected hotels have an indoor swimming pool and interior corridors for added security (luggage handling included).
- 5:30pm  
Depart for dinner
- Before dinner we'll light up your holidays with the award-winning **Celebration in Lights**, a two mile drive through Newport News Park that includes spectacular animated scenes. View whimsical toys, elegant swans, leaping reindeer, multi-colored snowflakes and scenes from Virginia's past portrayed in a kaleidoscope of dazzling color.
- 7:30pm
- **"Dinnertainment" at The Boxwood Inn**
- Formerly the home of Simon Curtis (the "boss man" of Warwick County), the Inn is located in Historic Lee Hall Village. Tonight we'll experience a Dickens Christmas Dinner. Envision a British manor house in December 1870. Christmas is celebrated in the finest traditional sense, complete with "The Holly and the Ivy", "Deck the Halls", "Gloucester shire Wassail" and "Good King Wenceslas." The menu includes: Winter Salad, Potato and Leek Soup, Shepherd's Pie (made with Beef, Gravy, Peas & Carrots, Topped with Mashed Potatoes and Cheddar Cheese) served golden brown potatoes from the oven with Yeast Rolls and Christmas Pudding with English Custard.

- 9:30pm
- Return to hotel
  
- **Day 2**
  
- 7:30am
- Continental breakfast provided by hotel
  
- 9:00am-12:00pm
- Guided walking tour **Jamestown Settlement**
- This interactive living history museum commemorates America's first permanent English settlement, established 13 years before Plymouth Rock. Replicas of the three sailing ships that carried Captain John Smith and 103 other Englishmen here in 1607 are ready to board in Virginia's James River. Visitors can explore the re-created version of the colony and the Powhatan Indian village to discover what life was like for America's early settlers.
  
- 12:00pm
- Enjoy lunch on your own at the Jamestown Settlement Cafe followed by a brief stop in the Settlement's gift shop.
  
- 1:30pm
- Depart for holiday shopping stop at the **Yankee Candle Factory** and **Williamsburg General Store** before returning to the hotel to relax before tonight's grand event.
  
- 4:00pm
- Depart hotel for the Grand Illumination
  
- 4:30pm
- **Grand Illumination Festivities Begin**
- The Grand Illumination is an adaptation of a common practice during the 18th century, when ordinary citizens celebrated extraordinary events - major military victories, the arrival of a new colonial governor, or the birthday of the monarch - by firing guns and using fireworks. The festivities begin with a variety of traditional holiday entertainment - Fifes and Drums provide 18th-century holiday music, balladeers and musicians perform, church choirs sing Christmas carols and costumed performers present entertainment found in Williamsburg 200 years ago.
- 6:15pm
- **Grand Illumination Fireworks**
- A magnificent fireworks display will take place simultaneously at three locations in the Historic Area - Palace Green, the Magazine, and the Capitol. Candles are then lit in the public buildings, shops and homes, through out Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area.
  
- 8:00pm
- Dinner at **The Whaling Company**

- Long recognized as Williamsburg’s seafood specialist, the Whaling Company is reminiscent of a charming New England boathouse and prides itself on the freshest fish in town and melt-in-your-mouth hand cut steaks. Since everything is made-to-order, every item is a “special!”
- 9:30pm
- Return to hotel.
- **Day 3**
- 7:15am
- Continental breakfast provided by hotel
- 8:00am
- Check out of hotel (luggage handling included).
- 8:30am
- Depart hotel
- 9:00am
- **Tour Yorktown Victory Center**
- The drama of the American Revolution and the birth of our great nation come to life at the Victory Center, where in 1781 the decisive battle of the “War for American Independence” took place. In provocative indoor galleries, witness the Revolution through the eyes of those who were there. Outdoors, experience the sights and sounds of the Revolutionary War in the re-created Continental Army encampment. Nearby, interpreters in the garden, tobacco house, farmhouse and kitchen introduce life on a 1780s farm.
- 11:30am
- Depart for home with great memories of their Grand Illumination adventures.

Package available from \$275 per person double, based on a minimum of 40 guests.

*Note: Price does not include ground transportation.*