

# 2017-2018 Washington D.C. Trip Itinerary

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## **HOTEL INFORMATION:**

Holiday Inn - Reagan Airport/Crystal City  
2650 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Arlington, VA 22202  
(703) 684-7200

## **NATIONSCLASSROOM INFORMATION:**

NationsClassroom  
2727 Enterprise Parkway, Suite 104  
Richmond, VA 23294  
(877) 270-1776

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## **Tuesday, May 15**

4:00 AM – Students (both Carriel and Fulton) report to the front of Carriel Junior High School and let their chaperone know they are present.

4:15 AM – Bathroom breaks and load-up. Board the buses; next stop is three hours away (Indiana Welcome Center is the first pit stop).

4:30 AM. – Bus tour will depart Carriel Junior High aboard Vandalia Motor Coaches for Washington D.C.

We will drive out to D.C. making restroom stops as needed (about every three to four hours).

**On Tuesday, students should bring a sack lunch to eat on the bus.** We will not stop at a restaurant for lunch, but we will stop for dinner. Meal money will be provided for dinner.

If students want snacks for their rooms, they need to either bring snacks from home and/or buy them at various stops on the way to D.C. Students do not need many snacks because they are not in their rooms very long over the course of the trip.

10:00 PM (approx.) – Arrive at hotel.

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## **Wednesday, May 16**

Sightseeing, including such places as U.S. Capitol Building, Supreme Court (picture stop), Library of Congress (picture stop), Holocaust Museum, Lincoln Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and Korean War Veterans Memorial. The exact itinerary for each day is fluid, so sites visited may be amended for a given day.

We will take a group panoramic picture in front of the Capitol. The students do not need money for this; the price of the picture is included in the tour cost. Lunch will be at a food court, such as the Reagan Building or the Pentagon City Mall.

After sightseeing for the day, pizza will be served at the hotel with a dance for students at the hotel.

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## **Thursday, May 17**

Sightseeing continues, including Arlington National Cemetery, World War II Memorial, Washington Monument (picture stop), the White House (picture stop), the Smithsonian Museums (African American History, Air & Space, American History, Natural History,), the National Archives (The Constitution, the Declaration of Independence, and the Bill of Rights), .In the afternoon, we will tour George Washington's home, Mount Vernon

After dinner, all students will be going on a history/ghost tour of Alexandria, VA called "Footsteps of the Past."

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## **Friday, May 18**

We will tour the remaining memorials, such as Jefferson Memorial, FDR Memorial, MLK Memorial. We will eat lunch at the Pentagon City Mall. After lunch we will tour the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum – Udvar-Hazy Center

We will leave the Washington D.C. area and depart for O'Fallon around 4:00 PM on Friday afternoon. We will stop for dinner (money provided) and make other stops as needed. The buses drive through the entire night.

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## **Saturday, May 19**

Buses are due to arrive at the front of Carriel Jr. High at approximately 8:00 a.m. **Please make sure all rides are here!** Students may grab their luggage and are free to leave.

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## General Info

### Things to bring:

- Money for souvenirs.
- Camera
- Watch
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Sunscreen
- Rain poncho(s) and/or umbrella
- Other day-to-day necessities

### Tips while packing and touring D.C.:

- Carry a light load while sightseeing; bulky bags slow everyone down at security checkpoints.
- Once the bus leaves the hotel for the day, it does not return. Double-check when leaving your room that you have everything you need for the day.
- Never go anywhere by yourself.

### 10 General expectations for the trip:

1. **Listen.** It's very important to listen to both staff and parent chaperones. We are telling you things that are in your best interest. Also, you are expected to listen to your bus driver, tour guides, and hotel staff/security.
2. **Be on time.** This is extremely important while touring D.C. You will break into small chaperone-led groups, and you are expected to be at designated locations at certain times.
3. **Be courteous and respectful.** It's a long bus ride and a busy trip. You will get tired. Be aware of other people's concerns and feelings. At most places, hats and gum are not allowed. All rules from the Code of Conduct of the junior highs apply.
4. **Communicate with your bus leader.** When a long way from home, it is important to make your bus leader aware of anything that they need to know, e.g. if you are not feeling well.
5. **Cell phones are allowed if used appropriately.** However, when we are touring at places such as memorials and monuments, you should not be using your cell phone. It should be put on vibrate and only used for pictures at these places. Students who use cell phones inappropriately may have them taken for the remainder of the trip.
6. **Understand general tourist behavior,** such as being respectful at memorials and museums (Arlington Nat'l Cemetery) and paying attention to traffic and your surroundings.
7. **Never wander off alone.** It's expected that you stay with **at least** one other student at all times.
8. **Sleep is important!** Go to sleep at night. Every year we have students that are ill by the end of the trip due to exhaustion.
9. **You will walk...a lot.** We will walk 7-8 miles per day. Wear comfortable clothes and be prepared for any type of weather.
10. **We will tour, rain or shine.** Rain will not stop the trip, so bring an umbrella and/or a poncho(s). Disposable ponchos are great.

### Other expectations for the trip:

- **Space on the bus is at a premium.** Even though a lot of sleeping may be done to and from Washington D.C., large pillows and big blankets are not allowed. If you're going to bring these items, make sure that they are small.
- Each participant on the trip is limited to one bag of luggage. A student may bring a backpack or smaller bag on the bus in addition to the luggage. *Note: During the trip, the luggage will be stored under the bus and the student will not have access to that bag or suitcase until arriving in D.C. If a student needs to bring something aboard the bus, it should be in the carry-on bag.*
- The buses do have televisions that are able to play movies. The chaperones will pick movies that are appropriate for the entire bus to view. Nothing rated over PG-13 will be shown.
- Energy drinks are not allowed.
- You will not need your school I.D. NationsClassroom provides each participant with a blue armband that the student will need to wear. Chaperones will pass these out at the appropriate time.
- The trip is all-inclusive, so extra money for souvenirs is optional and is the responsibility of the student. Expensive electronic devices (cell phones, digital cameras, iPods, etc.) will also be the responsibility of the student.
- The school dress code will be enforced.
- Unless of an emergency, do not leave your room once you have been taped in by a chaperone.
- **Please fill out the necessary medical forms and return them to a sponsor if you haven't done so already.**