



SATELLITE VIEW OF HIKE



Waypoints with bathroom facilities are in *ITALIC*. Temporary changes or notes are in **bold**.

BEGINNING THE HIKE

Parking can be quite a challenge. It is recommended to park in a garage and take public transportation to reach The Mall.

Union Station is a great place to find parking and the building itself is a must see! The address is: 50 Massachusetts Avenue NE. Parking costs under \$20 per car. For youth groups, take the Metro since that can be a new and interesting experience for them. The station you want is Metro Center station. Get off and switch to the blue or orange line and go to the Smithsonian station. City Center Parking on New York Ave. and 9th street is also a good alternative. Parking there is \$10 for the day. Take the Metro's green line to L'Enfant Plaza, then the blue line to the Smithsonian station.

The start point for the hike is the Washington Monument. To get there from the Metro station, head west on Independence Ave. until you see the monument to the NW. It's hard to miss.

GPS Start Point:
38°53'22.05"N 77° 2'6.37"W

WAYPOINT 1

WASHINGTON MONUMENT

Construction started on the Washington Monument in 1848 and was completed in 1884. It's the world's tallest stone structure at 555 ft. When completed, it was the world's tallest structure until 1889, when a certain famous steel tower in Paris was built.

See those people lined up? The tour of the Washington Monument takes 30 minutes and is open from 9:00am - 10:00pm.

The tour and the elevator trip to the top are well worth the wait. It's a great way

to start or end the hike and is highly recommended. The line for the tour can be pretty long. If it's too long when you first go by, plan to include it towards the end of the day.

GPS Start Point:
27°36'52.54"N 82°44'6.39"W

Challenge title
Circle Up!

Challenge description
How many flagpoles surround the base of the Washington Monument?

Directions to next waypoint
Head west to the World War II Memorial.

GPS to next waypoint
38°53'21.93"N 77° 2'25.66"W

Note: to the SSE of the Washington Monument is the Holocaust Museum. Due to the somber experience, it is recommended for youth groups that are older and have already seen D.C.

WAYPOINT 2

NATIONAL WORLD WAR II MEMORIAL

The WWII Memorial opened in 2004. It honors the 16 million people that served in the armed forces during World War II and the millions of Americans that supported the effort at home. The memorial was funded with mostly private donations.

Challenge title
A Nation Conceived in Liberty and Justice

Challenge description
Who was the President of the United States when the World War II Memorial opened? _____

Directions to next waypoint
Walk towards the Lincoln Memorial on

the left (south side) far sidewalk until you see a small white dome a third of the way and 300 feet to the south. **Head to that dome.**

OR

Head south of the WWII Memorial until you see a parking area and a small building. **Follow the path** past the bus loading area and then **head east**. About 2300 feet to the left will be a **small white domed structure. Head towards it.**

GPS to next waypoint
38°53'15.28"N 77° 2'36.50"W

Note: There was construction around the Reflecting Pool in 2012. Traffic patterns and walking routes have been altered.

WAYPOINT 3

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA WAR MEMORIAL

This small memorial is dedicated to the 499 residents of the District of Columbia that gave their lives during the conflict. In 2011, it was renovated and dedicated as a national monument to all the soldiers of WWI. Over 5 million Americans served in WWI. This conflict marked the first time U.S. forces went overseas to defend foreign nations against aggression.

Challenge title
Friends in Freedom

Challenge description
What is the animal portrayed in the center of the monument?

Directions to next waypoint
Continue south from the WWI Memorial to the sidewalk along Independence Avenue and **head right (west)** until you see the crosswalk heading to the south. **Cross**

Independence Avenue and **head towards the MLK Memorial.**

GPS to next waypoint
38°53'10.46"N 77° 2'39.24"W

NOTE: There was construction in this area as of summer 2012.

WAYPOINT 4

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. MEMORIAL

In 2011, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial opened. It was the first memorial on or near The Mall dedicated to an African American. It's also one of only four dedications honoring non-presidents in the National Mall. Take some time here to read the inspiring inscriptions.

Look behind the MLK Memorial to the water; this is called the Tidal Basin. Across the basin is the Jefferson Memorial.

SPUR: If you head south from the MLK Memorial along the Tidal Basin you will see the FDR Memorial. Continuing around the Tidal Basin, you will come to the Jefferson Memorial. These two monuments are impressive, especially the Jefferson Memorial. Please note, this spur adds a total of 1.5 miles round trip. Allow for additional time to walk around and explore these two impressive monuments.

Challenge title
Stone of Hope

Challenge description
In the words of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., what is "the only thing that can drive out darkness"?

Directions to next waypoint
Head west in the direction of the Lincoln Memorial until you see a crosswalk about 800 feet from the MLK Memorial. **Cross Independence Ave.** and **turn down Daniel**

French Dr. until you see a **path to the right; go down that path.**

GPS to next waypoint
38°53'15.85"N 77° 2'50.69"W

WAYPOINT 5

KOREAN WAR VETERANS MEMORIAL

The Korean War Veterans Memorial opened in 1995, the 42nd year anniversary of the armistice. The statues of the squad soldiers are quite moving. The Korean War was fought from 1950-1953 between the Communist North and the Democratic South.

Challenge title
The Price of Freedom

Challenge description
The granite wall contains a simple four word phrase near the flagpole, what is it?

GPS to next waypoint
27°37'0.39"N 82°44'9.56"W

WAYPOINT 6

LINCOLN MEMORIAL

This stunning building opened in 1922 after eight years of construction. The statue of Lincoln inside is 19 feet tall. The inside is as impressive as the exterior. It was on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1963 where Martin Luther King, Jr. gave his famous speech. The reflecting pool was built in 1923 following the dedication of the Lincoln Memorial. It's 2029 feet by 167 feet and only 18 inches deep.

SPUR: As you are facing the Lincoln Memorial on the left side there is a small exhibit that is well worth visiting.

Challenge title
Enshrined Forever

Challenge description
Climb the steps up to the inside of the temple where the statue of Lincoln is located. Lincoln's words are engraved on the north and south walls. How many carved stone eagles are on these two walls?

Directions to next waypoint
Walk down the steps, and out towards the Reflecting Pool. Then **head northeast** to the Vietnam Memorial.

GPS to next waypoint
38°53'25.91"N 77° 2'53.46"W

WAYPOINT 7

VIETNAM VETERANS MEMORIAL

The Vietnam Veterans Memorial honors U.S. service members who fought in the Vietnam War, service members who died in service in Vietnam/South East Asia and those service members who were unaccounted for (Missing In Action) during the war. Its construction and related issues have been the source of controversies, some of which have resulted in additions to the memorial complex. The memorial currently consists of three separate parts: the Three Soldiers statue, the Vietnam Women's Memorial and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall, which is the best-known part of the memorial.

Challenge title
Those Who Served

Challenge description
Near the Three Soldiers statue is a flagpole. At the base of the flag are plaques representing the five branches of the U.S. military who served in Vietnam. They are the Army, Navy, Air Force and which two other branches?

Directions to next waypoint

Head east through the Constitution Gardens. If you go to the **left of the lake**, you can walk over to the island and see the memorial of the 56 signers of the Constitution. **Continue east** until you leave the gardens, and come to 17th Street. **Head left (north) on 17th Street** crossing Constitution Avenue. As you walk north on 17th Street, on the left side of the street you'll see **Memorial Continental Hall**, a venue for performances and events. Past that you'll see the headquarters for the **American Red Cross** and the **Concoran College of Art** with its reclining lions. To the right you'll see a tall monument in a park. **Head to the monument.**

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'46.12"N 77° 2'19.36"W

WAYPOINT 8

THE BIG RED ONE AND THE EISENHOWER EXECUTIVE OFFICE COMPLEX

This monument is dedicated to the U.S. Army's 1st Infantry Division, nicknamed the Big Red One. The large column and statue represents the service of the 1st Infantry Division soldiers in World War I. Also surrounding the monument are memorials dedicated to the 1st Infantry Division soldiers who served in World War II, in Vietnam and in Desert Storm. These are the conflicts where the Big Red One defended our freedom.

Behind the memorial is the Eisenhower Building, which houses the office of the Vice President. This building dates from 1871, when it housed the War, Navy and State Departments. The building is built in the French Second Empire style with its signature roof and was completely renovated in the 1980's.

Challenge title

A Special Pride of Service

Challenge description

In World War I, the 1st Infantry Division was part of the American

Directions to next waypoint

Go back to 17th Street and **head right** (north) one block to Pennsylvania Ave. **Turn right onto Pennsylvania Avenue.** (You'll walk in front of the White House soon - so don't worry.)

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'55.48"N 77° 2'20.93"W

WAYPOINT 9

LAFAYETTE SQUARE

Lafayette Square preserves many of the original residences of the early Washington elite. Most of these homes are done in the Austere style popular in America in the early 1800's.

Once on Pennsylvania Avenue, you will see the Blair House on the left. Built in 1824, it is the official state guest house of the President. Truman lived here during his presidency while the White House was gutted and restored. It's now used to house foreign heads of state during their visits.

Turn left onto Jackson Place to walk on an early 19th century street. Near the end of the street is the Decatur House, the first home built on this street in 1819. It will soon be open for tours.

From here, walk into Lafayette Square towards the center of the square. The park is named for the Marquis de Lafayette, a French nobleman who assisted the American colonies in their struggle for independence. In the center of the square is a 1853 statue of Andrew Jackson.

Challenge title

Preserving Our Federal Union

Challenge description

On the grass surrounding the statue of Andrew Jackson are four weapons. What are they?

BONUS QUESTION: Near the Statue is the Baruch Bench of Inspiration. According to the plaque, what is Mr. Baruch's philosophy?

Directions to next waypoint

Head to the large white building south of the park behind the fence. This is the **North Lawn** of the **White House.**

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'54.85"N 77° 2'11.68"W

WAYPOINT 10

THE WHITE HOUSE NORTH LAWN

1600 Pennsylvania Avenue is the most famous address in America. Every president except Washington has served the American people from here. Built in 1797, it's the oldest public building in the city. To the left of its center (west), you'll see the west wing and the location of the president's office. This is where most press correspondents stand when they use the White House as a backdrop on the evening news.

Directions to next waypoint

Head to the left (east) to 15th Street. Along the way you will see the back of the Treasury Building. **Head right** (south) on 15th and **go across the street** to the Sherman Monument to see the south side of the Treasury Building.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'45.68"N 77° 2'3.46"W

WAYPOINT 11

THE TREASURY BUILDING

The Treasury Building was built in three phases, beginning in 1836 with completion in 1867. The statue at the front of the Treasury Building is of Alexander Hamilton, the first Secretary of the Treasury. Hamilton established the National Bank and the U.S. Mint, designed a system of tariffs and was the key individual in guiding a stable US fiscal policy. He was also key in reestablishing friendly relations with Britain following the American Revolution. He is best known now as the man on the \$10 bill.

Note: There was no public access to the Treasury Building as of 2012.

Challenge title

Hamilton Raising the Roof

Challenge description

How many scroll-topped columns support the roof above the entrance to the Treasury Department?

BONUS QUESTION:

What year was the Monument to Sherman erected?

Directions to next waypoint

After seeing Sherman, **head southwest** to the South Lawn of the White House.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'43.11"N 77° 2'11.60"W

WAYPOINT 12

THE WHITE HOUSE SOUTH LAWN

The South Lawn of the White House is where the President's helicopter, Marine 1, lands and it's also where many traditional White House events take place. Also on the

South Lawn is the newest kitchen garden, planted by Michelle Obama with the help of local school children. Tours of the White House must be arranged months in advance with your Congressman.

Challenge title

Can you dig it?

Challenge description

Who hired the first White House gardener?

Directions to next waypoint

Head south to The Ellipse. You may see the National Christmas Tree location across the street from the South Lawn of the White House. Due to various street closings, you will need to navigate to this area based around what is closed. To the southwest of the waypoint [**follow the sidewalk**] is a temporary White House visitor center that has a great movie tour of the White House. It's next to a permanent concession stand. **Follow The Ellipse** on the left sidewalk until you see a statue with three figures on the left. **This is the Boy Scout Memorial.**

BONUS QUESTION:

What anniversary does this memorial commemorate?

Continue to the east towards 15th street. **Turn right (south)** to view the next waypoint.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'30.95"N 77° 2'0.36"W

WAYPOINT 13

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

The National Museum of African American History and Culture will be a place where all Americans can learn about the richness and diversity of the African American experience, what it means to

them personally, and how it helped us shape this nation. This museum transcends the boundaries of race and culture that divide us and becomes a lens into a story that unites us all.

Challenge title

Under Construction

Challenge description

When will the museum open to the public?

Directions to next waypoint

Turn left on Madison Dr. and continue to the Museum of American History.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'26.21"N 77° 1'47.96"W

WAYPOINT 14

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

Since this is a historic hike, we feel this museum is an especially important place to visit. Opening in 1964, this museum now houses the American History collection. Youth groups may chose to skip this museum because after a day of historic sights it may be a bit too much to take in for one day. What should not be missed, however, is the original flag that inspired the Star Spangled Banner.

Challenge title

To Infinity and Beyond

Challenge description

At the front entrance of the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of American History there are three panels of engraved quotations. Who are the three authors of the quotations?

Directions to next waypoint

Go to the east to the next museum.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'26.22"N 77° 1'33.39"W

WAYPOINT 15

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

This is one of the most popular museums in the capital, especially for youth groups. It has dinosaurs, life size whales, huge shark teeth and giant gems. It's amazing!

Challenge title

Rock On!

Challenge description

Outside on The Mall (south) side of the museum there are two displays. One is banded iron ore. What is the other display?

Directions to next waypoint

Either **exit out the north doors** and go east to the National Archives (shorter) or **go back out the south doors** and head east, so you can walk through the Sculpture Garden, and then **head south** to get to Constitution Avenue.

Across Constitution Ave., northeast of the Natural History Museum, is the National Archives.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'32.49"N 77° 1'22.73"W

WAYPOINT 16

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

Here you will see the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and the Bill of Rights. No bags or backpacks are allowed in the building.

Challenge title

Keys to the Archives

Challenge description

In the gable near the peak of the roof is a sculpture of a man sitting reading a book. How many keys is he holding?

Directions to next waypoint

Head east on Constitution Avenue to the National Gallery of Art on the right side of the road.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'30.02"N 77° 1'11.81"W

WAYPOINT 17

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART BUILDINGS

Completed in 1941 through an act of Congress, the National Gallery of Art has an amazing collection and is believed to be one of the best in North America. The Gallery's collection traces the development of Western Art from the Middle Ages to the present and includes many major works from artists including: Rembrandt, Van Gogh, Picasso, Cézanne, Leonardo da Vinci and Vermeer.

Challenge title

Art for the Ages

Challenge description

How many buildings house the National Gallery of Art?

Directions to next waypoint

Head east towards the Capital Building and the Reflecting Pool. **Walk around the pool** to the Grant Memorial.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'23.24"N 77° 0'46.66"W

WAYPOINT 18

U.S. GRANT MEMORIAL

This memorial honoring the General and the President began in 1902 and took

20 years to complete. It's the 4th largest equestrian statue in the world. Take some time to explore the details of this memorial.

Challenge title

Roman Bronze Works

Challenge description

Who sculpted the bronze statues at this memorial?

Directions to next waypoint

Head to the Capitol building.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'23.16"N 77° 0'34.57"W

WAYPOINT 19

THE CAPITOL WEST SIDE

This building was designed by William Thorton after winning a competition put on by Thomas Jefferson. The groundbreaking was in 1793 and George Washington himself laid the cornerstone. Congress met for the first time in 1800 with the building incomplete. Along with the White House and other buildings, the Capitol was partially burned in 1814 by the British. During these first years, only the two outside buildings were complete. In 1826 the center rotunda was completed.

Of interest, the famous Capitol dome was not the first. Originally, a much smaller timber dome was built. In 1850, the expansion of the building included the replacement of the timber dome with the steel version you see today. The old dome was only a third the height of the new one.

Challenge title

Capitol Support

Challenge description

How many small pillars hold up the west side fountain at the base of the Capitol Building?

Directions to next waypoint

Leave the Capitol via the north side toward the east side.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'29.26"N 77° 0'38.30"W

WAYPOINT 20

THE SUMMERHOUSE

The Summerhouse is a brick structure set into the sloping hillside of the west Front Lawn among the paths that lead from Pennsylvania Avenue to the Senate side of the Capitol. This structure has offered rest and shelter to travelers for over a century. Constructed to provide comfort for those who explore the area on foot, it is also a pleasant location from which to appreciate the Capitol's classical architecture and its surrounding landscape.

Challenge title

Wet Your Whistle

Challenge description

What is the most refreshing thing found inside the Summerhouse?

Directions to next waypoint

Continue north to the east side of the Capitol Building, then **go east** to the underground visitor center.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'24.16"N 77° 0'25.69"W

WAYPOINT 21

THE CAPITOL TOUR

The Capitol Visitor Center is open to visitors from 8:30am - 4:30pm Monday through Saturday except for Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day and Inauguration Day. Tours of the U.S. Capitol are conducted from 8:50am - 3:20pm, Monday through Saturday. It's a very interesting tour.

BONUS QUESTION:

What is the name of the statue at the top of the Capitol Building?

Directions to next waypoint

Exit the visitor center and go ENE to the Supreme Court Building.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'26.24"N 77° 0'18.60"W

WAYPOINT 22

THE SUPREME COURT

This building was built in 1935 to house the Supreme Court, which was originally housed in the Capitol Building. You can walk through the building and lectures are available, but not necessary.

Challenge title

Highest Court of the Nation

Challenge description

On one of the statues at the front of the building there is a three letter word. The word is latin for LAW. What is the word?

Directions to next waypoint

Head south to the next building, the Library of Congress.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'26.18"N 77° 0'18.66"W

WAYPOINT 23

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Established in 1800 by Congress, the library was once housed in the Capitol Building. The current building was complete in 1897 to accommodate the expansion of the library. It is now the largest library in the world. The main reading room and the great hall are impressive.

There is a one hour tour of the building,

but a quick walk in and out to observe the architecture of the original building is perfectly fine.

Challenge title

That's a Whole Lot of Books!

Challenge description

What are the names of the three buildings comprising the Library of Congress?

BONUS QUESTION:

Above the front doors of the Jefferson Building are seven busts of famous Americans. Who is in the center?

Directions to next waypoint

Head south to Independence Avenue, then **head right (west)**. You will pass three buildings that house the offices for the members of the House of Representatives. You will then see a **glass-topped building** to your right. **Head towards it;** it's the Botanical Gardens. There are many interesting plants from all over the world in this building, including an area of medicinal plants. **Continuing west**, you'll see a very modern building, the Museum of the American Indian.

GPS to next waypoint

38°53'18.82"N 77° 0'59.31"W

WAYPOINT 24

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

This 2004 museum has on display many artifacts from the Heye Collection. George Gustav Heye traveled through North and South America between 1903 and 1957. The National Museum of the American Indian houses one of the world's largest and most diverse collections

of its kind. The museum's sweeping curvilinear architecture, its indigenous landscaping and its exhibitions are all designed in collaboration with tribes and communities from across the hemisphere. This unique place gives visitors from around the world the sense and spirit of native America. The restaurant serves unique Native American foods including bison, rabbit, and ceviche.

Challenge title
Many Tribes, Many Symbols

Challenge description
On the main glass doors at the entrance to the museum, there are some symbols. How many hand prints surround the circle symbol?

BONUS QUESTION:
What is the name of the bronze statue near the entrance of the museum?

Directions to next waypoint
Continue west to the Air and Space Museum

GPS to next waypoint
38°53'18.61"N 77° 1'11.28"W

WAYPOINT 25

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM

This is perhaps the most popular museum with youth groups. In fact, since opening in 1976, it quickly became the most popular museum in the world. It has the actual "Spirit of St. Louis", the Apollo 11 Command Module, a touchable lunar rock, flight simulators, an IMAX theater and incredible displays.

Challenge title
Out of This World

Challenge description
At the south entrance to the Air and Space Museum there is a sculpture. What is the name of the sculpture, the name of the artist and the year it was created?

Directions to next waypoint
Continue to next museum(s) to the east towards the castle.

GPS to next waypoint
38°53'20.24"N 77° 1'33.16"W

WAYPOINT 26

SMITHSONIAN CASTLE AND ASSOCIATED MUSEUMS

The Smithsonian Castle was built in 1847 in the Gothic Revival style. This building currently holds the offices and the visitor center.

There are five museums in this area. If you still have energy feel free to explore them.

1. The Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden: a modern art museum.
2. The Museum of African Art
3. The Sackler Gallery
4. Freer Gallery of Asian Art
5. The Arts and Industry Museum is currently closed until 2014. It was the original home of the National Museum.

Challenge title
Walking on the Roof

Challenge description
There is a unique garden just outside the south entrance of the castle. What is the last name of the person for whom the garden is named?

Directions to next waypoint
Done! To get to the Metro station, **head to the west side of the castle** and **head south** to the intersection. The Metro station is on the SW corner.

GPS to next waypoint
38°53'14.64"N 77° 1'42.36"W

CHALLENGE ANSWERS

WAYPOINT 1
48

WAYPOINT 2
George W. Bush

WAYPOINT 3
Eagle

WAYPOINT 4
Light

WAYPOINT 5
Freedom is not free.

WAYPOINT 6
4

WAYPOINT 7
Marines and Coast Guard

WAYPOINT 8
Expeditionary Force

WAYPOINT 9
Cannons
BONUS ANSWER: Be Prepared.

WAYPOINT 11
1. 10 2. 1903

WAYPOINT 12
Thomas Jefferson
BONUS ANSWER: 50th Anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America

WAYPOINT 13
2015

WAYPOINT 14
James Smithson, John Quincy Adams, and Joseph Henry

WAYPOINT 15
Petrified Wood

WAYPOINT 16
2

WAYPOINT 17
2

WAYPOINT 18
Henry Merwin Shradly

WAYPOINT 19
8

WAYPOINT 20
Drinking fountains

WAYPOINT 21
BONUS ANSWER: Statue of Freedom

WAYPOINT 22
LEX

WAYPOINT 23
Jefferson, Adams, and Madison.
BONUS ANSWER: Benjamin Franklin

WAYPOINT 24
13
BONUS ANSWER: Buffalo Dancer

WAYPOINT 25
Continuum by Charles O. Perry 1976

WAYPOINT 26
Haupt

HISTORIC D.C. MALL HIKE PLAN

LENGTH - 6.5 miles

ESTIMATED TIME - 8-10 hours (with museum visits)

DIFFICULTY - Easy no elevation changes

START POINT - Washington Monument

HIKE WRITTEN BY - Eric Hilferding

SUMMARY

This hike is planned as a **7.5 mile hike**, covering the **primary Washington DC destinations**. Rather than suggest museums for you to visit, it is recommended that you select the ones that interest your group the most. The museums that most youth groups frequent are: the **National Air and Space Museum**, the **National Museum of Natural History** and the **National Museum of American History**. If this is your first time in D.C., you may wish to consider taking two or even three days to make the hike. If you want to walk The Mall, then this hike will include some challenges to make it more interesting. This hike will take you to destinations like the **White House** and the **Capitol Building** (sometimes these are closed to visitors; so, it can be hit or miss). The hike concludes with the highlight - **The Smithsonian Castle**.

LOCATION

Positioned downtown in the heart of the nation's capital, Washington D.C., the National Mall is an open-area national park that includes all of the most prominent D.C. destinations. This symbolic setting features monumental historical structures, museums and galleries, honors the most distinguished public figures of our time and offers beautiful open areas for the recreational enjoyment of visitors. In addition to its many great attractions, the D.C. Mall plays host to a large array of free annual events and receives millions of visitors each year.

HELPFUL HINTS

It is recommended that you start your trip as early as possible. Many museums and buildings close at 5:30pm. If you can get to the mall at 8:00-8:30am, you can fit in a lot of sightseeing. You're probably hiking in the summer; so, the weather will get hotter as the day progresses. The museums you will probably visit will come later in the day and they have air conditioning. Most distance walking is planned for early in the day when it's presumably cooler.

*** Please Note: Washington has a great deal of construction and often closes its streets to accommodate renovation and new construction. In addition, heightened security concerns can cause areas, exhibits and buildings to be inaccessible at times. It is recommended that you carry additional maps.**

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HIKE

PLANNING FOR YOUR HIKE

THINGS YOU'LL NEED

Sunscreen • Lots of water

Compass (real or on smartphone) • Camera