

George Washington's guiding hand can be seen throughout his Mount Vernon estate, from its elegantly designed Mansion and grounds to its innovative farm site, gristmill, and distillery. The Washington family called Mount Vernon home until 1860, when the estate and 200 acres were purchased by the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association. Since that date the non-profit organization has maintained and operated Mount Vernon for the benefit of admirers of George Washington the world over.

"No estate in United America is more pleasantly situated than this..."

George Washington, 1793

The Mount Vernon Ladies' Association accepts no government funding, but rather relies on private donations and revenues from admissions, retail, and food service to carry out its important mission.



ACTIVITIES & TOURS

FAMILY ACTIVITIES

Kids love the **Hands-On-History Center** in the Education Center, where they can dress up in colonial attire, color pictures, and enjoy more family-friendly fun (designed for ages 3-8). Kids can win a prize when they solve a puzzle on our **Adventure Map**, available free of charge in the Ford Orientation Center. We also offer an **audio tour** designed with young visitors in mind. A working farm, Mount Vernon is also home to heritage breed sheep, cattle, hogs, and other animals similar to the types that Washington kept in his time. Look for our animals around the **paddock**, at the **Pioneer Farm**, and near the **forest trail**. You may also notice visitors with dogs in tow; the grounds are dog-friendly!



TODAY AT MOUNT VERNON

Make sure to pick up our Today at Mount Vernon programming guide, which notes all of the custom activities taking place on the estate specific to the day of your visit. Copies are available in the Ford Orientation Center.

MEET PEOPLE FROM WASHINGTON'S WORLD

Guests can meet costumed interpreters and hear real stories about George Washington and the world he inhabited daily around the Historic Area. Meet "Lady Washington" in the Interpretive Center (#5 on your map). Schedule varies.



SPECIALTY TOURS & RIVER CRUISES

Mount Vernon offers a variety of specialty tours. Information is available in the Ford Orientation Center.

Narrated sightseeing cruises are also available April through October, showing the estate from a different angle. Tours are 45 minutes long, and tickets may be purchased at the Ford Orientation Center or on board the boats.

Inquire at the ticket window or online at MountVernon.org for schedules and pricing for all tours and cruises.



AUDIO TOURS

Enhance your visit with this engaging narrative, which offers insights and additional details about the historic area and objects on display in the museum galleries of the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center. Pick up your audio tour device in the Ford Orientation Center.

ANNUAL PASSES & MEMBERSHIPS

If you enjoyed your visit today and wish you had purchased an Annual Pass, it's not too late to upgrade. Just stop by Guest Services or the Education Center Exit desk today with your ticket stub(s) to upgrade for less than the cost of one return visit! Passes are good for an unlimited number of daytime visits, 365 days a year.

We also invite you to make your contribution tax-deductible by becoming a member of The Friends of Mount Vernon. Members enjoy exclusive benefits, including admission packages, a discount at The Shops, invitations to special events, a subscription to our newsletter, and more. Stop by Guest Services or visit MountVernon.org to learn more.

ACCESSIBILITY

Mount Vernon welcomes guests with special needs. The Ford Orientation Center, Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center, and Mount Vernon Inn Complex are accessible. Although the 18th-century pathways in the historic area can be uneven, there is an accessible path linking the Ford Orientation Center with the Mansion and the Museum and Education Center. Shuttle service is provided between the Museum and Education Center and the Pioneer Farm from April to October. Other amenities, alternate format materials, and accessible tours are available. More information is available at the Guest Services desk and online at MountVernon.org.

MountVernon.org

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George Washington's MOUNT VERNON



Smoking is prohibited everywhere on the Estate within the Texas Gate. Only bottled water is allowed throughout the estate. Food and beverages are allowed only outside the Texas Gate.

ESTATE HIGHLIGHTS

THE MANSION

George Washington acquired Mount Vernon in 1754 and spent the next 45 years of his life expanding his home to reflect his status as a Virginia gentleman. The Mansion is detailed to look as it did in 1799, featuring a large collection of furnishings owned by the Washingtons as well as many period pieces. Vibrant wall colors—based on scientific paint analysis—demonstrate the Washingtons' wealth and sense of fashion. The first and second floors are open daily; the third floor is open during the holiday season.

Timed tickets for Mansion tours are provided upon arrival. Tours are offered continuously. No chewing gum, photography, or strollers.

GARDENS & GROUNDS

Containing more than a dozen original structures and several reconstructed buildings—such as slave quarters and a working blacksmith shop—beautiful gardens, and rare-breed livestock, the historic area offers much to see and do all year long.

The outbuildings surrounding the Mansion on the north and south lanes vividly demonstrate what life was like on Washington's 18th-century plantation.

Nearby, guests can visit the exquisitely restored upper garden and the lower garden, which is one of the most noteworthy Colonial Revival gardens in America. The botanical garden and the fruit garden and nursery are also open for viewing.

For a better grasp of Mount Vernon's natural environment, walk the quarter-mile-long forest trail which connects to the Pioneer Farm.

PIONEER FARM

George Washington thought of himself first and foremost as a farmer. Recognizing the inadequacies of 18th-century farming practices, he pioneered innovative methods, including crop rotation and the use of fertilizers. The four-acre Pioneer Farm is home to a reconstructed slave cabin and a replica of Washington's innovative 16-sided treading barn. Costumed interpreters discuss and demonstrate Washington's progressive farming practices April to October.

WASHINGTON'S TOMB

George Washington died here at Mount Vernon on December 14, 1799, and his will directed that he be buried on his beloved estate. He also selected a site for a new brick tomb to replace the original burial vault, which was deteriorating. The Tomb, his final resting place, was completed in 1831, and the remains of Washington, his wife, Martha, and other family members are interred there. Wreath laying ceremonies are conducted daily.

SLAVE MEMORIAL AND BURIAL GROUND

The slave burial ground, a cemetery for slaves and free blacks who worked for the Washington family during the 1700s and the first half of the 1800s is marked by a memorial honoring their lives and contributions. The Slave Memorial was designed by students at Howard University and was constructed in 1983. Learn more about slave life at Mount Vernon by visiting the slave cabin, slave quarters, or by taking the Slave Life specialty tour available April to October.

GEORGE WASHINGTON'S DISTILLERY & GRISTMILL

George Washington was a successful entrepreneurial farmer and businessman. His whiskey distillery and gristmill utilized technologies that were at the cutting edge in the late 1700s. Today, guests can tour fully functioning reconstructions of both these impressive commercial buildings. Located 2.7 miles from the estate's main entrance on Route 235 South, the site is open daily from April to October. Products made at the site, including flour, grits, and cornmeal, are available for purchase at the Gristmill Shop and at The Shops at Mount Vernon. Whiskey is released in limited quantities and frequently sells out; inquire on site or check online for upcoming release dates.

SHOPPING & DINING

THE SHOPS

Located in the Mount Vernon Inn Complex, The Shops at Mount Vernon include the world's largest and best Washington-themed bookstore, a year-round Christmas Corner, a large selection of toys and games from a bygone era, and reproductions of Mount Vernon treasures. The Lady Washington Shop, located in the historic area near the greenhouse, features chinaware, needlework, food and garden items, and a toy corner.

The Mount Vernon Inn restaurant serves lunch daily and elegant candlelit dinners by reservation Monday through Sunday. The Inn offers six intimate dining rooms and delicious early American cuisine. For guests on the go, the Food Court offers a tasty variety of fresh baked goods, grilled burgers and fries, sandwiches and salads, personal pan pizzas from Pizza Hut®, delectable Mrs. Fields® cookies, and ice cream.

The Revolutionary War is represented in the Education Center by this figure created from forensic science and an immense movie with rumble seats, fog, and snow! Education Center #8

Stone ground cornmeal produced on site is available at the Gristmill Shop and The Shops at Mount Vernon.

Rye whiskey, distilled on site, is available at the Gristmill Shop and The Shops at Mount Vernon.



Orientation Center

1. Tickets
2. Entrance
3. Orientation Map
4. Maps in 11 languages
5. Guest Services
6. Washington Family Statues
7. The General's Store
8. Stained Glass Window
9. Mount Vernon in Miniature
10. Exit to Historic Area
11. Smith Theater, "We Fight to Be Free"
12. Eagles Theater, "We Fight to Be Free"
13. Exit from Theaters to Historic Area

Men and women in colonial Virginia enjoyed taking snuff, and Martha Washington stored hers in this exquisite gold snuffbox with agate lid. Museum #5



Washington's dentures are on display—but they are not made of wood! Education Center #14



Education Center

1. Reconstructing George Washington
2. Young Virginian
3. Young Surveyor
4. Upstart Colonial Officer
5. A 40-Year Romance Theater
6. Gentleman Planter
7. Becoming A Revolutionary
8. First in War
9. Revolutionary War Theater (Immersive experience with snow, fog and rumble seats)
10. Citizen Soldier
11. Hands-on-History Center (ages 3-8)
12. Visionary Entrepreneur
13. The Dilemma of Slavery
14. A Leader's Smile (Washington's dentures)
15. Indispensable American
16. The People's President
17. Setting Precedents
18. A Private Citizen
19. Legacy Theater (Grand Finale)
20. Saving Mount Vernon

The Houdon Bust is considered the most accurate likeness of George Washington. Museum #2



Take the oath of office underneath this realistic exhibit of Washington at his Inauguration. Hear the crowd cheer after you lift your hand from the display's Bible. Education Center #16

Museum

1. The Houdon Bust
2. The World of Washington
3. From Soldier to Statesman
4. At Home with the Washingtons
5. Washington Style
6. Books and Manuscripts
7. Temporary Exhibitions

On her wedding day, Martha Washington wore a gold wedding dress and purple satin slippers. Reproductions are on display. Education Center #6



Ford Orientation Center

A visit to Mount Vernon begins in the Ford Orientation Center, highlighted by the 18-minute action adventure film which re-introduces the young heroic Washington in "We Fight to Be Free." Mount Vernon in Miniature is a one-twelfth scale exact replica of the Mansion with 22 rooms containing hundreds of tiny objects including oil paintings, china, books, and more than 100 tables and chairs.

Open daily. Wheelchair accessible. Climate controlled.

The Ford Orientation Center is made possible by Ford Motor Company Fund.



Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center

The Museum and Education Center offers a memorable experience that spans George Washington's lifetime. The Museum introduces Washington's world with a rich and comprehensive collection of objects in a state-of-the-art facility. The Education Center presents a multimedia experience that illuminates the detailed story of Washington's life. Together, 23 gallery and theater spaces show the real George Washington and the accomplishments that made him "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."

Open daily. Wheelchair accessible. Climate controlled.

- Restrooms
- Elevator
- Information
- Recycling Receptacle