



HAPPY TIMES TOURS & EXPERIENCES

CHRISTMAS AT THE PRESIDENTIAL HOMES OF VIRGINIA (WILLIAMSBURG, CHARLOTTESVILLE & NEWPORT NEWS, VA)

Trip Includes:

- Home pickup in Dane, Milwaukee, Racine, Kenosha, Jefferson, Ozaukee, Washington, WI Counties and Lake County, IL
- Yuletide Dinner at Michie's Tavern
- Tour James Madison's Montpelier
- Tour James Monroe's "Highland"
- Tour Monticello – Holiday After Dark with Dinner at Monticello Farm Table
- Tour Centuries of Christmas at Berkeley Plantation, site of the first Thanksgiving in 1619
- Tour of Sherwood Forest Plantation home of the 10th President John Tyler
- Dickens Christmas Dinner & Entertainment
- Tour the new American Revolution Museum at Yorktown
- Walking tour of Colonial Williamsburg and Grand Illumination Festivities
- Tour George Washington's Mount Vernon
- Tour National First Ladies Library & Museum and special program on White House Pets
- Visit Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museum
- Motorcoach Transportation and the Services of a Happy Times Tour Director
- 14 Meals

PER PERSON RATES:

Double Occupancy \$2399

Single Occupancy \$2799

Triple Occupancy \$2359

Full Payment Due: 10/27/2021



Photo Credit: VTC

*Gratuities for the tour director and driver are not included in the price and are at the passengers' discretion. Please note that the itinerary is subject to change due to COVID restrictions that may be enforced without notice.



Photo Credit: Virginia Tourism Corporation

Treasure Christmas with the Presidents and the Ladies!

8 Days: December 1 - 8, 2021

Day 1 B, D

Enjoy your boxed breakfast and fun on the bus as we make our way to Canton, Ohio and our first overnight at the Hampton Inn. Dinner is included at a local restaurant near the hotel.

Day 2 B, D

Today we will travel to Charlottesville, VA for a 2 night stay at the Drury Plaza Hotel. Enjoy a Yuletide Dinner at **Michie's Tavern**, once owned by Patrick Henry's father. The Tavern is fully decorated for the holidays much as it would have been in that era. The menu will include Virginia Country Ham, Roasted Turkey and all the trimmings.

Day 3 B, D

This morning we will tour **Montpelier**, the home of our 4th President James Madison, known as the "Father of the Constitution." Montpelier is the place where Madison conceived the foundation of American Democracy. As you tour the Mansion you will learn about the fascinating lives of James and Dolley. She was America's "first" First Lady. Next we will tour **James Monroe's "Highland"**. This is the home of the 5th President of the United States. Enjoy a historical tour of the home and grounds as well as a **special program, "Women of Highland,"** where you will learn about a woman's experiences in the early U.S. This guided tour illustrates the varied perspectives of free and enslaved women during major events in the early 19th century. Tonight we are in for a treat as we enjoy a rare opportunity to **experience Monticello Holiday after dark**, historically decorated for the holiday season. This offers an intimate look at how all people who lived on the Monticello mountaintop – enslaved and free – celebrated the holidays in Jefferson's time. You will journey through public and private rooms including Monticello's iconic Dome Room. We will enjoy a light dinner at the **Monticello Farm Table Café** and learn about Thomas Jefferson's enthusiasm for local agriculture and his love of seasonal produce, along with the culinary legacy of generations of enslaved gardeners and cooks who raised the vegetables and prepared the food for Jefferson's table.

Happy Times Tours & Experiences

P.O. Box 14153, West Allis, WI 53214

Phone: (414) 867-2727 | Email: info@happytimestours.com | www.happytimestours.com



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Day 4 B, D

This morning we will tour the **Berkley Plantation**, site of the first Thanksgiving in 1619. Berkley is also the birthplace of Benjamin Harrison, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, as well as 9th President William Henry Harrison. This is a special time since we will be there for the **holiday exhibit “Centuries of Christmas”** in the elegant 1726 mansion. It is beautifully decorated with fresh greenery from Berkeley’s gardens. Costumed guides will add a special touch with stories of Christmas at Berkeley through four centuries. Next, we will tour the **Sherwood Forest Plantation**, home of the 10th U.S. President, John Tyler, who succeeded William Henry Harrison on his death. It has been the continuous residence of the Tyler family since the President purchased it in 1843. Plantation greenery is fashioned into beautiful wreaths and gardens as part of the holiday decorations. Tonight, you’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 Ivy”, “Deck the Halls”, “Gloucestershire Wassail” and “Good King Wenceslas.” We will overnight at the Comfort Suites Hotel in Newport News, VA for 2 nights.



Photo Credit: Virginia Tourism

Day 5 B

We will start the day at the **NEW American Revolution Museum at Yorktown**. It is among America’s foremost sites that tell the story of the nation’s founding during a time that the famous homes we have visited were occupied by future Presidents. Through immersive indoor exhibits and outdoor living history, this museum offers a truly national perspective, conveying a sense of the complexity of this country’s Revolutionary heritage. This afternoon we will find ourselves in **Colonial Williamsburg** and proceed on a **walking tour to learn about Christmas decorations before electric lights**. You will have some time for shopping before the **Grand Illumination Festivities in Williamsburg** this evening. This is an adaptation of a common practice during the 18th century, when ordinary citizens celebrated extraordinary events by firing guns and using fireworks. 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.

Day 6 B, D

Today we start our sightseeing at **George Washington’s Mount Vernon**, home of our 1st President. It offers a glimpse into 18-century plantation life through beautiful gardens and grounds and intriguing museum exhibits. Learn the history of the mansion through a guided tour as well as the Ford Orientation Center, the Donald W. Reynolds Museum and Education Center and the Distillery and Gristmill. You’ll see a wonderful **collection of Christmas Trees at the Visitors Center and then on the 1st floor of the Mansion**. We will start heading back and overnight at the Fairfield Inn & Suites Hotel in Somerset, PA and enjoy an included dinner.

Day 7 B, D

This morning we will arrive at the **National First Ladies Library & Museum** in Canton, Ohio. Our guide will take us on a tour of the Ida Saxton McKinley House, the family home of First Lady Ida Saxton McKinley and the longtime residence of President William McKinley, our 25th President. Also included is a **special program on White House Pets**. We all know about the many cats and dogs that have called the White House home, but have you heard of Rebecca the Raccoon? In this program you find out about the wild menagerie of animals that have roosted with Presidential Families at the White House. Late afternoon we will arrive at the Holiday Inn Express Hotel in Fremont, Ohio. Our farewell dinner is at a nice local restaurant.

Day 8 B

Before returning to Wisconsin, we will make one more Presidential stop at the **Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Library & Museum**. This was the very first Presidential Library in America and honors the memory of Rutherford B. Hayes, our 19th President. For 100 years the collections have grown beyond the core collection to include 90,000 books, manuscripts and images which reflect Hayes’s special interests, including genealogy, local history, and the Gilded Age period in which he lived. Spiel Grove houses the Hayes Museum and 31 room mansion, along with 25 acres of park and the burial site of President and Mrs. Hayes. Return home with memories of your Presidential journey for Christmas.

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