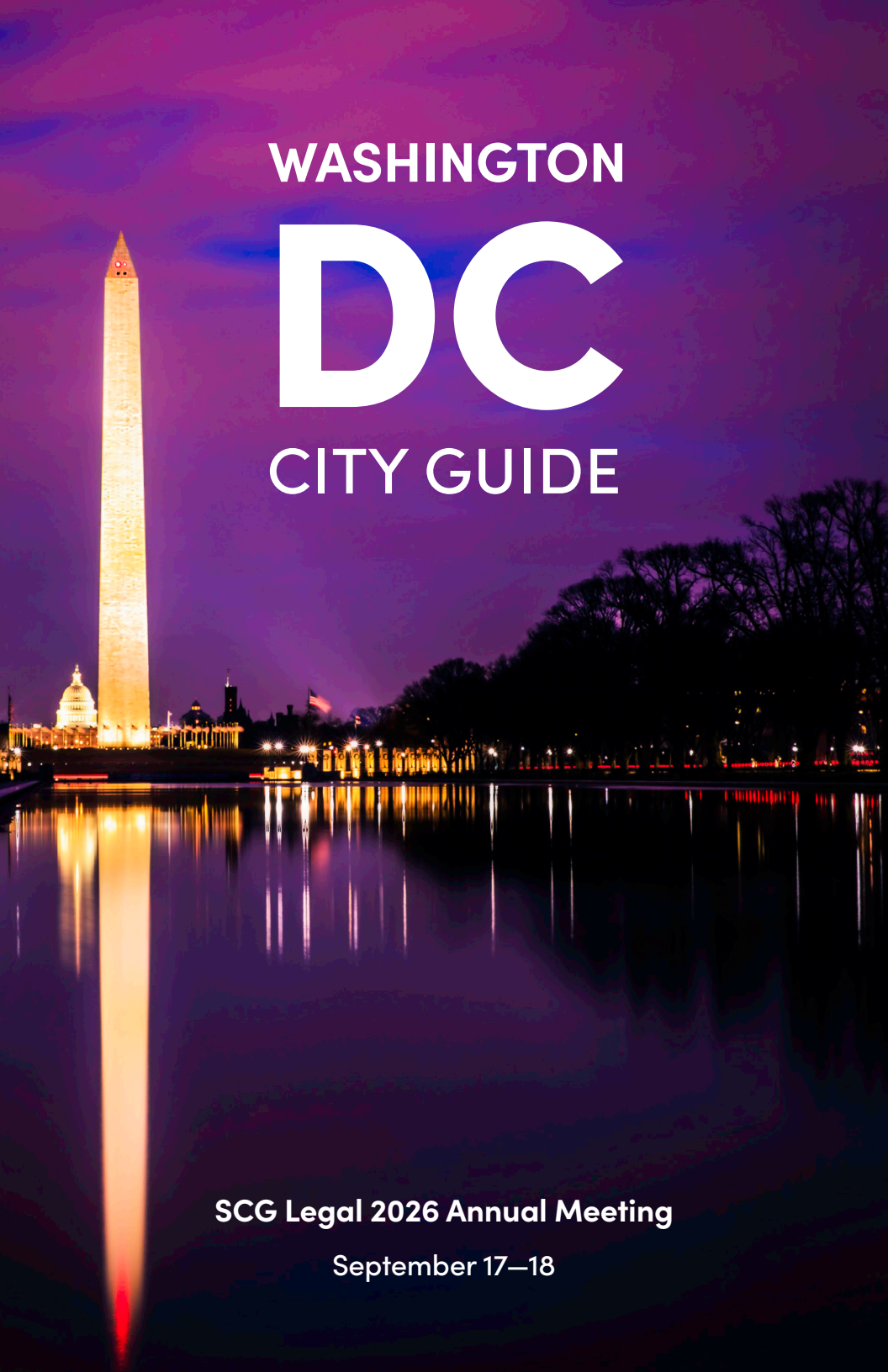


A nighttime photograph of the Washington Monument and the U.S. Capitol building, illuminated and reflected in the water. The sky is dark with some light clouds. The text "WASHINGTON" is overlaid in white, bold, sans-serif font.

WASHINGTON

DC

CITY GUIDE

SCG Legal 2026 Annual Meeting

September 17—18



Welcome Friends & Colleagues

We're delighted to welcome you to Washington, DC for the 2026 SCG Legal Annual Meeting, taking place September 17–18.

We look forward to hosting you in the nation's capital during a historic year as the United States marks its 250th anniversary. Washington offers visitors a distinctive blend of history, culture, and global influence, from iconic monuments and museums to acclaimed theaters, renowned restaurants, and lively neighborhoods across the city.

If your schedule permits, we encourage you to extend your stay before or after the meeting to experience more of what Washington has to offer.



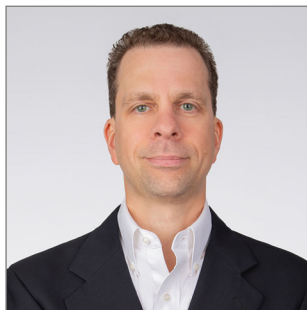
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Washington, DC Museums

Washington, DC is home to some of the world's most renowned museums, offering everything from American history and culture to art, science, and innovation. With dozens of museums, visitors can explore centuries of history and creativity at their own pace.

Museums marked with an asterisk (*) are part of the Smithsonian Institution and offer *free* admission.



Source: International Spy Museum



Source: Smithsonian Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden



Source: Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum



Smithsonian National Archives Museum

International Spy Museum

One of DC's most popular attractions, featuring interactive exhibits, real espionage artifacts, and stories of spies, intelligence operations, and covert missions from around the world. *Tickets starting at \$40.23 for adults, advanced timed tickets recommended.*

***Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden**

The Smithsonian's museum of modern and contemporary art, known for innovative exhibitions, immersive installations, and an impressive outdoor sculpture collection.

***National Air and Space Museum**

Home to historic aircraft and spacecraft, including the Wright brothers' Flyer, the Spirit of St. Louis, and artifacts from the Apollo missions. A must-see for aviation and space enthusiasts. *Free timed—pass tickets required.*

***National Archives Museum**

Step inside the National Archives to view America's founding documents, including the Declaration of Independence, Constitution, and Bill of Rights. Through historic records and engaging exhibits, visitors can explore the people, events, and decisions that shaped the nation.



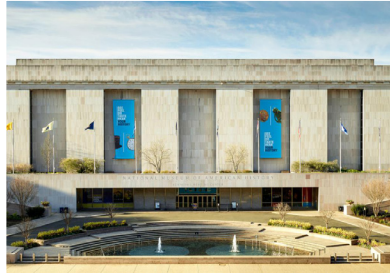
National Building Museum



Source: National Geographic Museum of Exploration



Source: Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture



Source: Smithsonian National Museum of American History

National Building Museum

Explore the history of architecture, engineering, and design through engaging exhibitions housed in one of Washington's most impressive historic buildings. *Tickets start at \$10 for adults.*

National Geographic Museum of Exploration

Opened in June 2026, the National Geographic Museum of Exploration invites visitors to experience the world through immersive exhibits, iconic photography, and cutting edge technology. Inspired by the work of National Geographic explorers, the museum brings stories of wildlife, cultures, science, and discovery to life in an interactive and engaging way. *Tickets starting at \$29.99 for adults.*

***National Museum of African American History and Culture**

Opened in 2016, this deeply moving museum traces African American history from slavery through civil rights to contemporary culture. *Free timed—pass tickets required.*

***National Museum of American History**

Tells the story of the American experience through treasures like the original Star—Spangled Banner, gowns worn by First Ladies, and exhibits on American enterprise, pop culture, and social movements.



Source: Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian



Source: Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History



Source: Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery



Source: Smithsonian National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute

***National Museum of the American Indian**

A tribute to the Indigenous peoples of the Western Hemisphere, curated in active consultation with Native communities. Highlights the histories, cultures, and contemporary lives of Indigenous peoples throughout North, Central, and South America through exhibits, art, and cultural programming.

***National Museum of Natural History**

One of the most visited museums in the world and home to over 146 million specimens, including the iconic Hope Diamond, towering dinosaur skeletons, and a massive ocean life collection.

***National Portrait Gallery**

Features portraits of Americans who have shaped the nation's history, culture, and character — including the famous Presidential portrait collection.

***National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute**

Home to more than 2,000 animals from around the world, the Smithsonian National Zoo offers visitors an opportunity to see everything from giant pandas and lions to great apes and reptiles. Located in scenic Rock Creek Park, this free attraction is perfect for families and animal lovers of all ages. *Free timed—pass tickets required.*



Monuments & Memorials

Washington, DC's iconic monuments and memorials honor the leaders, events, and ideals that have shaped the United States. Many are located along the National Mall and Tidal Basin, making them easy to explore on foot, and they are especially memorable after dark when illuminated against the city's skyline.



Washington Monument



Jefferson Memorial

Washington Monument

The towering 555-foot obelisk honoring the nation's first president, George Washington, is one of DC's most recognizable landmarks and offers panoramic views of the city from its observation deck. *Advanced tickets are required to reach the top, with a \$1.00 service fee per ticket; tickets are released daily at 10:00 a.m. and are available up to 30 days in advance of the tour date.*

Lincoln Memorial

One of DC's most powerful landmarks, featuring a massive seated statue of Abraham Lincoln and inscriptions of the Gettysburg Address and Second Inaugural Address.

Jefferson Memorial

A beautiful neoclassical rotunda honoring Thomas Jefferson, set along the water with especially scenic views during sunrise and cherry blossom season.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial

A striking tribute featuring the "Stone of Hope" and powerful quotes from Dr. King's speeches centered along the Tidal Basin.

World War II Memorial

A grand, open-air memorial between the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument, honoring the 16 million Americans who served during WWII.

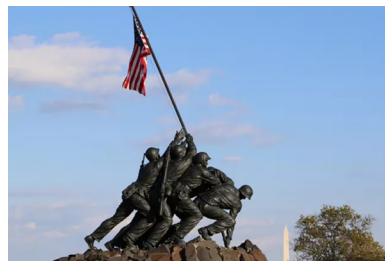
Vietnam Veterans Memorial

A deeply moving black granite wall engraved with the names of more than 58,000 service members who died or remain missing from the Vietnam War.

Source: Korean War Veterans Memorial



Source: U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial





World War II Memorial



Source: U.S. Department of War: Vietnam Veterans Memorial

Korean War Veterans Memorial

A dramatic series of stainless-steel soldier statues moving through a field, honoring those who served in the Korean War.

U.S. Marine Corps War Memorial (Iwo Jima)

Located just across the river in Arlington, this monument captures the famous WWII flag-raising and is especially striking at sunset.

U.S. Capitol

A symbol of American democracy and the seat of Congress, offering one of the most recognizable architectural silhouettes in the country. *All tours, programs and activities are free of charge and led by our professional tour guides. Visitors are encouraged to book a timed entry tour pass.*

The White House

The official residence and workplace of the President of the United States, the White House is one of the most recognizable buildings in the world. Public viewing areas may be limited due to ongoing construction and security restrictions, but it remains an essential photo stop and symbol of American government.

Arlington National Cemetery

A solemn resting place for more than 400,000 service members and their families, Arlington National Cemetery honors those who served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Visitors can also witness the Changing of the Guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

The White House



Arlington National Cemetery, Tomb of the Unknown Soldier







Tours

Washington, DC is a very tour-friendly city, and guided experiences are a great way to see the monuments, neighborhoods, and nearby attractions efficiently.

Monuments by Moonlight Night Tour

Experience Washington, DC's most iconic monuments beautifully illuminated after dark on a fully narrated evening trolley tour. This 2.5–3 hour journey brings sites like the Lincoln Memorial, MLK Memorial, Vietnam Veterans Memorial, and U.S. Capitol to life with expert storytelling and unforgettable nighttime views. *Tickets start at \$64.95.*



Source: Old Town Trolley Tours

Hop-On Hop-Off Trolley DC Tour

Explore Washington, DC at your own pace with a flexible hop-on hop-off trolley tour that stops at all major landmarks and attractions. Enjoy live narration along the route while easily getting on and off to visit sites like the National Mall, Georgetown, and Arlington National Cemetery. *Tickets start at \$58.95.*



Source: Old Town Trolley Tours

Potomac River Cruise

See Washington, DC from the water on a scenic cruise along the Potomac River with unique views of landmarks like the Lincoln Memorial, Washington Monument, and Kennedy Center. Daytime and sunset options offer a relaxing way to take in the city's skyline. *Tickets start at \$25.*



Source: Capitol River Cruises



Day Trips

If you have extra time during your stay, the DC region offers a range of easy and rewarding day trips—from historic waterfront towns to scenic wine country and iconic landmarks just across the river.

Alexandria, Virginia

Just across the Potomac River, Old Town Alexandria offers cobblestone streets, 18th-century architecture, waterfront dining, and boutique shopping. It's one of the most walkable and charming historic districts in the region.



Mount Vernon (George Washington's Estate)

The beautifully preserved home of George Washington sits along the Potomac River and includes the mansion, gardens, museum exhibits, and scenic walking trails across the historic estate.



Annapolis, Maryland

A classic Chesapeake Bay town and the capital of Maryland, Annapolis features a vibrant harbor, colonial-era streets, and the United States Naval Academy. Perfect for waterfront dining and sailing culture.



Middleburg, Virginia (Wine Country)

Located in Virginia's horse and wine country, Middleburg is known for rolling countryside, wineries, equestrian estates, and a relaxed, upscale rural atmosphere.





Washington, DC's Dining

Washington, DC's dining scene has evolved into one of the most dynamic in the country—shaped by its global community, innovative chefs, and a strong emphasis on seasonal, locally sourced ingredients. From Michelin-recognized tasting menus to vibrant neighborhood favorites, the city offers an exceptional range of cuisines reflecting influences from around the world.



The following pages feature some of our favorite restaurants across the city—places we regularly recommend for everything from client dinners to casual evenings out. Whether you're looking for an elegant waterfront experience, a lively group setting, or something uniquely Washington, DC, there is truly something for every occasion.

For additional recommendations, you can explore curated lists from trusted local sources, including [Eater DC's 38 Best Restaurants](#) and [Washingtonian's 100 Very Best Restaurants](#), which highlight many of the city's most notable dining destinations.



Fine Dining

Albi

A Michelin-starred restaurant in Navy Yard, Albi showcases the vibrant flavors of the Levant through wood-fired cooking, handmade breads, and creative mezze. Its warm hospitality and innovative approach to Middle Eastern cuisine have made it one of DC's most celebrated dining destinations.

Jônt

A highly exclusive, modern tasting menu experience with meticulous plating, inventive technique, and exceptional service. Often considered one of DC's most refined and immersive dining experiences.

Moon Rabbit

Moon Rabbit offers a modern take on Vietnamese cuisine, blending traditional flavors with contemporary techniques and local ingredients. The stylish waterfront setting and inventive menu make it a standout choice for both visitors and locals.

Fiola Mare

A luxurious Italian seafood restaurant on the Georgetown waterfront with stunning Potomac River views. Known for pristine crudo, handmade pastas, and an elegant, polished atmosphere.

Lutèce

This intimate Georgetown restaurant brings a fresh, modern perspective to French cuisine with seasonal ingredients, thoughtful wine pairings, and a neighborhood feel. Elegant yet approachable, Lutèce has quickly become one of the city's favorite dining experiences.

Dōgon

Inspired by the cuisines and cultures of West Africa, Dōgon celebrates bold flavors, rich traditions, and innovative cooking in a vibrant setting. The restaurant offers a unique dining experience that highlights the influence of African culinary heritage on the broader food landscape.



Elevated Casual Dining

Le Diplomate

One of Washington's most iconic restaurants, Le Diplomate brings the charm of a classic Parisian brasserie to the heart of the city. Known for its timeless French cuisine, lively atmosphere, and bustling sidewalk patio, it remains a favorite for both locals and visitors.

The Red Hen

A beloved neighborhood restaurant known for its house-made pastas, seasonal ingredients, and warm, inviting atmosphere. The Red Hen combines rustic Italian-inspired cooking with exceptional hospitality, making it a favorite among locals and visitors alike.

Dauphine's

Inspired by the flavors of New Orleans, Dauphine's serves Gulf Coast seafood, Southern classics, and creative cocktails in a stylish downtown setting. Its vibrant menu and elegant design bring a taste of the Big Easy to the nation's capital.

Zaytinya

Created by renowned chef José Andrés, Zaytinya offers a lively menu of Mediterranean-inspired small plates influenced by Greek, Turkish, and Lebanese cuisines. The restaurant's shareable dishes and energetic atmosphere make it ideal for groups and social dining.

River Club

River Club blends coastal-inspired cuisine with sweeping waterfront views and a sophisticated yet relaxed atmosphere. It's an ideal destination for cocktails, dinner, or enjoying a sunset along DC's revitalized waterfront.

Osteria Mozza

Located in Georgetown, Osteria Mozza offers a refined yet approachable Italian dining experience from acclaimed chef Nancy Silverton. Featuring fresh mozzarella, handmade pastas, and seasonal Italian specialties, the restaurant blends California-inspired hospitality with classic Italian flavors.



Getting Around Washington, DC

Washington, DC is one of the most accessible major U.S. cities, with a compact layout and a strong public transportation system that makes it easy to navigate without a car. Most major attractions, including the National Mall, museums, and monuments, are well-connected and walkable.

Metro

The DC Metro is the fastest and most efficient way to travel between neighborhoods and key landmarks. With stations located near major museums, downtown hotels, and attractions, it provides easy access across DC, Northern Virginia, and parts of Maryland.

Potomac Water Taxi

The Potomac Water Taxi connects key waterfront destinations such as Georgetown, The Wharf, and Old Town Alexandria, offering a scenic alternative to land travel. It's a relaxing way to see the city from the water while avoiding street traffic.

Ride Share & Taxis

Uber, Lyft, and taxis are widely available and offer convenient door-to-door service, especially for evening travel or trips between neighborhoods outside the Metro system.

Capital Bikeshare & Scooters

Bikes and electric scooters are available throughout the city, offering a flexible and active way to explore areas like the National Mall, Georgetown, and the waterfront.



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