

All there is to see and do in and around Staunton, Virginia

STAUNTON

Visit to the Birthplace of Four US Presidents

Stonewall Jackson Hotel and Conference Center is situated near the lives and history of four Virginia-born US Presidents - presidents 3, 4, 5 and 28. The birthplace and Presidential Library of 28th president (1913-1921) and Staunton native, Woodrow Wilson, is just around the corner from the hotel.

Monticello, the famous estate of America's third president, Thomas Jefferson, President Number three, is just 45 minutes away from Staunton. Next door to it is Ash Lawn-Highland, former home of James Monroe, our fifth president. Jefferson founded the University of Virginia in nearby Charlottesville on land that once belonged to James Monroe's family.

James Madison University, named for president number four, is just a few minutes north of Staunton on I-81. Montpelier, Madison's estate, is just an hour away near Orange, Virginia.

The area has an incredibly rich history that draws millions of visitors every year to Monticello, home of Thomas Jefferson, Ashlawn-Highlands, home of James Monroe, and Montpelier, home of James Madison as well as the renowned University of Virginia.

Mary Baldwin College

Mary Baldwin College is a private, independent, and comprehensive four-year liberal arts women's college in Staunton, Virginia. Enrollment is approximately 2500 students. Mary Baldwin was ranked by US News & World Report as a top-tier, master's level university in the South.

Mary Baldwin hosts the only full-fledged Health Care Administration program in the nation, and pre-professional programs in law, medicine, ministry, and ROTC. It is unique for its Virginia Women's Institute for Leadership program for female cadets, affiliated with nearby Virginia Military Institute. VWIL was intended to satisfy non-discrimination laws which required that VMI, which was then men-only, begin accepting women. It also hosts the Program for the Exceptionally Gifted, a program designed for girls 12–16 years of age to earn a bachelor's degree at Mary Baldwin.

The college also offers a Master of Letters (one of three universities in the United States to do so) in Shakespeare and Renaissance Literature in Performance, in conjunction with the nearby American Shakespeare Center.

In addition, Mary Baldwin College offers co-ed graduate and adult degree programs for men and women, with an adult degree program enrollment of 1196 students. The adult degree program is offered on-campus and in five satellite campuses: Charlottesville, Richmond, Roanoke, South Boston, and Weyers Cave.

Shenandoah National Park

Close by is the Shenandoah National Park. A must see when visiting Staunton or Charlottesville, Virginia. Shenandoah National Park is 105 miles long stretching from Front Royal, Virginia to the Waynesboro-Charlottesville area. Skyline Drive is the scenic roadway that takes you through the park. There are four entrances (and exits) to the park. From planning your hike to Shenandoah's highest peak, to checking on evening entertainment, the only thing you can't plan is where to see that bear or deer-that will have to be a surprise.

For more information on camping, hiking and other programs visit www.nps.gov/SHEN

George Washington and Jefferson National Forests

The George Washington National Forest and Jefferson National Forest were administratively combined in 1995 to form the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests. The two National Forests contain nearly 1.8 million acres of public land, representing one of the largest blocks of public land in the eastern United States.

The Jefferson National Forest is comprised of lands located in Virginia (690,106 Acres), West Virginia (18,526 Acres) and Kentucky (961 Acres). The George Washington National Forest is comprised of lands located in Virginia (956,222 Acres) and West Virginia (104,858 Acres). The totals for the combined George Washington and Jefferson National Forests are 1,646,328 acres in Virginia; 123,384 acres in West Virginia; and 961 acres in Kentucky.

The George Washington and Jefferson National Forests are a part of the Appalachian Hardwood Forest which is located within the Eastern Deciduous Forest Province. There are over 40 tree species represented on the National Forests and over 2,000 species of shrubs and herbaceous plants. Hardwood-dominated forest types comprise approximately 80 percent of the acreage and conifers comprise about 20 percent. There is much variation in the vegetation and many natural changes are taking place as forest succession progresses.

For more information on access and programs visit www.fs.fed.us/gwjnf

CHARLOTTESVILLE

Charlottesville is centrally located in the eastern foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains, a 20 minute drive from Staunton. Charlottesville's rich cultural, natural, and artistic history is showcased in a selection of first-rate museums, galleries, wineries, shops, and parks dispersed throughout the area. Visitors will also find charming boutiques, antique shops, antiquarian bookstores, distinguished local wineries, and small towns nearby filled with pleasant surprises.

Court Square in beautiful historic downtown Charlottesville

In 1762 Charlottesville was formed and the county seat was moved from its original location near Scottsville. At the northeast corner of Charlottesville a frame courthouse was built, behind which stood a jail, pillory and whipping post. In 1803 the north wing of the present courthouse replaced the earlier building. The town's first taverns, shops and small businesses evolved around Court Square, an area frequented by Jefferson, Madison and Monroe. The Albemarle County Historical Society offers walking tours by appointment for groups of 6 or more (a fee is charged).

You can also enjoy McGuffey Art Center, Albemarle County Historical Society, Virginia Discovery Museum, Old Michie Theatre, Live Arts Theater, Charlottesville Ice Park, and unique shopping and dining on the downtown brick pedestrian mall.

Wineries – Make Mine Virginia Wine

The area in and around Charlottesville boasts some of the country's finest wineries. All offer tours and tastings but be sure to call ahead to determine times and availability. Start by looking at the Monticello Wine Trail website www.monticellowinetrail.com, a handy guide providing information on the local wineries and their highlights.

Some of the more popular wineries are listed below:

Blenheim Vineyards	434-293-5366
First Colony Winery	434-979-7105
Jefferson Vineyards	434-977-3042
Kluge Estate Winery and Vineyard	434-977-3895

Virginia Wine Works
Rockbridge Winery

434-296-3438
888-511-9463

John Paul Jones Arena

John Paul Jones Arena otherwise known as JPJ, opened for the 2006–2007 NCAA Division I basketball season and is located at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville. It has seating for 14,593 fans, nearly twice the capacity of 8,457 at Virginia's previous facility, University Hall. The design features pergolas on the outside to tie in the design with Scott Stadium, UVA's football facility. This style is known as Jeffersonian architecture, reminiscent of the many buildings designed by Thomas Jefferson on UVA's grounds and nearby.

The arena is not named after the American naval hero rather it is named in honor of the father of Paul Tudor Jones II, who donated \$35 million for the construction of the arena. He earned a B.A. in Economics from the University in 1976.

The arena plays host to not only basketball games, but a wide variety of concerts, performances, and other events; for example, its opening season in 2006 includes events such as the Dave Matthews Band, James Taylor, Brad Paisley, Eric Clapton and more.

For information on current events and tickets visit www.johnpauljonesarena.com

The University of Virginia (also The University, Mr. Jefferson's University, or Virginia; often abbreviated as UVA) is a public research university located in Charlottesville, Virginia, founded by Thomas Jefferson. Conceived by 1800 and established in 1819, it is the only university in the United States to be designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO, an honor it shares with nearby Monticello.

The University is notable in U.S. history for being the first educational institution to offer academic programs in disciplines now common, such as astronomy and philosophy. It's School of Engineering and Applied Science was the first engineering school in the United States to be part of a comprehensive university. Officially, the University of Virginia is incorporated as *The Rector and Visitors of the University of Virginia*.

The early Board of Visitors was filled with former Presidents of the United States: Jefferson, James Madison, and James Monroe. Although Jefferson undertook all planning of the University, the land underneath it was once a farm belonging to Monroe. His farmhouse was located on Monroe Hill, which today is the site of one of three undergraduate residential colleges.

LURAY

Luray Caverns

Luray Caverns is a large celebrate cave just west of Luray, Virginia. It has drawn many visitors since its discovery in 1878. The underground cavern system is generously adorned with columns; mud flows, stalactites, stalagmites, flowstone, and mirrored pools. The cavers are best known for the Great Stalacpipe Organ, a lithopone made from solenoid fired strikers that tap stalactites of various sizes to produce tones similar to those of xylophones, tuning forks or bells. www.luraycaverns.com

WAYNESBORO

Waynesboro, deriving its name from General Anthony Wayne, and today is an independent city located within the confines of Augusta County in Virginia. It is located in the Shenandoah Valley, near many important historical markers of the Civil War and Shenandoah National Park. A portion of Interstate 64 falls within the city limits of Waynesboro, and the Blue Ridge Parkway, Skyline Drive, and the Appalachian Trail are less than five miles away. The town is perhaps best known for being the home of P. Buckley Moss and the P. Buckley Moss Museum, which attracts 45,000 visitors annually.

P. Buckley Moss Museum

The P. Buckley Moss Museum is located in the heart of the Shenandoah Valley in Waynesboro. Closely resembling many of the larger houses built by early 19th century settlers, it is an appropriate setting for exhibiting works by P. Buckley Moss, one of America's most recognized and most popular artists. Since the early 1960's, Moss has found her inspiration and much of her subject matter in the Valley scenery and in the Amish and Mennonite peoples of the area. She considers the example of the lifestyles of these traditional "Plain People" to hold an important message for modern society. The Museum reflects in its exhibitions and programs a similar concern for this cultural and environmental heritage

HARRISONBURG

Harrisonburg is an independent city in the Shenandoah Valley region of Virginia. Harrisonburg is the county seat of Rockingham County. Harrisonburg is home to James Madison University and Eastern Mennonite University.

James Madison University

James Madison University (also known as JMU, Madison, or James Madison) is a public coeducational research university located in Harrisonburg, Virginia, U.S. Founded in 1908 as the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Harrisonburg, the university has undergone four name changes until settling with James Madison University. The university is situated in the Shenandoah Valley, with the campus quadrangle located on South Main Street in Harrisonburg.

The university is also home to the Edith J. Carrier Arboretum, the only active publicly-oriented arboretum on a Virginia state-supported university campus, and the student run radio station WXJM, as well as National Public Radio station WMRA. JMU made national sports headlines in 2004 with its first championship.

The Virginia Quilt Museum

The Virginia Quilt Museum exists to celebrate and nurture Virginia's quilting heritage by collecting and preserving quilts from Virginia for the benefit of the public for educational purposes, to be accessible to them through regular exhibition and maintained for future generations. The museum focuses on the role and significance of quilts in social and cultural history and emphasizes the aesthetic value of quilting as an art form while facilitating research in the fields of history and art.

For more information visit www.vaquiltmuseum.org