



The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation  
Williamsburg, Va. 23187-1776  
[www.colonialwilliamsburg.org](http://www.colonialwilliamsburg.org)

## Summer Fun with Colonial Williamsburg

*Live entertainment, family-friendly fun, and a seasonal promotion await visitors this summer in Williamsburg*

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (June 2, 2022) – This summer, Colonial Williamsburg is launching a host of exciting seasonal programming perfect for those of all ages and interests visiting the Historic Area. Visitors will create lasting memories exploring the 301-acre colonial capital, two world-class art museums, official resort hotels, delicious dining options and more.

From commemorating important national holidays to learning about craftsmanship of the past, here are activities visitors can take part in:

### **Historic Area (full list of activities [here](#))**

- ***Juneteenth***: June 19th commemorates the emancipation of thousands of enslaved people more than two years after Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. Programming includes:
  - ***A Taste of Freedom***: Before Juneteenth and the Emancipation Proclamation, thousands of formerly enslaved men, women and children gained freedom and sanctuary by escaping to Union camps in the south after Shepard Mallory, Frank Baker and James Townsend secured their liberty at Fort Monroe. Learn about one of those men, Americus Weston, and his journey to freedom in this 45-minute museum theatre program.
  - ***Freedom's Paradox Tour***: 60-minute walking tour of the Randolph Yard, Market Square, and Palace Green, examining the evolution of slavery and the reliance upon it by patriots like Peyton Randolph to build a city, a colony, and eventually a nation. Explore the paradox of the institution of slavery and the movement for independence by looking at the experiences of the enslaved and free members of the Randolph household.
  - Additionally, events presented by members of Greater Williamsburg's [Juneteenth Community Consortium](#) will take place in and around Williamsburg from Friday, June 17 through Tuesday, June 21.
- ***July 4th Weekend***: There's no better place to celebrate our nation's birth than on historic Duke of Gloucester Street. Enjoy a long weekend of patriotic festivities, including:
  - ***Lights of Freedom***: A thrilling Fourth of July Fireworks display that concludes with a celebration of the words and music of the American Revolution. Highlights include a reading of the Declaration of Independence, American marching music of the Revolution, a patriotic sing-along, and selections from the Music for the Royal Fireworks by George Frideric Handel performed by Colonial Williamsburg's Fifes & Drums Sr. Corps culminating in a grand display of fireworks at 9:30 p.m.
  - ***Salute to the States***: Set to the pomp and pageantry of Colonial Williamsburg's Fifes & Drums, The Virginia Military Garrison presents musket volley salutes to the original thirteen states of the Union.
  - ***Reading of the Declaration of Independence***: Thomas Jefferson begins a day of pageantry, celebration, and reflection from the Capitol's west balcony as he reads aloud the document that declared the colonies' independence from England.
  - ***Created Equal***: Experience this museum theatre exploration of African

American perspectives on the Declaration of Independence, the revolutions it inspired, and the ongoing struggle for equality and freedom in America.

- **American Music Concert Series:** A four-part evening concert series from July 1-4 including:
  - **[A Star-Spangled Symphony](#)** (July 1st): the series kicks off with the long-anticipated return engagement of the Virginia Symphony Orchestra on Palace Green. The concert will feature the best of stirring American audience favorites, as well as traditional spirituals with soprano and the 55-piece orchestra.
  - **[Virginia Arts Festival Big Band](#)** (July 2nd): the series' second concert – a high-energy celebration of the music of the Big Band era – takes place on the Lawn of the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg. The classic sounds of Duke Ellington, Billy Strayhorn, and more are performed by the 17-piece Virginia Arts Festival Big Band, featuring jazz vocalist Sharón Clark.
  - **[A Community Salute to America](#)** (July 3rd): continue with The United States Air Force Heritage of America band performing patriotic favorites in this 75-minute concert on the Lawn of the Art Museums.
  - **[July 4th on the Lawn](#)**: Join the party on the lawn of the Art Museums before the fireworks. From 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., enjoy music from Good Shot Judy. Coordinated by CultureFix.
- **[Merchants Square Summer Breeze Concert Series \(June 22-August 31\)](#)**: The string of live shows returns on the lawn of the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg. All of the concerts are free and open to the public, Wednesday nights from 6-9 p.m.
- **[\(Re\)educate](#)**: In this theatrical performance every Wednesday, enslaved and free Black students like Isaac Bee and Molly, along with their teacher Ann Wager, share lessons learned at the Williamsburg Bray School. Through multiple perspectives of the students and their teacher, guests will consider the varied ways in which freedom, education and agency manifested for Black children in 18th-century Williamsburg.
- **[Patriots at Play](#)**: Discover a variety of interactive, sensory and fun opportunities for families throughout the Geddy House. Activities change regularly with the rhythm of an average 18th-century day.

### **Dining & Lodging Updates**

- **[Sunday Brunch](#)**: Sunday brunch has long been a favorite tradition at the iconic Williamsburg Inn. Enjoy a three-course menu and one of the Restoration Bar's hand-crafted brunch cocktails. Served in the Williamsburg Inn's Terrace Room or Goodwin Room. Traditions at the Williamsburg Lodge, Autograph Collection is also offering a Sunday Brunch for the Summer Season.
- **[New Historically Inspired Menu at Chowning's Tavern and King's Arms Tavern](#)**: At Chowning's Tavern and King's Arms Tavern, new menu items have already become customer favorites. At Chowning's Tavern, try an authentic 18th-century dish, *To Stew a Duck in the French Way*, which derives from Martha Washington's cookbook. New appetizers at the King's Arms Tavern include the *Duck from the Smoke House*, *Hoppin' John Risotto*, and *Macaroni & Forged Mushroom Gratin*. Both taverns are offering the popular 18th-century Peanut Soup as well. Guests will enjoy dining in an authentic 18th-century atmosphere complete with entertaining tavern musicians.
- **[Summer Getaway Package](#)**: The Summer Getaway Package is perfect for any family looking to make the most out of their summer vacation. Families staying two or more nights at a Colonial Williamsburg Resort get 30% off Bounce tickets for the length of their stay, up to seven consecutive nights. Bounce tickets allow entry to Colonial Williamsburg's Historic Area and art museums, Busch Gardens Williamsburg and Water Country USA, plus free parking at both theme parks. Additionally, families booking the Summer Getaway Package directly will receive up to \$200 in resort credit and \$350 in Resort Outlet savings. \*Available stay dates: May 14, 2022 – September 11, 2022.

- ***Annual Pass***: The summer is the perfect time to purchase or extend the annual pass so that unlimited admissions to the Historic Area and the Art Museums of Colonial Williamsburg can last an entire year from date of purchase. There are also exclusive benefits that come with purchasing an annual pass, such as 10% off store purchases and food and beverage. In addition, annual pass holders get 25% off admission tickets for family and friends.

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*The Colonial Williamsburg Foundation preserves, restores and operates Virginia's 18th-century capital of Williamsburg. Innovative and interactive experiences highlight the relevance of the American Revolution to contemporary life and the importance of an informed, active citizenry. The Colonial Williamsburg experience includes more than 600 restored or reconstructed original buildings, renowned museums of decorative arts and folk art, extensive educational outreach programs for students and teachers, lodging, culinary options from historic taverns to casual or elegant dining, the Golden Horseshoe Golf Club featuring 45 holes designed by Robert Trent Jones and his son Rees Jones, a full-service spa and fitness center, pools, retail stores and gardens. Philanthropic support and revenue from admissions, products and hospitality operations sustain Colonial Williamsburg's educational programs and preservation initiatives.*